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HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

The Comanche Trail Festival of Lights has many illuminated exhibits, including this stagecoach. The festival runs through Dec. 31 at Comanche Trail Park. Admission is free, although donations will be accepted.

Festival of Lights

Annual show drawing good crowds at city park

Herald Staff Report

If you turn the lights on, they will come.

That’s the theory behind the popular drive-through event, the Festival of Lights, and if so, they’re right. As of Wednesday evening, 3,406 visitors had made their way

through the 1 million-plus light display, representing 16 states, Canada and Japan.

The Festival opened Sunday and will run from 6 to 10 nightly through Dec. 31 at Comanche Trail Park.

In addition to the lights, various groups have signed up to sing carols at this year’s event. Earlier scheduled performers included the Big Spring High School Rhapsody group and the Cowboy Church Carolers, Calvio Band and George Bancroft. The Big Spring High School band is to play from

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To reach us:
Please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call (432) 263-7331 before 6 p.m. weekdays.



Active community member seeking Precinct 2, JP post

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

Voters will certainly have a lot to choose from in the Precinct 2 Justice of the Peace race.

Phillip Reid’s decision to run for the office brings to five the number of candidates who will seek the Republican nomination for the position, which will be decided in the March primary election.

With the exception of four years he spent serving in the U.S. Air Force, Reid is a lifetime resident of Howard



Reid

County and a graduate of Coahoma High School.

Most of his professional career has been spent in the oil field, although he and his wife owned and operated Lakeway Grocery and Gas for 12 years.

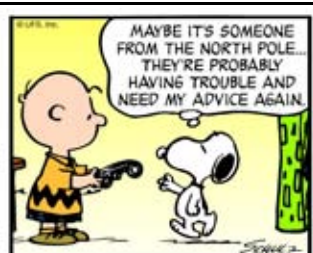
He also has been active in the community, serving for six years as a trustee with Coahoma Independent School District and for 11 years as a director with the Howard County Water Control and Improvement District.

Reid said he became interested in the Precinct 2 JP position about two years ago, but decided against running at that time out of respect for long-time peace justice Quail Dobbs.

“I would not run for that position as long as Quail wanted to keep it,” he said.

After Dobbs announced his retirement earlier this year,

See **REID**, Page 3



Dec. 19
6 shopping
days to Christmas

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TxDOT puts Business 80 work on hold

Herald Staff Report

Citing unfavorable weather conditions, the Texas Department of Transportation announced it is suspending construction on I-20 Business — Third and Fourth streets — during the winter.

The project will resume in March, when weather is more favorable for the type of work that remains, said TxDOT Area Engineer Jesse Mendoza, P.E.

“The contractor will make sure all travel lanes, driveways and sidewalk ramps are safe and open by the end of the week,” said Mendoza. “Suspending the work for a few months will assure more efficient progress and quality of the pavement surface when temperatures are warmer and the contractor has more hours of daylight.”

The project, which began in March, involves rehabilitating about a mile of I-20 Business from Jones Street to U.S. Highway 87 (Gregg Street). After work resumes, the project is estimated to be completed by summer 2014.

‘Autz’ author sets book signing

Herald Staff Report

A long-time former Big Spring resident will be available to sign copies of his new children’s book Saturday.

Eric A. Sanchez will be at the Howard County Library, 500 South Main, from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday to promote his new book, “Adventures of Arvol Autz.”

The story follows the daily life adventures of a very active 6-year-old boy, Arvol. While he’s busy creating new adventures, his family creates opportunities to teach Arvol his family’s values of faith, character, hope and love.

Sanchez is a 1983 Big Spring High School graduate and attended Howard College. He and his wife have three girls and two boys. He and his family live in San Angelo, Texas.

Inspiration for the character Arvol came from the author’s own life experiences. His grandfather, Don Enrique, asked him to help him plant a sapling pecan tree and taught him that a tree was like a man, in that unless you guide it to grow straight and strong while it is young, it might otherwise grow wild and crooked. The author said he created Arvol’s name from the Spanish word for tree, “arbol.” Arvol’s persona is based on his youngest son and the adventures are based on his and his children’s own adventures.

Eric has been working with youth on a professional basis since 1990 in various capacities and is working on several writing projects.

Don’t forget!

In “Crossroads Canaan, A Texas Town in the Jazz Age,” James Johnston tells the story of the area as Big Spring transformed from a small frontier town to a city.

Johnson will be available to sign copies of his book from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. today during a wine and cheese reception at the Heritage Museum, 510 Scurry.

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Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Fri 12/20	Sat 12/21	Sun 12/22
		
52/43	58/36	51/28
Rain showers in the morning will evolve into a more steady rain in the afternoon. High 52F.	Cloudy, periods of rain. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the mid 30s.	Abundant sunshine. Highs in the low 50s and lows in the upper 20s.
Sunrise: 7:43 AM	Sunrise: 7:43 AM	Sunrise: 7:44 AM
Sunset: 5:45 PM	Sunset: 5:45 PM	Sunset: 5:46 PM



Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	51	42	rain	Kingsville	82	69	cloudy
Amarillo	47	36	rain	Livingston	75	65	cloudy
Austin	72	65	cloudy	Longview	69	60	t-storm
Beaumont	75	66	cloudy	Lubbock	46	38	rain
Brownsville	82	70	pt sunny	Lufkin	76	67	cloudy
Brownwood	62	52	rain	Midland	53	45	rain
Corpus Christi	78	69	cloudy	Raymondville	83	67	pt sunny
Corsicana	63	53	t-storm	Rosenberg	77	68	cloudy
Dallas	62	51	t-storm	San Antonio	75	67	cloudy
Del Rio	75	60	cloudy	San Marcos	73	66	cloudy
El Paso	60	39	rain	Sulphur Springs	64	49	t-storm
Fort Stockton	69	49	rain	Sweetwater	49	43	rain
Gainesville	53	42	rain	Tyler	68	59	t-storm
Greenville	60	48	t-storm	Weatherford	55	44	rain
Houston	77	68	cloudy	Wichita Falls	44	36	rain

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	63	53	cloudy	Minneapolis	14	7	cloudy
Boston	46	38	cloudy	New York	48	44	cloudy
Chicago	34	26	sn shower	Phoenix	57	46	rain
Dallas	62	51	t-storm	San Francisco	59	41	sunny

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 7 a.m. Wednesday and 7 a.m. today:

- LANCE WAYNE LAND, 24, of 5203 Sterling Rd., was arrested Wednesday on a warrant from another agency.
- MARK DAVID MEYERS, 49, of 3708 Caroline, was arrested Wednesday on warrants for driving while license invalid – multiple counts, failure to maintain financial responsibility and failure to appear.
- NORMAN LEE MIZELL JR., 51, of 106 Delaware, Colorado City, Texas, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- ELISA SANCHEZ ORTIZ, 30, of 1002 North Main no. 46, was arrested Thursday on charges of delivery of a controlled substance greater than or equal to 4 grams but less than 200 grams, possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram, possession of drug paraphernalia, failure to identify – fugitive, giving false information, parent contributing to nonattendance and issuance of a bad check.
- DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported at the 2500 block of Dow.
- THEFT was reported at the 800 block of Atlantic Ave., Coahoma, Texas and the 3600 block of West

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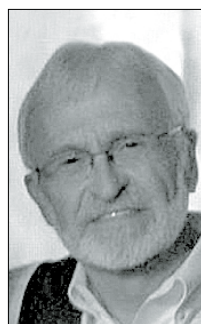
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Jimmy Hopper



& Welch Rosewood Chapel.

Jimmy was born October 27, 1949, in Hobbs, N.M.

He was a master carpenter in both residential and commercial buildings. He also loved building custom cars and cruising with his car club. Most of all, he loved being “Pepaw”.

He is survived by one daughter, Shonda Sparks and husband, Wes, of Mertzon, Texas; two sons, Ja-

Jimmy Hopper, 64, of Big Spring, Texas died Monday, Dec. 16, 2013, at his residence. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 20, 2013, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Derrick Looney officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 19, 2013, at the Nalley-Pickle

Wayne L. Morris



He was born Jan. 19, 1923, in Iredell, Texas, and married Marciel Newman Nov. 7, 1942, in Big Spring.

He came to Howard County in 1939. He served

Wayne L. Morris, 90, of Big Spring, Texas, died Tuesday at his residence. Graveside funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 21, 2013, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Elwin Collom officiating.

The family will receive friends from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Friday at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

James Walter Salvato,



He earned a bachelor of science degree from San Angelo State University and taught mathematics for nearly 20 years. He taught in Sterling City, Forsan and Big Spring. After retiring from teaching, he opened and oper-

James Walter Salvato, 71, of Big Spring, Texas, died Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2013, in a local hospital. Honoring his wishes, no services are planned at this time.

James was born Aug. 2, 1942, to Peter and Leota (Reid) Salvato in San Angelo, Texas. He married Viola Barfield June 17, 2005 in Big Spring.

He earned a bachelor of science degree from San Angelo State University and taught mathematics for nearly 20 years. He taught in Sterling City, Forsan and Big Spring. After retiring from teaching, he opened and oper-

Police/Sheriff

Highway 80.

- FORGERY was reported at the 500 block of South Goliad.
- ANIMAL PROBLEM was reported at the 2500 block of Williams Rd.
- MINOR ACCIDENT was reported at the 700 block of East Eleventh Pl.
- HIT AND RUN reported at the intersection of 18th St. and Main and the 2500 block of South Gregg.
- THEFT OF FIREARM was reported at the 3600 block of West Highway 80.
- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported at the 100 block of East 17th St. and the 1900 block of Simler.
- MAJOR ACCIDENT was reported at mile marker 182.
- SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY was reported at the 200 block of Carey.

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

- Note – Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 56 inmates at the time of this report.
- JEREMIAH WAIMANU SIMMONS was booked by BSPD on a charge of assault – family violence threat or offensive touch.
- RICHARD ELISHA NELSON was booked by HCSO to begin sentence for aggravated sexual assault of a child.
- LANCE WAYNE BIDDLE LAND was booked by BSPD on motion to adjudicate for fraud – possession of U.S. identifying information (state jail

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Obituaries

Coby Hopper and wife, Stephanie of Big Spring, and Jarrett Hopper and wife, Mindy of Grand Prairie, Texas; his parents, Billie and Vonnice Hopper of Big Spring; grandchildren, Dawson and Maci Sparks, M'Kenna and Jackson Hopper, and Stella Hopper; one sister, Debbie Elliott and husband, Jace of Big Spring; one nephew, Cory Elliott and wife, Andrea of Midland, Texas, and two aunts, Jane Moore and Joyce Wash both of Big Spring.

Pallbearers will be Casey Henry, Josh Bales, Kyle Grissam, Mike Daniels, Sam Gonzales and Dustin Stewart. Honorary pallbearers will be Wes Sparks, Jace Elliott, Cory Elliott, Chad Wash, Danny Westbrook and the Freaks of Nature Car Club.

The family suggests memorials be made to Spring Creek Fellowship, P.O. Box 2070, Big Spring, Texas 79721-2070.

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

Paid Obituary

in the United States Army during World War II. Wayne worked at Cosden Refinery from 1950 until retiring in 1982. He was a Baptist.

Survivors include one daughter, Donna Wright and husband, Alan; one son, Gary Morris and wife, Zally, all of Big Spring; four grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; one brother, C. L. Morris and wife, Charlene of Granbury, Texas; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Lonnie L. and Esther Cranfill Morris.

The family suggests memorials to Home Hospice, 111, E. 7th St., Suite A, Big Spring, Texas 79720.

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

ated Big Spring Tire on Gregg Street for the next 20 years. He loved fishing and taking care of his animals, especially his dog Maggie.

James served his country in the United States Army.

James is survived by his wife, Viola Salvato; two sons, Lane Salvato and wife, Karen, of Lubbock, Texas, and Wade Salvato of San Angelo; one daughter, Jennifer Painter of San Angelo, and two granddaughters, Sydni and Nicki.

He was preceded in death his parents and one brother, Pete Salvato Jr.

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

Paid Obituary

felony).

• MARK DAVID MYERS was booked by BSPD on charges of driving while license invalid, failure to maintain financial responsibility and failure to appear – two counts.

• NORMAN LEE MIZELL JR. was booked by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

• DOMINGA SIMONA CHAPA was booked by BSPD on charges of possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram, possession of drug paraphernalia, failure to identify fugitive with intent to give false information and assault causing bodily injury.

Support Groups

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m. Covered dish supper at 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous closed meeting from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 7 p.m. until 8 p.m.

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► News briefs

Semi overturns, spilling holiday hams on I-85 ramp

ATLANTA (AP) — The latest wreck on a metro Atlanta freeway system that features names such as Spaghetti Junction, Peach Passes and HOT lanes involved a ham jam.

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reports that a truck hauling 40,000 pounds of hams overturned, spilling the cargo onto an interstate ramp south of Atlanta. Authorities were working early Thursday to clear the ramp from Old National Highway to Interstate 85 southbound after the crash around 4 a.m.

The cab of the truck was destroyed in the crash, which also caused a diesel fuel spill.

Truck driver Rigo Vargas said he was hauling the hams to Texas when he wrecked. He said he banged his head against the door when the rig flipped over, but wasn't seriously hurt.

Mom, boyfriend accused in Texas beating of girl, 3

LUFKIN, Texas (AP) — An East Texas grand jury has indicted a woman and her boyfriend for allegedly using belts, switches and shoes to beat her 3-year-old daughter.

Angelina County jail records show Ashley Wingo and Elisiah Phipps were being held Thursday on felony injury to a child charges. Online jail records don't list attorneys for the pair, whose bond is \$50,000 apiece.

This week's indictment involves an Oct. 22 incident. Lufkin police responded to an anonymous call about a child being beaten.

Lt. David Young says police found Wingo and the injured girl hiding in a closet. The child was taken to a hospital. An affidavit says Phipps told police he used belts, switches and shoes to discipline the girl.

Police on Thursday didn't immediately provide an update on the child.

Direct Energy selling 3 Texas plants to Blackstone

HOUSTON (AP) — Direct Energy has announced plans to sell its three natural gas-fired power plants in Texas to private equity firm The Blackstone Group LP in a \$685 million cash deal.

The agreement was announced Wednesday by Houston-based Direct Energy. The sale will be made through Direct Energy Power Holdings Inc.

The units are located in Bastrop (BAS'trup), Mission, and Paris and have a combined capacity of nearly 1,300 megawatts.

The agreement with New York-based Blackstone is subject to regulatory review and should close in early 2014.

Direct Energy is a subsidiary of Centrica PLC.

Suspect in Texas drug case drank men's cologne

LA GRANGE, Texas (AP) — Investigators say a driver linked to a hit-and-run accident in Central Texas drank men's cologne to try to mask the smell of alcohol on his breath.

The Fayette County Sheriff's Office says John David Conwill of Cat Spring was being held Thursday on a charge of possession of a controlled

substance. No attorney was listed for Conwill, whose bond is \$5,000.

Deputies reported finding Xanax (ZAN'ehks) and open alcohol containers in Conwill's vehicle during a stop near Plum, 50 miles southeast of Austin. Conwill faces charges over a traffic accident earlier Wednesday in Travis County. Nobody was hurt.

Deputies say empty cologne bottles were in his vehicle. Cologne residue was on Conwill, who received an open container citation. He did not get sick from drinking an undetermined amount of cologne.

Man gets 14 years in Wichita Falls meth ring

WICHITA FALLS, Texas (AP) — A North Texas man has been sentenced to 14 years in prison for his role in a Wichita Falls-based methamphetamine ring.

A federal judge sentenced 44-year-old Louis Griego Jr. of Wichita Falls. Griego in July pleaded guilty to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute and to distribute methamphetamine.

Prosecutors on Wednesday announced the sentence for Griego, who was among seven people pleading guilty in the case. A judge in August sentenced 28-year-old Anthony Rueben Johnston to 40 years in federal prison. Johnston pleaded guilty to drug-related conspiracy.

Investigators say Johnston supplied the methamphetamine to Griego for sales in the Wichita Falls area.

Griego was sentenced Monday.

Los Angeles man gets 13 years in Texas fraud case

HOUSTON (AP) — A Los Angeles man has been sentenced to 13 years in prison in a nearly \$10 million Texas-based life settlement insurance scam.

A federal judge in Houston on Wednesday sentenced Charles Craig Jordan, who pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit mail and wire fraud. Jordan was also ordered to pay almost \$9.7 million in restitution to more than 500 victims.

Prosecutors say the scheme involved a Houston company called Secure Investment Services and American Settlement Associates. A co-defendant, Kelly Taylor Gipson of Rockwall, awaits sentencing after pleading guilty to conspiracy to launder proceeds from the fraud.

A life settlement is when people who are typically elderly or terminally ill sell their life insurance policies for a cash payment. Investigators say Jordan and Gipson misused investor money and the policies lapsed.

Horse buyer gets 15 years in Texas drug, cash case

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — A horse buyer and trainer from Mexico has been sentenced to 15 years in prison for his role in a drug cartel's money-laundering scheme in Texas.

Prosecutors in Austin say 28-year-old Carlos Nayen Borbolla was sentenced Wednesday. He pleaded guilty to money laundering conspiracy and drug counts. Investigators say Nayen acted as an intermediary between leaders of the violent

Zetas cartel. He traveled to Texas to help buy and train race horses in support of cartel-related activities.

Prosecutors have said the money laundering operation included a horse ranch in Oklahoma. More than 400 horses were seized and auctioned in the operation that created fake companies and sometimes fixed races.

Nearly 20 people have been convicted in the case.

U.S. testing surveillance balloons on Mexico border

PENITAS, Texas (AP) — The U.S. Border Patrol continues testing aerostats along the Texas-Mexico border that were originally used for surveillance by the Department of Defense.

The Border Patrol plans to demonstrate the helium-filled balloons, which are outfitted with cameras and sensors, to media Thursday in Penitas, about 15 miles west of McAllen.

During a similar demonstration last year, an aerostat tethered 2,500 feet above the ground easily made out the make, model and color of vehicles a couple of miles away. Many of the devices were previously used in Iraq and Afghanistan to provide security around bases.

The Border Patrol believes they could be similarly effective against human and drug trafficking above the challenging terrain of South Texas. The agency has tested similar systems along the border in Arizona.

Executions in U.S. drop close to 20-year low in 2013

WASHINGTON (AP) — Reliance on the death penalty continues to decline with 39 people executed this year, only the second time in 19 years that fewer than 40 people were put to death, a private group reported Thursday.

The Death Penalty Information Center, a non-profit organization that opposes executions and tracks the issue, also said the number of new death sentences was near its lowest level since capital punishment was reinstated in the 1970s. There have been 80 new death sentences so far this year, three more than in 2012 and down from 315 in 1996, the group said.

The 39 executions were carried out in nine states. Texas had the most, 16, followed by Florida, which had seven. Oklahoma had six, Ohio three, Arizona and Missouri two each, and Alabama, Georgia and Virginia, one each.

Texas, the leader in executions, illustrates the downward trend. It recorded 48 death sentences in 1999. This year, it was nine, marking the sixth year in a row that Texas had less than 10 death sentences. Maryland abolished the death penalty this year, the 18th state to do so and the sixth in the last six years. "I think the decline begins with the revelations about mistakes in capital cases — that innocent people could get the penalty and almost be executed has shocked the public to the point where death sentences are harder to obtain," said Richard Dieter, executive director of the center.

"There's a healthy skepticism about imposing a death sentence knowing that new information is almost certain to arise 10 or more years later," Dieter added. "Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty less, juries are imposing it less and ultimately executions are occurring less frequently."

One explanation for the relatively low level of executions is that many drugs used in lethal injections are manufactured in Europe, where some governments opposing capital punishment have banned exporting drugs for executions.

LIGHTS

Continued from Page 1

REID

Continued from Page 1

however, Reid reconsidered his options and decided to make a run at the position.

"I do feel that my experience with the public over the years is a good start for qualifying for this position," he said.

"I am a fair, honest and responsible person and I'm willing to learn whatever necessary to fulfill the duties of the office."

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 235 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

7 until 9 tonight. Others are Cornerstone Church from 7-7:30 Friday and the Nazarene Church from 7-8 Sunday.

Be sure and bring the kids because Santa and Mrs. Claus will be at the Belaski Pavilion (across from the Cotton Mize ball field) Saturday, Sunday and Monday from 7:30 until 9:30.

Those making their way through the winding trail of lights can also compete in the Christmas Geese Count

— a "game" in which festival goers count the geese they see. The Hotel Settles will award the winner a one-night stay for two. "Remember, the geese do not stay in one place. They move about," said Pat Simons, who still helps coordinate the festival, which she began years ago. "This was a great attraction last year and we thank the Settles for their donation."

Count forms can be

picked up at the greeter's booth. Simons said bridges at the park have been covered in lights, enhancing the display for those who might want to walk through it instead of drive. A small gift shop is also available.

Enter the festival at the northmost entrance to the park along U.S. Highway 87.

There is no admission charge but donations are accepted.

Truck Wrecks

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Alex Torres, 57, died Sunday. Funeral Mass will be at 10 a.m. this morning at Holy Trinity Catholic Church with burial at Coahoma Cemetery.

Devotion To Saint Jude

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be praised, adored, loved, preserved & glorified throughout the world now and forever. The sacred heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, Helper of the Hopeless, pray for us. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ for the help of your servant St. Jude in listening to my prayers. Say this prayer nine times for nine days. By the end of the eighth, your prayer will be answered. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. Thank you Sacred Heart of Jesus & St. Jude for prayers answered.

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Opinion

“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.

ADDRESSES

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- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

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The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- 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 e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com or mailed to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721.

DAILY PRAYER

Remind us, dear Lord, our children act as we act and do as we do.

Amen

Crony Obama donor in charge of DHS

Dirty Harry Reid sabotaged the filibuster, and now the Democrats are running wild in Washington. Mark my words: We all will pay a price. Thanks to Reid's crony-coddling rule change, unqualified stooges will manage the Obama Department of Homeland Security. It's a bundler's world, and we're just living in it. God help us.

On Monday night, Senate Democrats voted 57-37 to end debate on the nomination of Jeh Johnson to head DHS. That's three votes short of the traditional 60-vote filibuster threshold that Reid nuked last month. Johnson went on to win his appointment by a 78-16 margin. The White House performed its Snoopy happy dance soon after, with President Obama declaring Johnson “a strong leader with a deep understanding of the threats we face and a proven ability to work across agencies and complex organizations to keep America secure.”

DHS employs 240,000 people and boasts a \$40 billion budget. Johnson, unlike his most recent predecessors, has never actually held an executive position governing a state or managing a complex organization. Let me summarize his relevant experience in border security, port security, airport security or immigration enforcement: Zero. Zip. Nada.

News coverage instead stresses that Johnson is the “first African-American” to hold the No. 1 position at DHS. Because, you know, diversity will keep us safe. Here's more you should know about Johnson: He's a lifelong beneficiary of the government/law



MICHELLE
MALKIN

firm revolving door, dating back to the Clinton years. In a recent interview with a legal website, Johnson cheerfully bragged that his initial “foray into national security was a fluke, really. The Clinton White House recruited me to be general counsel of the Air Force. I had no idea what the job was about, had never been in the military and had never set foot in the Pentagon.”

Yep, a “fluke.” That's a public confidence booster, huh?

Johnson counts among the “big breaks” in his life a fateful meeting with Obama in 2006. He went on to shovel gobs of money into Obama's campaigns and Democratic coffers. In 2008, this top campaign finance bundler served on the Team Obama transition team. Next, Johnson found himself — like the feather floating in “Forrest Gump” — appointed to the position of general counsel at the Defense Department.

He was “involved” in ending the military's “don't ask, don't tell” policy and reportedly “oversaw” the use of unmanned drone strikes in Iraq and Afghanistan.

White House aides claim that Johnson is a “respected national security leader.” But respected by whom (other than Democratic fundraisers) the administration will not say.

Perhaps we might comfort ourselves if the No. 2 in charge at DHS had strong qualifications and a record on national security to compensate for Johnson's deficiencies. Sorry. As I reported last week, Dirty Harry Reid exploited the nuked filibuster threshold to ram through Alejandro Mayorkas' nomination as deputy DHS secretary. Mayorkas remains under investigation for a partisan cash-for-foreign-investor-visas scandal by the DHS inspector general's office, which itself remains under investigation for fraud and ethics violations that endanger national

security. His appointment is expected to sail through the full Senate on Wednesday.

At DHS, adjudicators remain under pressure to rubber-stamp visa applications. Open-borders ideologues continue to push for administrative amnesty programs behind closed doors and in circumvention of congressional oversight. Three years after the death of Border Patrol agent Brian Terry, his colleagues are under siege inside and outside their agency. And whistleblowers are an endangered species.

The elevation of Obama's stooge donors to the two highest civilian homeland security posts in the country comes as both vote-seeking Democrats and big-business Republicans prepare for another illegal alien amnesty push next year.

As Dan Stein of the immigration enforcement group FAIR noted this week: “There is no mistaking the signals the president has sent to the American people. ... President Obama has called on the House to pass ‘comprehensive’ immigration reform, yet nominated an individual to head DHS who has zero immigration experience. Thus, it is clear the president wants the amnesty portion of such a bill, but has little or no intention of prioritizing any enforcement measures that might be contained in it.”

The inmates are running the asylum. Homeland security threats and ciphers are running the homeland security department. God help us all.

Michelle Malkin is the author of “Culture of Corruption: Obama and his Team of Tax Cheats, Crooks and Cronies” (Regnery 2010). Her e-mail address is malkinblog@gmail.com.

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Fewer debates, dumber reporters

I understand that politics is petty, vicious and disgraceful. I just don't want to take all the fun out of it.

The Republican Party is now considering changes in its rules to squeeze the last remaining pleasure out of politics.

According to Peter Hamby of CNN, a special party subcommittee is considering dramatically reducing the number of Republican debates and taking control over which journalists get to moderate them.

This is not being done in the name of reform. This is being done in the name of “let's stop kicking ourselves in the groin.”

The theory goes like this: The more the public sees the potential Republican nominees for president the more the public tends to dislike them. One reason is that the potential Republican nominees dislike the potential Republican nominees.

In February 2012, Newt Gingrich, while running for the Republican nomination, said that Mitt Romney was “fundamentally dishonest” and “pro-abortion, pro-gun control and pro-tax increase.”

Accusing a politician of being fundamentally dishonest is like accusing a ballerina of dancing on her toes. No big deal. But accusing a Republican of being for abortion, against guns and for taxes is serious stuff. Naturally, Romney had to prove that he was none of those things.

So every time Romney got attacked by his fellow Republicans, he had to move further to the right to get around them. Unfortunately, the people he had to get around included Rick Santorum, Michele Bachmann and Herman Cain.

That was less like a presidential field and more like a therapy group.

In 20 Republican primary debates, the other candidates got a chance to pound Romney. But

Romney also got a chance to introduce himself to the American people. Which was the problem.

At a debate in December 2011, Romney decided that Texas Gov. Rick Perry had changed his position on something, and when Perry denied it, Romney said, “Rick, I'll tell you what.” Then Romney stuck out his hand and said, “Ten thousand bucks? \$10,000 bet?”

Good move, Mitt! Remind the American people that \$10,000 is chump change to you! Remind people that you have \$10,000 on you!

The debates were full of bad moments, especially for Perry, who was considered by the media to be an extremely formidable candidate until Perry got on stage and opened his mouth.

In one debate that many still remember, Perry could not name the third of three government agencies that he would shut down as president.

He had a 53-second “brain freeze” on live television and ended up saying, “Whoops!”

It is worth keeping in mind that Perry was not asked to name the three agencies by any of the journalists on stage. Perry raised the subject himself and then just drew a blank. At the end of his terrible freeze, he grinned. Though the press eviscerated him, to many viewers it seemed like a perfectly human and genuinely funny moment.

Which is why the Republicans now want to make sure it never happens again.

According to CNN, one Republican source says there is a “heavy appetite” not just to severely reduce the number of debates, but also to control which journalists get to ask questions.

“There is definitely a consensus ... to have less debates and have control over how and who we have run our debates,” the source said, “rather than just turning it over to X, Y or Z network and having a guy moderate who's going to just dog you for two hours.”

This is in keeping with the most important principle of modern politicking: control. Keep the candidate “in the box” as much as possible (fewer debates, fewer

news conferences), and make sure that you select a network and moderator that will be friendly and unchallenging.

The ideal 2016 debate, therefore, would go something like this:

ANNOUNCER: Coming to you live from the basement of Republican National Headquarters, an officially sanctioned debate moderated by Fox News Channel's Megyn Kelly!

MEGYN KELLY: My first question is to the entire panel: Is Santa Claus white?

TED CRUZ: I don't know if he's white, but he sure is fat. Just like Chris Christie.

CHRIS CHRISTIE: How about I come over there and bust your kneecaps?

RAND PAUL: I don't know if he is white, but I do know that he wants to cut the corporate tax in half to create millions of new jobs for the elves.

RICK PERRY: There are actually three Santas. They are sometimes called the Three Wise Men. They are Donder, Blitzen and um, um... (53-second brain freeze).

MEGYN KELLY: I think those are reindeer. But let me give you an easier question: What is your full name?

RICK PERRY: James Richard ... um ... um ... (53-second brain freeze).

MEGYN KELLY: You can't remember your last name?

RICK PERRY: Rick?

MEGYN KELLY: That's your nickname. What is your last name, Gov. Perry?

RICK PERRY: Governor?

MEGYN KELLY: And that's all the time we have! Join us in six months for our final debate: “Democrats: Threat or Menace?”

In reality, the secret to choosing a winning nominee in 2016 is the same for both parties: It is not fewer debates or mushier journalists. It is stronger candidates.

So good luck with that.

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

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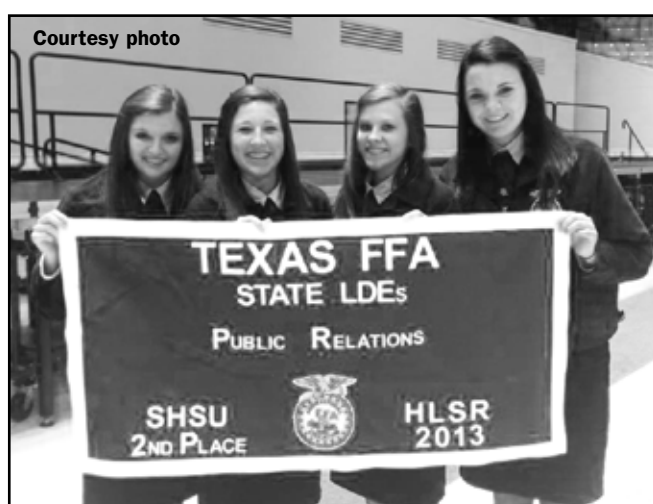
School News

Coahoma FFA team earn second at state

Coahoma FFA Public Relations Team - senior Savannah Neff, junior Rylie Jacobs, sophomore Julia Castilaw, and freshman Reagan VerSteege were second in state at FFA Leadership contest held in Sam Houston State University, Dec. 6-7.

This is the highest place Coahoma FFA has received at the state level. More than 314 teams participated in this event across the state.

Coahoma FFA Radio Broadcasting team of Savannah Neff, Rylie Jacobs and Reagan VerSteege were 6th in their heat at the state



competition, placing them in the top 16 state-wide finishers. There were 675 teams that competed across the state

"I am very proud as

you can probably imagine," said Aaron Custer FFA sponsor. This is a huge accomplishment." Coahoma FFA is led by Aaron Custer and TaLisa Richardson.

Big Spring ISD pride corner

What an amazing first semester we have had here at Big Spring ISD. Many exciting things have occurred and we could never have done it without the support of the community, our parents, and especially our students.

The Rotary International civic group has generously donated bicycles to each of our elementary campuses. Drawings will be held this week from all the students who have had perfect attendance this school year. Big Spring is proud to partner with Rotary to reward these students who have achieved this honor. We are also proud of these students and their parents.



HELOISE

Goliad Elementary

Goliad Elementary first grade students were treated to a reading of The Polar Express, by Chris Van Allsburg by Principal Michelle Schreiner.



Goliad has also adopted Canterbury Living Center as a community partner this year. The 4th and 5th grade Honor Choir treated residents to a concert this past week.

Merry Christmas from all of the staff at Big Spring ISD!

Melissa Miller is a educational diagnostician at Big Spring High School.



Moss Elementary School names student, teacher for November

Courtesy Photos

Moss Elementary employee of the month for November is Coach Ryan Lucas, pictured right top. He possesses many characteristics and attributes of an outstanding employee.

He is a very kind and caring individual who puts others first. He exercises classroom leadership and is very dedicated to his students. Ryan was selected by his peers at Moss.

Moss Elementary School star student of the Month for November is Abigail Diaz, pictured right bottom. Abigail is a kindergarten student in Ms. Nancy Leib's class. She has exemplified good character, respect, excellent behavior, observes the rules, and has great attendance



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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Three Vital Elements

North dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠AK872
♥Q6
♦94
♣AQJ3

WEST
♠106
♥98742
♦J53
♣652

EAST
♠QJ3
♥A105
♦10876
♣984

SOUTH
♠954
♥KJ3
♦AKQ2
♣K107

The bidding:
North East South West
1♠ Pass 3NT Pass
6NT

Opening lead — nine of hearts.

A squeeze is not really as mysterious as some players believe. Eventually, what happens is that declarer cashes his tricks and a defender finds he cannot discard without costing his side a trick.

The primary characteristic of most successful squeezes is that declarer finds himself in a position where he can win all the remaining tricks but one. Let's see how this applies to today's deal.

Before play starts, South has only nine ready-made winners, but after

West leads a heart and East takes the ace, South has 11 of the remaining 12 tricks. In other words, he has all the tricks but one, which alerts him to the possibility of a squeeze.

A second characteristic of a squeeze is that one opponent is burdened with having to guard two suits. Thus, in this hand, East has to protect both spades and diamonds. West, his partner, cannot help him in this regard, and might just as well be somewhere else.

A third characteristic is that when declarer eventually leads the card on which the squeeze will occur, there must be an entry to the hand opposite. This requirement is called communication, and without it the squeeze cannot work. Declarer has all three elements working for him in the present deal.

Let's say East returns a heart at trick two. South cashes two hearts and four clubs, and East is helpless when the last club is played. He must part with a spade or a diamond, and whichever one he discards, South acquires his 12th trick.

Observe that from the moment East takes the ace of hearts at trick one, there is nothing he can do to avoid this fate. All declarer has to do is to cash his heart and club winners and keep his entries to both hands intact, and poor East is a goner.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.

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Sudoku Answer on Page 12

sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box.

			7					
4	9		8		6	2	5	
				1		4	6	8
			1	8		6	3	
			2					4
6	3	8						9
		3	6	4	8		7	2
				9	2			
		4	3				9	

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6 Steers named to All-State

By **BRIAN MCCORMACK**

Sports Editor

Six Steer football players were selected to represent Big Spring by the voters of the Texas Associated Press Sports Editors at the Class 3A level.

The high volume of Steers making the All-State cut was symbolic of the season, according to Head Coach Phillip Ritchey. The Steers went 9-4 overall and won three district games — a major turnaround from the previous two seasons when Big Spring went 0-10 in district outings. It was good enough for the Steers to

earn their first postseason berth since 2009. They finally lost in the regional playoff round, but not before playing an epic, down-to-the-wire game against defending Class 3A champion Stephenville.

"It's a testament to how they played," said Head Coach Phillip Ritchey. "It means we had a real good team. When you play into the third round, more people get to see the kids play. It's a tribute to our program. There probably could have been even more guys that could have been on the list, but to me, they are all valuable."

Chosen for Second Team Defense

was senior Shaiem Menefield.

Menefield also played receiver and was a special team threat, but his work as a defensive back is what earned him state recognition. He forced four fumbles, intercepted seven passes and recorded 43 tackles.

"(Menefield) was a big part of our pass defense," Ritchey said. "He did a great job, defensively and led us in interceptions. He has a natural instinct to end up where the ball is."

Senior receiver Tate Kennedy and junior quarterback Tobyn Tannehill picked up honorable mentions on the offensive side of the ball.

"From his sophomore to his senior year, Tate is one of the improved players," Ritchey said. "He worked hard on his receiving game, he's a touchdown threat on every play. He was a priceless weapon to have. Playing into the third round, a lot of people got to see Tobyn play. They had heard of him, but they saw how well he was running and passing the ball. He's a great, dual-threat quarterback. He really came on the second half of the year."

See **STEERS**, Page 12



Tate Kennedy



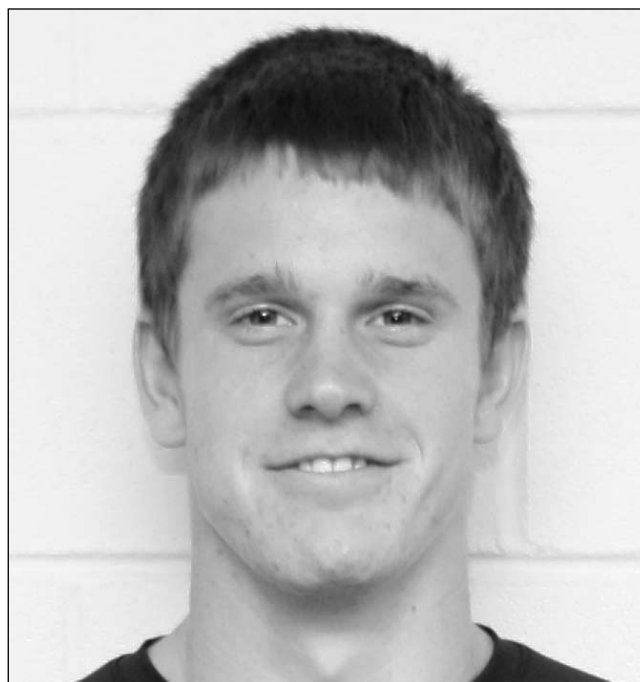
Chris Lindem



Shaiem Menefield



Devin Roberson



Tobyn Tannehill



Tyler Wigington

Koria, Torres recognized by Diamond Sports

HERALD staff reports

Howard College sophomore Elizabeth Torres has recently been named the NJCAA Division I Diamond Sports Catcher of the Year for the 2013 season while her teammate Micherie Koria was tabbed with

the Golden Shoe award for the most stolen bases in the season.

The National Fastpitch Coaches Association and Diamond Sports announced the winners of the awards in August but held the recognition ceremony earlier this month.

Torres, from Palm Dale, Calif., was previously recognized as a Second Team All American for her freshman season and was named to the WJCAC All Conference First Team and Region V All Region First Team.

"Liz is a coach's

dream," said Kelly Raines, Hawk softball head coach who was also nabbed as the WJCAC Coach of the Year. "She did an amazing job for us as our catcher in her freshman season. She has matured as a player and continued to improve and I know she will be a real leader for our team this year."

Torres batted .500 in her 2013 season, compiling 23 home runs and 96 RBIs. She crossed the plate 66 times during the season in 208 at-bats.

She ranked No. 2 in NJCAA Division I in RBIs, fifth in home runs, sixth in batting average and fifth in total bases with 184.

Koria, from Santee, Calif., not only set the record for Howard College in her final season with the Hawks churning out 66 stolen bases, but also had the most in the nation.

"Micherie battled back through injuries and just gave her heart and soul every time she stepped on the field," said Raines. "We knew if we could get her on base we always had a good chance of moving her around with her speed and tremendous knowledge of base running."

Koria graduated from Howard College after the 2013 season and has moved on to play soft-

ball for Angelo State University.

Diamond Sports Catcher of the Year award is presented annually to the top catcher from a NFCA member institution in each of the following divisions: NCAA (Divisions I, II, and III), NAIA, NJCAA (Divisions I, II, and III), Cal JC, NWAACC and high school.

A committee comprised of head coaches in each of the 10 divisions determines the winner of their respective award.

Torres will be leading the Lady Hawks back on the field this spring in her sophomore season as catcher.



HERALD file photos/Tony Claxton (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Left: Elizabeth Torres smacks her second home run of the game during an outing last season. Right: Micherie Koria steals a base during a game last season. Both Howard Hawks were awarded by Diamond Sports.

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*Got experience delivering? CSRs:
*Great part-time & full-time shifts
*Starting wage \$8.25 an hour
*Bright & Friendly people only!
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*Starting wage of \$10.00 an hour
*Flexible Schedules
Apply at Domino's Pizza
2111 S. Gregg St.
or send resume:
dominos@clearwire.net
Senior citizens & veterans encouraged to apply. EOE

ON SITE Manager needed for Cabins and RV Facility in Big Spring. Must have Management & Own RV and some computer skills. Send resume and references to curtis@curtissells.com

PARKPLACE RETIREMENT Living is looking for Cooks and Housekeeping to work in this family friendly environment. Please come by 501 W. 17th Street for a full job description of the positions and application.

PARKVIEW NURSING and Rehabilitation is now hiring for the following positions:
*Nurse Aides, both certified and non-certified.
*Laundry/Housekeeping
We are seeking individuals that want a rewarding career, where you actually make a difference. You may apply on line at www.parkviewnursing.net or in person at 3200 Parkway.

PART-TIME MAINT TECH needed for Property in Big Spring. Applicant must have strong organizational skills and enjoy working outdoors. Ability to work independently with minimal supervision. Hourly, Flex Schedule. Apply at Knollwood Heights 1900 Martin Luther King Blvd.

PIZZA INN
NOW HIRING COOKS. MUST BE AVAILABLE DAYS, NIGHTS, AND WEEKENDS. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE. APPLY IN PERSON AT 1702 GREGG.

PIZZA INN
NOW HIRING DELIVERY DRIVERS. MUST HAVE CLEAN DRIVING RECORD AND INSURANCE. MUST BE ABLE TO PASS DRUG TEST. MAKE UP TO \$12.00 PER HOUR. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE. APPLY IN PERSON AT 1702 GREGG.

PIZZA INN
NOW HIRING WAIT STAFF. MUST HAVE SUPER STAR PERSONALITY AND GREAT WORK ETHICS. MUST BE AVAILABLE TO WORK DAYS, NIGHTS, AND WEEKENDS. APPLY IN PERSON AT 1702 GREGG.

RUSTY'S OILFIELD Service In Stanton has immediate openings for Mechanic, CDL Driver, Roustabout Pushers and Helpers. Must have valid drivers license. Apply in person at 3327 W I20 in Stanton. 432-756-2821.

Help Wanted



SALES REPRESENTATIVE
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Apply at
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432-935-6755



SEEKING EXPERIENCED CNA's/Home Health Aide's to work for private duty clients. Must Pass Drug Test and Background Check. Please call 1-800-201-5904 Mon-Thu 8-5 and Fri 8-12.

THE CITY of Coahoma seeks a qualified individual to help with utility billing, customer service, sales and records keeping for cemetery. Computer skills including word and quickbooks preferred. Applicants must possess a high school diploma or GED. Salary is commensurate with experience.

Please send resume to cityofcoahoma@suddenlinkmail.com or pick up application at 122 N. 1st in Coahoma. Contact Coahoma City Hall @ 432-394-4287 if you have any questions.

TOP NOTCH Landscaping is Hiring for all positions. Experience preferred. Call (432)741-2330, Mon.-Fri. 8-5.

VARIOUS POSITIONS Open. Full and Part-time for Security Guards. College Students & Retirees welcomed. Must pass background & drug test. Call between 8am & 3pm leave message 432-816-4421.

WAREHOUSE MANAGER

Helena Chemical Company, a national agricultural-chemical company, has an immediate opening for a Warehouse Manager in our Big Spring office. This position requires a high school diploma, two years warehouse experience helpful but not necessary, supervisory and agricultural experience preferred. Responsibilities include warehouse operational procedures, inspecting physical condition of warehouse, equipment, and vehicles, maintenance of inventory and ensure all drivers conform to D.O.T. regulations. We offer an excellent working environment and outstanding compensation and benefits package.

For Consideration, please apply in person at Helena Chemical Company 100 S. St. Peter Stanton, Tx 79782
Pre-employment drug screen and motor vehicle check required.
EOE/M/F/V/H

WAREHOUSE/ DELIVERY Wanted for local Rental Store. Benefits include paid vacation, retirement & health insurance. Requirements are background check, drug screening, good driving record and be at least 19 years old. Starting pay \$8.50 per hour. Apply in person, Credit World, 1611 Gregg.

WELL SERVICING in Big Springs, Tx- Now hiring for Standard Energy Services. * Well Service Manager- experience required * Rig Crews- Operators, Derricks and Floor hands- experience required. Call Wesley at 432-209-5904 or the Andrews office at 432-523-2110 for more information. EEO

DON'T PAY

to find work before you get the job. For free information about avoiding employment service scams, write the Federal Trade Commission, Washington, DC 20580 or call the National Fraud Information Center, 800-876-7060.

Help Wanted

WESTERN BANK is seeking a **Full-Time Bookkeeper/Teller** in our Coahoma Branch. Experience preferred, but will train. Candidate should enjoy a high paced atmosphere with extensive contact with the public. Candidate should be proficient with ten key and Excel. Western Bank offers a comprehensive Benefits Package that includes matching 401K, health insurance, and paid vacation. Compensation is DOE. Western Bank is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Please email resume and/or application to HR@thebank.net or pick up an application at 500 W. Broadway in Coahoma. No phone calls please.

WESTERN BANK is seeking a self-motivated individual to join our team as a **Full Time Customer Service Representative** in our Big Spring Branch. Interested individuals should be proficient in Word and Excel, customer service driven as well as detail oriented. Prior experience is preferred, but not required. Benefits include health insurance, matching 401K, and Life and Disability. Please email resume to HR@thebank.net or pick up an application 607 S. Scurry in Big Spring. Western Bank is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Items for Sale

FOR SALE: Nice pool table, complete set, good condition- \$250.. Like New Slot Machine, 100% working- \$250.. Come by 1911 Scurry, 432-466-0800.

SEASONED OAK Firewood. \$350.00 Full Cord & \$190.00 Half Cord. Delivered and Stacked. Call 512-913-7406.

Lost and Found

FOUND MALE puppy, on Carleton Drive. Please call to describe and claim 432-263-4515.

National Ads

REDUCE YOUR CABLE BILL Get a 4-Room All-Digital Satellite system installed for FREE! Programming starting at \$19.99/MO. FREE HD/DVR upgrade for new callers. CALL NOW 866-735-4255.

Real Estate for Rent

1 & 2 BDRM APTS. furnished or unfurnished, All bills paid. 2 thru 6 bdrm Homes, 24Hr. maintenance, Pool, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, Washer/dryer connections. Also RV Spaces Available. Call (432)263-3461- Rosa.

1 BEDROOM Executive Apt. All bills paid, furnished, kitchenware, linens, TV and cable included. \$850. month, \$500. deposit. Call 432-816-3224.

1303 STANFORD, 2 Bdrm, 1 bath, CH/A, no pets. \$750.00 month, \$750.00 deposit. Call (432)816-5570 for application.

1700 SCURRY Commercial/ Residential- 3 bdrm, 2 bath, great parking, very clean. \$2000 month, \$2000 deposit. Call (432)213-2319.

2200 SOUTH MONTICELLO, 2 Bdrm, 1 bath, CH/A, no pets \$650. month, \$650. deposit. Call (432)816-5570 for application.

4104 MUIR. 2 bdr./ 2 bath, two living area's, CH/A. References required. \$1000 mo./ \$900 dep. Prefer Non-Smoker. No HUD. No Pets. Call 432-270-3849.

4111 DIXON- Newly remodeled- 3 bdrm, 2 bath, garage, CH/A, fenced yard. No pets in living area. \$1050.00 monthly plus deposit. One year lease required. Owner/Broker (432)263-6514.

807 EAST 16th, 1 bdr, 1 bath, Really Nice. All Appliance Furnished. CH/A. \$675.00 month and \$500.00 deposit. Call 432-517-2876.

AFFORDABLE COUNTRY Living- OASIS RV Park has Spaces & Travel Trailers for Rent. Call 432-517-0062 or 264-9907.

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COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT. 1000 sq. ft. in prime location on FM 700. \$900.00 a month and \$900.00 deposit. If interested, please call 432-213-3757.

DOWNTOWN LOFT for Lease 1700 plus sq. feet. Jacuzzi tub, extra large closets. \$1250 month plus deposit. 1 Year lease required. No pets/ smoker and no children please. Call (432)263-6514 Owner/Broker.

FOR LEASE 3222 FENN AVE. Beautiful new construction, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, stainless appliances, granite counter tops. Low maintenance yard. Any applicants must pay a \$30.00 tenant tracker. 1 year lease @ \$2000.00 per month with \$1,000.00 deposit. Non smoking, must have a \$500.00 pet deposit only one pet allowed. Call J. Rutledge Realty @ 432-714-4900.

NICE CLEAN Small Rental. \$650.00 month, All bills paid. Except propane. Call 432-213-4671 leave message.

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(432)263-6319

RV SPACES & RV'S for Rent at Ira RV Park. \$300.00 month for spaces and \$500.00 month for RV & Space. Call (432)257-7666.

VERY CLEAN---- 607 N. Main 2 bdrm, 2 bath. Washer, dryer, stove, refrigerator, microwave, carport. CH/A. Bills Paid. \$1500 month, \$1500 deposit. References Required. Call 432-213-2319.

Real Estate for Sale

3809 RICE Road, 1.6 acres, water well, 2900 sq. ft., 4 bdrm, 2 bath. \$186,500.00. Call 432-270-3426 for more info.

715 ANNA Street- Fixer upper. Needs a Little TLC. \$5,000.00 OBO. Call (432)213-5600 for more info...

FOR SALE, 1654 sq. ft. 3bdr/2bath, Granite counter tops, new construction, Coahoma School District. Move-in Ready in December. \$193,000.00, Call Jason 432-267-4700.

Owner Finance. Completely Remodeled Like New- 3/2, tile floors, 2210 Cecilia. Behind New Marcy School. \$139k, 10% down. Call (432)263-7923.



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5:PM	News ABC	Casa Notic.	Two Men	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News News	Seinfeld	Yohanan House	Charlie Rose	King/Hill Cleveland	Dual Survival	Christmas, Rosemary Clooney	Cops Cops	Castle	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Good Jessie	Around Pardon	SportsCenter
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Corazón Indomable	Big Bang Big Bang	News Ent	Caso Cerrado	News News	Seinfeld	Rik Zola Lev.	PBS News-Hour	Seinfeld Rules	Naked and Afraid		Cops Cops	Castle (DVS)	Husbands Husbands	Good Jessie	Herbies	
7:PM	Charlie Brown	Por Siempre	The X Factor	Big Bang Millers	Marido en Alquiler	The Sing-Off	Fam. Guy Upd	Fam. Guy Upd	Daytrip Just Seen	The Vampire Diaries	Naked and Afraid	Movie: Home Alone 2: Lost in New York	Cops Cops	NBA Basketball: Bulls at Thunder	Husbands Husbands	Star New Year	Women's College Volleyball	College Basketball
8:PM	20/20	Lo Que la Vida		Crazy Two Men	La Reina del Sur	Saturday Night Live	Big Bang Big Bang	Light of the Southwest	Luther: Tid-ings	Reign	Naked and Afraid		IMPACT Wrestling		Movie: Love Jones, Isaiah Washington	Shake It Dog Jessie Austin	Women's College Volleyball	High School Basketball
9:PM		Mentir Para Vivir	Mod Fam Mod Fam	(:01) Elementary	Santa Diabla (SS)		Big Bang Ground		Tree Lighting	Rules Seinfeld		(:31) Movie: Home Alone 2: Lost in New York	Glory 13 Cops	NBA Basketball: Spurs at Warriors	Husbands Wendy Williams	Good	Olbermann	SportsCenter
10:PM	News	Impacto	Arsenio Hall	News Letterman	Noticias Titulares	News Jay Leno	Conan	McGee Justice	Charlie Rose	Commun Called	Naked and Afraid		Cops Cops			Good		
11:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Noticiero Familia-Suerte	How I Met How I Met	Ferguson	La Reina del Sur	Jimmy Fallon	Ground Conan	Israel Upd	World T. Smiley	'70s '70s			Cops Cops			Good		
12:AM	Extra	Ni Contigo, Ni sin Ti	Raymond TMZ	Insider	Muecas Pagado	News	Office	BAS	(Off Air)	'Til Death Browns	Naked and Afraid	(12-01) Movie: Glory Road, Austin Nichols	Jail Jail	Inside the NBA	Movie: Dirty Laundry, Jenifer Lewis	Shake It ANT Farm Deck	Olbermann	SportsCenter
1:AM	Paid	Conducta	Law & Order: SVU	Ent	Pagado	(:06) Today	Movie: Not Another Teen	Light of the Southwest		Browns Paid	Naked and Afraid		Jail Jail	Law & Order		Herbies E:60		

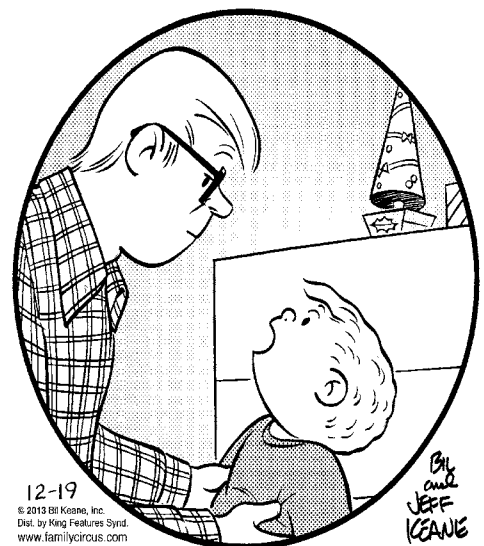
DENNIS THE MENACE



12-19
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"YOU'D THINK HE'D NEVER HAD GUM IN HIS BEARD BEFORE!"

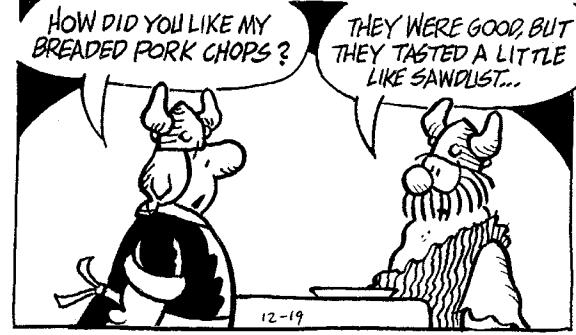
THE FAMILY CIRCUS



12-19
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"I know there's Buddy and Sneezy and Dopey and Hermey, but what are the names of Santa's other elves?"

HAGAR



12-19

HOW DID YOU LIKE MY BREADED PORK CHOPS?

THEY WERE GOOD, BUT THEY TASTED A LITTLE LIKE SANDLUST...

I WAS OUT OF BREAD CRUMBS

BLONDIE



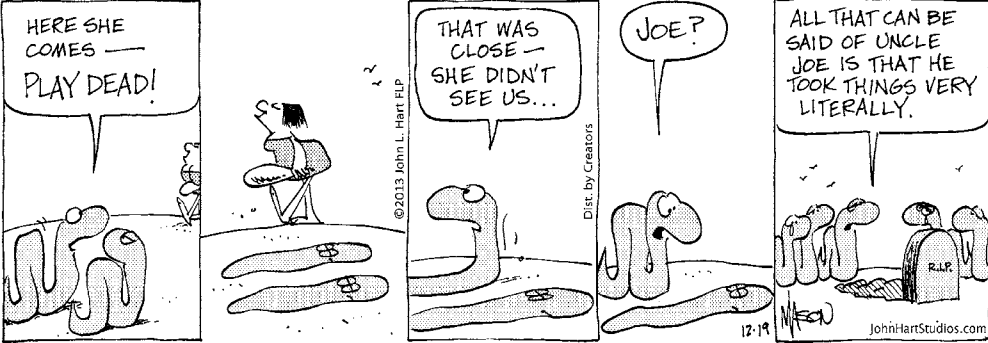
12-19

FOR HOURS I'VE STIRRED, HERE SNUG IN MY BED, WITH VISIONS OF COLD CUTS DANCING IN MY HEAD...

MY TUMMY DID RUMBLE, WITH SUCH A LOUD CLATTER, I SHOULD PROBABLY FIX IT A TASTY SNACK PLATTER...

(AND WHAT SHOULD I FIND TO FILL UP MY BELLY, BUT A SWEET RACK OF LAMB, AND A BOWL OF MINT JELLY)

BC



12-19

HERE SHE COMES — PLAY DEAD!

THAT WAS CLOSE — SHE DIDN'T SEE US...

JOE?

ALL THAT CAN BE SAID OF UNCLE JOE IS THAT HE TOOK THINGS VERY LITERALLY.

WIZARD OF ID



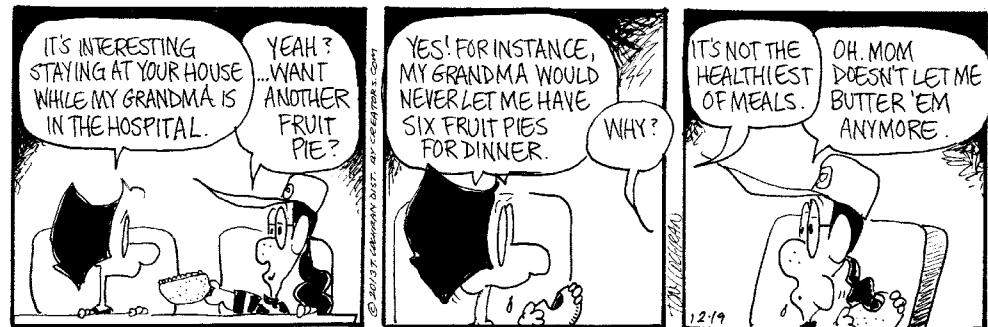
12-19

TODAY IS JULY 24!

UMM... YOU'RE OFF BY MANY MONTHS

OH, RIGHT! #00\$ LEAP YEAR

AGNES



12-19

IT'S INTERESTING STAYING AT YOUR HOUSE WHILE MY GRANDMA IS IN THE HOSPITAL.

YEAH? ...WANT ANOTHER FRUIT PIE?

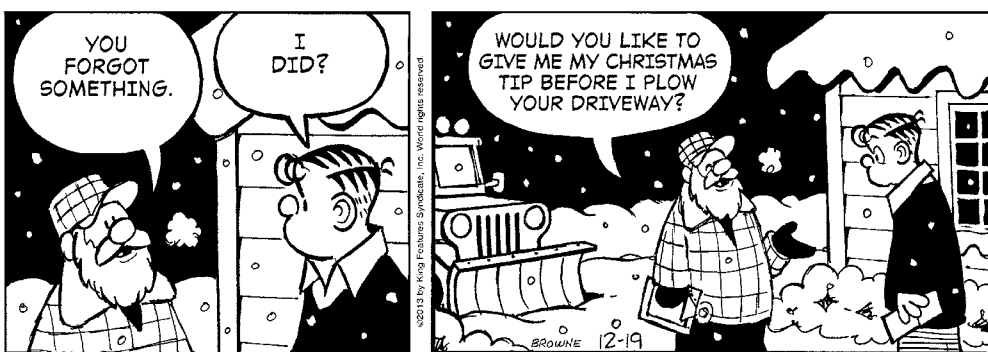
YES! FOR INSTANCE, MY GRANDMA WOULD NEVER LET ME HAVE SIX FRUIT PIES FOR DINNER.

WHY?

IT'S NOT THE HEALTHIEST OF MEALS.

OH, MOM DOESN'T LET ME BUTTER 'EM ANYMORE.

HI AND LOIS



12-19

YOU FORGOT SOMETHING.

I DID?

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GIVE ME MY CHRISTMAS TIP BEFORE I PLOW YOUR DRIVEWAY?

THE OTHER COAST



12-19

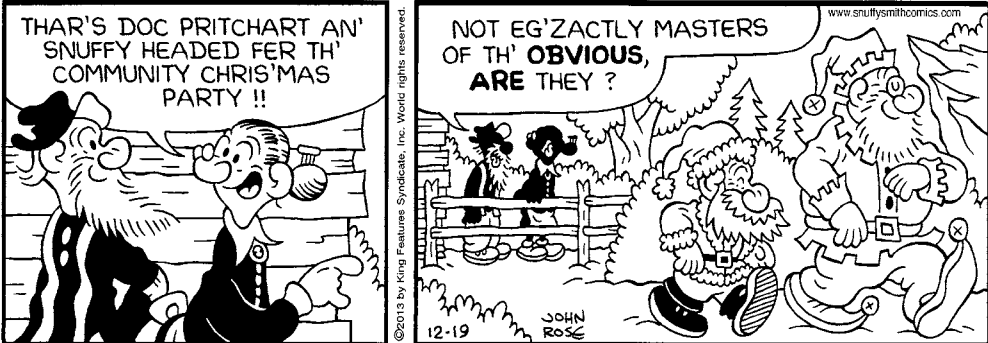
I'VE GOT THE SHEEP-HERDING MOVES DOWN. I JUST HAVE TO PRACTICE MY BORDER COLLIE STARE.

GO AWAY, KOKO. YOU'RE MAKING ME NERVOUS.

SO, DO YOU THINK YOU CAN STARE DOWN A SHEEP?

MORE LIKELY, I'D JUST CREEP IT OUT.

SNUFFY SMITH



12-19

THAR'S DOC PRITCHART AN' SNUFFY HEADED FER TH' COMMUNITY CHRIS'MAS PARTY !!

NOT EG'ZACTLY MASTERS OF TH' OBVIOUS, ARE THEY?

BEETLE BAILEY



12-19

WHERE'S BEETLE? HE WAS SUPPOSED TO BE AT CLASS AN HOUR AGO.

I NEVER SAW HIM GET UP

WOW! THAT CAMOUFLAGE COURSE MUST BE GREAT!

THEY SAY I'M A NATURAL

This Date In History

Today is Thursday, Dec. 19, the 353rd day of 2013. There are 12 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 19, 1843, "A Christmas Carol," by Charles Dickens, was first published in England.

On this date:

In 1777, Gen. George Washington led his army of about 11,000 men to Valley Forge, Pa., to camp for the winter.

In 1813, British forces captured Fort Niagara during the War of 1812.

In 1910, the artificial fiber rayon was first commercially produced by the American Viscose Co. of Marcus Hook, Pa.

In 1932, the British Broadcasting Corp. began transmitting overseas with its Empire Service to Australia.

In 1946, war broke out in Indochina as troops under Ho Chi Minh launched widespread attacks against the French.

In 1950, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower was named commander of the military forces of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

In 1961, former U.S. Ambassador Joseph P. Kennedy Sr., 73, suffered a debilitating stroke while in Palm Beach, Fla.

In 1972, Apollo 17 splashed down in the Pacific, winding up the Apollo program of manned lunar landings.

In 1974, Nelson A. Rockefeller was sworn in as the 41st vice president of the United States.

In 1984, a fire at the Wilberg Mine near Orangeville, Utah, killed 27 people. Britain and China signed an accord returning Hong Kong to Chinese sovereignty on July 1, 1997.

In 1986, Lawrence E. Walsh was appointed independent counsel to investigate the Iran-Contra affair.

In 1998, President Bill Clinton was impeached by the Republican-controlled House for perjury and obstruction of justice (he was later acquitted by the Senate).

Thought for Today: "I never could see why people were so happy about Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol' because I never had any confidence that Scrooge was going to be different the next day." — Dr. Karl Menninger, American psychiatrist (1893-1990).

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Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

1 Latin dance

6 Obi-Wan portrayer

10 Antarctica's ___ Sea

14 Not adorned

15 Zip

16 Dept. of Labor arm

17 Kid's doorway prank

19 Drain issue

20 Tread the boards

21 Grantham's *Downton Abbey* title

22 Territory that became two states

24 The beginning

26 Feathered mimic

27 Before now

28 Arab League member

31 Bogus

34 Lavish gathering

35 Bummer

37 Cast out

38 Alternate title for this puzzle

39 Auto at auction, perhaps

40 French novelist

41 Holiday lead-ins

42 Talked fondly

43 Harmonized

45 Online guffaw

46 Swordfight

47 On the statuesque side

51 Athens rival

54 Part of the Corn Belt

55 Picnic pest

56 Spanish girl

57 Fishing gear

60 Being aired

61 Brought to court

62 Dwindle

63 Starting point

64 Major spans

65 Fairgoer of rhyme

DOWN

1 Surf feature

2 *Dilbert* engineer

3 Tropical ray

4 Very generous

5 Kind of comparison

6 Physicist Ampère

7 Some shortening

8 End of USC's URL

9 Vending machine selection

10 Music genre

11 Home for Ibsen

12 Chance to win

13 Heroic tale

18 Toddler's taboo

23 Santa __, CA

25 Make a scene

26 Blends together

28 Like freeways

29 Crunchy ice-cream topping

30 Scruff

31 What might come out of Kermit's neck

32 Managed care grps.

33 Overly suave

34 Court tool

36 Word on all US coins

38 Prepare for performance

42 See 52 Down

44 Use scissors

45 Grassy expanse

47 Some pond creatures

48 Type of girder

49 Take care of

50 Actress Hunt

51 Stuck-up sort

52 With 42 Down, tropical drinks

53 Tiny tunnelers

54 New thought

58 ___ Planet (UN mag)

59 Ballpark stat

Answer to previous puzzle

ABAD	WICK	MACRO
BASE	IRON	ELMER
BLAME	GAME	ATONE
RIPSAW	PENNANTS	
	TAD	AIR
WELCOME	HOME	MIT
ALIEN	PARE	MESH
FOND	AURAS	ALLY
EPEE	STET	STEAM
RED	RHYMES	SCHEME
	CUE	DNA
CLARINET	ERASER	
HELEN	TIMEFRAME	
AGAPE	NEAR	ANTS
POSED	ARTS	BEST

AP rundown of the BCS bowl games

(AP) — This is it, the final go-round for the BCS.

The much-maligned system for determining college football's national champion will be mothballed after this season, replaced by a four-team playoff next season.

As finales go, it's hard to argue too much about the final title-game participants. Florida State was the only major-conference team to finish undefeated and Auburn had the best resume of the one-loss teams.

That's the big one, but of course there are 34 other bowls, starting with four on Saturday, that will feature plenty of other good teams, star players and interesting match-ups.

To get you ready, we've got a rundown of what to look for:

TOP GAMES

BCS National Championship, Florida State vs. Auburn, Jan. 6, Pasadena, Calif. Duh.

Sugar Bowl, Alabama vs. Oklahoma, Jan. 2, New Orleans. Two storied programs that fell short of their national-title aspirations are still pretty good.

Orange Bowl, Ohio State vs. Clemson, Jan. 3, Miami. Teams that

are a combined 45-5 since the start of last season and among the highest-scoring in college football.

Rose Bowl, Stanford vs. Michigan State, Jan. 1, Pasadena, Calif. If you like smash-mouth, defensive-minded football, this is your game. AdvoCare V100 Bowl, Arizona vs. Boston College, Dec. 31, Shreveport, La. So what's so exciting about two 7-5 teams? Two All-American running backs going at each other: Arizona's Ka'Deem Carey and BC's Andre Williams.

TOP PLAYERS

Jameis Winston, QB, Florida State. Won the Heisman Trophy, playing for a national championship. Not a bad freshman season.

AJ McCarron, QB, Alabama. There will be no three-peat as national champion, but he's been as good a college quarterback as we've seen in a while.

C.J. Mosley, LB, Alabama. Collects tackles like baseball cards.

Ka'Deem Carey, RB, Arizona. Second nationally in yards per game, runs like he's trying to punish defenders for daring to tackle him.

Johnny Manziel, QB, Texas A&M. Last year's

Heisman winner could be making his last hurrah in the Chick-Fil-A Bowl against Duke.

Will Sutton, DT, Arizona State. Arguably the most disruptive interior lineman in the country.

Brandin Cooks, WR, Oregon State. All-American can turn the simplest of routes into a score.

SPONSORS

Food is king among bowl sponsors for the third straight season.

The 2013-14 bowl season includes seven bowls with food affiliations, from potatoes to pizza to wild wings.

Second on the list are financial companies with six and auto-related companies are third with five.

This year's bowl lineup also includes a helicopter company, a university, a defense contractor, a department store and a cause (Fight Hunger).

ODDS

The folks at Glantz-Culver have made Florida State a decided favorite over Auburn in the national championship game at 8 1-2 points.

In the other bowls, the biggest spread is the Fiesta Bowl, where Baylor is a 16 1-2-point favorite

over Central Florida. Right behind is the Pin-stripe Bowl, with Notre Dame giving away 15 1-2 points to Rutgers. Alabama also is a 15-point favorite over Oklahoma in the Sugar Bowl.

Tightest odds? San Diego State and Buffalo are a pick 'em in the Fa-

mous Idaho Potato Bowl and three other bowls — Cotton, New Orleans and Capital One — all have 1-point spreads.

DISTANCES

Florida State and Auburn will have to make quite a road trip to play for the final BCS cham-

pionship despite being about 200 miles apart.

The Seminoles will cover about 2,200 miles to get to the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, Calif., and the Tigers have a trip of roughly 2,100 miles to get there.

See **BCS**, Page 12

Spirit of Christmas Food Drive

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BCS

Continued from Page 11

That’s still not the longest road trip to a bowl. That distinction belongs to Boise State, which will travel about 2,800 miles to play Oregon State in the Hawaii Bowl.

Central Florida also has a long trip ahead of it before the Fiesta Bowl, needing to go over 2,100 miles to get from Orlando to Glendale, Ariz.

Tulane has the shortest trip, staying in New Orleans for its bowl, but its opponent, Louisiana-Lafayette, doesn’t exactly have to go far, traveling about 130 miles for the New Orleans Bowl.

Rutgers has a short trip over about 45 minutes across the Hudson River — depending on traffic — for the Pinstripe Bowl against Notre Dame and Maryland should be able to get to the Military Bowl in Annapolis in about a half hour. North Texas has a similar drive to play in the Heart of Dallas Bowl.

NUMBERS

Two female officials (Sarah Thomas and Maia

Chaka) working the Fight Hunger Bowl, a first for an FBS game.

13-years since UNLV played in a bowl game. The Rebels will face North Texas in the Heart of Dallas Bowl.

56-years since Rice had won an outright conference title before taking the Conference USA championship this season.

624.5 yards of offense per game by Baylor, most in the nation this season by over 50 yards and second-most all-time to the 624.9 by Houston in 1989.

4,866 passing yards by Fresno State’s Derek Carr, which led the nation.

STEERS

Continued from Page 6

Senior Devin Roberson was selected for the second straight year. Also a kicker and receiver, Roberson was listed at two positions — safety and punter — and one of three Steers earning honorable mentions on the defensive side.

“Devin is one of the best all-around athletes in the state in our classification,” Ritchey said. “He could have easily been on there in a third position.”

Senior Tyler Wigington and Chris Lindem rounded out the defensive trio.

The veteran linebacker Wigington led the Steers in total tackles and Lindem was always pushing himself to get better, Ritchey explained.

“Tyler is a three-year starter,” he said. “This is just the icing on the cake for his career. I’m

very happy to see him receive this award. I’m happy for Chris because he worked so hard. He watched just as much, if not more, film than anyone on the team. He put in preparation time like no other. He was kind of the quarterback up front.”

Only one All-State selection — QB Tannehill — will be back next season, but Ritchey is confident that the Steers will again be a force on the gridiron, in part because of the leadership displayed by the

graduating class.

“Obviously, the seniors are leaving big shoes to fill,” Ritchey added. “They really raised the bar for our program and our expectations. We have a lot of guys looking forward to fill those shoes. We’ll definitely miss them, not only as players, but people.

Scholastically, eight Steers were recognized for there efforts in the classroom by being named to Academic All-

State.

Brett Brorman, Tony Solis and Roberson received First Team honors, Wigington was the lone Second Team selection and four Steers — Matt Beal, Nick Gonzalez, Jahari Vanover and Drake Worthan were honorable mentions.

Contact Sports Editor
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e-mail at sports@big-springherald.com

sudoku

ANSWERS

8	6	5	7	2	4	9	1	3
4	9	1	8	3	6	2	5	7
3	7	2	9	1	5	4	6	8
2	4	7	1	8	9	6	3	5
1	5	9	2	6	3	7	8	4
6	3	8	4	5	7	1	2	9
9	1	3	6	4	8	5	7	2
7	8	6	5	9	2	3	4	1
5	2	4	3	7	1	8	9	6

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

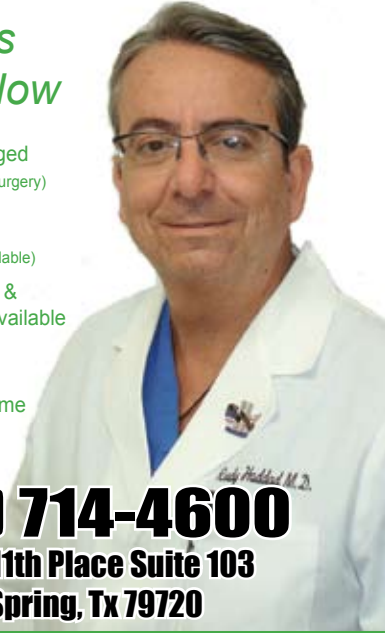
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QUESTION OF THE WEEK!!

What is your favorite Christmas Movie?

Melissa Martin The original Rudolph the red nosed Reindeer.
Danelle Castillo Christmas Carol.
Jennifer Tabors Scott The Christmas shoes.
Stacey Driver Its a Charlie Brown Christmas
Denise Harris McComb Miracle on 34th St.
Sheila D. Underwood Love Actually.
Shelly Brasel Love Actually
Shandi Huittt "A Christmas Story".
Dondee Zamora-Vela How the grinch stole Christmas
Jennifer De Los Santos Charlie Brown :)
Sandra Hernandez A Christmas story
Felipa Salazar A Christmas Story !!!!!
Carmen Cervantes Polar Express!
Eric Norman Jingle All The Way
Heather Fonda The grinch
Schemickia Hayes The Grinch that stole Christmas
Carol Callaway It's A Wonderful Life!
Terry Wilcox National lampoon Christmas
Pat Collins The Family Stone!
Sally Grove It's a Wonderful life.
Gwen Ray White Christmas
Starla Ayala It's a Wonderful Life !!
Belinda Garcia Mickey mouse w Mr Grinch that stole Christmas!!
Kimberly Kennemur 3 Godfathers starring John Wayne
Tonie Munoz Frosty the snowman
Valerie Ullman Avery It's a Charlie Brown Christmas.
Sylvia Rodriguez National lampoons Christmas vacation
Melinda Melie Garcia Rudolph The Red Noise Rendeer
Tessa Olague the scrooge
Misty Biddle "A Charlie Brown Christmas"
Michael Barnett Die hard
Albert Cavazos miracle on 34th street
Terri Lawson Coney White Christmas and A Christmas Story
Jessica Rojo Miracle on 34th street (1994)
Gomez Addams A Christmas Story.8)
Marla Paredez Elf
Ashley Yanez A Christmas story
Roselia Mata Ramirez Miracle on 34th st.
Hector Sotelo The road to Christmas
Sharon DeAnda It's a Wonderful Life
Sunni Seay Davidson Ruddolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer
Tyler Sheppard The Grinch that Stole Christmas
Kimmy Huff National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation
Katee Rubio Elf
Ruth Privett Home Alone
Erika R. Garcia A Christmas Story!!
Josephine Garcia Miracle on 34th Street
Christine Cook november christmas
Arthena Jones White Christmas
Roxanne Gamez charlie brown a christmas carol
Sonya Worthan Metcalf Miracle on 34th St
John Nieto A Christmas Story.
Carmen Hernandez A miracle on 34th street
Destiny Robles The Grinch who stole Christmas :)
L.I. Carson A Christmas Story
Tessa Jean The santa clause 1,2 and 3 with Tim Allen
Melissa Edmondson Rich A Christmas Story
Tina White Miracle on 34th street
Cheryl Hill Overton Christmas vacation with Chevy chase
Cody Moore The polar express
Rosalinda DeLeon Ybarra Miracle on 34th street
Jessie Payen A christmas story
Cara Statham-gill Ghost of Christmas past
John Perez It's a Wonderful Life
Terri Lowe A wonderful. Life
Jennifer LaRue Cox The original Christmas Carol
Delores Villa "Charlie Brown Christmas"
Rebecca Fryar Henderson 10 Commandments.
Jerry Watkins The grinch
Peggy Daratt The original Miracle on 34th street or Silver Bells
Dennis Cummings Bad Santa
Lori West Bennington It's a Wonderful Life.
Kristina Elizabeth Mereness A Christmas story and its a wonderful life
Brittnee Patryce Rios A Christmas story and the grinch
Joe Juarez 8 crazy nights
Cristy LaRue Archer <--- A Christmas Story
Rose Saenz How the grinch stole christmas
TJ Munoz How The Grinch Stole Christmas!
Aarika Marin The grinch
Liz Haffley Christmas Vacation
Ron Phillips Miracle in the Wilderness
Tony Baccari A Christmas Story
Laura Garcia Carlsen A wonderful life!
Patricia Kay Elliott The Christmas story
Brian Wingert A Christmas Story
Len Sollars Charlie brown Christmas
Jesi Winter Coates Home Alone
Erica Lanspery Cervantes A Christmas Story!
BertnLou Gonzales Miracle On 34th St.
Chris Hogg A Christmas Story
Kylie Da Lynn Soles-King Elf :)
Christina Saucedo National lampoon Christmas
Rebecca Medina Home Alone
Connie Cowart The Bishops Wife
Amie Walters Soles The Holiday!
Whitney Gressett Elf
Christian Rojas-Fair The Holiday
Juana Puga Toledo Miracle on 42st
Tina Smith Saucedo Christmas vacation
Melvin Berry The Grinch who stole Christmas
Amanda-Manuel Rodriquez A Christmas Story
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Steven Waldie Home Alone
Debbye Salazar ValVerde It's a Wonderful Life
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