

FRIDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL WRAPUP

Steers rise up



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring Steers slot receiver Martin Yanez turns the corner as he scores the go-ahead touchdown in the Steers' 27-21 victory over the No. 4 Denison Yellow Jackets in a non-district football game played Friday at Memorial Stadium.

Big Spring knocks off No. 4 Denison, 27-21

By **JONATHAN HULL**
Sports Editor

Big's Spring Steers weathered storms figuratively and literally Friday night.

Fighting through two 30 minute weather delays, the Steers were able to fight off the No. 4 Denison Yellow Jackets (1-1) for a 27-21 upset win at Memorial Stadium.

"I'm in a state of awe at the effort our kids showed tonight," said Big Spring Head Coach Phillip Ritchey. "Words can't do justice for what we saw in this game. This team showed a lot of love for each other and took a lot of pride in their play on the field."

A 5-yard touchdown pass from Tyler Tannehill to Martin Yanez gave Big Spring the decisive score with 2:25 left to play.

Denison couldn't execute on its final possession, which ended with an interception by Big Spring's Xavian Parnell — his second of the night — on a fourth-and-21.

From there, Big Spring simply knelt the ball twice and watched the time tick off the clock, securing one of the biggest upsets in school history.

"I can't even describe how I'm feeling right now," said running back Monte Anderson. "This win is so incred-

ible. I can barely stand right now. I'm so happy."

The Steers trailed 14-7 at the intermission, but came out of the locker room with a dedication to the inside run game. Big Spring's offensive line began to wear down Denison's defense and Monte Anderson gained 108 of his 155 rushing yards in the second half.

"Denison was very good up front, but I didn't give our offensive line enough credit," said Ritchey. "I was too timid in the first half calling plays and didn't have Monte run it between the tackles. We got into halftime and I challenged those guys. I told them we're about to go at it. We're going to run the ball right at them. Those guys responded in a big way."

Every time they came off the field they were just grinning," Ritchey added. "At that point, I knew we just had to pound it. Our guys up front pushed Denison around in the second half and Monte was able to just beat them."

Anderson now has 416 yards on 53 carries in two games this season. Big Spring's All-State running back is quick to give credit where credit is due.

"They're just truly amazing," said Anderson of his offensive line. "They have come out and done things I never expected them to do. They've been together for years. They have a chemistry

See **STEERS**, Page 2B

Bulldogs run away with Howard County Showdown

Herald Staff Report

COAHOMA — Lightning struck enough times to bring an early end to the Howard County Showdown Friday.

The Coahoma Bulldogs claimed their second win of the season, defeating county-rival Forsan, 34-6, in a game that was called with 4:51 left in the third quarter due to lightning.

Coahoma's veteran receivers and

senior quarterback Josh Paniagua proved too much for a young Forsan squad. Paniagua completed 10-of-16 passes for 216 yards and two touchdowns.

Both scores were caught by Ray Gutierrez, who netted 79 yards receiving.

Coahoma broke the game open midway through the opening quarter, scoring two touchdowns in 1:02. Gutierrez caught a Paniagua pass

that ended up being a 52-yard touchdown, giving Coahoma a 7-0 advantage.

On Forsan's ensuing drive, Coahoma's Keaton Martin scooped a fumble and took it into the end zone from 14 yards out. Justin Coker ran in the 2-point conversion for the 14-0 Bulldogs lead.

The Buffs were down 28-0 before they finally got on the scoreboard. Quarterback Foster Burchett con-

nected with receiver Kolton Self on a 77-yard pass with 7:12 left in the third quarter.

Burchett completed just four passes in the game with all of them being caught by Self, who totaled 106 yards receiving.

Coahoma running back Isaac Garcia scored two touchdowns on the ground in the fourth quarter. Garcia

See **SHOWDOWN**, Page 2B

CROSSROADS SCOREBOARD WEEK 1

Big Spring
27
Denison
21

Coahoma
34
Forsan
6

Stanton
22
Reagan Co.
13

Meadow
40
Grady
30

Garden City
70
Jesus Chapel
0

Sands
61
Wilson
13

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If you want to be in the band, you've got to ...



Practice, man, practice

The Big Spring High School Steer Band spends hours and hours (and hours) getting ready for its Friday night halftime shows

High school football games are an exercise in power and pageantry. The football teams supply the power. The bands provide the pageantry.

Longtime Big Spring High School fans know the Steer Band is one of the finest marching outfits in the state. Rocky Harris' charges constantly provide unique, entertaining shows and a good reason for people to skip a trip to the snack bar at halftime.

But, just with any organization, success depends on a lot of planning and work.

"We start getting ready for marching season the same time the football team starts getting ready for their season — in August," Harris said. "They have their two-a-day workouts and we have our two-a-day workouts."

Once the school year starts, that workload is scaled back to three hours of marching practice per week, but that still means the Steer Band has put in thousands of man-hours of preparation before they field their first show of the season.

Preparation for marching season begins long before the first student takes the field, Harris said, as he, his assistants and hired consultants start building what they hope will be an award-winning show.

"We start putting together our basic show in January and we basically get a month off between then and now," Harris said. "By the time the kids show up in August, we have the music all picked out and we've decided on the concept of the show."

The show that people will see on Friday nights is much like the one the Steer Band will enter in University Interscholastic League competition in October.

"Our shows build weekly," Harris said. "We'll add more and more details each week until the final product is ready for (UIL) contest in October."

If the Steer Band places high enough in regional and area competition, it qualifies for the Texas UIL Marching Contest later this year in Austin.

But once the contest regimen is over, it is likely there will still be halftime shows to perform, perhaps into December, depending on the football team's success.

If that's the case, Harris said the band will take a more light-hearted approach to its shows.

"After we're done with (UIL) competition, we go to a more fun show," Harris noted. "We let the kids relax a little bit."



Clockwise, from top: Trumpet players are at the ready; BSHS Band Director Rocky Harris directs his charges; flag corps member go through their paces; saxophone players refine their steps.



Story and photos
by Steve Reagan

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Heart Of The City Realtors

Bulletin Board

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

TUESDAY

- Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- The Big Spring chapter of the American Cancer Society meets at Home Hospice, located at 111 E. Seventh St. at noon. Lunch is provided. For more information, contact Sherry Hodnett at (432) 264-7599.

WEDNESDAY

- Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Free blood pressure screenings from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Salvation Army, 811 W. Fifth St., provided by InHome Care.
- Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room.
- Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.
- Eagles Lodge Ladies Auxiliary meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third.

THURSDAY

- Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.
- Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Friends of the Library meets at noon in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.
- Big Spring Main Street meets at noon in the Railroad Museum located at Second and Main streets.
- American Legion Auxiliary meets at 6 p.m. at 3203 W. Highway 80.
- The Prospector's Club meets at 7:30 p.m. at 606 E. Third St. The public is invited to these meetings. For more information contact Lola Lamb at 263-3340.
- Neighbors and Newcomers Club meets. New members are welcome. Call 263-2005 for more information.

FRIDAY

- Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281.
- AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.
- Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room.
- Dance at the Senior Center, 1901 Simler, from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

- Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.

Lottery

No one matched all six numbers in Friday night's Mega Millions drawing.

The estimated grand prize for the multi-state lottery drawing Friday was \$12 million.

The winning numbers were: 02 - 04 - 06 - 21 and 44. The Mega Ball was 37.

The next Mega Millions drawing is scheduled for Tuesday night and the jackpot is estimated to be at least \$18 million.

...

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Friday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 8-10-22-25-32.

Number matching five of five: None.

Next drawing is Monday night.

...

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Friday night, in order:

9-5-4-5. Sum It Up: 23.

...

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Friday night, in order:

2-6-0. Sum It Up: 8.

...

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Friday afternoon, in order:

1-1-0-9. Sum It Up: 11.

...

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Friday afternoon, in order:

9-7-1. Sum It Up: 17.



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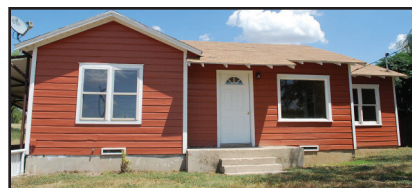


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Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity Friday:

- AVEL ABREO RAMIREZ, 62, 1512 Wood, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- MARY BETH KLINGENBERG, 23, 1104.5 Nolan, was arrested on two local warrants.
- AGGRAVATED ASSAULT WITH A DEADLY WEAPON was reported in the 1100 block of Gregg.
- ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported in the 1900 block of Highway 87.
- ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 1800 block of Gregg.
- ASSAULT CAUSING BODILY INJURY/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 2500 block of Fairchild.
- DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED/THIRD OR MORE OFFENSE was reported in the 1000 block of Lamesa.
- THEFT was reported in the 900 block of Willia, the 1200 block of 11th and the 600 block of State.
- VIOLATION OF A PROTECTIVE ORDER was reported in the 400 block of Lancaster.

Take Note

- The Big Spring Band Boosters will meet at 5:30 p.m. Sept. 14 in the high school band hall. The meeting is open to all parents of high school and junior high school band students.

- DAV Chapter 47 will sponsor the third annual 9/11 Memorial at the Mall at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 11 in front of the yellow ribbons at the Big Spring Mall. For more information, call Mike Tarpley, DAV junior vice commander at (432) 556-2227.

- Coahoma Class of 1999 Reunion will be Sept. 18-19. Contact Latisha Miliken Perry with questions and RSVPs: tish_a_roo@yahoo.com or (512) 947-6680.

- Marcy House will be hosting the first Dementia Support Group meeting Sept. 29. Kim York, RN, will be presenting a presentation on the different types of dementia and its progression. Brenda Hamm, a licensed social-worker, will be on hand to help with and support that may be needed by the patient or the family. Refreshments will be served. Marcy House is located at 2301 Wasson Rd. in Big Spring. For more information, call 268-9041.

- The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support quality volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused and neglect children in court in an effort to find each child a safe, nurturing and permanent home. CASA currently has 10 active volunteers to serve the 55 plus children of Howard County in foster care. A class is forming in Howard County and 20 volunteers are needed. For more information on becoming a CASA volunteer, please contact Robyn LaForge at (432) 683-1114.

- West Texas Opportunities Inc., through a Job Access Reverse Commute project with the Texas Department of Transportation offers transportation to employment in Midland, on a limited schedule, Monday through Friday each week. This fixed route currently leaves Big Spring at 7 a.m. and makes a stop at the EZ Rider bus connection in downtown Midland. The route leaves Midland for the return to Big Spring at 4:15 p.m. As a promotional introduction, no fare is charged. Beginning April 1, the daily fare will be from \$3 to \$8, round-trip, depending on the number of passengers using the service. For more information, call Victor Enriquez, JARC coordinator, at West Texas Opportunities, (800) 245-9028.

- The Permian Basin Foundation has awarded West Texas Opportunities Inc. \$130,000 through the Texas Resources for Iraq Afghanistan Deployment fund. WTO will assist current and former military personnel serving in Iraq or Afghanistan and their families. Funding will serve Howard, Martin, Andrews, Borden, Dawson, Ector, Fisher, Gaines, Glasscock, Midland, Mitchell, Nolan, Scurry and Upton counties. For more information, contact Diana Martinez or Debbie Wilson at 110 Johnson in Big Spring or call (432) 267-9536.

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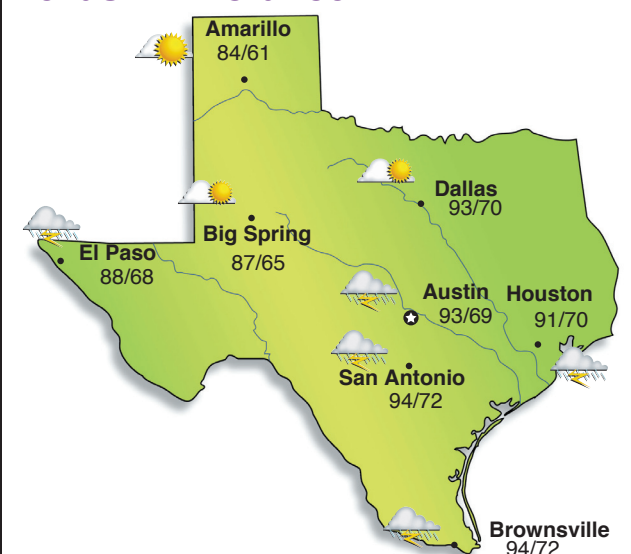
Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Sun 9/6	Mon 9/7	Tue 9/8	Wed 9/9	Thu 9/10
87/65 Intervals of clouds and sunshine.	89/66 Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the mid 60s.	85/66 Isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the mid 60s.	86/65 Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the mid 60s.	85/64 Scattered thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the mid 60s.
Sunrise: 7:24 AM Sunset: 8:03 PM	Sunrise: 7:25 AM Sunset: 8:02 PM	Sunrise: 7:26 AM Sunset: 8:01 PM	Sunrise: 7:26 AM Sunset: 8:00 PM	Sunrise: 7:27 AM Sunset: 7:58 PM

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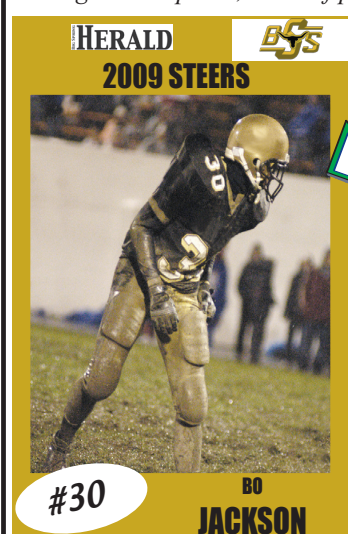
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Area roundup: Meadow clips Grady, 40-30

Herald Staff Report

MEADOW — Grady came close to pulling off what would have been one of the bigger upsets in the state at the six-man level Friday.

However, Meadow’s super-charged run game centered around All-State tailback Rico Rocha proved too much and the Broncos escaped with a 40-30 victory at home.

Grady matched Meadow blow for blow throughout the game and briefly took the lead in the fourth quarter, 30-26, after Bryley Pinkerton ran in from 6 yards out.

However, touchdown runs by Rocha of 36 and 57 yards, respectively, allowed No. 4 Meadow to rally and stay undefeated on the season.

Rocha finished the game with 336 yards on 29 carries. Grady was led by the arm of Dylan Cox, who threw for 215 yards and two touchdowns on 21-of-30 passing. John Ramirez led the Wildcats with 82 yards on 12 carries.

Grady (1-1) celebrates homecoming Friday, hosting New Home for the festivities.

Meadow 40, Grady 30

Grady	0	14	8	8—30
Meadow	6	14	6	14—40

FIRST QUARTER

Meadow — Rico Rocha 6 run (kick failed), 6:32

SECOND QUARTER

Grady — John Ramirez 50 run (kick failed), 9:03

Meadow — Rocha 13 run (Chase Smith kick), 4:36

Grady — Shane Teague 45 pass from Dylan Cox (Anibal Medina kick), 2:58

Meadow — Noe Sanchez 46 pass from Houston Quintinalla (kick failed), 1:47

THIRD QUARTER

Grady — Jacob Rodriguez 8 pass from Cox (Medina kick), 6:06

Meadow — Rocha 41 run (kick failed), 4:28

FOURTH QUARTER

Grady — Bryley Pinkerton 6 run (Medina kick), 8:06

Meadow — Rocha 36 run (Smith kick), 5:33

Meadow — Rocha 57 run (kick failed), :32

	Grady	Meadow
First downs	11	11
Rushes-Yds.	21-128	33-342
Passing Yds.	215	98
Comp.-Att.-Int.	20-31-1	5-10-1
Punts-Avg.	0-0	0-0

Fumbles-Lost	0-0	0-0
Penalties-Yds.	4-35	11-90
Individual leaders		
Rushing - Meadow: Rico Rocha 29-336; Grady: John Ramirez 12-82.		
Passing - Meadow: Houston Quintinilla 5-10-1 98; Grady: Dylan Cox 20-31-1 215.		
Receiving - Meadow: Noe Sanchez 1-46; Grady: Teague 6-78.		

Stanton 22, Reagan Co. 13

STANTON — Stanton rallied from a 13-point halftime deficit, pulling out a 9-point victory over Reagan County's Owls.

Tyler Fulton shined for the Buffs, rushing for 130 yards and a score on 19 touches. Fulter also passed for a touchdown and returned a punt three yards for another score.

Stanton's defense forced Reagan County to cough up the ball seven times with the Buffs recovering four of those fumbles.

The Buffs travel to take on longtime rival Colorado City at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

Sands 61, Wilson 13

WILSON — The Sands Mustangs received a stellar game as usual from spread back Johnny Rogers in a 61-13 shellacking of Wilson.

Rogers rushed for 150 yards and passed for 139, scoring eight (four rushing, four passing) total touchdowns.

The game was called with 7:31 to play in the contest after Rogers found Junior Rogers for a 20-yard passing touchdown.

Daniel Armendariz had 89 yards on four carries, including a 40-yard touchdown scamper in the first quarter. A.J. Hernandez caught two passes — both for scores — totaling 59 yards.

The Mustangs (2-0) attempt to stay undefeated with a trip to Trent at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

Rushing: Johnny Rogers	10-150,	Daniel Armendariz	4-89.
Passing: Rogers	6-8-0	139	
Receiver: A.J. Hernandez	2-59.		

Garden City 70, EP Jesus Chapel 0

GARDEN CITY — Garden City's Bearkats picked up their first win of the season in impressive fashion, making quick work of El Paso Jesus Chapel, 70-0, in a game called at half-time via the 45-point mercy rule.

Garden City held Jesus Chapel to a mere seven yards of total offense while racking up more than 300 yards. The Bearkats scored at will, posting 36 points in the first quarter and 34 in the second.

Josh Colunga shined for the 'Kats, posting 92 yards rushing on seven carries. Colunga scored three times on the ground and once via punt return.

The Bearkats (1-1) travel to face rival Robert Lee at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

with each other and do a great job.”

After playing to a scoreless tie after the first period, which was prolonged due to a 33-minute lightning delay, Denison struck first as quarterback Jordan Taylor found Cody Reeves for a 12-yard passing touchdown.

Big Spring found its way into the end zone to tie the score at 7-all with 2:32 to play in the first half, when Tyler Tannehill lofted a pass into the end zone to tight end Pavel Plakhotny from 7 yards out.

Unfortunately, the Steers left too much time on the clock as Denison marched down the field, riding the legs of its All-State tailback D.J. Jones. Jones scored on a 31-yard screen pass from Taylor with 1:10 left in the second quarter, allowing Denison to take a 14-7 lead into the locker room at the half.

The Steers pulled within 1 at the 3:20 mark in the third quarter. Using 10 plays to cover 52 yards, Big Spring finally cashed in when Anderson cut inside Denison’s defensive end after receiving the toss from Tannehill, scoring from 2 yards out.

Big Spring took its first lead of the game at the 7:55 mark in the fourth quarter. Tannehill managed to fit the ball in a small window between two Denison defensive backs, hitting

Thaddeus Straughter in stride for a 30-yard touchdown strike. Matt Ritchey powered into the end zone for the 2-point conversion, giving the Steers a 21-14 advantage.

Denison finally went back to its bread and butter, handing the ball of to Jones on four out of five plays. Eventually, Jones scampered 27 yards to the end zone, tying the game at 21 with 6:23 to play.

The Steers had the final say, though, but not without a little help from the Denison defense. On third and 9 from the Denison 47, Tannehill was attempting to set up a screen pass, but was forced to release the ball too quickly and it floated out of the receiver’s reach as Yellow Jackets defensive end Jimmay Mundine applied pressure.

However, Mundine didn’t stop his forward momentum and clubbed Tannehill in the head with both arms. Mundine was called for roughing the passer, giving the Steers a first down at the Denison 32. Four Anderson carries later, the Steers were set up with a first and goal at the 5.

After a Denison timeout, Tannehill took the snap from center and passed to Yanez in the slot.

Yanez followed a key block by Ritchey and managed to sneak the ball across the goal line for the go-ahead score with 2:25 to play.

The Steers defense stepped up on Denison’s final possession, forcing a 3 yard loss on the first two Denison

plays from scrimmage. Taylor failed to complete a pass on third down and then overthrew his receiver on fourth and 21, allowing Parnell to seal the game with a pick.

“Our defense did a great job preparing for Denison. We knew Denison would make some plays. You can’t keep them from getting some big plays against you. We felt like we could stay right with them.”

The defense surrendered 264 yards of total offense to Denison and held the Yellow Jackets to just 57 yards in the second half.

Jones finished with 87 yards rushing on 16 carries. Taylor had 67 yards on nine totes, while completing just 11-of-24 passes for 119 yards and a touchdown. He also threw three interceptions.

Big Spring’s offense controlled the ball for more than 30 minutes of regulation, posting 300 total yards. Tannehill was 14-of-19 for 106 yards and three touchdowns to three different receivers — Plakhotny, Yanez and Straughter.

Before the game, Coach Ritchey advertised the matchup with Denison as a measuring stick.

“I guess they’ve got to move us to No. 4,” joked Ritchey. “I don’t know where we should be, or even if we should be ranked. I want to be careful with this win, but we did prove a lot to ourselves. Rankings are probably overrated. This was a battle tonight with two good football teams. We both played our guts out.

“I give Denison a lot of credit. They’re great,” he continued. “We could play them next week and see a totally different outcome. What I will say is that we’re a special team. The sky is the limit for us. If we stay

healthy and keep playing the way we are, then I don’t know when or where this run is going to end.”

Big Spring (2-0) makes its first road trip of the season next week, traveling 285 miles north to take on the Pampa Harvesters (0-2). Pampa lost to Lubbock Estacado, 41-14, Friday night.

Big Spring 27, Denison 21								
Denison	0	14	0	7—21				
Big Spring	0	7	6	14—27				
SECOND QUARTER								
D — Cody Reeves 12 pass from Jordan Taylor (Dalton Hestand kick), 11:16								
B — Pavel Plakhotny 7 pass from Tyler Tannehill (Tannehill kick), 2:32								
D — D.J. Jones 31 pass from Taylor (Hestand kick), 1:10								
THIRD QUARTER								
B — Monte Anderson 2 run (Tannehill kick blocked), 3:20								
FOURTH QUARTER								
B — Thaddeus Straughter 30 pass from Tannehill (Matt Ritchey run), 7:55								
D — Jones 27 run (Hestand kick), 6:23								
B — Martin Yanez 5 pass from Tannehill (Tannehill kick blocked), 2:25								
	Denison		Big Spring					
First downs	14		25					
Rushes-yards	27-145		43-128					
Passing yards	119		136					
Comp.-Att.-Int.	11-24-3		16-21-0					
Punts-average	4-29.5		5-36.4					
Penalties-yards	10-91		3-20					
Fumbles-lost	2-0		1-0					
3rd down conv.	4-10		6-13					
Time of poss.	17:19		30:41					
Individual statistics								
Rushing — Denison: D.J. Jones 16-87, Jordan Taylor 9-67, Joseph Williams 1-4, TEAM 1-(-13); Big Spring: Monte Anderson 30-155, Matt Ritchey 3-9, Tyler Tannehill 3-(-13), Martin Yanez 3-14, Pete Chaveria 1-(-1), TEAM 3-(-36).								
Passing — Denison: Jordan Taylor 11-24-3 123; Big Spring: Tyler Tannehill 14-19-0 106, Monte Anderson 1-1-0 30, Matt Ritchey 1-2-0 0.								
Receiving — Denison: Jimmay Mundine 6-27, Hudson Milford 2-46, D.J. Jones 2-38, Cody Reeves 1-12; Big Spring: Monte Anderson 2-12, Matt Ritchey 2-12, Pavel Plakhotny 3-19, Martin Yanez 2-5, Thaddeus Straughter 3-50, Tevian Parnell 4-48.								

SHOWDOWN

Continued from Page 1B

finished the game with 86 yards on 11 carries.

Aaron Valle was Forsan’s top producer on the ground, totaling 79 yards on 20 carries.

Forsan (0-2) goes on the road for the second time in 2009, traveling to take on Irion County Friday. Meanwhile, Coahoma (2-0) puts its undefeated record on the line at Seagraves.

Coahoma 34, Forsan 6				
Forsan	0	0	6	x—6
Coahoma	14	7	13	x—34
FIRST QUARTER				
Coa — Ray Gutierrez 52 pass from Josh Paniagua (kick failed), 6:43.				
Coa — Keaton Martin 14 fumble return (Justin Coker run), 5:41.				
SECOND QUARTER				

Coa — Gutierrez 27 pass from Paniagua (Judson Chevalier kick), 10:30

THIRD QUARTER

Coa — Isaac Garcia 25 run (Chevalier kick), 7:35

For — Kolton Self 77 pass from Foster Burchett (run failed), 7:12

Coa — Garcia 16 run (kick failed), 5:03

	FHS	CHS
First Downs	7	15
Rushes-Yds.	26-101	23-128
Passing Yds	106	216
Comp.-Att.-Int.	4-12-0	10-16-0
Punts-Avg.	3-26.7	2-39.5
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	1-0
Penalties-Yds	2-15	11-65

Individual Stats

Rushing - Coahoma: Isaac Garcia 11-86, Josh Paniagua 7-20, Dakota Griffith 2-14, Justin Coker 2-(-3), Macy Bailey 1-12; Forsan: Aaron Valle 20-79, Ryan Flores 1-10, Foster Burchett 2-6, Ty Johnson 2-5, Patrick Robles 1-1.

Passing - Coahoma: Josh Paniagua 10-16-0 216; Burchett 4-12-0 106.

Receiving - Coahoma: Ray Gutierrez 2-79, Hunter Williams 1-53, Lupe Abrego 3-42, Lane Douglass 3-17, Isaac Garcia 1-25; Kolten Self 4-106.

PARSON TO PERSON California on my mind

California has been on my mind and in the news in the past week. Three major news worthy things have or are happening there.

The first was one of the best endings I could have ever hoped for in the Little League World Series. The team from Chula

Vista, Calif. overcame a loss to a great Texas team to win three elimination games in a row and win it all.

The fact that they beat Texas for the national championship had me a bit conflicted (and in some hot water with some deacons), but when the bombers from Southern California hit three home runs in the first inning it was pretty clear who the better team was.

The fact that they beat Taiwan for the world championship did my heart good. I watched

for years as superior teams from that small island decimated the U.S. teams year after year. Up until this past Sunday, no team from California had ever beaten a team from Taiwan.

Again, if you think you can't stand to watch Little League baseball because of the quality of play, think again. Sure, they may make a few more errors than do the pros but they also make some great plays and the best part is that they are playing with pure joy.

Talking about joy, I would imagine that Jaycee Lee Dugard's mother got the shock of her life when she was informed that her 29-year-old daughter was alive. Dugard was kidnapped in South Lake Tahoe, Nev. 18 years ago at the age of 11.

If you have been following this story you will know how incredible it is. Dugard was kept in a tent and shed compound in the backyard of her captor who raped her at will – with

See **PARSON**, Page 12C



DR.
MATT
PRICE

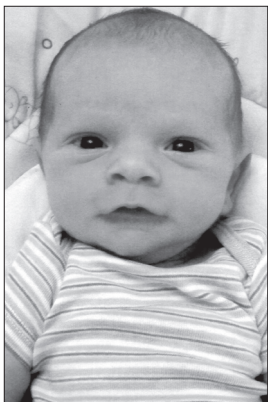
Births

Steve and Jean Ann Wolf of Coahoma are proud to announce the arrival of their grandson, Wyatt David Wolf, born at 1:52 a.m. July 29, 2009, at University Medical Center in Lubbock, weighing 8 pounds, 8 ounces and 20-1/2 inches long.

He is welcomed home by parents Lorin and Kay Lee Wolf and big brother Weston Jack Wolf of Lubbock.

Maternal grandparents are David and Melody Stubblefield of Colorado City. Maternal great-grandparents are Ira and Jean Edwards and Ernestine O'Dell of Colorado City.

Paternal great-grandparents are Kenneth and Mona Langley of Ennis.



Military

Air Force Airman Trace A. Wilson graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio.

Wilson completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness and basic warfare principles and skills.

He is the son of Sylvia Callaway of Round Rock and the grandson of Sallie Wilson of Big Spring.

Wilson was a 2007 graduate of Stony Point High School in Round Rock.



Menus

Editor's Note: Monday is a holiday for all of the following entities.

Senior Center

Tuesday: Beef tips with peppers and onions, parsleyed buttered noodles, yellow squash, tossed salad, dressing, cheese cake, rolls, milk.

Wednesday: Ham with pineapple slices, scalloped potatoes, baby carrots, cornbread, cinnamon applesauce, milk.

Thursday: Taco salad, refried beans, guacamole salad, tortilla chips, salsa, lime pineapple gelatin, peanut butter cookie, milk.

Friday: Chicken nuggets, mustard sauce, baked french fries, coleslaw, fruit cup, biscuit, milk.

Coahoma ISD

Tuesday: Breakfast- Donuts, sausage, applesauce cups, milk; Lunch- Taco beef pie, pinto beans, salad, milk, burritos.

Wednesday: Breakfast- French toast, ham, syrup, grape juice, milk; Lunch- Lasagna, tossed salad, sliced bread, corn, milk, corn dogs.

Thursday: Breakfast- Biscuits, gravy, sausage, jelly, grape juice, milk; Lunch- Breaded steak, gravy, creamed potatoes, green beans, rolls, milk, Hot Pockets.

Friday: Breakfast- Oatmeal, sausage, orange juice, milk; Lunch- Hamburgers, salad trays, chips, apple slices, milk.

Big Spring ISD

Tuesday: Breakfast- Sausage roll, fruit cup, milk; Lunch- Steak fingers, mashed potatoes with gravy, pineapple chunks, brownies, rolls, milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast- Cinnamon biscuit, cheese omelets, fruit juice, milk; Lunch- Chicken nuggets, mac and cheese, carrots, pears, milk.

Thursday: Breakfast- French toast sticks, syrup, fruit cup, milk; Lunch- Ravioli, broccoli and cauliflower, strawberries, rolls, margarine, milk.

Friday: Breakfast- Ham and cheese biscuits, fruit juice, milk; Lunch- Deli sandwich, baked Lays, baby carrots, Jello, milk.

Stanton ISD

Tuesday: Breakfast- Oatmeal; Lunch- Pizza or corn dog, mixed vegetables, garden salad, pears, milk, dressing.

Wednesday: Breakfast- Biscuit, sausage and gravy; Lunch- Hot dog or crispy burrito, chili, seasoned corn, vegetable sticks, fruit cocktail, milk.

Thursday: Breakfast- French toast; Lunch- Chicken fajita or chicken casserole, pinto beans, lettuce and tomato salad, pineapple, cornbread, milk, cheese and salsa.

Friday: Breakfast- Burrito; Lunch- Sandwich choice, french fries, vegetarian beans, sandwich salad, rosie applesauce, milk, catsup.

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ONE HURT IN FRIDAY ACCIDENT



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Emergency medical personnel load a local women into an ambulance following a traffic accident near the intersection of Gregg Street and the FM 700 S. Service Road Friday afternoon. Damage to both vehicles — a Ford Mustang and GMC pickup truck — was minimal. According to emergency officials, the woman was being transported to the emergency room at Scenic Mountain Medical Center after complaining of back pain. No other injuries were reported as a result of the accident.

HIRING

Continued from Page 1A

corporation supporting the project with \$40,000. However, the benefits will effect more than just city-run offices.

“Of course, the EDC and the Conventions and Visitors Bureau will be using PGC quite a bit, but it doesn’t end there,” said Hanson. “The ad-hoc committee made up of most of Howard County’s taxing entities — the same

group that recent came together to hire a grant writer — will be able to use their services. That includes the county, all of the school districts, the college, as well as the cities of Coahoma and Forsan. Since we (the city and EDC) started this project, we’ll be funding it. I really think this will be a good thing for everyone in the area.”

According to PGC Creative spokesman Tim Hanson, the initial stage of the marketing, branding and public relations contract began in July and is expected to take

12 months to complete.

“This includes promoting the city through a variety of avenues, developing branding materials and media outreach efforts,” said Hanson. “It also includes developing an ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliant Web site and other endeavors. Other components of the communications strategy are expected to follow thereafter.”

Sha Embree, CEO of PGC Creative, said the city of Big Spring’s willingness to represent itself outside the Crossroads area is essential

to it’s future.

“Big Spring is ahead of the curve when it comes to realizing their communications outreach strategy. This can have a significant impact in retaining and attracting economic development,” said Embree. “This is a very competitive market, and without a clear and concise voice, cities and counties often get lost in the shuffle.”

According to Hanson, PGC is a full-service marketing, advertising and public relations firm whose award-winning specialists bring

It’s time to act on health care, negotiator says

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate’s chief Democratic negotiator on a health care bill is indicating it’s time to act and has told his colleagues he won’t wait much longer for a Republican compromise.

“I am committed to getting health care reform done — done soon and done right,” Montana Sen. Max Baucus said in a statement. He is considering making a formal proposal soon to the small group of Senate negotiators who call themselves the “Bipartisan Six.”

Baucus held a nearly two-hour teleconference on Friday with the other five negotiators from his committee. The group has struggled for months to come up with an acceptable bipartisan bill.

While careful to leave the door open to a long-sought deal, Baucus clearly signaled the time has come for him to move ahead.

President Barack Obama plans to address a joint session of Congress on Wednesday to boost health care reform, a key element of his ambitious domestic agenda.

The president, meanwhile, is trying to placate some unhappy House members who fear he’s too eager to compromise with Republicans and conservative Democrats to get a bill.

Obama spoke to leaders of the Congressional Progressive Caucus and other liberal-leaning House groups.

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Daniel "Chato" Marquez, 73, died Tuesday. Funeral Mass was at 10 a.m. Saturday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

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◆ NO PASSES-NO CLASSIC SUPERSAVERS ◆

FAIR

Continued from Page 1A

Texas Swing artist, will provide the musical entertainment the first night of the fair. Other musicians scheduled

for the fair are country artists Amber Digby on Oct. 2 and Country Nightlife Oct. 3. A gospel music program will be presented on the fair’s second evening.

Those wishing to provide entries in various arts and crafts contests are encouraged to present their entries the

Tuesday prior to the fair’s debut, Staulcup.

Another annual feature are the various booths in the main building. Rental of the 10-foot square spaces is \$175, Staulcup said, adding that person interested in renting booths are asked to contact Nancy Howard at 353-4888.

For more information, contact Staulcup at 263-4980.

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

DAV

Continued from Page 1A

without sponsorship from the Hangar 25 Air Museum, he said.

“Meghan (Bias, director of the Hangar 25 Air Museum) is unable to

participate in the memorial this year because of a timing issue,” said Tarpley. “The Hangar has been a huge help in the past when it comes to organizing the event, and we’re sorry she’ll be unable to join us. However, the show must go on.”

For more information

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on the memorial ceremony, contact Tarpley at 432-556-2227.

Contact Staff Writer
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Washington, DC October 20 - 30, 2009 Departing Big Spring and Abilene	Azaleas and Dogwoods Tyler and Palestine March 23 - 25, 2010 Departing Big Spring and Abilene
Branson Christmas November 16 - 21, 2009 Departing Big Spring and Abilene	Georgia’s Southern Charm April 6 - 16, 2010 Departing Big Spring and Abilene

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► Weddings



Megan Michelle Young and John Collin Cooper

Young-Cooper

Megan Michelle Young and John Collin Cooper were married amid family and friends Aug. 14, 2009. The evening ceremony was held on the east lawn of the Merket Alumni Center on the Texas Tech Campus in Lubbock. The Rev. Dee Cooper, aunt of the groom, performed the double ring ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Joe and Cindy Fowler of Coahoma and Arnold Young of Sparks, Nev. She is the granddaughter of Ted and Bell Fowler of Coahoma, the late Ivan and Viola Sisemore Stephenson of Plainview and the late Felix Young and Hazel Young of Plainview.

The groom is the son of Tim and Paula Cooper of Spearman. He is the grandson of Don and Shirley Cooper of Perryton and Helen and the late Alton E. Jackson of Levelland.

Maid of honor was K'Leigh Fowler of Coahoma, sister of the bride. Attendants were Allison Blair of Midland, Meagan Schantz of Fort Worth, Jessie Campbell of Waco and Lauren Green of Austin. They wore floor-length sleeveless gowns of amethyst chiffon.

Best man was Cullie Cooper, brother of the groom. Groomsmen were Robert Thurman of Stilwell, Okla., Matt Blair of Midland, Patrick King of Lubbock and Tyler Yeary of Perryton. Ushers were Matt Young of Odessa, brother of the bride, and Philip Jenkins, friend of the groom. Ring bearer was Hunter Tindol, son of the bride.

The bride wore an strapless ivory tissue taffeta fitted gown with a

pickup tucked skirt. The dress was sprinkled with pearls and Swarovski crystals. She wore her mother's pearls and her grandmother's diamond bracelet.

Music was provided by Zach Campbell, guitarist and friend of the bride, who sang a solo during the sand ceremony.

The reception was held in the ballroom and courtyard of the Merket Alumni Center.

Megan is a graduate of Coahoma High School and Texas Tech University. She is employed at UMC in cardiac rehab.

John graduated from Perryton High School and Texas Tech University. He is employed as an assistant manager with Discount Tire in Lubbock.

The couple have made their home in Lubbock after a honeymoon trip to St. Lucia.



Brandi Stewart and Derek Tant

Stewart-Tant

Brandi Stewart and Derek Tant, both of Big Spring, have announced they will be married during ceremonies in November.

Brandi is the daughter of W. Kim and Mary Armstead of Big Spring. She is a graduate of Forsan High School.

Derek is the son of Sonny and Sharon Tant of Big Spring. He is also a graduate of Forsan.

The bride-to-be is employed by Harold Davis Fitness Center at Howard College.

Derek is employed by Parker Hannifin of Big Spring.

They plan to wed at 2 p.m. Nov. 28, 2009, at the First Baptist Church of Big Spring chapel.

► Who's Who

Andres Juarez Jr. of Big Spring was one of 14 South Plains College college students who graduated during the college's 2009 Summer Police Academy commencement exercised.



Terry Burns, an Amarillo inspirational fiction writer and former Big Spring resident, has published a new book, "Beyond The Smoke," which has been selected as a 2009 Will Rogers Medallion Award Winner.

Burns will receive the award at the National Cowboy Symposium set for Sept. 10-12 in Lubbock.

Six students from the Big Spring area were

among the 164 summer graduates at Angelo State University. Those six were Grant A. Bartlett, Emileh D. Cypert, Kandice N. Fryar, Tara L. Lopez, Nolan Paige and Aarika N. Thixton.

Gospel Meeting

Birdwell Lane Church Of Christ

Come Listen To

Guy Orbison, Jr.

The theme will be: **"Nothing But The Truth"**

September 13

9 A. M. Bible Class

TRUTH: The Love of it

(we'll talk about the fact that some do not care for truth)

10 A.M. Sermon

TRUTH: The Reality of it

(this will discuss the idea of the existence of absolute truth)

5 P.M. Sermon

TRUTH: The Importance of it

(we'll discuss the difference between truth, opinion & error)

September 14

7 P.M. Sermon

TRUTH: The Possession of it

(this will be about interpreting Scripture)

September 15

7 P.M. Sermon

TRUTH: The Cost of it

(this will center on the need to be genuine truth seekers)

September 16

7 P.M. Sermon

TRUTH: The Grasp of it

(this will show how people gradually let go of truth)

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

Bill McClellan
News Editor

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

OUR VIEW

Our president makes sense, not protests

Talk about much ado about nothing, apparently we've reached it in this country with the "debate" about whether or not schools should allow children to view a planned speech by President Barack Obama aimed directly at the nation's school children, addressing the importance of education.

Obama plans to address students on Tuesday with a message about staying in school, working hard and achieving educational goals.

Since when did we in this country decide the importance of education isn't something we want our president to stress to the nation's young people?

And how did we in Texas wind up with a governor who says he understands the concerns of parents who don't want their children listening to President Obama's speech?

That's right, Gov. Rick Perry says he understands the concerns of parents who don't want their children listening to the school-time speech, but says he's "certainly not going to advise anybody not to send their kids to school that day."

In an interview with The Associated Press, Perry said he doesn't think school officials and parents know enough about what issues Obama will address. He said the White House should have kept local school officials informed.

Even worse, a couple of Oklahoma state lawmakers, both Republicans, say the speech appears to be more about indoctrination than education.

That's right, GOP Sen. Steve Russell of Oklahoma City said last week that the Democratic president is usurping the rights of parents and local school districts by talking directly to students.

And Republican Rep. Sally Kern of Oklahoma City says the event includes a list of proposed classroom activities like having students write about how they can help the president, and adds that appears to be an attempt to exploit school children for partisan purposes.

They should be ashamed. So, too, to our way of thinking, should anyone turning our president's effort to tell the children of this nation that education is of paramount importance into a political football.

We here at the Herald hope our local school district administrators have the character to see through the shallowest, and perhaps stupidest example of partisan politics we've ever seen.

We can't see any harm in any president speaking directly to the millions of school age children in this country and encouraging them to work hard, set educational goals and take responsibility for their learning.

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

We can bend with the punches, Lord, when we walk with You.

Amen

Health care, Randy and me

What nobody seems to remember in Washington, Wall Street or most of these town hall meetings members of Congress have been holding, is the simple fact that there are millions of Americans that do not have health insurance.

Something has to be done about that, because those without health insurance raise the cost of health care in this nation. There's no doubt about that. All anyone needs to do is spend a little time in a hospital emergency room.

Back to the topic of health care reform ... primarily because Congressman Randy Neugebauer and several members of his staff sat down with me and Herald Publisher Ron Midkiff in my office Wednesday, a few hours prior to his "coffee" session with the public.

Not surprisingly, the topic of health care reform was the first — and almost only — thing we had time to discuss.

From the get-go, I said I was reasonably certain he'd been hearing a lot from constituents about the subject.

He smiled and nodded, saying he'd "heard a little about it here and there," and said he'd be happy to hear what I had to say of the subject.

Now, remember, Randy Neugebauer is perhaps the most conservative member of Congress — at least that's what his voting record shows — and yours truly is admittedly a Democrat. It should be noted, however, that I've never voted a straight ticket in my life, and with the exception of when he ran against Charles Stenholm, have always voted for Neugebauer.



JOHN A. MOSELEY

But following our meeting, which lasted quite a bit longer than the 15 minutes that had been allotted in his schedule, one thing was clear — we pretty much agree on the subject.

It was clear our congressman knows there's a need for health care reform, however, he's concerned about just how that is accomplished. So do I.

I'm certainly not in favor of doing away with insurance companies — too many people in this country are invested in them. It does, however, seem that there has to be some kind of public option available, and Randy seems to agree.

However, he is concerned about the prospect of people leaving their insurance companies and opting for a public option. I agree, that's something that doesn't bode well for anyone, I think.

And while I expressed my view that were it not for the insurance coverage I have through the newspaper, I wouldn't have recovered from last year's auto accident as well as I have, and might very well be living in a nursing home, or some such facility, and still be in a wheel chair.

He agreed, and said everyone should have at least that type of coverage, but stressed that he wants to avoid any scenario where doctors would have assessed me following my accident and decided saving me wasn't worth the cost.

Me, too!

But I insisted, as I did in a column a couple of weeks ago, that the bottom line is the American public deserves better than it's getting today.

Randy agreed. America has the best health care system in the world. Medicine, as practiced here, is absolutely the best. Unfortunately, he added, access to that health care, and the cost of it, is the problem.

And Randy expressed one more concern that I can understand. Many younger adults, say 20 to 25 years of age, decide they don't want to pay for health insurance offered by their employers.

"They think, 'Hey, I'm 25 years old, in great shape and I don't need insurance,'" Randy said. "What do you do about people that opt out, especially those who then have to have expensive health care and refuse to pay the bills, then simply file for bankruptcy?"

Indeed, what do you do?

Well, I offered an answer that I'll be happy to share here, as well.

You know, I'm legally required to have to have automobile insurance on my vehicle. Now, if I drive, but don't have insurance on my vehicle, there's a pretty hefty price to pay. Seems you could do the same on health insurance.

Randy suggested that those who opted out of insurance, would give up the ability to be able to avoid the hospital and doctor bills, even if they filed for bankruptcy.

Makes sense to me, so does requiring people to have health insurance. And if private insurers aren't willing to insure someone, then there needs to be a public program available.

After our visit about the health care debate, I'm convinced Randy Neugebauer isn't just an "aginner." He's a sane, compassionate person committed to getting health care reform that makes good sense.

Oh, yes, and he doesn't think Congress needs to meet some arbitrary deadline. "We don't need to do it fast," he said, "We need to do it right."

Amen.

Contact Managing Editor John A. Moseley at 263-7331, ext. 230, or by e-mail at editor@bigspringherald.com



YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

I have noticed that many complain about projects currently taking place in our city to improve Big Spring.

There will never be a time that any community can ever please everyone. Some say they were never informed of the upcoming projects and that they do not have time to go to city hall and read notices. Well, Channel 17 broadcasts every council meeting and county commissioners meeting. These meetings are on different times throughout the day and several different days.

I am sure anyone could call the city hall and get a schedule of the times these meetings are broadcasted. The city management has done an excellent job around our city and they put in long hard hours to insure we are being taken care of.

Instead of bashing our city staff, we need to be thanking them for their hard work and dedication to our community!

LARA SPALDING
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

I am really not sure how too word this without offending to many people. We are all ready for the construction on Gregg/U.S. Highway 87 to be finished. But the construction has made an already dangerous intersection even more dangerous.

I am talking about the entrance/exit to Wal-Mart on U.S. 87. With the one-lane traffic going north on U.S. 87, it is sometimes backed up clear to the first fireworks stand. This is not the problem. The problem is the nice people (no offense) who stop just prior to the entrance/exit to allow people to either turn in or out of the entrance/exit. This creates an extremely dangerous situation.

The driver who stops can see if someone is headed south on U.S. 87, but the one turning out cannot. Twice in two days someone has turned through traffic right in front of me and a car in the next lane.

My children were in the vehicle with me. This has got to stop before someone is hurt.

This has also occurred while

I have turned into the parking lot. Someone has stopped prior to the entrance/exit to allow others to turn through.

Once again, my brakes did their job or I would have not only hit that car, but the cars waiting to turn out.

There is a time to be nice, but there is also a time to be smart and safe. Please think about it before you allow someone to turn between traffic.

You just might be surprised who is in the cars that wreck.

MELISSA ROGERS
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

I was quite surprised by Thomas Jenkins' column titled "Give us a clue on what you want."

Before relating my "clue," I would like to give a little history. In November, I will celebrate the 83rd year since my birth. I have read a number of newspapers, ranging from my hometown four-page newspaper to the Los

See **LETTERS**, Page 5A

Meltdown 101: Changing work force, by the numbers

CHRISTOPHER LEONARD

AP Business Writer

When Labor Day arrives Monday, it will be celebrated by a work force that has changed radically since the same holiday in 2008.

Over the past year, the labor market has suffered its most wrenching changes in a generation, shedding millions of jobs and changing the profile of the more than 131 million

people who head to work every day.

American workers are older than they used to be, working fewer hours at cash-strapped companies and less likely to be unionized. And far more are now out looking for a job, and spending longer periods of time on the job hunt.

The rapid change has come on top of longer-term transformations. In 1959, nearly 30

percent of all non-farm workers had manufacturing jobs — by last month, that had fallen to 9 percent. Eighty years ago, about 20 percent of Americans worked on farms. Now it's less than 2 percent.

As Americans left behind farms and factories, they donned the service-sector attire of aprons, neckties and telephone headsets, with about 36 percent of the work

force now employed in the service sector.

While changes have been obvious, it's less clear what will be around the corner for U.S. workers. Analysts expect a long period of joblessness to continue, with the unemployment rate not returning to pre-recession levels until 2013 or later.

The big question is what kind of jobs will appear to re-

place those lost forever in the hard-hit financial services and construction sectors.

Here's a look at the changing U.S. labor force, by the numbers.

A HORRIBLE YEAR

4 percent: The total decline over the last year in the U.S. nonfarm payroll, which

See **WORK**, Page 5C

RECOGNIZED FOR LONGEVITY

Daniel De Hoyos, right, a maintenance technician in the Howard County maintenance section, is presented a certificate of service by Lauren Garduño. De Hoyos, a five-year employee with the Texas Department of Transportation, was honored for his longevity during a recent supervisors meeting in Abilene. In addition to the framed certificate, he received a five-year service pin and a copper travel mug with TxDOT logo, his gift of choice. Lauren Garduño is the Abilene district engineer.

TxDOT photo/Mary Beth Kilgore



Jobless rate at 9.7 pct.; 216K jobs lost in August

CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON — The unemployment rate jumped almost half a point to 9.7 percent in August, the highest since 1983, reflecting a poor job market that will make it hard for the economy to begin a sustained recovery.

While the jobless rate rose more than expected, the economy shed a net total of 216,000 jobs, less than July's revised 276,000 and the fewest monthly losses in a year, according to Labor Department data released Friday. Economists expected the unemployment rate to rise to 9.5 percent from July's 9.4 percent and job reductions to total 225,000.

By contrast, in a healthy economy, employers need to add a net total of around 125,000 jobs a month just to keep the unemployment rate stable.

"It's good to see the rate of job losses slow down," said Nigel Gault, chief U.S. economist at IHS Global Insight. But "we're still on track here to hit 10 percent (unemployment) before we're done."

The rise in the jobless rate was largely due to the government finding that the number of unemployed Americans jumped by nearly 500,000 to 14.9 million, while 73,000 people joined the civilian labor force. Those figures are from a different survey than the report on total job cuts.

The civilian labor force usually grows as a recession winds down and optimism about finding work grows. But as long as Americans remain anxious about their jobs, consumer spending isn't expected to rise enough to power a rebound.

"There isn't the underlying fuel there for strong consumer spending growth," Gault said.

Instead, most of the current rebound in the economy stems from auto companies and other manufacturers restocking inventories, which have plummeted as factories and retailers have sought to bring goods more in line with reduced sales.

Few economists think that can provide the basis for a sustainable recovery. Gault forecasts the econ-

Retail sales still falling, but more moderately

The Associated Press

HOW RETAILERS DID IN AUGUST: Soft back-to-school sales are not good news for retailers and a monthly tally of 32 chains' sales found a 12th straight year-over-year decline, but there were signs the holiday season could be less dismal than feared.

ON THE POSTIVE SIDE: Retailers overall did better in August than analysts expected, with discounters and other lower-priced chains faring best. The International Council of Shopping Centers and Goldman Sachs found sales in established stores fell 2 percent compared with August 2008. Analysts had forecast a drop of 3.5 percent to 4 percent.

ON THE DOWN SIDE: Among the half of retailers that did worse than expected by analysts polled by Thomson Reuters were upscale retailer Saks Inc. and some teen-oriented chains, including The Buckle Inc. and Abercrombie & Fitch Co.

COMING UP: The U.S. Department of Commerce's monthly retail sales tally, due Sept. 15, includes a much broader range of businesses such as auto, gasoline and building materials retailers. The industry roundup is sometimes seen as a better gauge of retailers' viability, however, because it compares established stores from one year to the next.

omy will grow at a 3.7 percent clip in the current July-September quarter, but expects that to fall to 2.4 percent by the fourth quarter and 2 percent in the first quarter next year.

See **JOBS**, Page 5C

Number of Americans on food stamps rises

WASHINGTON (AP) — More Americans than ever before received food stamps in June, the Department of Agriculture said on Thursday, with more than 35 million Americans receiving assistance.

The numbers are 22 percent higher than in June 2008. The number of Americans receiving food stamps rose by more than 700,000 people compared to May.

The USDA administers the food stamp program, which was renamed in October as the Sup-

plemental Nutrition Assistance Program, through its Food and Nutrition Service. The program helps to cover grocery costs for poor Americans.

The food stamp program was established by Congress in 1964, which was then revised by the Food Stamp Act of 1977.

The average recipient of food stamps in June received more than \$133 in assistance. The average household received more than \$293.

Overall, the USDA distributed

more than \$4.6 billion in food stamps in June. They went to 35,122,123 recipients.

The numbers, while only one indicator, are a sign that Americans continue to struggle with the country's economic downturn. June was the eighth straight month that the number of people on food stamps rose.

Persons or households who have a gross monthly income of 130 percent or less of the U.S. poverty level are eligible for food stamps.

Energy Watch



Bhupen Agrawal is branch manager and a managing director — investments for the Wachovia Securities Midland office.

Bill Franks, AAMS, is a senior registered client associate and the senior associate to the branch manager.



The stock market put on a good show last week to give us four days in a row of upside and a 10-month high for the S&P 500. Probably the main reason for the recent rally is growing evidence that the global economic recession is ending. With our nation almost totally consumed by the healthcare bill, we think now is a good time to examine the medical condition of the stock market.

We are pleased to report that the condition of the stock market is a good deal clearer than that of the health bill. The stock market rode a treadmill stress test to a 50 percent advance in only five months from March 2009. That's a heck of an achievement and we give the market a top grade for its performance. A treadmill stress test also involves an analysis as to how the patient performs during a cool down or resting period after exercise. Most stock market observers realize that the market really extended itself on its run-up. The only question was how the market would handle a normal time out. Well, so far the news is also good.

Up until the last week of August, the market had shown a "flat-line" result, which is bad for humans but good for the stock market. Basically, the market churned around and handled normal profit taking in a positive fashion. Last week the stock market got right back to work and rallied moderately. The economic news was encouraging except for consumer spending, which will probably remain a drag for a number of months. However, the good stock market should help to further lift consumer spirits.

The medical report on the market remains positive both on its performance and the fundamental background. However, we are facing some problems very near term. First, the evidence is not clear that the market has fully and successfully worked off the big 50 percent rally. Also, there is the curse of September, historically the weakest month of the year, will probably cause some selling this week. Fortunately, these are only short-term problems. Much more important are the improving fundamentals and a reasonable P/E of 14 times the \$73 a share estimate for S&P 500 earnings in 2010. Overall, our "doctors" report on the market condition says the market is in good shape and we feel has the energy to keep on moving.

Speaking of energy, August has been a good month for oil with a price increase of 5.36 percent percent on the month and a 64 percent increase year to date. Unfortunately, this is not the story for natural gas which is down 12.78 percent on the month and down 43 percent on the year. It remains clear that natural gas has decoupled from oil and indeed most all other commodities.

The drumbeat against "speculators" (those investors who never intend on taking product delivery) continues to grow. At this point, we feel some type of re-regulation will almost certainly occur and soon. Recently, the chairman of the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission, the main regulator of U.S. oil futures markets, said he is still "seriously looking" at position limits for the derivatives market and expects legislation addressing the issue to succeed.

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Portions of this article were produced Aug. 28 by Al Goldman, Wells Fargo Advisors chief market strategist. Wells Fargo Advisors did not assist in the preparation of this article, and its accuracy and completeness are not guaranteed. The opinions expressed in the report are those of the authors and are not necessarily those of Wells Fargo or its affiliates. The material has been prepared or is distributed solely for informational purposes and is not a solicitation or an offer to buy any security or instrumental to participate in any trading strategy. Additional information is available upon request (432) 684-7335. Wells Fargo Advisors LLC, member SIPC is a registered broker dealer and a separate non-bank affiliate of Wells Fargo & Company.

LETTERS

Continued from Page 4A

Angeles Times. I have obviously observed quite a change in the so called “news.”

Somewhere in my formal education, I recall being told that the basic newspaper format consisted of: News, editorials, sports and comics. The definition of sports and comics should be obvious. Editorials were the opinion of the paper’s editorial staff, therefore, subject to the reader’s agreement or denial. The news section should simply furnish the four Ws: Who, What, When and Where. When it was possible to determine, the fifth W should be Why.

Whether true or not, the readers in the 1930s had confidence that newspapers, as a whole, followed these Ws, but not printing anything that could not be verified as accurate. World War II presented a change in the printed news. A local newspaper had to rely on information released by the government which could not be locally verified. Time has proven that a lot of the so-called news was either not absolutely accurate, or in some cases, news was not printed until years later. I’m not interested in what was misinformation for that is long past.

Following the war, the four Ws were abandoned and opinions began to be printed in so-called news items. Most reputable newspapers would either preface such an article with a disclaimer or place a statement (in large, bold print) that this article contained opinion. Now, almost every newspaper article has unverified “facts” and the opinion of an unidentified reporter.

My opinion, which Mr. Jenkins asked for, is that subscribers would like to see the Herald attempt to reinvent the four Ws. Since we can get national news from the internet and television, why not accurately print more news about local occurrences. I will not address the editorials, as the many “letters to the editor” give advice for this section of the newspaper.

CAD WINGERT
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

This is to address Clint Lockhart’s letter in the Aug. 30 edition. Clint, I am so sorry that you and your family had to experience the loss of your puppy adopted from our city shelter.

It is heartbreaking to lose a pet. However, you did the right thing by adopting from the shelter. There are hundreds of animals that come through the shelter every month and the incidence of disease is pretty low.

There have been several litters of puppies that have come through the shelter this summer. I believe that the litter your pup came from were given their first puppy shots and worming from a private donation (the shelter does not have funds to give parvo vaccines) in an attempt to protect them and “buy them more time.”

Unfortunately, there was probably not enough vaccine in his system to keep him from contracting parvo, as it takes three doses, three to four weeks apart and then follow-up boosters on a yearly basis.

There were six pups in that litter. Two of them were adopted and did not get parvo. Yours and one more did. The other two were euthanized, as soon as the officers found out that there was parvo. They acted quickly

to clean the kennel thoroughly with bleach.

No other dogs at the shelter at that time got parvo. Obviously, it is a very difficult disease to anticipate and to treat. Although parvo is not airborne, it can live for months outside of the animal. One day a dog can be playing and the next day, it can be dead. Dogs contract it from the feces of an infected dog. Someone could have it on their shoes, spreading it where ever they go to unprotected dogs.

Routing veterinary care is the only way to control this awful disease, as there is no cure, only prevention.

All of this could be prevented if citizens would stop allowing their dogs to run the streets and indiscriminately reproduce, taking not responsibility and providing no veterinary care.

Shelters are full, yet people will still buy a puppy off the street corner from someone, without seeing the parents or the place the puppies were raised. All that does is create more breeding from backyard breeders only interested in the money.

If you think you must buy from a breeder, please visit their home. Ask them how many litters their females have had (there is a limit on what the female should be put through for their own health). Check with their vet to see if they are a responsible breeder, and by all means, be sure they have the required vaccinations, etc. A responsible breeder will welcome these inquiries, and that breeder should also make a few phone calls to verify that the potential buyer is a responsible pet owner, as well.

Any reputable rescue group will do a home visit and require references before they adopt out one of their pets. A responsible breeder should do so as well, to be sure that their puppies will not become another helpless victim of society.

We had a voucher system a few years ago where people could get their pets spayed or neutered at no cost. The money for that ran out. Maybe we can get that going again.

Clint, I am glad you wrote your letter because it’s important that people are reminded that the city shelter runs on tax dollars. The new shelter is very nice and they have so much more room than before. However, there is not a full-time person who works at the shelter, keeping the kennels clean, feeding, watering, etc. These tasks are done by the Animal Control officers themselves, who have to answer calls as well.

It’s unfortunate that there is not enough money to have someone out there 8-to-5 on a daily basis like many of the other area shelters do. Since we are now handling “county” animal calls, it may become necessary to staff the shelter. I sure hope that can be done.

Our shelter employees do the best they can with what they are given, and until private citizaens step in and say “we need to do this better,” nothing will change and no new money will be allocated to the shelter.

So, Clint, thank you for being one of those citizens.

Lastly, if you are looking for a pet, always check with your city shelter or humane society first. There are some great pets in both places that deserve good, responsible homes. You can also go to www.petfinder.com and type in our zip code and see many available dogs in our area.

Just because there are not dogs listed in our paper or on petfinder does not mean that there are no dogs out there.

Quite the contrary, it just means

that the shelter employees are too busy to get the pictures of the dogs and load them on the computer. Yes, the Animal Control officers are responsible for that, too.

If anyone wants to help the animals, maybe you could drop a bag of food by the shelter or police station. Or talk to Lt. Fitzgibbons to see if there’s a way you could volunteer your tame, maybe by taking pictures of the animals, buying something that the shelter needs that is not budgeted, or certainly by adopting a pet.

Lt. Fitzgibbons and the employees in the animal control division are pet lovers and mot days they go out of their way to help the animals. But in the end, approximately 400 cats and around 500 dogs are euthanized every year.

One thing we should all do is report abuse or neglect, whether it be a dog, cat, horse or any other animal. The law states that animals are to be provided with food, water, shelter and routine veterinary care. One thing I have learned is that there are worse things that humanely putting an animal to sleep.

The cruelty inflicted on children and animals in this country is outrageous! The penalty for these crimes is, in most cases, a “slap on the wrist,” compared to the pain and suffering of the victim. The main reason Michael Vick served time in prison was not because of the cruelty inflicted on the animals, but because of the organized crime involved.

As a society, we ought to look for those who cannot help themselves, whether human or animal. Some will say, “they are just animals.” Yes, that is correct, and they should never be put above the life of a human being, but they still suffer and feel pain. They are a part of our lives and should be dealt with humanely.

Many people will say, “I just don’t know how anyone can go to those shelters and see those animals in there.”

I say, “How can we not?”

DELYNDA REED
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

The approach the Big Spring City Council has taken to construct a new city swimming pool is questionable as to its legality, as well as its desirability.

The mayor has stated that due to a

bond being retired in February of this year, it would free up the money allocated for repayment of that loan to be used to repay a loan to build the new pool. It is my understanding that any part of a tax levy that is to be devoted to repayment of a bond is to be spent solely on that project, and when the bond is paid off, that portion of the tax levy is to be removed from the tax rate.

This evidently is not the approach the council wants to take. They obviously assume that because the portion of the tax monies that had been delegated to repay the latest retired bond are no longer needed for that purpose, they can continue to be collected, and applied toward a new project. Is it their intent to continue this practice on the current bonds?

The mayor has also stated that he proposes to issue certificates of obligation in lieu of a bond. Since this does not require a vote by the taxpayers, it is an easy way out that does not require any citizen approval. How long would this loan be for? Judging by the comments in the Big Spring Herald, if the \$230,000 that has been freed up by the retirement of the latest bond is devoted to repayment of a new loan to build a new \$4 million “water park,” it would appear that it would be a 20-year note.

Right now this community is awash in indebtedness, most of which has been spent on projects not devoted to the basic requirements to keep it operational. Except for the street projects, millions of dollars have been obligated to “fluff,” and “showtime.” Reference is made to the bonds issued for the golf course and the North Side sports facilities. The council seems to want to “keep up with the Joneses” by having bragging rights about what they have constructed. I can concede that having these facilities will certainly benefit a certain percentage of the citizens, but they were accomplished at the expense of basic necessities that should be at the forefront of a city government’s responsibilities.

Sometime in the future there will be a requirement to go further in debt to have major maintenance on necessary items such as water treatment, waste water disposal and certainly the landfill closure and construction of a new one. Also, our local school system is going to be asking for funds

See **LETTERS**, Page 6A

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Right on the Money



Dollar Menu

Prices and participation may vary. ©2009 McDonald's

Public Records

Howard County Justice of the Peace Outstanding IBC Warrants: Demetrio Alva, 11520 Arrow Rock, El Paso Terica Alvarado, 1100 E. 61 st St., Odessa Daniel Antrim, 120 N. 22 nd Pl., Lamesa Fernando Arriaga Jr., 606 N.W. Eighth St., Big Spring Nancy Ramirez Banuelos, 1002 N. Main St. Apt. 1, Big Spring Amy Barber, 2602 Ent, Big Spring Christopher Barrera, 1704 Goliad, Big Spring Teresa Baumann, 1509 E. Sixth, Big Spring Amy Benavides, 3001 N. Midland Dr., Big Spring Crystal Biles, 15885 S. Quartz, Odessa Shawn D. Blythe, 804 Settles, Big Spring Alexis A. Bowie, 2811 Lawton, Amarillo Wanda Heron Brown, 538 Westover Rd. Apt. 113, Big Spring Cristal Cabello, 1314 65 th Drive Apt. C, Lubbock Melissa Camargo, 2100 Ave. N, Tahoka David Canales Jr., 2403 S. Runnels, Big Spring Donna J. Abbott Cantwell, 538 Westover Rd. Apt. 101, Big Spring Amy Castillo, 1806 Morrison, Big Spring Antonia Castillo, 206 Fuller St., Hereford Kevin Glenn Cate, 4301 Raleigh Ct., Midland Patsy Cate, 3227 Cornell Ave., Big Spring Weldon Montague Cheatham, 4502 Denison, Snyder Clarissa Renteria Dean, 2711 Rebecca, Big Spring Kailla R. Edwards, 201 E. Leatherwood, Big Spring Constance A. Elledge, 1709 Scotland Ave., Azle Irene Paredes Flores, 1000 E. 20 th St., Big Spring Alejandro Franco Jr., 1900 Martin Luthe King Blvd. Apt. 215, Big Spring Danny Frias, 207 W. 17 th St., Georgetown Ruby Gaitan, P.O. Box 783, Lamesa Carlos Garcia, 1211 S. Third St., Brownfield Christina Garza, 1202 E. 15 th , Big Spring Lindsey Gaston, PO Box 34, Westbrook Misty Goldston, 2429 20 th St., Lubbock Melissa Gonzalez, 2317 CR 220, Garden City Steven Joe Guzman, 4172 Lake County Rd. 254, Colorado City Edna J. Hale, 510 Milton Ave., Brownwood September Rose Hallmark, 508 Dallas St., Big Spring Sharon Marquis Hanson, 1201 E. Co. Rd. 34, Big Spring Clifford Arvin Hart Jr., 3234 Drexel, Big Spring Patrick Kyle Heckler, 12501 N. Co. Rd. 35, Big Spring Heather Quinn Heiden, 5337 Saddle Ridge, San Angelo Chris Henry, 3520 28 th St., Lubbock Cherie Brandy Hernandez, 2006 Ave. L, Snyder Pilar Ann Hilario, 1904 Runnels, Big Spring Danny Holt, 606 Caylor, Big Spring Shauna Danielle Jenkins, 3301 40 th Place, Snyder Byron Johnson, 801 Ohio, Big Spring Steven Daniel Johnson, 1509 142 nd St., Lubbock Sarah A. Barrow Johnson, 3402 D. State St., Big Spring Johnny Ray Jones, 501 E. 17 th St., Big Spring Luz Martinez Juarez, 602 N.W. Seventh St., Big Spring Tina Lynne Junkin, 1410 Lancaster, Big Spring Paige Morgan Kenas, 1003-2 Lake County Rd. 175, Colorado City Jason Earnest Key, 602 George St., Big Spring Kimberly K. King, 1711 Young, Big Spring Kenney Jana Krueger, 1207 Johnson, Big Spring Amanda Lasater, PO Box 30475, Midland	 Lindsey Kay Lee, 1405 S. Benton, Big Spring Juan Miguel Lerma, 605 Linda Lane, Big Spring Linda Marquez, 905 Sgt. Paredes, Big Spring Terry Marquez, 1518 El Camino, Big Spring Christopher Max Martinez, 2870 S. Highway, Snyder Jarrod Martinez, 61 E. Eighth St., San Angelo Lorene Martinez, 702 N. Iowa, Lamesa Sandy Martinez, 1610 Eubanks, Big Spring Christopher Wayne Mason, 2901 S. Brahma, Kingsville Jimmy Franklin Massingill, 412 Edwards, Big Spring Natalie Ann McDonald, 2464 Glenwood, San Angelo Thomas M. McKellen, 2010 Sierra, Kenah Daniel Mercado Jr., 5611 Lancaster, Houston Chad K. Merrill, 3300 Manor Rd. Apt. 174, Austin Joe Luis Miramontes, 1809 Nolan, Big Spring Monica Miramontes, 1809 Nolan, Big Spring Robert Wayne Moseley, PO Box 39, Hondo Ricky L. Nava, 707 Willa, Big Spring Amy Ortega, 601 Abrams, Big Spring Christopher Eric Painter, 1503 S. Johnson, Big Spring Benson Nelson Payne, 1117 Toby Lane, San Angelo Ruth Heinen Privett, 5822 Oak, Big Spring Rickie Dan Pruiett, 979 FM 977, Leona Daniel Scott Rawls, 1704 W. First St., Big Spring Bruce Allen Rawson, 4730 Orange Street, Bacliff Anna D. Rich, PO Box 1321, Denver City Jerrall Ray Richardson, 1481 Highway 81, Bowie Jennifer Roberts, 2500 Cheyenne, Big Spring Mandi E. Cevalos Rodriguez, 406 North Scurry, Big Spring Magaly Romero, 1900 MLK Blvd. Apt. 603, Big Spring Kenneth Wayne Ross, 12101 Dessau Rd., Big Spring Thomas Ross, 1206 Lela St., Jasper Thomas Castillo Ruiz, 1306 W. Tennessee, Midland Mona Saldana, 400 Circle, Big Spring Nancy Carolina Sauseda, 1707 N. 11 th St., Lamesa Carol Ann Sawyer, 700 S. Lancaster, Big Spring Amy Leigh Corley Shifflett, 209 N. Main, Coahoma Jonathan Michael Shorten, 1619 1-35 La Quinta, San Marcos Korina Sirmon, 608 W. 15 th St., Big Spring Brian Paul Siverson, 589c Stoddard, Odessa Cade Smith, 410 McKee Lane, San Angelo Lisa D. Smith, 2010 Sierra Dr., League City Anthony Solis, 1303 Elm St., Big Spring Rosa Soto, 407 E. Vealmoor, Coahoma Mickey Jermain Starnes, 402 Holly Oak Dr., Tyler Matthew Henry Steadman, 801 W. Marcy, Big Spring Misty D. Sternadel, 457 Seventh St., Scotland TX Paula Valdez, 2220 S. First, Lamesa Liandro Ventura, 1905 Wasson No. 23, Big Spring Rene Villa, 106 Circle, Big Spring Amy Wagner, PO Box 784, Blanco Michael Wagner, P.O. Box 428, Denver City Amanda Elizabeth Wallace, 602 George, Big Spring Jim Bob White, 412 Davis Rd., Big Spring Candida Lynn Whitehead, 1405 runnels, Big Spring Tina Diane Whitlow, 1407.5 Settles, Big Spring Brandi Woodard, 642 Westview Dr., Abilene Chad Matthew Wright, 211 E. Robinson, Big Spring	County Court Decisions: Judgment and Sentence: Amador Rios Jr., violation of a protective order, \$750 fine, \$328 court costs, 30 days in jail. Judgment and Sentence: Michael Wayne Bales, driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension, \$250 fine, \$253 court costs. Probated Judgment: John Christopher Hilario, driving while intoxicated, \$1,500 fine, \$443 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation). Judgment and Sentence: Antonio Correa Arispe, sale/serve alcoholic beverage during prohibited hours, \$2,000 fine, \$328 court costs. Probated Judgment: Lori Gracia Franco, theft - more than \$50 less than \$500, \$1,500 fine, \$278 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation). Probated Judgment: Simon Garcia, driving while intoxicated, \$1,500 fine, \$443 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation). Probated Judgment: Carlos Ramirez Barriga, driving while intoxicated - second offense open container, \$2,500 fine, \$443 court costs, 365 days in jail (jail time suspended, 24 months probation). Probated Judgment: Clyde Samuel Conley Jr., driving while intoxicated, \$750 fine, \$443 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation). Judgment and Sentence: Abel Vigil, criminal trespass, \$750 fine, \$278 court costs, 60 days in jail. Probated Judgment: Katrina Michelle Dunn, driving while intoxicated, \$1,500 fine, \$443 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation). Judgment and Sentence: Johnny Franco Jr., driving while intoxicated, \$1,500 fine, \$443 court costs, 60 days in jail. Judgment and Sentence: Isaiah Matthew James, theft of property - more than \$50 less than \$500, \$750 fine, \$328 court costs, 75 days in jail. Probated Judgment: Commodore Roger Bell, possession of marijuana - two ounces or less, \$1,500 fine, \$328 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation). Probated Judgment: John Anthony Pantoja, driving while intoxicated, \$1,000 fine, \$443 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation). Probated Judgment: Jackie Doyle Richey, driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension, \$2,000 fine, \$278 court costs, 365 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation). Judgment and Sentence: Bradley Dalton, possession of a controlled substance - more than 3 grams less than 28 grams, \$750 fine, \$328 court costs, 60 days in jail. Judgment and Sentence: Isaiah Matthew James, theft of property - more than \$50 less than \$500, \$750 fine, \$328 court costs, 75 days in jail. Probated Judgment: Donnie Rodriguez, possession of marijuana - two ounces or less, \$500 fine, \$328 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 6 months probation). Judgment and Sentence: Arthur Callaway, terroristic threat, \$1,500 fine, \$328 court costs, 30 days in jail. Probated Judgment: Genettia Ann Hughes, theft of property - more than \$50 less than \$500, \$750 fine, \$278 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation). Judgment and Sentence: Charlie Jake Turner, resisting arrest, search or transportation, \$278 court costs, 20 days in jail. Judgment and Sentence: David Wayne O'Brien, bail jumping and failure to appear, \$750 fine, \$328 court costs, 60 days in jail. Judgment and Sentence: Kenneth Evans McGruder, terroristic threat, \$750 fine, \$328 court costs, 20 days in jail. Probated Judgment: Tiffney Tindol, driving while intoxicated, \$1,500 fine, \$443 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation). Judgment and Sentence: Isaiah Matthew James, theft of property - more than \$50 less than \$500, \$750 fine, \$328 court costs, 75 days in jail.	Judgment and Sentence: Frank Giordano, failure to identify as a fugitive from justice - giving false information, \$500 fine, \$278 court costs, 15 days in jail. District Court Filings: In Re Dominic Saenz, family In Re Kristiana Gutierrez, family In Re Obri Guzman, family In Re Mercedes Aguirre, family In Re Preston Pittman, family Maria Rivas vs. Alberto Rivas, protective order Karissa Denton vs. Justin Denton, divorce Monica Danielle Rosenberry vs. Craig Lee Rosenberry, divorce Citibank vs. Patty L. Edwards, accounts, notes and contracts Brooke Rios vs. Cinthia Handova, injury or damages involving a motor vehicle Texas Mutual Insurance vs. J.C. Burchett, injury or damages involving a motor vehicle Sara Merritt vs. Rodolfo Mata III, protective order Aaron Henderson vs. Frances Henderson, divorce American State Bank vs. Manuel Chavez, accounts, notes and contracts Discover Bank vs. Angeala Jamison, accounts, notes and contracts In Re Emmemela Tubbs, family Marriage Licenses: Matias Vidal Cisneros, 25, and Mary Alaina Hedrick, 23, both of Big Spring. Jesse Castillo Jr., 44, and Lori Lee McGinnis, 40, both of Big Spring. Justin Daniel Newsom, 17, of Big Spring, and Rebecca Michelle Johnson, 19, of Brownwood. Jose-Antonio H. Rodriguez, 39, and Monica M. Hernandez, 27, both of Big Spring.	Addition Date: Sept. 1, 2009 Grantor: Jennifer Bowman Grantee: Danny Laffer Property: Lot 2, Block 3, West Cliff Addition Date: Sept. 1, 2009 Grantor: Joan M. Rock Grantee: Ruben P. Holguin and Brandi Holguin Property: A tract out of Lot 1, Block 2, Lockhart Addition Date: Sept. 1, 2009 Grantor: Wayne L. Rock and Joan Rock Living Trust Grantee: Ruben P. Holguin and Brandi Holguin Property: A 0.68 acre tract out of Lot 1, Block 2, Lockhart Addition Date: Sept. 1, 2009 Warranty Deeds with Vendor's Lien: Grantor: Mary Kuykendall, Nancy Twining, Suzanna Johnson and John David Williams Grantee: Tech Property Management LLC Property: Lot 17, Block 24, Bellvue Addition Date: Aug. 20, 2009 Grantor: Linda Fox Grantee: Brandon Jake Smith Property: Lot 10, Block 6, Washington Place Date: Aug. 20, 2009 Grantor: Matthew S. Dahmer Grantee: Ricardo Morales Jr. Property: Lots 8-11, Block 1, Meadowbrook Subdivision Date: Aug. 21, 2009 Grantor: Janet Payne Grantee: John D. Lawdermilk and Melanie Lawdermilk Property: Lot 34, Block 6, Highland South No. 6 Date: Aug. 21, 2009 Grantor: Andrew D. Rankin and Amanda Rankin Grantee: Charles Michael Warren Property: Lot 4, Block 8, Kentwood Unit No. 1 Date: Aug. 25, 2009 Grantor: Judith Ann Tereletsky Grantee: Tommy Billalba and Cynthia Billalba Property: Lot 8, Block 5, Douglass Addition Date: Aug. 25, 2009 Grantor: Albert Eugene Kelley Grantee: Rafael Perez and Maria Perez Property: Lot 15, Block 2, Avion Addition Date: Aug. 26, 2009 Grantor: Martin P. McVey and Pamela McVey Grantee: Scott William Green and Cassandra Green Property: Lot 1, Block 1, Highland Caprock Date: Aug. 27, 2009 Grantor: James Williams and Rita Williams Grantee: Brandon Harrington and Shelli Harrington Property: Lot 5, Block 1, Colonial Hills Date: Aug. 28, 2009 Grantor: Landon Burchell and Jerry Burchell Grantee: John Lang Property: Lot 31, Block 6, Highland South No. 5 Date: Aug. 31, 2009 Grantor: Blaine Henderson, Eddie Henderson and Lana Henderson Grantee: Bobby J. Posey Property: The E/5 feet of Lot 2 and all of Lot 3, Block 5, Hathcock Heights Date: Aug. 31, 2009 Grantor: Big Spring Radiator LLC Grantee: ARFF Professionals Inc. Property: Lots 10-12 and the E/2 of Lot 3, Block 14, Boydston Addition Date: Sept. 1, 2009
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WORK Continued from Page 4C stands at 131.5 million people. 9.4 percent: The current unemployment rate, up from 4.7 percent when the recession began. 33.1 hours: The length of the average workweek as employers cut hours, near a the lowest level in records dating to 1964. 6.7 million: The number of jobs lost since the recession started in December 2007.	employees who do all or some of their work at home. 48.6 minutes: The average daily travel time for commuters and traveling workers. 76 percent: Percentage of workers who drive alone to work. CHANGING JOB MARKET 18 percent: The total decline over the last year in construction jobs, which fell to 6.1 million. 4.67 percent: Share of the U.S. labor market held by construction workers last year, down from 5.4 percent as the housing bust intensified last summer. 7.7 million: Number of workers with more than one job, about 5 percent of the work force. 6 percent: Decline in	the number of workers in the financial sector over the last year, with 7.7 million remaining as of July. 587,000: Number of registered nursing positions expected to be created between 2006 and 2016. CHANGING WORK FORCE 40 percent: The share of workers over age 55 who have a job or are seeking a job, the highest level since it was 40.8 percent in 1961, according to a recent Pew Research Center survey. 57 percent: The share of workers between age 16 and 24 who are in the labor market, down from 66 percent in 2000. Many are waiting out the downturn by going to school. 16 million: The num-	ber of wage and salaried workers who are unionized, down from 16.3 million in 2000. PAY DAY 4.28 percent: Percentage of work force in management jobs. 0.19 percent: Percentage of workers who are chief executives. \$136,890: Mean annual wage of chief executives. \$52,290: Mean annual wage of elementary school teachers. \$72,870: Mean annual wage of industrial engineers. \$102,390: Mean annual wage of dentists. \$46,920: Mean annual wage of all occupations. <i>Sources: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and U.S. Census Bureau, unless otherwise noted.</i>	JOBS Continued from Page 4C Analysts expect businesses will be reluctant to hire until they are convinced the economy is on a firm path to recovery. Many private economists, and the Federal Reserve, expect the unemployment rate to top 10 percent by the end of this year. If laid-off workers who have settled for part-time work or have given up looking for new jobs are included, the so-called underemployment rate reached 16.8 percent, the highest on records dating from 1994. That rate rose because the number of workers settling for part-time hours, either because their employer cut their work week or because that's all they could find, increased by about 300,000.
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LETTERS

Continued from Page 4A

in the near future.

I think almost all of the community's citizens feel that having a swimming pool is a very desirable attribute for a community. However, I fail to see that constructing a new "water park" is a necessity to provide swimming facilities. This seems to be more of the "showtime" mentality.

Before the issuance of the street paving bonds, the mayor was asked by the entities that might provide the bonds if the city was going to ask for any additional bonds during the period of the life of the proposed bonds. In a council meeting, the mayor stated that there were no plans for further bond requests. Only if an emergency were to occur, such as a failure of major equipment in areas such as potable water treatment or wastewater treatment facilities, would any further bond issue be considered.

A new swimming pool cannot by any means be considered an "emergency" item. The poor condition of the present pool has been known for years and no plans had been formulated to improve it. The council seems to be using the Virginia Graeme Baker Act as a reason for acting on pool improvements now.

I suggest citizens look at the law, "Title XIV — Pool And SPA Safety (15 USC 8001)," to see what is required. Section 1404 defines the basic requirements necessary to meet the law. Drain covers are the main topic, with alternate methods

required per subsection (1)(a).

In the July 26 edition of the Big Spring Herald, Todd Darden stated that to comply, it would cost between \$500,000 and \$600,000. The basic methods of meeting the requirements of this law entail installing acceptable outlet drain covers and providing means of having a vacuum release and/or pump shut-down system.

Having been involved with instrumentation design and costs in my previous occupation, I have a hard time understanding the costs reported to meet these requirements. Some of the equipment costs to accomplish this are available for from a few hundred to a few thousand dollars. Installation costs should be a few thousand dollars. Revamping the present pool for esthetic purposes should be covered elsewhere.

If there is a need/requirement for a "theme park," let our local industrial development board get a private industry to build one. The community could then benefit from an addition to its tax base.

As for the attitude of the present council, a statement made by the mayor, quoted by NewsWest 9, presents it very well: "The logic is, let's decide what type of pool we want and that's what we're elected to do — make those kinds of decisions. You don't set a referendum for everything that you do, otherwise there's no need to have a city council."

Based on that last statement, that might not be a bad idea.

ARDIS McCASLAND JR.
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

I, for one, have had enough of the mayor and council members lying or telling half-truths to the people.

For one thing, the golf course that wasn't going to cost the citizens anything ... we hear now it isn't paying its way, so who is going to pay? Every household in Big Spring by raising the garbage and sewer rates. Plus, with every drop of water I use, my sewer fee rises, even if I should just run it on the ground.

Tell me how the average citizen can afford to have a green yard? I could do my part if I didn't have to pay for their golf course.

They sit there and pass ordinances and never enforce them. Just look at the weeds on city property. I guess it doesn't apply to the city.

I have a solution to the crime, gangs, burglary, vandalism, graffiti and, above all, the drugs. Give our police a decent wage instead of a \$4.2 million water park for the criminals to tear up.

They always compare Big Spring to Midland. Midland is 40 miles west of here. Surely they can hire a moving company or do like the poor folks are doing. Do it yourself. This is Big Spring, not Midland.

The city, state and federal government needs to learn the lesson I was taught. Live within your means.

JERRIE MURPHY
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

A new term just applied to an old problem that has been around for a few decades.

My Mother, Icey O. Weir, was a resident of Big Spring from 1975 to 1999.

Icey liked living in Big Spring, and when her husband David died in 1985, she stayed busy volunteering with the Senior Citizens Center and going to her church, First Christian Church.

Icey suffered from a severe problem in her left leg. The leg had been broken in an accident when a drunken driver hit her as a pedestrian in 1946. Extensive operations and a bone graft kept her unable to walk for more than a year.

Over the years, Icey still suffered severe problems from blood clots and skin infections in her left leg.

That is the reason I took my mother to the emergency room at Scenic Mountain Medical Center on Jan. 9, 1999. Her left leg was infected. Icey was alert, living alone and had phoned me to take her to the hospital. She was admitted to the hospital for the infection in her leg. On the afternoon of Jan. 10, 1999, when I went back to the hospital, I found Icey disoriented and in a state of confusion. Research of her medical record reveal a regiment of psychiatric drugs given to mother. On Jan. 11, 1999, Icey was ruled to have a mental illness in Howard County Court.

My mother was extremely hard of hearing, she had very little formal education and she had a learning disability. The learning disability was the subject of my research when I discovered court records on my mother's mental illness actually existed in Howard County Court. That was March 2008. Although, I lived in Big Spring at the time, I worked in Midland, left before 6:30 a.m. every day and arrived home after 6:30 p.m. I visited and provided personal items for my mother in the gero-psychiatric unit at Scenic Mountain Medical Center and later at Comanche Trail Nursing Home during the last six months of her life.

The information I received from the gero-psychiatric unit advised my mother had dementia of the Alzheimer's type. However, in 1999 the evaluation by a psychiatrist was not conclusive. The only sure way to know the disease existed was to do an autopsy of the brain after the victim's death.

Howard County Court never summoned me to the court hearings, although I took my mother to the hospital and could have testified to her state of mind when she admitted the evening of Jan. 9, 1999.

Fourteen days after Jan. 9, mother was released from Scenic Mountain Medical Center's gero-psychiatric unit to Comanche Trail Nursing Home, she re-

turned to ER for a severe sepsis infection. The infection in her leg evidentially neglected during her first admission to Scenic Mountain Medical, because court hearings and a dementia diagnosis took priority. The staff at Scenic Mountain Medical Center phoned me during the second admission to fax a permission from Midland to start a blood transfusion. That stay in Scenic Mountain Medical Center was difficult for mother and she almost died. She was released back to Comanche Trail Nursing Home on Feb. 15, 1999.

During that stay at Comanche Trail, mother began to rally and her family hoped she could go home again. On March 10, 1999, Mother fell out of the wheelchair she was confined in. That time she returned to Scenic Mountain Medical Center for a broken femur in her right leg. Dr. Hayes, one of the best orthopedic doctors in Texas, put a plate in her leg and said she could walk again with proper therapy. However, mother grew continuously weaker, because her heart was not very strong at that point. She died June 2, 1999.

Dementia is a growing problem in the United States. Since 2000, the diagnosis of this mind-altering disease has jumped from a little over a million dementia patients in our American nursing homes to staggering figures.

Are we already pulling the plug on our senior citizens with court rulings and unfair psychiatric evaluations?

Whatever happened to a senior citizen's right to due process of law as provided in the 14th Amendment to the Constitution? It was observed for terrorists at Guantanamo, but denied to our greatest generation!

JOYCE M. BRUMLEY
GRAND PRAIRIE

TO THE EDITOR:

Texans have always been strong and independent. Though never perfect, Texas always represented what is good. Texans used to be known world over for their kindness, generosity and good humor.

Lately, however, dark-

ness has swept over this great state.

A group of so-called Texans rallied on the steps of our capitol on Aug. 30, calling for secession. Rather than representing freedom, honesty and respect for people, ideals that make Texas the greatest, they spoke hatred.

Candidate Larry Kilgore pointed to the American flag above the capitol and said, "I hate that flag up there.... I hate the U.S.!"

The Texas Observer wrote, "The audience ...included bikers wearing Confederate memorabilia, Alex Jones conspiracy theorists carrying those Obama-as-Joker signs...." Do those people represent Texas? The world thinks they do.

When people claiming to represent Texas spout hatred against the U.S. and condemn the American flag our parents and grandparents died defending, the issue is no longer right or left, liberal or conservative, or who sits in the White House. The issue is what is a Texan.

Have we forgotten our heritage? Why do Texans let hate-mongering "foreigners" from the north and east destroy all that is good and right in this great state? Isn't it time Texans woke up? Do we really want the world to think this is the kind of people who live in Texas?

Isn't it time we stop destroying all that is good in Texas and stand up as a people who love liberty and respect our fellow Texans? Are we a good people or a hateful mob?

I count my fellow Texans as brothers and sisters, too important to denigrate by hateful actions and speech, even though I often disagree with their politics.

Let us remember our Texas heritage and stop tearing ourselves apart. Let's show the world that in Texas, even though we make an art out of disagreeing, at the end of the day we care deeply for our state, our flag, each other and mankind more than any other group of people on earth.

Texas is the greatest. Make it so!

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Club news

TOPS Tx 0021

Tops Club Tx 0021 met Monday evening in the First Christian Church fellowship hall at 10th and Goliad.

Ten TOPS and two KOPS answered leader Laura Sickles' call for the TOPS cheer. The TOPS pledge was led by Carol Smith, followed by the KOPS pledge led by Ethel Cassady.

The welcome song was sung by all present. One visitor, Mandy Price, was welcomed and, finding that day was her birthday, all members joined in singing the Birthday Song to her.

Business reminded everyone of the garage sale set for Oct. 3. Fun Day in Abilene is Sept. 26. Members are encour-

aged to come in the costume of their favorite movie star to celebrate the "TOPS Goes Hollywood" theme.

Members were reminded to contribute to the military care package being prepared by Linda Stapel.

A get well card was prepared to send to Linda Eskew to encourage her recovery from recent surgery.

It was announced TOPS Tx 0021 will begin a new pumpkin contest next week. Each quarter-pound loss will color one-fourth of a pumpkin. A one pound loss will equal one entire pumpkin. The most colored pumpkins will be the winner of this contest. There was a motion made and passed to pur-

chase a prize for this contest.

Then a delicious program was presented by Mary Churchwell, giving members recipes for low fat, low-calorie deserts. These foods have a delicious appearance and the taste was equally beautiful. Everyone enjoyed the tasting experience.

The meeting closed with a favorite farewell song sung by all present.

For more information about TOPS meetings to help with weight loss and maintenance, call Frank Sickles at (432) 213-1342 or Olnee Menges at 263-6819. All visitors are welcome. Please come and let us help you.

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267-7424

Citizens: We need you to be our watchdogs

As Keep Big Spring Beautiful strives to make a difference in the appearance our community — particularly with E. 15th Street Comanche Trail Park — we are asking all citizens to be our eyes and ears for anyone being destructive or abusive to any property.

We, along with groups that have adopted pavilions, are working very hard to clean up the park and things are definitely improving. Scout Troop 187 painted the Buffalo pavilion they adopted and the Masonic Bodies of Howard County were working on Belaski last week.

We want to keep our park and our city as clean as possible so we can attract visitors. Coupled with the facelift we are getting downtown, we might also attract more businesses. With all of us pulling together, we can make a difference in Big Spring.

Please, when you use the pavilions, respect them and don't abuse them because others have labored to improve them. There are adequate trash barrels at each pavilion, so there is no excuse for you leaving trash strewn all over where it will blow out into the park.

City Ordinance Sec. 6-97 states it is unlawful for any person to deposit or dispose of any refuse, waste, trash, garbage or litter in or

upon any city park property except in barrels, or other receptacles provided for the purpose of trash and garbage disposal. You are subject to a fine of no less than \$10 and no more than \$200.

Another ordinance which I would hope that park patrons would observe is no parking on any area other than the roadway and parking area. The penalty for disregarding this carries the same penalty as stated above.

Hours for the park are 6 a.m. until 10 p.m. Entry upon the premises at any other hours is a misdemeanor and any person who is found in the park during the prohibited hours could be hit with a fine of up to \$200.

We are asking any citizen to report any unusual activities by those using the park. If you see anyone violating a city ordinance or acting suspiciously, please jot down the time, description of the driver and vehicle and license number.

If at all possible, take a picture. Most people have cell phones and a camera is generally one of its features.

Call the police department and inform them of the activity you have just observed; with a picture it can go to Municipal Court.

We want our park to be utilized but not vandalized. We are asking for everyone to help. We are working to make the park bloom once again. It can if we have the respect of all visitors.

Local people will determine the quality of life for our park and our community.



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Community Christmas Parade
5:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 5th
Parade theme:
"A Cotton Pickin' Christmas"
Entry deadline - Noon, Friday, Nov. 13th
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2. Civic group, school or church
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4. Industrial

In addition, certificates of commendation will be awarded to the second- and third-place entries in each of those categories.
Also, a special award will be presented to the best sheriff's posse, riding club or other mounted entry.

PARADE RULES

- The parade's official Santa Claus will be provided by the Herald
NO OTHER SANTA WILL BE PERMITTED IN THE PARADE
- Floats should not exceed 55 feet in length, 8 feet in width and 14 feet in height.
- Antique vehicles will be the only undecorated vehicles permitted without special permission from Parade Committee.
- Vehicles of a strictly commercial nature will not be permitted.
- Parade entries not in line by the start of the parade will be placed at the end of the parade and will not be eligible for awards.
- For safety, do not throw candy from your float. Small children run up under the tires. Please have someone walking beside your float if you want to throw candy.

2009 Christmas Parade Entry Form

Name of organization: _____

Name of contact person: _____

Mailing address: _____

Telephone number: _____

You will receive by return mail, your float number and a map showing where to go to line up.

☐ Individual/Family ☐ Civic/church/school
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News in brief

Top Senate negotiator says he won't wait much longer for GOP to compromise

WASHINGTON (AP) — Signaling it's time for action, the Senate's chief negotiator on a health care bill told his colleagues he won't wait much longer for a Republican compromise.

"I am committed to getting health care reform done — done soon and done right," Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus, said in a statement. He is considering making a formal proposal soon to the small group of Senate negotiators who call themselves the "Bipartisan Six."

Baucus, a Democrat from Montana, held a nearly two-hour teleconference Friday with the other five negotiators from his committee. The group has been struggling for months to come up with an acceptable bipartisan bill.

While he was careful to leave the door open to a long-sought deal, Baucus clearly signaled the time has come for him to move ahead.

President Barack Obama plans to address a joint session of Congress on Wednesday to boost health care reform, a key element of his ambitious domestic agenda.

Appeals court: Ashcroft may be liable for witnesses wrongly detained after Sept. 11

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — A federal appeals court has ruled that former Attorney General John Ashcroft can be sued by people who claim they were wrong-

fully detained as material witnesses after 9/11, and called the government practice "repugnant to the Constitution."

A three-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit of Appeals ruled Friday that the claims of a former University of Idaho student plausibly suggest Ashcroft purposely used the material witness statute to detain suspects whom he wished to investigate and detain preventively.

"We find this to be repugnant to the Constitution and a painful reminder of some of the most ignominious chapters of our national history," Judge Milan D. Smith Jr. wrote.

The ruling allows Abdullah al-Kidd, a U.S. citizen, to proceed with a lawsuit that claims his constitutional rights were violated when he was detained in 2003 as a material witness in a federal terrorism case.

Phone messages left at Ashcroft's Washington D.C. lobbying and law firms were not returned Friday.

SEC report shows investigators bungled Madoff probes for 16 years

WASHINGTON (AP) — Disgraced financier Bernard Madoff tried by turns to bully and impress the federal examiners who looked into his business, but the investigators managed by themselves to botch the probes and enable Madoff's multibillion-dollar fraud to continue for nearly two decades, a

new report shows.

A trove of revelations came to light in the report by the Securities and Exchange Commission inspector general, David Kotz, which was released Friday evening. The 477-page document paints in excruciating detail how the SEC investigations of Madoff were bungled over 16 years — with disputes among agency inspection staffers over the findings, lack of communication among SEC offices in various cities and repeated failures to act on credible complaints from outsiders that formed a sea of red flags.

An inspection of Madoff's operation in 2003-04 "was put on the back burner" even though the exam team still had unresolved questions, the report says.

An SEC official who later would marry Madoff's niece told investigators this year that if he had carefully reviewed a complaint about Madoff's business, he would have investigated more extensively, according to the report. Eric Swanson was an SEC attorney and inspections official during the 2003-04 exam.

Swanson told a colleague in April 2004 that the inspection of Madoff's business was ongoing, after the exam team had stopped working on it, according to the report. It said Swanson recently explained that an inspection would be considered ongoing even if it were put on hold.

Kotz's investigation found no evidence that the relationship between Swanson and Madoff's niece, Shana, who married in 2007, influenced the SEC exams of Madoff.

Obama: Government will make it easier for workers to save for retirement

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government is trying to make it easier for Americans to save for retirement, President Barack Obama said Saturday, as he noted the toll the recession has taken on extra income and savings accounts.

One initiative will allow people to have their federal tax refunds sent as savings bonds. Others are meant to require workers to take action to stay out of an employer-run savings program rather than having to take action to join it.

"We know that automatic enrollment has made a big difference in participation rates by making it simpler for workers to save," Obama said in his weekly radio and Internet address. "That's why we're going to expand it to more people."

The new federal steps would not require congressional action.

Democrats signal resistance to sending more American troops to Afghanistan

WASHINGTON (AP) — Increasing congressional discord over the next U.S. steps in Afghanistan, coupled with a spike in violence there, is deepening the political divide on the war and how many troops are needed to fight it.

Key Senate Democrats signaled Friday that any push by the White House to send more troops to Afghanistan is likely to hit resistance. And their unease was fueled by another bombing, that left as many as 70 dead, including civilians who were killed when the U.S. blew up tanker trucks hijacked by the Taliban.

That deadly U.S. airstrike in Afghanistan Friday complicates the debate over the need for more U.S. troops, bolstering arguments that Afghan leaders must increasingly fend for themselves.

Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman Carl Levin said the United States must focus more on building Afghanistan's security forces. His cautionary stance was echoed by Sen. Jack Reed, who is also on the committee and spent two days in Afghanistan this week with Levin.

Arson-caused L.A. wildfire creeps deeper into forest; investigators analyze clues

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The ferocious wildfire burning north of Los Angeles has turned into a creeping giant, steadily chewing through thick and dry chaparral on its eastern flank. While crews report good progress, the blaze that claimed the lives of two firefighters was far from being fully contained.

Investigators, meanwhile, were working to find the arsonist responsible for the huge wildfire that has burned through 241 square miles, or 154,655 acres, of the Angeles National Forest. It was 42 percent contained Friday. More than 76 homes and dozens of other structures have been destroyed.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger offered a \$100,000 reward Friday for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the culprit.

NATO officials inspect site of fuel tanker blast that killed up to 70

KUNDUZ, Afghanistan (AP) — NATO investigated Saturday whether villagers siphoning fuel were among scores killed in a U.S. airstrike on two tanker trucks hijacked by the Taliban, while a bomb blast wounded four German troops in the same northern Afghan province.

A 10-member investigative team flew over the site on the Kunduz river where a U.S. jet called in by the German military hit the tankers with two 500-pound (225-kilogram) bombs, triggering a fireball that killed up to 70 people before dawn Friday. German officials have said the Taliban may have been planning a suicide attack using the hijacked tankers.

The airstrike came despite efforts by the top U.S. general in Afghanistan to curb use of air power and reduce civilian casualties, which have strained relations between the multinational NATO force and the Afghan government.



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Lost and Found

FOUND: TWO dogs in Highland. One golden retriever mix and one black lab mix. Both have orange collars. Call 432-230-5654.

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BLACK OR WHITE iron day bed, still boxed, \$199, twin mattress \$80, trundle \$99. NEW! 806-549-3110.

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Big Spring Herald Classifieds
263-7331

Miscellaneous

GIRL'S WHITE bedroom set, colorful knobs. Brand New!! No middleman pricing \$550. Boy's shiny black bedroom set, \$475. 806-438-0081.....
CHERRY OAK sled bed, solid wood, very pretty, must see, \$250. 806-549-3110.....
HUGE 6PC LEATHER reclining sectional, solid hard wood frame, lifetime warranty, List \$3600, forfeit \$1580. 806-549-3110.....
Bunk bed, **STURDAY WOOD**, brand new!!!!, store price \$699, furniture direct price \$299 Need mattress? \$80. 806-438-0081.....
LEATHER RECLINING loveseat & Sofa. New from mfg. Never used!!! Need to sell asap. Forfeit \$980. 806-438-0081.....
Black finish 5 pc bedrom set, heavy set, pewter knobs, brand new, no assembly needed. must see!, \$570. 806-549-3110.....

On the Farm

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1308 BAYLOR: 3bdrm. 1bath, ch/a, 2 living areas. No pets, no smoking, no Hud. \$750.00 month plus \$400.00 deposit, for more info call #432-270-3849.
1409 MT. Vernon 3 bdr, 1 bath, Newly remodeled tile and laminate flooring, CH/A, fenced yard. \$675 month, \$600 deposit. Call (432)213-4647.
1605 A. Lincoln. Remodeled 2 bedroom, 1 bath, tile floors & carpet, CH/A. \$450. month, \$400. deposit. Call (432)517-0373.
3305 Cornell 4 bedroom, 1 bath, tile floors & carpet, fenced backyard, CH/A. Totally Remodeled. \$725. month, \$600. deposit. Call (432)517-0373.
602 GEORGE Three bedroom, one bath house. Totally Remodeled. CH/A, One Year Lease. \$900. month. No HUD. No Pets. No Bills Paid. (432)267-2296.

602 LINDA Lane 3 bdr, 1 bath. Newly remodeled Tile floors, CH/A, fenced yard. \$700 month, \$650 deposit. Call (432)213-4647.

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Linda Barnes

202191



ELLEN PHILLIPS, REALTORS'

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SUNDAY 1pm-4pm**

**Splash -n- Spa
527 Scott**

202194

NEWLY RENOVATED 4004 Parkway, 3 Bdrm, 2 bath. Call for info. 432-212-3646.

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FOR SALE BY OWNER: 2528 and 2530 Fairchild, 2,500 square feet duplex. \$499.00 down, \$776.75 per month. Call (432)270-8920 or Home Realtors.

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2006 TOYOTA RAV 4, \$14,950.00. Call (432)466-0109.

Legals

Notice of Initiation of the Section 106 Process: AT&T proposes to collocate (3) panel antennas on an existing 154' self support telecommunications tower located at 15001 E. CR 49, Coahoma, TX, at Latitude N 32° 27' 53.6202" and Longitude W 101° 17' 30.2138". AT&T seeks comments from all interested persons on the impact of the tower on any districts, sites, buildings, structures, or objects significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering or culture, that are listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Specific information about the project, including the historic preservation reviews that has conducted pursuant to the rules of the FCC (47 CFR Sections 1.137(4) and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (35 CFR Part 800) can be viewed upon request. All questions, comments and correspondence should be directed to: Micky Nielsen, Compliance Specialist, AT&T Mobility, 1801 Valley View Lane, Farmers Branch, TX 75234, voice (972)706-6365, fax (972)706-6364 #6251 September 6, 2009

Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Glasscock Groundwater Conservation District Board of Directors will meet in the district office at 132 N. Main, Garden City, Texas on September 15, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. The purpose of the meeting is to conduct a public hearing and consider adopting a proposed budget for FY 2010 and to consider adopting a proposed tax rate for 2009 of .014391 per \$100 property valuation to fund the budget. The proposed tax rate would increase total taxes in the Glasscock Groundwater Conservation District by 2.99%. #6252 September 6, 2009

"It Pays To Read
Big Spring Herald
Classifieds"

Legals

CITY OF BIG SPRING
310 Nolan Street
Big Spring, TX 79720-2657
432-264-2513

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO DESIGNATE THE PLACEMENT OF WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICE USE PROHIBITED SIGNAGE IN CONJUNCTION WITH EACH SCHOOL ZONE AREA DESIGNATION; PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE LAW; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
TAMI L. DAVIS
ASSISTANT CITY SECRETARY
#6255 September 6 & 7, 2009

Legals

CITY OF BIG SPRING
310 Nolan Street
Big Spring, TX 79720-2657
432-264-2513

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS, AMENDING CHAPTER 14, ARTICLE 3, OF THE BIG SPRING CITY CODE ENTITLED "MINORS" BY AMENDING SECTION 14-30 ENTITLED "CURFEW ORDINANCE EXTENDED", BY EXTENDING THE JUVENILE CURFEW ORDINANCE UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1, 2012; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
TAMI L. DAVIS
ASSISTANT CITY SECRETARY
#6256 September 6 & 7, 2009

Legals

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Ruth Brock, Deceased, were issued on August 27, 2009, in Cause No. P-13772, pending in the County Court of Howard County, Texas, to: Edward Slate
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
c/o: **Edward Slate**
2714 Larry Drive
Big Spring, Texas 79720
DATED the 27th day of August, 2009.
GLYNNA MOUTON
Attorney for
Edward Slate
State Bar No.: 14606500
#6258 September 6, 2009

Legals

Howard County Sheriff Office has one stray. A Black and White Bull Calf found at 103 Richie Road. If not claimed they will be auctioned off September 23, 2009 at 10:00a.m. at 500 N. Birdwell. For more information please call or come by between 8-5 to the County Courthouse or call (432)264-2231.
#6259 September 6, 2009

Legals

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF LETTY RUTH COOK, DECEASED
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary upon the Estate of Letty Ruth Cook, Deceased, were issued to Billy Jay Cook, Independent Executor, on August 18, 2009 in the proceeding styled "Letty Ruth Cook, Deceased," Cause No. 381 in the County Court of Glasscock County, Texas, which is still pending and that said person now holds such Letters. All persons having claims against said Estate, which is being administered in Glasscock County, Texas, are hereby required to present the same to said Independent Executor, at 4204 Nelson Road, Midland, Texas 79707 before suit upon same is barred by the general statutes of limitation, before such Estate is closed, and within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
Billy Jay Cook, Independent Executor of the Estate of Letty Ruth Cook, Deceased, Cause No. 381 in the County Court of Glasscock County, Texas.
#6257 September 6, 2009

Legals

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
Pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, AAA Mini Storage which is located at 3301 E. FM 700 Big Spring, TX 79720 will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale will be at 10:00 o'clock A.M. on September 19, 2009, at AAA Mini Storage, 3301 East FM 700, Big Spring, TX 79720. Property being sold includes contents in spaces of following tenants, with brief description of contents in each space.
Maureen Castaneda
Jory Merrill
Manuel Padron
Pam Puga
Linda Smithwich
#6261 September 6 & 13, 2009

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Legals

CITATION BY PUBLICATION IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN AS FOLLOWS:

TO: Morgan Watson
if living, and if any or all of the above named Defendants be dead, the unknown heirs of the unknown heirs of said above named persons, and the unknown owner or owners of the hereinafter described land, and the executors, administrators, guardians, legal representatives, legatees and devisees of the above named persons, and any legal or equitable interest in or lien upon the land described in Plaintiffs' petition on file in this cause, to-wit:

A tract of land out of Sec. 44, Blk 32, T-1-N, Howard County, Texas described by metes and bounds on the attached exhibit

Which said property is delinquent to Plaintiffs for taxes in the following amount: \$890.76, exclusive of interest, penalties, and costs, and there is included in this suit in addition to the taxes all said interest, penalties, and cost thereon, allowed by law up to and including the day of judgment herein.

You are hereby notified that suit has been brought by HOWARD COUNTY, ET AL as Plaintiffs, against MORGAN WATSON AND MARTHA WATSON and others, as Defendant(s), by petition filed on February 28, 2007, in a certain suit styled HOWARD COUNTY, ET AL VS. MORGAN WATSON AND MARTHA WATSON, for collection of the taxes on said property and that said suit is now pending in the District Court of Howard County, Texas 118th Judicial District, and the file number of said suit is 5335 that the names of all taxing units which assess and collect taxes on the property hereinabove described, not made parties to this suit, are NONE.

Plaintiffs and all other taxing units who may set up their tax claims herein seek recovery of delinquent ad valorem taxes on the property hereinabove described, thereon up to and including the day of judgment herein, and the establishment and foreclosure of liens, if any, securing the payment of same, as provided by law.

All parties to this suit, including Plaintiffs, Defendant(s), and intervenors, shall take notice that claims not only for any taxes which were delinquent on said property at the time this suit was filed but all taxes becoming delinquent thereon at any time thereafter up to the day of judgment, including all interest, penalties, and cost allowed by law thereon, may, upon request therefore, be recovered herein without further citation or notice to any parties herein, all said parties shall take notice of and plead and answer to all claims and pleadings now on file in said causes by all other parties herein and all of those taxing units above named who may intervene herein and set up their respective tax claims against said property.

You are hereby commanded to appear and defend such suit at or before 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of forty-two (42) days from and after the date of issuance hereof, the same being the 31st day of August, 2009 before the Honorable District Court of Howard County, Texas, to be held at the courthouse thereof, then and there to show cause why judgment shall not be rendered for such taxes, penalties, interest, and costs, and condemning said property and ordering foreclosure of the constitutional and statutory tax liens thereon for taxes due the Plaintiffs and the taxing unit parties hereto, and those who may intervene herein, together with all interest, penalties, and costs allowed by law up to and including the day of judgment herein, and all costs of this suit.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said court in the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas, this 31st day of August, A.D. 2009.
Brandie Martinez, Deputy Clerk of the District Court
Howard County, Texas,
118th Judicial District.
#6260 September 6, 2009

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

It's an eventful and productive day. If you feel keyed up and filled with fiery energy, you're probably taking advantage of the dynamic Aries moon. This transit winds us up like a toy and then lets go — the release of tension is incredibly industrious! The Mercury retrograde is also upon us, adding a zany twist to the action.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Instead of trying to have it all, try to appreciate it all. Then you'll see why you really don't want to have it all — too much work. Concentrate on giving your love and undivided attention to one thing at a time.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You often allow others to do their own thing while you hold down the fort or tend to responsibilities that may or may not be yours. Well, you need fun, too. Seize the



HOLIDAY
MATHIS

chance to let off some steam.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). A special relationship takes focus. If one person gets his or her way more often than the other, the connection will suffer for it now. You will get the opportunity to improve the balance.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Though you sometimes get the overwhelming urge to gripe, you're coping well with your circumstances. Even your best friends won't be very receptive to complaints today, so the best thing to do is let it go.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You see how things, and people, could come together to create a bit of magic. You do well matching up a friend with a job, someone who can help with a special project or a love interest.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There are certain topics you just know will lead to an unhealthy discussion with some people. You know, but sometimes you forget. Remind yourself before you step out today, and you'll have a positive

experience.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Do a little market research. Learning what others think, as well as what they like and dislike, will be beneficial to your work. This information could lead to a very lucrative end.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Is there such a thing as being too openhearted? If it has you giving out cash and/or personal information to people you just met, then yes. Stay on guard today. If you're not sure how to handle a situation, buy some time.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You're creative and interested in many different areas of study and business. It's a fine time to dabble. Dip your toe in just to test the waters. Let your gut feelings lead the way.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Big projects inspire your inner warrior to emerge. You might learn that the competition is stiffer than you thought, but you are undaunted. You're ready to face and conquer (or learn from) whatever greets you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). There's nothing wrong with wanting people to like you. You set out to impress someone. You're after a specific reaction, but if you don't get it, you'll probably still be delighted with what comes next.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll be productive in ways that are not easy to measure, but that shouldn't diminish your sense of pride. The tangible evidence will come soon enough as you continue working on yourself in this manner.

T O D A Y ' S BIRTHDAY (Sept. 6). Go into this new phase with great enthusiasm, and the universe quickly responds by giving you what you expect. Love is the main feature this fall, and you'll be gazing into the eyes of your loved one and basking in the reciprocated gaze. In November, domestic changes bring financial uplift. Travel in March. Aries and Gemini people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 10, 3, 33, 35 and 17.

FORECAST FOR THE WEEK AHEAD:

No matter how well you know your loved ones, you're about to learn more during this Mercury retrograde in Libra, ruler of relationships. It's not because you'll ask better questions or encourage your loved ones to open up. Rather, the miscommunications and difficulties will be the catalysts for learning. Challenging circumstances will reveal little-known facets of our personalities. Some will be better to each other when the chips are down. Because we have to work harder to understand one another and be understood, a new feeling of closeness can emerge. During Mercury retrogrades, it's crucial to remember that no astrological transit is inherently lucky or unlucky. It's up to us to give things meaning.

On Sept. 11, Pluto goes direct. The planet of unseen power has been retrograde since April 4 and will resume direct motion in Capricorn through April 6, 2010. This transit helps us understand our intentions individually and as a race. Often we oper-

ate so automatically that we are not consciously aware of what we're doing. This Pluto transit can serve as a wakeup call. Every day is the birth of a new world if we want to see it that way.

C E L E B R I T Y PROFILES: Hugh Grant plays the noble leading man with the same ease that he plays the loveable cad. His Virgo charm is exemplified in his satirical humor. With his natal Mercury also in Virgo, he's a pragmatist at heart. Grant is often able to say with ease the things others might hold back and be so charming in his delivery that he is able to momentarily change the rules of polite conversation.

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

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: I am worried about a boy in my class. It is clear that besides me, "Jonathan" has no real friends. Just about every other kid in school has labeled him a weirdo.

He sort of adopted me the first day of school, and now he won't let me sit with anyone else at lunch and wants to do all our school projects together.

I'm glad he thinks of me as a friend, but I want to spend time with my real friends, too, and Jonathan doesn't give me a lot of breathing room.

I don't know how to tell him I need space. I'm afraid he'll go right over the edge or something. Lately he has

become even stranger than usual, and I feel guilty that I'm ashamed to hang around him. Please help. — *Stuck*

Dear Stuck: It is natural for you to feel suffocated when someone hovers. However, it sounds as if Jonathan may have Asperger's syndrome or some developmental issues that contribute to his social awkwardness.

First talk to the school counselor or one of his teachers about how to deal with Jonathan.

It might help to gently explain when his behavior is unacceptable so he can learn to do better.

The fact that he's become stranger than

usual bothers us, so please talk to someone.

Dear Annie: My husband is a great father and a wonderful provider. He cooks dinner four times a week, empties the dishwasher, vacuums and does all the yard work. He's home every night and does everything he can to make my life simple and relaxed. Sex is great. And he can be romantic.



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

However, he is on his gazillionth affair. He used to blame the affairs on me, saying I wasn't attentive enough, he couldn't talk to me, sex wasn't fulfilling, etc.

Then he began blaming it on his own problems — girls rejected him in high school, he was bored.

Now he says he craves the forbidden element. And he likes to relive those moments when we're intimate because

he's getting older and can't always "perform" the way he wants to.

When I find out about the affair, he first begs for mercy and forgiveness and then becomes the most compassionate, attentive man any woman would die to have.

I'm weak, I admit it. A few weeks of Mr. Nice Guy, and I'm falling into his arms again. But soon enough, the suspicious activities begin and I'm a wreck.

I cannot afford to leave. It's that simple. I don't want to lose my house, and I don't want our children to think their father is anything other than wonderful.

We've been to counseling together and as individuals, and nothing has worked. I'm tired and my health is affected by all the stress. How do I stop the cycle I'm living in? — *Sad Southern Girl*

Dear Sad: You cannot change your husband, so you must change your response. Either leave him, or accept him as he is.

Some women purposely ignore a husband's serial cheating because they value other aspects of the marriage, but it requires steel blinders and an indifferent attitude.

And if the only reason you stay is money, there are lawyers who can help you with that. Get a physical to make sure Hubby hasn't given you an STD, and then make an appointment with an attorney to find out what your financial options are.

Dear Annie: I do not agree with your response to "Mature

Citizen," that it is perfectly normal to fantasize about other partners during sex.

That only means they need to better communicate to their partner what turns them on instead of taking a mental leave of absence.

Too many people do not focus on the present experience they are having, but it would substantially increase the pleasure of both partners.

Otherwise, as you regularly recommend, they can get professional help. — *Psychologist in New Mexico*

Dear New Mexico: We think after 35 years of marriage, anything that helps keep the spark alive can be a positive thing. But if you can manage to keep your head in the present every time, more power to you.

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

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Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Fail
- 8 African Union chairman elected in 2009
- 15 Knighted actor
- 16 Serious disloyalty
- 17 Arrange by rank
- 18 Jocular "Really?"
- 19 It's saved for a rainy day
- 20 Lions and tigers and bears
- 21 Stone Mountain honoree
- 22 Extremity
- 24 Well-known pen name
- 25 Top-rated
- 26 "The Big Easy" of sports
- 27 Time
- 28 It may be rolled
- 29 Time —
- 30 Remain quiet
- 31 Small parts
- 33 Professional questioners: Abbr.
- 34 Psalms preceder
- 35 Rastafari wear
- 38 One with a gift
- 42 Its academy is in Quantico, VA
- 45 Tin source
- 46 Almost invisible
- 47 Expensive spread
- 48 Spy novelist's prename
- 49 Peak, with "out"
- 50 Stock analyst's recommendation

- 51 Morning deposit
- 52 *King Kong* character
- 53 Type of tie
- 55 Group of lines
- 57 Austere
- 59 Tar
- 60 Sort of restaurant
- 61 Not fixed
- 62 Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee of '98
- 63 About 40% of all insect species
- DOWN**
- 1 Powerless people of fiction
- 2 Sharon, for one

SATURDAY STUMPER by Anna Stiga
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- 3 Least appetizing
- 4 Name meaning "I am faithful"
- 5 All worked up
- 6 Long-term account
- 7 Brink
- 8 Invoice abbr.
- 9 Graceful runner
- 10 Spots
- 11 Laughs
- 12 "To reiterate . . ."
- 13 City near San Bernardino
- 14 Parts of octopi
- 23 Rodgers and Hart score
- 24 No fan of the home team
- 32 Floored
- 35 Garfield et al.
- 36 One-time fourth-largest lake
- 37 Like moles
- 38 ANC opponent
- 39 Classmates. com info
- 40 Snaps
- 41 Wordsworth's "pride of Lorton Vale"
- 42 Winter wear
- 43 Component of crude oil
- 44 Guts
- 54 Irritant
- 56 "I ___ Marching Anymore" (protest song)
- 58 Reviewer of books
- 59 Rabble

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Answer to previous puzzle

B	O	A	R	D	A	M	I	S	S	P	E	D
A	O	L	E	R	G	E	N	O	A	A	X	E
R	H	O	D	E	I	S	L	A	N	D	S	U
R	E	N	O	W	N	O	J	O	S	T	L	O
E	D	G	E	P	A	N	A	M	A	H	A	T
S	P	U	N	M	A	L	I					
T	A	D	E	T	T	A	I	R	K	E	D	
C	H	I	N	E	S	E	C	H	E	C	K	E
M	A	N	O	R			T	I	M	E	Y	E
K	I	D	S		F	I	S	T				
G	U	I	N	E	A	P	I	G	R	A	D	S
S	O	D	A		A	W	E	R	V	A	L	U
L	O	A		D	R	Y	C	L	E	A	N	I
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G	E	L		P	E	R	S	E		T	E	N

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What is your most valuable investment?

There are numerous things you might consider to be your most valuable investments. Many think tangible things such as their homes, automobiles, or property are their most prized possessions. Some might esteem their relationship with God to be of top priority and regard their family and career as a close second.



JERRIE
STOCKS

Developing a strong faith in God should be your highest and number one priority. We need our faith to be strong in order to endure the hardships we face in life. We need family for life's joys and fulfillment, and of course we need finan-

cial income to provide shelter, clothing, and food. These three powerful essentials carry us through life.

Our faith is the secret weapon that allows us to forge forward in the most difficult of times. It allows us to persevere when everything around us is falling apart and screaming defeat. It is God's light that leads us out of the darkest valleys, across the desert plains, into the green pastures and cool streams of water. It is His assurance that all is well and happier days are on the horizon.

The amazing thing about faith is that it is always there, quiet and serene, almost hidden from sight until it is needed. Then like a mighty rushing wind, faith comes alive and the storms of life become quiet. The rainbow appears in the sky, birds sing their joyful songs and faith once again triumphs over

the enemy. And as a result, our faith muscles grow stronger for the next battle.

It was Jesus' faith in His Father that sent Him to the cross. Jesus had a strong anointing of faith, but He knew His Father would not let Him down. This held Him to the end and it will do the same for us.

The cross was not Jesus' idea, but God's plan to redeem mankind back from the fall of being lost forever, and Jesus was obedient to the will of His Father. Jesus used His faith to endure the beatings and the nails that pierced His hands and feet. His faith held strong and anchored Him for the assignment He had to carry out.

Just as they were with Jesus, trials and tribulations are the training tools of our faith, as well. When we face difficult times, our faith in God will be there for us and will see us through

to safety. And just as Jesus did, we can have the same assurance that God will never abandon us.

Our second most valuable investment is our families. A strong family unit is the anchor that keeps us grounded, supporting us and helping us to stay focused. Our immediate family, community, church and culture all play a part in shaping who we are and what we do. The family is an un-

beatable, never-ending source of love and support. Regardless of the hardships, a family will rise up and meet the challenge.

One of the most important gifts a mother can give her family is maintaining a peaceful atmosphere in the home. Home life is very valuable to young children, as is attending church together and learning the value of being faithful to a local body. The family was

God's plan from the beginning, and it remains His plan today. Sadly, the enemy has robbed many families of the togetherness that forms a strong family unit.

One of the best investments a family can make is that of giving to others. We all need to practice giving and receiving, seedtime and harvest, which are valid principles that, if acted out properly, will

See **STOCKS**, Page 12C



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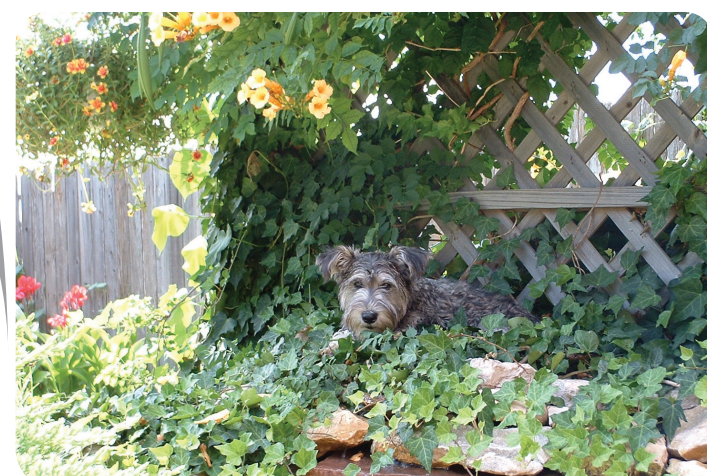
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The best, playing with the best



Courtesy photo
Tommy Harvell was inducted into the WSMSS Hall of Fame earlier this year.

By **BILL MCCLELLAN**
News Editor

For decades, Tommy Harvell has played guitar with the best, so it was only fitting that the former Big Spring resident was recognized as one of the best himself in July. Harvell, a longtime band member with Hoyle Nix and the West Texas Cowboys, was inducted into the Western Swing Music Society of the Southwest Hall of Fame in ceremonies outside Oklahoma City in Yukon, Okla. “This (the WSMSS) covers the entire Southwest. It’s quite an honor,” Tommy said from his home in Coke County. “A lot of the other musicians being inducted were there, too. It was a thrill. We played some fine music together.” Harvell has been play-

ing and performing for about 70 years, having received a guitar for his 10th birthday. He also taught himself to play the steel guitar, bass, banjo and drums. Tommy began playing with local bands when he was 14 and in the 1940s he joined the Nix brothers, Hoyle and Ben. “He played with my dad for a long, longtime,” said Hoyle’s son and musical heir, Jody Nix. “He was one of the original West Texas Cowboys when my dad started the group in 1946. And he played in my band after Dad died. He’s been a life-long family friend.” Tommy played with the Cowboys for more than 40 years, and was on the original recording of “Big Ball’s in Cowtown.” He often had to juggle his playing time with his “day job,” working for

Cosden. He retired from Cosden — later FINA and now Alon — in 1984 after 40 years. He was never far from the stage, however, and through his career has played with the likes of Lefty Frizzel, Hank Thompson, Shoji Tabuchi, Bob Wills, Luke Wills. Eldon Shamblin, Wynn Stewart, Curly Lewis, Millard Kelso, Bobby Tuttle (the steel man in “Urban Cowboy”), Dusty Stewart, Joe Red Hayes and many others. “I’ve played with so many fine, fine musicians,” he said. Tommy wrote “Stam-pede Blues” for the guitar which was recorded on the Oil Patch label with the Nix band. But that’s just one of his accomplishments. His list of career highlights is impressive. They include:

- Playing for the Bob Wills Benefit with the Hoyle Nix Band in 1970 in Tulsa, Okla.
- Playing for the Texas Tech University Heritage Museum Golden Spur award honoring Dale Robertson, with the Jack Taylor band of Lubbock.
- Playing for George H.W. Bush at the “Black Tie and Boots” Inaugural Ball in Washington, D.C. with Jody Nix and the West Texas Cowboys.
- Traveling to San Juan, Puerto Rico with the Jack

Taylor Band of Lubbock, to teach and demonstrate the enduring legacy of Western Swing Music.

- Appearing as a VIP guest of Charlie Walker on the Nashville Now Show with Ralph Emery.
- Playing guitar backup for Johnny Gimble when Gimble was teaching fiddle lessons to area high school students.

Tommy and Elsie, his wife of 61 years, have two sons, four grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Tommy’s favorite pastime is playing music with his friends and going to Turkey, Texas, for Bob Willis Days. He hasn’t been the past two years, but intends to return in 2010. He enjoys all kinds of music and has a particular fondness for blues, but always returns to Western Swing. Obviously, Western Swing loves Tommy, too. “I’m glad he finally got the recognition he deserves,” said Jody. “He’s an excellent musician and a real good man. I’m very happy for him.” Tommy is a bit modest about the achievement. “I got them thinking I was good enough to play with them,” he said with a laugh. “I lucked out.” Not a chance. Tommy Harvell is the real deal. And now he’s in the hall of fame.

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STOCKS

Continued from Page 11C

bring prosperity. Career is our third priority, as it provides the necessities for life. You owe it to your employer to give your very best every day. An honest person does not cheat on his time card, nor make a habit of arriving at work late. Put yourself in your boss’s position and see how you might feel if you were in his shoes. God sees and rewards according to what you put into your job. If you cheat, are rude or unfair to co-workers, that is what will come back to you; God will repay. The

Bible says that we are to lay up good treasures in heaven, not treasures that are corrupt and will account for no good thing. Use and maximize your gifts to the limit to enhance your place of employment. When you sow honorable seed, it will come back to you as a blessing. With a shortage of jobs during this recession, make a conscious decision to appreciate the work you have, and purpose in your heart to give your best service. “Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might.” Ecclesiastes 9:10. God bless.

Send comments to jjstocks1@suddenlink.net

PARSON

Continued from Page 2C

the help of his wife. Dugard has had two children by the rapist pig who I will not name because the freak wants his name to be famous. The sheriff’s department had been out to that house a few years back and was even told about the tents in the backyard and that neighbors thought that people were living back there. They did nothing but warn the freak that he might be in violation of building codes. The man or woman that has the most explaining to do is the freak’s parole officer. Yes, the freak was on lifetime parole for the rape of a woman back in the 1970s. The freak actually had a special place that he took this woman to — a storage unit. The POs would have known this and yet they never took a walk in the back yard? They never drove around back in the ally? They never questioned why the man suddenly had three daughters who were helping in his home-based printing business? They never talked to neighbors who

considered the man strange, weird and, “freaky?” By the time this column comes out in print there may be a whole lot more to this story that what I knew on Tuesday. Mark my words; there will be a lot more tragedy to come. Finally, the fires are burning again in the Los Angeles area. It seems every year the news reports about homes being in danger from wildfires out of control. This time the fires are burning hot and spreading because of the abundance of fuel. The area that is burning has not burned in 60 years, so I guess it has a lot of making up to do. As sure as winter follows summer in Southern California (they really do not have fall or spring, per se) so the mudslides in February follow the fires in late summer. In the hills of that area it is double or even triple jeopardy for the houses. If the fires don’t get you, the mudslides will or the erosion that will send your cliffhanging house into the sea. Dr. Matt Price is a minister, author and columnist. Email at theparson-person@yahoo.com

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