



In 2005, no shortage of the 'right stuff'

By STEPHEN BARR

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Federal employees do not lack for heroes this year.

After Hurricane Katrina, Coast Guard Petty Officer Matt Laub and his team flew 16 helicopter rescue missions, saving 153 people from rising waters. Border Patrol agent Raymond Rivera risked his life in Arizona during a crackdown on smugglers bringing illegal migrants into the country.

They and others were singled out for praise in a Dec. 20 speech by Michael Chertoff, secretary for home-

land security. Laub and Rivera "represent the best of this department. They are professional, they are tireless, they are dedicated, and all of them have made tremendous personal sacrifices for a cause greater than themselves," Chertoff said.

After Katrina roared through the Gulf states, thousands of federal employees working for the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Postal Service, Social Security Administration, Internal Revenue Service and other agencies found they were homeless and struggled to reorder their lives — even as

they returned to duty.

Jim Nicholson, secretary of veterans affairs, praised VA employees for hanging tough when Katrina shut down veterans hospitals in Louisiana and Mississippi. "We had nurses and caregivers who stayed with their patients, even though they could see their own homes inundated with water, didn't know where their family was," he told Fox News.

As the VA evacuated patients, doctors and nurses went with them, he said, adding, "There are real tales of heroic action by federal employees."

To be sure, Katrina was

not the only instance in 2005 when federal employees were asked to show courage and resolve. Thousands of U.S. military personnel, including members of the National Guard and reserves, and their families endured death, injury and the hardship caused by fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Civil service and State Department employees volunteered for duty in the war zone, often to support the military. Among those volunteers were federal employees at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard who worked in



KRT photo/Ian McVee
A helicopter flies above the flooded parts of Abbeville in Vermillion Parish, southwestern Louisiana in the aftermath of Hurricane Rita.

See HEROS, Page 3A

Back home

Rawls thankful for the support of family and friends after time in Iraq

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Nearly a year after he left American soil to join the fight for freedom in Iraq, Texas National Guard Sgt. James Rawls returned home to Big Spring a little more than two weeks ago.

Rawls, who was just one of more than 2,500 Texas National Guardsmen to make the journey to Iraq last year, said the time in the Middle East has done little to change his support for the war effort and U.S. troops' continued efforts to improve the quality of life for the Iraqi people.

"I wouldn't say I feel any different about it now than I did when I left," said Rawls. "I think we're doing the right thing by being there."

According to Rawls, security is still a major issue facing American troops in Iraq and was one of the main concerns

"I know how controversial the war is with the people, and regardless of whether they agree or disagree with the war, they are still saying they support our troops. I'm very proud to see that, and that in itself makes it worthwhile to do what we do."

for him and his fellow guardsmen while they were stationed in the Middle East.

"I was stationed at a radio relay point south of Diwaniyah," Rawls said. "Basically what we did was maintain communications up and down a supply route and make sure the route was secure



Courtesy photo
Texas National Guard Sgt. James Rawls, left, shakes hands with several Iraqi natives while stationed in the Middle East. Rawls returned home a little more than two weeks ago.

so the convoys could move up and down it."

Rawls said the Iraqis he came in contact with during his tour in the Middle East opened his eyes to many things, including the destitute nature of Iraqi people.

"Most of the people that were in the area I was in were Bedouins, which are nomadic herders," said

Rawls. "They herd sheep and camels and they live in tents, moving from place to place. Some of them have cars and power generators and things like that, but most of them are pretty poor. They don't speak English and aren't formally educated, but they try to make money as best they can."

"The people in the towns are a little more formally educated. They're also more aware of Western culture and a lot of them will speak English, but there are still a lot of cultural barriers there."

Rawls said the culture shock of traveling from his West Texas home to the Middle East left him

with some rather prevalent memories of the country.

"The way they treat their women is totally different," said Rawls. "They're not allowed to speak to a woman unless they are related to them. We were told never to initiate a conversation with

See RAWLS, Page 3A

Big Spring Police Department bestows annual awards

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Several law enforcement officers and civilians with the Big Spring Police Department were recently recognized for their hard work, as the agency held its annual awards program.

Lt. Terry Chamness said this year's awards included a new recognition.

"Det. Phil Whitten received a brand new award we started this year called the Police

Chief's Commendation," said Chamness. "The award was for saving a life this year. He was involved in a case where a woman was electrocuted. He started CPR on her after arriving on the scene and the doctor at the hospital emergency room said by getting her heart back into rhythm, he saved her life."

"We really didn't have an award for that before now, so the chief, Lonnie Smith, came up with this as a way to recognize these types of actions."

Whitten wasn't the only BSPD employee recognized for going above and beyond, as a trio of officers and civilian employees were recognized for their work with the department's sex offender program.

"Corporals Thad Thomas and Brian Gordon, along with Chris Galloway in the Records Division, were all given achievement awards for the hard work they've done with

See PD, Page 3A

2005 BSPD AWARDS

Police Chief's Commendation — Det. Phil Whitten

Achievement Awards — Cpl. Thad Thomas, Cpl. Brian Gordon and Chris Galloway

Civilian Achievement — Judy Westbrook, Wayne Jones and Lynn Creswell

Jerry G. Edwards Award — Cpl. Brian Gordon

Supervisor of the Year — Sgt. Kit Patterson

Office of the Year — Jason Baird

Civilian of the Year — Melissa Londenberg

Letter of Commendation — Ann Reid

INDEX

Classified 3-5B
Health 5A
Obituaries 2A
Opinion 4A
Sports 1-2B



Find us online at:
www.bigspringherald.com

To reach us:

Please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call (432) 263-7335 before 7 p.m. weekdays and noon Sunday.

SCHWARZENEGGER GONE

VIENNA, Austria (AP) — Officials in Arnold Schwarzenegger's hometown quietly removed his name from a soccer stadium overnight.

By early today, letters spelling out the action star-turned-politician's name were gone from the 15,300-seat stadium in Graz. Schwarzenegger had written to the mayor of Graz a week ago asking that his name be removed after local activists called for the stadium to be renamed because of Schwarzenegger's refusal to block the Dec. 13 execution of Stanley Tookie Williams. Capital punishment is illegal in Schwarzenegger's native Austria, where many people consider it barbaric.

TINY HEART PATIENT

When Adelaide Bolton gets older, she'll be able to tell people she almost died from a small, broken heart.

Adelaide was born Nov. 18 with a rare heart defect that restricts blood flow and makes it difficult to breathe.



See story, Page 5A

SHOPLIFTERS FOILED

SPRINGFIELD, Ohio (AP) — Two women suspected of shoplifting at a Kmart outlet almost got away with it — until they tangled with Michael Cornwell.

Cornwell clung to their car's windshield wipers for about a mile — at speeds he estimated at 70 to 80 mph — before the driver pulled into a mobile home park and the women fled.

The suspects were later arrested on charges of aggravated robbery, felonious assault and theft. Perfume, cologne and other items were found in the car, police said.

"I don't believe in shoplifting," Cornwell said.

Obituaries

Edward 'Red' King



Edward "Red" King, 65, of Big Spring died at 1:15 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 25, 2005, at his residence. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 27, 2005, at Coahoma Cemetery with the Rev. Elwin Collom, pastor of First Baptist Church of Coahoma, officiating.

The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. today at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

He was born Aug. 25, 1940, in Natalia to Helen and W.C. King. Edward was a lifetime resident of Howard County and was a retired truck driver.

He is survived by his wife, Virginia King of Big Spring; two daughters, Julie Proctor and her husband, Bubba of Cloudcroft, N.M., and Debra King of Colorado City; one son, James Hayes and his wife, Geri of Crystal Beach; seven grandchildren, Russell Whitesides, Courtney Proctor, Kelsey Proctor, Kingsley King, Laremi King, MaKena King and Miranda Hayes; two brothers, Earl King and his wife, Melissa and Gerald King, all of Coahoma; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by two brothers, Bill King and Donnie King.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com.

Paid obituary

Martha Hernandez

Martha Hernandez, 50, of Stanton died Saturday, Dec. 24, 2005, in Stanton. Funeral services are 10 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2005, at the Gilbreath Funeral Home in Stanton with Pablo Garcia, pastor of Jehovah's Witness, officiating. Interment will follow at Evergreen Cemetery in Stanton.

She was born January 11, 1955, in Villa Union, Mexico, and married Gumaro Fabela Hernandez in Stanton. She was a member of Jehovah's Witness.

She was preceded in death by her father, Gavino Garcia.

Survivors include her husband, Gumaro Hernandez of Stanton; one daughter, Martha Idalia Rodriguez of Piedras Negras, Mexico; four sons, Juan Manuel Rodriguez of Zaragosa, Mexico, Rene Rodriguez of Piedras Negras and Willie Baldo Mora and Hector Javier Hernandez, both of Stanton; her mother, Maria Garcia of Zaragosa, Mexico; one brother, Jose Alfonso Garcia of Zaragosa, Mexico; and one sister, Alma Delia Garcia of Zaragosa, Mexico.

Arrangements under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com.

Nita Ruth Edge

Nita Ruth Edge, 86, of Big Spring died Sunday, December 25, 2005, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Calvin Stewart Scoggins



Calvin Stewart Scoggins, 78, died Saturday, Dec. 24, 2005. Funeral services are 10 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 27, 2005, at the First Baptist Church of Stanton, with the Rev. David Harp, pastor, officiating. Interment will follow at Evergreen Cemetery.

The family will receive friends today from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Gilbreath Funeral Home.

He was born Oct. 9, 1927, in Abilene to Rufus Columbus and Della Naomi Maxwell Scoggins and married Shirley Presley Nov. 26, 1949, in Stanton. He served in the US Army from 1948 until 1950 and retired from Cap Rock Electric in January 1990. He was a member of the First Baptist Church of Stanton.

He was preceded in death by his parents, three brothers, and four sisters.

Survivors include his wife of 56 years of Stanton, one daughter and son-in-law, Barbara Beckman and Henry Webb of Nevada, Mo.; two sons, Leroy and his wife, Lois of Stanton and Roger of Liberal, Mo.; seven grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; a sister, Louise Hollums of Midland; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family suggests memorial donations to be made to Allison Cancer Center, 301 North N. Street, Midland 79701, Hospice of Midland, 911 W. Texas Avenue, Midland 79701, West Texas Rehabilitation Center, 4601 Hartford, Abilene, 79602, or to your favorite charity.

Arrangements are under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home, Stanton. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com.

Bradley Hildebrand

Bradley Hildebrand, 46, of Big Spring died Saturday, Dec. 24, 2005, in the Hospice House of Odessa. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Dana Duncan

Dana Duncan, 47, of Big Spring died Saturday, Dec. 24, 2005, at his residence. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Eddie White

Eddie White, 82, of Stanton died Saturday, Dec. 24, 2005, in a local nursing home. His services are pending with Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton.

Mary Jackson

Mary Jackson, 43, of Big Spring died Sunday, Dec. 25, 2005, in a local hospital. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Police blotter

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

• **DAVID BELEW**, 29, of 2101 Runnels, was arrested Saturday on charges of Class C assault/family violence and interfering with an emergency phone call.

• **JAMES BURNS**, 47, of 704 Highland, was arrested Saturday on a Haskell County warrant and a charge of failure to identify as a fugitive from justice - giving false information.

• **ROBIN DENT**, 46, transient, was arrested Saturday on a charge of public intoxication.

• **WILLIAM HAYS**, 48, of 2902 E. Interstate Highway 20, was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.

• **FRANLIN CASEY**, 44, of 1704 W. Fourth Street, was arrested Sunday on a charge of evading arrest with a vehicle.

• **BENARDO HILARIO**, 18, of 1703 W. Third Street, was arrested Sunday on two local warrants.

• **AMBER ALEXANDER**, 26, of 1907 Runnels, was arrested Saturday on a charge of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

• **JOHN MANUEL SOLIS**, 20, of 904 State, was arrested Sunday on a Collin County warrant.

• **ERIC ZARRAGA**, 22, of 1323 Kindle, was arrested Sunday on a charge of evading arrest.

• **RICKIE HAIR**, 32, of Hobbs, N.M., was arrested Sunday on charges of theft, possession of drug paraphernalia and a Scurry County warrant.

• **HEATHER ATKINSON**, 25, of Hobbs, N.M., was arrested Sunday on a charge of theft and a Howard County warrant.

• **ENRIQUE MAYERS**, 27, of 2600 Crestline, was arrested Sunday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

• **CATHERINE CHISM**, 19, of Dallas, was arrested Sunday and held for the HCSO.

• **YESENIA LEDESMA**, 18, of 300 Tulane Apt. 4, was arrested Monday and held for the HCSO.

• **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported:

- in the 3200 block of Duke.
- in the 1300 block of Mount Vernon.
- in the 600 block of 11th Place.
- in the 4100 block of Dixon.
- in the 4200 block of Bilger.
- in the 500 block of Highland.

• **BURGLARY OF A BUILDING** was reported in the 3300 block of Interstate Highway 20.

• **FAILURE TO IDENTIFY AS A FUGITIVE FROM**

JUSTICE was reported in the 700 block of Highland.

• **EVADING ARREST OR DETENTION** was reported in the 1700 block of Laurie.

• **ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported in the 2100 block of Runnels.

Sheriff's report

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

• **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 3900 block of East Highway 350.

• **UNATTENDED DEATH** was reported in the 2600 block of North Anderson Road.

Support groups

MONDAY

• Encourager's Support Group meets the first and third Mondays each month. For more information, call 398-5522.

TUESDAY

• The Multiple Sclerosis Support Group meets at 6 p.m. Tuesday in the College Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 1005 Birdwell Lane. Call Tracey at 263-4948 for more information.

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

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

Around Town

• **RAILROAD MUSEUM** at the corner of Second Street and Main Street is open from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. every Saturday. Free admission. Call 432-559-3409 for more information.

• **POTTON HOUSE**, 200 Gregg, a restored historic home, is open from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. An admission fee, which includes entry into Heritage Museum, is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children and senior citizens.

• **HERITAGE MUSEUM**, 510 Scurry, is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Saturday. An admission fee, which includes entry into the Potton House, is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children.

• **HANGAR 25 AIR MUSEUM** is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday.

Take note

• **HANGAR 25 AIR MUSEUM IS COLLECTING RECIPES** to be included in a 2006 cookbook which will display memories of Big Spring over the years. Share your memories and your recipes. Contact the Hangar at 264-1399 for recipe forms.

• **HOME HOSPICE HAS COOKBOOKS** with nearly 500 recipes on sale for \$18 with proceeds to benefit Hospice House. Recipes submitted by volunteers, coordinators and owners of Home Hospice. Call Sherry Hodnett at 264-7599 for more information.

• **THE HOWARD COUNTY CHILD WELFARE BOARD** seeks Christmas help for the 69 children in foster care. To 'adopt' a child or family for the holidays, contact Patti Richard at 432-559-6953 or 268-4550.

• **ODYSSEY HOSPICE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS** to work in the office and perform patient services. For more information or to volunteer, call 263-5999.

• **THE MOBILE MEALS PROGRAM** that delivers meals to the elderly and homebound needs volunteers to deliver meals. If you can spare one hour per week to deliver eight or 10 meals, you are needed. About 85 to 90 meals are prepared, packaged and delivered to recipients within the city limits of Big Spring. If you can volunteer, please call 263-4016 before 3 p.m.

• **ROAD TO RECOVERY**, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, seeks volunteers to drive cancer patients to treatment in Midland. This requires just a few hours commitment each month. To volunteer, or to request a ride for treatment, call LaWanda Hamm at 263-7827.

• **LEGAL AID OF NORTHWEST TEXAS** is accepting appointments for 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of each month. Individuals seeking legal advice for matters concerning family law, divorce, custody and child support issues, social security cases, employment and housing may contact the office to schedule an appointment. Criminal cases are not accepted. Anyone recently served with legal documents should call the office immediately at 800-926-5630 or 432-636-0647.

• **CHRIST'S COMMUNITY CHURCH** is looking for infant cars seats to be given to needy families. Call Karen at 263-3517 or the church at 263-5683.

• **BIG SPRING AND SURROUNDING** counties are in critical need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 263-9663.

• **SPRING TABERNACLE CHURCH**, 1209 N. Light, has free food for the area needy. Distribution is scheduled from 10 a.m. to noon every Thursday.

Weather

Tonight—Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 40s. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.

Tuesday—Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 70s. West winds 15 to 25 mph.

Tuesday night—Increasing clouds. Lows in the mid 30s. Northwest winds around 15 mph.

Wednesday—Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s. West winds 10 to 15 mph.

Wednesday night—Partly cloudy in the evening then clearing. Lows in the mid 30s.

Thursday—Mostly sunny. Highs around 70.

Thursday night—Mostly clear. Lows around 40.

Friday—Partly cloudy. Cooler. Highs around 60.

Friday night—Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 30s.

Saturday—Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 60s.

Saturday night—Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 30s.

New years day—Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s.

BIG SPRING HERALD

www.BigSpringHerald.com

Big Sky, Big Heart, Big Spring

432-263-7331

(Main Switchboard)

432-264-7205 (Fax)

Missed Your Paper:

432-263-7335

(Mon.-Fri. 8a.m.-7p.m.)

Sun. 8a.m.-noon)

Susanne Reed Publisher/Adv. Manager... Ext. 250

John A. Moseley Managing Editor... Ext. 230

Duane McCollum Circulation Manager... Ext. 244

Tony Hernandez Production Manager... Ext. 256

Dianne Marquez Business Office Manager... Ext. 255

The Big Spring Herald is a member of The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Texas Press Association, West Texas Press Association, Texas Daily Newspaper Association, The Associated Press.

Published afternoons Mon. thru Fri. and Sunday mornings, except Christmas Day. All materials copyrighted.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas.

USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811

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

GARAGE SALES

Hidden treasures? Junk?

Recycle your unwanted items!

Call 263-7331 today.

A friendly Classified Consultant will help you create an ad that gets results!

Discover Another World,
Read!

You never know
what you
might find.

Hou
by n
HO
Chris
Episc
at cl
destr
The
an ad
repor
"It i
anyon
W. Ed
than
The
scene
work
churc
Fire
the u
had b
1,000
vices
Locl
the d
congr
"We
hope,
strong
Hou

Silve
HOI
chang
Salva
But
coins,
bar fo
An
about
Light
coins
locati
Cham
Fou
each
kettle
Libe
Cham
Salv
Kruge
They
donat
"We
front
like to
neces
just w
The
\$2.3 m

Segm
Patro
SAN
warni
tion a
Spani
licens
In th
ment,
and di
limon
the da
lined
agents
Sinc
n't bee
the Bo
San A
But
paig
Ray E
Comm
The F
also h
station
Sinc
with a
remain
for Te
tion at
the FC
"KRC
delayi
al appl
pletely
The
and nc
spokes
While
take t
agency
"It sl
engage
said B
Spani
tles.

Firefig
after f
NEW
fighter
sufferi
truck h
said.
Kenn
injured
near N
hit the
failed
Texas l
said.

Family M
Dr. Ke
Board
1501 W.
4

Houston church destroyed by fire on Christmas

HOUSTON (AP) — Churchgoers planning to attend Christmas services Sunday at Christian Methodist Episcopal Church instead found themselves staring at charred ruins after an early morning fire destroyed the church.

The structure caught fire after a blaze spread from an adjacent furniture store, the Houston Chronicle reported.

"It may have burned for more than an hour before anyone was called. By then, it had spread," said Rev. W. Edward Lockett, who has led the church for more than 20 years.

The Houston Fire Department responded to the scene at 1:45 a.m., and more than 100 firefighters worked for two hours to battle the flames at the church, officials said.

Firefighters worked Sunday afternoon to tear down the unstable remains of the building. The church had been located at the site since the 1960s and has 1,000 congregants. Many families had attended services there for generations, the Chronicle reported.

Lockett told parishioners Sunday as they surveyed the damage that the fire would not extinguish the congregation's spirit.

"We are without a building, but we are not without hope," Lockett said. "We will rebuild and be even stronger."

Houston arson detectives were investigating.

Silver bar, rare coins left for Salvation Army

HOUSTON (AP) — People usually drop spare change and dollar bills in the red kettles of the Salvation Army.

But this holiday season, some donors left Liberty coins, South African Krugerrands and even a silver bar for a Houston-area Salvation Army.

An anonymous person dropped off the bar, worth about \$800, last week at the Salvation Army Harbor Light Center and Red Shield Lodge. Two Liberty coins were also found in the red kettle at the same location, said Salvation Army spokesman Rolan Chambless.

Four other Liberty coins and two Krugerrands, each valued at almost \$500, were discovered inside kettles in Pasadena, Irvington and Houston. The Liberty coins were wrapped in dollar bills, Chambless said.

Salvation Army officials think the coins and Krugerrands were given by the same person.

They'd like to find those who made such generous donations.

"We're not necessarily looking to put the donors in front of the media," Chambless said. "Maybe they'd like to take advantage of the tax deduction. If it's not necessary for them to take the tax deduction, we're just wanting to say 'Thank you, very much.'"

The chapter hopes to achieve its seasonal goal of \$2.3 million.

Segment warning of Border Patrol could jeopardize station

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A tongue-in-cheek segment warning undocumented immigrants about immigration agents could be delaying San Antonio's leading Spanish-language radio station from renewing its license.

In the recurring KROM-Radio "Estreo Latino" segment, callers report sightings of immigration agents and disc jockeys alert listeners about the location of limones verdes, or "green limes." The words refer to the dark green Border Patrol uniforms and green-lined SUVs; DJs don't actually mention federal agents.

Since the segment started five years ago, there hasn't been public outcry. No complaints were filed by the Border Patrol, which has an eight-agent office in San Antonio.

But a retired Houston lawyer has launched a campaign to force the station off the air. In a letter, Joe Ray Blalack asked the Federal Communications Commission to deny KROM-Radio a license renewal. The FCC, which regulates the broadcast industry, also has received 38 citizen complaints against the station, all from outside Texas.

Since Aug. 1, KROM 92.9 FM has been operating with an expired license and its renewal application remains pending. Meanwhile, most other renewals for Texas stations have already been approved, station attorney Scott Flick wrote in an August letter to the FCC.

"KROM grows concerned that the Blalack letter is delaying the orderly processing of its license renewal application, despite the fact that the letter is completely irrelevant to that application."

The station's renewal application is under review, and no timetable for a decision was available, FCC spokeswoman Rebecca Fisher said.

While Blalack said he doesn't expect the FCC to take the station's license, he's counting on the agency to issue a large fine.

"It should serve as a stern warning. People can't engage in any activity against our national interest," said Blalack, 69, who also would like a law forcing Spanish-language TV stations to use English subtitles.

Firefighter in critical condition after fire truck hit by train

NEW SUMMERFIELD (AP) — A volunteer firefighter remained in critical condition Sunday after suffering serious injuries when a train hit the fire truck he was driving to the scene of a blaze, officials said.

Kenneth Hancock, 35, of New Summerfield, was injured Saturday while en route to the grass fire near New Summerfield, officials said. A cargo train hit the water tank truck he was driving when he failed to stop at a railroad crossing near Goliad, Texas Department of Public Safety trooper Eric Long said.

RAWLS

Continued from Page 1A

a woman unless they initiate it first, and any kind of physical contact was out of the question.

"There would be children — I mean young children, from 18-months old and up — sitting along the road begging for food and water. The standard of living in the country has dropped dramatically over the years. Most of the people are destitute."

Rawls said he's proud to have been a part of the effort in Iraq, and whether the war is favored by the American media or not, he feels they brought hope to the country.

"Most of them don't have access to the basic services like we have here," said Rawls. "Hospitals are kind of hard to find, and so is trained medical staff. Working sewer systems — some places don't have them — and clean drinking water can be a problem."

"A lot of the Bedouins drink out of the canals, which is where they water their camels and sheep. We've done a lot to help. We've put in some wells and things like that to try to help increase the standard of living, and that's the main focus we have in Iraq right now. We're trying to help these people get a better stan-



Courtesy photo
Texas National Guard Sgt. James Rawls, far right, poses for a photo with the Welsh Calvary Recon Regiment while stationed in Iraq. Rawls, a Big Spring native, was one of more than 2,500 Guardsmen deployed to the Middle East in 2004.

dard of living."

While Rawls feels he is better off for the experience, his travels in Iraq and Kuwait haven't all been good, leaving the young man the arduous task of picking up his life in West Texas and moving forward.

"It's been a little tough," said Rawls. "Having to adjust from being in an environment where if you drive down a highway it's real easy to get blown up to driving down a highway and you might have a blowout is different."

"Overall, however, I'd

say the adjustment is going pretty well. There are still going to be some rough spots, but I'll be able to get through those. My family has been very supportive and understanding about what's going on right now, and that's a really good thing to have."

Rawls said the support his community and country showed him and other soldiers overseas made it all worth the tremendous sacrifice for him and his family.

"We've received a lot of support from the local

community," said Rawls. "We received a lot of care packages and things like that. It really amazes me. I know how controversial the war is with the people, and regardless of whether they agree or disagree with the war, they are still saying they support our troops. I'm very proud to see that, and that in itself makes it worthwhile to do what we do."

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

PD

Continued from Page 1A

the sex offender program," said Chamness. "They got it started and running, doing a lot of work on it to try to keep the community up to speed on the local sex offenders living in the community."

Civilian employees received special recognition.

"Judy Westbrook received an award for civilian achievement," said Chamness. "Wayne Jones, from the ID Division, also received that award for all the local activities he's involved with that promote good relations within the community. He's on a number of committees and groups, including a new program called VIPS (Volunteers In Police Service). He also works with Meals on Wheels and RSVP, as well as the annual Pops in the Park. He's just an invaluable

employee to have around."

"Lynn Creswell, who was formerly in dispatch and transferred over to jailer, also received a civilian achievement award. She's done a lot of good work with things that needed to be done in the jail and has come up with some new ideas."

Chamness said several other highly revered awards were given during the ceremony.

"Brian Gordon received the Jerry G. Edwards award, which is for professionalism and dedication," said Chamness. "That's a very prestigious award. Janie Edwards and her son receive letters that describe the officer, but not the officers' name, so it's totally anonymous. They read about what the person has done and they make their selection based on that."

"Supervisor of the Year went to Kit Patterson, who is the sergeant in charge of patrol. Officer



Courtesy photo
Big Spring Police Department Det. Phil Whitten and Administrative Secretary Ann Reid show off their awards during the department's annual awards ceremony.

of the Year went to Jason Baird and Civilian of the Year went to Melissa Londenberg."

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

HEROS

Continued from Page 1A

shifts at Kuwait depots to add protective armor to military trucks that traveled dangerous roads to Baghdad.

The government also mobilized in other ways this year.

The Medicare program hired and trained 400 employees, and redeployed an additional 2,000, to provide a prescription drug benefit to elderly Americans. In an announcement Dec. 22, the government said Medicare drug plans have enrolled 21 million customers for the new benefit, which starts Jan. 1.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institutes of Health, the Food and Drug Administration and other agencies have put

together teams to respond to the threat of pandemic influenza. Their work includes ensuring that the nation has an adequate supply of antiviral drugs to treat avian flu and developing procedures to protect health care workers and others who will be on the front lines if there is an outbreak.

At the CDC, dozens of epidemiologists and other specialists have been stationed permanently in Asia, and dozens more headquarters employees travel abroad to investigate flu outbreaks.

Federal employees who were not in harm's way this year pitched in to help their fellow public servants. For example, contributions to the Federal Employee Education & Assistance Fund (www.feea.org) helped provide \$1.44 million in emergency grants

to more than 3,000 federal families.

The fund has raised more than \$900,000 for the emergency aid and is dipping into its financial reserves to make up the difference. Among the contributors were the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association, which donated \$100,000 to the fund, and the National Treasury Employees Union, which contributed \$25,000.

Paul C. Light, author of "Government's Greatest Achievements," believes no one should doubt the government when it decides to tackle tough problems.

"The federal government has been working to protect workers, help veterans readjust, defend the nation, build roads, enhance transportation,

connect communities, promote economic growth and support the poor for a quarter of a millennium," he wrote in his book. "It is hardly likely to stop now."

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Edward "Red" King, 65, died Sunday. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Coahoma Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 7 until 8 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Nita Ruth Edge, 86, died Sunday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Coronado Hills Apartments

1 Bedroom - \$375 • 2 Bedroom - \$475 • 3 Bedroom - \$575

801 W. Marcy • 432-267-6500
Big Spring, Texas 79720

Pool, Private Patios, Covered Parking
& Washer - Dryer Conn.
2-3 Bedroom

"Remember...you deserve the best!"

Family Medical Center Spotlight

Dr. Keith Ledford, MD
Board Certified OB/GYN
1501 W. 11th Place, 2nd Floor
432-264-7180

Amy E. Reese
D.D.S., P.C.
432-267-4102

Pizza Inn.
Buffet 7 Days A Week
Lunch 11:00 - 2:00
Evening 5:00 - 9:00
1702 Gregg 263-1381

EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Susanne Reed
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Save some airwaves for innovators

Like network executives canceling a sitcom, federal lawmakers have set a date for the last broadcast of conventional television: Feb. 17, 2009.

That's when analog TV signals will be turned off in favor of digital broadcasts, which offer improved pictures and more programming choices. The bad news is that tuning in the new signals requires either a digital TV, which the vast majority of homes don't have, or a converter box (possibly from a cable or satellite TV service) to translate the digital broadcasts into analog pictures.

Nevertheless, the House and Senate gave preliminary approval this week to a budget bill that pulls the plug on analog TV in a little over three years. The bill would provide two \$40 coupons per household for converter boxes, up to a total of \$1.5 billion. But with an estimated 73 million TVs in more than 30 million homes tuning in analog signals through antennas today, a lot of viewers are likely to be caught unprepared when those signals vanish.

Lawmakers were willing to risk a couch-potato revolt not because they were smitten with digital TV, but because they wanted to reclaim the frequencies that local stations have been using for their analog channels. Those frequencies are a pot of gold that ultimately could be the richest dividend of the switch to digital broadcasting — if Congress and the Federal Communications Commission don't discard long-term gains for the sake of short-term revenue.

The airwaves used by TV broadcasters are coveted by companies eager to offer an array of wireless services, such as beaming video to portable devices or Web pages to pocket-sized computers. The signals can travel much farther than the ones used by digital cellphones, making it possible to build less expensive networks and charge lower prices. In short, it's a fertile field for new competitors.

Some of those airwaves have already been dedicated to emergency services, which will make a long-overdue improvement in the way public safety agencies communicate with one another. Others are slated to be auctioned to the highest bidder, raising an estimated \$10 billion to \$30 billion for the U.S. Treasury. In addition to raising a tidy sum, auctions would let market forces, rather than the government, decide how best to use those airwaves.

Still, Washington should not let the quest for revenue override a more fundamental goal: making affordable high-speed Internet service available to all Americans. If the high bidders in the auctions are affiliated with the local telephone and cable companies that already offer high-speed Internet service, they're not likely to use the airwaves for a cheaper version of broadband. Similarly, the high bidders might be more interested in offering movies to cellphones than a fat pipe to the Web. That's why Washington should leave some of the reclaimed frequencies open to the public without need for lease or license. With the right technologies and rules to guard against interference, these airwaves could not only enable community-based high-speed Internet services, but provide a laboratory for wireless innovation.

By opening a few slivers of the spectrum to unlicensed wireless data services in 1986, the FCC made possible an explosion in Wi-Fi, or wireless fidelity, communication gear and services that continues to this day. The reclaimed analog TV frequencies hold even more promise. Rather than mining every bit for auction revenue, lawmakers should reserve some of the airwaves for whatever services and applications that innovative technologists and community groups can squeeze into them.

THE LOS ANGELES TIMES

It's all about image to the press

It has been an exciting few days for those who watch President Bush for a living. The president made a rare address to the nation from the Oval Office Sunday and then held a formal press conference Monday.

He said a whole bunch of things, but what he said didn't seem to matter that much. It was how he said it. At least, that was the media's take.

The press and presidency have long been fixated on stagecraft and performance, which is why so many political stories read like theater reviews. With his poll numbers climbing back to a still-anemic 40 percent or so, the president clearly needed a change of tone, a new performance. While staying the course remains the fundamental principle of administration policy in Iraq, President Bush's team decided that his admitting to human frailty and the possibility of mistake would captivate his critics.

So, Sunday he admitted the war has been "more difficult than we expected," but he was only human and doing the best job he could to protect America. Predictably, the press seized upon this. Commentator David Gergen called the president "frank and humble." *The New York Times* decided he was "more humble about the mistakes he has made over the past two and a half years." And *The Associated Press* called the speech "a high profile display of candor." Tom Shales, the television critic of *The Washington Post* (in the modern era, it is entirely appropriate to have a TV critic critique the president of the United States), said that Bush was "determined to sound determined."

In other words, the president did very, very well. Why? Because when the

media concentrate on how you are newly humble about your mistakes, then they are not concentrating on the mistakes themselves. Instead, they are concentrating on you and how more appealing you have become.

Americans love humility from those on high. They love the admission of error. They love redemption. (Ask Bill Clinton, whose approval ratings never dipped below 60 percent during the Monica Lewinsky scandal.) So expect President Bush's approval ratings to rise — even though much of what he says continues to be unchanged from the bad old days when he refused to admit to any mistakes. Take, for instance, his flat assertion that "we are winning the war in Iraq." When I heard that, I waited for him to give some examples, but he gave none. Bush also continued to assert that more than 50 Iraqi army units could "take the lead" in fighting the insurgents, but he did not say how many could fight without U.S. help.

Fortunately, at least one journalist, Doyle McManus of the *Los Angeles Times*, pursued this point — and a very important point it is, considering the number of Iraqis that can fight without us will determine, President Bush says, when U.S. forces can leave Iraq. The number, however, remains the same and pathetically small. As

McManus wrote Monday: "Only one Iraqi battalion is currently listed at Level 1, capable of fully independent operations, officials said." Which means that after two and a half years, only 750 Iraqis are capable of fighting for their country on their own. McManus also found that President Bush was overly glowing about opinion polls showing how Iraqis feel about our invasion, the war and their daily lives.

According to the article: "A lot of the numbers throughout his speech spin reality almost out of control," said Anthony H. Cordesman, a scholar at the Center for Strategic and International Studies who has been generally supportive of Bush's strategy in Iraq. "He's cherry-picked numbers and I think rounded them up. ... (He's) ignored all the negatives." Cordesman said on National Public Radio, referring to the polling results.

But that doesn't really matter. Not as long as President Bush is humble about it.

To find out more about Roger Simon, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

COPY-
RIGHT 2005
CREATORS
SYNDI-
CATE INC.



ROGER
SIMON



What's up with the mainstream media?

As I was watching President Bush's latest news conference, I was struck by the thought of how different the news climate and public mood would be if the mainstream media (MSM) were truly as unbiased as they pretend to be.

If the MSM were indeed objective, and animated by an investigative impulse and a nonpartisan, government-watchdog instinct, they might thoroughly cover and inquire into the following:

— Why Joe Wilson appears to have lied when he denied that his wife, Valerie Plame, recommended him to the CIA to investigate the claim that Saddam Hussein sought uranium yellowcake from Niger. They might also examine Wilson's bragging about debunking certain forged documents on his trip — documents that were not even discovered until eight months later.

— Senator Durbin's unconscionable likening of America's treatment of terrorist detainees to the treatment of prisoners by Pol Pot, the Nazi regime and the Soviet Gulags.

— Why one of its own standard bearers, the vaunted *New York Times*, sat on the surveillance "scandal" story until the week Congress was debating reauthorization of the Patriot Act.

— Where Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid gets off demanding an independent investigation about this NSA surveillance — a practice that essentially began under President Clinton and about which Reid and his colleagues were privy to a dozen briefings.

— How Democratic leaders have continually accused President Bush of lying to get us into war when they had access to the same WMD intelligence as President Bush and voted to authorize him

to attack Iraq.

— Why only a handful of Democratic senators availed themselves of their access to certain detailed reports on Iraqi WMD.

— Why Democratic leaders claim their plainly unconditional authorization to attack Iraq was based on further conditions.

— Upon what evidence the Democrats base their slanderous allegation that the Bush administration, as a matter of policy, engages in the systematic torture of terrorist detainees.

— How Democratic leaders could justify their irresponsible call for a specific withdrawal timetable for Iraq without playing into the terrorists' hands.

— Why most of those Democrats, when Republicans called their bluff, were afraid to back up their destructive rhetoric with their votes.

— The Democrats' conspicuous inability or unwillingness to offer a single alternative plan for Iraq, though they ceaselessly condemn President Bush's policies on it.

— Why senators who voted for the Patriot Act are now refusing to reauthorize it despite the lack of a credible case that the administration has abused its authority or compromised civil liberties.

— How Democratic senators can complain about the government's failure to connect the dots concerning the terrorists' 9/11 plot and at the same time take action that will virtually guarantee our inability to connect future dots.

— On what basis Sen. Harry Reid charges that the present Congress is "the most corrupt in history."

— The remarkable progress in Iraq of the training of Iraqi security forces and the rebuilding of the Iraqi infrastructure.

— The positive morale of the American troops in Iraq despite the endless distortions of the MSM and Democratic politicians.

— The robustness and resilience of the American economy under President Bush.

The MSM has been largely silent

or slanted on these stories, along with many others that don't support their preferred template.

Yet, in the face of this evidence, the MSM mostly deny their bias. What's scary is that many of them actually believe they aren't biased, which is as much a result of self-deception as deception of others.

This is because they operate in the type of stifling bubble they believe envelops President Bush. They surround themselves only with people who share their decidedly leftist, secular worldview. They harbor a myopic arrogance that regards contrary opinion as aberrant, perverse and evil. They oppose at all costs anything that advances that worldview, including the dissemination of the truth.

Thus, their professed allegiance to the truth must yield to their jaded perception of the higher good. Their pretense toward objectivity must be subordinated to their desired political ends.

This explains their concerted suppression of the undeniable historic significance of the Iraqi elections in favor of their timed release of the story on the surveillance scandal. It explains CBS's John Roberts' obliviousness to how he embarrassed himself in asking President Bush — on the heels of this remarkable news about the burgeoning Iraqi government — to confess his worst mistake in office.

While I am mindful and appreciative of the profound counterbalancing impact of the New Media in the interest of truth, we must remember that the MSM are still alive and kicking and hell-bent on shaping the news and public opinion in conformity with their worldview.

To find out more about David Limbaugh, please visit his Web site at www.davidlimbaugh.com. And to read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

COPYRIGHT 2005 CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.



DAVID
LIMBAUGH

Controlling cravings: strategies for success

So many challenges. You may have a couple more holiday parties to survive. You've got all the holiday leftovers in the fridge and the last of the cookies and candies and other goodies that everyone will bring in to work and leave lying tantalizingly around.

But you've got your New Year's resolution, however you've framed it this year — no carbs, less fats, better exercise, more fresh fruits and vegetables — and you're already warming up to it.

So perhaps you're steeled against those scattered, scattery temptations. Maybe you've armed yourself with little reminders of your motivations for eating better, losing weight and getting healthy.

Maybe you're making it easier by exiling the junk you used to eat and getting the house stocked with the good foods you should be enjoying.

But no matter what else you do, you're still going to have cravings that hit you out of nowhere. It's like having a guerrilla enemy trying to undermine your best dietary intentions. These recurrent, unwanted urges can derail your weight-loss efforts and erode your confidence.

But you don't have to let them.

Understanding the enemy

Cravings result from various physical, psychological and environmental factors that affect the way your body and brain function. The causes fall roughly into four general categories: time of day, places, activities and feelings.

Most people feel hungry around "dinner time," whatever that is for them. Going to your mother's house, or even past the local donut shop, can stimulate a desire to eat. Watching television is an activity that's notorious for raising the impulse to eat.

Emotions can be the most compelling stimulus of all. Many times, uncomfortable feelings such as anxiety or resentment cause people to reach for food. But good feelings can trigger an eating spree, too. Good food is an enhancement to most enjoyable experiences.

I really can't overemphasize the significance cravings have for people with entrenched weight issues.

They are a big part of the problem. As a result, we put some considerable effort into helping people identify and understand their individual triggers, and ultimately break the associations that cause them.

But even if you don't have a structured approach for breaking the root of the craving problem, there are things you can do to effectively respond when a craving arises. Here is a defensive arsenal.

Distraction

There's a saying: "If you don't like how you're feeling, change what you're doing." You can apply it to almost any feeling, but it's especial-

ly helpful for dealing with the urge to eat. A simple shift in your current activity is often all it takes to derail a craving, instead of letting the craving derail you. So when you feel a craving about to overwhelm you, do something else.

Typically, you only have to distract yourself for a brief period, as cravings typically pass within minutes or even seconds. But if cravings bombard you all day long, confronting the enemy may be a better strategy.

Confrontation

The confrontation approach pits you against your urges as though they truly were your foe. If you are struck by a craving for ice cream, you can pretend the craving is another person trying to convince you to eat the ice cream. You can argue with this person and assert that you will not succumb, and state your reasons why not.

Another approach is to visualize the food itself, cartoonishly animated and beckoning you with promises of fulfillment. But you are a thinking, reasonable being. You will not be led astray by a mere carton of ice cream. You recognize the craving and take charge. You can tell it, "You are but a passing urge. You are not the boss of me. I am in control of my own life and my weight." End of discussion.

One advantage of confrontation is that it can be very empowering as you get better and better at it with use. And it has the practical advantage of being a tool you can use even when you can't otherwise change what you're doing.

Remember who's in charge; you can make those cookies crumble.

Stress tools

Basic stress-management techniques like mental visualization exercises, a short walk, or even a neck massage all create particular biochemical modifications in your body that are specifically useful in defusing the urge to eat, not to mention that they also generally give your body and psyche a breather from any other accruing stressors. Depending on the craving at hand, these can be like bringing out the big guns.

Exercise Exercise affects your muscle cells in two important ways, by developing more mitochondria in those cells so that you have an improved ability to burn fat, and by developing more insulin receptors on the surface of cells. That improves your body's ability to move sugar from the blood into your muscle cells and stabilize blood sugar, which in turn helps to — ready? — control cravings!

Caroline J. Cederquist, M.D. is a board certified family physician and a board certified bariatric physician (the medical specialty of weight management). She specializes in lifetime weight management at the Cederquist Medical Wellness Center, her Naples, Fla., private practice, you can also get more information about Dr. Cederquist and her weight management plan by visiting www.DietToYourDoor.com



DR.
CAROLINE
CEDERQUIST

Baby among tiniest heart surgery patients

By Katie Menzer

The Dallas Morning News

DALLAS — When Adelaide Bolton gets older, she'll be able to tell people she almost died from a small, broken heart.

Adelaide was born Nov. 18 with a rare heart defect that restricts blood flow and makes it difficult to breathe.

But Adelaide — whose twin brother was born without the defect — faced even greater challenges because she was born 2-1/2 months premature and weighed less than 3 pounds.

Her heart was only the size of a large Bing cherry, much too small for surgeons to use their fingers to repair the defects. But if they had waited for Adelaide to get older, her condition would have deteriorated, and she might have developed chronic lung disease or worse.

So, just three days after she was born, Adelaide, who then weighed only 2.4 pounds, had open-heart surgery.

"You basically operate with chopsticks," said Adelaide's doctor, Joseph Forbess, chief of clinical services for cardiothoracic surgery at Children's Medical Center Dallas.

Although advances in medicine are allowing surgeons to operate on smaller and smaller babies, Adelaide is one of the tiniest children in the nation to undergo this procedure, Forbess said.

The process included repairing a hole in the heart between the two ventricles and attaching a donated human pulmonary artery to replace her blocked pulmonary valve.

Adelaide's small size made the procedure "pretty challenging," said cardiac surgeon Paul Kirshbom of Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. Because Adelaide's heart was so fragile, Forbess had to fashion a patch for the hole out of her pericardium — the fibrous sac where the heart sits — instead of using Dacron cloth, which is normally used for the patch. "The smaller these hearts, the less one can afford any mistakes. The tissue is so fragile that you pretty much get 'one take,' as they say in the theater," Forbess said. Almost four weeks after her surgery, Adelaide is off a ventilator, weighs more than 3 pounds and is recovering at UT Southwestern's St. Paul Building.

She's even bottle feeding. "It's so strange to watch. The bottle is twice the size that she is," said Adelaide's mother, Athena Bolton. Adelaide will have to undergo three or four more open-heart surgeries in her lifetime — she will outgrow her donated parts and need larger replacements — but her parents look at each other with Cheshire grins when they speak of the future.

They said they can't wait for the day when they can bring their babies — Adelaide's twin brother is 14 minutes her senior — to their Cedar Hill, home. It's a heartwarming tale, but the birth of their twins has been an arduous journey for Bolton and her husband, Kevin. The couple met as seniors at Texas A&M



KRT photo/Barbara Davidson, Dallas Morning News
Athena, left, and Kevin Bolton hold their daughter Adelaide at Children's Medical Center of Dallas. Adelaide, born 2-1/2 months premature and weighing less than 3 pounds, had a heart defect repaired just three days after her birth Nov. 18.

University in a civil engineering lab.

After an eight-month courtship, the couple married in September 1993 with immediate hopes of enlarging their family. Ms. Bolton already had a 6-year-old son, Donovan Bacuyag.

But after several years unsuccessfully trying to have a child, the Boltons sought medical help. Tests in 2002 showed that Ms. Bolton's fallopian tubes were blocked. The news would get worse when Mr. Bolton was diagnosed with testicular cancer the next year.

Mr. Bolton had surgery to remove the cancer and, although he still has to undergo frequent tests, he is in remission. By the end of 2003, the two had decided to begin in vitro fertilization treatments.

But more health problems developed during the treatments. Ms. Bolton had to have surgery to remove kidney stones, which delayed the therapy.

Later, Ms. Bolton became pregnant with twins, but one had implanted in her fallopian tube, which ruptured in her eighth week of pregnancy, and she lost both fetuses along with a couple of liters of blood.

In May, the couple decided to try one more time, telling themselves they would adopt a child if this last attempt wasn't

successful. They had two fertilized eggs placed in Ms. Bolton's uterus, then crossed their fingers.

"We got pregnant," said Ms. Bolton, smiling.

Still, things were tough. First, Ms. Bolton developed hyperthyroidism, an overactive thyroid gland. Then, at 18 weeks, a routine sonogram revealed one of the fetuses had a heart abnormality, known as Tetralogy of Fallot with pulmonary atresia, and the Boltons were referred to specialists at Children's.

"Keep the baby in as long as possible. That was Forbess' advice," Mr. Bolton said.

On the evening of Nov. 17 — a Thursday — Ms. Bolton began feeling pains in her back, and Mr. Bolton, now a fourth-year medical student at UT Southwestern, noticed a pattern to her complaints.

He started timing her pains and discovered that they were three minutes apart, so he examined her.

"She was fully dilated," he said.

He whisked her into the car but kept silent about his examination because he didn't want her to

panic.

By 3:02 a.m. Friday, Ms. Bolton had delivered a 4-pound, 2-ounce boy, whom the parents named Maxwell. With her brother out of the way, Adelaide had positioned herself sideways in Ms. Bolton's uterus, and the doctors had to deliver her by Caesarean section.

Ms. Bolton wouldn't see the babies until three days later, when Adelaide was to be transferred to Children's for her surgery.

"I just started crying," Ms. Bolton said. "She was so small, and she had to go through major heart surgery."

Now, Adelaide and Maxwell are doing well, and doctors said they expect the little girl to live a full and healthy life.

The parents don't know when they will be able to take the twins home, and Ms. Bolton spends most of her time at the hospital. Her husband, who plans to specialize in anesthesiology, is interviewing for residency programs and hoping for a position at UT Southwestern so the recently expanded family won't have to uproot.

halidoscoops
ICE CREAM & MORE
1103 E. 11th Place
OPENING DECEMBER 30th

Dr. Kimberly Saenz
Pediatrician
Se habla español
2301 S. Gregg St.
(432) 264-6575

Blum's
Jewelers

One beautiful place

After Christmas Clear-Out
Tuesday - Saturday

ENTIRE STORE
20-75% OFF

Selected Seiko & Pulsar Watches
50% OFF

Clocks
20-40% Off

Diamond - Pendants - Earrings - Rings
20-75% OFF

Pearls - 14K Earrings - Sterling Silver Jewelry
20-50% OFF

Special Sale Price For 5 Days Only - Dec. 27th - Dec. 31st
Hours: 10-6 Mon.-Fri.

Inside Big Spring Mall 267-6335

"We lean on the Big Spring Herald for our advertising"

Bob Brock, Rondel Brock & Randy Gee



Bob Brock Ford

Lincoln • Mercury • Nissan, Inc.

500 W. 4th

Big Spring, Tx 79720

(432) 267-7424



You, too, can lean on the Herald's century of experience
to reach your customers!

BIG SPRING HERALD

Call 263-7331

Sports

BIG
SPRING HERALD

Do you have an interesting sports item or story idea? Call Troy Hyde at 263-7331, Ext. 237. Email results to: sports@bigspringherald.com

Page 1B
Monday, December 26, 2005



Carolina's Michael Rucker, left, can't stop the touchdown run of Dallas' Julius Jones. The Cowboys defeated the Panthers 24-20 at the Bank of America Stadium in Charlotte, N.C. Saturday.

Cowboys keep playoff hopes alive — for now

By JAIME ARON

AP Sports Writer

IRVING — All the high hopes, the enduring faith despite meager results — it all makes sense now that Julius Jones and DeMarcus Ware played the way they did against the Carolina Panthers.

The top picks from the Dallas Cowboys' last two drafts finally had breakout games Saturday, just in time to prolong the team's season.

With Jones rushing for 194 yards and his first two touchdowns since September, and Ware providing three sacks and forcing three fumbles, the Cowboys beat the Carolina Panthers 24-20 to remain in the playoff hunt going into the final Sunday.

"You can count them out if you want to, but I won't," coach Bill

Parcells said.

Dallas (9-6) will know before the season finale kicks off Sunday night against St. Louis whether a wild card spot is on the line. A Chicago win and a loss by Carolina or Washington would put the Cowboys in a win-and-they're-in scenario.

"It feels good to have that chance," receiver Keyshawn Johnson said.

Regardless of how things play out, getting this far is meaningful.

The victory guarantees a winning season for Dallas, its second in three years under Parcells. It shows great progress from 6-10 last season and stops a horrendous slide since the Cowboys were 7-3, a collapse that threatened to undermine their strong start.

See COWBOYS, page 2B

Turn out the lights

From its inception, ABC's "Monday Night Football" was a risky experiment that defied American sports tradition.



JIM
LITKE

Dennis Miller's arcane analogies, it dominated TV viewing in homes and bars across the nation.

The broadcast was a hodgepodge of personalities and indelible images, defining moments and follies, eye-popping on-the-field performances and the kind of impromptu silliness that only sheer boredom can create.

In short, it was exactly what ABC Sports boss Rooney Arledge hoped it would be.

It was theater.

Television sports reaches the end of one era and the beginning of another Monday night when ABC signs off on its prime-time week-night coverage of the NFL for the final time and hands off to sister network ESPN.

The 55th Monday night game on the network is itself of little consequence: The dismal New York Jets play the New England Patriots, who already are playoff bound but have no chance to improve their position.

The series switches networks next season, when ESPN begins paying \$1.1 billion per year for Monday night rights in an eight-year deal.

"Monday Night Football" is the premier property in sports television," ESPN president George Bodenheimer said. "All the players get up for it. All the teams watch. It's a national showcase. To

See ABC, page 2B

Pistons handle Spurs in NBA title rematch

By LARRY LAGE

AP Sports Writer

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. — In their first matchup since the NBA Finals, Detroit proved dominant in a defensive struggle against San Antonio.

Chauncey Billups scored 20 points and the Pistons held the Spurs to their lowest-scoring first quarter Sunday before winning 85-70, the seventh straight victory for Detroit. The Spurs missed 13 of their last 14 shots in the opening period.

The game featuring the defending champion Spurs and the 2004 champion Pistons was the opener in the NBA's annual Christmas doubleheader, lacking the Shaq-Kobe hype in the Miami Heat-Los Angeles Lakers matchup later in the day.

"We're very honored, but we realize it is a great responsibility to play in the jayvee game," San Antonio coach Gregg Popovich joked before the game. "We have to do a good job to make sure the fans stay around to watch the varsity game."

Detroit has won 13 of 14 games and improved to an NBA-best 22-3. The Spurs have lost three of five, but their 21-7 record is the league's second best.

Ben Wallace had 10 points and a season-high 21 rebounds and reserve Antonio McDyess added 10 points and a season-high 13

rebounds for the Pistons. Rasheed Wallace scored 14 points and Richard Hamilton had 11.

San Antonio's Tony Parker scored 19 points and Tim Duncan had 18 points and 11 points.

With Manu Ginobili missing his eighth straight game with a sprained right foot, Parker and Duncan didn't have much help. Reserve Nazr Mohammed had 10 points, the only other San Antonio player who scored in double figures. Michael Finley, who replaced Ginobili in the starting lineup, had three points on 1-of-7 shooting.

Detroit led by 10 points after holding the Spurs to eight points, their fewest first-quarter points in franchise history and a total that matched their low from any quarter.

The Spurs lost the lead midway through the first quarter, and didn't regain it. Detroit led by just four after three quarters, but pulled away by outscoring the Spurs 28-17 in the fourth.

The Pistons made just 42 percent of their shots, but held the Spurs to 40 percent shooting and outrebounded them 57-30, including an 18-6 edge on the offensive glass.

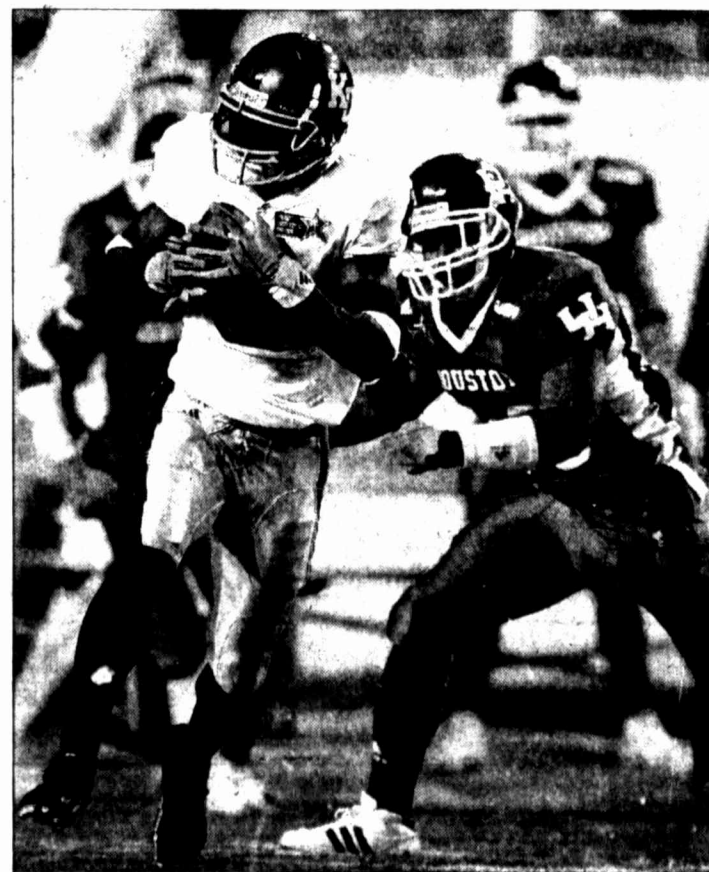
While the game was low scoring, like the 2005 NBA Finals, the matchups were intriguing.

Bruce Bowen hounded

See PISTONS, page 2B



Miami Heat's Head Coach Pat Riley gestures in the first half of Miami's game against the Los Angeles Lakers. Miami defeated Los Angeles 97-92 in Miami Sunday.



Kansas Jayhawks' Brian Murphy, left, runs back a first quarter punt return for a touchdown in the 2005 Fort Worth Bowl at Amon G. Carter Stadium, in Fort Worth Friday.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL BOWL SCHEDULE

2005-06 Bowl Schedule Bowl Championship Series

Fiesta Bowl
Notre Dame vs. Ohio State
Tempe, Ariz., Jan. 2, 3:30 p.m.
ABC

Sugar Bowl
Georgia vs. West Virginia
Atlanta, Jan. 2, 7:30 p.m. ABC

Orange Bowl
Florida State vs. Penn State
Miami, Jan. 3, 7 p.m., ABC

Rose Bowl
USC vs. Texas
Pasadena, Calif., Jan. 4, 7 p.m., ABC

Non-BCS Schedule

New Orleans Bowl
Southern Mississippi 31,
Arkansas State 19

GMAC Bowl
Toledo 45, UTEP 13,
Las Vegas Bowl

California 35, Brigham Young 28,
Poinsettia Bowl

Navy 51, Colorado State 30,
Fort Worth Bowl
Kansas 42, Houston 13,
Hawaii Bowl

Nevada 49, Central Florida 48,

OT.

Motor City Bowl
Memphis vs. Akron, Detroit
Dec. 26, 3 p.m., ESPN

Champs Sports Bowl
Clemson vs. Colorado
Orlando, Fla., Dec. 27, 4 p.m., ESPN

Insight Bowl
Arizona State vs. Rutgers
Phoenix, Dec. 27, 7:30 p.m., ESPN

MPC Computers Bowl
Boise State vs. Boston College
Boise, Idaho, Dec. 28, 3:30 p.m. ESPN

Alamo Bowl
Michigan vs. Nebraska
San Antonio, Dec. 28, 7 p.m., ESPN

Emerald Bowl
Georgia Tech vs. Utah, San Francisco, Dec. 29, 3:30 p.m., ESPN

Holiday Bowl
Oregon vs. Oklahoma
San Diego, Dec. 29, 7 p.m., ESPN

Music City Bowl
Minnesota vs. Virginia
Nashville, Tenn., Dec. 30, 11 a.m., ESPN

Sun Bowl
UCLA vs. Northwestern
El Paso, Dec. 30, 1 p.m., CBS

Independence Bowl
South Carolina vs. Missouri

Shreveport, La., Dec. 30, 2:30 p.m., ESPN

Peach Bowl
Miami (Fl.) vs. LSU

Atlanta, Dec. 30, 6:30 p.m., CBS

Meineke Car Care Bowl
South Florida vs. NC State

Charlotte, N.C., Dec. 31, 10 a.m. ESPN2

Liberty Bowl
Tulsa vs. Fresno State

Memphis, Tenn., Dec. 31, noon, ESPN

Houston Bowl
TCU vs. Iowa State

Houston, Dec. 31, 1:30 p.m., ESPN2

Cotton Bowl
Alabama vs. Texas Tech

Dallas, Jan. 2, 10 a.m., Fox

Outback Bowl
Iowa vs. Florida

Tampa, Fla., Jan. 2, 10 a.m., ESPN

Gator Bowl
Louisville vs. Va. Tech

Jacksonville, Fla., Jan. 2, 11:30 a.m., NBC

Capital Bowl
Wisconsin vs. Auburn

Orlando, Fla., Jan. 2, noon, ABC

Texans' mistakes add up to 13th loss

By KRISTIE RIEKEN
AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON — There were the missed field goals, the almost certain interceptions that were dropped and the penalties. In the end, it added up to another defeat for the Houston Texans.

"To beat a good football team like Jacksonville, you've got to convert all of your opportunities," coach Dom Capers said.

Houston (2-13) led at halftime and was ahead in the fourth quarter but, as usual, the Texans couldn't hold on and lost 38-20 to the playoff-bound Jaguars on Saturday.

"We had a roughing the punter, a couple missed field goals, some dropped balls on defense, a holding call in the end zone that gave them a touchdown — everybody added to it," said Texans offensive tackle Zach Wiegert. "They were not more physical or anything like that, it was just that you can't make those kinds of mistakes in this league."

Cowboys

Continued from page 1B

Seeing Jones and Ware lead the way also restores confidence in those players, as well as in the people who drafted them and the coaches who continued to rely on them when they were struggling.

There are even nice story lines behind it that reinforce Parcells' point about veterans who've been through playoff chases needing to lead the youngsters through it.

For Jones, it was Johnson challenging him by saying, "If we're going

Ravens eliminate Vikings from playoff hunt

BALTIMORE (AP) — All season long, the Minnesota Vikings relied on their defense to win. The unit collapsed Sunday night, and so did Minnesota's flickering playoff hopes.

Kyle Boller went 24-for-34 for 289 yards and three touchdowns, and the Baltimore Ravens eliminated the Vikings from the post-season hunt with a 30-23 victory. Needing a win to stay alive, the Vikings (8-7) came up with their worst defensive performance in two months. Minnesota, which hadn't given up more than 23 points since Oct. 30, allowed the Ravens to go

10-for-15 on third down. The loss gave the New York Giants (10-5) a playoff berth.

Baltimore trailed 20-17 before Boller threw a 39-yard touchdown pass to Derrick Mason with 14:47 left. Then, after Minnesota punted from the Ravens 38, Boller directed a 68-yard drive that produced a 38-yard field goal by Matt Stover with 1:55 to go.

Any chance the Vikings had of winning vanished when Brad Johnson fumbled on a sack by Adalius Thomas. Baltimore turned it into a field goal with 1:03 remaining.

On Jacksonville's first offensive series, Houston had held the Jaguars on the 1-yard line when rookie safety C.C. Brown was called for defensive holding, giving Jacksonville a new set of downs. LaBrandon Toefield scored a touchdown on the next

play. Later in the first quarter, Demarcus Faggins intercepted a pass that was returned to Jacksonville because of a personal foul on Houston's Robaire Smith and an illegal contact call on Faggins.

to win this game, you're going to have to run the ball." He kept up the banner all day, too, as Jones turned the second-most carries in club history into the fourth-best rushing performance, behind only his total against Seattle last December and the best games of Tony Dorsett and Emmitt Smith.

And he did it behind an offensive line that had been shoddy at best in recent weeks.

"A lot of people were doubting the offensive line, doubting us as a running backs corps, so we came out and really had a

chip on our shoulders, something to prove, and we did it," Jones said. "We just played our hearts out."

Jones scored on an 8-yard run in the first quarter. It was his first touchdown since Sept. 25, ending a 140-carry stretch without reaching the end zone that also included three games missed because of a sprained ankle.

His 43-yard run in the third quarter showed why he came into this season eyeing 1,700 yards and 20 touchdowns. Despite all the frustrations he's endured, he's 42 yards

from becoming Dallas' first 1,000-yard rusher since Smith in 2001.

"Finally you saw the guy that I expected him to be all the time," quarterback Drew Bledsoe said. "He battled through this injury, and it's been hard on him. I know that this year hasn't gone the way that he wanted anybody to envision for him. But when everything was on the line, he stepped up."

So did Ware, who had veterans telling him "just play, get to the passer" like he did in college and team owner Jerry Jones telling him, "go out there and let's set a tone like

it's going to be like that for the next 10 years."

Jones was referring to talk this week about the Cowboys having erred in taking Ware over Shawne Merriman, who went to San Diego.

Ware had gone eight games without a sack, but he responded by matching Randy White's club-rookie record with three. His three forced fumbles were the most since the team began tracking that 21 seasons ago.

"Who would have dreamed he would have walked out there and played a game like that?" Jones said.

Pistons

Continued from page 1B

Hamilton, holding him to 4-of-15 shooting. Duncan and Rasheed Wallace, who have played against each other since college, had some sensational one-on-one duels near the basket.

The Pistons, playing on Christmas for the third time in four years, hosted a game on the holiday for the first time since 1984, when they played at the Pontiac Silverdome. The Spurs played on Christmas for the first time since 1999.

The Spurs led 6-2 before going cold. Detroit scored the last eight points of the quarter, taking an 18-8 lead. Parker was 4-of-8 in the first quarter, and his teammates were scoreless after missing 12 shots and two free throws. San Antonio's defense kept it in the game.

Duncan, the reigning NBA Finals MVP, came alive in the second quarter with eight points on 4-of-5 shooting. The Pistons were able to hold off his surge with eight points from reserves and they led 40-30 at halftime.

San Antonio went on a 10-2 run early in the second half and later scored six straight, pulling to 49-46.

Notes: Faces in the sold-out crowd included Kid Rock, a regular at The Palace, and Eva Longoria, Parker's girlfriend, and she was booed when shown on the video board.

ABC

Continued from page 1B

be able to transition it to ESPN is an honor."

There was no ESPN when ABC began its MNF run on Sept. 21, 1970, with the Jets playing at Cleveland. It was the beginning of 36 seasons of one of television's most valuable franchises, a compelling three hours that became the longest running prime-time sports series in TV history.

Municipal Stadium was jammed with 85,703 fans that first night as ABC began a broadcasting odyssey with Keith Jackson doing play-by-play and ex-quarterback Meredith sharing analysis and wisecracks with Cosell. The three-man booth was new territory for sports television. But then, so was this whole MNF adventure, the invention of NFL commissioner Pete Rozelle and Arledge.

It was a bold step because, for the longest time, football in America fit neatly into a three-day weekend. Friday night was reserved for high school games. Saturday belonged to college football. The NFL played on Sunday.

Rozelle wasn't about to lock the NFL into that pattern. The league had experimented with occasional weeknight games and the commissioner thought it was a perfect place to grow his product. Similarly, Arledge believed sports was the perfect product for television.

Rozelle needed a network partner and Arledge needed a foot in the NFL door. With CBS and NBC locked into NFL games on Sundays, ABC was the perfect fit for MNF. But it took some persuading.

Rozelle's trump card was syndication on the Hughes Sports Network. On and off for two years, Rozelle and Arledge would meet for lunch, usually at Manhattan's

posh 21 Club, haggling over details. Arledge felt he was always on the defensive, especially when Rozelle mentioned Hughes.

"I had about as much clout as the Dalai Lama has dealing with the Chinese army," he once said. "You know where the power was."

Arledge persuaded reluctant ABC higher-ups to sign off on the deal, but then Rozelle almost pulled the rug out from under him.

"He said, 'Of course, you understand we have to offer it to CBS and NBC first because of existing contracts,'" Arledge said. "I was about to slit my throat."

The other two networks passed and the deal went to ABC for \$8.5 million a year, a rights fee that ballooned over the life of the partnership to \$550 million a year, half of what ESPN will pay.

It was the start of something very big.

Arledge's plan was to use the up-close and personal approach he had applied to ABC's coverage of the Olympics. There would be nine cameras instead of the usual four or five. Producer Dennis Lewin was there at the start and later moved to the NFL as head of broadcasting.

"We approached every game as if it was the Super Bowl," Lewin said.

The selection of the announcing team was vital. The plan was to have ex-NFL star Frank Gifford in the booth, but Gifford had a year remaining on a contract at CBS and he recommended his pal, Meredith. Arledge added the bombastic, often abrasive Cosell for analysis, with Jackson doing play-by-play.

The interplay between the urbane Cosell and Meredith the country boy made the broadcasts tingle with electricity. Cosell took to calling Meredith "Dandy Don," and the quarterback would serenade blowout games by singing, "Turn out the

lights, the party's over."

Once, when the cameras zeroed in on stony-faced Minnesota coach Bud Grant, Meredith changed his tune, singing, "You are my sun-shine, my only sunshine..."

The first game included an electrifying 94-yard return of the second-half kickoff by Cleveland's Homer Jones, played and replayed by ABC's army of cameras, and a dramatic portrait of Jets quarterback Joe Namath, shoulders slouched at game's end after an interception that sealed the victory for the Browns.

It was must-see TV and the country responded. The first-year rating was 18.5 with a 31 percent share of the viewing audience. When Gifford replaced Jackson to do play-by-play the next year, the rating went up to 20.8.

Rozelle and Arledge had a hit on their hands.

Much of the success had to do with Cosell. His nasal, New York tones delivered a know-it-all message that often infuriated audiences.

"Howard made people listen," Lewin said. "He made people think and he made people watch. You didn't always agree with Howard, but he was never afraid to say what he thought."

Then there was Arledge's unique production.

"Roone felt it was important to personalize the athlete, to transport the viewer from the couch to every part of the stadium," Gifford said. "Roone Arledge turned a football game into live theater."

Gifford functioned as a traffic cop, an x's and o's football fundamentalist, while Cosell and Meredith provided comic relief. It worked famously, benefited by some terrific games and occasionally interrupted by some dramatic news. It fell to Cosell on Dec. 8, 1980, to announce, in the middle of the broadcast, that Beatle John Lennon had been shot and killed.

Some of the more mem-

orable Monday night moments include:

—Tony Dorsett setting a record with a 99-yard run from scrimmage for Dallas against Minnesota on Jan. 3, 1983.

—Green Bay defeating Washington 48-47 on Oct. 17, 1983, as the teams combined for 1,025 yards of total offense in the highest-scoring MNF game, a contest not decided until Mark Moseley missed a potential game-winning 39-yard field goal with 3 seconds to play.

—Miami ending Chicago's shot at an undefeated season, beating the Bears 38-24 on Dec. 2, 1985, as alumni from the

Dolphins' undefeated 1972 team cheered for their record to be protected.

The game set an MNF record with a 29.6 rating and 46 share.

—Hall of Fame quarterbacks John Elway and Joe Montana facing off in a dramatic duel won by Montana, who threw a TD pass with 8 seconds remaining to give Kansas City a 31-28 victory over Denver on Oct. 17, 1994.

—The Jets roaring from behind in the fourth quarter, scoring on four straight possessions to wipe out a 30-7 Miami lead and then again with 42 seconds left in regulation before winning in

overtime 40-37 on a 40-yard field goal by John Hall on Oct. 23, 2000.

—Brett Favre throwing for 399 yards and four touchdowns in Green Bay's 41-7 victory over Oakland on Dec. 22, 2003, one day after the sudden death of his father.

Over the years, the package changed. Meredith fled Cosell's overbearing presence, joining NBC in 1974 before returning three years later. Arledge moved to head ABC's news division in 1977. Cosell departed in 1983 but not before taking a parting shot at the NFL, calling it boring.



Fullmoon Roofing would like to thank all our customers, employees and families for making 2005 our best year.

Happy Holidays From Our Family To Yours!

Save Up to 30% On A New Roof...

20 yr., 30 Yr., Shingle Roofs • Flat Roofs
Modified Gravel • 26 Gauge U-Panel Metal
Most Colors Available!!

FULLMOON, INC. ROOFING

Commercial • Residential • Industrial • Insured • Bonded • Three Million General Liability

REASONS TO CALL

- Ranked Top 25 Roofing Contractors in Texas
- Owens Corning Preferred Contractors
- Save \$100's to \$1000's On Your Next Roof

VOTED TOP 100 ROOFING CONTRACTORS IN AMERICA 2004

FREE ESTIMATES • (432) 267-5478 • BIG SPRING, TX
HENRY BACKES

17073

CLASSIFIED

710 Scurry

263-7331

www.bigspringherald.com

Announcements

Didn't Get Your Paper?
Call 263-7335
Mon-Fri. 8am-7pm
Sun 8am-noon
HERALD

Business Opportunity

80 VENDING MACHINES
with Prime Locations.
Includes inventory.
MUST Sell Immediately!
\$11,195 investment.
800-940-5277 Open 24/7

"It Pays To Read
Big Spring Herald
Classifieds"

Business Opportunity

The **Big Spring Herald** always
need dependable carriers for
various routes. Must have in-
surance and reliable transpor-
tation.

Apply in person.
Contact Duane McCollum
710 Scurry (432)263-7331

Help Wanted

Assistant Manager/Collector
Security Finance is now taking
applications. We offer benefits,
competitive pay, and advance-
ment opportunities. Apply in
person at 501 E. 3rd.

CITY OF Big Spring is accept-
ing applications for the position
of Firefighter/ Paramedic
through January 4, 2006. Test-
ing will be on Saturday, Janu-
ary 7, 2006. Applications may
be obtained at City Hall,
(432)264-2346, 310 Nolan St.
Big Spring, TX 79720 or from
website:
www.ci.big-spring.tx.us The
City of Big Spring is EOE.

CITY OF Big Spring is taking
applications for Communi-
cations Officer, Heavy Equipment
Operator/Landfill, Utility Serv-
ice Worker and Animal Control
Officer. Applications may be
obtained at City Hall, 310 No-
lan, (432)264-2346. The City of
Big Spring is EOE.

NEED EXECUTIVE Secretary
at Boothe Vassar Pope & Com-
pany. Send Resume via fax to
(432)263-2124.

Help Wanted

DOMINOS PIZZA Drivers
needed. Hourly + mileage +
tips. Competition says better
commission, but you can't
make commission doing dishes
for the sit down lobby. Go by
2111 S. Gregg or call
(432)267-4111.

DOWN HOLE Pump Repair/
Delivery Person. Experience
Preferred, but will train. Salary
D.O.E. Full Benefits Package.
Send Resume to P.O. Box
2234, Big Spring.

DRIVERS BE HOME DAILY.
Coastal Transport is a leader in
transport of LPG Asphalt & Pe-
troleum Products. Coastal
serves high profile accounts &
needs dedicated professionals
to join our growing team in Big
Spring. Qualify 23 with class A
& One year driving experience.
Call Jay at 888-527-7221.

FUEL TRANSPORT DRIVERS
Home Daily, 5 days on, 2 days
off schedule. Steady Paycheck,
Strong Customer Base. Cash
bonus for exp. gas haulers. Will
train qualified driver w/hazmat.
On Board Dispatch & E-log.
Well-maintained low mileage
equipment. New Odessa Man-
agement & Mech on duty. Apply
at FST 1003 W. Co. Rd South
Odessa Or call (432)617-1100
x-404.

HELENA CHEMICAL is now
hiring class A-CDL driver. Ex-
cellent benefits, excellent pay.
Apply in person to Helena
Chemical, 100 S. St. Peter,
Stanton, Texas.

Help Wanted

HELENA CHEMICAL is now
hiring for a Liquid Plant Man-
agement position. Excellent
benefits, excellent pay. Apply
in person to Helena Chemical,
100 S. St. Peter, Stanton,
Texas.

HOWARD COLLEGE Book
Store is hiring temporary cash-
iers and for help to work during
the back to school rush in
January. Apply in person at
Howard College Book Store
inside the Dora Robert's Stu-
dent Union Building.

MIDWESTERN SERVICES, Inc.

Tank Cleaners needed. In &
out of state travel & work 60+
hrs. per week. Transportation
to and from job site. Hotel paid
& \$175 a week per diem.
Hourly wage & bonuses. 100%
drug free. EOE. Apply at 749
South County Rd. 221, Snyder,
Texas.

PARKVIEW NURSING & Re-
habilitation Now Expanding
Nursing Department. Now Hir-
ing for Charge Nurse position.
Please apply in person at
Parkview Nursing & Rehabilita-
tion, 3200 Parkway.

PARKVIEW NURSING & Re-
habilitation Expanding Nursing
Dept.. Now Hiring Certified
Nurse Aides for 6-2 shift, taking
applications for all shifts. Apply
in person at Parkview Nursing
& Rehabilitation, 3200 Park-
way.

We Are Always Looking For Dependable Newspaper Carriers For Various Routes



**Must Have Insurance
& Reliable Transportation.**

Come by 710 Scurry
and pick up an application.

BIG SPRING HERALD

BIG SPRING HERALD

THIS NEWSPAPER is not re-
sponsible for the specific con-
tent of the National Classified
ads. Before investing money in
a business/employment oppor-
tunity with which you are unfa-
miliar, please call the National
Better Business Bureau at
703-276-0100 or visit
www.bbb.org

Do you have a house for sale? A
car? Let the Herald Classified
section help you.

Call us Today!
263-7331

Attention McMillan Welding

Has Expanded Again.
Immediate Openings For Experienced
Field Fabricators, Sandblasters & Painter.
Competitive Wages & Great Benefits.
Apply In Person @ 3001SCR 1173
Midland TX
EOE

BUSINESSES & SERVICES

\$1.89 Per Day; 6-Month Contract \$1.58 Per Day

Call 263-7331 to place your ad today!!



AUTO PARTS

WESTEX
Since 1947
• 14 Acres of dismantled vehicles
• 20,000 sq. ft. of Warehouse storage
• Specialize in late model quality auto
parts
• Foreign and domestic parts for cars,
trucks, mini-vans, 4x4 and sports
utility vehicles
Hrs. 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Mon-Fri. 8 a.m.-12 p.m. SAT
1511 Hwy 350 • (432) 263-5000

BODY SHOP

Buddy's & Son
Body Shop
35 Years of
Serving You!
20% off
labor to new
customers & to
our old customers
5011 E. Midway Rd.
Big Spring
(432) 264-0623

CARPET

CARPET SALES
and Construction
Management
Draw Plans &
Estimates
Kenny Thompson
270-0548

COMPUTER

The Specialist
Matthew Grayson
All your computer
needs, commercial -
residential - on site.
15 Yrs. Experience
263-3885
267-8997

COMPUTER

CG's Computer Service
"Computers
Done Right"
26 Years Experience
2003 Johnson
Big Spring, Texas 79720
PH: (432) 264-8528
http://www.cgs.com/cgcomputer/website/

CONCRETE

MARQUEZ
FENCE CO.
All types
of fences
& repairs.
Concrete work, carports.
All work guaranteed.
Free Estimates
Benny Marquez-Owner
267-5714

CONCRETE

J. T. Builders
Remodeling • Drywall
Ceramic Tile • Electrical
Plumbing • Roofing
Brick & Concrete Work
Driveways • Sidewalks
Fireplaces • Stucco
Swimming Pool Decks
JOHNNY TALAMANTEZ
(432) 213-0882 Cell
(432) 263-2110 Res.
108 E. 11th PLACE
BIG SPRING, TX. 79720

CONCRETE

STUCCO
DRIVEWAYS
SIDEWALKS
BLOCK FENCES
Chico and Sons
Concrete
(432) 466-0573
(432) 816-6561
621 Sgt. Paredes
Big Spring, TX 79720
Fred Rubio

DIRT WORK

DECKER'S FARM SUPPLY
& NURSERY
We do Dirt
Work,
Brush Hog,
Backhoe,
Bulldozing,
Small Grubbing Jobs
and Will Clear Lots.
432-756-3444

FENCES

Quality Fence Co.
Jimmy Marquez-Owner
Finest In
Fencing
Wood &
Chainlink
Free Estimates
432-270-7508

FENCES

CHARLINK
METAL • CEDAR
DOG KENNELS
ORNAMENTAL
IRON
B & M Fence Co.
COMMERCIAL - RESIDENTIAL
GET OUR PRICE & COMPARE
FREE ESTIMATES
ROBERT MARQUEZ
263-1612 •
1-800-528-1389
1006 Lammey Hwy. • Big Spring

YOUR AD

PUT YOUR
AD HERE
CALL 263-7331
Herald Classifieds
BIG SPRING HERALD

FIREWOOD

Firewood
Oak & Mesquite
Full - \$270
1/2 Cord - \$140
Quarter - \$70
Call Eric
(432) 559-6949

HOME IMPROVEMENT

DOORS/
GARAGE
DOORS/OPENERS
Home Repair • Carpentry
Sheet Work
Repaired/Replaced
Kitchen & Bath
BOB'S CUSTOM
WOODWORK
409 E. 3RD 267-5811

HOME IMPROVEMENT

R S
HOME REPAIR
Custom Wood Decks,
Remodel, Carpenter,
Painting, Plumbing,
Minor Electrical
FREE ESTIMATES
Garage door repair,
Appliances installed
816-3030

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Gibbs Remodeling
New home Construction •
Room Additions
Dry Wall Hanging & Finishing
Ceramic Tile • Installation &
Repair
All Remodel Needs Of Any
Room In Your Home.
Call 263-8285

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Speedy
Construction
We Do It All!
Residential & Commercial
Ceramic Tiles, Cabinets, Drywall,
Textures, Plumbing, Electrical
AC, Roofs, New Additions
& Lawn Service
Phone: 432-263-2911
Cell: 432-816-3832

HOME IMPROVEMENT

AFFORDABLE HOME
MAINTENANCE
•Renovation
•Repairs
•Maintenance
Quality Work
You Can Trust
Satisfaction Guaranteed
NO JOB IS TOO SMALL!
Russ Crain (owner) 432-270-2585

LAWN SERVICE

FALL CLEANUP
ALLEYS • HAULING
TREE TRIMMING
STUMP REMOVAL
CALL
432-267-5460
CELL
816-6150

PEST CONTROL

SOUTHWESTERN
A-1 PEST
CONTROL
Since 1954
432-263-6514
2008 Birdwell Lane
Max F. Moore
www.swalpc.com
mm@swalpc.com

RENTALS

VENTURA
COMPANY
432-267-2655
Houses • Storages
Commercial Buildings
1003, 87, 11 E. 11th Pl.
For rent/sale
709 E. 12th
1851 Main
204 11th Place

ROOFING

PALACIOS
ROOFING & HOME
IMPROVEMENT
Roofs, Room Additions,
Ceramic Tile, Fences,
Painting Insured & Bonded
Home Phone#
432-263-5430
Cell#
432-213-0363

ROOFING

JOHNNY FLORES
ROOFING
Shingles, Hot Tar & Gravel.
All type of repairs!
Work Guaranteed.
Specializing in Hot Tar Roofs
and
Doctor of Repairs!
Free Estimates!!
Big Spring & Surrounding Areas.
267-1110

STORAGE

AAA
Mini-Storage
Special
1/2 Off
First Month Rent
For All Your Storage Needs
Large Or Small, We Store It All!!!
Now Accepting Visa & Mastercard
3301 E. FM 700 263-0732

WEB PRINTING

For Information
On Web Printing
Call
Tony Hernandez
263-7331
BIG SPRING HERALD

TREE TRIMMING

LUPE'S TREE
TRIMMING
More than 20 years
of experience. Stump
grinder available.
For Tree Trimming
and removal.
Call Lupe
432-267-8317
432-268-6408

Help Wanted

REPORTER/EDITORIAL Staff needed. Temporary, approx. 3 month. Experience in writing, reporting and Quark Preferred. Part or Full time. Call Bill McClellan, Big Spring Herald after 10:30 am (432)263-7331.

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.



There is an opening for a Contract Treating Driver in Howard County. Candidate will operate a treater truck for downhole and pipeline treatments. Must be physically capable as well as maintaining associated paperwork. Requirements: High school diploma or equivalent; good driving record; Class A OR B CDL; HAZMAT and Tanker endorsements. Please call 432-556-0929 between 8-5 CT for appointment.
"AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER"

WAREHOUSE/ DELIVERY Wanted for local Rental Store. Benefits include paid vacation, retirement & health insurance. Requirements are back ground check, drug screening, good driving record and be at least 21 years old. Apply in person, Credit World, 1611 Gregg.

Items for Sale

MUST SELL 10x20 Barn, Will Deliver. (432)563-1807.

ATTENTION

THE BIG SPRING HERALD APPRECIATES YOUR BUSINESS

Here are some helpful tips and information that will help you when placing your ad. After your ad has been published the first day we suggest you check the ad for mistakes and if errors have been made we will gladly correct the ad and run it again for you at no additional charge. If your ad is inadvertently not printed advance payment will be refunded and the newspaper's liability will be for only the amount received for publication of the advertisement. We reserve the right to edit or reject any ad for publication that does not meet our standards of acceptance.

Items for Sale

14X32 OFFICE, Ready To Move In To, Free Delivery & Financing Available. (432)563-1807.

FIREWOOD: Oak Firewood delivered and stacked for \$275.00 a full cord, 1/2 cord \$150.00. Call James (325)648-2818, leave message.

MARK DOWN on Scratch and Dent 10x16 in Stock. Delivery and Financing Available. (432)563-1807.

Nix **FRESH SHELL** Pecans. Can pick up at Buffalo County Fina, Ezell Key Feed, Medicine Shop & Big Spring Farm. Call (432)267-1180 after 5:00 p.m.

Lost and Found

MISSING 2 Adult Basset Hounds. If seen or found call (432)935-6228 or 213-5296.

Miscellaneous

AMANA ELECTRIC Stove only 1 year old. \$500.00. Call (806)231-9819.

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

FREE PAILETS. Good for do it yourself wood projects. Pick up behind the Big Spring Herald's office at 710 Scurry.

HOLIDAY SPECIAL HP and Compaq Brand New Computer Systems with Warranty and Local Face-to-Face Support, Starting as Low as \$399! Buy from Big Spring (432)466-0800.

OVERSTOCKED on 8x8 and 8x10 Buildings. Financing & Delivery Available. (432)563-3108.

SLIGHTLY DAMAGED 12x24 Garage/Workshop. Financing & Delivery Available. (432)563-3108.

National Ads

\$55 UPTO \$529 WEEKLY! Mailing letters from home. FT/PT. No experience necessary. U.S. Digest 1-888-389-1790 24-hours.

\$1,000 - \$3,425 WEEKLY! Processing Simple E-mails Online! Make \$25.00 Per Email! No Limit! Answer Surveys Online! Make \$15.00+ Per Survey! Guaranteed Paychecks! Amazing Employment Opportunities! <http://www.processemails.com/>

National Ads

\$2000 WEEKLY! Mailing 400 brochures! FREE supplies & postage! Start immediately. 1-800-926-9954. Call for free information!

\$25,000 FREE CASH GRANTS 2006! Never Repay! For Personal bills, School, New Business. \$49 BILLION left unclaimed from 2005! Call NOW! Live Operators! 1-800-270-1213 ext. 16.

\$25,000 FREE CASH GRANTS 2006! Never Repay! For Personal bills, School, New Business. \$49 BILLION left unclaimed from 2005! Call NOW! Live Operators! 1-800-681-5732 ext. 15.

\$25,000 FREE CASH GRANTS 2006! Never Repay! For Personal bills, School, New Business. \$49 BILLION left unclaimed from 2005! Call NOW! Live Operators! 1-800-274-5086 ext. 10.

\$500! POLICE IMPOUNDS! Hondas/ Chevys/ Fords/ Jeeps. Cars, trucks, SUV's from \$500! Listings: 800-749-8116 xA148.

******\$50,000++ FREE CASH GRANTS!** 2006! AVOID DEADLINES! CALL NOW! For Personal/Medical Bills, School, New Business/Home. NEVER REPAY! ALMOST EVERYONE QUALIFIES! Live Operators! 1-800-274-5086 ext. 12.

******\$500-\$100,000++ FREE CASH GRANTS!** 2006! NEVER REPAY! FOR PERSONAL/MEDICAL BILLS, SCHOOL, NEW HOME/BUSINESS, ALMOST EVERYONE QUALIFIES. AVOID DEADLINES! LIVE OPERATORS 1-800-270-1213 EXT. 11.

******\$500-\$50,000++ FREE CASH GRANTS!** 2006! NEVER REPAY! Personal/Medical Bills, School, New Business/Home. Almost EVERYONE qualifies! FIRST COME-FIRST SERVE! Live Operators! 1-800-681-5732 ext. 13.

SECRET ENCOUNTERS 1-800-442-MEET .69 p/m Ladies Free!! 1-800-201-TALK VISIT -singles.com

National Ads

"MOVIE EXTRAS" Earn \$150-\$300 Per Day. All Looks/Types Needed. TV, Music Videos, Commercials, Film, Print. No Experience Necessary. Call 7 Days 1-800-260-3949 X3501.

BE DEBT FREE. Professional help with credit card debt. Stop fees, lower payments, lower interest rates. One monthly payment. 1-866-244-8061. FREE Financial Education Available. GENESIS www.youngm.com

CLERICAL/ ADMINISTRATIVE Earn \$12-\$48/hr. Full Benefits/Paid Training. Many Government Positions Available. Homeland Security, Law Enforcement, Wildlife and more! Call 7 days. 1-800-320-9353 ext 2501.

CONSOLIDATE BILLS/LOANS. Bad Credit Welcome. From \$3,000 - \$150,000. 8% APR. Save Money Now. 1-800-966-7458.

DRIVERS. DREAMING of a green New Years? Company Sponsored CDL Training Available. Bad credit - No Problem! Low Tuition with Easy Financing. Why Wait? 1-800-398-9908.

FEDERAL POSTAL JOBS! Now Hiring! Earn \$12 - \$48 per hour / No Experience Full Benefits / Paid Training 1-866-409-2663 ext. 20.

FREE DIRECTV Satellite, 4 rooms. FREE TiVo/DVR. Add HDTV. 220 Channels + locals from \$29.99/month. First 500 orders - Free DVD Player. 866-641-7031. Promo #16026.

HEALTHCARE FOR \$59.93/mo !!! NEW LOW PRICE! For entire Family! Prescriptions, Dental, Vision, Hospitalization, more! All Pre-existing Conditions OK! Call Today! 1-800-269-0538 SC. W-8729 Provided By: P.S. Family Healthcare

NOW HIRING for Postal Positions \$18.50-\$59.00+/hr. Full Benefits/Paid Training and Vacations No Experience Necessary 1-800-584-1775 Public Announcement Reference #9801.

SECRET SHOPPERS NEEDED For Store Evaluations. Get Paid to Shop. Local Stores, Restaurants, & Theaters. Training Provided, Flexible Hours, Email Required. 1-800-585-9024 ext. 6381.

STEEL BUILDING SALE! We'll Beat All Competitor Bids Spec for Spec or we'll send you a check for \$200.00! 1-800-973-3366. www.premiersteel.org

TRUCK DRIVERS Wanted-Best Pay and Home Time! Apply Online Today over 750 Companies! One Application, Hundreds of Offers! <http://hammerlanejobs.com>

USED ATV PARTS! 1000's of parts in INVENTORY! 100% GUARANTEED 719-839-0877 or 866-857-2766 www.usedatvparts.net

WANTED 29 serious people to work from home using computer. Indep. Income Oppty. \$1500 - \$5000 - PT/FT. 800-743-5106 www.QISglobal.com

YOUR ACCREDITED High School Diploma in 30-days or less. No classes. FREE evaluation. www.FinishHighSchool.com 1-866-290-6596

On the Farm

2,000 COTTON Module Tarps. Contact: Oasis Gin, Inc. 1-888-410-9491.

BARCELONA APARTMENTS

Choose Your Own Monthly Rent Options
\$299 Such As **ALL BILLS PAID**
MOVE IN SPECIAL + APPLICATION & SECURITY DEP.
538 Westover 263-1252
Housing Assistance Accepted

GARAGE SALES
Hidden treasures? Junk?

Recycle your unwanted items!
Call 263-7331 today.
A friendly Classified Consultant will help you create an ad that gets results!

Real Estate for Rent

Knollwood Heights Apartments
1900 Martin Luther King Blvd.
(432) 264-1735
Now Leasing!
Brand New
1, 2 & 3 Bdr. Apts
\$385 - \$520 monthly
New Appliances & Full Size Washer & Dryer in Apartments
On Site Maintenance
• Swimming Pool
• Fitness Room
• 2 Playgrounds
HUD Accepted



South Plains APARTMENTS
432-714-4840
Efficiency Apt. • \$175*
One Bdr. • \$225*
Two Bdr. • \$300*
w/6 Mo. Lease
(\$300 Deposit)

- All utilities Except Electric Paid
- Free High Speed Wireless
- On-Site Manager
- Laundry & Vending Facility
- Housing Assistance Accepted

1 Bedroom Apartments
Move-in 50% off
1st months rent
Coronado Hills Apartments
801 W. Marcy
Big Spring, Tx. 79720
(432)267-6500

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL. Dec. Free with Deposit Paid. Large 1 bedroom, 1503 Scurry A. All bills paid. \$400. month. \$150. deposit. Call (432)264-6611.

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL. Dec. Free with Deposit Paid. 1504-B Wood. Large 2 bedroom Duplex. Newly remodeled. \$450. month, \$200. deposit. All bills paid. Call (432)264-6611.

1505 TUSCON. Four bedroom, two bath, CH/A. \$600.00 Month, \$400.00 deposit. Call (432)270-3848.

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

623 CAYLOR
Possible 4 bedrooms, 2 bath Stove & Refrigerator furnished Washer/ Dryer connections Fenced backyard Deposit \$100. Rent \$450. Call (432)267-2112 Leave message.

712 GOLIAD. 2 or 3 Bedroom. Stove and refrigerator furnished. Washer & dryer connections. CH/A. \$500. month, \$275. deposit. No HUD. Call (432)267-2296.

802 1/2 Nolan. 1 bedroom. \$400.00 All Bills. 2528 Fairchild 2 or 3 bedroom. \$350/\$450.. 3/2 Trailer- 5600 South Service Road. Call (432)264-9907.

BUILDING for LEASE for retail or office. 1712 Gregg. Approximately 5,000 sq. ft. \$600. month +deposit. Call WESTEX Auto Parts (432)263-5000.

CLEAN 2 Bedroom 1 bath, garage. CH/A. \$325.00 month, \$100.00 deposit. HUD accepted and preferred. 1405 Sycamore. (432) 264-7049.

FOR LEASE 1515 Hwy. 350. Building with overhead door. On one acre of fenced land. \$350. Month. \$350. deposit. Call (432)263-5000.

Real Estate for Rent

HEIGHTS APARTMENTS
1 Bedroom - \$400. month
\$200. deposit.
All Bills Paid
403 East 8th
Call (432)267-2771

KENTWOOD HOME, 3 Bed room, 2 bath. Large back yard garage. \$600.00 month \$500.00 deposit. 2509 Cindy Lane. Call Home Realtors (432)263-1284.

SUNSET RIDGE APT.
Cable TV Free!
Playground
No Water Bill
Paragon Security
24 Hour Laundry
On-Site Mgr. & Maint
Family Friendly
2 BR \$285
1 BR \$185
Call Rhonda
(432)263-2292

Real Estate for Sale

108 MERRICK Road. Cute 2 Bedroom, 1 1/2 bath on one acre. Call (432)213-4460.

2 Thru 6 Bedroom Brick Homes. No Down Payment. Owner Financing. Bad Credit OK. 6 Month warranty. Call Maria (432)263-3461.

4.21 ACRES, Campeste Estates. \$5,000. cash or \$500. down and \$125. monthly for 60 months. Call (830)569-5101.

803 ATLANTIC in Coahoma 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, large master bath, huge closets, breakfast bar and carport. Call (432)213-4460.

BY OWNER 1906 Morrison. 4 Bedroom, 2 bath, dining room, CH/A, utility room, storage building, tile brick fence, circle drive. \$70,000.00. Call (432)466-2066.

OWNER FINANCE. 19605 North Hwy. 87 in Ackerly, 2.64 acres. 3 Bedroom, 1 bath w/barn. On 87 and 2230. \$26,000.00, \$3,000 Down. Toll Free 866-894-4591, 325-650-5900.

Vehicles

3 New
2004 Ford Freestar Vans
\$12,000 OFF MSRP
Bob Brock Ford
500 W. 11th - 267-7111

Legals

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF CAP ROCK ENERGY CORPORATION STOCK

On December 22, 2005, Cap Rock Energy Corporation (the "utility") and Cap Rock Holding Corporation ("CRH") filed an application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas ("PUCT") reporting the proposed acquisition by CRH of all the issued and outstanding common stock of the utility. CRH is currently unaffiliated with the utility. The utility and CRH are requesting that the PUCT determine that the proposed transaction is consistent with the public interest in accordance with Public Utility Regulatory Act section 14.101(b). The proposed transaction will not involve the transfer of any of the utility's assets, certificates of convenience and necessity, or facilities. Further, the applicants are not seeking any change to the utility's rates or services. If the transaction is approved, the utility will continue to provide retail electric service as a wholly-owned subsidiary of CRH.

This filing has been assigned Docket No. 32185. If you wish to intervene in this proceeding by becoming a party or to comment upon action sought, you should notify the PUCT as soon as possible, as an intervention deadline will be imposed. A request to intervene or for further information should be mailed to the Public Utility Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326. Further information may also be obtained by calling the Public Utility Commission of Texas at (512)936-7120 or (888)782-8477. Hearing- and speech-impaired individuals with text telephone ("TTY") may contact the PUCT at (512)936-7136 or toll free at (800)735-2989. The applicants have requested an intervention deadline of February 6, 2006. The actual deadline could be earlier or later, so interested parties should contact the PUCT to verify the actual deadline, and a request for intervention should be received by the PUCT by that date. All correspondence regarding this proceeding should include a reference to the Docket Number stated above.

#4823 December 26, 2005 and January 2, 2006

We Can Save You Money By Advertising Your Business In Our Professional Service Directory!
Call
263-7331
for more information.
HERALD

Subscribe

Now
And

SAVE
up to **52%**
over news stand prices

Subscription Price

News Stand Price

One Year	\$93.42	\$195.00
Six Months	\$51.90	\$97.50
Three Months	\$25.95	\$48.75
One Month	\$8.65	\$15.00

Call for Senior Citizen and Mail Delivery Prices

YES! Start my subscription for _____ months.

Enclosed is \$ _____.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

HERALD

710 Scurry, P.O. Box 1431

Big Spring, TX 79721 • (432) 263-7331

Card # _____

Exp. Date: _____

Signature _____

13008



The
day of K
Day, an
Christ
after-p
She ill
nates
m o t i
b e h
recent a
ity, solv
problem
two in
p r o c e
Once
know
some o
includi
behaved
yon can
ous, r
solution
ARIES
19). On
ily, you
two thin
love! W
"What
tion?" T
between
ing op
thing to
TAUR
20). You
sational

Dear
old roo
has Ty
know h
diabete
that gre
ried bec
much v
three m
I rarel
sugar l
self in
more. S
pounds
period
was al
begin v
what ev
I rec
how sh
to muc
admitte
by sk
insulin
thought
gering l
got rea
me to s
I am
that ea
tled to
choices
ning t
killing
tempte
ents, b
will be
constan
about h
much c
also the
her do
longer
since h
health i
Please
what to
ing aw
month
an inte
afraid
diabetic
gone, a
out unt
Diabeti
Dear I
bly wan
but she
great d
herself,
n't real
to her
without
cizing.
Tell J
her, an
that sh
her ins
she tall
health c
Americ
Associa
to find
the risk
leave fo
notify
any frie
enough
because
yourset
rest is t
Dear
band ar
to a
"Carl,"
the ulti
bor. H

Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS
The astute Scorpio moon rules this second day of Hanukkah, Boxing Day, and the Christmas after-party. She illuminates the motives behind recent activity, solving a problem or two in the process. Once you know why someone, including yourself, has behaved in a certain way, you can offer less obvious, more innovative solutions.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). On the subject of family, you're thinking of one of two things, either: "What love! What devotion!" or "What love? What devotion?" There's a thin line between these two seeming opposites — something to consider.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll step into a sensational mood this after-

noon. You feel outgoing, and social interaction brings good fortune. Knowing someone who knows everyone could help you get a better job, sell your house or find love.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Messages left on the board, scribbled on the phone or stuck on Post-it Notes will be forgotten. The stars suggest that you write it on your heart if it's really important.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your kindness ripples out over the next three days. However, being the one everyone runs to can also be tiring. Tonight, take plenty of time to relax and refuel.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You're responsible for some big results over the last few days, however you may not get the lion's share of credit that you're due. Own what's yours. Don't use modesty as a buffer that allows you to stay small.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your efforts to reach out are noble. You may

not know exactly how to go about it, but that doesn't stop you from finding a way. The astral influences help you bridge the communication gap.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). It's very romantic to have to overcome barriers to be with the one you love, especially if they are uncontrollable outside forces. Your real barriers to love are, however, self-imposed — not as romantic, but try to overcome them.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Heightened situations can have the effect of limiting your senses — putting blinders on your observation of the world. Steer clear of the drama, and you'll maintain your usual state of super-awareness.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Lately, you've been forgetting your needs because you are so concentrated on others. Also, it's the strangest time to go on a blind date, but some of you will do just that.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-

Jan. 19). Forgive the family member who has done you wrong. Future dealings with this person can be very lucky. Your good cheer is infectious tonight. Your connection with a Pisces is promising.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The new year shows more income, so stop worrying. Singles: A casual flirtation takes root. Couples: The day's activities include in-laws; you're given a warm welcome.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Control issues arise. Sometimes, the wisest thing to do is agree to be last or wrong. Anyhow, you know not to include innocent people (especially children) in the argument. Make sure your "sparing partner" does the same.

ARIES 2006 ASTROLOGICAL HIGHLIGHTS: It's your year in the foreground. (Enough of the background already!) It's always been in your nature to push ahead as opposed to blending in,

but the last part of 2005 saw you content to observe in some areas of your life, namely at work. True, there are those who know more (there always are), but January really lets you know just how original your take is. You simply have to share the vision, and it's easier to do so from the lead. Relationships could use a little more leadership from you as well. People who you believe couldn't possibly handle the "authentic you" might be more game than you think. Dare to let your true opinion fly! The beginning of February and the end of June both represent moments of crucial decision-making on the romantic front. Financially, the year has much to offer. You're impervious to economic trends — a perk that is even more true in March and April. For instance, if property values go down around you, your house can still sell at top asking price. Gifts of money and unexpected checks come

in the mail in the last half of July.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: In the public mind, movie star Mel Gibson has become a religious crusader of sorts, which exemplifies the Capricorn's deep respect of tradition. A family man with seven children, Gibson will get back to his roots as an action hero this upcoming year with two intense films. I see a longing for something more lighthearted as well, so be on the lookout for a comedic vehicle that Gibson stars in.

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

© 2005 CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.

Annie's Mailbox®: Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: My 24-year-old roommate, "Jessica," has Type I diabetes. I know her control of her diabetes has never been that great, but I am worried because it has gotten much worse in the past three months.

I rarely see Jess test her sugar levels or give herself insulin shots anymore. She recently lost 20 pounds in a very short period of time, and she was already skinny to begin with. Yet she eats whatever she wants, and I recently asked Jess how she was able to lose so much weight, and she admitted that she does it by skipping on her insulin shots. I told her I thought she was endangering her health, but she got really mad and told me to stay out of it.

I am a strong believer that each person is entitled to make her own choices, but I'm beginning to think Jess is killing herself. I am tempted to tell her parents, but I'm not sure it will help because Jess constantly complains about how they have too much control over her. I also thought about telling her doctor, but Jess no longer sees that doctor since her job doesn't offer health insurance.

Please, Annie, tell me what to do. I will be moving away soon for a six-month period while I do an internship, and I'm afraid Jess will go into a diabetic coma while I am gone, and no one will find out until it is too late. — Diabetic Police Friend

Dear Friend: Jess probably wants to be "normal," but she may be doing a great deal of damage to herself, even if she doesn't realize it. Try talking to her one more time, without judging or criticizing.

Tell Jess you care about her, and it troubles you that she has cut back on her insulin. Suggest that she talk to a doctor at a health clinic or e-mail the American Diabetes Association (diabetes.org) to find out exactly what the risks are. Before you leave for your internship, notify her parents and any friends who see her enough to notice changes, because you will kick yourself if you don't. The rest is up to her.

Dear Annie: My husband and I live next door to a retired couple. "Carl," the husband, is the ultimate nosy neighbor. He is constantly



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

gawking at my husband, our young children and me, and it gives me the creeps. He positions his lawn chair so it's facing our bathroom window, he listens to our conversations, and we have to keep our blinds closed because he is always staring into our house. If we make the slightest noise, he's off on his "gawk fest."

We have told Carl to stop staring at us, but he says he can look wherever he wants. We've tried to ignore him, but it's pretty hard when someone is watching your every move. What can we do? — Fed Up in Ottawa

Dear Ottawa: Anyone who spends that much time focusing on young children could be a pedophile. Tell Carl you are worried about the safety of your children, and if he doesn't stop

staring at them, you will be forced to call the police. That oughta take care of it.

Dear Annie: I can't believe your response to "Heartbroken in Logansport, Ind." She cheated on her husband with a fellow teacher, and when he broke it off, she wanted to report him for breaking school rules.

This woman carried on an affair for eight years. She was willing to leave her husband but wanted a commitment from her paramour first. Is this like putting a new dress on layaway until you find something better? You should have told her to leave her husband so he would be free to find someone who would treasure him. What is truly sad is this woman is teaching our children. — Mad

Dear Mad: We agree she hardly sets a good example, but we aren't going to recommend breaking up a marriage-with-children if there is a chance she's learned her lesson. Call us hopeless romantics.

Dear Annie: I love your column and value your opinion. I just found out that my fiancé of four years has been "double dipping" with an old girlfriend.

Since he has been lying and cheating this entire time, should I give him another chance? I did tell

him that if he broke off all contact with "her" and went to therapy, we would talk about it. Well, he has done neither.

As I re-read what I have written, I think I should give him the boot and run. Guess I simply need some validation from you. — Joanie

Dear Joanie: We're validating as fast as we can. If the guy refuses to be faithful now, he's not likely to be faithful later, and you're lucky to know about it before making a lifetime commitment. We hope that boot has a stiletto heel. Good riddance.

Dear Annie: Recently, my kid sister neglected to invite me to her retirement party, although she invited the rest of the family. When I questioned why, she blew up at me, saying I had no right to ask, and then said she didn't care to discuss it.

Since then, she has refused to talk to me, let alone explain. She will not accept my apologies or any other means of communication ventured. We have always been very close. Do you have any suggestions for remedy of the situation? — California

Dear California: Since your sister won't speak to you, ask someone else in the family to act as an intermediary. Make sure that person lets your sis-

ter know you are sorry about the rift and would like to mend it, if she will tell you how. Let's hope it is all a misunderstanding that can be cleared up quickly, so you can be close again.

Dear Annie: My mom always has incorporated herbs and other natural resources into her diet, and also has used them for medicinal purposes, in addition to regular medicine.

Recently, Mom has become convinced that a new herbal product someone gave her is a cure-all for everything from nosebleeds to depression. I became concerned when she diagnosed herself with skin cancer. Mom has a growth on her skin that looks very similar to a condition both her mother and her aunt had. Doctors diagnosed those growths as cancerous and subsequently removed them.

Mom seems to have completely given up on health care professionals and is determined that she can cure herself of this skin cancer using her herbal treatment. I don't disagree that she may have discovered something beneficial, but I also feel it is important to have this growth checked by a trained professional.

My husband, who is in medical school, also feels very strongly that Mom

should go to a doctor and has tried explaining why it's important. Mom got upset with him and defended her position.

How do I convince her to go to a doctor and get treatment for what could be very treatable, but has the potential to be very damaging if she doesn't take care of it properly? — Concerned Daughter

Dear Concerned: Your mother is afraid of what a doctor might tell her and what could happen, so she has put all her faith into herbal treatments. Regardless of what Mom thinks this natural product will do for her, she should agree to see a doctor as her back-up position.

Some skin cancers are slow-growing, but others are deadly. Tell Mom you understand her position but are worried about her. Ask her to set a deadline for this product to work — say, two weeks — and if there is no positive result, she will then see her doctor. That's the best you can do. The rest is up to your mother.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611.

The Spider

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

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

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



BIG SPRING HERALD

Advertise to keep the spider away from your door.
Call today
(432) 263-7331

MONDAY

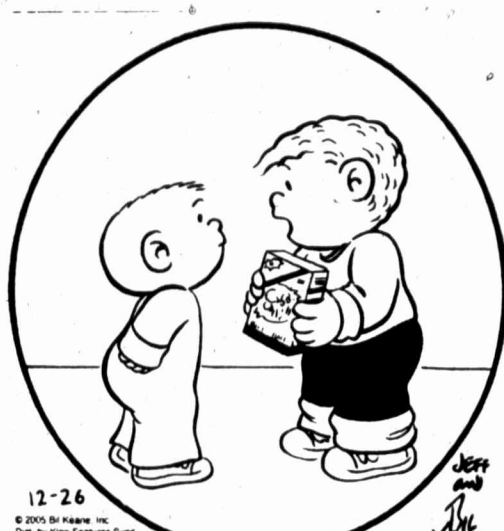
	WFAA (2)	KMID (3)	UNI (4)	KPEJ (5)	KOSA (7)	KTLE (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	KMLM (12)	KOCV (13)	DISC (20)	AMC (21)	SPIKE (22)	TNT (23)	BET (26)	DISN (27)	ESPN2 (28)	ESPN (29)	SCIFI (34)
	Dallas	Midland	Spanish	Odessa	Odessa	Telemundo	Midland	Atlanta	Odessa	Odessa	Discovery	Classics	Spike TV	Atlanta	Black Ent.	Disney	(28)	Sports	Science Fic.
6	News (CC)	News Wheel-Fortune	Piel de Oso	My Wife-Kids Raymond	News Ent. Tonight	La Tormenta	News Be a Millionaire	Raymond Ray, riond	Jesse Lee Pe John Hagee	News-Letter	Rough Racing Driver X	Movie: Easy Rider	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Live BET com	That's Raven That's Raven	NFL Films	Monday Night	Stargate SG-1 (CC)
7	Wile Swap (CC)	Wile Swap (CC)	Contra Viento y Marea	Arrested Dev. Arrested Dev.	King How I Met	El Cuerpo del Desee	Crossing Jordan (CC)	Friends (CC) Friends (CC)	Update/Israel Charles Scott	Antiques Roadshow	American Chopper	Movie: Easy Rider	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Movie: Woman	Movie: Max Keeble's Big Move (CC)	Strongest Man	Countdown (CC)	Stargate SG-1 (CC)
8	NFL Football New England	NFL Football New England	NFL Football New England	House (CC)	Two-Half Men Out of Practice	Corazon Part Decisiones	Las Vegas (CC)	Friends (CC) Friends (CC)	Light of the Southwest	American Experience	American Chopper	Movie: Mad Max	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Loosed	Movie (CC)	Strongest Man	Figure Skating Grand Prix	Stargate SG-1 (CC)
9	Patriots at New York Jets (CC)	Patriots at New York Jets (CC)	Cristina	My Wife-Kids 70s Show	CSI: Miami (CC)	Decisiones	Medium (CC)	Family Guy	The Hour of Healing	Reagan: Lieguard	American Chopper	Movie: Mad Max	Wanted (CC)	Wanted (CC)	Rip the Runway	Zack & Cody	Strongest Man	Final (CC)	Stargate SG-1 (CC)
10	News (CC)	News	La Hora Derbez	Becker (CC) Malcolm Mid.	Letterman Late Late	Al Rojo Vivo	Late Night	Movie: Analyze	Biblical Israel Sonner	Sign Off	American Chopper	Movie: Death Wish	TNA IMPACT!	Wanted (CC)	In Living Color In Living Color	That's Raven That's Raven	World's Strongest Man	SportsCenter (CC)	Movie: Football
11	Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	Amigas y Rivales (SS)	Becker (CC) Malcolm Mid.	Letterman Late Late	Al Rojo Vivo	Late Night	Movie: Analyze	Biblical Israel Sonner	Sign Off	American Chopper	Movie: Death Wish	TNA IMPACT!	Wanted (CC)	In Living Color In Living Color	That's Raven That's Raven	World's Strongest Man	SportsCenter (CC)	Movie: Football
12	AM	AM	AM	Becker (CC) Malcolm Mid.	Letterman Late Late	Al Rojo Vivo	Late Night	Movie: Analyze	Biblical Israel Sonner	Sign Off	American Chopper	Movie: Death Wish	TNA IMPACT!	Wanted (CC)	In Living Color In Living Color	That's Raven That's Raven	World's Strongest Man	SportsCenter (CC)	Movie: Football

DENNIS THE MENACE



"HOW LONG DOES 'SOME ASSEMBLY REQUIRED' TAKE, DAD?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"I'll teach you to play this game as soon as somebody reads me the directions."

HAGAR



BLONDIE



BC



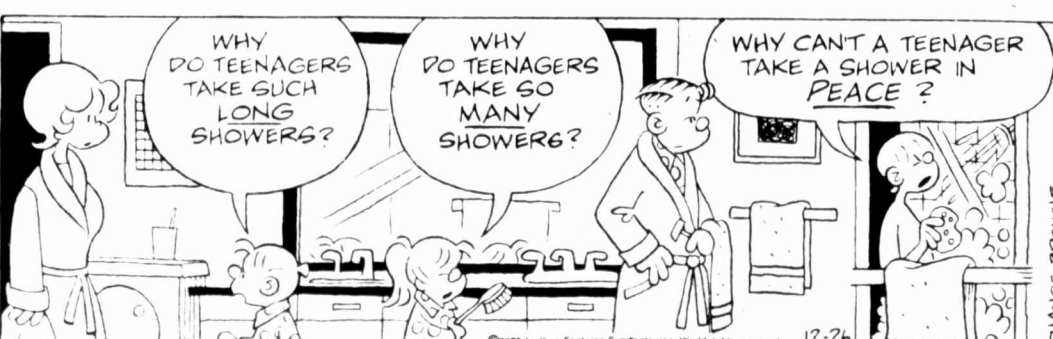
WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Monday, Dec. 26, the 360th day of 2005. There are five days left in the year. The seven-day African-American holiday Kwanzaa begins today. This is Boxing Day.

Today's Highlight in History:

One year ago, on Dec. 26, 2004, more than 200,000 people, mostly in southern Asia, were killed by a tsunami triggered by the world's most powerful earthquake in 40 years beneath the Indian Ocean.

On this date:

In 1776, the British suffered a major defeat in the Battle of Trenton during the Revolutionary War.

In 1799, former President George Washington was eulogized by Col. Henry Lee as "first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

In 1917, during World War I, the U.S. government took over operation of the nation's railroads.

In 1941, Winston Churchill

became the first British prime minister to address a joint meeting of the U.S. Congress.

In 1944, in the World War II Battle of the Bulge, the embattled U.S. 101st Airborne Division was relieved by units of the 4th Armored Division.

In 1975, the Soviet Union inaugurated the world's first supersonic transport service with a flight of its Tupolev-144 airliner from Moscow to Alma-Ata.

In 1980, Iranian television footage was broadcast in the United States, showing a dozen of the American hostages sending messages to their families.

In 2003, an earthquake struck the historic Iranian city of Bam, killing at least 26,000 people.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Richard Widmark is 91. Actor Donald Moffat is 75. Rhythm-and-blues singer Abdul "Duke" Fakir (The Four Tops) is 70. Record producer Phil Spector is 65. "America's Most Wanted" host John Walsh is 60. Country musician Bob Carpenter (The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band) is 59. Baseball Hall of Fame catcher

Carlton Fisk is 58. Former baseball player Chris Chambliss is 57. Rock musician James Kottak (The Scorpions) is 43. Rock musician Lars Ulrich (Metallica) is 42. Country singer Audrey Wiggins is 38. Rock musician Peter Klett (Candlebox) is 36. Actor Jared Leto is 34. Thought for Today: "Christmas has come and gone, and I — to speak selfishly — am glad of it. The season always gives me the blues in spite of myself, though I manage to get a good deal of pleasure from thinking of the multitudes of happy kids in various parts of the world." — Edwin Arlington Robinson, American poet (1869-1935).

© 2005 The Associated Press.

Answer to previous puzzle

LIAISON BUBBLE
INCLINE ALTERED
THREATS DIETING
TEE MATRON ASTI
ERAS PEORIA TIE
RIGHT GUN MALLS
STEREAGE MODEST
RATS CARA
YUPPIE FORAGERS
ONEAL CIV LEVEL
UNE SCORED SITU
NEWER RUSTIED DII
GREATER CEBBERG
EVEREST NOMINEE
RESENT GRITTED

Newsday Crossword

MANY MOONS by Gail Grabowski
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Male choir member
5 Cut out, as coupons
9 Followed a curved path
14 Vogue rival
15 Employ
16 State, as an opinion
17 Airline to Tel Aviv
18 Actress Thompson or Samms
19 Rock singer John
20 Talking nonsense
23 Hit-show sign
24 GI show sponsor
25 Shoves
28 Give off
30 Off-Broadway award
32 "we there yet?"
33 Morse code message
35 Convent dweller
36 Be deceitful
37 Shopper's delight
42 Friend
43 Tic-tac-toe winner
44 Father
45 Baba
46 Small city
47 Pre-owned
50 Has some success
52 Unhappy
54 Misérables
56 Short time, slangily

DOWN

1 Complaints
2 Attractive quality
3 Downhill ski event
4 Put up for auction
5 Gourmet cooks
6 Dance under a pole
7 la Douce
8 Church-bell sound
9 Thoroughfare
10 Parts in plays
11 Mayor's workplace
12 Environmental prefix
13 Family room
21 Lacking, as inventory
22 Shared one's views
26 One of the Great Lakes
27 Take notice of
29 Oahu or Maui: Abbr.
30 Burger topping
31 Tampa Bay
34 Like a haunted house
37 Heavenly headwear
38 Estrange
39 Use an oar
40 Middle Easterner
41 Some mag pages
42 Knee protection
46 Drying clothes
48 Escapes
49 Can't stand
51 Four-door car
52 Do figure eights
53 Entertain
55 Settees and sofas
57 Slender woodwind
58 Harvest
59 Tiny bites
60 Health resort
61 Garment border

CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2005 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 12/26/05