

HERALD
2005

BIG SPRING

HERALD



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VOLUME 101, NUMBER 280

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2005

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

VA Task Force looking for a few good men... and women

By VALERIE AVERY
Special to the Herald

September's West Texas VA Medical Center public hearing drew heavy attendance, outstanding public support and an overwhelming tide of knowledgeable speakers in favor of continuing the Big Spring facility's tradition.

Since the public hearing, many citizens are echoing the same comment — they also

want an opportunity to speak before the panel charged with making recommendations for the future of the medical facility.

"Many people have approached me and others on the task force: Ed Moughon, Cindy Smith, Joe Conciencie and asked the same thing — 'When are they coming back and how do we go about speaking before the commission?'" said Shelley Smith, West Texas



S. Smith

Centers for MHRM CEO and a leader within the VA Task Force.

With the process only half-way through, task force members have continued meeting since the Sept. 1 public hearing, Smith said.

"We still have a lot of public education to do and we would like to help facilitate an oppor-

tunity for people to speak to the Local Advisory Panel during its next public hearing," Smith said.

"We thought the easiest way to do that is to have those that want to speak contact Debbye ValVerde at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce and we'll take it from there," she said.

ValVerde is executive director of the Chamber of Commerce and has been at the

TO HELP

If you are interested in speaking at the December hearing on the future of the VA Medical Center, call the Chamber of Commerce office at 432 263-7641.

forefront of organizing the Task Force's efforts.

See **TASK FORCE**, Page 3A

Construction falls behind at Forsan schools, board told

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

FORSAN — Frustration over the lack of progress on bond projects is beginning to show among Forsan Independent School District officials.

Classrooms and offices that were supposed to be finished a month ago are still a week or more away from completion. Work on big-ticket items such as a new practice gym and band hall hasn't really begun in earnest.

While many projects are complete, or nearly so, school officials showed frustration at the lack of progress on the projects during Monday's school board meeting at the administration building.

"We've moved into our offices," Elbow Elementary Principal Steve Osborn said. "But they're not finished. They have to work around us now, which I think is fair."

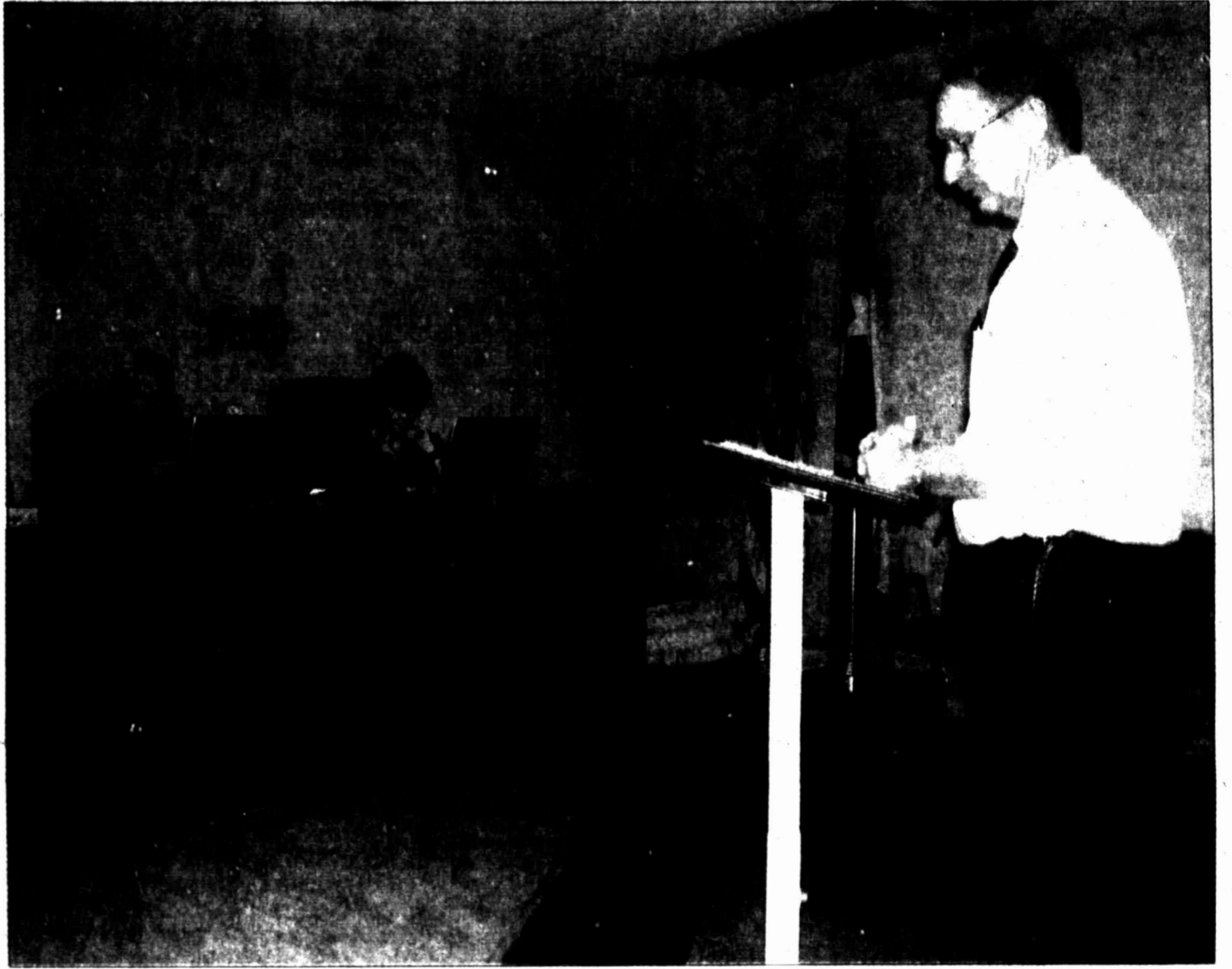
"I'm confident better days are ahead. We're not holding back any resources. We're going to do everything we can to get this back on schedule, or as close to schedule as possible."

Joe Grimes,
architectural consultant

Architectural consultant Joe Grimes met with trustees to explain the state of construction, and was upfront in admitting that things are way behind schedule.

"I wish I could put my finger on exactly why it's happened," Grimes said. "It's a combination of

See **FISD**, Page 3A



Herald photo/Steve Reagan

Joe Grimes, right, architectural consultant to Forsan ISD on its ongoing construction projects, discusses the status of those projects with the Forsan school board Monday evening. In the background are trustees Marty Whetsel and Beckie Wash.

Rhoton named to fill vacancy on Forsan ISD board

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

FORSAN — School trustees here named Misty Rhoton to fill a vacancy on the Forsan ISD school board during their regular monthly meeting Monday evening.

Rhoton, who heads the hot check department at the



Rhoton

Howard County Attorney's office, replaces Gary "Barney" Hise, who resigned in September after moving out of the district.

"One of the board members came up with her name and

mentioned that we ought to consider her as a possible replacement," Board President Allen McDowell said.

"I was interested (in serving on the board), and I knew there was a vacancy," Rhoton said. "I went to the meetings and let them know I was interested in serving on the board."

Rhoton will serve the remain-

der of Hise's unexpired term, which runs through May. She said she plans on running for election at that time.

Other business Monday:

- Approved improvement plans for the district and individual campuses.
- Named Sept. 17 as the day the district will annually cele-

brate Constitution-Citizenship Day.

- Named Tommy Yeater and other county extension agents as adjunct faculty members.

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

No action on immigration expected this year, senator says

By JIM ABRAMS
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sidetracked by hurricanes and Supreme Court nominees, the Senate will not take up comprehensive immigration legislation until January, a leading proponent of immigration law reform said Monday.

Sen. John Cornyn, R-

Texas, also told reporters he did not expect the Senate to vote on immigration legislation that addresses only border control enforcement without considering the issues of illegal aliens already in the country.

"We have to deal with this comprehensively," said Cornyn, who chairs the Senate Judiciary Committee's

immigration, border security and citizenship panel.

GOP leaders in the House and Senate have stressed that immigration reform remains near the top of the legislative agenda, but action has been delayed both by the crisis created by the Gulf Coast hurricanes and differences over what that reform should entail.

President Bush last year

expressed support of a guest worker program, but lawmakers are divided over whether people already working in this country illegally should be allowed to stay.

Cornyn and Sen. Jon Kyl, R-Ariz., are sponsoring a bill that would require illegal immigrants to return to their home countries before applying for a temporary

worker program. Sens. John McCain, R-Ariz., and Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., back a bill that would let illegal immigrants apply for a temporary work visa with the possibility of eventually gaining legal status and citizenship.

On Tuesday, Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff and Labor Secretary Elaine

Chao are to testify before the Senate Judiciary Committee on the administration's initiatives to stop the flow of illegal immigrants, including criminals and terrorists, across the border. Cornyn said he expects the committee to develop a bill around January.

Cornyn said he would See **IMMIGRATION**, Page 3A

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FLU VACCINE AVAILABLE

The Big Spring Texas Department of State Health Services is offering opportunities to receive flu vaccine.

Thursday, Oct. 20: DSHS office, 501 Birdwell Lane, Suite 28b. 8:30 a.m.-11 a.m., 1 p.m.-4 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 21: Senior Center, 1901 Simler, 10 a.m.-noon for last names beginning with A-M, 12:30 p.m.-2 p.m. for names N through Z.

Friday, Nov. 4: Dora Roberts Community Center, Whipkey Drive, during the Senior Fun Fest, 8:30 a.m.-11:30 p.m. Bring Medicare and Medicaid information. The cost for someone not on Medicare or Medicaid is \$10.

COMING THIS WEEKEND

Cover Story: For generations, kids and vegetables have been on adversarial terms. But the way kids think about things from the garden is changing, thanks to a talking, singing odd couple named Bob and Larry. Bob is a tomato and Larry is a cucumber. And they're superstars in the tossed-salad world of VeggieTales, a wildly successful series of videos, games, books, toys and even a feature-length theatrical movie that has captured the affection of kids across the country.



DRIVE-IN DINER

WAUSAU, Wis. (AP) — A nasty car crash shouldn't interrupt a good breakfast. Police Patrol Inspector Bryan Hilts said a 78-year-old man whose car ran into the front entry of a fast-food restaurant backed away after the crash, parked and then went in for breakfast.

Police called to the scene Friday found Rouland Stepper eating at a Burger King table near where his Lincoln Town Car had struck the glass entryway. General manager Kathy Fasse declined to say what he ordered. Because the accident was on private property, the man was not cited, Hilts said. Diminished driving abilities may have played a role in the crash.

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Obituaries

Delia Rubio Tello



Delia Rubio Tello, 59, of Big Spring died on Sunday, Oct. 16, 2005, at CLC in Richland Hills. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 19, 2005, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Rene Luevano, pastor of Iglesia Bautista El Calvario in Dallas, officiating. Interment will follow at Mt. Olivie Memorial Park.

A prayer service will be held tonight, Tuesday, Oct. 18, 2005, at 7 p.m., in the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel.

She was born on Sept. 18, 1946, in Big Spring to Herbert and Manuela Rubio. She married Gregory Tello on April 24, 1970, in Stanton.

Mrs. Tello worked at the Big Spring State Hospital, also at a medical institution in Houston and at the Veterans Administration Medical Centers both in Big Spring and Dallas. Delia was an inspiration to her family and many who knew her. Her friendly, caring, thoughtful and sharing self will be missed.

She was a Baptist.

Survivors include two daughters, Melody T. Baez and husband, Marcos Baez, of Fort Worth and Bess H. Tello and husband, Erik Sellers, of Big Spring; her father, Herbert Rubio of Big Spring; and many other relatives and lifetime friends.

She was preceded in death by her mother.

The family is appreciative to all those who cared for her as well as all of the prayers and support.

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

Paid obituary

Agnes Rhyne Belew

Agnes Rhyne Belew, 81, of Big Spring died Sunday, Oct. 16, 2005, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 19, 2005, at Baptist Temple with the Rev. Don Snipes officiating. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 18, 2005, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

She was born on May 9, 1924, in White County, Ark., to Julia and William Rhyne. She married E.D. "Pete" Belew on June 28, 1941, in Scranton, Texas. They came to Ackerly in 1950 from Scranton and to Big Spring in 1963. Pete preceded her in death on July 9, 1999. She had been employed at the Big Spring State Hospital for 26 years. She was a member of the Baptist Temple Church.

She is survived by one daughter, Bettye McGee of Odessa; two sons, William Belew and Richard Belew, both of Big Spring; one sister, Opal Cozart of Snyder; 10 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and one great-great grandson.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by a daughter-in-law, Martha Belew; four brothers; and one sister.

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

Take note

• **SCENIC MOUNTAIN MEDICAL CENTER VOLUNTEERS FALL AND HOLIDAY SALE** from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. Wednesday in the hospital lobby. Women's and children's clothing, home decor, bedding, candles, purses and more available.

• **HOWARD-GLASSCOCK COUNTIES CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY** volunteer covered dish luncheon is set for noon Oct. 25 in Garrett Hall. The volunteer of the year will be announced. Call Sherry Hodnett at 264-7599 for more information.

• **EARLY DISMISSAL FOR BIG SPRING STUDENTS** Nov. 4 for the football game in Plainview. Bauer Elementary dismisses at 2 p.m.; all other elementary and secondary schools dismiss at 2:15 p.m. Call 264-3600 for more information.

• **MARCY ELEMENTARY FALL FESTIVAL** is set for 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. Saturday. Chili dogs, nachos and frito pies are some of the items available to purchase. Tickets are 25 cents each and may be purchased at the door. Children may wear costumes, but frightening costumes are not allowed.

• **POTTED FALL MUMS TO BENEFIT THE BSHS CARNEGIE HALL BAND TRIP** are on sale now at Johansen's Nursery for \$15 while supplies last.

Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 12-14-19-33-35.
Number matching five of five: none.
Next Cash 5 drawing: Tuesday night.

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Monday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 6-7-11-29. Bonus Ball: 14.
Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: none.
Estimated jackpot for Thursday night drawing: \$250,000.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 7-1-2

David Virgil Yanez



David Virgil Yanez, 51, of Big Spring died Sunday, Oct. 16, 2005, at his residence. Vigil services will be at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 19, 2005, at St. Thomas Catholic Church. Funeral mass will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 20, 2005, at St. Thomas Catholic Church with the Rev. James Plagens, pastor, officiating. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

Mr. Yanez was born on Dec. 24, 1953, in Big Spring. He graduated from Big Spring High School and attended Howard College. He worked for Cornell Corrections Facility for 16 years and was a lieutenant. He was a lifetime resident of Big Spring and was a member of St. Thomas Catholic Church.

He is survived by his wife, Olga Yanez of Big Spring; two daughters, Kim Vore of Odessa and Amy Winfrey of Flagstaff, Ariz.; one sister, Kathy Yanez of Fort Worth; three brothers, Oscar Yanez and Pros Yanez, both of Big Spring, and Jimmy Yanez of San Angelo; and three grandchildren.

The family will be at 1203 E. 6th Street.

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

Barbara Olson Stanley



Barbara Olson Stanley, 74, of Big Spring died on Monday, Oct. 17, 2005, at her residence. Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 20, 2005, at the 14th and Main Church of Christ with Rick Cunningham, minister, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 19, at the funeral home. The family will be at the home of Dickie and Cinda Stanley at 2301 Driver Road.

She was born on Feb. 27, 1931, in Del Rio and married Delbert Stanley on Nov. 19, 1949, in Big Spring.

Barbara came to Big Spring in 1936 with her family. She grew up here and graduated as valedictorian of the class of 1948 from Big Spring High School. She had worked at Big Spring Hardware for eight years and 22 1/2 years as a secretary for Cosden Oil and Chemical, retiring in 1978.

She was a member of 14th and Main Church of Christ.

Barbara was very active in Relay For Life and was a top fund raiser for more than nine years. She was a member of the Women's Bowling League for many years.

Survivors include her husband, Delbert Stanley of Big Spring; one son and daughter-in-law, Dickie and Cinda Stanley of Big Spring; and one grandson and his wife, Logan and Courtney Stanley of San Antonio.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Ollie and Lois Olson; one granddaughter, Meagan Stanley; and one brother, Dalton Olson.

The family suggests memorials be made to Make A Wish Foundation of America, 3550 N. Central Avenue, Suite 300, Phoenix, Ariz. 85012-2127, or Relay For Life, % Diane Woods, P.O. Box 254, Coahoma, Texas 79511.

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

Support groups

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

THURSDAY
• Narcotics Anonymous, non-smoking discussion meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m., at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1001 Goliad.

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

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

Weather

Today — Partly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms after midnight. Lows in the lower 60s. South winds around 10 mph. The chance of rain is 20 percent.

Wednesday — Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 80s. Southwest winds around 10 mph.

Wednesday night — Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 50s.

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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 Club meets, at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Big Spring Band Boosters meets at 5:30 p.m. in the high school band hall. All band parents are invited to attend.
- Big Spring Shrine Club meets at 6:30 p.m. for dinner with a meeting to follow at 1st and Goliad streets. All Masons are welcome to attend.
- Big Spring Art Association meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library. All working artists and those interested in art are invited to attend.
- Concerned Citizens for Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. in the meeting room of the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.
- Order of the Eastern Star No. 67 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

Police blotter

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

- **GUADALUPE GARCIA**, 51 of 1407 S. Scurry, was arrested Monday on a charge of indecency with a child - sexual conduct.
- **DAWN LESLIE ROGERS**, 43, of 505 Union, was arrested Monday and held for the HCSO.
- **JASON MAURICE THREATS**, 27, of 2611 Fairchild, was arrested Monday on eight local warrants.
- **SANTIAGO MUNOZ**, 76, of 108 N. Nolan, was arrested Monday on a local capias warrant.
- **THEFT** was reported:
 - in the 1000 block of Birdwell Lane.
 - in the 1100 block of Lamesa.
 - in the 300 block of Owens.

Sheriff's report

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

- **RANDY RAMIREZ**, 22, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid.
- **HOMERO ROMAN**, 49, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- **SERGIO MOLINA**, 52, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated - second offense open container.
- **JASO MAURICE THREATS**, 27, was arrested by the HCSO on charges of resisting arrest, search or transportation, evading arrest, failure to identify as a fugitive from justice and possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.
- **BLAKE RYAN LYLES**, 24, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- **MICHAEL KLEIN**, 22, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license suspended.
- **RAYMOND SOSA**, 42, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on charges of theft by check, a capias warrant for contempt of court and failure to appear/
- **LESLYE ROGERS**, 43, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for criminal trespass.
- **SHEILA FAY RICHARDSON**, 40, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of theft by check.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department reported the following activity:

- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 600 block of State. Service was refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 111500 block of Runnels. Service was refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 500 block of N. First Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1500 block of N. Highway 87. Service was refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1400 block of N. Highway 87. Service was refused.

BIG SPRING HERALD
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HONOR CHOIR STUDENTS



These Coahoma Junior High students were named to the South Zone Region II Honor Choir Saturday in San Angelo: from left, Reagan Reid, first chair tenor, Nick Sevey, first chair baritone, Kenzie Hunt, 24th chair, second soprano, Megan Parrish, 18th chair second soprano and Hayli McCullough, 19th chair second soprano. They will be part of a clinic/concert at Hardin-Simmons University on Saturday, Nov. 19.

Courtesy photo

Bus driver faces charges in explosion that killed 23

By MATT CURRY
Associated Press Writer

DALLAS (AP) — The driver of the bus that caught fire while carrying elderly patients fleeing Hurricane Rita has been charged with criminal negligent homicide in the deaths of 23 passengers, a spokesman for the Dallas County Sheriff's Department said Monday. The charges against Juan Robles Gutierrez, a 37-year-old Mexican national, were forwarded to District Attorney Bill Hill, Sgt. Don Peritz said. Rachel Horton, Hill's spokeswoman, said the case will go before a grand jury soon.

Robles was taken into federal custody on an immigration violation five days after the Sept. 23 explosion near Dallas.

Peritz would not give specific examples of illegal actions by Robles, saying details would be released if he is indicted.

"The bus is under his care, custody and control and so is everyone on board," he said. "Safe transportation from the nursing home to the final destination is his responsibility. Based on the end result, he failed in that responsibility."

The bus caught fire

about 16 hours after leaving Houston with residents of the Brighton Gardens nursing home who were fleeing approaching Hurricane Rita. Some passengers and the driver escaped but the flames, fed by 18 medical oxygen tanks that also caused explosions, trapped many inside.

There was no comment Monday from the bus company, Global Limo Inc. of Pharr, which was shut down by federal regulators Oct. 7 as a hazard to the public. Its telephone had been disconnected.

Sandra Mendoza, vice consul with the Mexican consulate in McAllen, said Robles was in federal custody in Houston. She said he would receive legal help from consular officials.

Criminal negligent homicide is punishable by up to two years in state jail on each charge and up to a \$10,000 fine, or both.

From the beginning, investigators have focused on the condition of the bus brakes. A motorist told investigators he motioned the driver to pull over shortly after seeing a rear wheel hub that was glowing red.

Authorities said Robles, the driver, did not mention the encounter with the other driver when they interviewed him after the fire.

Sheriff Lupe Valdez said investigators have found no evidence that Robles helped several people off the bus before it was engulfed in flames, which was widely reported after the explosion.

"After an exhausting number of interviews, we have been unable to confirm any of those claims," Valdez said in a statement.

Peritz said failure to help crash victims was not part of the charges against Robles, and charges against other people were still possible.

The Texas Department of Public Safety has said that the bus' right rear brakes failed because of the loss of bearings, and that the left rear brakes were "not maintained in good working order."

Also Monday, at least the third lawsuit was filed in the case. Two sons of 86-year-old Houstonian Lester Lothman, who was killed in the explosion, filed suit in Harris County district court against the bus company, Brighton Gardens and Robles.

TASK FORCE

Continued from Page 1A

"Although there are no guarantees we can arrange for anyone to speak at the next public hearing, we are interested in gathering a list of people who want to speak and trying to organize it prior to the public hearing," said Moughon, Big Spring State Hospital superintendent, who serves on the taskforce.

"The commission members are very interested in seeing how much support the hospital has in Big Spring and an organized and concentrated effort is our best option."

The Capital Asset Realignment of Enhanced Services or CARES Committee is responsible for determining the best locations for veterans to receive medical care in the future. Studies will be completed at 18 identified sites around the country before February 2006 when the final recommen-



ValVerde



Conciencie

dations will be made known by VA Secretary Nicholson.

The West Texas VA Medical Center Task Force proposed, in September, for the West Texas VA Medical Center in Big Spring to be utilized as a center of excellence in mental health and add inpatient psychiatry and long-term domiciliary programs to the current services being offered at the facility.

This proposal was presented to Pricewaterhouse Coopers, the private consulting firm hired by the Veterans Administration to develop the information and options to be pre-

sented to Secretary Nicholson.

Both the inpatient psychiatry and long-term domiciliary programs would enhance the current medical and surgical services currently offered, VA Task Force Member and Chamber Board President Conciencie said.

"The community of Big Spring made a big statement at the last public hearing.

"Unfortunately it isn't over yet and we need to keep our finger on the pulse of this process and make sure we come back at the next public hearing and make that statement once again," said Smith.

Those interested in speaking at the December hearing are urged to call the Chamber of Commerce office at 432 263 7341.

Additional information can be found at the Chamber of Commerce Web site at http://www.bigspringchamber.com/va_cares.php.

FISD

Continued from Page 1A

things." Wetter-than-normal summer weather played a role, but the major culprit has been sub-contractors not delivering on their promises, Grimes said.

"We needed to change some personnel," he said. "We waited too long to do that, and I apologize for that, but we're going to try to get back on track as soon as we can."

Among the projects behind schedule include: • Office space at Elbow Elementary, which was scheduled for completion by Labor Day, needs about another week of work. All other major pro-

jects at the school, however, are completed.

• High school science labs, also scheduled for completion by Labor Day, still are "some weeks" away from being ready, Grimes said.

• The foundation has yet to be poured for the new high school practice gym, while work on the band hall has been delayed, as well.

• Sod for the baseball/softball complex should be placed beginning next week, Grimes said.

Grimes said steps are being taken to get projects back on track.

"A lot of it is getting our sub-contractors to do what they said they were going to do, and give them the materials to do

it," Grimes said. "And we're going to break the jobs down into smaller bites so that we can get things done quicker."

Construction at Elbow and the science labs will take priority, with attention shifting to other projects as soon as those two elements are completed, he added.

Still, Grimes estimated it will be at least March before workers are finished at the junior high/high school.

Grimes promised trustees that things would improve quickly.

"I'm confident better days are ahead," he said. "We're not holding back any resources. We're going to do everything we can to get this back on schedule, or as close to

schedule as possible."

While noting that many projects were completed on time, Superintendent Randy Johnson is hopeful that further delays are not forthcoming.

"It's been frustrating enough that we've had several lengthy conversations with (Grimes and others connected to the project)," Johnson said. "They have offered us new timelines and promised additional personnel to help finish the projects."

But Johnson added that school officials will maintain a watchful eye on the projects.

"We're just going to watch them as close as we can," he said. "If this doesn't change ... then we'll shift gears."

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Rev. Floyd Green
Happy Birthday!
May God Continue To Bless You...
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Nanny arrested after toddler's death

MCKINNEY (AP) — A nanny has been arrested following the death of a 14-month-old boy in her care who suffered head injuries, McKinney police said.

Ada Betty Cuadros Fernandez, 37, a native of Peru, initially was charged with felony injury to a child. But Capt. Randy Roland said Monday that the charge against her is expected to be upgraded to capital murder.

Kyle Lazarchik died on Saturday after being injured on Thursday, authorities said. Medical

examiners ruled the death a homicide due to blunt force trauma.

Roland said police arrested Cuadros Fernandez because her story was not consistent with medical reports.

Cuadros Fernandez told police she had just fed Kyle and his twin brother Ryan lunch and took Kyle into the playroom.

She told police she was moving quickly and hit the right side of Kyle's head against a doorframe.

Doctors said his injuries were consistent with a major car accident or a fall from a six-floor build-

ing, according to her arrest warrant affidavit.

Child Protective Services is also investigating the baby's death. CPS spokeswoman Marissa Gonzalez said that CPS had no prior involvement with Kyle's parents or the nanny.

Kyle's twin brother and an older sister are home with their parents.

MYERS & SMITH
FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL
24th & Johnson 267-8288

David Yanez, 51, died Sunday. Vigil services will be at 6 p.m. Wednesday at St. Thomas Catholic Church. Funeral Mass will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at St. Thomas Catholic Church with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Agnes Rhyne Belew, 81, died Sunday. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Baptist Temple Church with burial at Trinity Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 6 until 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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Enjoy some fresh air while getting the news of the day. Whether you want to get the latest on local, state, national or world news, it's all there in The Big Spring Herald.

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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.

Susanne Reed
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Be sure you help make a difference Saturday morning

What a difference a day can make! Each of us has learned that to be true at least once in our lives. Now it is time to make it true with our community by taking part in "Make A Difference Day" Saturday.

What is "Make A Difference Day"? Well, according to coordinator Pat Simmons, "Make A Difference Day" is the fall "Trash Off" event for Keep Big Spring Beautiful, an affiliate of Keep Texas Beautiful.

Who makes a difference? We all do, or at least we can, Simmons said, noting that volunteers are needed for the Saturday clean up effort.

"Most of our 'Don't Mess With Texas' trash off volunteers have been contacted and are going to be involved," Simmons said. "But, to 'Make A Difference' we need our whole community working. We believe she's absolutely right.

Choose your hours, and work as long as you like. And we would hope that every property owner or renter would take a look at their property, front and back. If something needs cleaning up or fixing, take the opportunity to do that work Saturday.

And if you happen to be involved in a beautification project, Simmons asks that you take a picture, before and afterward so that the Keep Big Spring Beautiful group can submit it with its application to Keep Texas Beautiful.

Those planning to work Saturday can go by the Chamber of Commerce offices, sign up and receive bags from 9 a.m. to noon Friday.

Scenic Mountain Medical Center will be providing a noon meal at the Yellow Rose Cafe for participants on Saturday. In addition, there will be door prizes and drawings.

Remember, as you pick up trash Saturday morning, make sure to save aluminum cans and place them in a separate bag. Those cans can be recycled and provides a way for Keep Big Spring Beautiful to raise funds.

Other trash can be disposed at the most convenient dumpster, because unlike the spring "Trash Off" there will be no weigh-in of the trash collected.

Anyone needing additional information concerning the project can contact Simmons by calling 263-4607.

And remember, regardless of how much or little time you have Saturday, take at least a little of it and help do something to clean up our community. It will not only give you a sense of achievement, but all our lives will be a little better as a result.

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 Managing Editor John A. Moseley at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

Getting Your input, Lord, makes a big difference in our life.

Amen

Things one less better in Europe

See how low Our Betters in Europe have fallen. Remember how highbrow European politicians had all those yuks berating that intellectually challenged hick George W. Bush? They aren't laughing it up now.

German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder has lost his bid for re-election. Odd, how such a sharp, sophisticated fellow over-saw Germany's highest unemployment rate since World War II.

In 2002, Schroeder's justice minister charged that President Bush was beating the Iraq war drum to "distract attention from his domestic problems." Actually, it was Schroeder who tried to curry favor with Germans by bashing Bush to distract from his domestic problems. The ploy, alas, couldn't work forever.

True, Christian Democrat Angela Merkel, the lead vote-getter in Germany's Sept. 18 election, saw her huge lead in the polls tank at the ballot box. So she had no choice but to cut a deal with Schroeder's Social Democratic Party that awarded them key cabinet posts. But it's also true that Schroeder lost his chancellor hat and likely will leave the government.

French President Jacques Chirac thought he had French ratification of the proposed European Union constitution in the bag. He was so confident that he brought the mea-

sure before French voters in May. The shrewd Chirac could not have been more wrong: Some 57 percent of the French voted "non" — even though former French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing headed the committee that drafted the document.

So the anti-Bush European Union has had to kiss its new constitution au revoir and auf wiedersehen. Chirac later lost to London the bid for Paris to host the 2012 Olympics. No surprise there: The French love affair with the transportation strike would threaten to botch Olympic planning. It also may have hurt that two voting members of the International Olympic Committee were Finns — which is important, because they voted shortly after Chirac delivered these bon mots about the Brits: "We can't trust people who have such bad food. After Finland, it's the country with the worst food."

See how the French-German condominium is crumbling. Spanish Prime Minister Jose Luis Zapatero did thrive by opposing Bush on Iraq in the wake of the 2004 Madrid train bombings. His election was considered a rebuke of the then-governing pro-Bush Popular Party. But now, for the first time since the Madrid terrorist attacks, Agence France Presse reports that Zapatero's Socialist Party is running behind the Popular Party in the polls. A paltry 31 percent of those polled have a "good" or "very good" impression of Zapatero.

Yes, things are looking up for Bush supporters abroad. Despite

opposition to the United Kingdom's role as a top ally in Iraq, British Prime Minister Tony Blair was re-elected this year.

At this year's G8 Summit in Scotland, Schroeder and Chirac tried to push Blair to hit Bush harder on the issue of the Kyoto warming treaty. Sorry, chaps. Blair is moving in the other direction. Last month in New York, the British prime minister said he was "changing his thinking" on Kyoto.

After Bush won re-election in 2004, the London Mirror ran a headline that asked: "How Can 59,054,087 People Be So Dumb?" The Guardian waged a campaign that had readers send letters to residents of Ohio's Clark County urging them to vote for John Kerry. The county switched from Democrat to Republican.

During the 2004 race, supporters of John Kerry argued that America should elect a president who has better relations with European leaders — by which he meant Chirac and Schroeder. A year later, Our Betters in Europe are losing battles with their own electorates. They're so clever, yet somehow stupid is spreading through Europe.

E-mail Debra J. Saunders at dsaunders@sfchronicle.com. To find out more about Debra J. Saunders, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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• **GREG BIDDISON** — Home: 267-6009; Work (Greg's Grill): 267-7121.

• **W.A. "WOODY" JUMPER** — Home: 263-0782; Work (BSSH): 267-8216.

• **STEPHANIE HORTON** — Home: 264-0306; Work (VA Medical Center): 263-7361.

• **JOANN STAULCUP** — Home: 263-4980.

• **GLORIA McDONALD** — Home:

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OFFICE — 264-2200.

• **BEN LOCKHART**, COUNTY JUDGE — Home: 263-4155; Office: 264-2202.

• **EMMA BROWN** — Home: 267-2649.

• **JERRY KILGORE** — 263-0724; Work (Jerry's Barbers): 267-5471.

• **BILL CROOKER** — Home: 263-2566.

• **GARY SIMER** — Home: 263-0269; Work (Ponderosa Nursery): 263-4441.

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

Once again the oil and gas companies seem to have decided that Big Spring should pay more for gasoline than the surrounding area.

On Sunday, Oct. 9, gas was selling for \$2.59 to \$2.63 per gallon in Lubbock. When I got back to Big Spring that evening, what should I see but \$2.89 per gallon on the Interstate and \$2.79 per gallon in town.

I have never been able to understand how gas, which has to be transported to Lubbock, can be cheaper than gas that is only transported two or three miles to Big Spring stations.

I asked a clerk at a Lubbock 7-Eleven where they got their gas. He stated that it came from the refinery in Big Spring.

I don't like to think that there is price gouging going on in Big Spring, but it sure is suspicious. Even Snyder has cheaper gas than we do. This has been questioned many times, but I have yet to see an answer that holds up in the clear light of day.

Maybe your paper should look into why this is so, and share the answer in a manner that the public (dumb as we are) might possibly understand.

I, for one, would greatly appreciate it.

PAUL TOWNSEND
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

They say "better late than never." As you all know, back on Sept. 1, many of us gathered at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum in support of Business Plan Option No. 5 relating to the VA CARES study, keeping the VA Medical Center open here in Big Spring and expanding its facilities and its services to veterans.

A great big round of applause and

a huge "thank you" goes to the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce VA Task Force for a very successful forum and presentation of a local proposal drawn up and presented by the committee.

Chamber president Joe Concienne, executive director Debby Valverde and all of the members of the task force went above and beyond the call of duty, as they thoroughly and professionally did their homework in preparation for the meeting and getting the general public informed on the options and CARES process.

In just a few short weeks we will all have another opportunity to come out and support keeping the VAMC, hopefully with expanded services to veterans, when the Federal Advisory Panel conducts another CARES meeting for the public on narrowed down options.

The task force is already gearing up for the next round to support the veterans, the VAMC and the Big Spring community as a whole. I feel like this next forum is the "Big One." Certainly a very critical one and I sincerely urge each and every one of you to come on out and fill the coliseum to capacity in show of your support for our veterans, the VAMC and the wonderful community of Big Spring.

Let's not lose another vital facility by not letting all of our voices be heard. The task force is doing a tremendous job toward pulling this off, let's do our part by supporting its endeavors toward bettering our community and the place we call home.

ED MEISER
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

For those of you who did not attend the Big Spring High School football game Friday night, you really missed a wonderful evening. The weather was perfect. The football team gave everything it had

and won the game against Andrews, 40-12. The Steer band was superb, performing its contest program for the first time. Wow! When the junior high band members joined them for a selection, the field was almost full.

After the game, my husband and I joined another couple at the Serendipity Ice Cream, Coffee Shop at the mall. I had called earlier in the afternoon to make sure they would be open. I spoke with Mr. Fernandez and he told me that they would be open because some of the football players had asked him to do so. He told me he would try and see how it went.

May I tell you, it went very well. The wait staff could not have been more helpful and attentive, though I was a bit disappointed that we were the only ones in the shop. However, while we were enjoying our food and coffee, a young woman came in and told Mr. Fernandez that the football boys would be coming around 11:15 p.m. He told her that was fine. They would be open.

It wasn't long before the young men and women from the band started coming into the shop. Soon there was a long line waiting for ice cream. We got up to leave to make room for the kids to sit.

I don't about you, but it was a wonderful sight to see a business accommodating the youth of Big Spring by remaining open and giving them a good, wholesome place to be after a wonderful evening of great football and music.

For the parents of those young people, if you knew where your children were, and I hope you did, you would thank Mr. Fernandez yourself.

Just in case no one else does, Thank you, Mr. Fernandez. I know I had a serendipitous experience and I'll be back.

SUZANNE CRANFORD
BIG SPRING

News

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News in brief

Texas man who fled hurricane killed during Maryland robbery

WOODLAWN, Md. (AP) — A Southeast Texas man who fled Hurricane Rita was shot and killed during an apparent robbery attempt while visiting relatives in Maryland, police said.

Alfredo Contreras, 48, his wife and two young sons left Beaumont, Texas, as Rita approached and stayed with relatives in North Carolina. He and his family were visiting relatives in Woodlawn when he was killed Sunday.

Police said Contreras, 48, heard a commotion outside a house and went to investigate. While trying to break up a fight between a friend and some unknown men, he was shot once in the upper body, police said.

"He was not out there when the initial fight started. He was coming to the aid of a friend," said Sgt. Vickie Warehime, a police spokeswoman.

But Contreras' relatives told The (Baltimore) Sun that two men in black ski masks were trying to rob Contreras and his brother-in-law when relatives ran out to help.

"They panicked," Viridiana Martinez, 16, who is Contreras' stepdaughter, said of the masked men. "One of the guys pulled out a gun and shot Alfredo Contreras in the stomach."

Police had no suspects in the shooting. Last month, a man from Metairie, La., who fled from Hurricane Katrina, was gunned down in Chattanooga, Tenn., possibly during a robbery of his Red Cross relief money.

Texas Christian University's Link named to USDA post

DALLAS (AP) — James E. Link, director of the ranch management program at Texas Christian University, has been appointed administrator of the Department of Agriculture's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns said Monday.

"Jim Link brings to USDA the knowledge and experiences of a lifetime in the cattle business as rancher, businessman and educator," Johanns said in a news release.

Link, owner of the Link Cattle Company in Crowley, has a bachelor's degree from Kansas State University and an MBA from TCU.

He is a committee member for the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, director of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raiser's Association and serves on the boards of the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show and the Tarrant County Farm Bureau.

Fed agents seize 328 pounds of cocaine from bus

HIDALGO (AP) — Federal agents found \$4.5 million worth of cocaine hidden in a passenger bus crossing into the United States from Mexico, U.S. Customs and Border Protection said Monday.

The seizure occurred Saturday when CBP officers at

the Hidalgo International Bridge sent a 1999 bus through a drive-through scanner and saw odd shapes in the floor area.

They discovered bundles of cocaine under the floor totaling 328 pounds.

Authorities canceled the bus driver's U.S. visa and detained him.

An investigation is continuing.

Child dies in traffic wreck with horse

DAYTON, Texas (AP) — An 11-year-old girl died early Monday when the car in which she was riding struck a horse that had strayed onto a highway, police said.

A second vehicle then hit the quarterhorse, which died.

Kasey Johnson of Dayton was killed and four people in two vehicles were injured in the crash around 12:30 a.m. Monday on U.S. Highway 90, said Det. John Headrick.

Her father, Bryan Wayne Johnson, 31, of Dayton, who was driving, her 5-year-old brother, Kaden Wayne Johnson, and the man's girlfriend, Tricia Park, 31, of Houston, suffered non-life-threatening injuries, according to Headrick.

The second driver was injured when his vehicle also hit the horse. Leonsro Martinez, 27, of Houston, who was alone in his vehicle, suffered facial and hand injuries, Headrick said.

Police are trying to determine who owned the horse and how the animal got out of its pasture.

Iraq's election commission checking ballots

By SAMEER N. YACUB
Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — A sandstorm that muddied Baghdad's skies cleared, allowing officials to resume flying ballot boxes to the capital Tuesday so "unusually high" vote totals in 12 Shiite and Kurdish provinces can be checked by election officials.

The investigation by Iraq's election commission has raised the possibility that the results of the referendum could be called into question. As many as 99 percent of the voters reportedly approved Iraq's draft constitution in some of the provinces being investigated.

Meanwhile, insurgents resumed attacks that had fallen sharply during Saturday's vote at heavily protected polling stations across the country.

In Baghdad, militants shot and killed an adviser to one of Iraq's top Sunni

Arab officials as he drove to work on Tuesday, police said.

In fighting in western Iraq, two U.S. Marines and four militants were killed near the town of Rutba, not far from the Jordanian border, on Monday, the military said. At least 1,978 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count.

Adil al-Lami, head of the Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq, told The Associated Press on Tuesday that ballot boxes were arriving from the provinces and that employees had resumed counting.

"If we suspect that the numbers are higher or lower than we expected, we have to double-check them, and this audit means it might be several more days before we announce the final out-

come," he said. "We are not concerned whether the outcome is 'yes' or 'no.' We are only interested in making the process technically a success."

He said the commission is "a neutral body" acting "as a referee."

The investigation by the commission in Iraq's landmark referendum has raised questions about irregularities in the balloting.

Word of the review came Monday as Sunni Arab leaders repeated accusations of fraud after initial reports from the provinces suggested the constitution had passed. Among the Sunni allegations are that police took ballot boxes from heavily "no" districts, and that some "yes" areas had more votes than registered voters.

The Electoral Commission made no mention of fraud, and an official with knowledge of the election process cau-

tioned that it was too early to say whether the unusual numbers were incorrect or if they would affect the outcome. But questions about the numbers raised tensions over Saturday's referendum, which has already sharply divided Iraqis.

Most of the Shiite majority and the Kurds — the coalition that controls the government — support the charter, while most Sunni Arabs sharply opposed a document they fear will tear Iraq to pieces and leave them weak and out of power.

Irregularities in Shiite and Kurdish areas, expected to vote strongly "yes," may not affect the outcome. The main electoral battlegrounds were provinces with mixed populations, two of which went strongly "yes." There were conflicting reports whether those two provinces were among those with questionable figures.

At Baghdad's counting center, election workers cut open plastic bags of tally sheets sent by plane and helicopter from provincial stations. Nearby, more workers, dressed in white T-shirts and caps bearing the election commission's slogan, sat behind computer screens punching in the numbers.

Election officials in many provinces have released their initial counts, indicating that Sunni attempts to defeat the charter failed.


But the commission found that the number of "yes" votes in most provinces — appeared "unusually high" and would be audited, with random samples taken from ballot boxes to test them.

The high numbers were seen among the nine Shiite provinces of the south and the three Kurdish ones in the north, al-Lami said.

Those provinces reported to the AP "yes" votes above 90 percent, with some as high as 97 and 98 percent.

Two provinces that are crucial to the results — Ninevah and Diyala, which have mixed Sunni, Shiite and Kurd populations — were not among those that appeared unusual.

Guess Who Turned 50?



Love Rita



TRISTAN TRAIN AND BIG MOUNTAIN

Once upon a time over a very big mountain, lay a set of train tracks. The mountain was so big that all of the people who ever saw it just called it "Big Mountain." It was huge. It was tall. It was very wide. It had beautiful trees near the bottom. It had snow and ice on top. The men who built the rail road tracks over the mountain were very strong indeed.

When they had finished, it had taken them over five years to lay those tracks over Big Mountain.

On one side of Big Mountain was a small city called Neverville. On the other side of Big Mountain was an even smaller city called Hopefully. The people in Neverville had a way of taking messages to the Hopefully people. The messages were delivered by an old mountain man called Ollie.

Ollie could walk across that big old mountain in less than seven days. He had done it many times before. He even grew up on that mountain. He never had the need to leave it, either. He loved the old mountain. He knew every tree and every rock and every trail on the mountain. He fished in the mountain streams. He hunted in the mountain woods. He built a very nice log cabin there, too!


Big Mountain, Hopefully, and Neverville were all pretty places to live. And all of the people from each place helped each other all they could. But something was about to happen and both of the cities were going to need help from something big. This is where our hero, Tristan

Train, comes into the story. I'll bet you were wondering why we haven't talked about him yet, weren't you? Let's talk about him now!

Tristan Train had spent his entire life helping people just like you and me. The bike you have in your yard was probably brought to you by Tristan. The car your mummy or daddy has was probably brought to them by Tristan. Many, many things in your home were probably on Tristan's back at some time, with him huffing and puffing his way to your city, bringing things you enjoy each day.

The people in Neverville had a problem! Winter was coming and coming very quickly! The people did not have enough firewood for their fireplaces. And a fireplace was the only way they could keep warm during the long, cold winter.

The people in Hopefully had lots of firewood for the winter. They had even more than they needed and wanted to send some of it to Neverville. But how could they send so much firewood? Big trucks could not carry enough firewood. What could they do? Winter would be there in two more days! And it was



Pizza Inn.
1702 GREGG
263-1381

billowing out of his smokestack! He pulled up alongside all the firewood and the men from Hopefully carefully loaded the wood on his back. Tristan let his engine run the whole time. He was getting cold, too! The big engine finally warmed up and Tristan felt warm once again. He was loaded and ready to go! And he knew that he had only two days to get the firewood to Neverville. Tristan fired up his engine with all his strength, and with a mighty chug and a roar, his wheels slowly started to turn. Then faster! Then faster! And even faster! Tristan really


Pretty soon, Tristan could see it. It wasn't very clear at first. It was still very far away, but it was so big that Tristan could already see it! "Big Mountain!" Tristan kept his wheels turning just as fast as he could, and he ran and he ran! And the mountain got bigger! And bigger! And when Tristan finally reached the very bottom of Big Mountain, he could not believe his eyes. He could not even see the top! Big Mountain was a very big mountain, indeed!

Tristan made his engine roar even more than he had ever done before. He would have to go as fast as he could to ever reach the top of this mountain! He had climbed many mountains before, but never a mountain as big as this one!

With his engine roaring and his wheels screaming and his throttle shaking, he started "up" Big Mountain! Clickety clack, clickety clack, wheels still screaming, black smoke billowing from his smoke stacks, and with a determined grin on his face, Tristan pulled and pulled on the load of firewood. Is he going to make it to the top of Big Mountain?

Tristan was getting closer and closer to the top. He could even see the top now! It was getting har-der and harder, pulling that heavy load, and the mountain seemed to be getting steeper and steeper, and Tristan was getting tired!

Just as Tristan was getting very close to the top, something terrible happened! Tristan could see something on the tracks. Way up ahead of



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263-7316

him! It was a little baby deer! Tristan could see it now! It was a little baby deer! He put on all of his brakes quickly! Tristan was getting very close to the little baby deer now and he pushed his brakes with all his might. His screaming wheels still screamed from trying to stop. His engine was quiet now. There was no black smoke coming from his smoke stacks. Tristan stopped himself just before he had hit the little deer. The little deer was safe now, but Tristan still had to get the little deer off the tracks. Whoooooo, Whoooooo, went Tristan's horn, and the little deer scampered off into the woods!


Now, what will Tristan do? He can not go on up Big Mountain. He had to have a running start, and he was already tired! "I know what I'll do," Tristan thought to himself. "I will let myself coast all the way back down and while I am coasting, I can rest!" And that's just what Tristan did! He coasted and coasted until he finally stopped. And he was ready to try Big Mountain once again!


With a mighty roar, and thicker black smoke coming from his smoke stacks, Tristan left forward! Wheels were once again screaming! His engine roared some more, and they were off! Tristan could not see the top of the mountain yet, but soon he would be able to. He knew what to expect this time because he had been here before! He used his engine more wisely!

Then Tristan saw it! The top of Big Mountain! It was so pretty because it was so close to the sky. And this time, the little deer stand

ing on the tracks. Clickety clack, clickety clack. His wheels seemed to be singing. Clickety clack, clickety clack! "Will I make it to the very top?" Tristan thought! The closer he came to the top of that big old mountain, the less and less he worried about being able to make it!

Finally, with a last clickety clack, and a big blast of black smoke, and screaming wheels, Tristan came over the top of Big Mountain. He had done it! He had climbed over Big Mountain. He had climbed over





getting colder even now! We can't let the little children in Neverville get too cold and then sick, can we? What would you do?

I knew that you were going to say, "Let's load all the firewood on

wanted to get the firewood to Neverville before the winter came, and time was getting shorter and shorter. Now, there was only one and one half days left. And Tristan still had to climb over Big Mountain!

Halloween Coloring Contest

Hey, Kids, win one of these great prizes:

A

ALWAYS carry a flashlight with you when trick-or-treating at night.

A-Boh's Ball Bonds
110 E. 3rd St. 263-3333

Age Category
6 mos. - 3 years

Prize:
Little Touch LeapPad
for Infants and Toddlers

Age Category
4 - 5 years

Prize:
My First LeapPad

Age Category
6 - 9 years

Prize:
VideoNow XP
Interactive video system w/Spongebob Video Disc

Age Category
10 - 12 years

Prize:
Portable MP3 - CD Player
w/ stereo headphones

B

BUY costumes that are made of flame-resistant materials.

Boyd's Auto Glass
600 E. 3rd St. 263-8800

Sponsored by these community-minded businesses:

C

COSTUMES should be bright enough for others to spot you in the dark.

Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce
215 W. 3rd (432) 263-7641

D

DON'T anger your neighbors; cutting across yards is impolite and dangerous.

Dakota's Flowers & Gifts
1110 E. 11th Place 263-8323

E

EAT dinner before you trick-or-treat and bag up those sweets!

Comet Dry Cleaners & Laundry Service
FM 700 & Virginia 267-2584

F

FOLLOW all traffic laws and signals, and cross streets only at crosswalks.

Faye's Flowers
1013 Gregg 267-2571

Color in these important Halloween safety tips as you're learning them.

G

GO slow, drivers. Look out for trick-or-treaters while you are driving.

C & M Garage
3301 W. Hwy. 80 263-0021

H

HAND OUT healthy alternatives to candy, like sealed trail mix or raisins.

Harris Lumber & Hardware, Inc.
1515 E. FM 700 267-8206

I

IF there is no sidewalk, walk on the left side of the road, facing traffic.

By Invitation Only
2309 Scurry (Inside Elrod's) 264-9919

J

JACKETS provide warmth. Take one with you on a cool Halloween night.

Blum's Jewelers
Inside Big Spring Mall 267-6335

K

KNOW your parents' or guardians' contact numbers and always keep them with you.

Klassic Kleaners
2107 Gregg 263-7004

L

LIGHT your jack-o-lantern with a battery-powered light instead of a candle.

Bob Brock Ford • Lincoln • Mercury • Nissan
500 W. 4th 267-7424

M

MAKE sure you wear shoes that fit well and are tied tightly.

The Medicine Shoppe
1001 Gregg 263-7316

N

NEVER enter a stranger's house or car under any circumstances.

Serendipity Ice Cream & Coffee Shoppe
Inside Big Spring Mall 264-1544

O

ONLY eat candy in sealed wrappers, and have your parents inspect all of your candy.

AAA Mini Storage
3301 East FM 700 263-0732

P

PROPS like a toy sword or wand should be flexible, without sharp edges or points.

Pizza Inn
1702 Gregg St. (432) 263-1381

Q

QUICKLY review your trick-or-treating route with Mom and Dad before you leave.

State National Bank
901 Main 264-2100

R

REMEMBER to walk, not run, from house to house while trick-or-treating.

EXPRESS CARE
1602 Gregg 263-7021

S

STAY on sidewalks as much as possible, avoiding streets and empty lots.

Big Spring Farm Supply
North Hwy. 87 263-3382

T

TRICK-or-treat only in familiar neighborhoods close to your home.

Southwestern A-1 Pest Control
2008 Birdwell Lane 263-6514

U

UNFAMILIAR pets should be avoided. Even pets you know might not recognize you.

Dr. Rudy Naddad, M.D.
1501 W. 11th Pl., Ste. 103 (432) 714-4600

V

VISIT only those houses that are well-lit, and never approach a house alone.

Big Spring Auto Glass
110 S. Johnson 267-5247

W

WEAR a watch that lights up, so you can read it in the dark easily.

Water Water, Inc.
1809 FM 700 263-8781

X

YOUNG children should always be accompanied by an adult.

Lone Star Pawn
1601 East Marcy Dr 263-4634

Name _____

Parent's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Age _____

Bring or Mail To:

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By MART AP Econo WASHI Inflation level last by the lai more th reflecting energy occurred Gulf Coa: The La reported prices ju cent in Su surging line, na home he the wid downs o oil platf Gulf Coa which h ing, pos increase the price by a rec Exclud energy a the so-ca inflation worrison 0.3 perce no incr August. The ne prices fo Friday prices h percent the big increase century prices climbed percent. While inflation level w rising b cent, th the siza energy v spill o widespr pressure A nur Reserve recent express In a spe Tuesday Reserve Greenst in ener undoub from nc Green quantif slowdo private forecast from K could sl full p from ec the fin this year Analy

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Wholesale prices jump by largest amount in more than 15 years

By MARTIN CRUTSIGER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON — Inflation at the wholesale level last month soared by the largest amount in more than 15 years, reflecting the surge in energy prices that occurred following the Gulf Coast hurricanes.

The Labor Department reported that wholesale prices jumped 1.9 percent in September, led by surging prices for gasoline, natural gas and home heating oil after the widespread shutdowns of refineries and oil platforms along the Gulf Coast. Food prices, which had been declining, posted the biggest increase in 11 months as the price of eggs shot up by a record amount.

Excluding the volatile energy and food sectors, the so-called core rate of inflation also posted a worrisome increase of 0.3 percent after showing no increase at all in August.

The news on wholesale prices followed a report Friday that consumer prices had risen by 1.2 percent in September, the biggest one-month increase in a quarter-century as gasoline prices at the pump climbed by a record 17.9 percent.

While the core rate of inflation at the consumer level was well-behaved, rising by a tiny 0.1 percent, the worry is that the sizable increases in energy will soon begin to spill over into more widespread inflation pressures.

A number of Federal Reserve officials in recent weeks have expressed such concerns. In a speech in Tokyo on Tuesday, Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan said the jump in energy prices "will undoubtedly be a drag from now on."

Greenspan did not quantify how much of a slowdown will occur, but private economists are forecasting that the hit from Katrina and Rita could shave as much as a full percentage point from economic growth in the final six months of this year.

Analysts believe the

Federal Reserve, which boosted interest rates for an 11th time last month, will keep raising rates in November and December in an effort to keep the energy price surge from becoming embedded in more widespread inflation pressures.

The 1.9 percent jump in wholesale prices matched a similar rise in January 1990. The 1.9 percent jump has not been surpassed since a 2 percent jump in November 1974, a period when the country was coping with surging energy prices following the 1973 Arab oil embargo.

Over the past 12 months, the Produce Price Index has risen by 6.9 percent, the biggest 12-month change since a rise of 7 percent in the 12 months ending in November 1990.

For September, energy prices jumped by 7.1 percent, the biggest one-month gain since a 7.5 percent rise in October 1990. The increase reflected a 12.7 percent rise in the price of gasoline, a 9 percent increase in natural gas and a 4.8 percent increase in home heating oil.

The price of food shot up 1.4 percent last month, reflecting a record 49.3 percent increase in egg prices. Vegetable prices rose by 16 percent, reflecting big increases for snap beans, tomatoes, cabbage, potatoes and broccoli.

Outside of food and energy, the 0.3 percent increase in core inflation was the biggest rise since a 0.4 percent increase in July. Over the past 12 months, core inflation at the wholesale level is up 2.6 percent.

The price of new cars was up 0.9 percent in September with the price of light trucks up 0.5 percent.

The PPI showed inflation pressures showing up at earlier stages of production. The price of intermediate goods rose by 2.5 percent, the biggest increase in 31 years, while the price of crude goods jumped 10.2 percent, the biggest increase in more than two years.

Taunton, Mass., officials say dam deteriorating, downtown closed

By BROOKE DONALD
Associated Press Writer

TAUNTON, Mass. (AP) — A dam on the rain-swollen Mill River deteriorated overnight and Taunton prepared for the worst Tuesday, evacuating residents, canceling classes and closing off downtown amid fears of a wall of water up to 6 feet deep.

Mayor Robert Nunes, at a hastily called news conference, said the situation at the wooden Whittenton Pond Dam upstream from the city took a turn for the worse about 2 a.m., resulting in an increase of water flow.

"The city of Taunton still is in a state of emergency," Nunes said. "If the dam goes, it will create massive flooding along the Mill River and into the downtown area."

Lake Sabbatia, the body of water behind the dam, had gone down about an inch overnight, Fire Chief Joseph Rose said. But rain began falling again as dawn broke. Officials were trying to relieve pressure on the dam by

tweaking the flow between it and a second dam upstream, Rose said. Officials said that if the Whittenton Pond Dam burst it could unleash a wall of water up to 6 feet high and flood neighborhoods and downtown Taunton.

"I've got my fingers crossed that this thing is able to hold," Gov. Mitt Romney said Tuesday morning. "Water's going under the dam. It's going through some areas that are weakened and there's every prospect that it will give way and we'll have a very significant water event."

"On the other hand, a few of us can hope that it hangs together and it ties together as long as possible and that the water is able to leak out in a relatively controlled manner," he said. "If that were the case, we'd all breathe a great sigh of relief."

Dive teams were standing by if rescues proved necessary, and a shelter had been set up at the local high school, manned by the Red Cross.

Nearly 2,000 people were evacuated from their homes near the river on Monday when emergency management officials warned that the dam had lost a timber column and could break within 24 hours. The National Weather Service issued a flood warning, calling the situation "extremely dangerous."

Police and firefighters were going door to door, urging residents to go stay with relatives and friends or at the shelter in the field house at Taunton High School.

The state Highway Department closed roads leading into Taunton and the Massachusetts National Guard dispatched crews to the area to assist with any last-minute evacuations.

"We're very concerned about public safety," Romney said after surveying the dam late Monday. He returned early Tuesday morning and met with the mayor at City Hall.

Taunton, a former 19th-century manufacturing hub about 40 miles south

of Boston, lies at the confluence of the Mill and Taunton rivers. The working-class city, which has a population of nearly 50,000, was last flooded in March 1968 when the same dam was breached. City Councilor Charles Crowley, a local historian, said there was also catastrophic flooding in February 1886 following several days of rain.

The Whittenton Pond Dam is privately owned according to Romney. The dam was inspected two years ago and was considered in fair condition at that time, he said.

Some repairs were made since then, Romney said, but "this water was more than had been expected or anticipated."

Some areas of the state received more than 16 inches of rain over the past eight days, with the heaviest rainfall in the Taunton area coming Friday and Saturday.

Lisa Campbell, who lives near the river, said she and her children planned to stay at her sister's house on the other side of the city.

Alabama Insurance Department takes over 15 cemeteries

By PHILLIP RAWLS
Associated Press Writer

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — The state Insurance Department has taken over operation of 15 funeral homes and cemeteries from Mike Graham and Associates, contending the businesses failed to put \$2 million of customers' payments into a trust.

The takeover — the largest in state history involving the funeral home industry — affects about 2,000 consumers who had purchased pre-need funerals and burials, state Insurance Commissioner Walter A. Bell said Monday.

Officials at the state headquarters for Mike Graham and Associates in Albertville declined comment. At its corporate headquarters in Houston, spokeswoman Cindy Davis said the company had no response.

Alabama is not the first state to take action against the Texas company. Attorneys general in Kansas and Missouri brought court cases earlier this year.

The 15 funeral homes affected by the takeover are mostly in North Alabama, at or near

Birmingham, Albertville, Cullman, Fort Payne and Oneonta, but include one each in Tuscaloosa, Centreville and Lanett.

A 2002 state law provides for the state Insurance Department to regulate the pre-sale of funeral and cemetery services. Customers pay for the services in advance, and their money is placed in trust until they need the service. Since the law passed, the department has put three funeral homes and six cemeteries into receivership.

On Friday, the department got a Jefferson County judge to issue a temporary restraining order to allow the department to begin taking possession of the funeral homes and cemeteries pending a hearing later this month.

Bell said the Insurance Department has used subpoenas and audits to obtain the pre-need contracts issued by each of the funeral homes and cemeteries, and the department's receiver, Denise Azar, will contact

the consumers in the near future.

The funeral homes and cemeteries will continue to operate, but will not sell any pre-need services.

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Oct. 26

Medical team shares healing ways at Afghan hospital

By ROGER ROY

The Orlando Sentinel
FARAH, Afghanistan — Mohammed Gul could not watch his daughter suffer any longer. Every day for two weeks, he saw her grow weaker from the second- and third-degree burns covering the entire bottom half of her body.

Fearing she would die, he took 7-year-old Shafika to see the Americans.

Standing outside the imposing steel gates of the American compound outside Farah, a desperate father pleaded for help.

The Americans aren't supposed to take in Afghan nationals for medical treatment, simply because, if they did, the sheer numbers of Afghans seeking treatment would overwhelm them.

But Maj. Stephen Linck, an Army nurse, took Shafika through the gates and into the aid station at the small American compound, where he and Navy Lt. Jimmie Stone, also a medical officer, cleaned and dressed her wounds.

"I brought her in because I made the medical judgment that I couldn't properly assess her injuries outside the gate," Linck said. "That's my story and I'm sticking to it."

Last week, Shafika was in the city hospital at Farah, where an American medical team had gone to show the nurses how to clean and dress the girl's wounds.

The hospital in Farah, a ramshackle city of about 25,000 near the Iranian border, opened just weeks ago and residents said it is much better than the old hospital.

But the floors in the rooms are bare concrete, there are no screens in the windows, flies flit through the rooms and halls, and there are not enough beds for the patients. There is a shortage of trained medical staff.

"The Taliban here were like the Khmer Rouge in



Army Maj. Stephen Linck, center, tells Mohammed Gul, right, through an interpreter, that his daughter should recover from her burns, at a city hospital in Farah, Afghanistan.

Cambodia," said Army Capt. Michael Williams, an emergency-room doctor from Fort Benning, Ga. "They saw the intelligence as a threat to them, so many of this country's doctors and nurses had to get out."

The Americans found Shafika, a thin, dark-eyed girl, on a bed in a room in the women's wing of the hospital. Her family, like those of the other patients, was staying in the room and on the bare ground outside the hospital to care for her. Male relatives of the patients huddled around the entrance, sometimes shooed back outside by the female staff.

Linck was not surprised that Shafika cried when she saw the Americans in their uniforms. The burns covered her almost from her waist to her feet. Cleaning and dressing them was horribly painful.

"She remembers us from last time, and she probably feels like we

roughed her up," he said. Shafika's injuries were caused by a stove explosion in her home — a common occurrence in Afghanistan, where many people cook or heat with improvised propane, oil or even gasoline stoves.

Her room was full of other women being treated for burns.

The worst was a young woman with horrible burns to her face and her hands, which looked like charred wood. Her eyes were swollen shut, her breathing was raspy, and she moaned and cried. There were not enough beds, and she was lying on a thin mattress pad on the floor.

"We're going to do what we can for your daughter," Linck told Mohammed Gul, whose hands and face were still peeling from his own burns. "We're going to show the nurses here what they need to do, so they'll be able to do it themselves from now on. We can help a lot more

people by teaching them what to do..."

They took Shafika into a nearby room, where Williams gave her anesthesia and Navy medic Jody Comeaux, surrounded by Afghan nurses, removed her bandages and scrubbed her wounds.

Shafika's cries sometimes became near screams, but Linck tried to reassure her father.

"We've given her a lot of drugs, so she won't even remember this," he told Mohammed Gul, who

paced the hospital hall. "We have to do this to help her."

While the team worked on Shafika, other Afghan parents asked the Americans for help.

"They think the Americans can fix anything — like we're magic," Linck said.

"What we need to do is help them have some faith in their own hospital."

The parents of a young woman burned on her chest pleaded with Linck to have the Americans

look at their daughter. He agreed, and they carried her into the room on a blanket.

The parents of the badly burned woman begged Linck for help, and he said doctors would look at her, too.

After more than an hour of work, Shafika's wounds were dressed in clean gauze and she was asleep.

Williams and the others examined the woman with the burns on her chest, who they said was healing well and should recover.

Then they examined the woman with burns on her face and hands, and found her prospects dire. She would almost certainly lose her charred hands, and she had inhaled flames. They advised the Afghan hospital staff to give her powerful painkillers to ease her pain. They also told the staff they should screen the windows to keep out insects.

"There is really just nothing else we can do for her," Williams said.

Before they left, Linck told Mohammed Gul through an interpreter that his daughter should recover.

"Tashakor" — thank you — Gul told Linck. Then he asked, "You will come back to help her?"

"We will be back, my friend," Linck told Gul. "We've got way too much invested in her emotionally to walk away now."

Distributed by Knight Ridder/Tribune Information Services.

He's a good dog, but he sure isn't much of a crimefighter

ROTHERHAM, England (AP) — Buster the German Shepherd could have had a great career as a police dog had it not been for one flaw: His utter lack of interest in fighting crime.

The canine cop took early retirement after bosses at South Yorkshire Police noted his poor motivation — and a fondness for making friends with rowdy drunkards, his former handler said

Monday. Buster, who spent some six months on the beat, has been placed with a family in Sheffield, near this town in northern England, Police Constable David Stephenson said.

"He has a lack of drive and motivation when asked to do operational work," Stephenson said. "He's just a lovely pet."

Two-year-old Buster performed well at the start of his 14-week train-

ing program, but his work gradually deteriorated and the problem worsened once he started patrolling the streets.

On one occasion, Buster walked straight past a suspected criminal hiding in the garden of a house late at night.

"I searched the garden myself and found the bloke. The dog had walked past the spot where I found him," Stephenson said.

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October 2005 Activities

<p>October 18 • Tuesday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mall Walking - 8:00 am (Meet at the Mall & walk together) • Supper Club - "GILL'S CHICKEN" - 5:30 pm <p>October 19 • Wednesday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sit & Be Fit - 10:30 am (Chair Exercise) - Senior Circle Activity Room • Senior Appreciation Day - 11:30 am Senior Circle Members Eat In The Hospital Cafeteria For \$2.00 <p>October 20 • Thursday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mall Walking - 8:00 am (Meet at the Mall & walk together) • Coffee @ Gale's - 10:00 am <p>October 21 • Friday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relay For Life Halloween Haunted House Malone Hogan Clinic - 7:00 pm - 12:00 am \$5 Admission Fee <p>October 22 • Saturday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relay For Life Halloween Haunted House Malone Hogan Clinic - 7:00 pm - 12:00 am \$5 Admission Fee <p>October 24 • Monday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEW MEXICO CASINO & HORSE RACING - 9:00 am <p>October 25 • Tuesday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mall Walking - 8:00 am (Meet at the Mall & walk together) • GAMES - 2:00 pm • Supper Club - "COWBOYS" - 5:30 pm <p>October 26 • Wednesday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sit & Be Fit - 10:30 am (Chair Exercise) - Senior Circle Activity Room <p>October 27 • Thursday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mall Walking - 8:00 am (Meet at the Mall & walk together) • Coffee @ Gale's - 10:00 am <p>October 28 • Friday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POTLUCK & BINGO - 11:0 - 2:00 pm <p>October 29 • Saturday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relay For Life Halloween Haunted House Malone Hogan Clinic - 7:00 pm - 12:00 am \$5 Admission Fee <p>October 31 • Monday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relay For Life Halloween Haunted House Malone Hogan Clinic 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm \$5 Admission Fee 	
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Relay For Life Halloween Haunted House

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IN BRIEF

Quarterback club sets meetings

The Big Spring football booster club (quarterback club) will meet every Monday at 7 p.m. at the ATC through the football season.

For more information, contact Gene Piercefield at 816-1134.

Flag football league to begin Nov. 6

The Midland Flag Football League will begin play Nov. 6, said Wayne Brandt.

The eight-on-eight tournament costs \$250 per team and takes place every Sunday through the middle of January.

For more information, contact Brandt at 432-230-5255.

NBA sets dress code for players

NEW YORK (AP) — The NBA announced in a memo to teams that a minimum dress code will go into effect at the start of the regular season Nov. 1.

Players will be expected to wear business casual attire whenever they participate in team or league activities, including arriving at games, leaving games and making promotional or other appearances.

They will also now be required to wear a sport coat on the bench when they are not in uniform. The NBA already requires its coaches to wear sport coats, dress shirts, slacks and shoes on the bench.

Patriots LB Bruschi ready to return after suffering stroke

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP) — Tedy Bruschi is ready to play football again, just eight months after a mild stroke left him unsure whether his life would ever return to normal.

The Patriots linebacker said he'll practice with the team Wednesday.

Without Bruschi, the Patriots are 3-3 and have allowed the most points per game in the AFC.

Nicks guard Houston retires

TARRYTOWN, N.Y. (AP) — New York Knicks guard Allan Houston retired, unable to recover from knee injuries that kept him out much of the last two seasons.

A two-time All-Star and member of the 2000 Olympic team, Houston was limited to only 70 games over the last two seasons. The 34-year-old Houston appeared in only 20 games last season and averaged 11.9 points.

Washington's Gibbs fined for comments

ASHBURN, Va. (AP) — Washington Redskins coach Joe Gibbs was fined \$10,000 for comments he made about the officiating in the team's loss at Denver on Oct. 9.

B.S. falls to rival Frenship in three, finishes third

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor
WOLFFORTH — The Big Spring volleyball team struggled Saturday against rival Frenship and dropped the match in three games.

The Lady Steers lost 25-21, 25-19 and 25-21. The loss gives the team the third seed in the playoffs this season.

"We just did not play well," said Big Spring head coach Jason McAden. "We had 23 hitting errors, which is almost giving Frenship an entire game. We had a chance in all three games, but couldn't make it happen."

Senior Raegan Ritchey and freshman Shelbi Stewart each had 10 kills for Big Spring, while junior Katy Abner had a team-high 17 digs. Senior Carmen Lewis added nine kills. Ritchey had a had eight blocks, while Stewart added four.

"On a positive note, we still make it to the playoffs and the last time we had a loss like this we rolled off four or five wins," said McAden. "Right now we are just preparing for our bi-district match."

The Lady Steers have



From left: Big Spring senior Brenn Swinney, sophomore Amanda Caskey and senior Krista Chesworth all try to block a hitter from Lubbock Estacado during the Lady Steers' win last Tuesday. Big Spring lost to Frenship Saturday and will host Plainview at the Steer Gym tonight. The match will be the team's regular season home finale.

one more match in the regular season and it will take place tonight at the Steer Gym against rival Plainview.

Big Spring, which fell to

6-3 in District 4-4A play, will either take on Hereford or Canyon Randall in its first round match of the playoffs. The team will most likely try

to find some warm-up matches before then to "work the kinks out and stay in step," said McAden. The bi-district match will most likely

take place sometime around Oct. 29.

Tonight's match against Plainview will begin after the junior varsity match at around 7 p.m.

Rodriguez, Tobar lead Big Spring

• Steers prepare for District 4-4A meet with intrasquad run

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor
The Big Spring cross country team ran an intrasquad meet Saturday at Comanche Trail Park.

The boy's team was led by junior Michael Rodriguez, who crossed the line in 15:22. Chris Salazar and Zack Dawson

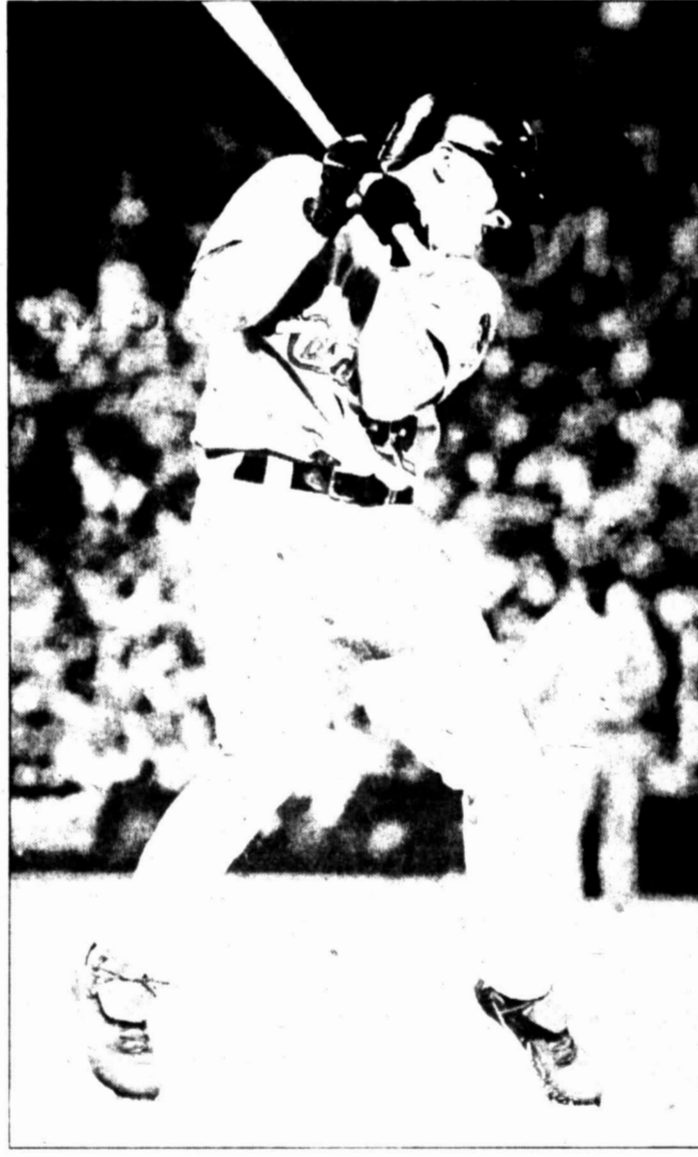
Rodriguez were not far behind as they both finished in under 16 minutes. Salazar came in second with a time of 15:48, while Dawson finished in 15:52.

Jessie Sanchez came in fourth overall with a time of 16:08, while Chris Martinez and Dylan Yarbrough finished two seconds apart with times of 16:15 and 16:17, respectively.

Shane Allen, Kade Parker, Mike Salazar, Jordan Valle, Kevin Porras and Mark Salazar also ran and finished in positions seven through 12, respectively.

Esther Tobar led the girl's with a time of 12:28. Mistie Aguilar crossed the line in 13:03.

Big Spring will take part in the District 4-4A meet Oct. 29 in Lubbock. The top three teams and top 10 individuals advance to regionals.



David Eckstein of the St. Louis Cardinals is hit by a pitch from Houston Astros starter Andy Pettitte in the first inning of Game 5 of the National League Championship Series at Minute Maid Park in Houston Monday. The Cardinals sent the series back to St. Louis after a ninth-inning home run. The Cardinals won the game, 5-4.

Pujols' homer in ninth sends NLCS back to St. Louis

By MIKE FITZPATRICK

AP Baseball Writer
HOUSTON — One moment, the whole ballpark was buzzing. The next, it was silent.

With one mighty swing, Albert Pujols saved St. Louis and stunned the Houston Astros.

"I've never heard 43,000 people shut up like that before," Cardinals outfielder Larry Walker said. Pujols hit a prodigious three-run homer off Brad Lidge in the ninth inning and St. Louis rallied for a 5-4 victory Monday night in Game 5 of the NL championship series, denying Houston its first trip to the World Series.

Only one out away, the Astros were perched atop the dugout steps, ready to race onto the field for a wild celebration.

Only one problem — Pujols was at the plate. "I just couldn't believe I did it," he said. "Couldn't be better than this."

Pujols' shot over the train tracks high above

the left-field wall sent the series back to St. Louis for Game 6 on Wednesday night, with Mark Mulder set to face Houston's Roy Oswalt. The Cardinals also staved off the wrecking ball at Busch Stadium, scheduled for demolition as soon as their season is over.

One strike from ecstasy before David Eckstein's ninth-inning single, the Astros dropped to an agonizing 0-5 with a chance to clinch the NLCS.

"It was devastating. We thought we were going to the World Series. We were there," Lance Berkman said. "Obviously, it was a high to a low, and it wasn't much fun."

After winning pitcher Jason Isringhausen closed it with two innings of scoreless relief, shocked fans filed quietly out of the ballpark.

They came to see something they had never seen

See NLCS, Page 2B

Indy rides James to victory over Rams

By MICHAEL MAROT

AP Sports Writer
INDIANAPOLIS — The Indianapolis Colts' defense appeared vulnerable for the first time this season during a less-than-stellar opening quarter.

It dominated the rest of the way, knocking St. Louis quarterback Marc Bulger from the game and

setting up Peyton Manning and the offense. "We made some big plays," Colts coach Tony Dungy said. "We got the turnovers. We got the momentum."

The Colts rallied from a 17-point first-quarter deficit Monday night by forcing four turnovers, putting the offense in

good field position throughout the second half and converting St. Louis' biggest mistakes into four touchdowns as they routed the Rams 45-28.

"Things changed when the quarterback went out," said cornerback Nick Harper, whose interception and fumble recovery

ery each led to touchdowns.

"And when the backup came in, we didn't feel he came here to play," he said. "We wanted to show him that he needed to be on the bench."

While the Colts (6-0) remained the NFL's only

See COLTS, Page 2B

Forsan JH harriers take team title at Wink

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor
WINK — The Forsan cross country team traveled to Wink Saturday and the boy's junior high took home the team championship.

The Buffaloes had three runners finish in the top

five, led by Zack Gilliam's second place finish. Gilliam finished the race in 13:53. Evan Burton came finished third in 13:56 and Dillon Walker took fifth with a time of

Michael Mims placed 13th, while Jake Rhoton

placed 18th for a team total of 41 points and the championship.

"All the runners did an outstanding job," said Forsan head coach Robert Hillger.

Forsan travels to Eula for the District 10-A meet next Monday.

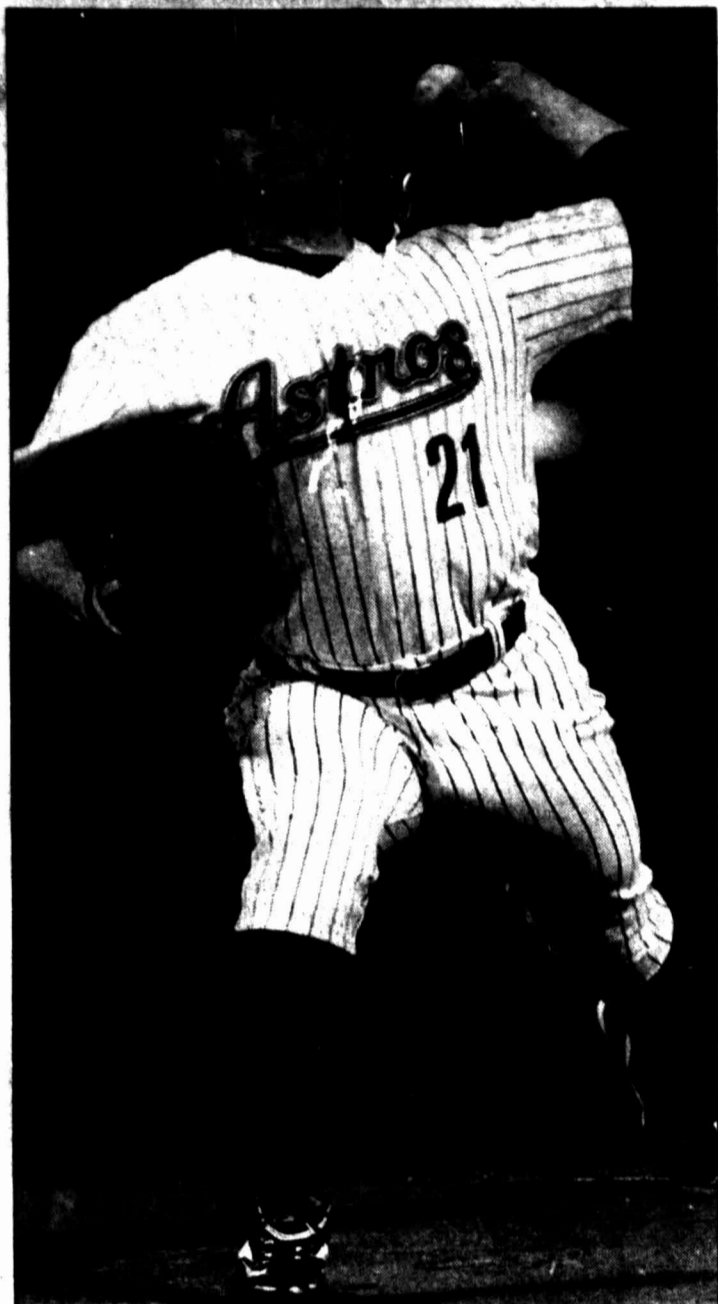
Hole-In-One

Henry Mexia

No. 15 at Comanche Trail Golf Course

Mexia used a 7-iron

Witnesses were D.W. Overman and Enrique Garcia



KRT photo/J. B. Forbes, St. Louis Post-Dispatch
Houston Astros pitcher Andy Pettitte throws in the first inning against the St. Louis Cardinals in Game 5 of the National League Championship Series at Minute Maid Park in Houston Monday. The Astros lost the game 5-4 and will have to try to close out the series in St. Louis starting Wednesday.

NLCS

Continued from Page 1B

before, their hometown heroes advancing to the World Series. Instead, they saw another kind of history.

It was only the second time in any postseason that a team facing elimination and trailing in the ninth inning hit a go-ahead home run, according to the Elias Sports Bureau. The other was Dave Henderson's homer for Boston off the Angels' Donnie Moore in Game 5 of the 1986 ALCS.

Berkman's three-run homer in the seventh off Chris Carpenter gave Houston a 4-2 lead, sending the crowd into a deafening roar, and the Astros appeared ready to wrap up this NLCS rematch.

They put their fate in Lidge's normally sure hands. But, trying for his fourth straight save in the series, he couldn't come through.

"This is a bump in the road, but there's no way this is going to get anybody down," Lidge said. "This will sting a lot tonight, but when I wake up tomorrow I'll be ready to go."

After Lidge struck out his first two batters in the ninth, the pesky Eckstein grounded a single to left on a 1-2 pitch. Jim Edmonds worked out a walk and Pujols, who had failed to deliver with runners on all night, drove an 0-1 pitch over the limestone facade.

Astros starter Andy Pettitte, in the dugout and ready to celebrate with his teammates, mouthed the words "Oh, my" as

the ball left the park. Pujols tossed his bat and took a moment to watch the ball sail while Lidge sank into a crouch on the mound.

The Astros had been 84-1 this year when leading after eight innings, including the postseason.

"The guys coined the phrase, 'hard nine.' We're going to play a hard nine," Cardinals manager Tony La Russa said.

When Pujols got back to the dugout, La Russa grabbed him for a huge hug.

"He just told me, 'The Great Pujols,'" the slugger said. "They're going to be ready in St. Louis. We just need to win two before we lose one."

It was a crushing loss for the Astros and their "Killer B's." Craig Biggio and Jeff Bagwell are still trying to reach the World

Series for the first time after 15 years as teammates.

"It's terrible. You're high as a kite one minute," manager Phil Garner said. "We were feeling pretty good, but you have to play every out."

In the ninth, La Russa even had his eye on the 37-year-old Bagwell.

With a chance to reach the World Series for the first time in their 44-season history, the wild-card Astros drew a revved-up crowd that was ready to party. Some wore those bright, old rainbow jerseys, and even owner Drayton McLane was jumping out of his box seat now and then.

"This is a blow. I put a lot of pressure on myself today. I wanted to get it done here, for this city," Pettitte said.

COLTS

Continued from Page 1B

unbeaten team and put themselves in position for the franchise's first 7-0 start, they certainly didn't follow the usual script.

Bulger led St. Louis (2-4) over ~~around and through~~ the Colts' vastly improved defense in the first quarter.

The result: A unit that allowed two touchdowns and 29 points in its first five games surrendered two touchdowns and 17 points in 15 minutes.

The Rams were so efficient, it didn't even look as though they missed coach Mike Martz, who was resting back home with a bacterial infection of his heart valve, or wide receiver Isaac Bruce, who was out with a toe injury.

But they clearly missed Bulger, who sprained his right shoulder on Cato June's interception return early in the second quarter.

Bulger was steamrolled by linebacker David Thornton's block and was replaced by the mistake-prone Jamie Martin early in the second quarter. St. Louis was never the same.

"When you throw him into a situation like this — a hostile environment and a very big game for us against a very good defense — his reads may not be the same as our No. 1 guy," receiver Torry Holt said.

Martin did what he could, completing 17 of 21 passes for 134 yards with one touchdown — although two of his incompletions were interceptions.

That was the crack the Colts' offense needed to right itself.

Manning was 22-of-32 for 191 yards with two touchdowns, including a 6-yarder to Marvin Harrison that broke a tie with San Francisco's Steve Young and Jerry Rice for the NFL record for most TDs by a passer-receiver duo with their 86th.

Edgerrin James ran 23 times for 143 yards and three touchdowns, and Dominic Rhodes scored on a 1-yard run.

But it was those pesky mistakes that cost the Rams.

"If you lose your starting quarterback, your chances aren't good," Rams running back Marshall Faulk said. "It's not even the interceptions as much as it was the injury. That was like a double-whammy right there."

After the Colts closed to 20-14 at halftime and 20-17 early in the third quarter, the Rams never gave themselves a chance. Indianapolis finished the game by running 36 consecutive plays in Rams territory.

Things unraveled quickly for the Rams, starting with Steven Jackson's fumble at the Rams 35.

Harper recovered and seven plays later, James scored on an 8-yard run to make it 24-20.

On the Rams' next play, June picked off Martin, putting the Colts at the St. Louis 19. Six plays later, Rhodes scored on a 1-yard run.

"I have to credit that to the defensive line," June said of his five interceptions this year. "The line is scaring people, and they're throwing us the football."

The Colts were only getting started.

After stopping the Rams at their own 2, the Colts took over at the St. Louis 38 and Manning and Harrison converted with their record-breaking score.

"Anytime you get turnovers and that kind of field position, you want to score touchdowns, and that's what we did," Manning said.

On the Rams' next play, Harper intercepted Martin, setting up a 1-yard score by James that made it 45-20 midway through the fourth quarter.

The Rams were left with a meaningless touchdown drive in the final minutes — and a chance to ponder what might have happened if Bulger could have played.

"Whenever you let a good football team like the Colts get on a run, it's tough to put your finger in the dike," Rams interim coach Joe Vitt said.

Pigskin Picks Football Contest



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Mike Abusaab
Sonic Drive In



Don Bowles
Howard County Feed & Supply



Gary Harris
87 Auto Sales

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3. Garden City
4. Big Spring
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6. Army
7. Boise State
8. Texas
9. Philadelphia
10. Minnesota

1. Coahoma
2. Forsan
3. Garden City
4. Big Spring
5. Grady
6. Akron
7. Boise State
8. Texas
9. Philadelphia
10. Green Bay

1. Coahoma
2. Forsan
3. Garden City
4. Big Spring
5. Grady
6. Akron
7. Utah State
8. Texas Tech
9. San Diego
10. Green Bay

1. Coahoma
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8. Texas
9. Philadelphia
10. Green Bay

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Pigskin Picks Entry Form

Team

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HIRING WELDER
(must be able to fabricate)
2 Years plus experience
Salary D.O.E.
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Apply in person
Jones Bros. Dirt and Paving
1401 S. Grandview
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IMMEDIATE OPENING for RN
with home health or related experience preferred but will train. We offer:
* Health and Life Insurance
* Paid Vacation
* Sick Leave
* 401K
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Please come by or send resume to: InHome Care, Inc.
1104 Scurry, Big Spring, TX 79720.

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

MOUNTAIN VIEW LODGE.
Now has the following positions available:
CERTIFIED NURSE AIDE
DIETARY COOK
LAUNDRY WORKER
Great Working Environment & Excellent Starting Pay. Apply in person: 2009 Virginia Ave.

NEED BACKHOE operator w/CDL. Good driving record. Must pass drug test. Call (432)267-8429.

ON-SITE MANAGER needed for South Plains Apartments. Call Stemple (432)714-4840. or (559)355-2900 for appointment.

MECHANIC CHEVRON North American Upstream is accepting on-line applications for the position of MECHANIC located in Odessa, TX. Competitive pay and benefits package offered.

To view a detailed job description with skill requirements and to apply for this position, go to www.chevron.com/about/careers/jobs/ or www.findus.com. Next click Search for Jobs, and then search for job by position title "Mechanic".

ALL APPLICANTS MUST APPLY VIA THE CHEVRON ONLINE APPLICATION PROCESS
Chevron is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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

BUY-SELL-TRADE in the Big Spring Herald Classifieds 263-7331

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

Company PAID CDL Training
\$35-65K Potential
Stevens Transport offers the best comprehensive training program for new drivers! Get your career rolling and enjoy exceptional earnings and great benefits from the #1 premier transportation carrier!
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CFI Texas Orientations
Dallas, El Paso & Laredo
Week of October 24th
Get Practical...Practical Miles, that's it!
2004 Earnings:
AVG. \$49,950
TOP \$70,526
TOP TEAM \$154,222
\$0.05 NE Bonus Pay!
Student Grade starting @ \$21
Class A CDL Required
1-800-CFI-DRIVE
cfdrive.com (800-234-3748)

2 - 6 Bedroom Brick Homes

FOR SALE	FOR RENT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Down Payment Bad Credit OK 6 Month Warranty On Everything 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stove & Refrigerator 24-Hr. Emergency Maintenance Washer & Dryer Connection Central Heat & Air Swimming Pool

Corporate Housing Available
CALL BEVERLY: 432-263-3461

Help Wanted

SINGLE HAND Welders wanted. Welding test, drug screen & travel required. Per diem & mileage paid. \$18.00 to \$23.00 a hour. Office (432)264-0590. Employee should not be afraid to get dirty.

START WORK BEFORE THE HOLIDAYS
KELLY SERVICES HAS IMMEDIATE JOB OPENINGS FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS IN THE BIG SPRING AREA
Legal Secretaries with at least 1 years experience working for legal office. Must be familiar with deeds, wills and probate documents. Extensive knowledge of Microsoft Word and Excel required.

Legal Secretaries with at least 1 years experience working for legal office. Must be familiar with deeds, wills and probate documents. Extensive knowledge of Microsoft Word and Excel required.
Full Charge Bookkeepers or entry level accountants with experience working AP/AR and basic accounting skills required.
Please call Kelly Services of Midland at (432)689-9801 or fax your resume to (432)683-6347.
Never an applicant fee.
An Equal Opportunity Employer

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

We're expanding! We have the following openings available:

Mechanics: Heavy truck mechanics, must have tools appropriate for experience, and verifiable work experience.
2- Mechanics needed for second shift
1- Mechanic needed for first shift
Shop Foreman- 2nd Shift working position, must have extensive experience/knowledge in heavy trucks.
Wash Bay/Tire Maintenance Technicians-
2- Technicians second shift
1- Technicians first shift
Full Benefit package and 401K after completion of Probationary period. Must be able to pass background checks and drug screen.
Contact Davie between the hours of 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM at (432)339-0523

Dispatcher needed -
Fulltime position rotating shift Part time position weekends and some weeknights on 2nd and 3rd shift/ 20 hours/week
Full Benefit package and 401K after completion of Probationary period. Must be able to pass background checks and drug screen.
Contact: Tom or Jack between the hours of 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM at (432)339-0513

Dispatcher needed -
Fulltime position rotating shift Part time position weekends and some weeknights on 2nd and 3rd shift/ 20 hours/week
Full Benefit package and 401K after completion of Probationary period. Must be able to pass background checks and drug screen.
Contact: Tom or Jack between the hours of 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM at (432)339-0513

"It Pays To Read Big Spring Herald Classifieds"

Instructional

PIANO & VOICE LESSONS
Beginners through Advance. Years of teaching experience. 2607 Rebecca. Call (432)263-3367

Lost and Found

\$200.00 REWARD for black female pug. Last seen at 1800 North Birdwell. Call (432)263-6292, 270-4438, 270-4499 or 466-3918. Please help me find my dog.

Miscellaneous

1 1/2 year old Gateway XP with all the software. This PC is only \$250.00. Come and see it. Call me @ (432)940-2519 Ric.

BASEBALL BATTING cages equipment- 3 machines, netting & helmets. Office Bldg. 10x14, 3 desk, refrigerator, chairs. Priced to Sell. 1210 E. 4th. Bill Chrane (432)213-0426.

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

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

FREEZER 24 cft. excellent condition - \$200.00. Call (432)264-1747.

Pets

AKC POMERANIAN puppies. 2 Males, toy - \$175.00 and only 1 Female, tiny toy - \$300.00. Call (325)573-7285.

BOSTON TERRIER puppies ready for sale. Full Blood, duds clean, wormed and first shots. One- Female, Three - Males. For more info, call (432)267-1823.

FREE KITTENS- 8 weeks old. Call (432)264-0704.

Real Estate for Rent

DEALS ARE BREWING AT SOUTH PLAINS APARTMENTS
Efficiency Apt - \$200
One Bdr. - \$250
Two Bdr. - \$350
All utilities except electric paid
Free High Speed Wireless Internet + Basic Cable
On-site Mgr
Laundry & Vending Facility
300 Deposit
Call Stemple @ 432-714-4840
Housing Assistance Accepted

LOVELY NEIGHBORHOOD-COMPLEX
Swimming Pool
Carports.
Most Utilities Paid,
Senior Citizen Discounts.
1 & 2 Bedrooms & 1 or 2 Baths
Unfurnished
KENTWOOD APARTMENTS
1904 East 25th Street
267-5444
263-5000

105 SOUTH Moss Lake Road. 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, CHA, carpet, tile, granite, place, total electric. Rent \$550.00, security deposit required. CISD. Call (432)393-5241.

FOR RENT large 1 bedroom, 1503 Scurry B. All bills paid. \$425. month, \$150. deposit. Call (432)264-6611.

1607 Jennings. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. \$300.00 monthly, \$150.00 deposit. 2523 Dow. 3 Bedroom, 1 bath. \$425.00 month, \$150.00 deposit. Call (432)263-1792, 816-9984.

2 BEDROOM. 2 bath, fenced yard. N. Call (432)26-
RENTED

2804 Crestline. Executive home. 4 Bedroom, 3 bath, CHA, 2 car garage. Call (432)264-8813.

Real Estate for Rent

4109 DIXON for Rent or Sale: 4 Bedroom, 2 bath. Rent for \$500/mo., \$500/dep. CHA. References required. No Pets. (979)324-2072 or 267-3074.

703 AYLSFORD, 3 Bedroom 1 bath. HUD approved. \$400.00 Month \$300.00 Deposit. Call (432)213-3864.

ALL BILLS furnished Apt.- 1 blk from HEB, 2 Bedroom house near college- \$5000. Also have 4 bedroom, 2 bath house- \$7000. Call (432)264-0510.

BUILDING for LEASE for retail or office. 1712 Gregg. Approximately 5,000 sq. ft. \$750. month + deposit. Call WESTEX Auto Parts (432)263-5000.

HEIGHTS APARTMENTS
October Special
2 Bedroom - \$199. month
1 Bedroom - \$99. month
\$200. deposit.
All Bills Paid
403 East 8th
Call (432)267-2771

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

NICE LARGE 2 bedroom. Central heat/air, fenced backyard, close to shopping. HUD Ready. References required. Call (432)267-5629.

SPECIAL DISCOUNT to qualified tenants on long term lease. 3202 Birdwell, 3 bedroom, 1 bath, stove/refrigerator furnished, fenced yard, washer/dryer hookup. \$475.00 month. Lease to Own an Option. Call (432)270-5001.

SUNSET RIDGE APTS.
Cable TV Free!
Playground!
No Water Bill!
Paragon Security
24 Hour Laundry
On-Site Mgr. & Maint
Family Friendly
2 BR \$295
1 BR \$195
(432)263-2292

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

Real Estate for Sale

3 BEDROOM, 2 bath brick home with 111 acres pastureland in Forsan School District. Call (432)264-0591 or 264-0066 after 4:30pm.

OWNER FINANCE. 1960s North Hwy. 87 in Ackerly, 2.64 acres. 3 Bedroom, 1 bath w/barn. On 87 and 2230. \$26,000.00, \$3,000 Down. Toll Free 866-894-4591, 325-650-5900.

Move In TODAY!

EXTRA NICE. One Owner, 2 Bedroom, 1 bath mobile home. Inside immaculate. \$9,500.00. For sale by owner. Call (432)263-1792 or 816-9984.

TWO - 50' Lots, (100x140) on 1208-1210 East 4th. Ideal for car lot or display merchandise. Cash or Finance with 1/3 Down. Bill Chrane (432)213-0426.

Vehicles

3 New 2004 Ford Freestar Vans
\$12,000 OFF MSRP
Bob Brock Ford
500 W. 11th 267-7121

1996 LINCOLN Town Car (Maroon). Very good condition \$5,950.00. Also 1991 Ford T-Bird, will sell for parts. \$500.00 OBO. 1301 East 4th. Call Bill (432)213-0426.

1999 LINCOLN, Signature Town Car. Excellent condition. 95K. Loaded. Pearl interior & exterior. \$9,350.00. Call (432)270-4179 or (303)679-4444.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

The harsh relationship of Mercury and Neptune is exact today. Mercury is our baron of communications, and Neptune is the dream-keeper. With these two at odds, it's easy for friends to say the wrong thing — the very thing that squashes our dreams. Take any personal affront as a challenge and a chance to fortify your belief in yourself.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Don't forget to set a goal for the week. It's one of those pivotal periods in your life where time can slip through your fingers like sand unless you put a tangible goal out there to strive for.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). If you need a distraction, it comes to you pronto. A relationship with someone who looks like a potential friend could turn out to be a catastrophe. Be very careful who you let into your life now.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You provoke a wholehearted response from people now and could be physically embraced several times before the day is through. You're not loved for what you do, but for how you do it.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). There are mentors in your midst, but they are of no use to you until you decide what you'd like to learn about. Identify your

Vehicles

CITIZENS QUALITY PRE-OWNED Vehicles for Sale. Financing Available with Approved Credit. Call Vanessa or Lynn for details at (432)267-6373, 686-1200 or (800)248-2328 or visit www.citizensfcu.com

REDUCED: 1998 BMW (Dark Green). Very Clean. Good Condition. Leather/power seats, power sun roof, alarm system, automatic, 96k. \$11,000.00. Service Record Available. Call (432)263-1738.

Legals

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT
Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation, 1700 Broadway, Suite 2300, Denver, CO 80290-2300 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas. The applicant proposes to inject fluid in the Clearfork Formation, Chapman Lease, Well Number 1703WI. The proposed injection well is located 4 miles North-west of Big Spring, Texas in the Would Have (Clearfork) Field, in Howard County, Texas. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 5,300 to 5,650 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792) #4751 October 18, 2005

PUBLIC HEARING
The Glasscock County Commissioners will conduct a public hearing on October 24, 2005 at 9:00 a.m. in the district courtroom at Garden City, Texas to receive public input considering a tax abatement agreement with Renewable Generation Flying Cloud L.L.C. Air-tricity, joint venture. All interested parties are encouraged to attend and present their views
W E Bednar
Glasscock County Judge
#4744 October 18, 2005

CELEBRITY PROFILES:
As one of the most successful touring performers of the past 30 years, singing troubadour Tom Petty does not intend to stop anytime soon. Libras like Petty take a cool and smooth "free fallin'" approach to the end of the year with a much needed break. He'll take one after two of his new tunes turn up in Cameron Crowe's eagerly anticipated new film "Elizabethtown."

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November Sale!
Demand for Quality Replacement Females
Exceptional Breed Up on Females When Palpated
Excellent of our Customers
Breeding Programs
Customer Demand for a Later Sale
Saturday, November 5, 1 p.m.
Nixon Livestock Commission, Inc.
3 mi. East of Naom on Hwy 87
Sale day phone: 830-582-1561

Heart of the Herd
Special Replacement Female Sale
Featured Lots:
250 True F-1 Bradford Heifers
200 Open True F-1 Heifers
32 Five Year Old Tiger Stripe Cows
50 1st Cal Gray Brahman Heifers
50 Brangus Heifers
150 Brangus Heifers
50 Young Gray Brahman Cows
200 Crossbred Cows

Cattle ready for inspection: Friday, Nov. 4, 12 p.m. All cattle will be TB & Brucella tested.

TUESDAY

Table with 24 columns (station call letters) and 12 rows (time slots from 6:30 AM to 12:30 AM). Each cell contains the station name and the program being aired.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"BOYS AN' GIRLS... WE NOW HAVE 3-WAY CALLING."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Look at those squirrels. They're real busy and they have nuttin' to do!"

HAGAR



BLONDIE



BC



WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Oct. 18, the 291st day of 2005. There are 74 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Oct. 18, 1767, the boundary between Maryland and Pennsylvania, the Mason-Dixon line, was agreed upon. On this date: In 1685, King Louis XIV of France revoked the Edict of Nantes, which had established legal toleration of France's Protestant population, the Huguenots. In 1867, the United States took formal possession of Alaska from Russia. In 1892, the first long-distance telephone line between Chicago and New York was formally opened. In 1898, the American flag was raised in Puerto Rico shortly before Spain formally relinquished control of the island to the United States. In 1944, Soviet troops invaded Czechoslovakia during World War II.

In 1962, Dr. James D. Watson of the United States, and Dr. Francis Crick and Dr. Maurice Wilkins of Britain, were named winners of the Nobel Prize for Medicine and Physiology for their work in determining the double-helix molecular structure of DNA. In 1968, the U.S. Olympic Committee suspended Tommie Smith and John Carlos for giving a "black power" salute at a protest during a victory ceremony in Mexico City. In 1969, the federal government banned artificial sweeteners known as cyclamates because of evidence they caused cancer in laboratory rats. Today's Birthdays: Singer Anita O'Day is 86. Former Republican Sen. Jesse Helms of North Carolina is 84. Rock n' roll performer Chuck Berry is 79. Sportscaster Keith Jackson is 77. Actor Peter Boyle is 70. Football coach Mike Ditka is 66. Actor Joe Morton is 58. Playwright Wendy Wasserstein is 55. Author Terry McMillan is 54. Gospel singer Vickie Winans is 52. Tennis player Martina Navratilova is 49.

Actor Jean-Claude Van Damme is 45. Jazz musician Wynton Marsalis is 44. ARock musician Tim Cross (Sponge) is 39. Singer Nonchalant is 32. Rock musician Peter Svenson (The Cardigans) is 31. Country singer Josh Gracin is 25. Country musician Jesse Littleton (Marshall Dyllon) is 24. Actor Tyler Posey is 14.

Thought for Today: "I do not prize the word cheap. It is not a badge of honor... it is a symbol of despair. Cheap prices make for cheap goods; cheap goods make for cheap men; and cheap men make for a cheap country!" - President William McKinley (1843-1901).

Answer to previous puzzle: A J A R P A L M R I S K S L O R E O L E O U N T I E P L E A N O M O S L A T E S T A R S I N O N E S E Y E S T H E L I T C I A M P U S A S I A G A B A T E I N A B I T T U B A R O C K S I N O N E S H E A D O N C E O N U S T A S T E L E A S W A I T C E N T E R S P A B O A F O O T I N O N E S M O U T H R O B I N W I L T A C R E O Z O N E E C O L F L A W M E E T S D E W Y S A Y S

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS: 1 Part of the hand, 5 Desert haven, 10 A few, 14 Director Kazan, 15 Squeaky sound, 16 Adam's second son, 17 High-tech office system, 20 Bishop's domain, 21 All ready, 22 Irrigates, 23 Way of doing something, 26 Small bouquet, 27 Hamburger meat, 29 Got out of bed, 31 Make watertight, 33 601, to Nero, 34 Wise one, 38 Place for a fill-up, 41 Certain government agents, 42 Paving material, 43 Wore down, 44 Place for a cookout, 46 Days before holidays, 47 Delicate fabric, 50 Like a midnight movie, 52 In the direction of, 54 Twosome, 55 Sci-fi transport, 58 Advanced course of study, 62 Memo phrase, 63 Jeweled crown, 64 Spumante, 65 Mile fractions, 66 Choir section, 67 Bygone days, DOWN: 1 Bodybuilder's chest muscles, 2 Skin-lotion additive, 3 Citrus fruit, 4 Traveler's guide, 5 Musical eightsome, 6 Soul singer Franklin, 7 Sun, speech, 8 Author Fleming, 9 Veer off course, 10 Took care of, 11 Woodwind instruments, 12 Full of good cheer, 13 Some lodge members, 18 Worthwhile, 19 Answering-machine insert, 23 Breakfast fruit, 24 Have lunch delivered, 25 Physicians, for short, 27 Roof support, 28 Make simpler, 30 Location, 31 Police dept. rank, 32 Greek bread, 34 Kitchen appliance, 35 Office assistant, 36 Leaves the premises, 37 Outcome, 39 Defense grp. since 1949, 40 "Am not!" retort, 44 Lima's country, 45 Seasoned player, 47 Greene of Bonanza, 48 Conscious (of), 49 Military-school student, 51 Subtle glows, 52 Letters heard end-of-week, 53 Statistical info, 55 Constellation bear, 56 They may be nonsaturated or polyunsaturated, 57 Forget to include, 59 Up to, briefly, 60 Have a snack, 61 Empty space

Crossword grid with numbers 1-67 indicating starting positions for the clues.

Wacky Facts

- A group of owls is called a parliament.
 - A group of cats is called a chowder or clutter.
 - Sensitive whiskers help cats find their way in the dark. A cat's whiskers are directly proportional to the size of the cat.
- World Almanac for Kids

KID NEWS

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Chatter Box

"There's a little old cemetery on our land that everyone thinks is haunted. People ask me if I'm scared of the ghosts that are supposed to live there. I tell them, 'No. They're dead.'"

— Hilary Duff, in *M* magazine.



In The News

Sara Paxton talks about her 'wild life'

Sara Paxton stars as Darcy on the hit show "Darcy's Wild Life," on Discovery Kids. Like the character she plays on TV, Paxton is a busy girl with a lot going on in her life.

In this year alone, Paxton has already recorded her first album and starred in her first major movie. With the album set to come out this fall, and the movie (called "Aquamarine") coming out next year, it doesn't look like Paxton is slowing down any time soon. She took a break from work to talk to Time For Kids about her own wild life.

TFK: Are you anything like Darcy?

SP: Yeah. I'm very similar to Darcy in the way that we're both very optimistic. She had to leave all of her friends and her home and everything and start a new life. And she didn't let that get her down. She decided that would make the best of it and now she's really happy with her life. And I think I'm the same way. If there's like an obstacle or something in my way, I'm not going to sit and cry about it. I'm going to try and figure out how to get through it. And also we are both from Los Angeles, and we both moved to a farm.



Paxton plays Darcy, a city girl who has just moved to a small town farm.

TFK: What's the hardest part of making the show?

The hardest part about making the show is probably the animals. You know, they have their own agendas. They don't read the scripts or anything. So we have to kind of work around them. But it's not really that difficult because we've been really lucky. The animals are usually very cooperative.

TFK: Do you like working with animals? Had you worked with them before?

SP: This was my first time working with animals this much. But I really like animals, so that's good. And I have a really good time.

TFK: What's the most fun thing about your job?

The most fun thing is probably that the whole cast gets along so well. And the animals are really fun. So it's kind of more like going to summer camp than working on a show.

TFK: You're starring in the movie "Aquamarine," which comes out next year. What was it like to play a mermaid in that film?

I was so excited when I heard that I was going to be "Aquamarine." Because ever since I was little, I've always wanted to be a mermaid. I got to go through a whole process where I got totally changed. They put these extensions in my hair, that went down to my butt. And they had to put the tail on me. It was really, really fun. And being in Australia (where the movie was filmed) made it even more fun.

TFK: What's next for you?

SP: After I finish filming "Darcy's Wild Life," I have an album coming out in the fall. So I'm really excited about that.

— Allison Berliner

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Play it safe this

Halloween

Halloween can be one of the most fun days of the whole year. It's your big chance to use your imagination and become almost anyone — or anything — you can think of! But danger lurks on Halloween — and we're not talking about ghosts and goblins, either!

WHY THE NEED FOR SAFETY?

It's easy to get so caught up in the scary fun of Halloween that some kids forget basic safety rules — things like not talking to strangers, or watching for strangers when crossing the street.

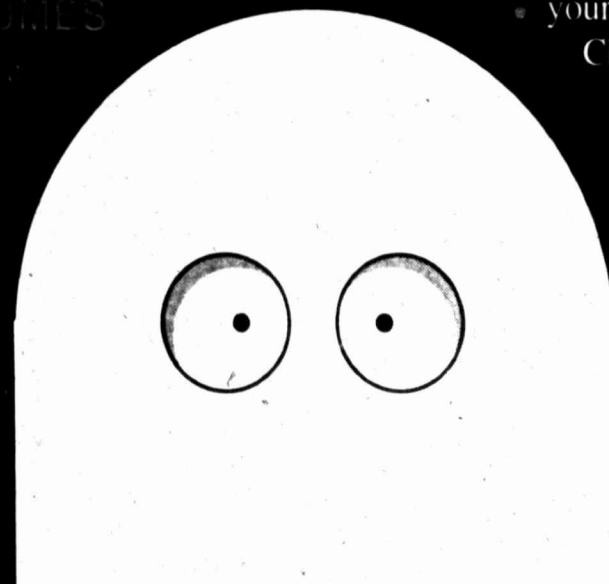
Halloween is a night when lots of extra people are out walking from house to house while they trick-or-treat. That means drivers and people on bicycles have more people to watch out for in the road. And many trick-or-treaters wear dark costumes, which makes it even harder for people to see them in the dark.

But there are things you can do to have fun and stay safe on Halloween!

BOO-TIFUL COSTUMES

Start your plans to have a safe Halloween by thinking about costume safety.

- Make sure your costume is short enough that you can walk in it without tripping.
- Wear makeup instead of a mask. It's much easier to see



Looking for some ways to have a fun and safe time on Halloween? Try these tips:

- Go trick-or-treating with your family and friends. It's always more fun with a group, and sticking together is also safer because you are less likely to get lost or be hurt by a car or bike.
- Start trick-or-treating early, before it gets too dark. Then you can have extra fun when you're done by going back to your house and helping to hand out candy to other trick-or-treaters. It's a scream to see all the kids in costume.
- Scare up your friends, relatives and classmates. Stick to trick-or-treating at homes in your own neighborhood where you know the people and the roads. They'll all love seeing you in your costume.
- Make sure you're seen. Because you can't count on being seen easily in the dark, you have to be extra careful to stay safe. Cross only at crosswalks, not in the middle of the street. Carry a flashlight, especially in neighborhoods that have no street lights.
- Not all trick-or-treaters walk on two legs — you may encounter a dog or other animal dressed up for the occasion. It's important to use caution when approaching an animal — even if you know it. Your costume may frighten it, and it may bite. You're a lot scarier than you think!
- If your family is new in the neighborhood, you may want to go to a Halloween party at your school or at a new friend's house instead of trick-or-treating in a neighborhood you're not yet used to. It's a good way to make new friends with some boys and ghouls.

Whatever you decide to do, a safe Halloween is a frightfully good Halloween. — KidsHealth.org

where you're going if you don't have to look through tiny eyeholes. And a heavy rubber mask can be hot enough to make your face sweat, even on a cool fall night.

● If you do wear a mask, be sure you can see where you're going. If you can't see easily, ask an adult to make the mask's eyeholes bigger.

● It's also a good idea to wear something that glows in the dark as part of your costume. That makes it much easier for drivers to see you. If your costume doesn't have any "glow" potential, get some reflective tape to stick on your costume.

TRICK OR TREAT, GIVE ME SOMETHING SAFE TO EAT

Who wouldn't want to tear into a big bag of candy and start chomping? But it's important that you resist the urge to eat anything until you get home and can examine what you have.

Once you're in the light, look over your goodies with an adult.

Check for anything that looks unsafe to eat, such as anything unwrapped or with loose or torn packaging. And no matter how good the fresh fruit may look, remember you can't see germs on it! Wrapped candy is cleaner and less likely to make you sick. — KidsHealth.org



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