

BIG SPRING

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At the Crossroads of West Texas

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

TUESDAY

September 16, 2003

WEATHER

Tonight:



PARTLY CLOUDY

TONIGHT TOMORROW
65°-68° 90°-92°

BRIEFLY

VETERANS HOME ACTIVITY

The Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home is holding an open house at the home's Alzheimer's-care wing Sunday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Staff members will be conducting tours of the facility.

Live entertainment will be provided by musician Clint Brown. There will also be door prizes, the grand opening of the home's gift shop and various wings at the home will receive new names. The public is invited to attend.

UNITED WAY LUNCHEON

Tickets for the United Way of Big Spring and Howard County luncheon rally are now on sale.

The luncheon is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 23, at the First United Methodist Church Garret Hall, 400 Scurry, and the guest speaker is Don Maynard, a former New York Jets wide receiver in the Joe Namath era and a Colorado City high school graduate.

Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased at the United Way office, 808 Scurry St., or at the Chamber of Commerce.

SANDS HOMECOMING SET

Reservations are being accepted for the Sands/Ackerly homecoming, which will be held Saturday, Sept. 27.

Registration will begin at 9 a.m. that day, followed by a business meeting at 10:30 in the auditorium. A catered lunch will be served at noon in the cafeteria. Visitation will take place in the afternoon.

To make reservations, notify Sissy Jones at 267-7732 or jsjones@apex2000.net. The deadline is Sept. 18.

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To reach us, please call 263-7331. Office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call 263-7335 before 7 p.m. on weekdays and 11 a.m. on Sunday.

Delegation feels VAMC cause aided by D.C. visit

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

A small Big Spring delegation said critical information delivered to VA Undersecretary of Health Robert Roswell during a meeting Thursday helped the case of keeping the Big Spring VA Medical Center open.

"I think we brought compelling information to them and I felt halfway through our morning meeting (with Roswell)... the tenor of that meeting changed tremendously," said Big Spring Mayor Russ McEwen.

The three-person delegation

"I think we brought compelling information to them and I felt halfway through our morning meeting, the tenor of that meeting changed tremendously."



McEWEN

met with Roswell to find out the reason why his office recommended a feasibility study to consider shifting VA health care services to the Midland/Odessa

area. "At that meeting, Undersecretary Roswell indicated to us there was such a disparity in the population centers in

Howard County compared to Ector and Midland counties that they felt like it was necessary to look at this position," McEwen said.

The recommendation was part of a national draft plan by the Capital Assets Realignment for Enhanced Services (CARES) Commission to realign the Department of Veteran's Affairs health care services.

McEwen said the undersecretary's conclusion to move the hospital toward a more populated area is understandable if only

See VISIT, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins

Crossroads Housing Development Corp. Executive Director Paul Pryor goes over goals set for the Fresh Start program.

Fresh Start Program still needs houses for renovation efforts

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

The Crossroads Housing Development Corp. has plenty to be proud of when it comes to its Fresh Start Program, but the battle to improve housing in the Big Spring area is far from over.

"The program began last July, and we've completed four houses so far and we have four other properties that we're lined up to remodel as well," said Crossroads Housing Development Corp. Executive Director Paul Pryor. "With the two main sources for funds that we've been able to line up, the program has become quite a success."

Pryor said the program recently picked up two more properties, compliments of local

For more information on the Fresh Start Program, call 267-2206.

attorney Robert Miller.

"He had heard about the Fresh Start Program and our need for abandoned properties," said Pryor. "He happened to have existing property that he wasn't going to fix up and try to rent, so he donated those to the program."

The Fresh Start Program is funded by Federal Home Loan Bank in Dallas through a sponsorship by Wells Fargo, as well as a grant from the Meadows Foundation in Dallas.

"We're currently under con-

tract to remodel 10 houses, and we have four completed and four properties ready to begin," he said. "That means we still need two more houses to meet the contractual obligation of the grants we've received. We're hoping we can find someone like Mr. Miller that will step up and give us the other two properties."

The Fresh Start Program has undergone several changes since its inception, and according to Pryor, they benefit not only the program but the students that make it all happen.

"Originally we were going to use at-risk young people," said Pryor. "Youth that had dropped out of school and that sort of thing. In conjunction with Howard College and the Texas

See FRESH START, Page 3A

Big Spring among cities with drop in sales tax rebates

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Six of 19 area communities saw their rebates from the State Comptroller's Office for September decline when compared to a year ago.

Big Spring was among those six communities, experiencing a 0.41 percent decrease. The city received \$265,271.95 this month compared to \$266,390.29 in September of 2002.

For the year, Howard County has received \$2,729,605.52, 5.09 percent off the pace of a year ago. Coahoma experienced a whopping 61.05 percent increase in

rebates this month. The community received \$4,558.84, compared to \$ 2,830.57 for September 2002. The community has received \$31,597.00 for the year, up 7.58 percent after a rocky first quarter.

Forsan also continued to see rebates rise. Rebates were up 49.62 percent. The community received \$4,458.64, compared to \$2,979.78 in September 2002. For the year, Forsan has received \$34,761.71, up 30.94 percent.

Meanwhile, Stanton broke its decline. The Martin County seat had seen double-digit deficits for four of the first sixth months of the year. This time, the commu-

nity received \$8,650.16, up 18.47 percent from the \$7,301.06 received a year ago. For the year, Stanton has received \$74,886.74, off last year's pace by 13.94 percent.

Abilene received \$2,148,281.90 this month, up 5.20 percent compared to the \$2,041,940.22 received in September of 2002. The year-to-date total is \$19,536,079.68, up just 1.52 percent.

Andrews continued to see a drop in rebates — 15.94 percent this month. The city received \$65,821.15 compared to \$78,310.52 in September of 2002. For the year, Andrews has taken in

\$648,511.52, a drop of 27.48 percent.

Brownfield received \$58,931.63, up 7.61 percent when compared to \$54,761.66 in September 2002. Brownfield has taken in \$586,195.43 for the year, up 7.01 percent.

Colorado City noted a 9.56 percent increase in rebates, comparing \$32,629.10 received this month to \$29,779.90 received in September 2002. The Mitchell County seat has received \$304,199.02 this year, down 0.28 percent compared to last year.

Fort Stockton enjoyed another

See REBATES, Page 3A

CARES

Some spots still available on charter bus to VA hearing

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

A few more people may still be able to squeeze in on the bus leaving Wednesday for the Capital Assets Realignment for Enhanced Services (CARES) Commission's El Paso hearing.

"We still might have a few places left, but you need to call the Chamber of Commerce early and check," said Pam Welch, Moore Development for Big Spring assistant director.

Welch reminded those who plan to take their own vehicle to contact the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce to take advantage of hotel group discount rates.

To encourage community participation at the hearing, Moore Development and the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce arranged a charter bus trip to the hearing.

Part of the recommendation of the CARES national draft to realign the Department of Veteran's Affairs medical services was to close inpatient surgical care at the Big Spring facility and conduct a feasibility study to shift medical care services to the Midland/Odessa area — a proposal that, if enacted, would essentially bring about the closure of the Big Spring VA Hospital.

That possibility means a depletion from the community of 500-plus jobs and \$32 million payroll the Big Spring VAMC produces annually.

Welch encourages everyone attending to contact the Chamber so they can be involved with a coordinated show of support at the El Paso meeting.

The bus will leave on the overnight trip Wednesday at 1 p.m. from the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum parking lot, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Each person is responsible for hotel rooms and meals.

No fare will be charged for the

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Take note

□ The Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home is holding an open house at the home's Alzheimer's-care wing Sunday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Staff members will be conducting tours of the facility.

Live entertainment will be provided by musician Clint Brown. There will also be door prizes, the grand opening of the home's gift shop and various wings at the home will receive new names. The public is invited to attend.

□ The Texas Cooperative Extension in Howard County is offering a food manager certification training course. This two-day program will be offered on Nov. 12-13 at the Howard County Library. Classes will start at 8 a.m. on each day. You must register before Oct. 21. The cost is \$79 and includes training, materials, and the safe food manager certification examination.

This program is designed to not only prepare food-service managers to pass the certification examination; it will provide valuable education regarding the safe handling of food. Almost 50 cents of every dollar Americans spend on food is spent on meals prepared away from home. Therefore, careful attention to food safety will help keep customers safe and satisfied.

Foodborne illnesses are estimated to cost thousands of dollars in lost wages, insurance, and medical bills. With these statistics, knowledge of how to prevent foodborne illness is essential.

□ A FUND HAS BEEN set up to help defray medical costs for Heidrun Meiser who underwent cancer surgery. The account is at American State Bank, P.O. Box 271, Big Spring 79720. The bank's physical address is 1411 Gregg.

□ A FUND HAS BEEN established at Wells Fargo bank to help defray medical costs of Carl Newell of Big Spring. While undergoing neck surgery, it was discovered that Newell has Hepatitis C. Funds are needed for tests and treatment. Newell has no insurance and is unable to work.

□ A CANCER FUND HAS been set up at First Bank of West Texas, 1810 FM 700, in Big Spring for long-time Forsan resident Clarence Williams.

□ BIG SPRING AND SURROUNDING counties are in critical need of foster families.

Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected.

For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 263-9669.

□ THE MOBILE MEALS PROGRAM, which delivers to the elderly and homebound, needs volunteers to deliver meals.

If you can spare one hour per week to deliver eight or 10 meals, you are needed.

About 85 to 90 meals are prepared, packaged and delivered to recipients within the city limits of Big Spring.

If you can volunteer, please call 263-4016 before 3 p.m.

□ ROAD TO RECOVERY DRIVERS WANTED.

Volunteer drivers are needed to transport cancer patients to and from treatments. If you can spare a few hours each month, please consider volunteering to drive somebody along the Road to Recovery. For more information about volunteering or if you are a cancer patient in need of the service, call La Wanda Hamm, 263-7827.

□ SPRING TABERNACLE CHURCH, 1209 Wright, has free food for the area needy.

Distribution is scheduled from 10 a.m. to noon

Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 6-16-17-20-31.
Number matching five of five: None.
Next Cash 5 drawing: Tonight.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night:
4-6-2

Correction

Monday's edition of the *Herald* incorrectly listed Shane Thomas Estes, Richard David McCutchan, Scotty Ray Bland and Elizabeth Haro as being arrested on a motion to revoke parole. The charge should have read motion to revoke probation.

The engagement announcement of Sara Lusk and Justin Myers which ran in the *Herald's* Sunday edition should have listed Mr. Myers as the son of Dr. John and Kay Myers of Big Spring and the grandson of Steve and Teresa Green of Levelland.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity from noon Monday until 8 a.m. Tuesday:

- GARY STEVEN HARRIS, 20, of 529 Hillside, was arrested Sunday on a charge of driving under the influence - minor.
- SANTIAGO CANTU, 29, of 305 W. 19th Street, was arrested Sunday on charges of driving while intoxicated and driving while license suspended.
- ASSAULT was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87.

Sheriff's report

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

- ATTEMPT TO PASS/FORGERY was reported in the 100 block of E. Third Street.
- MINOR ACCIDENT was reported in the area of High School Drive.
- CHILD CUSTODY was reported in the 3800 block of N. Highway 87.
- LOOSE HORSE was reported in the area of N. Salem Road.
- DOG BITE was reported in the 1600 block of N. Martin Luther King Boulevard.
- SHOTS FIRED was reported in the 300 block of Brooks Road.
- ASSAULT was reported in the 1600 block of Martin Luther King Boulevard.
- LOOSE LIVESTOCK was reported in the area of F.M. 818 and Stallings Road.
- RECKLESS DRIVER was reported in the area of Interstate Highway 20.
- DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported in the 5200 block of Sterling Road.
- ILLEGAL DUMPING was reported in the 1900 block of N. Birdwell.
- WANTED SUBJECT was reported in the area of the San Franciscan Bar and Grill.

Support groups

MONDAY

□ Area Agency on Aging of the Permian Basin will hold a self-help support group for care givers in Howard County on Tuesday.

The meeting will be held at Canterbury Retirement Homes Inc., 1700 Lancaster, from 5:30 p.m. until 7 p.m. For more information, call Raynetta Williams, caregiver coordinator, at (432) 563-1061 or (800) 491-4636 or locally call Debbie Read at Home Hospice at (432) 264-7599.

This group is open to the public and funded by the Texas Department on Aging.

THURSDAY

□ Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, 12 noon to 1 p.m.; Women's meeting; 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Non-Smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 to 9 p.m.

□ Fibromyalgia/Chronic Fatigue Support Group meets at noon at the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center.

FRIDAY

□ AA open discussion meeting from noon to 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Noon Open Big Book Study Meeting, 8 to 9 p.m.

SATURDAY

□ Open Discussion Meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open Podium/Speakers Meeting 615 Settles 8 to 9 p.m. Open Birthday Night, No Smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m.

SUNDAY

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

□ Surviving Pregnancy Loss meets the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Howard County Library Committee Room. Call 631-4430 for more information.

Weather

Tonight — Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 60s. South winds 5 to 10 mph.

Wednesday — Partly cloudy. Highs around 90. South winds 5 to 15 mph.

Wednesday night — Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 60s.

Thursday — Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 80s.

Friday — Partly cloudy with a slight chance of thunderstorms. Lows in the upper 50s. Highs in the upper 70s.

Saturday — Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 50s. Highs in the low 80s.

Sunday through Monday — Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 50s. Highs in the mid 80s.

Bulletin board

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

TODAY

Big Spring Rotary, noon, Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

Big Spring Art Association, 7 p.m., Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.

Big Spring Eastern Star, 7:30 p.m., Masonic Lodge, 219 Main.

Big Spring Choir Boosters, 7:30 p.m., high school choir room, 707 11th Place. All parents are encouraged to attend.

WEDNESDAY

Optimist Club, 7 a.m., Howard County Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

Senior Circle Stretch & Tone, 10 a.m., Scenic Mountain Medical Center, 1601 W. 11th Place.

Downtown Lions Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

Bus trip to CARES Commission hearing in El Paso, leaves at 1 p.m. from the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum parking lot, 1001 Birdwell Lane. For more information or to make a reservation and take advantage of motel group rates, call or visit the Chamber of Commerce at (432) 264-7641 or 215 W. Third St.

Line dancing, 1 p.m., Spring City Senior Center, 1901 Simler, 267-6966 or 267-1628.

Duplicate Bridge Club, 1 p.m., Big Spring County Club, Driver Road.

Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie, 7 p.m., Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third.

THURSDAY

Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060, 7 a.m. Herman's Restaurant, 1601 Gregg.

Coffee Club, 10 a.m., Gales Sweet Shoppe, 1712 E FM 700.

Kiwanis Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane, 267-6479.

Duplicate Bridge Club, 1 p.m., Big Spring County Club, Driver Road.

Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association, 5:30 p.m., RSVP offices, 501 Runnels.

American Legion Post 506, 6 p.m., 263-2084.

Rackley-Swords 379, Vietnam Veterans of America, 7 p.m., 309 S. Main, Sparenberg.

Masonic Lodge 1340, 7:30 p.m., 2101 Lancaster St.

FRIDAY

Greater Big Spring Rotary, noon, Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

AMBUCS, noon, La Posada, 206 NW Fourth St.

Duplicate Bridge Club, 1 p.m., Big Spring County Club, Driver Road.

Spring City Senior Citizens Center Country & Western Dance, 7:30 p.m.-10:30 p.m., 1901 Simler. All area seniors or invited.

SATURDAY

Memory Walk, 8:30 p.m., Comanche Trail Park, Old Settler's Pavilion.

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church fund-raiser, 5 p.m.-8 p.m. Homemade enchiladas, tacos, rice, beans, drink, dessert. Plates \$5 for adults, \$4 children. Eat in or carry out. Also available: gorditas and chalu-pas, \$2.50, tamales for \$5 a dozen. Order tamales by calling 268-1506.

Hangar 25 Air Museum, McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Heritage Museum, 510 Scurry, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

American Legion Post 506 Fish Fry, noon until ?, \$7 a plate, 3203 W. Highway 80. Delivery from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m., 263-2084.

BIG SPRING HERALD

www.bigspringherald.com

Reflecting A Proud Community

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VISIT

Continued from Pa

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REBATES

Continued from P

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Kermit \$29,333.80 this decrease of 3.7 compared to the collected last \$ For the year, K

FRESH S

Continued from P

Workforce Co TWC had its n then Howard dropped its pa in the progra were kind of floundering.

"I was visitin (Cheryl) Spark and she said sl this (program work at (SouthWest Institute for talked about s and met with from SWCID,

CARES

Continued from F

ride. The bus Thursday.

For more info to make a reser take advantag group rates, c the Cham Commerce at 7641 or 215 W. The Commission open to the j will begin at Soldiers Hall, at Fort Bliss. tions, conta

WEST TEXAS
M-F 9-5:30
SAT. 12-4
1712 GREGG
263-550

VISIT

Continued from Page 1A

looking at data in those three counties.

"Evidently, if you just look at the Ector County and Midland County veterans populations versus the Howard County veterans population — if you look at just those items, then the logic is it's got to be in the Midland/Odessa area because there are far more veterans and people in those particular counties than in Howard County," McEwen said.

Yet 57 percent of the veterans served by the Big Spring VAMC catchment area live east of Howard County, including large concentrations in Taylor and Tom Green counties.

That was information the delegation pointed out to Roswell.

"As we've done our studies and our research, many veterans from outside our catchment area and in the eastern portion of the area come here," he said. "So it even skews the statistics more in favor of the Big Spring facility."

Roswell told the delegation his office planned to evaluate the new information.

"We felt that the meeting was very, very important in that we were in a situation where the undersecretary for the first time realized that the population centers in the eastern portion of this

McEwen, Neugebauer and Jim DeFoor, Taylor County's veterans service officer, will present testimony for the Big Spring facility.

catchment area would be poorly served if the facility was moved 60 miles farther away," McEwen said.

The meeting was arranged by Congressman Randy Neugebauer and was held in U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison's office in Washington, D.C.

Both Neugebauer, who has worked closely with Big Spring officials on the issue; Hutchison; Sen. John Cornyn; and Congressman Charles Stenholm attended the meeting.

McEwen and fellow delegation members Commissioner Bill Crooker and Kent Sharp, executive director of Moore Development for Big Spring, held a press conference Monday to update the community on the trip.

Overall, the delegation said the trip successfully placed a face on Big

Spring for those making the decision on the issue.

"I felt our presence in Washington was needed. It was something vital," Crooker said. "They know that Big Spring is on the map. We're recognized."

During the trip, the delegation attended a meeting of the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee during which McEwen said he gained some insight into how lawmakers are viewing the CARES draft plan.

"One of the interesting things I've learned is that all senators feel there should be cuts in the VA but it shouldn't be in their states," he said. "I also found out there are people involved that care about veterans very much. That's the primary concern in this process and is our primary concern also."

Now, Big Spring leaders turn their efforts toward the CARES Commission's hearing set for Thursday in El Paso.

McEwen, Neugebauer and Jim DeFoor, Taylor County's veterans service officer, will present testimony for the Big Spring facility.

"Geography is going to one of them (points to talk about) because of the fact that's one of our stronger arguments," McEwen said. "We've talked about the quality of care — the recruitment of physicians into rural areas and we're going to bring evidence we can recruit physicians into this area and even

look to potentially more public/private cooperation in providing health care to the veteran population."

The CARES Commission hearing is open to the public and will begin at 9 a.m. in Soldiers Hall, Building 2, at Fort Bliss. For directions, contact Monti Walthall, voluntary service officer for the El Paso VA Health Care Systems at (915) 564-7882.

Those who don't have a Fort Bliss vehicle decal must enter through either the Robert E. Lee Gate or Chaffee Gate and obtain a day pass. You must have a valid driver's license, vehicle registration and insurance. Shuttle service from the parking lot behind Building 8 to Soldiers Hall will be available.

The public can view the CARES draft plan in its entirety, as well as make comments, at the commission's web site. Comments can also be sent to the CARES Commission e-mail address at carescommission@mail.va.gov or sent by mail to the Department of Veterans Affairs (00CARES), 810 Vermont Ave., NW., Washington, D.C. 20420.

The CARES commission will continue to take public comment until Oct. 7.

Contact Staff Writer Lyndel Moody at 263-7331, ext. 234, or by e-mail at newsdesk@crcom.net

Who to contact

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REBATES

Continued from Page 1A

large increase — 32.80 percent — comparing the \$119,183.66 received to the \$89,741.46 taken in during September 2002. Last month, the city saw rebates jump more than 60 percent. For the year, Fort Stockton has received \$1,055,090.94, up 40.48 percent.

Kermit received \$29,333.80 this month, a decrease of 3.70 percent, compared to the \$30,461.72 collected last September. For the year, Kermit has

taken in \$233,628.91, down 5.97 percent.

Lamesa witnessed an increase of 7.01 percent in sales tax rebates. The Dawson County community received \$ 61,766.90 for the month, compared to \$57,719.70 in September of 2002. The county seat has received \$646,690.97 for the year, up 3.18 percent.

Sales tax rebates were down again slightly for Lubbock, as it received \$2,151,665.79 this month, compared to \$2,277,421.91 last September. For the year, Lubbock has received \$21,194,179.73 —

down 1.57 percent from a year ago.

Midland saw rebates decline 2.10 percent, comparing the \$1,451,287.19 received this month to the \$1,482,569.38 received in September 2002. For the year, Midland has received \$14,997,892.85, up 9.18 percent.

After witnessing rebates fall last month, rebates took another plunge this month. Monahans received \$62,849.13, down 30.71 percent compared to the \$90,705.28 taken in for September of 2002. For the year, the Ward County seat has received

\$597,041.592, down 11.48 percent compared to a year ago.

September's rebates for Odessa amounted to \$1,082,147.41, up 9.18 percent when compared to \$991,081.99 taken in a year ago. Odessa has received \$10,849,883.93 for the year, up 9.11 percent.

Rebates were also up for Pecos this month. That community received \$70,533.37, compared to \$62,164.37 for September of 2002. That's an increase of 13.46 percent. For the year, Pecos has taken in \$575,291.22, down just 1.93 percent.

San Angelo saw rebates increase slightly at 2.60 percent, comparing the \$1,173,831.59 taken in this month to the \$1,144,032.03 received in September of 2002. For the year, San Angelo has received \$10,543,064.17, down 1.72 percent.

Snyder pulled in \$147,081.38, up 26 percent when compared to the \$116,724.55 it received in September of 2002. For the year, the Scurry County seat has taken in \$1,362,034.96, up 26.40 percent.

Rebates took a 2.85 percent hike in Sweetwater,

comparing this month's receipts of \$159,925.24 to \$155,482.57 taken in a year ago. For the year, the Nolan County seat has received \$1,500,819.42, up 7.96 percent.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at newsdesk@crcom.net

FRESH START

Continued from Page 1A

Workforce Commission. TWC had its money cut, then Howard College dropped its participation in the program, so we were kind of out there floundering.

"I was visiting with Dr. (Cheryl) Sparks one day, and she said she thought this (program) would work at SWCID (SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf). We talked about some issues and met with a group from SWCID, and from

that meeting, we formed a partnership. Their building trades department is doing a great job on remodeling, and the kids are really excited about it because in the past, due to liability issues, they were only able to build things within the shop area. Now they're able to go on an actual job site, run into real life problems and figure out and overcome those problems."

Pryor said the program is designed to be non-profit and benefits fixed-income home buyers the

most.

"Since we're getting free labor, we didn't feel we should make a profit on it, so what we're doing is selling them to people on a fixed income, such as SSI, Social Security or veterans (benefits)," said Pryor. "The money that's made from one house simply rolls over to the next one in line to be remodeled. Our hope is that once these 10 houses are done, we'll be able to keep the program going on the money we've raised this time around."

Although the program

continues to accomplish a great deal for the Big Spring area, Pryor said there's no time to pat themselves on the back.

"Our main goal right now is finding two more houses so we can complete the grant's obligation," he explained. "We're really hoping someone out there that has property like this they're not going to do anything with will contact us and help make the community a better place."

For more information on the Fresh Start

Program, contact Pryor at 267-2206.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at newsdesk@crcom.net

CARES

Continued from Page 1A

ride. The bus will return Thursday.

For more information or to make a reservation and take advantage of these group rates, call or visit the Chamber of Commerce at (432) 264-7641 or 215 W. Third St.

The CARES Commission hearing is open to the public and will begin at 9 a.m. in Soldiers Hall, Building 2, at Fort Bliss. For directions, contact Monti

Walthall, voluntary service officer for the El Paso VA Health Care Systems, at (915) 564-7882.

Those who don't have a Fort Bliss vehicle decal must enter through either the Robert E. Lee Gate or Chaffee Gate and obtain a day pass. You must have a valid driver's license, vehicle registration and insurance. Shuttle service from the parking lot

behind Building 8 to Soldiers Hall will be available.

The public can view the CARES draft plan in its entirety, as well as make comments, at the commission's web site. Comments can also be sent to the CARES Commission e-mail address at carescommission@mail.va.gov or sent

by mail to the Department of Veterans Affairs (00CARES), 810 Vermont Ave., NW., Washington, D.C. 20420.

The CARES commission will continue to take public comment until Oct. 7.

Contact Staff Writer Lyndel Moody at 263-7331, ext. 234, or by e-mail at newsdesk@crcom.net

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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.

Chuck Williams
Publisher

Susanne Reed
General Manager

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Let's help make banner project a real success

It's time to get in the Christmas spirit. Well, at least for the rest of this week, anyway. That's because this week is all the time a small group of women trying to make the local holiday season a little brighter have before they must order the banners they hope to place along Gregg Street during the Yuletide season.

Santa's Helpers — a group composed of Pat Fleming, Brenda Conciene, Caren Schmidt and Greta Valdes — are raising money for the project.

All four women moved to Big Spring about the same time 2-1/2 years ago and were disappointed at how little the city decorated its streets during the holidays. So, they began the project this summer by contacting officials at the city of Big Spring and the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce.

Both city and chamber officials were eager to sign on and decided to sponsor the four.

Santa's Helpers hopes to purchase at least 25 green banners and 25 red banners with the themes "Joy, Joy, Joy" and "Season's Greetings." If they're able to collect enough of the money for more than 50 banners, they say they'll begin the effort to place banners on Third and Fourth Streets, as well.

Each banner costs \$150, including the brackets. Oncor has given permission to permanently place brackets for the banners on electrical poles that line the street. The city has agreed to donate the time to affix the brackets to the poles.

So, all the four really need now is donations. Santa's Helpers will be accepting donations through Friday. To donate to the project, call Fleming at 466-0462 or Conciene at 264-6830.

We here at the *Herald* would like to see every business in town take part in this project.

Those that do, we believe, will be glad they did. After all, won't that really be a reflection of our community's pride?

LETTERS POLICY

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Please:
- 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.
 - We do not acknowledge receipt of letters.
 - Letters from our circulation area will be given preference.

• Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to jmoseley@crcom.net or editor@bigspringherald.com

How To CONTACT Us

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May our sunshine not turn into rain through sin, but turn into warm rays of light through our study of your word, Lord. Amen

Another cancer in our society

This past week I sent a small contribution to the American Cancer Society in the hopes that, along with millions of others, it may help medical researchers find a cure for this dreaded disease. Regardless of the type or part of the human body it attacks, if left unchecked, it will continue to devour healthy cells until it squeezes the very life out of its victim.

Furthermore, it is no respecter of persons and practically every family in our nation, regardless of status, has been affected in one way or another. With regards to cancer, we have all asked questions like, "Did they get it all?", "Is it in remission?", and "What is the prognosis?". Sadly, cancer is among the leading causes of death in the United States.

Unless your name is Rip Van Winkle, you also know there is another form of cancer in our society today that is equally, if not more dangerous to the health and well being of our nation. I'm referring to the breakdown of moral, ethical and spiritual values over the past several decades. If the erosion and decay of these important values is not checked and rebuilt, it will result in the down-

fall of the greatest nation in the history of civilization.

If you have read my column very often in the past, you know that I am an eternal optimist. I believe in success. I encourage individuals to reach for the stars, to use their God-given talents and abilities to serve others, and in return receive all the rewards, both tangible and intangible, that life has to offer. But you and I both know this is only possible if our nation remains free and the opportunities afforded by a free market economy are available to us in the near and distant future. Furthermore, we can't just assume that this will always be the case if we don't take care of what we have.

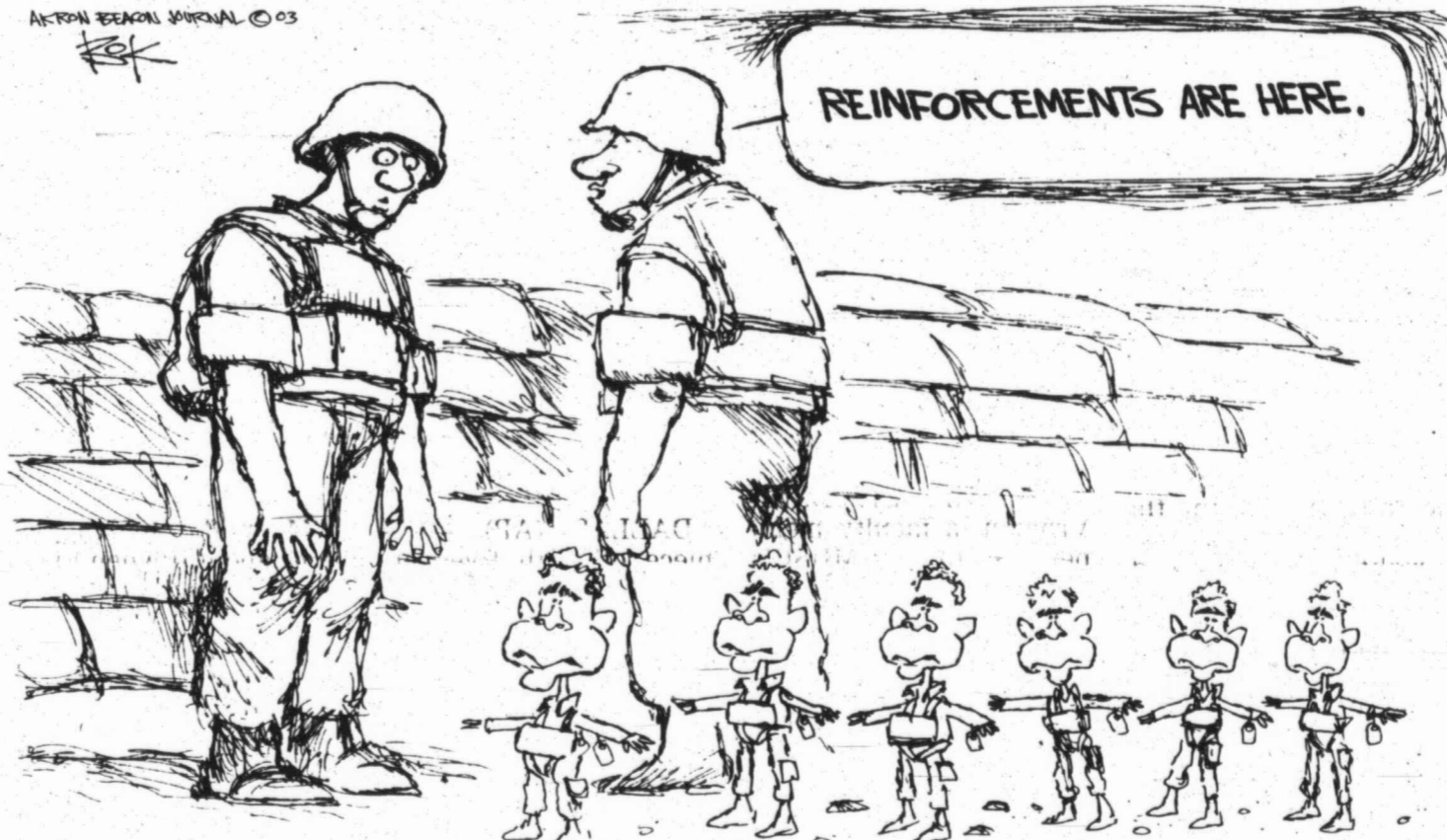
A while back I ran across a quotation by former President Harry S. Truman that pretty well sums up what I am saying, "Always tell people the truth. They can handle it." To be sure, we can handle the truth. It's the lies under oath, the bribes and kickbacks, the scandals, the pervasive and widespread cheating and the blatant, open immorality that we can't handle. When I say we, I'm talking about the millions of God fearing, honest, responsible and hard working American Citizens who love this country and want to persevere our way of life.

In the long run, the individuals involved in the activities I mentioned will ultimately pay a price for that they do, but in the mean-

time our standards are lowered and the unsuspecting are caught in the web of personal destruction before they truly understand the consequences of their actions. We must be reminded again and again that our leaders, whether political, business or others in high positions must be held to a higher standard than people in the general population. In time the example they set establishes the very basis for our culture. Contrary to what many people think, you don't raise morale in an organization, it filters down from the top. It's the same principle with leadership in our society and nation.

As I've said before, I don't get involved in partisan politics. Unfortunately, many people are so turned off by politics as usual that they don't even take the time to go and vote. Our system of government in our nation has served us well, but I have never been an active member of any political party. In every general election, I have always voted a split ticket, because I vote for the candidates who I feel are best qualified and who have America's best interest at heart. In the final analysis, we either will or will not stop the spread of this cancer in our society, but the stakes are high, especially for future generations.

(Jim Davidson is a motivational speaker and syndicated columnist. You may contact him at 2 Bentley Drive, Conway, AR 72034.)

JIM
DAVIDSON

"Losing bin Laden" is chilling

On Oct. 12, 2000, the day of the devastating terrorist attack on the USS Cole, President Clinton's

highest-level national security team met to determine what to do. Counter-terrorism chief Richard Clarke wanted to hit Afghanistan, aiming at Osama bin Laden's complex and the terrorist leader himself. But Clarke was all alone. There was no support for a retaliatory strike that, if successful, might have prevented the 9/11 carnage.

This startling story is told for the first time in a book by Brussels-based investigative reporter Richard Minter to be published this week. "Losing bin Laden" relates that Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, Secretary of Defense William Cohen, Atty. Gen. Janet Reno and CIA Director George Tenet all said no to the attack. I have contacted enough people attending the meeting to confirm what Minter reports. Indeed, his account is based on direct, on-the-record quotes from participants.

Minter, who was part of the Sunday Times of London investigation of Clinton vs. bin Laden, has written a bitter indictment of the American president (its subtitle: "How Bill Clinton's Failures Unleashed Global Terror"). But by the time of the Cole disaster with only weeks left in his presidency, Clinton had focused on the terrorist threat. The problem of the Oct. 12 meeting was the caution common to all councils of war. Arguments by participants sound valid, but collectively they built a

future catastrophe.

Al Qaeda's bombing of the billion-dollar U.S. destroyer fulfilled Dick Clarke's prediction of the terrorists seeking U.S. military targets. Hours after the attack, Clarke presided over a meeting of four terrorism experts in the White House Situation Room. He and the State Department's Michael Sheehan agreed this almost certainly was bin Laden's doing, but the FBI and CIA representatives wanted more investigation.

That deadlock preceded a meeting of Cabinet-level officials that same day. Clarke proposed already targeted retaliation against bin Laden's camps and Taliban buildings in Kabul and Kandahar. At least, they would destroy the terrorist infrastructure. A quick strike might also get Osama bin Laden. "Around the table," Minter writes, "Clarke heard only objections." As related by Clarke, the meeting exemplified ministerial caution.

Atty. Gen. Reno, told by the FBI that the terrorists were still unidentified, argued that retaliation violated international law. Reno and the CIA's Tenet wanted more investigation. Secretary of State Albright is quoted as saying that with renewed Israeli-Palestinian fighting, "bombing Muslims wouldn't be helpful at this time." (Albright later told Minter she would have taken a different position if she had "definitive" proof of bin Laden's involvement.)

Defense Secretary Cohen's position at the meeting is most surprising. The only Republican in the Clinton Cabinet was architect of missile attacks on Afghanistan and Sudan after the 1998 U.S. embassy bombings in Africa. Clarke remembers Cohen saying

the attack on the Cole was not sufficiently provocative" and that heavy bombing of Afghanistan might cause upheaval in neighboring Pakistan. When I contacted him, Cohen said he did not recall this meeting but that "certainly I regarded the Cole as a major provocation."

The State Department's Sheehan, formerly with Special Forces and now with the New York City Police Department, did not blame Bill Cohen. "It was the entire Pentagon," he told Minter, adding he was "stunned" and "taken aback" by the lack of Defense Department desire to retaliate. After the meeting, Sheehan told Clarke, prophetically: "What's it going to take to get them to hit al Qaeda in Afghanistan? Does al Qaeda have to attack the Pentagon?"

At the Cabinet-level meeting, only Dick Clarke wanted retaliation. Indeed, he was viewed as a hothead, always demanding bombs away. So much pain has been inflicted, and so much blood has been spilled since then, that the meeting has faded from the memory of its participants — until stirred up by Clarke in Minter's book.

Less than a month after the Cole disaster, CIA analysts had concluded bin Laden was behind it (though the FBI was still clueless). Osama bin Laden had virtually claimed credit for the most successful attack on a U.S. naval vessel since World War II. He and his gang had escaped to plan greater misery for America.

To find out more about Robert D. Novak and read his past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com. © 2003 CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.

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By BRUCE S

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New multifocal lens implant in trial tests help correct cataracts

By BRUCE SMITH

Associated Press Writer
CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP) — It's a procedure that everyone, if they live long enough, will need eventually. For 55-year-old Kate Reiss, the future is now after her visit to the Medical University of South Carolina's Storm Eye Institute.

"If we live long enough, everyone will get a cataract," said Dr. M. Edward Wilson Jr., the chairman of the university's Department of Ophthalmology.

Cataracts are the clouding of the clear lenses in the eyes. The lens becomes brittle, and yellowish. Although some cataracts are congenital and occur in young children — Wilson's specialty — most of us will get them with age.

Reiss, a Charleston resident who teaches school in nearby Summerville, recently underwent cataract surgery in which she received a new, cutting-edge multifocal lens implant.

She sees better than she has in years for both distance and reading. She has no more use for glasses, something usually required by replacing the cataract with single focal-length lens.

"It's phenomenal. It's just unbelievable," said Reiss, who had a lens implanted in her second eye a few weeks after the first.

"For the first couple of days, when I would read the newspaper in the morning, I had my glasses right there," she said. But she never uses them. "I haven't had the nerve to throw them away yet. But I don't use them for anything."

"This is the first implant I have come across where we have a real wow effect," said Dr. Kerry Solomon, the director of the Magill Laser Center at the institute.

"They are reading labels on medicine bottle. They are reading phone books. They are reading stock tables without glasses as well as driving their cars and watching TV," he said.

The Storm Eye Institute is one of a handful of centers across the nation conducting clinical tests on the new generation lenses, which could be approved for general use by late next year, Solomon said. "We have put in 60 to 70 of these implants now and no one uses glasses for anything," Solomon said.

"The technology for these devices has advanced so much," said Dr. Janine Smith, the deputy clinical director at the National Eye Institute in Bethesda, Md. "In 25 years from now, when there are roughly twice as many people over 65, there will be many more new options than in the past."

Surgical techniques have improved so much that, in many cases, the procedure is done as outpatient surgery.

"It's not like it's a trip to the mall, but it is outpatient," Smith added. With increasing frequency, some middle-aged patients are opting for a procedure called clear lens extraction. "It's the same thing as cataract surgery except the lens is not cloudy and insurance does not pay for it," Solomon said.

A multifocal lens would mean the patient would no longer have to use glasses and could avoid the need for cataract surgery when cataracts eventually do develop. But for younger patients, those in their 20s and 30s, such a procedure doesn't really make sense, even if one day they develop cataracts.

"There is some risk associated with surgery," said Smith, who adds you wouldn't want to do such surgery unless it was necessary. And, she said, while the technology is good and getting better, the body's natural lens is still better at focusing on its own.

Aging also can bring problems with the eye's cornea, the transparent tissue on the front of the eye. It's a different problem but one also being addressed at the Storm Eye Institute.

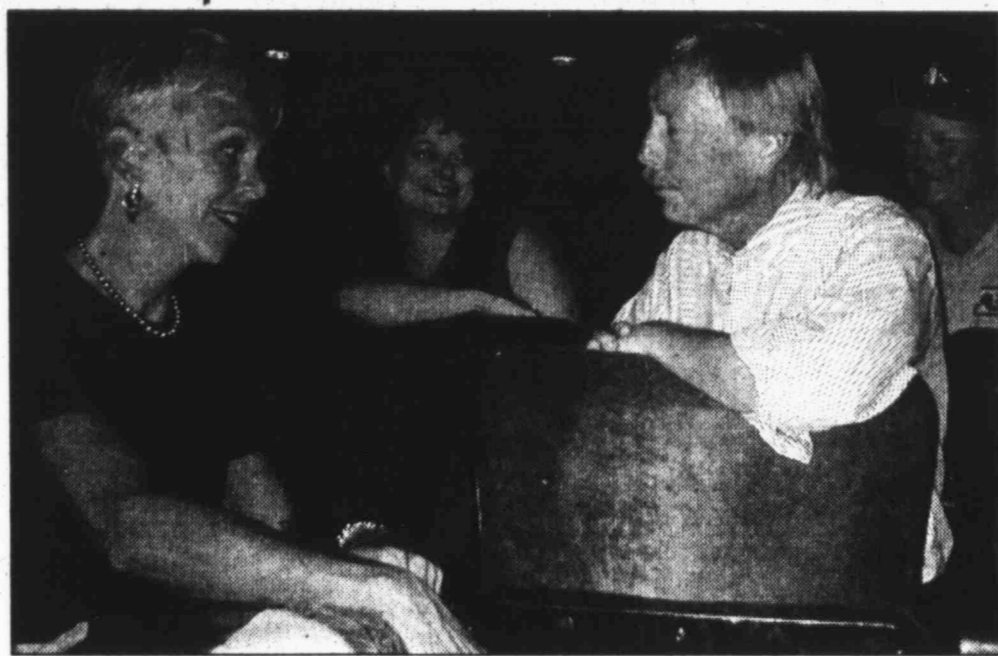
"The cornea is hazing so you can't see through it — light scatters and you can't see images well," said Dr. David Vroman, a faculty member in MUSC's Department of Ophthalmology. "The patient won't know if it's a cataract or a cornea. They'll just know that they have blurry vision."

Doctors know how to replace the cornea by transplanting a donor cornea. "What we're working on is just replacing the portions that are abnormal," Vroman says. "If you have a problem with the back portion of the cornea, we're working on removing just that back portion like a layer, like a sheet."

"The idea is to keep the eye as stable as possible. You can imagine if we made a big cut through the cornea, the whole eye is weakened," Vroman adds. "Technically, it's much more difficult," Wilson says. "But if you can think of taking a layer of the eye out and replacing a layer, the rejection rate goes down. One of the layers that leads the pack in rejection is not a layer that needs to be replaced much of the time." Vroman said some scientists are working to develop artificial corneas.

"But the long-term survivability of an artificial cornea is not great," he adds. "The eye just doesn't like that kind of foreign material."

Let's go to the symphony



HERALD photo/Marsha Allen
Pam Brewer, president of the Big Spring Symphony Guild, and symphony conductor, Keith Graumann discuss the upcoming symphony performance to be held Oct. 4 at 8 p.m. in the Big Spring Municipal Auditorium. City employees Terry Telchik and Tony Robbins joined in the discussion about lighting.

Come enjoy an evening of Tchaikovsky Oct. 4 at 8 p.m. in the Big Spring Municipal Building auditorium.

The Big Spring Symphony Orchestra with guest conductor, John Giordano, will perform "March Slav" and "Romeo and Juliet."

Maxim Philippov, a Van Cliburn piano competition winner, returns to Big Spring to play "Piano Concerto #1 in B-flat Minor."

Tickets may be purchased at the symphony office on Scurry Street, the Big Spring Chamber of Commerce, Blum's Jewelers, Dunlap's, the First Bank of West Texas, Heritage



Courtesy photo
Maxim Philippov and John Giordano will be featured in an all Tchaikovsky evening.

Museum and Faye's Flowers. Single or season tickets are available.

Call the symphony office, 432-263-4033 or

email for more information at symphony@bondwebs.com. Visit the website www.bigspringsymphony.com.

Church relic interests many

DALLAS (AP) — A piece of cloth five centuries old, part of a cloak believed worn by a recently sainted Mexican peasant when the Virgin Mary appeared to him, has drawn thousands of visitors to churches in North and Central Texas.

An estimated 20,000 people lined up outside a San Antonio basilica over the weekend to see the cloth that Catholic Church officials said was worn by the peasant Juan Diego. The relic, or tilma, drew almost 2,000 more pilgrims Sunday to the Cathedral of the Virgin of Guadalupe Shrine in Dallas as part of a 20-city tour.

"It's one of a kind," said Andrew Walther of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, coordinating the tour. "Literally thousands have shown up everywhere we take it, and the crowds have been really excited, emotional and faith-filled. The only other place you can see a piece of this is in Mexico City."

Dallas' cathedral is the country's largest shrine to the Virgin of Guadalupe, and the city is one of only two Texas dioceses hosting the tour. A procession stretched several blocks, including a horse-drawn carriage, Aztec Indian folk dancers and a special Mass.

"My mother told me the story about it when I was growing up," said Hembra Salazar, who sat outside watching her mother participate in the procession from Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts to the cathedral.

Although the original cloak remains in Mexico City, a small piece was sent to Archbishop John Cantwell of Los Angeles in 1941 by Archbishop Luis Maria Martinez y Rodriguez after Cantwell led a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City.

Pilgrims began lining up at 3:30 a.m. Saturday in front of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Little Flower in San Antonio for the Tilma of Tepeyac Tour. A church official estimated that some 20,000 people had visited the relic by late Saturday.

Outside the church, memorabilia on sale included T-shirts of the peasant Juan Diego kneeling before the Virgin Mary, fresh roses in buckets, and candles with an image of the Virgen de Guadalupe and the message: "Visit of the Relic of the Tilma of Tepeyac."

September 12, 13 & 14, 2003.

Maria Pilar Hernandez traveled several hours Saturday from Rio Grande City with grandson Octavio Martinez and two daughters just to catch a glimpse of a tiny piece of the tilma, or cloak, that Juan Diego was wearing in 1531. He was canonized as a saint last year by Pope John Paul II in Mexico City.

Hernandez had celebrated her 96th birthday last week and, when asked what she wanted as a present, replied that she wanted to get closer to God. Martinez, 28, changed his weekend plans and drove his grandmother and aunts to the basilica.

The women stood in line nearly an hour under the bright sun to see the half-inch-square piece of cloth, encased in Plexiglas. Ivory-colored veils covered their heads and each had a rosary in one hand and a red rose in the other.

Hernandez prayed, asking the Virgin Mary to watch over family members and keep them out of harm's way, saying she then felt both weak and strong. "It's a feeling I've never felt before in my life," Hernandez said.

Clinic to help pain sufferers

A seminar will be held of Chronic Fatigue, Fibromyalgia Syndromes Sept. 18 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Health South Center in Midland.

The seminar will be conducted by Rick Gordon and Dr. Todd Nelson, ND.

Rick Gordon is a Physical Therapist and owner of T-STAR, Texas Sports Therapy and Rehabilitation. He is a 1979 graduate of The University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, and has owned physical therapy businesses in Midland since 1984.

He specializes in chronic pain, fibromyalgia, headaches, and back pain using CranioSacral Therapy. He received advanced training in CST from the Upledger Institute in Honda, and has extensive training and experience in Myofascia Release, Lymphatic Drainage, Visceral Manipulation and Guided Imagery. He can be reached by calling, 432-570-8782.

Dr. Nelson is director of the Tree of Life Wellness Center in Denver, Colo. He is a well known Naturopathic doctor and holds degrees in Holistic Health from Brantridge Forrest School in England.

He is a popular host to the radio show, "Get Healthy". Colorado's number one weekly talk show on alternative health.

He is the co-author of three books, Arthritis Survival, Headache Survival and Asthma Survival, with best selling author and past president of the American Holistic Medical Association, Dr. Robert Ivken.

Todd also does televised corporate wellness programs, entitled "Stress Mastery", across the United States through PBS Business and Technological Network. His special emphasis is a balanced educational approach to self-care. He can be reached by calling 303-969-3052.

Club News

Fifteen members of the The Mary Jane Club met attired in their favorite bats for an elegant breakfast on Thursday, 9:30 a.m., September 11, 2003, in the home of Sue Tindol with Bell Fowler as co-hostess. The most unusual hat was worn and made by Sammie Kingston and the prettiest bat was worn by Marie Ethridge. President Sue Tindol presided and presented the new yearbooks. The future meetings and programs were discussed. The next regular meeting will October 9, 2003 in Stanton, with Gean Cauble and Sammie Kingston as Hostesses.

For more information on the club, call Joyce Choate 393-5721

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Legislators ready to work

AUSTIN (AP) — With the dramatics of the first day of the third special session behind them, Texas legislators will get to work this week as hard feelings over a walkout by Senate Democrats permeate that chamber.

"I'm glad our senators are back," said Republican Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, who presides over the Senate. "We've got a lot of work in front of us."

Texas legislators returned to Austin on Monday after a six-week boycott in Albuquerque, N.M., by Senate Democrats opposed to plans to redraw Texas' congressional districts.

Democrats arriving at the Capitol as a group were greeted with loud and long cheers from supporters in the Senate gallery as they stood in the middle of the chamber, hands joined and raised in unity.

"It's been six weeks since Senate Democrats took a stand based on principle, based on voting rights, based on our belief that only in the rule of law can there be true liberty," Sen. Leticia Van de

Putte of San Antonio told the crowd.

The Democrats' entrance into the chamber came just minutes after Dewhurst gavelled the session to order and then quickly adjourned it before their arrival. The crowd in the gallery hissed and booed the Republicans as they left.

"Boy, that's class," Sen. Florence Shapiro, R-Plano, said sarcastically.

The Republicans achieved the quorum they lacked during the second special session because of the boycott when Democratic Sen. John Whitmire of Houston, who defected from the original 11 protesting Democrats, returned to the chamber.

The new session is the latest round in a fight over the composition of Texas' delegation to the U.S. Capitol. Democrats have a 17-15 majority.

Ostracized by the Democrats leaving, Whitmire stood off to the side while his colleagues rallied the crowd. He said the Democrats should be thanking him for returning home and criticized Monday's scene.

"This is just dividing it more," Whitmire said. "We need to be reaching out to each other. That is not being done today."

Other senators indicated the wounds from the harsh words and actions taken by the Democrat and Republican senators during the boycott were deep.

"I cannot lie to you that there's a wound that's deeper and wider than ever and its going to take time to heal but the fact is that we are here to work for what's in the best interest of the state of Texas," Sen. Royce West, D-Dallas, told the crowd.

Sen. Todd Staples, R-Palestine, unveiled a redistricting map that he estimated could give Republicans 19 or 20 seats in the congressional delegation. Dewhurst called it a fair map.

On the other side of the Capitol, the House Redistricting Committee moved quickly to vote out the redistricting map it passed during the first special session.

That map was met with criticism from both Republican and Democrats in the Senate.

NEWS BRIEFS

TEXAS

HOUSTON (AP) — An ex-convict accused of shooting a Houston mother and her four daughters, killing three of them, should face the death penalty when he's tried for capital murder, the prosecutor in his case said Monday.

"This was a massacre," Vanessa Velasquez said outside the courtroom where Anthony Quinn Francois, 35, made a brief appearance at a probable cause hearing. "It was more than just the murder of three little girls. It was a massacre."

"In my opinion, it was an attempt to annihilate an entire family."

Francois, wearing a jail-issued orange jumpsuit, stood with his arms behind his back and mumbled one-word answers to state District Judge Caprice Cosper after Velasquez briefly outlined Thursday's shooting.

"We've got three dead young ladies and two seriously wounded," Velasquez told the judge, requesting Francois continue to be held without bond.

NATION

DEARBORN, Mich. (AP) — Negotiations between General Motors Corp. and the United Auto Workers stretched into Tuesday morning as the world's largest automaker tried to hammer out a new labor agreement.

General Motors was the only Big Three automaker without a tentative contract after Ford Motor Co. and DaimlerChrysler AG announced deals following their own marathon negotiating sessions.

The union has said GM employees will report to work as usual while talks continue. UAW President Ron Gettelfinger said negotiators with GM would "stay at the bargaining table until a tentative agreement is hammered out."

COMPTON, Calif. (AP) — Police investigating the slaying of Venus and Serena Williams' older sister focused on the possibility that gang feud or a drug dispute might have led to the death of the 31-year-old mother of three.

Aaron Michael-Hammer, 24, was held without bail after being booked for investigation of murder. As many as four others were being sought for questioning, Los Angeles County sheriff's investigators said.

Hammer has ties to a Compton street gang although he is not a member, authorities said, declining to elaborate. He also has been convicted on counts of check forgery and commercial bur-

glary. He was set to be arraigned Tuesday. Yetunde Price, 31, was shot in the chest as she sat in a sport utility vehicle shortly after midnight Sunday, about a mile from the tennis courts where her younger sisters first rose to prominence in this violence-plagued city southeast of Los Angeles.

WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bush administration's claims of ties between Saddam Hussein's regime and al-Qaida terrorists are being tested in federal court, where the family of the FBI's late counterterrorism chief has sued Iraq over the Sept. 11 suicide hijackings.

The wife and children of John O'Neill, who died in the attack on the World Trade Center, allege that Iraq began communicating with al-Qaida as early as 1992, provided training to Osama bin Laden's warriors and sent intelligence agents to work with the terror network in Afghanistan.

The suit accuses Iraq of complicity in the Sept. 11 attacks by providing support to terrorists, and seeks \$1 billion in damages.

The Associated Press reported over the weekend, based on interviews with intelligence officials, that the Bush administration has evidence of contacts between Iraqi intelligence and al-Qaida but no proof of direct Iraqi sponsorship of al-Qaida attacks.

The evidence, the sources said, includes statements by Iraqi defectors and al-Qaida prisoners that Iraqi intelligence provided al-Qaida with training in document forgery and chemical and biological weapons in a series of contacts that spiked in 1996, and again after 1998.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Amid signs the economy finally has shaken its lethargy and is perking up, Federal Reserve policy-makers are likely to keep a major short-term interest rate at near rock-bottom levels through the rest of this year and probably into part of next year as well, economists say.

The Fed's main lever for influencing economic activity, the federal funds rate, stands at a 45-year low of 1 percent.

And commercial banks' prime lending rate, which is affected by changes in the funds rate, is at 4 percent, the lowest level since 1959. The prime rate is the benchmark for many short-term consumer and business loans.

Those super-low short-term interest rates, along with President Bush's third round of tax cuts, have helped get the economy's anticipated rebound in the second half of this year off to a good start, economists said.

Federal court panel orders California recall balloting put on hold until March

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Candidates in California's recall election vowed to plow ahead in their courting of voters after a judicial panel postponed the ballot, which could now be more than five months away.

"I thought I was running a sprint, and it looks like I may have to run a marathon," said Steve Smith, an adviser to Gov. Gray Davis, the target of the recall. "And I don't even like running that much."

A three-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled Monday that California's planned use of punch-card ballots — the same kind used in the contested 2000 presidential election — would disenfranchise thousands of Californians.

The court did not set a new date for the recall, but backed a suggestion

from the American Civil Liberties Union that balloting be held during the March 2 presidential primary.

One of the groups behind the effort to yank Davis from office planned to appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court to keep the recall date Oct. 7. The circuit court's decision was stayed for a week to allow for such appeals.

Lt. Gov. Cruz Bustamante, the only major Democrat vying to succeed Davis if he is recalled, and Republican candidate Arnold Schwarzenegger promised to continue campaigning as the courts decide when to hold the election.

Davis planned to continue his tour Tuesday with national Democrats, campaigning with presidential candidate Sen. Bob Graham of Florida and

the Rev. Jesse Jackson. Schwarzenegger and Republican state Sen. Tom McClintock were to seek the blessing of fellow Republican Peter Ueberroth, who dropped out of the running last week.

"This recall has been like a roller coaster. There are more surprises than you can possibly imagine," Davis said. "I'll continue to make my case to the people that a recall is not good for them."

Independent candidate Arianna Huffington praised the decision, calling voter disenfranchisement "the dirty little secret of American politics." McClintock called it an "outrageous decision" by a court that is the "laughingstock" of the federal judiciary because it is the nation's most-reversed federal appeals court.

East Coast residents bracing for arrival of Hurricane Isabel

MANTEO, N.C. (AP) — As Hurricane Isabel's more than 100-mph winds swirled toward his coastal home, all Charles Quidley could do was hope that landfall, expected later this week, would be uneventful.

"I've seen storms come and go and I've always been thankful to God I've never been hurt," said Quidley, 59.

While residents up and down the East Coast scrambled to ready themselves and voluntary evacuations were issued, Quidley, his wife and son, Charles Jr., planned to wait in their mobile home because a motel room on the mainland was just too expensive.

"It doesn't look good, but not everybody can afford to leave," Quidley said Monday.

Forecasters said Isabel appeared to be on a course to hit Thursday on the North Carolina coast and move up through the Chesapeake Bay in Virginia.

As the storm approaches, the Carolinas "will start feeling the effects of Isabel by Wednesday evening," Krissy Williams, a meteorologist

at the National Hurricane Center in Miami.

Williams said a hurricane watch would be issued later Tuesday for North Carolina and possibly eastern Virginia. A watch is issued when an area could face hurricane conditions within 36 hours.

"There's plenty of potential for significant damage and possible loss of life," Tom Ridge, secretary of the federal Department of Homeland Security, said Tuesday on NBC's "Today" show.

"We are preparing for the worst and preparing to respond as quickly as possible," he said.

In Virginia, 40 ships based in the Norfolk area were ordered to head to sea Tuesday to avoid being battered against piers by high winds. Also Tuesday, the Air Force planned to fly about 60 planes from Langley Air Force Base in Hampton to Grissom Air Force Base in Indiana, officials said.

About 74 F-15E Strike Eagles at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base in Goldsboro, N.C., were expected to leave Tuesday for Tinker AFB in Oklahoma City, the Air

Force said.

School systems along the North Carolina's barrier islands either planned for only teachers to report to work Tuesday or to end their day after serving lunch.

All 921 residents of Ocracoke Island, south of Manteo along the state's vulnerable Outer Banks, were ordered to begin evacuating Monday afternoon. A line quickly formed at the ferry dock.

In other islands on the outer banks, residents started boarding windows, moving their vessels inland and checking up on their generators.

Kay Burros and Anne Troutman decided it was time to check their 5,000-watt home generator at Surf City.

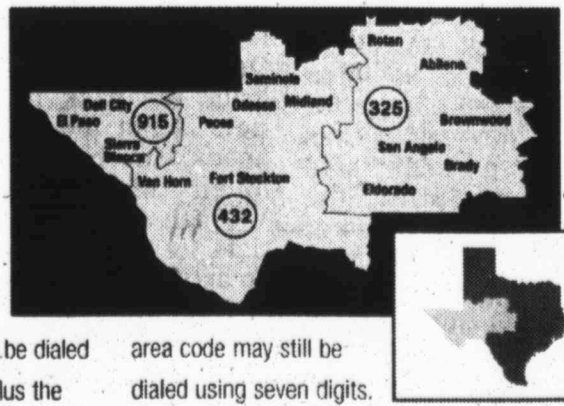
"We've had it about 3 years, but haven't cranked it up in a while. It's been so long, we have to read the instructions," Burros said.

Isabel weakened Monday to a Category 3 storm, the National Hurricane Center said. At 5 a.m. EDT Tuesday, Isabel's fastest sustained wind had slowed to near 115 mph, down from about 125 mph Monday.



Just a little reminder to start using the new area codes in western Texas by October 4, 2003.

To accommodate new phone, fax, pager and wireless numbers in western Texas, the 915 area code has been divided into three area codes: 915, 432 and 325. As a result, beginning October 4th, calls made from one area code to a different area code (including calls to and from wireless phones) must be dialed using the appropriate area code plus the seven-digit phone number. Start using the new area codes now — after October 4th, your calls won't be completed as dialed without them. Local calls made within one



area code may still be dialed using seven digits. Please note that rates are not changing — a local call is still a local call. For the big picture about these changes, visit us online at www.texas-code.com.

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| To dial local calls from the 915 area code to: | |
| area code 915 | dial XXX-XXXX |
| area code 325 | dial 325 XXX-XXXX |
| area code 432 | dial 432 XXX-XXXX |
| To dial local calls from the new 432 area code to: | |
| area code 432 | dial XXX-XXXX |
| area code 325 | dial 325 XXX-XXXX |
| area code 915 | dial 915 XXX-XXXX |
| To dial local calls from the new 325 area code to: | |
| area code 325 | dial XXX-XXXX |
| area code 432 | dial 432 XXX-XXXX |
| area code 915 | dial 915 XXX-XXXX |

KNOW the Code

For more information, including a complete list of exchanges and their correct area codes, visit www.texas-code.com

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IN BR

Baseball boos meet Sept. 2

The Big Spring Baseball Boos will meet Sept. 20 at 7:30 p.m. at the... For more info call 263-8527.

BSHS cheerleaders to hold cheer

The Big Spring School cheerleaders will be holding a cheer camp for ages 5-13 on Sept. 20. The cost for is \$20 per... Participants will have the opportunity to perform at the volleyball game on...

YMCA swim spots available

The Big Spring Family YMCA team has open for inter...

To be eligible

participate as a member of the swim team must be at least 12 years of age and a swim team member. The pool will provide breathing... are responsible for annual USSF... equipment transportation... meals at meet... For more info call Dolline 264-8252 or 263-...

Steers Basketball Boosters to

The Big Spring Basketball Club will hold a meeting today at 6 p.m. in the High School... Parents of JV and boys basketball are urged to...

Quarterback meet Monday

The Big Spring School Quarterback Club will hold a meeting beginning at the Big Spring School Athletic Center. Everyone is to attend.

Dolphins race 'Dogs in BS'

Evan Burros and Stefani Martin scored a goal and led the Dolphins to a thrilling 2-1 victory over the Big Spring Soccer Association.

BSYBA action this Saturday

BSYBA action this Saturday at the SWCID field.

Barrel racing in horse acc

GLADEWATER — Deb Mohr will compete in the PRCA Finals Rodeo racing qualification head injury being thrown horse. She will...

ON TH

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|-------------------------|--------|
| Sports Broadcast | |
| Event, Time | Sept. |
| Astros vs. Colorado | 7:40 |
| Event, Time | Sept. |
| Astros vs. Colorado | 7:40 |
| Event, Time | Sept. |
| Texas A&M vs. Va. Tech | Sept. |
| Event, Time | Sept. |
| Big Spring at Plainview | 6 p.m. |
| Forsan vs. Sonora | 7 p.m. |
| Event, Time | Sept. |
| Texas Tech vs. NC State | Sept. |
| Astros vs. St. Louis | 12:45 |
| Saylor at Sam Houston | Sept. |
| Texas at Rice | 6 p.m. |
| Event, Time | Sept. |
| Astros vs. St. Louis | 12:45 |
| Lady Steers vs. Lobo | Sept. |

IN BRIEF

Baseball boosters to meet Sept. 25 at ATC

The Big Spring Steers Baseball Booster Club will meet Sept. 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the ATC. For more information call 263-8527.

BSHS cheerleaders to hold cheer camp

The Big Spring High School cheerleaders will be holding a mini-cheer camp for youths ages 5-13 on Sept. 27. The cost for the camp is \$20 per child. Participants will have the opportunity to perform at the varsity football game on Oct. 3.

YMCA swim team spots available

The Big Spring Family YMCA swim team has positions open for interested athletes.

To be eligible to participate as a member of the swim team, athletes must be at least six years of age and able to swim two lengths of the pool with proper rotary breathing. Swimmers are responsible for annual USS registration, all entry fees and equipment and all transportation and meals at meets.

For more information call Dolline Budke at 264-8252 or 263-4505.

Steers Basketball Boosters to meet

The Big Spring Steers Basketball Booster Club will hold its first meeting today at 5:30 p.m. in the Big Spring High School ATC.

Parents of all freshmen, JV and varsity boys basketball players are urged to attend.

Quarterback Club to meet Monday at ATC

The Big Spring High School Quarterback Club will hold its weekly meeting Monday beginning at 7 p.m. in the Big Spring High School Athletic Training Center.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

Dolphins race past 'Dogs in BSYSYA play

Evan Burton and Stefani Martinez each scored a goal Saturday and led the Dolphins to a thrilling 2-0 victory over the Bulldogs in Big Spring Youth Soccer Association play.

BSYBA action continues this Saturday at the SWCID field.

Barrel racer killed in horse accident

GLADEWATER (AP) — Deb Mohon, an 11-time PRCA National Finals Rodeo barrel racing qualifier, died of a head injury after being thrown from a horse. She was 56.

ON THE AIR

| Event, Time | Station |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Astros vs. Colorado, 7:40 p.m. | 1490 |
| Sept. 17 | |
| Astros vs. Colorado, 7:40 p.m. | 1490 |
| Sept. 18 | |
| Texas A&M vs. Va. Tech, 5:30 p.m. | 1490 |
| Sept. 19 | |
| Big Spring at Plainview, 6:06 p.m. | 95.7/1490 |
| Foxon vs. Sonora, 7 p.m. | 94.3 |
| Sept. 20 | |
| Texas Tech vs. NC State, 10:15 a.m. | 95.7 |
| Astros vs. St. Louis, 12:45 p.m. | 1490 |
| Seiler at Sam Houston, 5:30 p.m. | 1490 |
| Texas at Rice, 8 p.m. | 94.3 |
| Sept. 21 | |
| Texas vs. Chicago, 10:15 a.m. | 95.7 |
| Astros vs. St. Louis, 12:45 p.m. | 1490 |
| Lady Steers vs. Lake View, 6:45 p.m. | 1490 |

Cundiff's seventh field goal leads 'Boys to OT win

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — Bill Parcels stood outside the locker room and congratulated each and every passing player.

He had just escaped with his first victory as coach of the Dallas Cowboys and did it against the New York Giants, the team he led to two Super Bowl victories.

"I feel fortunate to win," Parcels said. "I would have been very disappointed to lose. It was one of the greatest games I've

ever been involved in."

It took a record-tying game from a relatively unknown kicker and some help from those notoriously inept guys on New York's special teams to give Parcels the unlikely victory, a 35-32 overtime thriller.

"That was about as wild a win as I've ever been in," Parcels said a few minutes after Billy Cundiff kicked his seventh field goal with 5:56 left in OT.

Cundiff's winning 25-yard kick came after he forced overtime

with a career-long 52-yarder that barely got over the crossbar on the final play of regulation.

Cundiff probably never should have had a chance to tie it after Matt Bryant kicked a 30-yarder to give New York a 32-29 lead with 11 seconds to play.

All the Giants — who passed up a chance to run the clock down before the field goal — had to do was put the kickoff in play so that the clock would start. That would have left the Cowboys with one desperation play, but

they wound up with just enough time to tie it.

Jim Fassel said he told Bryant to squib the kickoff down the middle. Bryant said his instructions were to squib it to the left.

The kick skidded on the artificial surface and went out of bounds at the 1, giving the Cowboys the ball at their own 40.

"They gave us a chance when they kicked the ball out of bounds on that kickoff," Parcels said.

See COWBOYS, Page 2B

Lady Steers net 2nd at tourney

By TOMMY WELLS

Sports Editor

Madeline Hopkins and the Big Spring Junior High School eighth grade A team turned in an outstanding effort Saturday evening and placed second in the final team standings at the annual Big Spring Junior High Invitational Volleyball Tournament.

The Lady Steers, under coach Peggy Calhoun, advanced to the tournament finals before falling to Monahans in three games.

Big Spring, which also had solid performances from Danielle Jeter and Amanda Caskey, got into the winning groove quickly at the nine-team, double-elimination tournament. The Lady Steers hammered Andrews in the opener, taking a 25-13, 25-13 win.

Jeter and Hopkins paced the BSJHS attack on Andrews. Jeter scored a team-high 12 points. Hopkins added nine.

The Lady Steers followed their win over Andrews with a tough 15-25, 25-7, 15-12 win over Midland Greenwood.

Lauren Sage sparked the Big Spring squad to the win. After watching her team drop the first match, Sage scored four points and helped carry the Lady Steers to a 1-1 tie in the game court.

In the finals, Monahans managed to take the first game by a 25-18 count.

Big Spring answered back, however. The BSJHS girls battled back to take the second frame 25-17.

Monahans managed to grab the final frame, 15-10.

Caskey, Jordan Chesworth, Lauren Bryant, Clarissa Carrisalez and Whitney Lewis all played well in the tournament.

The BSJHS eighth grade B team dropped both of its games in the event, falling to Lamesa and Snyder despite stellar efforts from Ashton Fillingim, Bree Feaster and Whitney Torres.

The Big Spring seventh grade B team advanced to the consolation game in the seventh grade bracket.

After dropping their opener to Snyder, Crystal Torres and Briana Rodriguez helped the Lady Steers bounce back to take a 28-26, 25-19 win over Sterling City.

In the consolation finals, Greenwood managed to claim a



The Big Spring eighth grade Lady Steers finished second in the final standings of the 2003 BSJHS Invitational Saturday. The Lady Steers lost to Monahans in the finals.

25-18, 12-25, 13-15 victory.

Mariah Duenez, Amber Flores and Cheyenne Lester led the BSJHS squad.

The Big Spring seventh grade A took third in the final team standings by downing Snyder 25-17, 25-25, 8-15.

Jennifer Beachamp and Whitney Wortham led the Lady Steers in scoring, tallying 12 and 10 points, respectively. Briana Downes played well at the net.

The Lady Steers opened the tourney with a win over Andrews before falling to Lamesa.

Ohio State falls to No. 5 in Top 25 poll

By JOSH DUBOW

AP Football Writer

Another close call dropped Ohio State even further in *The Associated Press* college football poll.

The defending national champion Buckeyes fell two spots to No. 5 in the poll following their second straight close call, a 44-38 triple-overtime win over North Carolina State.

Ohio State, which has the nation's longest winning streak at 17 games, fell one spot after edging San Diego State 16-13.

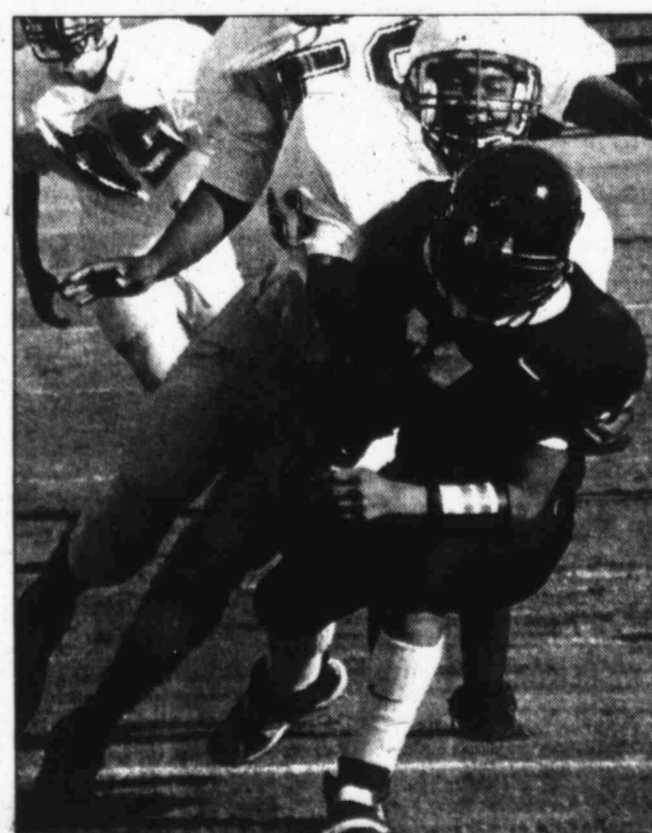
Oklahoma and Miami remained in the top two spots in balloting by the panel of sports writers and broadcasters. The Sooners, who have been No. 1 all season, received 50 of the 65 first-place votes and 1,601 points. The Hurricanes got three

The Top 25
The following is a look at the Top 25 teams in *The Associated Press* college football poll, with first-place votes in parentheses.

| Rank | Team | Points | First-Place Votes |
|------|------------------|--------|-------------------|
| 1 | Oklahoma (50) | 1,601 | 1 |
| 2 | Miami (3) | 1,508 | 2 |
| 3 | Michigan (4) | 1,457 | 3 |
| 4 | Southern Cal (2) | 1,445 | 4 |
| 5 | Ohio St. (6) | 1,402 | 3 |
| 6 | Kansas St. | 1,248 | 7 |
| 7 | Georgia | 1,230 | 8 |
| 8 | Virginia Tech | 1,151 | 9 |
| 9 | Pittsburgh | 1,081 | 11 |
| 10 | Florida St. | 1,054 | 10 |
| 11 | LSU | 999 | 12 |
| 12 | Tennessee | 956 | 13 |
| 13 | Texas | 677 | 6 |
| 14 | Arkansas | 651 | 16 |
| 15 | Nabraska | 647 | 18 |
| 16 | Arizona St. | 643 | 18 |
| 17 | Florida | 602 | 19 |
| 18 | Iowa | 521 | 23 |
| 19 | Washington | 352 | 21 |
| 20 | TDU | 309 | 22 |
| 21 | Alabama | 223 | 23 |
| 22 | Oregon | 150 | 24 |
| 23 | Missouri | 149 | 24 |
| 24 | Washington St. | 81 | 24 |
| 25 | Purdue | 122 | 24 |

Others receiving votes: Notre Dame 120, Minnesota 105, N.C. State 91, N. Illinois 85, Bowling Green 55, Texas A&M 52, Virginia 50, Villanova 50, Colorado 49, Louisville 34, Wake Forest 33, Boise St. 26, Boston College 21, Colorado St. 14, Air Force 12, Texas Tech 10, South Carolina 8, Oklahoma St. 7, Oregon 6, Cincinnati 5, Maryland 5, UNLV 4.

firsts and 1,508 points. Michigan moved up two spots to No. 3 — matching its highest ranking since winning a share of the national title in 1997.



Matt Hilaro and the Big Spring JV Steers will try and reach the .500 plateau for the season this Thursday afternoon when they host the Plainview Bulldogs. The Steers, who edged Midland last week, are slated to start at 5 p.m.

Horns trying to recover from loss

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Longhorns woke up Sunday with a strange feeling. For the first time since most of them pulled on a burnt orange jersey, they were faced with the morning-after regrets of a home loss.

Texas was upset 38-28 Saturday by former nemesis Arkansas, ending a run of 20 straight wins at Royal Memorial Stadium. It had been the second-longest active streak in the country and goes down as the third-longest in school history, one shy of second place.

Kansas State was the last visiting team to win in Austin, doing so in October 1999 when fifth-year senior Bo Scaife was a true freshman. He's the only player who played in both losses; seven other current players redshirted that season.

Actually, the Longhorns (1-1) had nearly four quarters to prepare for it. They led only after their first drive, and not for very long as the Razorbacks (2-0) answered with a touchdown. They scored again on their next possession and led by at least a touchdown the rest of the way.

During the home winning streak, no team had scored more than 20 points. Arkansas had 21 at halftime. The Razorbacks finished with the most points by a visitor since October 1997 and became the first unranked foe to win in Austin since Texas Tech in November 1997.

Arkansas had only one three-and-out possession, that coming on its first drive of the second half. The Razorbacks had a 46-yard touchdown run and a 60-yarder that set up the game-sealing field goal. They forced three fumbles, scoring off the first two while the third ruined a Texas drive that had reached the Arkansas 10.

The Longhorns averaged only 2.1 yards on 29 rushes. Of their four touchdowns, one came on defense and another came in a hurry-up offense just before halftime. The final TD also was a 55-yard pass to B.J. Johnson.

All told, it was hard to tell that the Longhorns came in ranked No. 6 and the Razorbacks were supposed to be also-rans in their conference division. As a result, Texas skidded to No. 13 — and Arkansas jumped into the poll at No. 14.

The Longhorns will try rebounding Saturday in what's technically a road game against Rice (0-2), which is coming off a loss to lowly Duke. The Longhorn will play at Reliant Stadium.

SCOREBOARD

AMERICAN LEAGUE

| Team | W | L | Pct | GB |
|-----------|----|----|------|--------|
| New York | 93 | 57 | .620 | |
| Boston | 87 | 62 | .584 | 5 1/2 |
| Toronto | 76 | 73 | .510 | 16 1/2 |
| Baltimore | 67 | 82 | .450 | 25 1/2 |
| Tampa Bay | 59 | 90 | .396 | 33 1/2 |

| Team | W | L | Pct |
|-------------|----|-----|------|
| Minnesota | 81 | 69 | .540 |
| Chicago | 80 | 69 | .537 |
| Kansas City | 77 | 72 | .517 |
| Cleveland | 65 | 86 | .430 |
| Detroit | 38 | 111 | .255 |

| Team | W | L | Pct |
|---------|----|----|------|
| Oakland | 91 | 60 | .603 |
| Seattle | 86 | 64 | .573 |
| Anaheim | 71 | 80 | .470 |
| Texas | 66 | 84 | .440 |

NATIONAL LEAGUE

| Team | W | L | Pct | GB |
|--------------|----|----|------|--------|
| Atlanta | 94 | 57 | .623 | |
| Philadelphia | 82 | 68 | .547 | 11 1/2 |
| Montreal | 76 | 75 | .503 | 18 |
| New York | 63 | 86 | .423 | 30 |

| Team | W | L | Pct |
|------------|----|----|------|
| Houston | 81 | 68 | .544 |
| Chicago | 80 | 70 | .533 |
| St. Louis | 77 | 74 | .510 |
| Pittsburgh | 69 | 80 | .463 |
| Cincinnati | 64 | 86 | .427 |

| Team | W | L | Pct |
|---------------|----|----|------|
| San Francisco | 91 | 57 | .615 |
| Los Angeles | 80 | 68 | .541 |
| Arizona | 77 | 73 | .513 |
| Colorado | 68 | 82 | .453 |
| San Diego | 59 | 90 | .396 |

NFL STANDINGS

| Team | W | L | T | PCT | PF | PA |
|-------------|---|---|---|-------|----|----|
| Buffalo | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 69 | 17 |
| Miami | 1 | 0 | 0 | .500 | 41 | 31 |
| New England | 1 | 0 | 0 | .500 | 31 | 41 |
| N.Y. Jets | 2 | 0 | 0 | .000 | 23 | 37 |

| Team | W | L | T | PCT | PF | PA |
|--------------|---|---|---|-------|----|----|
| Indianapolis | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 42 | 13 |
| Houston | 1 | 0 | 0 | .500 | 31 | 51 |
| Tennessee | 1 | 0 | 0 | .500 | 32 | 53 |
| Jacksonville | 2 | 0 | 0 | .000 | 40 | 62 |

| Team | W | L | T | PCT | PF | PA |
|------------|---|---|---|------|----|----|
| Baltimore | 1 | 0 | 0 | .500 | 48 | 47 |
| Pittsburgh | 1 | 0 | 0 | .500 | 54 | 56 |
| Cincinnati | 2 | 0 | 0 | .000 | 30 | 53 |
| Cleveland | 2 | 0 | 0 | .000 | 19 | 42 |

Chicago 0-2, 0.000, 20-73

| Team | W | L | T | PCT | PF | PA |
|---------------|---|---|---|-------|----|----|
| Seattle | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 65 | 10 |
| San Francisco | 1 | 1 | 0 | .500 | 73 | 34 |
| St. Louis | 1 | 1 | 0 | .500 | 40 | 47 |
| Arizona | 0 | 2 | 0 | .000 | 24 | 80 |

COWBOYS

Continued from Page 1B

Quincy Carter then hit Antonio Bryant with a 26-yard pass in front of the New York bench to put Cundiff in position to tie it.

"You've got to give a lot of credit to coach Parcells," said Carter, 25-of-40 for 321 yards. "All through training camp we've been working on situational things. You never know when they'll come up. We were prepared for it."

An emotionally drained Fassel had trouble explaining what happened on the squib kick after the last of the Giants' 18 fourth-quarter points.

"I didn't plan on having the ball at the 40-yard line with no time off the

clock," said Fassel, whose red eyes showed his deep disappointment of blowing a 2-0 start.

Matt Bryant seemed just as frustrated after another special teams fiasco. Remember, the Giants missed two fourth-quarter field goal attempts because of bad snaps in dropping a 39-38 decision to San Francisco in the playoffs last season.

"We should have won, but that ... happened at the end," Bryant said.

Cundiff made the Giants pay.

"To be honest, I felt I just did my job," said Cundiff, the fourth NFL kicker to make seven field goals in a game.

Cundiff's kicks covered 37, 49, 42, 21, 36, 52 and 25 yards. In Dallas' season-opening loss to Atlanta, he missed a 33-yarder on his only attempt.

No One Covers Howard County Sports Like The Big Spring Herald

Pigskin Pick Football Contest

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|--|---|--|---|--|--|
| | | | | | | | | | |
| Blum's Jewelers | Suggs Hallmark | Halfmann's Creations | Howard County Feed & Supply | Sonic Drive In | Allan's Furniture | EZ Rentals & Cash | Harris Lumber & Hardware | Pizza Inn | Franklin & Son |
| 1. Big Spring 2. Coahoma 3. Forsan 4. Texas 5. Texas Tech 6. Virginia Tech 7. Okla. St. 8. Baylor 9. Florida St. 10. Kansas | 1. Big Spring 2. Coahoma 3. Sonora 4. Texas 5. Texas Tech 6. Texas A&M 7. SMU 8. Sam Houston St. 9. Florida St. 10. Kansas | 1. Big Spring 2. Coahoma 3. Forsan 4. Texas 5. Texas Tech 6. Texas A&M 7. SMU 8. Baylor 9. Colorado 10. Jacksonville St. | 1. Big Spring 2. Coahoma 3. Forsan 4. Texas 5. Texas Tech 6. Virginia Tech 7. Okla. St. 8. Baylor 9. Florida St. 10. Kansas | 1. Big Spring 2. Coahoma 3. Forsan 4. Texas 5. Texas Tech 6. Virginia Tech 7. Okla. St. 8. Baylor 9. Florida St. 10. Kansas | 1. Big Spring 2. Coahoma 3. Sonora 4. Texas 5. N. Carolina St. 6. Virginia Tech 7. Okla. St. 8. Baylor 9. Florida St. 10. Kansas | 1. Big Spring 2. Ozona 3. Sonora 4. Texas 5. Texas Tech 6. Texas A&M 7. Okla. St. 8. Baylor 9. Florida St. 10. Kansas | 1. Big Spring 2. Coahoma 3. Forsan 4. Texas 5. Texas Tech 6. Texas A&M 7. SMU 8. Baylor 9. Colorado 10. Jacksonville St. | 1. Big Spring 2. Coahoma 3. Sonora 4. Texas 5. Texas Tech 6. Texas A&M 7. Okla. St. 8. Baylor 9. Florida St. 10. Kansas | 1. Big Spring 2. Coahoma 3. Sonora 4. Texas 5. Texas Tech 6. Virginia Tech 7. Okla. St. 8. Baylor 9. Florida St. 10. Jacksonville St. |

Enter To Win \$75 At These Participating Merchants

Rules: Find this week's games in the merchants' ads on this page. Choose the teams you think will win. Clip and fill in the official entry blank on this page with your team choice. The entry with the most correct picks will win \$75. You must be 18 to enter. Only official entry forms accepted. In the event of a tie, the tie breaker will determine the winner. Guess the winner and the combined scores for the total points. Decisions of the judges are final. Employees and families of employees of The Big Spring Herald are ineligible. All entries must be received at one of the participating merchants by 1 p.m. Friday of the week played. Winners will be announced in the Big Spring Herald the Tuesday following the games.

Pigskin Picks Entry Form

Team _____ Name: _____

1. _____ Address: _____

2. _____ Phone Number: _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

Tie Breaker - Circle the winner and note total points scored
Missouri vs. Middle Tennessee

Total Points _____

End of Summer Clearance
Take an extra **25% off**
Already reduced select merchandise
Hrs.: 10-7 Monday-Saturday 1-5 pm Sunday
Suggs Hallmark
Big Spring Mall 263-4444

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1. Big Spring vs. Plainview
Allan's Furniture
202 Scurry 267-6278

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One beautiful place
We remove **cracks**
✓ Breaks and dents from your fine jewelry.
✓ Expert goldsmiths. Done in our store.
Open 10 until 6 Monday-Saturday
Big Spring Mall 267-6335

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3.99
1" x 25' Hi-Viz® Tape Rule
Includes free, 6" pocket tape
HARRIS LUMBER & HARDWARE, INC.
1515 E. FM 700 (432) 267-8206

Pizza Inn
3 Lg. 1 Topping Pizzas
\$23.99
Must Present Coupon
1702 Gregg 263-1381

RELIABLE ALL-SEASON HIGHWAY DRIVING
BRIDGESTONE
65,000 Mile
408 Runnels 267-6337

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50 LB. BAG **\$4.50**
See Our Purina Lineup at
Howard County Feed & Supply
Don Bowles - owner
701 E. 2nd 267-6411

Week #3 Winner \$75.00
Claudie J. Horn
Entered At
Harris Lumber & Hardware
You could be next
Play Today!
Winners will be announced on Tuesday. Checks may be issued or mailed out on Friday.

Come In & See All Our New Fall Merchandise!
Don't Forget About Our **Bridal Registries**
Halfmann's Creations
1900 S. Gregg 263-4949
5. Texas Tech vs. N. Carolina St.

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Come See Us At
EZ RENTALS/CASH
Quickest Cash In Town!
\$50 - \$500
2. Coahoma vs. Ozona
1702 E. FM 700 - 263-4444

SONIC
America's Drive-In.
8. Baylor vs. Sam Houston State
601 E. Marcy FM 700
1200 Gregg St.
Taviance Clemons
Michael Shockley
Offense Defense

PLAYER OF THE WEEK
Taviance Clemons
Michael Shockley
Offense Defense

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and pre...
protect...
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Especially for kids and their families
The Mini Page

By BETTY DEBNAM

Freedoms in the First Amendment

Assembly and Petition

Religious liberty, freedom of speech and press are the best-known freedoms protected by the First Amendment. But there are also two other important freedoms—assembly and petition—that are needed to make sure we don't lose any of our rights.

History

The right to petition dates back to the Magna Carta in 1215 when noblemen forced King John of England to address their petitions for change. In 1689, the English Bill of Rights gave all Englishmen the right to petition.

The English colonists who settled this country believed that they had the right to petition the government for change. In the 1770s, they petitioned King George III for better treatment. When he ignored them, they wrote the Declaration of Independence and, after the American Revolution, won their freedom.

The First Amendment says, in part:

Congress shall make no law ... prohibiting ... or abridging ... the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances" (a correction of something that someone thinks is unfair).

This says that only Congress shall make no law.

The Supreme Court has ruled that the 14th Amendment (approved in 1868) means that state governments must all protect freedoms guaranteed by the First Amendment.

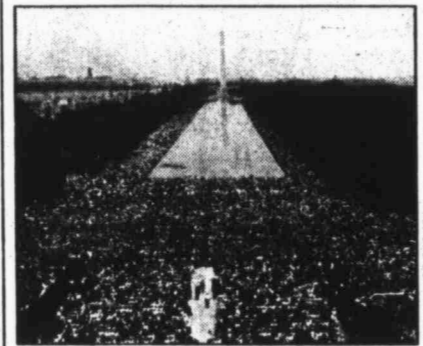
Freedom of assembly

Freedom of assembly is the right of people to gather and express their views. The First Amendment protects peaceful, not violent, assembly. The government can restrict an assembly only if there is a real danger that the law will be broken or violence will break out. For example, people may not riot or block the streets.

Because we have freedom of assembly and expression, the U.S. Supreme Court has also recognized that we have freedom of association. In some countries, meetings and groups are controlled by the government. In this country, we have many thousands of groups and organizations that are free to meet.

One-time meetings

Some groups might meet only once and for a special purpose.



The 1963 March on Washington for equal rights, led by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., is an example of a one-time gathering.

Organized groups

Some groups, such as the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, meet on a regular basis. They are well organized and many have been around for a long time.



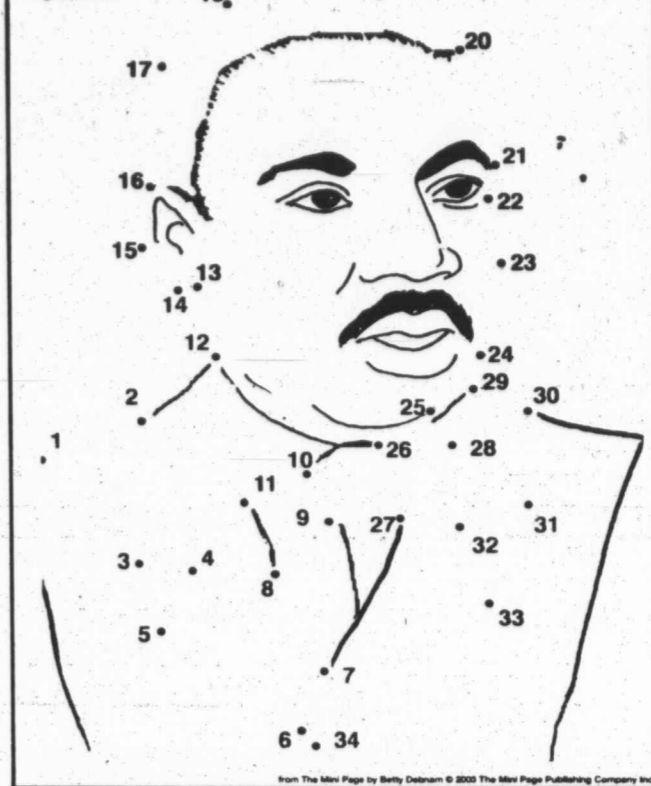
These Girl Scouts are exercising their right to assemble.

Freedom of petition

Freedom of petition is the right to ask the government to correct a problem or to right a wrong. When many people come together and ask for change, it sends a powerful message to government officials.

Throughout American history, petitions from the people have called attention to problems that need to be considered. For example, before the Civil War, thousands of citizens petitioned Congress to end slavery in Washington, D.C., and other areas across the country.

Go dot to dot and color this famous American who spoke out against injustice.



Rookie Cookie's Recipe Little Mexican Pies

- You'll need:**
- 3/4 pound ground beef
 - 1 (1 1/4-ounce) packet taco seasoning, mild
 - 2 tablespoons brown sugar
 - 1 (16-ounce) package refrigerated biscuits, flaky style
 - 3/4 cup sharp cheddar cheese, shredded
 - muffin pan
- What to do:**
1. Spray muffin pan(s) with cooking spray.
 2. In a skillet, brown the ground beef, then mix in the seasoning and sugar.
 3. Separate biscuits into 2 halves and place one half in each muffin cup.
 4. Press bottoms and sides to form a cup.
 5. Spoon meat mixture into cups and sprinkle tops with cheese.
 6. Bake according to biscuit package directions until golden brown. Yields 16 servings. You will need an adult to help you with this recipe.

The Mini Page
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The Mini Page
Gus Goodsport's Report
Supersport: Lance Armstrong

Age: 31 Residence: Austin, Texas

Lance Armstrong is a miracle on a bicycle. In 1996 he was plagued with cancer and given a slim chance to live. But he was healed, and this summer the determined Texan won the Tour de France a record-tying fifth-straight time. The Tour de France is the most renowned cycling race in the world, a 2,077-mile course that winds through scenic mountains and valleys. Armstrong won the grueling 22-day spectacle by 61 seconds over Jan Ullrich.

Maybe it's time to rename the 100-year-old race the "Lance de France!"

In addition to cycling, Armstrong likes to spend time with his wife and three children. He also raises money to help in the fight against cancer.

Next summer, Armstrong will be riding again, trying to win a record sixth Tour de France.

Meet Jaimie Lee Hoffmann

Jaimie Lee Hoffmann, also known as J-Me, started doing karaoke at age 8, and hasn't stopped singing since. Now 14, Jaimie performs in front of thousands of people, opening for hip-hop singer LL Cool J, and signing on with Ripe Records. Her debut album, "J-Me," comes out this fall.

Jaimie, a native of San Diego, is the youngest of four sisters. She enjoys dancing, surfing, drums, and hanging out at the mall. She is a cheerleader for her high school football team and sings in the choir. Her favorite color is pink. Her future plans are to tour in Europe and Japan, and to perform on shows for the Disney channel and Nickelodeon.

MIGHTY FUNNY'S Mini Jokes

All the following jokes have something in common. Can you guess the common theme or category?

Andy: What happens when you illegally park a frog?
Henrietta: It gets toad!

Barry: Where do frogs make notes?
Venus: On lily pads!

Seth: How can you get a frog off the back window of your car?
Wanda: Turn on the de-frogger!

Assembly and Petition TRY 'N FIND

Words and names that remind us of the right of assembly and petition are hidden in the blocks below. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally. See if you can find: MESSAGE, EXPRESS, RIGHT, SIGN, CITIZEN, PERMIT, OPINIONS, LOBBY, VIEWS, LAW, CAUSE, ENGLISH, CHANGE, GOVERNMENT, KING, FREEDOM, ASSOCIATION, MEETINGS, GROUPS, ASK.

WE CAN MEET TO RIGHT A WRONG!

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

Mini Spy ...

Mini Spy and her friends are petitioning to save a neighborhood park. See if you can find:

SAVE OUR PLAY PARK!

- strawberry
- coffee pot
- number 2
- letter Z
- two socks
- bowl
- number 3
- two birds
- exclamation mark
- frog
- number 8
- letter H

Assembly and Petition

We have the right to express our opinions to the government.

We can let the government know our views in several ways:

- **by signing a petition.** A petition is a written request for action. We send it to the part of government that might be able to help.
- **by writing our lawmakers and asking them to make new laws or change old ones.**
- **by lobbying,** or trying to influence lawmakers to vote in a way that is favorable to our cause. Many companies and other groups have lobbyists who represent them in Washington or state capitals. The lobbyist's job is to try to influence the lawmakers.
- **by putting advertisements in newspapers, or on radio and TV** that present our side of the issues.
- **by visiting the offices of officials and talking with them** about our opinions.
- **by demonstrating,** or calling attention to our cause by parading or holding rallies. This right to petition even protects those whose cause is not a popular one. (For example, in the past the courts have held that members of the Nazi Party have the right to a parade permit, even though their cause is an unpopular one.)

Opponents of the war against Iraq demonstrate alongside supporters of President Bush and Vice President Cheney at Colorado College in Colorado Springs in 2002.

There are limits to the freedom of assembly and petition. Notice the word "peaceably" in the First Amendment. This means that our meetings and demonstrations should be peaceful. They cannot cause danger to others or to their property. State, local and national governments have set up certain rules in order to keep the peace. The U.S. Supreme Court has held that these rules must be reasonable. People who are planning to march or demonstrate usually must get permits to do so. Lobbyists who try to influence lawmakers must register to let people know whom they represent and what their interests are. Freedom of assembly and of petition gives citizens the right to complain about what the government is doing and ask for change.

Look through your newspaper for stories and pictures of people gathering together.

The Mini Page thanks the educational staff of the National Archives (www.archives.gov) and Charles Haynes of the First Amendment Center (www.firstamendmentcenter.org) for help with this issue.

Next week The Mini Page is about the 100th anniversary of the World Series.

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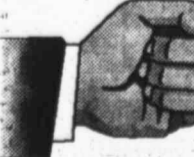
24 Hrs. 7 Days on both. Please include your name, address, day phone number, evening phone number, credit card name, credit card number, expiration date of credit card, day to start ad, number of days to run ad and what you want the ad to say.



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NOON THE DAY BEFORE
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NO ADS TAKEN AFTER 4:30 PM**

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1995 Mark 8 (Maue). Great condition. Looks new. Leather interior, 2 door, 77k miles. \$7,995. Call 432-267-2653

PICKUPS
1986 Chevy 4X4 Silverado. Short wide bed. Rebuilt motor. \$4,000 OBO. 1801 Hilltop or call 267-4318.

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1999 GMC Yukon. Cloth interior, loaded, all power. \$13,500. Call 263-3622 and leave message.

SUBURBANS
For Sale: 1994 Customized Red Suburban. \$7,000, or o.b.o. Please call 267-9523 after 5pm.

Nissans, Nissans & More Nissans \$1,000 Rebate & 0.9% APR
Ask For Details
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If you can meet the following criteria, we want to talk to you immediately.
(1) Have three or more years experience as a licensed security officer within Texas, or equivalent Security experience in the military or civilian police sectors.
(2) Have a clear criminal background history
(3) Can pass a thorough drug screen and have a clear driving record.

A Starting pay of \$10.00 per hour is available for those who pass pre-screening, competitive interviews and accept an offer of employment. Part time and full time positions are available, with weekend scheduling a must.

Interested candidates must bring the following in order to apply.
(1) Valid Texas drivers license.
(2) Social Security Card
(3) Proof of education (4) DD-214 for prior military service if applicable.
(5) Complete addresses and phone numbers for previous employers and three personal references.

Applications will be accepted 9am to 5pm Tuesday, 16 September 2003 at the Big Spring Work Force Network, 310 Owens St. Big Spring TX 79720.

City of Big Spring accepting applications for Police Personnel dept., 310 Nolan, 432-264-2346. EOE

PIZZA INN
Now hiring part-time staff and Drivers. Apply in person, 1702 Gregg.

HELP WANTED
Att: Big Spring - Postal position. Clerks/carriers/sorters. No exp. required. Benefits: For exam, salary, & testing information call (630) 393-3032 ext.681, 8am-8pm 7 days.

Carpenters needed. Res. & Lt. comm. remodeling. Must have transportation to & from work. 432-267-2296.

Texas Department of Criminal Justice - Manufacturing and Logistics Division has an immediate opening for a Correctional Transportation Officer - Truck Driver position, posting no. 024381DL, located at the Daniel Unit in Snyder, Texas. \$2,036.00/Monthly. Successful completion of Texas department of Criminal Justice's freight transportation road test must be completed before the closing date of the position. The following must be turned in with application: Class A Commercial Driver's License (CDL) with X endorsement, and a current CDL physical certification card issued within the last two years. To Apply: a complete Job Description, Qualifications and Applications are available at www.tdcj.state.tx.us or contact Manufacturing and Logistics Human Resources at 936-437-6531. Submit a State of Texas Application and Driver's Application for Employment to Missy Atchley, TDCJ, Manufacturing and Logistics, P.O. Box 4013, Huntsville, Texas 77342 (overnight thru UPS, Fed-Ex, Airborne - 861 IH45, Rm112, Huntsville, Texas 77320; overnight thru postal service - P.O. Box 4013), by 06/18/03 AT 5:00PM.

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Full time hygienist to become our interceptive periodontist in a new office. Voice activated periodontal charting, intra-oral camera, and hygiene assistant. Excellent Benefits. Fax your confidential resume to 432-367-0636

HELP WANTED
The City of Big Spring is accepting applications for a Convention & Visitors Bureau Coordinator. This position is responsible for promoting and marketing activities that will encourage tourism and convention activities in Big Spring. For further information contact the personnel department at City Hall, 310 Nolan, Big Spring, TX 79720 or call 432-264-2346. The City of Big Spring is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

HELP WANTED
Earn up to \$600 Weekly Working through the government part-time. No experience. A lot of opportunities. 1-800-308-2850 Code A44

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| <p>APPLIANCE REPAIR</p> <p>A-2-Z Service Air Condition & Heating Service washers & dryer ranges, refrigerators microwaves Call: 393-5217 for appointment 25 Years Exp.</p> | <p>DIRT CONTRACTORS</p> <p>ANY SIZE DIRT JOB! Caliche, field dirt, Dump Truck & Backhoe Services. Call 352-1420</p> | <p>HOME IMPROVEMENT</p> <p>HOME REPAIR REASONABLY PRICE! Doors/Garage Doors Carpentry Sheet Rock repaired/replaced Kitchen & Bath Renovations BOB'S CUSTOM WOODWORK 267-5811 400 E. 3rd</p> | <p>RS HOME REPAIR</p> <p>Remodel, Carpenter, Painting, Plumbing, Minor Electrical FREE ESTIMATES Garage door repair, Appliances installed 915-816-3030</p> | <p>S & L Lawn Service</p> <p>Mowing, edge, weed eating, hedge & tree trimming & removal, hauling. Free Estimates 267-9427 Cell 213-0793 ask for Shane</p> | <p>ROOFING</p> <p>FULLMOON ROOFING, INC. Voted Top 100 Roofing Contractors in America FREE ESTIMATES No Money down COMPETITIVE PRICES 915-267-5478</p> | <p>TREE TRIMMING</p> <p>LUPE'S TREE TRIMMING More than 20 years of experience. Stump grinder available. For Tree Trimming and removal. Call Lupe 267-8317 or 268-9841</p> |
| <p>CARPET CLEANING</p> <p>Amazing Power Carpet Cleaning FREE Carpet Audit/ Estimate Call: Bill & Jackie 432-263-1488 Truck Mount Unit</p> | <p>FENCES</p> <p>B&M FENCE All types of Fences & Repairs. Free Estimates... Call: Robert Marquez Owner 263-1613 MEMBER BBB</p> | <p>Gibbs Remodeling</p> <p>New home Construction Room Additions Carpentry Dry Wall Hanging & Finishing Painting Interior & Exterior Wallpaper Hanging Ceramic Tile Installation & Repair All remodel needs of any room in your home. Call 263-8285</p> | <p>INTERNET SERVICE</p> <p>Local Unlimited Internet Service No Long Distance No 800 Surcharge All services on Internet Available Web Pages for Business & Personal Use. CRESTAR 268-8800 (fax) 268-8801 We make it EASY for YOU to get on the INTERNET BIG SPRING'S PATH TO THE INFORMATION HIGHWAY!!!</p> | <p>GRASSMASTERS Lawn Care Service Tree Trimming Free Estimates 432-213-2500 Locally Owned</p> | <p>NURSERIES</p> <p>WE DIG AND MOVE TREES Large selection of ball & burlap Red Oak, Live Oak & Cedar Elms DECKER FARM SUPPLY & NURSERY 756-3444</p> | <p>WEED CONTROL</p> <p>SOUTHWESTERN A-1 PEST CONTROL Since 1954 263-6514 2008 Birdwell Lane Max F. Moore www.swalpc.com mm@swalpc.com</p> |
| <p>Increase the Power of your mind. READ!</p> | <p>STAND UP AND BE COUNTED! VOTE!</p> | <p>STAND UP AND BE COUNTED! VOTE!</p> | <p>STAND UP AND BE COUNTED! VOTE!</p> | <p>STAND UP AND BE COUNTED! VOTE!</p> | <p>STAND UP AND BE COUNTED! VOTE!</p> | <p>STAND UP AND BE COUNTED! VOTE!</p> |

HELP WANTED
LICENSED VOCATIONAL NURSE
Full time in Big Spring TX License and a phlebotomy skill required. Mon-Fri. day schedule 8-hour between 6:00 am & 4:00 pm
No weekends or holidays.
Minimum \$14.00/hr. benefits.
Send resume to: by Fax 686-998-2 or e-mail: contract.cases@casepro.com
CASEPRO, INC.

There is an opening for a Contract Treating Driver in Howard County. Candidate operate a treat for pipeline treatments. Must be physically capable as well as maintaining associated paperwork.
Requirements: High school diploma or equivalent; good record; Class A or CDL; HAZMAT or Tanker endorsement. Please call 800/658-2769 x722 between 8-5 CT for appointment. **"AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER"**
Maintenance Position Available

The Colorado River Municipal Water District has an opening for a Maintenance Worker in Big Spring. CDL license and mechanical experience are helpful. District benefits include vacation and hold sick leave, retirement plan, and group insurance. The District is an equal opportunity employer.

Applications are available at the District's office, 41 East 24th Street, Big Spring, Texas or by calling 432-267-63.

Mountain View L
Now Hiring LVH for the 2-10 Shift
Great Benefits
Great Working Conditions
NO PHONE CALLS
Apply in person 2009 Virginia M-F 8am-5pm

Help Wanted: 2 yr experienced Roush pusher. Apply at: **Rusty's Oilfield Service**
394-4123

The City of Big Spring is accepting applications for a Communicator in the Department. Position is responsible for receiving call assistance from public and dispatching appropriate personnel. Applicant for Jailer are also accepted. For information contact Personnel Dept at City Hall, 310 Nolan, Big Spring, TX 79720. Call 432-264-2346. City of Big Spring EOE.

B

A NEW CLASSIFIED

JUST CHECK IT OFF

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20 c

1-4 Line
5 Lines
6 Lines
7 Lines

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
PHONE _____
START IF USING _____
CARD NO _____

TUESDAY

Table with 24 columns (stations) and 12 rows (timeslots). Columns include station call letters and program titles. Rows include timeslots from 6:30 AM to 12:30 AM.

DENNIS THE MENACE comic strip. Panel 1: Dennis is talking to Margaret. Panel 2: Margaret is holding her mouth. Caption: "I NEED TO BOIL MY HARMONICA, QUICK! MARGARET JUST PUT HER MOUTH ON IT!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS comic strip. Panel 1: A boy and girl talking. Panel 2: The boy says, "Only girls get pink eye. Boys get blue."

HAGAR comic strip. Panel 1: Hagar says, "DAD, I'VE DECIDED NOT TO BE A VIKING WARRIOR WHEN I GROW UP!" Panel 2: Hagar asks, "WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE?" Panel 3: Hagar says, "I WANT TO BE A DOCTOR OR A LAWYER OR A TEACHER." Panel 4: Hagar says, "SIGH! YOU HAVE SUCH HIGH HOPES FOR YOUR KIDS AND THEY ALWAYS SEEM TO LET YOU DOWN!"

BLONDIE comic strip. Panel 1: Mr. Ditzler says, "MR. DITZLER, THIS IS FINAL! EITHER I GET MY RAISE IMMEDIATELY OR ELSE!" Panel 2: Blondie says, "OR ELSE WHAT?!" Panel 3: Mr. Ditzler says, "THAT'S THE ONE QUESTION I WASN'T PREPARED FOR."

WIZARD OF ID comic strip. Panel 1: A sign says "OK, WHO CAN GIVE ME AN EXAMPLE OF 'CONSUMER CONFIDENCE'?" Panel 2: A sign says "GOT IT, TEECH!" Panel 3: A sign says "THE GUY THAT DON'T BUY THE INSURANCE RIDER ON HIS PURCHASE."

AGNES comic strip. Panel 1: Agnes says, "WHAT DO YOU CALL YOUR GOVERNING BODY HERE?" Panel 2: Agnes says, "THE LITTLE RUNT."

HI AND LOIS comic strip. Panel 1: Lois says, "A LARGE PART OF BEING A SUCCESSFUL SURGEON IS THE ABILITY TO BARK ORDERS." Panel 2: Lois says, "HEY, 'NIKE' IS FOR LATER... WHEN WE'RE DRINKING COFFEE AND WASHING BODY BITS OUT OF OUR ELBOW PITS... NOW, GET ME A DRAIN PAN! STAT!" Panel 3: Lois says, "HEY! WHO YOU CALLIN' A STAT?!" Panel 4: Lois says, "IT'S AN AFFECTIONATE TERM... YOU KNOW, LIKE WHEN SURFERS CALL EACH OTHER 'DUDE'."

MR. HOUSEWIFE comic strip. Panel 1: Mr. Housewife says, "DITTO NEEDS A GOOD TALKING-TO." Panel 2: Mr. Housewife says, "NO... FOR WHAT HE'S ABOUT TO DO."

SNUFFY SMITH comic strip. Panel 1: Snuffy Smith says, "WHAT DID I SAY ABOUT SHOPPING WITHOUT ME?" Panel 2: Snuffy Smith says, "HELP ME RETURN THESE?"

BEEBLE BAILEY comic strip. Panel 1: Beeble Bailey says, "A PAY AN' PLAY POOL TABLE!!" Panel 2: Beeble Bailey says, "BODA-CIOUS, SILAS!!" Panel 3: Beeble Bailey says, "WHAR'S TH' COIN SLOT?" Panel 4: Beeble Bailey says, "RIGHT HERE!!"

Comic strip. Panel 1: A man says, "I'M WRITING A POLICY AGAINST SENDING THOSE CHAIN E-MAILS!" Panel 2: A man says, "HERE! E-MAIL IT TO EVERYONE!"

This Date In History

By The Associated Press Today is Tuesday, Sept. 16, the 259th day of 2003. There are 106 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: Fifty years ago, on Sept. 16, 1953, "The Robe," the first movie filmed in the widescreen process CinemaScope, had its world premiere at the Roxy Theater in New York. On this date: In 1638, France's King Louis the XIV was born. In 1810, Mexico began its revolt against Spanish rule. In 1893, hundreds of thousands of settlers swarmed onto a section of land in Oklahoma known as the "Cherokee Strip." In 1919, the American Legion was incorporated by an act of Congress. In 1940, President Roosevelt signed into law the Selective Training and Service Act, which set up

the first peacetime military draft in U.S. history. In 1940, Samuel T. Rayburn of Texas was elected Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives. In 1963, the science-fiction anthology series "The Outer Limits" premiered on ABC television. In 1974, President Ford announced a conditional amnesty program for Vietnam war deserters and draft-evaders. In 1977, Maria Callas, the American-born prima donna famed for her lyric soprano and fiery temperament, died in Paris at age 53. In 1982, the massacre of hundreds of Palestinian men, women and children by Lebanese Christian militiamen began in west Beirut's Sabra and Chatilla refugee camps. Ten years ago: A judge in Berlin convicted three elderly former Communist leaders in the shooting deaths of East Germans who had tried to scale the Berlin Wall. One year ago: U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan announced that Iraq

had unconditionally accepted the return of U.N. weapons inspectors. Today's Birthdays: Actress Janis Paige is 81. Actress Lauren Bacall is 79. Blues singer B.B. King is 78. Actor Peter Falk is 76. Actress Linda Miller is 61. Rhythm and blues singer Betty Kelly (Martha & the Vandellas) is 59. Musician Kenny Jones (Small Faces; Faces; The Who) is 55. Actress Susan Ruttan is 55. Actor Ed Begley Jr. is 54. Country singer David Bellamy (The Bellamy Brothers) is 53. Country singer-songwriter Phil Lee is 52. Rock musician Ron Blair (Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers) is 51.

Newsday Crossword

COMPLETELY by Sally R. Stein Edited by Stanley Newman

- ACROSS 1 A long way off 5 Korean, for example 10 British noble 14 Sulk 15 Green pasta sauce 16 Not at home 17 Completely 20 Olympics award 21 Reeves of Speed 22 Gender 23 Perot's middle name 25 "la vie!" 27 With 49 Across, completely 31 Big hit in baseball 35 Social sci. 36 Carry, as freight 37 "Smart as a whip," e.g. 38 Org. for seniors 40 Fur wrap 42 Social slight 43 Yuletide vehicle 45 Distort 47 Poem of praise 48 The third planet 49 See 27 Across 51 Frog relative 53 You Bet Life 54 Frosty 57 Traffic tie-up 59 Lariat 63 Completely 66 "You bet!" 67 Actor McQueen 68 Make less burdensome 69 Bovine beasts of burden 70 German industrial city 71 Actress Cannon DOWN 1 Two-band radio 2 Golfer's shout 3 Like two peas in 4 Statement 5 Renter's dwelling: Abbr. 6 Tries to find 7 "Woe ___!" 8 Assail 9 Not a soul 10 Dine on 11 Amazes 12 Very uncommon 13 Wild cat 18 Walk through a puddle 19 Japanese fish serving 24 Hide away 26 Selleck and Seaver 27 Renter's document 28 Florida city 29 Kitchen tool 30 Funnyman on stilts 32 Trivial 33 Get away from 34 Nonconformist 37 ___Croatian 39 Actor Brad Pitt 41 Guy's sweetheart 44 Halloween costume 46 Sao ____, Brazil 49 Makes adjustments to 50 Like most horror films 52 Win by ___ 54 In that case 55 Gist 56 Olden days 58 Hwys. 60 Hang around 61 Slugger Sammy 62 Sign of the future 64 Fellows 65 Big ____, (London landmark)

Answer to previous puzzle SHIRT KILTS IDA RUPEE ISAAC LIB ONOFFSWITCH LAY ELAINE OPENS DACRONS GOUGES ATHENS JOANNA CLUE MARGE LOW HAM USED CAR THE ASP NINES HUGE CACTUS BLARES AWHILE HAIRNET SHALE SCORES PIN SECONDSHIFT ENG ALAMO TERRA NEE MINER ORSON

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