

BIG SPRING

HERALD

INSIDE

Bearcats win opening games in booster club classic

Page 1B

VOLUME 102, NUMBER 7

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2005

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

Today
6 p.m., VA Medical Center Lighting of the Lights, 300 Veterans Blvd.

Saturday
9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Canterbury Christmas Bazaar, 1700 Lancaster.
2 p.m., Living Christmas Tree dress rehearsal, no ticket necessary, First United Methodist Church, 400 Scurry.

5:30 p.m., Herald Community Christmas Parade, begins at 24th Street and Gregg and travels north on Gregg to Sixth St.

8 p.m., Living Christmas Tree performance, free ticket necessary, First United Methodist Church, 400 Scurry.

Sunday
1 p.m., Gingerbread house decorating party, \$15 per person, Gale's Sweet Shoppe.

8 p.m., Living Christmas Tree performance, free ticket necessary, First United Methodist Church, 400 Scurry.



Katelyn Anderson, 3, tells Santa Claus what she wants for Christmas at Howard College Thursday evening. Santa was on hand as part of the college's annual Christmas Luminaria ceremony.

Fire causes evacuation at high school

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

Big Spring Independent School District and Big Spring Fire Department officials suspect a student of starting a small fire that resulted in the high school being evacuated Thursday afternoon.

No serious injuries or major damage was reported in the incident.

BSISD Superintendent Michael Downes said the fire started at about 1 p.m. in a second-floor girls' restroom, where someone apparently set fire to a pile of papers in a plastic waste basket.

The fire itself was minor, High School Principal Mike Ritchey said, but thick, black smoke that occurred when the waste basket

"The big trouble was that the trash can was plastic, and it smoked like I've never seen anything smoke before."

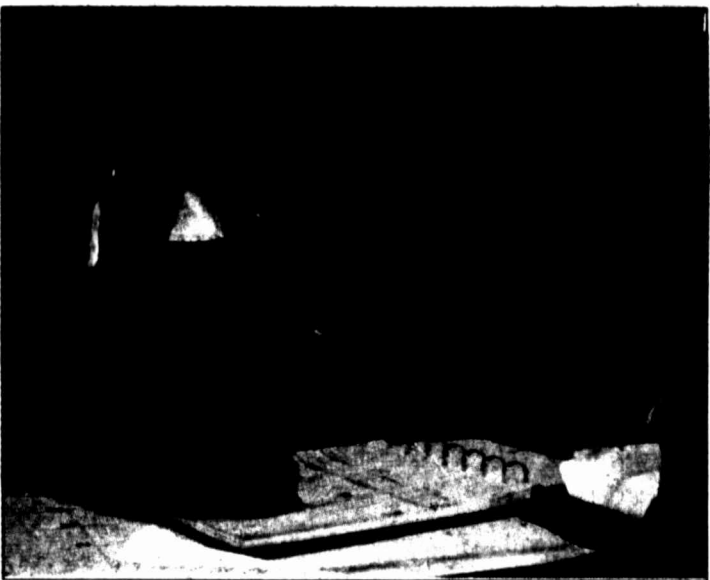


Ritchey

caught fire soon caused students and teachers to abandon the second-floor classrooms.

"There was never any real danger from the fire itself," Ritchey said. "But for anyone with any kind of breathing problem, the smoke was more dangerous than the fire."

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HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins
Max Webb, director of the Northside Community Center, "works the books" during his daily routine at the center. Webb was recently named marshal for the 20th annual Big Spring Herald Community Christmas Parade, set for Saturday at 5:30 p.m.

Parade promises to be one of best

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
Managing Editor

Another Christmas season in the Crossroads will officially start Saturday afternoon when the 20th annual Big Spring Herald's Community Christmas Parade begins its long procession north on Gregg Street at 5:30.

And from all appearances, this may be one of the best parades the Herald has sponsored.

"It looks like this is going to be a great parade," Publisher Susanne Reed said. "Several businesses have had their teams hard at work planning their entries for more than a month, and I know there are other community groups and individuals that are planning to compete for the three cash prizes that are again being offered this year."

A \$100 cash prize will be awarded

See PARADE, Page 3A



Reed

"It's pretty obvious that the community takes as much interest in the parade each year, because it seems that your entries continue to get better and better."

Community 'angel' to serve as grand marshal Saturday

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

With a parade theme like "Hark The Herald Angels Sing," you'd best have a real life angel for your marshal.

And while area residents are quick to point out numerous community angels — people who have given of themselves to make Big Spring a better place to live — one of the city's biggest and brightest will lead the

parade, which is set for Saturday at 5:30 p.m.

Max Webb, executive director of the Northside Community Center, will lead the way for the 20th annual Big Spring Herald Community Christmas Parade, officially getting the Christmas season under way in the Crossroads area.

Webb, who has been the director at the community center for more than a

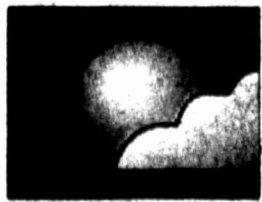
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2005 HERALD COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PARADE LINEUP

Big Spring Honor Guard	City of Big Spring	StarTek
Grand Marshal-Max Webb	Girl Scout Troop 182	Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Veterans
Big Spring High Band	Vietnam Memorial Committee	Home/Sears Methodist
DARE	Western Container Corp.	VA Employee Association/U.S. Postal Service
Shrine Fire Brigade	Wal-Mart Supercenter 513	Family Faith Victory Center
Johnny Bedell/Antique Car	Clifford Hart	KBST Radio
Big Spring Junior High Cheerleaders	First Baptist Church Mothers Day Out	First Baptist Church Handbell Choir
Frank Marsh/Antique Car	Howard College Diplomats	Jim Landtroop Campaign
The Dance Gallery	Cotton Mize	Birdwell Lane Baptist Church
Homer Massey/Antique Car	Midway Baptist Church Children's Ministry	Kokopelli's
Little Wolves	H-E-B	Blue Knights Texas XXVI
Sidewinders Gymnastics	Tracey Roberson	College Park Church of God
Big Spring Cruizers	Howard County Sheriff's Posse	Howard County 4-H Club
Lakeview Head Start	Buzbee	Heritage Museum
Forsan High School Band	Double J's Horse Breaking & Training	Sonic Drive In
Special Olympics	ALON USA	Howard County Volunteer Fire Dept.
Forsan Cheerleaders	Red Hat Society	In Home Care
Best Home Care	Mary Kay Cosmetics/Christi Anderson	Church of God of Prophecy
Big Spring Bass Club	Big Spring Shrine Club	Mitchem Wrecker Service
Big Spring Pow Wow	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints	Early Cars/Mary Ann Edwards
Immaculate Heart of Mary		Santa Claus
Fiberod		

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www.bigspringherald.com

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

WILLIE HEADING OUR WAY

Willie Nelson and David Allan Coe will be in concert at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 16, in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Tickets, which go on sale Dec. 10, will be available at the coliseum, KBST Radio and Ward's Western Wear.

Tickets are \$35 for general admission and \$45 for floor seating.

SANTA'S COMING!

The jolly old elf from the North Pole will be at the Big Spring Mall Dec. 10-11 for his first appearance in Big Spring, with a return engagement planned for Dec. 16-23.

December 10, Santa will be at the mall from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m., and from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m. the following day.

December 16-17, Santa will be available from 1 p.m. until 7 p.m., and Dec. 18 from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m.

December 19-23, Santa will only be available in the evenings from 4 p.m. until 7 p.m.

For more information, contact the Big Spring Mall at 267-3853.

23 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT



Decorate with the ones you love this Christmas!

Obituaries

Charles R. Moore Jr.



Charles Moore, 78, of Menasha, Wis., died Thursday morning, Dec. 1, 2005, at Theda Clark Hospital in Neenah, Wis.

Charlie was a loving husband and devoted father who put the needs of his family above all else. He was a hard working and dependable man who was always there when you needed him. He had a colorful personality and a great sense of humor and was always ready with an impromptu song or dance.

Charlie loved woodworking, fishing and gardening and was known to be able to grow the best tomatoes anywhere. He was much loved and will be dearly missed by all who knew him.

Charles Raymond Moore Jr. was born Nov. 29, 1927, in Monongahela, Penn., to Charles and Nina Mae Moore. At an early age, Charlie's mother passed away but he was lovingly raised by Gladys McMannis Moore after his father remarried.

Charlie enlisted in the Navy in 1945 and served his country during World War II, Korea and Vietnam, before retiring in 1968 after 23 years of service.

Immediately after retiring from the Navy, Charlie went to work for the VA Medical Center in Long Beach, Calif., where he worked with spinal cord injury patients as a physical therapy assistant.

In 1975, he transferred to the VA Medical Center in Big Spring, where he continued to help his fellow veterans until he retired from civil service in 1988.

Even after his retirement in 1988, Charlie continued working in the physical rehabilitation field at Malone-Hogan Clinic in Big Spring and later by delivering home oxygen units to veterans throughout the entire West Texas area, until he retired permanently in 2001.

Surviving family members include his beloved wife of 40 years, Veronica Daigle Moore; three children, David C. Moore and his wife, Letty Jo of Keller, Jennifer L. Lucas and her husband, David of Peru, N.Y., and John R. Moore and his wife, Cheri of Waupaca, Wis.; five brothers and sisters, Mary Lou Rabe and her husband, Donald of Monongahela, Penn., Donald R. Moore and his wife, Dolly of Tucson, Ariz., David L. Moore and his wife, Joyce of Miles, Joan Dotson and her husband, Melvin of Tucson, Ariz., and Audrey Sandberg and her husband, Dean of Phoenix, Ariz.; and seven grandchildren, Amanda, Justin, Kelsea, Crystal, James, Danny and Brandon.

Visitation will be held from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m. Monday, Dec. 5, 2005, at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Menasha, Wis. A memorial service will follow at 11 a.m. with the Rev. Roy Geenen officiating.

Arrangements are under the direction of Westgor Funeral Home in Menasha, Wis.

Paid obituary

Anita Tackett Nall

Anita Tackett Nall, 82, of Mineral Wells passed away early Thursday morning, Dec. 1, 2005, surrounded by her loving family.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3, at the Baum-Carlock-Bumgardner Chapel with the Rev. R.B. Shiflet and Jud Lively officiating. Interment will be in Dobbs Valley Cemetery. Visitation will be from 6:30 p.m. until 8 p.m. today at the funeral home.

Anita was born Aug. 11, 1923, in Thurber to Sidney and Victoria Tackett and she graduated from Huckabay High School. She married Paul Marshall Nall Sept. 5, 1943, in Los Angeles, Calif. He preceded her in death Sept. 30, 1984. She was active in the Eleventh Avenue Church, the Mineral Wells Senior Center, and was a member of the Silver Steppers before her illness.

Survivors include a daughter, Norma Alexander and her husband, Ray of Big Spring; two sons and daughters-in-law, Randy Nall of Fairfield and Ricky and Sylvia of Mineral Wells; brother, Roy Tackett and his wife, Barbara of Justin; and sister-in-law, Minnie Ruth White of Arkansas. She is also survived by three granddaughters and their husbands, Christy and Kent Brown of The Colony, Kim and Jake Whitehead of Midland and Julie Nall of Tennessee Colony; and a great-grandson, Marshall Brown of The Colony.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by a sister, three brothers, and a granddaughter, Alexandra Whitehead.

Memorials may be made to First Mineral Wells Senior Center. Arrangements are under the direction of Baum-Carlock-Bumgardner Funeral Home in Mineral Wells.

Paid obituary

Joe Cruz

Joe Cruz, 62, of Big Spring died Thursday, Dec. 1, 2005, at his residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Mary Ann Parks

Mary Ann Parks, 73, of Dallas, formerly of Big Spring, died Thursday, Dec. 1, 2005, in a Dallas hospital. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Lawerance 'Larry' Sauter

Lawerance "Larry" Sauter, 63, of Big Spring died Friday, Dec. 2, 2005, in a local nursing home. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Police blotter

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

- **PAMMY PUGA**, 40, of 2612 Ent, was arrested Thursday on charges of driving while license suspended, displaying a fictitious inspection certificate and four local warrants.

- **THOMAS DEL BOLTON**, 23, of 2303 Harding, was arrested Friday on two local warrants and charges of possession of a firearm by a felon, resisting arrest and public intoxication.

- **THEFT OF SERVICE** was reported in the 1800 block of FM 700.

- **FAILURE TO IDENTIFY - GIVING FALSE INFORMATION** was reported in the 200 block of Third Street.

- **DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED/INVALID** was reported:
 - in the 3100 block of Highway 80.
 - in the 800 block of Lancaster

Take Note

- **SKATE AND CAKE FUND-RAISER TO BRING BRIANNA HOME** is set for 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. Monday at Skateland, 2908 W. Eighth. Event is free and all donations will be used for fees associated with adoption of Brianna. For more information, call 268-9437.

- **LIVING CHRISTMAS TREE** dress rehearsal at 2 p.m. and performance at 8 p.m. Saturday and at 8 p.m. Sunday in the First United Methodist Church. Free tickets available at the church office, 400 Scurry.

- **GINGERBREAD HOUSE DECORATING PARTY** presented by Gale Pittman of Gale's Sweet Shoppe from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m. Sunday in the Dora Roberts Community Center Sunday. Tickets are \$15 and are on sale now. Call 264-9283 for more information.

- **FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE** needs a cow, sheep, goats and donkeys on loan for the Drive-Thru Nativity. Volunteers are needed. Call Vicki at 263-0203 or 816-9039.

Sheriff's report

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

- **TOMMY MARTINEZ**, 42, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of theft by check.

- **JOVITA CARDENAS RODRIGUEZ**, 26, was arrested Thursday by DPS on charges of failure to identify - giving false information and no driver's license.

- **YVETTE SOLIZ**, 20, was transferred to county jail by the BSPD on a charge of credit/debit card abuse.

- **DEVON LEE BUTLER**, 20, was transferred to county jail by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid.

- **AUSTIN G. SHERRILL**, 51, was transferred to county jail by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department reported the following activity:

- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported near the intersection of Third Street and Main. Two people were transported to SMMC.

- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 700 block of East 11th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 4000 block of Dixon. One person was transported to the VAMC.

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2800 block of Lawrence. One person was transported to SMMC.

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 400 block of Dallas. One person was transported to SMMC.

- **TRASH FIRE** was reported in the 700 block of East 11th Place.

Ribbon Cutting

- **NORTHSIDE COMMUNITY CENTER RIBBON CUTTING** at 2 p.m. Dec. 13 at 108 N.E. Eighth St. to celebrate the the new building project.

Bulletin Board

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

TODAY

- **AMBUCS** meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.
- Greater Big Spring Rotary meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

- **VA Medical Center Lighting of the Lights** at 6 p.m., featuring carols, Santa Claus for the children and refreshments.

- **Spring City Senior Citizens country and western dance** from 7:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. featuring Monroe Casey and the Prowlers. All area seniors are invited.

SATURDAY

- **Canterbury Christmas Bazaar** from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.

- **Living Christmas Tree dress rehearsal** at 2 p.m. and performance at 8 p.m. in the First United Methodist Church. Free tickets available at the church office, 400 Scurry.

- **Big Spring Herald 20th annual Lighted Christmas Parade** begins 5:30 p.m.

- **Big Spring Cruisers** cruise Gregg Street and at the Sonic Drive-In beginning at 6:30 p.m.

- **Eagles Lodge Dance** at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.
- **Big Spring Squares**. Call 263-6305 for more information.

SUNDAY

- **Gingerbread House Decorating Party** presented by Gale Pittman of Gale's Sweet Shoppe from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Community Center. Tickets are \$15 and are on sale now. Call 264-9283 for more information.

- **Living Christmas Tree** at 8 p.m. in the First United Methodist Church. Free tickets available at the church office, 400 Scurry.

MONDAY

- **Keep Big Spring Beautiful** meets at 11:30 at the Spanish Inn Restaurant.

- **The Big Spring Cruisers club meeting** at 7 p.m. in the Texas RV Park meeting room.

- **District Committee Lone Star of Big Spring** meets at noon at 610 Scurry.

- **Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21** meets at 5 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 1-800-392-8677 or 263-0391 or 263-1758.

- **Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. TX 1756** meets at 5:30 p.m. Monday in the 11th and Birdwell Lane Church of Christ. A different program is offered every week, and anyone 7 years old or older is welcome to attend. Please enter through the northwest door. Call 263-2786 for more information.

- **Evening Lions Club** meets at 6:30 p.m. in La Posada Restaurant.

- **Howard County ARC** meets at 806 E. Third in the Bingo Hall. Call 264-0674 for more information.

- **Prospector's Club work night** begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.

Weather

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

Saturday—Partly cloudy. Highs around 80. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph.

Saturday night—Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 30s. West winds around 10 mph shifting to the north after midnight.

Sunday—Partly cloudy. Cooler. Highs in the lower 60s. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.

Sunday night—Mostly clear. Lows around 30.

Lottery

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Thursday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 9-16-26-29 (numerical order). Bonus Ball: 21.

Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 2. Prize: \$250,000.

Winning ticket(s) sold in: Amarillo, Austin.

Estimated jackpot for Monday night drawing: \$200,000.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Thursday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 11-14-15-25-34. Number matching five of five: 1.

Prize per winner: \$34,561.

Winning tickets sold in: Houston. Next Cash 5 drawing: Friday night.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Thursday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 2-0-5

Got Your Flu Shot?

If you are a child, a parent, a grandparent, a healthcare worker, a teacher, a student, a pregnant woman, a childcare provider, a Tinker, a soldier, a sailor...

...be sure to get your shot!

Flu Shots available at:
Leonard's RX Pharmacy
Weekdays From:

10:00 am - 12:00 pm
2:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Canterbury Arts & Crafts Bazaar

Saturday, December 3
9 am to 1 pm
1700 Lancaster



Home decor, collectibles, decorations, gift baskets, crosses, wreaths, jewelry, wood products, homemade craft items, baked goods and much more.

BIG SPRING HERALD

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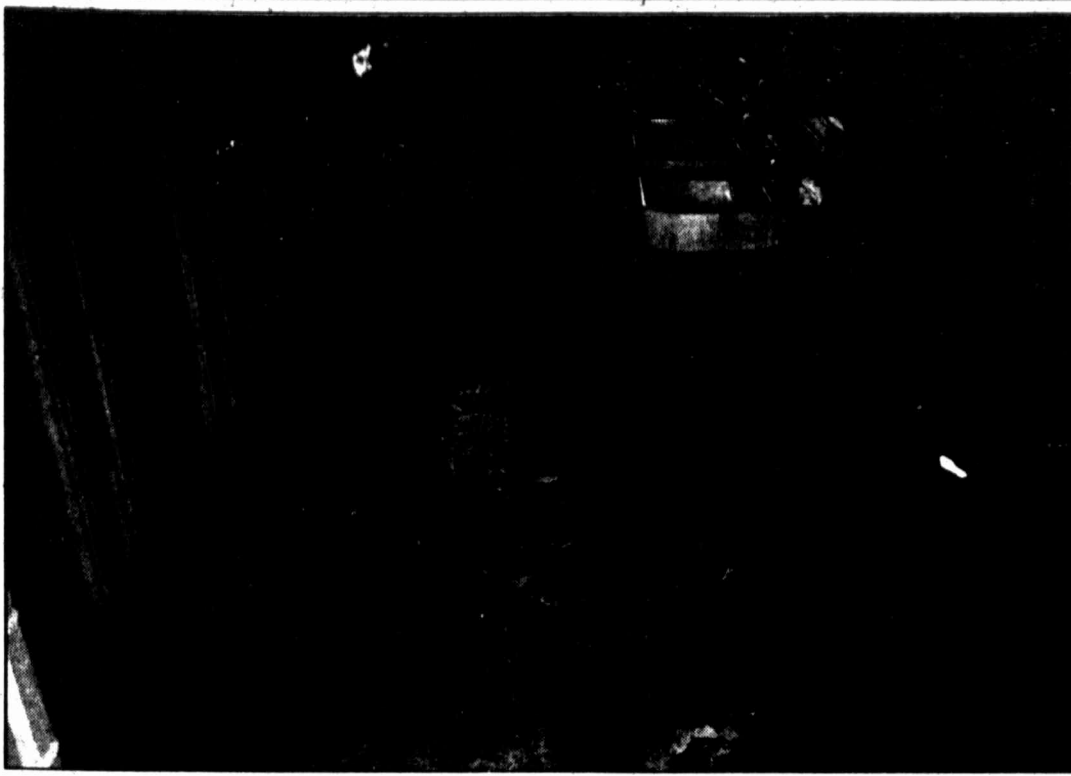
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Herald photo/Steve Reagan

A waste basket fire damaged this restroom at Big Spring High School Thursday afternoon. Smoke from the fire eventually caused officials to dismiss classes for the rest of the day.

FIRE

Continued from Page 1A

City Fire Marshal Carl Condray said firefighters received the alarm at 1:03 p.m. and were on the scene four minutes later. Three fire engines, a medical unit and 10 personnel responded to the call.

Ritchey said less than 10 minutes passed from the time the fire was first noticed until the second floor of the school was evacuated.

The fire was soon extinguished, but the continued presence of smoke convinced officials to let out classes for the day at about 1:30 p.m., Ritchey said.

"The big trouble was that the trash can was plastic, and it smoked like I've never seen anything smoke before," he added.

Damage was contained to the restroom, and no major injuries were reported. Ritchey said. Condray said one student suffered from smoke

inhalation and was taken by ambulance to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

Downes said district maintenance personnel were working overtime Thursday to clean and repair the damage, and both he and Ritchey expected classes to begin on schedule this morning.

Ritchey said school officials were reviewing surveillance video from the area where the fire started, and suspect a single student with setting the fire.

"More than likely, this was deliberately set," Ritchey said. "We've got video cameras ... that have helped us identify some things."

Condray also believes a single student to be behind the fire, and added that BSFD officials are in the process of interviewing witnesses before proceeding further.

BSFD personnel also responded to the high school Wednesday afternoon in response to a small grass fire at the north end of the high

school complex. No damage resulted from that fire, and Ritchey said the incidents were unrelated.

RITZ
401 S. Main 263-7480
Movie Hot Line: 263-2479
Showtimes For 12/02 - 12/08
Adult Admission: \$6.00
Child, Senior, Matinee: \$4.00
DLP Adult Admission: \$7.00
DLP Child, Senior, Matinee: \$5.00
Admission to all showtimes before 9:30 p.m.
Harry Potter
And The Goblet of Fire (PG-13)
Daily: 7:00 Fri. & Sat. 10:10
Sat. & Sun. 3:30
Saw II (R)
Daily: 7:10 Fri. & Sat. 10:00
Sat. & Sun. 4:00
*PASS RESTRICTED
www.ritzbigspring.com

CINEMA 4
*AeonFlux (PG-13)
Daily: 4:50 & 7:00
Fri. & Sat. 9:50 Sat. & Sun. 2:30
*Yours, Mine, & Ours (PG)
Daily: 5:10 & 7:20
Fri. & Sat. 9:30 Sat. & Sun. 2:50
*Just Friends (PG-13)
Daily: 5:00 & 7:10
Fri. & Sat. 9:40 Sat. & Sun. 2:40
Chicken Little (G)
Daily: 5:20 & 7:30
Fri. & Sat. 9:20 Sat. & Sun. 3:00
ADULTS: \$6.00
\$4.00 ALL MATINEES,
CHILDREN & SENIOR CITIZENS
*PASS RESTRICTED
Advanced Tickets For
"The Chronicles of Narnia"
Are Now On Sale At The Cinema 4!!
Showing 12-2-2005

PARADE

Continued from Page 1A

to the entry selected as the winner of the Best of Show Award for the best interpretation of the theme "Har... The Herald Angels Sing."

The winner of the Mayor's Trophy for the best use of lighting will receive a \$75 prize, while the winner of the Grand Marshal's Award for best costuming will receive \$50.

In addition, a new award will be given to the best riding group or mounted entry.

Max Webb, director of the Northside Community Center, will serve as grand marshal for the event.

Reed stressed that the Herald takes great pride in sponsoring each year's Community Christmas Parade and employees strive to make every procession just a little better than that which came

before. "One of the things that really impressed me when I first came to Big Spring a couple of years ago and was first involved in the parade was not only the quality and number of entries, but how almost the entire community turns out to watch," Reed noted.

"It's pretty obvious that the community takes as much interest in the parade each year, because it seems that your entries continue to get better and better," she added. "That's certainly been the case since the parade was changed to an evening start and lighted entries encouraged, I'm told."

Elizabeth Flores, the Herald's coordinator for the event did note that all parade participants are asked to make sure they do not block the drive-ways of homes in the process of lining up for the event and to make sure they clean up any litter created during last-

minute preparations. Participants will begin lining up for the procession at 4 p.m. The Big Spring High School and Forsan High School bands will need to arrive at 5 p.m.

The parade will start at the corner of East 24th and Gregg streets, moving northward on Gregg Street, take a right on Sixth Street, go all the way up to Main, take a left on Main Street and disperse around the courthouse area.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Oleta Clark, 86, died Monday. Graveside services will be at 2:00 PM Friday at the Dumas Cemetery.

Joe Cruz, 62, died Thursday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Pediatrician
Dr. Saenz, Found A Place She Really Loves.

Fluent in English and Spanish, Dr. Kimberly Saenz came here to provide you with quality health care. She lives here because of our great quality of life. So, be neighborly Big Spring, and give Dr. Saenz a call 264-6575.

Accepting New Patients

Dr. Kimberly Saenz, M.D.
2301 South Gregg St. • (432) 264-6575
M-F 8:00 A.M. Thru 5:00 P.M.

Myers & Smith Funeral Home & Chapel

Invites You To Our Open House

Sunday • December 4th • 12:00 Noon - 6:00 pm

Celebrating Our 20th Anniversary



COME VISIT WITH US • DOOR PRIZES

10 \$100 BILLS TO BE GIVEN AWAY

Since 1985

Bill & Charlsa Myers - Owners

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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
PublisherJohn A. Moseley
Managing EditorBill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

We salute:

Each week, the Herald salutes individuals and groups from our community and area who have been recognized for special achievements or accomplishments.

We recognize these special people for working to help make our region a better place to live, work and play

This week we salute:

- Home Hospice on handing out more than 750 goodie bags to caregivers in honor of National Caregiver Week

- Howard College officials on their annual lumina lighting ceremony, a tradition which has been going on for more than 25 years.

- The West Texas VA Health Care System for its ceremony on World AIDS Day, making us more aware of this terrible disease.

- Local attorney Robert Miller, who has been named a member of the Support Network Board of Advisors for the Airplane Operators and Pilot Association, the largest private aviation advocacy organization in the world.

Is there an individual or organization in our community that you feel should be saluted? If so, please send us their name and why you think they should be recognized. We must have your name and telephone number and you must provide it in writing.

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

During this holiday season, as Americans gather with their loved ones to give thanks, the American Red Cross of Southwest Texas would like to thank you for another year of support. Because of the generosity of community residents, the Red Cross has been able to reach out and help those affected by the recent hurricanes while still meeting the needs of your neighbors.

Hurricanes are just part of the story. Around the clock and every day of the year, the American Red Cross of Southwest Texas is responding to local disasters, teaching first aid and CPR classes, serving as a life link for members of the military and their families or helping communities near or far dur-

ing a time of crisis. Many of our neighbors have benefited from the assistance they have received from the Red Cross.

The American Red Cross of Southwest Texas is your local conduit to care and compassion. Your generous contributions of time, blood and money enable our volunteers and employees to carry out the lifesaving mission of the American Red Cross.

The American Red Cross of Southwest Texas asks each of you to continue supporting us so we can continue assisting people in need. On behalf of the board of directors, staff and our many volunteers, we wish you a happy holiday season.

JOHN A. URBY
RED CROSS CHAIRMAN
ODESSA

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@crcom.net.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

When life becomes a worst-case scenario, Lord, we can change it through prayer and trusting in You.

Amen

When feelings trump rights

Did you hear about the University of Wisconsin — Eau Claire (UWEC) banning resident assistants (RAs) from leading Bible studies in their own dormitories? That's the subject of my latest e-mail blast from the ever-vigilant Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE).

This outrageous, indefensible assault on Christian religious liberties provides a perfect opportunity for the church-state separation crusaders to prove they're really devoted to religious liberty, as they claim. Let's see if they protest.

An UWEC official sent RAs a letter forbidding them from leading Bible studies because students might conclude that such RAs were not "approachable." Don't laugh. Violators, warned the letter, would be subject to disciplinary action. Of course, the letter also purported to prohibit Koran and Torah studies, but it appears such studies were not even at issue.

"Wall of separation" advocates insist their primary goal is to prevent government from promoting religion. The "wall," they say, is what has been responsible for our nation's unparalleled religious liberty.

But the only wall of separation the Framers erected, via the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment, was that prohibiting the federal government from establishing a national church or religion. Why? Because a compulsory, state-supported religion would stifle religious liberty, an evil the Framers' ancestors sailed the Atlantic to escape. The thrust of the Establishment Clause was to promote religious freedom.

Not content to stop there, the Framers also included the "Free Exercise" clause, which expressly forbade Congress from making any law prohibiting the free exer-

cise of religion. Clearly, then, the focus of the first two clauses of the First Amendment to the Constitution is religious liberty.

Church-state separation zealots have often selectively applied their wall of separation. They have consistently screamed bloody murder at any whiff of Christianity in the public square, especially when there is the remotest suggestion that government is merely countenancing Christianity (far from endorsing it). But they've sat idly by as the state has outright endorsed other religions or worldviews or their values.

It is mostly Christianity and its values (and perceived intolerance) they oppose, not the state endorsement of religion. I suppose if you could ever force them to be honest with themselves, they would grudgingly concede the point, while justifying it on the basis that Christianity, with its pervasiveness in this country, is the only religion whose dominant influence (and very nature) jeopardizes our tradition of religious liberty. (Of course, that is absurd on its face, since America is the freest nation in history largely because of its Christian roots.)

In their zeal to honor the wall of separation between state and Christianity with the ostensible goal of promoting religious liberty the secularists have trampled on that very liberty. That is, by twisting the Establishment Clause beyond recognition, they have, in many cases, emasculated the Free Exercise Clause.

This has happened most prominently in public schools, where in their mania to prohibit the state (the public school) from endorsing religion, they have suppressed the free exercise rights of the students. For example, schools sometimes forbid references to Christ by commencement speakers, because they apparently believe that to permit students to voluntarily exercise their religious freedom or expression is tantamount to the state endorsing the Christian religion.

DAVID
LIMBAUGH

Spotting the next 'Brownie'

Today's fun challenge is "Spot the Next Brownie." In this fun game for the whole family, review a list of Bush administration cronies in office and see if you can pick the next Michael "Heckuva Job" Brown, another disaster waiting for a hurricane to happen.

Scope out the Bird Flu Czar from Amtrak. Stewart Simonson is now in charge of "the protection of the civilian population from acts of bioterrorism and other public health emergencies," according to his government biography. He is also in charge of ensuring the country has adequate vaccines and antiviral meds to combat an avian flu epidemic. This would be peachy-keen if Simonson had any experience in public health, bioterrorism, epidemics or even management. Unfortunately, he's a political lawyer. As he recently told a congressional subcommittee, "We're learning as we go."

Simonson's rabbi is former Gov. Tommy Thompson of Wisconsin, who hired him out of law school, took him to Washington as deputy general counsel at Health and Human Services and then got him the job as general counsel of Amtrak. Ed Garvey, a well-known lawyer in Wisconsin political circles, told The Nation magazine: "He's a political hack, a sycophant. People just laughed when he was appointed to Amtrak, but when word came out that he was in charge of bioterrorism, it turned to alarm. When you realize that people's lives are at stake, it's frightening. It's just one of those moments when you say, 'Oh, my God.'"

Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., who may be the last grown-up left in Washington, has also pointed out Simonson's professional inadequacies. See the article by Jeremy Scahill in the current issue of The Nation for disturbing details. While we're still slugging it out over who's responsible for the

gross failures and/or distortions of American intelligence before the war, our president tootles merrily along, fixing things in his own inimitable way. Late last month, he appointed nine campaign contributors, including three longtime fund-raisers, to the Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board. According to Newsweek, this is a 16-member panel of folks from the private sector who "advise the president on the quality and effectiveness of U.S. intelligence efforts."

One of the appointees, William DeWitt, a top Bush fund-raiser, was also a partner of the president's in the Texas Rangers, so his knowledge of sign-stealing may be useful. Two Texas oilmen, Ray Hunt and Don Evans, also joined the panel, along with Netscape's founder, so we can all relax about the effectiveness of intelligence.

Fortunately, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting does not normally affect national security. Nevertheless, this is another agency overrun with political hacks. According to the inspector general's scathing report on Kenneth Tomlinson, the now-resigned CPB chairman:

- Tomlinson "violated statutory provisions and the director's code of ethics ...";
- "political tests" were a major criteria used ... in recruiting a (CEO) for CPB, which violated statutory prohibitions against such practices ...";
- "established procurements practices were not followed."

Of course, you don't have to be part of the Bush administration to benefit from being a crony. Cronies in the private sector making money from this administration probably outnumber the cronies Bush has put on the public payroll.

For example, America's top oil industry executives were openly kowtowed to in embarrassing fashion by Republicans at last week's congressional hearing. Among other special favors, the executives were not required to testify under oath, which turns out to be a blessing for them, since they lied.

But the state is no more endorsing the Christian religion by permitting the valedictorian's reference to Christ than the government is endorsing my convincing arguments in this essay by not infringing on my freedom to express (and publish) these profundities.

In the case of UWEC's ban on RA-led Bible studies, if we give the school the benefit of a huge, unwarranted doubt, we could conclude that it wasn't specifically targeting Christianity, since it nominally applied the ban to other religions.

But either way, it is still grossly infringing on the free exercise rights of its RAs and its students, all in the interest of avoiding any appearance of "unapproachability" on the part of the RAs.

You see, the presumption often adopted by our cultural elite is that Christianity is, on its face, intolerant. Doesn't everyone know that any RA who would lead a Bible study is less approachable, especially to members of other religions?

In the name of protecting all hypersensitive students' non-existent constitutional right to be free from the slightest discomfort at the hands of the state (most of which anticipated discomfort is likely a figment of the imagination of those paranoid about Christianity), this university has chosen to violate the most important right our Constitution does guaranty: religious liberty.

The only "separating" usually being done by the fabled "wall" is the severance of religious liberties, mostly Christian, from the Constitution.

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

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The Washington Post found a Secret Service document showing that executives from ExxonMobil, Conoco, Shell and BP America all met with Dick Cheney's energy task force. Last week, the CEOs of ExxonMobil, Chevron and ConocoPhillips said their firms did not participate in the task force. "Not to my knowledge," said the president of Shell. The guy from BP said he didn't know.

In yet another brilliant essay, Harper's editor Lewis Lapham runs down some of the post-Katrina crony-corruption taking place before our very eyes. Among the items:

- "... the cost of ships and ferries deployed for temporary housing — in some circumstances, \$13 million for six months; in other circumstances, \$70 million. Carnival Cruise Lines was hired to house evacuees and government relief workers on three ships docked in New Orleans at the weekly rate of \$1,400 per guest — as opposed to the \$499 charged to passengers at sea for a week's tour of the Caribbean."

- "Debris-removal contracts for approximately \$1 billion awarded to AshBritt, Inc., a Florida corporation happily associated with Haley Barbour, governor of Mississippi and former chairman of the Republican National Committee ..."

- "On the night of Aug. 30, and again on the morning of Aug. 31, the Southern Pines Electric Power Association in Taylorsville, Miss., received phone messages from Vice President Dick Cheney's office in Washington that dictated the order of priority for the restoration of the region's electricity — first to a privately owned pipeline, then to public hospitals ..."

Cronies, we get lots and lots of cronies ...

To find out more about Molly Ivins and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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WEBB

Continued from Page 1A

decade now, helps administer aid to the community in the form of funding for utility bills, gas to help job searchers get on the road and many other forms of assistance for the area's less fortunate.

His work brings him into contact with needy people from all walks of life. However, Webb said the job that actually brought him to the Big Spring area in 1983 has prepared him for what he does now.

"I worked for the Federal Bureau of Prisons when we moved here in 1983," said Webb. "I tried to get into the military when I was younger, but they told me they would have to be in pretty bad shape to take someone in my physical condition."

Webb has struggled with cerebral palsy, a disease caused by a brain injury or problems during fetal growth and causes uncontrolled reflex movements and muscle tightness, all his life. Putting his dream to serve his country aside, Webb attended college and is currently working on his Ph.D.

However, the dream to be part of the U.S. government's inner workings never went away, and was finally realized years later.

"When I got the job at the Bureau of Prisons, I walked in the door the first time with tears run-

ning down my face," said Webb. "One of the guys in charge asked me if something was wrong, and I told him this was my dream. That I had always wanted to serve my country."

Webb's work as a prison counselor took him into direct contact with many high-profile prisoners, including figures from the New York and Chicago crime families.

"Being the new guy at the prison, these guys would walk in and ask me what I was going to do for them," said Webb. "When you have a disability and work in a prison, you hear all kinds of derogatory remarks, but you have to ignore them and go on. Prisoners call you a cripple and a bunch of other names, but you can't let it get to you."

"The first guy I worked with asked me what I was going to do for him. I asked him what he wanted, and he told me he wanted to get paroled. He was in prison on a 10-year sentence. I told him what I needed him to do before I could help him. He had to get his GED, work in the prison industrial area and stay out of fights, among other things."

Webb said the look of dismay on the prisoner's face.

"He had to help himself if I was going to be able to do something for him," said Webb. "And he did it. He got his GED and stayed out of trouble, and when I took him before the parole board he was

approved. After that, word got out in the prison about what had happened and they respected me. They were all asking to have me assigned to their case."

Webb said his success with the prisoner — which certainly wasn't his last success story, as Christmas cards from the men he's helped continue to come in over the years — helps him run the community center in the best way possible for the people in need.

"A lot of really needy people will come through those doors," said Webb, pointing to the front doors of the facility. "They're hard working people who need help making ends meet. However, there are a lot of people who walk through those doors who are just looking for a handout. It's my job to tell the difference."

"There are times when I have to get up and look out the window and see what they're driving. You

wouldn't believe how many people show up in a brand new car needing gas money. I've even had people living in Highland come here looking for assistance when they didn't necessarily need it. This is a place for needy people, not a place for people looking to save a few bucks."

And while Webb has to watch out for the occasional scam artist, he said the need in Big Spring is very, very real.

"Wages are so low here, most people are making \$9 to \$10 an hour, at most," said Webb. "Most families just can't make it on that. When I came here in 1983 with the Bureau of Prisons, I was making more than \$30 an hour, and that was years ago. There's a very large need for the services the center provides."

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

Dress warmly for community parade

"The parade route is pretty long and that's good because it gives lots of people an opportunity to view the parade," Big Spring Herald Publisher Susanne Reed said, adding that she hopes everyone in the community has an opportunity to either enter the parade or view it.

"It looks like the weather's going to be pretty nice, but people need to

remember that it gets cold pretty quickly once the sun begins to set in December," she added. "Dress warmly, bring a cup of coffee or hot chocolate and head downtown in plenty of time to get a good vantage point. We really think you won't want to miss this parade and we don't want you to miss it either."

The parade begins at 5:30 p.m. Saturday.

31st Annual Christmas Bazaar

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Sun. Dec. 4th Noon - 5pm

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Randy Cotton
Pastor

Sunday 11:00 a.m. Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.
Service broadcast Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m.
over KBYG 1400 AM Evangelistic Service.....6:00 p.m.
on your dial Wednesday Service.....7:00p.m.

Church News

First United Methodist Church

Sunday, Dec. 4, the Rev. Dr. Dave Ring's sermon is titled "What in the World Is Advent?" and the scripture is from Galatians 3:23-4:7. Worship services are at 8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m.

The Living Christmas Tree performances are at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday and 8 p.m. Sunday. The theme of this year's tree is "Finding Christmas."

Today is the last day to order poinsettias. The poinsettias will become part of the worship service beginning Dec. 11. Call the church office today to order.

December 10 is Caroling. Meet at the church at 3 p.m. to go caroling at the local nursing homes. Following the caroling, refreshments will be served in Garrett Hall.

First United Methodist Church is located at 400 Scurry. For more information on any of these programs, call the church office at 267-6394.

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COMMERCIAL:
A. Show Windows B. Lights Only

NON-JUDGED ENTRY:
A. Residential B. Commercial

JUDGING will be December 12.

Winners will receive media recognition.
ALL entries will be listed as places to go and lights to see.

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
PHONE NO.: _____ CATEGORY: _____

Entries must be returned to the
Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 1391 or 215 W. 3rd
By December 9, 2005, Noon

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Church News

East Side Baptist Church

"The Toney Brothers Quartet" will be in concert at 7 p.m. today at East Side, 1108 E. Sixth St.

Upcoming activities also include "Children's Christmas Fun Festival" Dec. 10 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This annual event includes activities with puppets, Christmas crafts, plays, refreshment and fun. This event is for children ages 6 to 12 years old.

Space is limited so reservations must be made by calling 267-1915 or 267-1845.

East Side Baptist Church holds weekly Sunday family service at 10:45 a.m.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

Holy Communion will be celebrated at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Sunday school for all ages begins at 9:30 a.m. The Rev. Jim Liggett's topic for this Sunday will be "John the Baptist."

The Episcopal Church Women meet Sunday at 11:45 a.m. in the church library.

St. Mary's first Advent Concert is 12:05 p.m. Thursday. This concert will feature the Lone Star Brass Quintet from Midland. A light lunch will be served after the service and everyone is invited to attend.

For more information, call 267-8201 or visit the Web site at www.stmarysbst.org. St. Mary's is located at 1001 S. Goliad.

Calvary Baptist Church

Calvary Baptist holds weekly Sunday school at 10:45 a.m. followed by morning worship at 11 a.m. and evening worship at 5 p.m. Bible study is Wednesday at 5 p.m.

Calvary Baptist is located at 1200 W. Fourth St.

First Presbyterian Church

The Rev. Matt Miles, minister, will speak on text taken from Mark 1:1-8 at worship service at 11 a.m. Sunday. Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m. and Take 10 starts at 10:35 a.m.

The Advent workshop for children is Sunday from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. Featured activities include a viewing of the Polar Express, crafts and refreshments in the Fellowship Hall.

Other activities for the week include Advent Bible Study led by Miles at 5:17 p.m. Wednesday. Choir practice is at 6 p.m. Wednesday.

A men's group work day at the Festival of Lights is set for Dec. 10. Volunteer church workers are needed.

First Presbyterian Church is located on Rannels between Seventh and Eighth streets.

Friends of Unity

The monthly first Sunday Celebration Service with the Rev. Jim Sims and his wife Carol is at 1 p.m. Sunday. A study

of the Gospel of John, Chapter 4, begins at 2 p.m.

For information concerning World Healing Day 2005 that is set for Dec. 31, call 263-6311.

Philadelphia Primitive Baptist Church

Elder Steve Clark of League City is scheduled to be the guest minister at the Sunday morning worship service beginning at 10:30 a.m. Sunday.

Bible study and prayer meeting is each Wednesday night at 7.

For more information, call John Wayne Metcalf at 394-4067 or Dennis Walker at 264-1363. Philadelphia Primitive Baptist Church is located at 201 E. 24th St.

Birdwell Lane Baptist Church

The youth are putting the finishing touch today and Saturday on the float for the Christmas parade.

Sunday worship services are at 10:55 a.m. and 5 p.m. Midweek services are at 7 p.m. Wednesday. The church is located at 1512 Birdwell Lane. For more information, call 267-7157 or 267-8214.

St. Paul Lutheran Church

The St. Paul Trail of Lights committee meets at 10 a.m. Saturday to do three bridges in down. The Christmas choir is practicing after Sunday school each Sunday to prepare for a Christmas Eve service. Holy Communion will be celebrated Sunday during the 9 a.m. service. Advent services are each Wednesday at 7 p.m. until Christmas.

The Lutheran Hour may be heard at 7:30 a.m. each Sunday on 1070 AM.

Church services are at 9 a.m. Sunday with Sunday school at 10:15 a.m. Prayer meeting is Wednesday night at 6:45. St. Paul Lutheran is located at 810 Scurry. For information about Bible study groups, call the church at 267-7163.

East Fourth Street Baptist Church

Sunday school starts at 9:45 a.m. for all age groups and the morning worship service begins at 11 a.m. Acteens, Challengers, Royal Ambassadors, Girls in Action, Mission Friends and Mission Babies are offered for children and youth of all ages Sunday nights at 5. Choir practice begins Sunday night at 5. A special Christmas service, Hanging of the Greens, is set for 6 p.m. Sunday. Wednesday, there will be a prayer and Bible study service for the adults and a youth discipleship class at 7 p.m.

The church is located at 401 E. Fourth. Call Amy at 267-2291 for more information.

Salem Baptist Church

Sunday school is at 10 a.m., morning service at 6 p.m. and evening service at

6 p.m. Nursery services are available. The Wednesday evening service is at 6 p.m. at Parkplace.

First Baptist Church

"Shine On Us," which will be presented by the music ministry of the church, accompanied by the Big Spring High School Band at 7 p.m. Dec. 10 and Dec. 11.

There is no charge, but a love offering will be taken each evening for the band's trip to Carnegie Hall in New York City.

Sunday school is at 9:30 a.m. followed by morning worship at 10:50 a.m. At 6 p.m. Sunday, members will meet in the north foyer of the church, divide into groups and go caroling around the city.

Then they will return to enjoy hot chocolate and cookies. The public is invited.

For more information, contact the church at 267-8223.

First Church of the Nazarene

The 19th annual Drive-Thru Nativity is Dec. 9-11 at the church, 1400 S. Lancaster.

Set-up day is Saturday, beginning at 8 a.m. with a breakfast for anyone interested in participating in this event that tells of the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. There are 17 scenes and volunteers are needed.

The children's ministries Kidz Choir that will be performing in the church sanctuary at 6 p.m. Sunday.

The Rev. Byron Brown leads special observances of the Advent season continuing at 10 a.m. Sunday. The event includes special readings and lighting of the Advent wreath, progressing through each Sunday up to Christmas Day.

Sunday evening service is at 6 p.m. Prior to Sunday morning services, from 9 a.m. until 9:45 a.m., coffee, juice and donuts are available in the commons of the main foyer as an opportunity for fellowship.

For more information about any of these ministries, call 267-7015.

Cornerstone Church

Cornerstone offers a family atmosphere of praise and worship.

Children in kindergarten through fourth grade are invited to Sunday children's activities.

Childcare is available for newborns through preschool.

The church is located at 12th and Owens streets. Call Pastor Craig Felty at 263-3072 with any questions.

Life Church

There are two contemporary worship services Sundays at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Children's ministry is provided during both services, such as Noah's Ark for children age 0-3, Zoe Land for children age 4-9 and God's Squad for preteens age 10-12. Church meets Wednesday at 7 p.m. Small groups, including college, young adults and senior high meet throughout the week.

For more information, call at 432-263-7714. Life Church is located at 600 E. FM 700.

YoungLife

YoungLife is a non-profit Christian organization for high school students that meets at 7:59 p.m. each Monday night of the school year. WyldLife, a junior high school outreach, meets at 7:13 p.m. every other Tuesday.

Both clubs meet at the YoungLife building, 13th and Owens streets.

Adult volunteer leaders are needed. For more information, call director Shelly Warren at 213-4819.

Baptist Temple Church

Bible school begins at 9:30 a.m. Sunday and morning worship begins at 10:45 a.m. Evening worship is at 6 p.m. The church is located at 400 11th Place. For more information, contact the church at 267-1683.

New Covenant

Christian Worship Center

The Super Sunday Service takes place with guest speaker the Rev. Holston Banks Jr., pastor of Shiloh House of Praise Sunday.

New Covenant also offers a mid-week service, featuring the Young Ambassador's Program every Wednesday evening at 6. Game nights, study-hall session and Bible drills are some of the activities. Sunday morning worship services are at 11 a.m.; doors open at 10:45 a.m.

The church is located at 1607 E. Third street. For more information, call 264-0015 or e-mail nccwcl@yahoo.com.

Coahoma United Methodist Church

Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m. and Sunday service is at 11 a.m. The church is located at 401 N. Main St. in Coahoma. For more information, call 394-4432.

Family Medical Center Spotlight

Dr. Alan Abel
Board Certified General Surgeon
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432-263-6018

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HENRY BACKES

Toney Brothers in concert at East Side Church tonight

The Toney Brothers Quartet will be in concert at 7 p.m. tonight at East Side Baptist Church, 1106 E. Sixth St.

Fifty continuous years of anything is a long time. A 50-year legacy in music is even less likely to see, but that's exactly what The Toney Brothers celebrated in 2005 — 50 years of gospel music ministry.

The group appears in more than 250 concerts a year, spanning all across the United States and Canada.

Originally started in 1955 by four Toney brothers, they began singing smooth gospel music harmony to people everywhere.

They began doing programs with The Blackwood Brothers, The Statesman, The Speer Family, The Cathedrals, The Oak Ridge Boys, Bill Gaither and the Stamps to name a few.

In the past 50 years, they have performed in some of the largest auditoriums in the U.S. They have had privilege of performing on the same program with such notables as former President George Bush and Art Linkletter but no matter where they sang or who



was there one thing always remained the same, the ministry of their music.

Spreading the eternal message of Christ, without compromise has been the cornerstone of this organization since its inception.

The current group members include Terry Toney, who handles the M.C. work and sings the bass for the group. His broad range and unique smoothness is a welcome sound to those who love a full quartet sound.

He also manages road life for the guys. In his tenure with the group, he has played the bass guitar, the piano and even the fiddle.

Gary Toney sings the baritone for the group. One southern gospel journalist has stated that he is one of the best baritones today. With his ability to

deliver a variety of styles, he is known for his consistency and richness. In years past, he has also filled the lead position as well as played guitar for the group.

Jimmy McMillan carries the lead position. Although the newest member to the group, he is making friends everywhere they travel.

Randy Lewis completes the group, singing tenor. There will be no mistaking his full, rich tenor quality that is fast becoming a benchmark.

Together, these four men bring together a blend of tradition, innovation, excitement and fun.

As Terry is quick to point out, "Christians are the only people who have anything to really smile about and we should show it through our lives and on our faces."

Local News

Neighbors and Newcomers of Big Spring

Neighbors and Newcomers of Big Spring met Nov. 17 at the home of Gisela Preciado. Club members made plans to participate in the Comanche Trail Festival of Lights and will meet at 3 p.m. Saturday to assemble the display.

Coffee and pastries were served and members then made a short trip to San Angelo. The next meeting is set for 10:30 a.m. Dec. 8 in the home of Pat Fleming. An annual cookie exchange is planned for this meeting.

For more information or to RSVP to attend a meeting, contact Ann Ward at 263-5650 or Brenda Conciene at 264-6830.

TOPS No. TX 21

Olnee Menges voiced the opening prayer when Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. TX 21 met Monday at 5:30 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third.

The TOPS and Keep Off Pounds Sensibly (KOPS) pledges were repeated, followed by the fellowship song.

Alex Sechelski read an article out of the TOPS magazine titled, "The TOPS Way to Go."

Genay Bertran called the roll with eight TOPS and five KOPS weighing in. Cherry Sechelski was the KOPS best loser and Menges was the best loser

of the week for the TOPS. Each one received the gainers award and certificate.

Menges presented the program, "10 Ways to Add Sparkle to Your Life." The program was well received with great club participation.

TOPS No. TX 21 meets each Monday night with weigh-in beginning at 5 p.m. Next week is the annual Christmas party and following the weigh-in, members will go to the home of leader, Hughetta Roberts to enjoy a Christmas dinner and gift exchange.

For more information concerning TOPS, call 1-800-302-8677 or locally 263-0391 or 263-1758.

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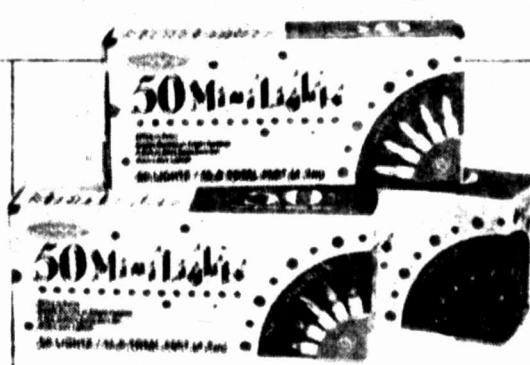
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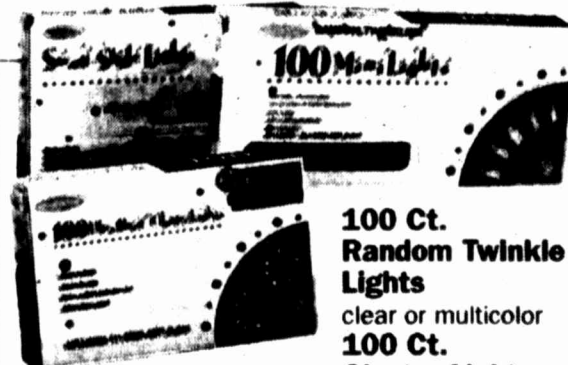
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IN BRIEF

Howard climbs to top of NCAA rankings

The Howard College men's basketball team has moved up to No. 4 in the nation this week after winning the Odessa College Thanksgiving Tournament.

The Hawks defeated Hill College in the first round, took down rival and then No. 1 ranked Midland in the semifinals and blew out Lee College in the championship game Saturday night.

Howard is 10-0 on the season and has taken first place in both tournaments it played in.

Chipola College remained No. 1 this week, while Mineral Area College moved up to No. 2 after sitting at No. 6 last week. Cochise remained No. 3 and Howard moved up five spots from No. 9.

Lady Steers set to take part in parade

Members of the Big Spring Lady Steers basketball program will be selling coffee, hot chocolate and homemade baked goods in front of the Heritage Museum during the Christmas parade Dec. 3.

Sign-ups for YMCA basketball underway

Registration for the Big Spring YMCA youth basketball league is taking place now until Dec. 3.

The league is for boys and girls ages 5-12. Some 13-year-olds may play depending on their date of birth.

Practices are scheduled to begin Monday, Dec. 19. Kids who played last season may play on the same team from last year.

All games are scheduled to be played Saturdays beginning Jan. 7.

For more information, contact the YMCA at 267-8234.

Big Spring sets volleyball clinic

A volleyball clinic for girls aged third through eighth grade has been set up for Saturday, Dec. 10 from 9 a.m. to 13 p.m.

The clinic will take place at the B.S. Junior High and it will be instructed by J.E. Thomas, who is the Midland College assistant coach.

For more information, contact Della Partee at 267-4038.

Lady Steer booster meeting announced

The Lady Steer Booster Club will meet Monday, Dec. 12th, in the Athletic Training Center (ATC) at 8 p.m.

All parents of girls involved in volleyball, basketball, softball, track, cheerleading and trainers are encouraged to attend. The meeting will be to discuss future fundraising for the softball and basketball programs.

For more information, contact Carol Policky at 267-8200.

Buffaloes march on after two big wins

• Forsan girls record first victory of season

By JEFF LANE

Special to the Herald
GAIL — The Forsan Buffaloes started play Thursday in the Borden County Tournament, playing two games and winning both.



BAKER

The Buffaloes drew Crosbyton in the first round, winning, 32-29, in a closely played match-up, then defeated Borden County, 52-49, in the second round.

Against Crosbyton, Forsan was led by Tye Baker with nine points and Adam Bailey with eight. Josh Paredez added six in the contest.

Moving into the second round of play, the Buffaloes took on the host team and found themselves down by eight entering the fourth period.

But a big game by Baker helped them rebound and escaped with a three-point win.

Baker finished with 23 points and Seth Johnson poured in 13. Jeremy Johnson and Adam Bailey each scored six points.

Forsan head coach Terry McDonald said he was pleased with the team's play.

"These were character building games for us and we played really well," said McDonald. "We saw man-to-man in one game and a zone in the next, and we reacted successfully against both."

Forsan will meet Lubbock Christian tonight at 8 p.m. Lubbock advanced by defeating O'Donnell.

If the Buffs win, they will play at 8 p.m. Saturday in the championship game.

Forsan girls

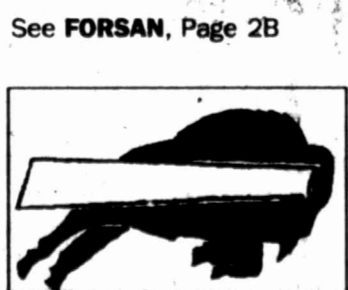
The Forsan Lady Buffaloes opened play in the Borden County Tournament Thursday against Crosbyton and won their first game of the season, 28-24.

They led throughout the contest and were led in scoring by Kaylon Stanley's 10 points.

Forsan head coach Robert Hillger was proud of his team's effort.

"We played a good game tonight even though we had a tough fourth quarter," Hillger said. "But we held on and pulled it out for a nice win."

The Lady Buffs moved into the second round to face a familiar opponent in the Highland Lady



See FORSAN, Page 2B



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde
Garden City junior Erin Hirt attempts one of her 10 3-point shots Thursday afternoon during the Lady Kats' win over Midland Trinity at the Garden City host tournament. Hirt finished with 18 points in the game. The Bearkats also defeated Midland Trinity in their first round game Thursday.

Garden City gets two easy victories

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor
GARDEN CITY — The Garden City basketball teams had little trouble in their opening round games of the Bearkat Booster Club Klassic Thursday afternoon. Both teams took on Midland Trinity and each team walked away with easy wins.

Garden City girls 52 Midland Trinity girls 13

The Lady Kats' full court pressure was too much for Midland Trinity to handle as Garden City built a 17-2 lead after the first quarter and coasted to an easy 52-13 victory.

Junior Erin Hirt did not have her best shooting game of the year, but was still pretty good for the Lady Kats. She went two-for-eight from behind the 3-point line in the first quarter and led Garden City at half with 10 points, despite play limited minutes in the second quarter.

Neither team was great offensively in the second period. The reserves were

in the game for much of the frame for Garden City. Five different players scored points in the period as the Lady Kats outscored the Lady Chargers 9-0 in the quarter and led 26-2 at half-time.

Hirt and K'Lann Niehues went back to work for Garden City in the third quarter. Niehues scored the first four points of the period before Hirt knocked down a 3-pointer. Niehues then scored inside and Hirt added another three points, this time the old-fashioned way as she was fouled on a made basket. Hirt then closed out the quarter with a jump shot as Garden City led 40-4 after three quarters.

Garden City head coach Brent Kirkland left Hirt on the bench in the fourth quarter and gave way to his bench. Analisa Gonzalez hit two straight shots from the field midway through the fourth. Marissa Schwartz started the quarter with a jumper

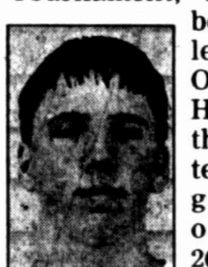
See GARDEN CITY, Page 2B

Bulldogettes cruise past Pecos in opener

• Coahoma boys lose lead in fourth frame against OHS JV

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor
COAHOMA — The Coahoma girls basketball team jumped out early and continued its domination of Pecos throughout Thursday night as the Bulldogettes won their first round game at the Coahoma Invitational Tournament, 48-18. The boys team led the Odessa High JV for three quarters, but got outscored 26-13 in the final period and lost, 55-48.



KERBY

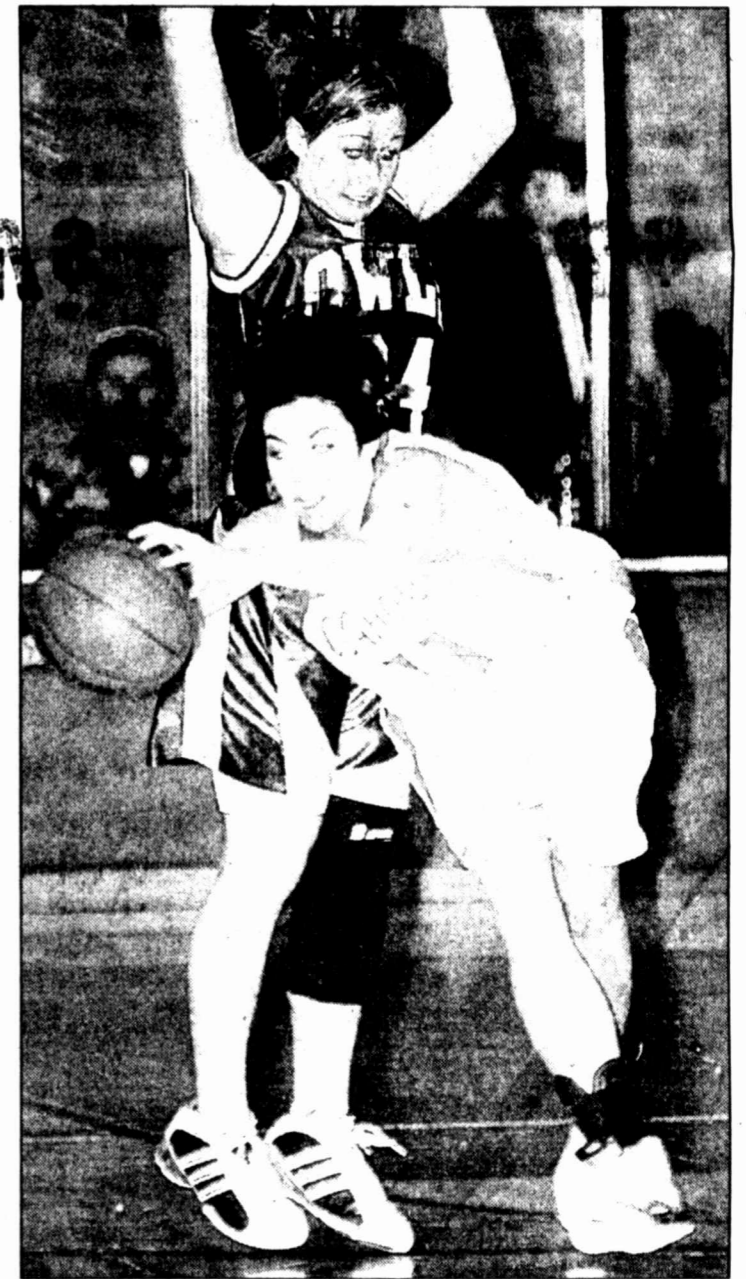
The Bulldogettes led Pecos at halftime 25-6 and extended the lead to 38-9 after three quarters. Freshman Laci Sterling led the charge for

Coahoma with 11 points, while senior Liz Conley hit three 3-pointers and finished with nine points. Senior Kali Roberts and sophomore Janice Gonzales each scored eight points. Gonzales hit two 3-pointers.

The Bulldogs led 20-8 after the first quarter and extended their lead to four points at halftime and to six points after three quarters, but a monster fourth period for Odessa High's JV propelled the Bronchos to the win. Junior Blaine Kerby led the Bulldogs with 16 points and junior Jason Gonzales also reached double figures with 12. Senior Patrick Croft added seven points.

The Coahoma girls will play tonight at 6 p.m. against Midland Classical.

The Bulldogs' next game will be played Saturday morning at 9 a.m. against either Pecos, Olney or Midland Classical.



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde
Coahoma senior Sterling Gee steps through a defender and looks for a teammate during Tuesday's game against Reagan County. The Bulldogettes defeated Pecos, 48-18, Thursday in the first round of their host tournament.

Coahoma Invitational Tournament	
Opening Round Girls	Opening Round Boys
Coahoma 48, Pecos 18	Odessa High JV 55, Coahoma 48
Midland Classical 31, Ozona 24	Olney 80, Lake View 59
Sweetwater 41, Stanton 30	Stanton 55, Pecos 47

Lady Steers run into trouble in San Angelo

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor
SAN ANGELO — The Big Spring girls basketball team started off slow and couldn't recover in San Angelo at the Concho River Classic, losing to El Paso Montwood, 62-35.

The Lady Steers trailed 33-21 at halftime and played even with Montwood in the third quarter, but a 21-6 advantage in the fourth quarter for Montwood put the game out of reach.

Senior Chalesa Johnson scored 14 points to lead

Big Spring, while J.T. Terrell added seven. Junior Katy Abner and senior Carmen Davis scored five points each. Montwood held senior Raegan Ritchey to two points.

Montwood was led by Kayla Williams' 14 points,

while Magall Vargas had 12.

Big Spring, which made just six of 20 free throws Thursday, took on Lake Dallas today at 11:30 a.m. at Central High School, but final results were unavailable at press time.

Stanton boys advance to winner's bracket at Coahoma

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor
COAHOMA — Mike Carmona scored 14 points for Stanton Thursday as the Buffaloes won their opening round game at the Coahoma Invitational,

defeating Pecos, 55-47.

The Buffaloes jumped out to a 16-8 advantage in the first quarter before Pecos came back to cut the deficit to two at half-time.

Stanton grabbed a

seven-point lead after three quarters before going on to win by eight.

Stanton girls 30 Sweetwater girls 41

A big second half Thursday in Coahoma

propelled the Sweetwater girls' basketball team to a win over Stanton at the Coahoma Invitational.

Sweetwater jumped out to a 14-9 lead after the first quarter before

See Stanton, Page 2B

GARDEN CITY

Continued from Page 1B

and a free throw and then finished the frame with two straight jumpers.

Midland Trinity scored nine points in the final quarter, but Garden City still won by 39 points.

Hirt led the Lady Kats with 18 points. Schwartz added nine points, while Niehues added eight. Junior Lauren Plagens scored seven points, as well.

**Garden City boys 67
Midland Trinity boys 40**

The Bearkats used full court pressure to get easy baskets and senior Cory Multer was too much to handle inside for Midland Trinity as Garden City jumped out early and had no trouble the rest of the way, taking down the Chargers, 67-40.

Multer scored just two points in the first quarter, but took over inside in the second quarter and finished the game with a game-high 16 points.

The Bearkats used a 9-0 run in the first quarter to jump out to an early 18-5 lead despite making just five out of nine shots from the line. Midland Trinity ended the quarter with five straight points and cut the deficit to eight after one quarter.

Multer scored the Bearkats' first seven points of the second frame as Garden City pushed its lead to 25-14 and then junior Taylor Niehues added a 3-pointer and jump shot off a steal to extend the lead to 14. The lead would stay at 14 at the break after each team traded baskets late in the second quarter.

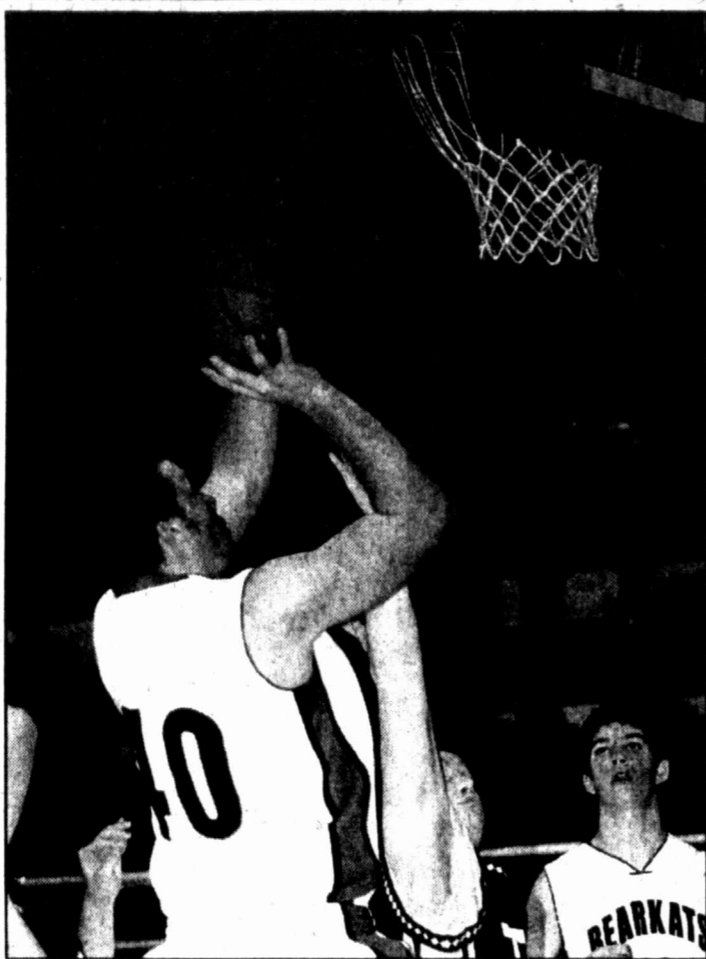
Multer connected on two straight layups inside for Garden City to start the second half and the Bearkats' lead grew to 18 points. Jason Flores scored four straight points for the Bearkats later in the period. His jumper with 2:32 left in the quarter put Garden City up 44-26. Junior Colton Schwartz scored two points on a putback to end the quarter and the Bearkats led by 21 points with one period to play.

The lead never got below 19 in the final quarter. Sophomore Bo Eggemeyer highlighted the period with back-to-back baskets at the end of the game. He was fouled on both shots, but missed both free throws.

The only negative to game for Garden City was its inability to hit free throws. The Bearkats made just 15 of 28 shots from the line.

Niehues and Schwartz followed Multer's 16 points with 10 points each. Eggemeyer finished with nine, while junior Alex Halfmann added seven.

The Lady Kats will play against Wink tonight at 6 p.m., while the Bearkats' game against Wink will begin tonight at 7:30 p.m.



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde
Garden City junior Cory Multer puts in two of his team-high 16 points Thursday afternoon during the Bearkats' easy win over Midland Trinity at the Bearkat Booster Club Classic Tournament.

STANTON

Continued from Page 1B

Stanton came back to grabbed a 19-16 halftime lead. However, Sweetwater dominated the second half, outscoring the Lady Buffaloes 25-11 and went on to win by 11 points.

Tiki Smith led Sweetwater with a game-high 23 points.

Bonnie Kendall led Stanton with 13.

Sweetwater will take on the Odessa High JV in the second round. The loser of that game will take on Stanton today at 4:30 p.m.

The Stanton boys will take on Ozona today at 1:30 p.m. and will play again today at either 4:30 p.m. against Pecos or 7:30 p.m. against the Odessa High JV team.

Wildcats roll past Amherst

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

NEW HOME — Three players scored in double figures for the Grady boys basketball team Thursday as the Wildcats cruised to a 73-30 win over Amherst at the New Home Tournament.

The Wildcats, who

improved to 3-2 on the season, led 31-14 at the break before exploding in the third quarter for 24 points. Grady also doubled up Amherst in the final quarter. Sophomores Tommylee Rivas and Justin Tubb each scored 19 points to lead Grady, which takes on Loop today at 4:30 p.m.



Josh Pugh added 14 points, while junior Taylor Fields added nine points.

Spurs steal one from Mavericks

By STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

DALLAS (AP) — San Antonio and Dallas had the same plan, and both did a good job stopping the other team's top player.

With Tim Duncan and Dirk Nowitzki neutralized by both having some of their lowest-scoring games of the season, Tony Parker scored a season-high 30 points — including the go-ahead layup with 35 seconds left — in the Spurs' 92-90 victory Thursday night.

Nowitzki's shooting

woes continued, going just 3-of-13 to match a season low with 14 points. His potential tying shot for the Mavericks was partially blocked by Bruce Bowen to end the game.

While Duncan finished with 14 rebounds, he was 5-of-12 shooting and his 13 points were only two above his season low.

Seven of the game's 26 lead changes came in the final 2:48, the last 87-86 on Parker's driving layup only seconds after his turnover. Finley then was fouled rebounding a Dallas miss and made two

free throws.

Parker added two free throws with 12 seconds left to make it 92-88, but that almost wasn't enough for the Spurs (12-3) to remain alone atop the Western Conference.

Marquis Daniels, who had a season-high 24 points, got the long rebound of his own miss and threw a wild shot toward the basket, drawing a foul from Brent Barry to get three free throws with 6.1 seconds left. After Daniels made the first two shots, he missed the third.

FORSAN

Continued from Page 1B

Hornets.

The two teams played Tuesday and, in another close game, the Lady Hornets took the victory by the exact same margin of 45-41.

Again, Hillger praised his squad as it was down by 10 in the third quarter and battled back to take a two-point lead heading into the fourth. However, Highland was able to hit some big free throws down the stretch to pull out the narrow win.

The Lady Buffs were led

in scoring by Alyssa Hodnett's 12 points, while Kimmy Berry added 11 and Stanley scored nine.

Forsan moved on to play Anson, which lost to Sterling City in its first round matchup, today at 12:30 p.m., but results were unavailable at press time.

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Bearkat Booster Club Classic

Results from Thursday

First Round

Girls
Garden City 52, Trinity 13
Wink 55, Christoval 52
Rankin 70, Lorraine 32
McCamey 50, Crane 33

Boys
Garden City 67, Trinity 40
Wink 80, Christoval 63
Rankin 52, Lorraine 42
McCamey 51, Odessa Warriors 40

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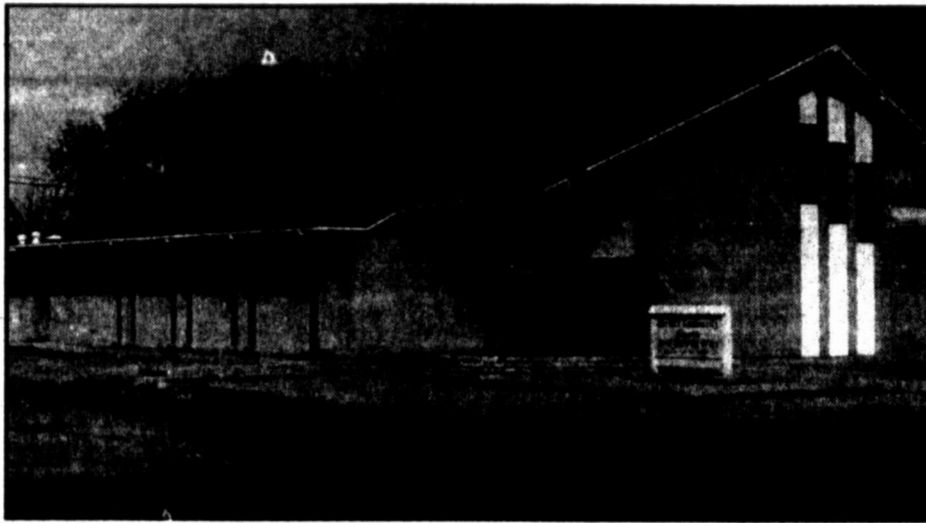
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SPA REPAIRMAN- Will work on any brand of spa. Call: (432)563-1807.

Miscellaneous

40-60% OFF WHOLESALE prices. Name-brand kids wear!! Babies, toddlers, boys, girls.. Unprecedented warehouse clearance sale. Log on to www.magickidusa.com must use discount code: MK-15177 for huge savings!!

BIG! "RED" Barn ready for delivery, financing available. Call (432)563-3108.

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ESTATE DOLL/ Walking Cane Collection on eBay. Enter 6583923983 then "Search" then click on "View Seller's other items". These can be seen at Scott Emmerson's Auction, College Park Shopping Center.

SEA CONTAINERS have arrived, end of the year shipment. We have 20ft and 40ft containers available now. Local company call (432)267-6006.

Miscellaneous

FREE DIRECTV SATELLITE for 4 rooms. Free TiVo/DVR Add HDTV, 220 channels including locals. \$29.99/month. First 500 orders get free DVD player. 866-641-7031 Promo #16026.

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

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Pets

GREAT CHRISTMAS Present! Tiny male AKC Yorkshire Terrier, born 10/22/05. Ready for Christmas! \$500. Call (432)263-7245.

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Efficiency Apts
\$175⁺⁺ w/ 1 Mo FREE
• All Utilities
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One Bedroom
\$225⁺⁺ w/ 1 Mo FREE
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100 1/2 Lockhart: 2 Bedroom Mobile home. Refrigerator and stove furnished. Call (432)466-3048.

1314 MT. Vernon. 3 Bedroom, Office, Screened porch, Central heat. No pets! References Required. \$425 month, \$250 deposit. Call (432)263-3535 after 6:00 pm.

1409 MT. VERNON. Newly remodeled. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, CH/A, fenced yard with washer & dryer connections. \$515. month, \$395. deposit. Call 432-263-8005, 816-1330.

Real Estate for Rent

FOR RENT large 1 bedroom, 1503 Scurry A. All bills paid. \$400. month, \$150. deposit. Call (432)264-6611.

1610 STATE. Two bedroom, one bath, detached 2 car garage, fenced yard, washer/dryer connections. \$350. month, \$150. deposit. Call (432)263-1792, 816-9984.

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

4207 MUIR. Clean 3 Bedroom, 1 bath. Garage, CH/A, fenced yard. Stove & Refrigerator furnished. \$400.00 month \$150.00 deposit. Call (432)267-1543.

4219 HAMILTON. 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Call (432)267-3841 or 517-0642.

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

805 ROSEMONT. 3/2, fenced backyard, carport, \$425/month. \$250/deposit + 1 year lease. Call (432)268-5956 or 268-9180.

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

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Real Estate for Sale

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

BY OWNER 1508 Sunset Ave., 2 bedroom, 2 bath, carport and storage shed. \$25,000.00 Call (432)816-9013.

OWNER FINANCE. 19505 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.

TOWNHOUSE, FOR Sale. 2 Bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage, central vacuum system and many extras. Call (432)354-2569 for appointment.

VERY NICE 2 bedroom, 1 bath, CH/A, fenced backyard, with 2 storage buildings, double carport. 1205 Wood. \$26,000.. Call (432)263-2694.

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Legals

ATTENTION COX COMMUNICATIONS SUBSCRIBERS
Beginning December 29th, 2005 Cox Communications will be making a change to its Digital Channel Lineup in Big Spring. Pay Per View Movie Channels 514 through 523 will be removed. Inquiries concerning this change or any other cable-related issue can be made at Cox Communications, 2006 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720 or call 432-267-3821. #4800 December 2, 2005

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Interested applicants should contact the Workforce Network of Big Spring, located at 310 Owens, to set up an interview with a Loram representative.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS
The Sagittarius moon rules, and if it weren't for Mercury's retrograde status, it would be an extraordinary travel day — well, don't worry. Tomorrow the winged messenger flies straight once again, and so can you. Consider what you've learned about listening well since mid-November. You'll soon apply your knowledge to good effect.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It's easy to get caught up in the philosophical ramifications of your current position. You want to talk to a shrink, a guru or a bartender, but what you really need is a comedy, some popcorn and a few hours of laughter.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your imagination is bubbling with ideas about how to spend the next 48

hours. Being with creative people helps you build on your whims and make this weekend into something memorable.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The more you know, the less you wish you knew about some people's private lives. Yet you happen to be the confidante of the zodiac this weekend. Screen your calls, and if you accidentally pick up, try not to judge.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It seems like something as simple as keeping regular hours for work and play would be a no-brainer. But it's not. You're the most likely to take work home with you and spoil the weekend fun. Stop! Put down the laptop!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Perhaps a more enlightened being would not need to spend so much money shopping, but alas, you do. Maybe you're just not understanding the meaning of the word, but the spree somehow makes you feel enlightened.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept.

22). This is a quality day, and you make it even more so with a few ingenious touches. You use your time so well that you could give speeches on the matter. If everyone were as industrious as you, what a world it would be.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're not the only one who is mystified by human behavior today. Join with your fellows to raise an eyebrow or two and share a meal or some drink, a laugh and a kind word. Kinship feeds the soul.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You, of all people, know the power of charisma. Someone with an infatuating presence rocks your world. Even rotten things seem like they're going to be OK.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You have no need to dominate others and yet you are a leader — people are drawn to you and follow you for their own internal reasons. Your responsibility grows over the weekend.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Be careful what you covet — it could become yours in a short time. Something that is beautiful from a distance could be a disaster when you're close up.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The world needs dreamers, and it also needs reality makers. Be both. Your ideas are good and pretty simple to execute, too, if you share the job with a few qualified helpers.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The Greek philosopher Aristotle said that friendship is a single soul dwelling in two bodies. Then again, he didn't have your friends. They'll do baffling things that you simply can't relate to — but of course, you'll still try.

WEEKEND LOVE FORECAST: Romantic satisfaction goes to the ones who expand the distance they're willing to go for love. **ARIES:** You're something special, but be careful not to look down on romantic hopefuls

when they put you up on a pedestal. **TAURUS:** Whisper to get the attention of your loved one.

GEMINI: A little-known fact about you will delight those trying to get to know you. **CANCER:** Get out tonight, regardless of how you feel. If you're tired, nightlife will energize you. **LEO:** Plan romantic moments, or they don't happen. **VIRGO:** A spontaneous gesture brings back the love that was lost. **LIBRA:** Deliver yourself from the clutches of a needy person — codependency masquerades as love. **SCORPIO:** Fresh faces in your personal life get romantic feelings churning. **SAGITTARIUS:** It's so hard to stick to your commitments! It's easier not to commit at all! **CAPRICORN:** Only join forces with someone who respects where you come from. **AQUARIUS:** Love and business get all mixed up together. **PISCES:** Let childlike curiosity into your love life. Ask the silly ques-

tions. **COUPLE OF THE WEEKEND:** Aquarius and Gemini are two bright air signs who love to be wrapped up in a friendly conversation. The problem is that they fall more easily into an intellectual conversation or a fit of giggles than they fall into a passionate embrace. This weekend, it's enough to have the kind of friendship that the whole world envies. Passion comes later out of continued respect and common interests.

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

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Annie's Mailbox®: Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: I am a 16-year-old girl with a major problem. I'm pregnant, and I don't know how to tell my parents. It's not that they would kick me out or disown me, it's just that my parents are Christians and against premarital sex, so being pregnant will really hurt and embarrass them.

My boyfriend and I have been dating off and on for four years and felt we were ready to have sex. We were wrong. We both want to keep the baby. I would never consider abortion or adoption. I just need help telling my parents without hurting them too badly. Can you help me? — Scared in California

Dear Scared: In spite of your predicament, you sound like a sensible girl who is trying to do the right thing. Yes, your parents will be disappointed, but they love you enough to get past that in order to help you.

You can talk to your school counselor, and you also can ask a close relative or adult family friend to come with you when you tell your parents. We suspect your folks will initially be quite angry with your boyfriend, but if he is there, too, and shows them that he intends to stand by you, the entire family can work through the emotional upheaval more quickly. Good luck, honey.

Dear Annie: I am a 45-year-old divorced woman with no children. I own my own home, work hard and have a good life. My only remaining relative is an elderly aunt who lives in another state. We have never been close.

"Aunt Bess" is demanding and criticizes everything from my hairstyle to my politics. I am the only one of her relatives who still speaks to her, and it's a struggle not to hang up when she goes on a 20-minute rant about some talk-radio blather.

Aunt Bess has recently started to fail physically. I will be in her state in a couple of weeks for a vacation and have told her that I'd like to see her in order to go over her financial arrangements to make sure she's all right. Last night, her housekeeper called to say that Bess wants me to quit my job and spend the entire month with her and her housekeeper, so we can "go over everything."

My aunt's financial situation should not take more than a few hours. I do not understand why



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCIE SUGAR

she wants me there for a month, and I am not in a financial position to quit my job and leave my home and pets for so long. We don't get along for more than half an hour, so living with her is out of the question.

What should I do? — Torn in Easthampton, Mass.

Dear Torn: You are a kind soul to help your cantankerous aunt, but you do not need to stay a month. Tell Aunt Bess you will come for the day and do what you can while you are in town, but you absolutely cannot stay longer. Offer to visit her another time in the near future. She sounds lonely.

Dear Annie: Thank you for publishing the letter from "Desperate in New York," the jealous and possessive woman whom you identified, correctly, as an abuser. I would like

to suggest an abuser education program.

Abuse is not about anger. It is about controlling and dominating another person. Abuser education programs can help the abuser learn different ways to

handle his or her life without controlling an intimate partner.

About half of the 300 YWCAs in this country provide domestic violence services, and many of those, such as ours, provide abuser education programs. All YWCAs have a deep commitment to the elimination of violence.

Thank you for your ongoing efforts to assist people in need. — Carol Fitzgerald, Executive Director, YWCA of the Sauk Valley, Ill.

Dear Carol Fitzgerald: Thank you for reminding us that the YWCAs around the country do an excellent job helping women, and offer rape and abuse counseling, along with job training. We hope our readers will check your website at ywca.org.

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The Spider

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

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

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



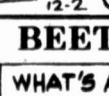
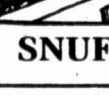
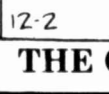
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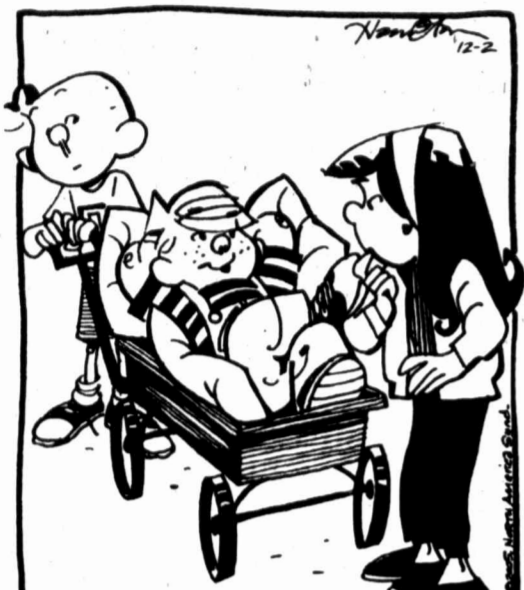
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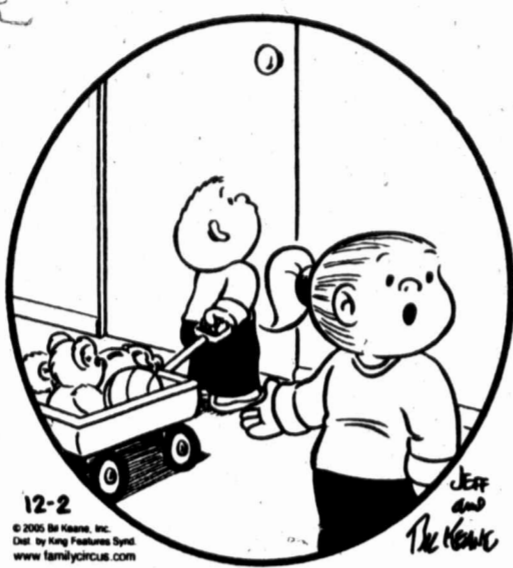
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6:30 PM	News (CC)	News	Spanish	My Willy-Kids	News	La Tormenta	News	Raymond	N. McBride	News	Discovery	Classics	Spike TV	Law & Order	Black Ent.	Disney	With Smith	Sports	Science Fic.
7:00 PM	Ent. Tonight	Wheel-Fortune	Plaf de Otono	Raymond	Ent. Tonight	El Cuerpo del	Be a Millionaire	John Hagee	John Hagee	Wash. Week	Deadly	Moyle:	CSI: Crime	Law & Order	Live	Zack & Cody	NFL Matchup	NBA	Stargate
8:00 PM	Funnest Home	Funnest Home	Contra Viento	Bernie Mac	Ghost	The Happy Elf	Friends (CC)	Update/Israel	Update/Israel	Jimi Edit. Rpt	Manhunt	Arjuna	CSI: Crime	Law & Order	BET com	Movie: Return	College	New York	Movie: The
9:00 PM	20/20 (CC)	20/20 (CC)	La Esposa	Killer Instinct	Knots Landing	Corazon Part	Three Wishes	Light of the	Light of the	Peribus Fight	I Shouldn't Be	Arjuna	CSI: Crime	2005 NASCAR	Series Awards	Comicview	Zack & Cody	Louisiana Tech	Detroit Pistons
10:00 PM	News (CC)	News	Primer Impacto	70s Show	News	Noticias	News	Movie: The	Movie: The	Charlie Rose	A Haunting	Movies Shook	Movie: Uncle	Series Awards	Comicview	Zack & Cody	Louisiana Tech	Detroit Pistons	Movie: The
11:00 PM	Ent. Tonight	Final Score	Movie: La	Becker (CC)	Letterman	Laura	Late Night	Movie: The	Movie: The	Sign Off	To Be	Presents	CSI: Crime	In Living Color	Jamie Foxx	Phil of Future	Rodeo:	Cavaliers at	Movie: The
12:00 AM	Live (CC)	Jimmy Kimmel	Movie: La	Becker (CC)	Letterman	Laura	Late Night	Movie: The	Movie: The	Sign Off	To Be	Presents	CSI: Crime	In Living Color	Jamie Foxx	Phil of Future	Rodeo:	Cavaliers at	Movie: The

DENNIS THE MENACE



"How do you like my shock absorbers?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"PJ's running away from home, but he can't reach the doorknob."

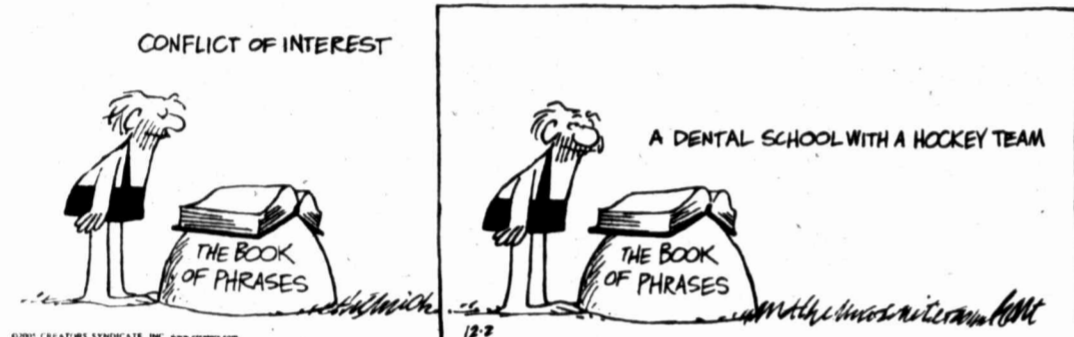
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AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Friday, Dec. 2, the 336th day of 2005. There are 29 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 2, 1954, the Senate voted to condemn Wisconsin Republican Joseph R. McCarthy for "conduct that tends to bring the Senate into dishonor and disrepute."

On this date:

- In 1804, Napoleon was crowned emperor of France.
- In 1823, President Monroe outlined his doctrine opposing European expansion in the Western Hemisphere.
- In 1859, militant abolitionist John Brown was hanged for his raid on Harper's Ferry the previous October.
- In 1939, New York's La Guardia Airport began operations as an airliner from Chicago landed at one minute past midnight.
- In 1942, a self-sustaining nuclear chain reaction was demonstrated for the first time, at the University of Chicago.

In 1970, the Environmental Protection Agency began operating under director William Ruckelshaus.

In 1980, four American churchwomen were raped, murdered and buried outside San Salvador. (Five Salvadoran guardsmen were convicted in the killings.)

In 1982, in the first operation of its kind, doctors at the University of Utah Medical Center implanted a permanent artificial heart in the chest of retired dentist Dr. Barney Clark, who lived 112 days with the device.

In 1993, Colombian drug lord Pablo Escobar was shot to death by security forces in Medellin.

In 2001, in one of the largest corporate bankruptcies in U.S. history, Enron filed for Chapter 11 protection.

Character actor Bill Erwin is 91. Former Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig is 81. Actress Julie Harris is 80. Former Attorney General Edwin Meese III is 74. Senate Democratic Leader Harry Reid of Nevada is 66. Actress Cathy Lee Crosby is 61. Movie director Penelope Spheeris is 60. NBC news broadcaster Stone Phillips is 51. Actor Steven Bauer is 49. Country singer Joe Henry is 45. Rock musician Rick Savage (Def Leppard) is 45. Tennis Hall-of-Famer Tracy Austin is 43. Rock musician Nate Mendel (Foo Fighters) is 37. Rock singer Jimi HaHa (Jimmie's Chicken Shack) is 37. Actress Lucy Liu is 37. Rapper Treach (Naughty By Nature) is 35. Tennis player Monica Seles is 32. Singer Britney Spears is 24. Actresses Daniella and Deanna Canterman ("Maybe It's Me") are 13.

Thought for Today: "Misery loves company, but company does not reciprocate." — Addison Mizner, American architect (1872-1933).

Answer to previous puzzle:

LOOP	CBERS	MOOD
PURR	RUNAT	USDA
GREENEGGS	SANDHAM	
ASOCIAL	PREPAYS	
INKED	RBI	
TENN	DRY	BETAS
EPOCHS	SEMI	ASP
HORTON	HEARS	AWHO
EXT	BLEU	SHINER
EYEOON	SSN	RYNE
RAD	SINGS	
ASTAIRE	CONTEST	
VERTLE	THE	TURTLE
ERIE	GRASS	ICED
SAGS	SETTO	PHDS

Newsday Crossword

WILD AND WOOLLY by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 Trunk, in art class
 - 6 Under control
 - 11 ___ Na Na
 - 14 ___ Irish Rose
 - 15 Unaided
 - 16 By what means
 - 17 Scram, like an ovine?
 - 19 NASA spacewalk
 - 20 Small sofa
 - 21 Mix up
 - 22 Toon shriek
 - 23 Antarctic explorer
 - 25 Paint with dots
 - 27 Toe the line
 - 30 Cue-stick end
 - 32 School cheer
 - 33 Murphy had one
 - 34 Leave unsaid
 - 36 Is afraid of
 - 39 Played to a tie
 - 41 They're taboo
 - 43 Minimally
 - 44 "Us" and "them"
 - 46 Subject word
 - 47 Slangy suffix
 - 48 Makes a choice
 - 50 Sgt., e.g.
 - 51 Poker card
 - 52 Middlesex middles
 - 55 Pueblo Indian
 - 57 Chart topper
 - 58 Numerical word form
 - 60 Sorority hopeful
- DOWN**
- 1 Gets "it"
 - 2 Double reed
 - 3 Knee-slapper
 - 4 "Halt!" caller
 - 5 It means "bone"
 - 6 ___ kwon do
 - 7 ___ fair ...
 - 8 Zoo barriers
 - 9 Ill will
 - 10 Question after a mission
 - 11 Ovine workers?
 - 12 Wretched abode
 - 13 Up and about
 - 18 Kennedy Center honoree of '97
 - 24 Simpleton of rhyme
 - 26 Appeal
 - 27 Reo builder
 - 28 Adriatic seaport
 - 29 Ovine "No kidding?"
 - 31 Attach, as a corsage
 - 35 Modicum
 - 37 Rub the wrong way
 - 38 Don't move
 - 40 Blubbered
 - 42 Does detective work
 - 45 Disco lights
 - 49 Safe from harm
 - 51 ___ del Fuego
 - 52 Gregorian, for one
 - 53 Down source
 - 54 Mill product
 - 56 Colossus poet
 - 59 In olden times
 - 61 Legislative body
 - 62 Heredity unit
 - 63 Business sign abbr.
 - 66 NBA tiebreakers

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Golf Insider

By T.J. TOMASI

GOLF BY THE NUMBERS

A number for every reason

Nowadays, the PGA Tour is keeping stats on everything a player does. Driving distance and greens-in-regulation are two familiar stats, but here are some you don't hear much about. By the way, I advise my students to track their stats and compile a strength and weakness profile that will direct their focus when they practice.

Greens-in-Regulation From Other Than Fairway

Defined as: The percent of time a player was able to hit the green in regulation when his drive didn't land in the fairway. Note: A green is considered hit in regulation if any part of the ball is touching the putting surface and the number of strokes taken is 2 or less than par.

Leader: Sergio Garcia — 63.2 percent

Proximity to the Hole

Defined as: The average distance the ball comes to rest from the hole (in feet) after the player's approach shot. The approach shot distance must be determined by a laser, and the shot must originate from a location that isn't on or around the green. The approach shot also must end on or around the green or in the hole. Note: "Around the green" indicates the ball is within 30 yards of the edge of the green.

Leader: Olin Browne — 29 feet, 0 inches

Three-Putt Avoidance

Defined as: The ability to avoid 3 putts. It is the percent of time a player has 3 or more putts for a hole (total 3-putts, 4-putts, etc./total holes played).

Leader: Brent Geiberger has 3-putted only 1.8 percent of the time.

Proximity From the Sand

Defined as: The average distance a player has left to the hole (in feet) after he has put his ball onto the putting surface from a bunker around the green. Note: "Around the Green" indicates the player is within 30 yards of the edge of the green.

Leader: Luke Donald — From the sand, he knocked it 7 feet, 2 inches from the hole on average.

Fairway Proximity

Defined as: The average distance remaining to the hole for all approach shots hit from both the fairway and the tee box on a par 3, but not around the green. The approach shot must end on or around the green or in the hole. Note: "Around the green" indicates the ball is within 30 yards of the edge of the green.

Leader: Adam Scott — 25 feet, 3 inches

Scrambling From 30 Yards

Defined as: This is the percent of time that a player misses the green in regulation, but still makes par or better when the birdie stroke is taken from more than 30 yards from the hole.

Leader: Brian Davis got it up and down 43.3 percent of the time.

Scrambling From the Rough

Defined as: This is the percent of time that a player misses the green in regulation, but still makes par or better when the birdie stroke is taken from the rough.

Leader: Mathias Gronberg — 65.4 percent

GOLF SPOKEN HERE

GRAIN

The angle at which the grass on the green lies down. When you putt against the grain, it's slower than it is with the grain. Bent grass doesn't have much grain, but Bermuda does, so you have to know which kind of grass you're putting on to judge the speed correctly.

DON'T MISS IT

Portable practice

It's winter and it's cold outside, but if you want to practice your swing where it's warm, don't miss the Auto Golf Net. The Auto Golf Net offers a big hitting surface compared to other portable pop-up nets. It has a carrying case for the nets and stakes, and its light weight allows you to carry it with you if you get fed up and move to Florida, where all golfers should ultimately end up.

A hanging baffle allows you to hit full shots into the Auto Golf Net without fear. You can safely hit your driver through 8-iron, but hit wedge shots only if you are right up next to the net.

Check it out at www.golfaroundtheworld.com/auto.htm.

IT'S GOOD FOR YOUR GAME



The driving force that produces power is created when the bent right arm (left photo), which had been in the form of a V, drives the club head into the ball at high speeds as it straightens during the release of the club (right photo). This piston-like thrust drives weight to the left side as it gains momentum, and it also drives or triggers the rotation of the body. It's a move you definitely want in your swing.

Elbow grease

When it comes to applying power to the ball, the right side (left for lefties) is dominant. But it isn't enough to just throw your right hand at the ball — you have to know how to work your elbow to hit long, straight shots.

To the Top

Width is created when your right arm remains straight during your takeaway as your right elbow separates from your torso. Once your hands pass your thigh, the right elbow starts its fold. At this point, your hands naturally begin to cock the club, and at the top of your swing, your right elbow folds to 90 degrees.

In this position, your right arm is supporting the weight of your club. Imagine a waiter carrying a tray of food with one hand. That's exactly the position your elbow and wrist

ABOUT THE WRITER

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will assume at the top. All of your power sources are loaded here, and you are ready to swing down and through the shot.

The Downswing

The key to a powerful, accurate shot is patience. As the momentum of the downswing increases, your right elbow will straighten on its own. There is no "hit" in a good

swing. Your levers simply straighten (release) due to the forces of the swing.

The average golfer tries to generate power by speeding up the arms, but that doesn't work because you can't achieve your power potential by forcing the club to go faster with your body action — your shoulders or your chest. If the elbow release is absent or late, the right side cannot fire.

Cued by the straightening of the right arm, the right shoulder, hip and knee spring into action. Thus the right side slams into the wall formed by the left hip and leg, causing an explosive release to the ball.

All of this happens in a half a second, so consciously trying to do all this is impossible. Fortunately, the only thing you have to do is relax and trust the ability of the piston to get the job done.

EQUIPMENT

Power shoes

Could your shoes make a difference in how far you hit the ball? Padraig Harrington, accountant turned world-class golfer, thinks so.

"The shoes have increased my ball speed from 166 mph to 173 mph. Each mile per hour is equivalent to about 2½ yards, so that's an additional 15 yards on my drives. This has taken me from the top 100 in driving distance in Europe to being in the top 10 in the space of a year, which is amazing."

Hi-Tec, the company that makes Harrington's shoes, focused on weight distribution and changing pressure patterns during a golfer's swing.



Just remember what happened to Dorothy when she clicked her power shoes. Do they play a tour event in Kansas?

For more info, surf to www.hi-tec.com.

BIRDIES AND BOGIES

What a difference a few years makes

Young sex symbol Adam Scott: "I think it's a good thing for golf to see young, good-looking guys out there. There are a bunch of us, and it's good for the game, making it cool, sexy. It should be encouraged."

Old sex symbol Tommy Armour: "Do's and don'ts, RE: women in the gallery: Do give them a big smile. Don't assume they're there to see you."

Especially if you're playing with Adam Scott.

Any room left in the anger management seminar?

Sports psychologist John Pates was banned for three months from European tour events after he got into a fist fight with a caddy at the HSBC Champions tournament in Shanghai, China.

When asked what kind of things Pates works on with his players, one of his clients, Bradley Dredge, replied: "He teaches me to be more aggressive."

TEEING OFF

Mental muscle

Here is a question I'm often asked: "Which comes first, confidence or performance?" Or stated another way, "How can I have confidence that I can shoot low scores when I haven't shot them yet?"

There are two kinds of confidence: The first and more general is the belief in yourself, an overall self-assurance that you can handle life as it comes at you.

Champions are not just confident in their chosen area of expertise, they also believe in their overall ability to solve problems. This is important because general confidence allows you to hang in there while you're learning how to score.

General confidence tides you over until your performance catches up. The second, more circumscribed type of confidence deals with the specific ability to shoot low scores, and this comes most directly from past performance — the lower your scores, the more confidence you have. If I can shoot 78, why not 75?

But you don't have to wait for low scores to have confidence in your ability to go low. There is a way that you can program yourself for success before you actually have it.

The central nervous system can't tell the difference between a perfectly imagined experience and a real one. This has been documented many times in the laboratory. So if you perfectly imagine the drive you want to hit or the soft pitch to a tight pin, you can "fool" your brain into thinking that you've actually done it. You'll have "been there, done that" without having "been there or done that."

Eastern European coaches pioneered the technique of training their athletes to imagine their performance before competitions. For example, a slalom skier using creative imaging would ski the course in his mind. Electrodes attached to the surface of the athlete's skin recorded muscular contractions. The results showed that the athlete was using 90 percent of the muscles he would have used had he been skiing for real.

How do you perfectly imagine something you've never done? You must do two things: Create a multi-sensory image of the event, one in which you see it, feel it, hear it, etc. And you must do this in a mental state of relaxation, which you can practice about 20 minutes each day until it becomes a skill.

SCHEDULE

All Times EST
SUNSHINE TOUR
Nedbank Golf Challenge
• Site: Sun City, South Africa.
• Schedule: Thursday-Sunday
• Course: Gary Player Country Club (7,590 yards, par 72).
• Purse: \$4.06 million. Winner's share: \$1.2 million.
• Television: The Golf Channel (Thursday-Sunday, 6-7 p.m.).
• Field: Angel Cabrera, Argentina; Stewart Cink, U.S.; Tim Clark, South Africa; Darren Clarke, Northern Ireland; Chris DiMarco, U.S.; Luke Donald, England; Ernie Els, South Africa; Jim Furyk, U.S.; Sergio Garcia, Spain; Retief Goosen, South Africa; Kenny Perry, U.S.; and Adam Scott, Australia.

PGA TOUR
Final Qualifying Tournament
• Site: Winter Garden, Fla.
• Schedule: Wednesday-Monday
• Courses: Orange County National, Panther Lake Course (7,237 yards, par 72) and Crooked Cat Course (7,460 yards, par 72).
• Purse: \$1.3 million. Winner's share: \$50,000.
• Television: The Golf Channel (Sunday, 9-11:30 p.m.; Monday, 12:30-4 p.m.; 8:30-11 p.m.).

LPGA TOUR
Final Qualifying Tournament
• Site: Daytona Beach, Fla.
• Schedule: Wednesday-Sunday
• Courses: LPGA International, Legends (6,431 yards, par 72) and Champions (6,393 yards, par 72).
• Purse: TBA. Winner's share: TBA.
• Television: None.

ASK THE PRO

Q: I've read a lot about the new type of tees that are available that promise extra yards off the tee. Is there anything to this, or is it all just hype?
— N.A., from the Web

A: The type of tee you use probably doesn't have much influence on your golf shot. Frank Thomas, former technical director of the USGA, reports that since impact lasts only half a millisecond, the club, the ball and the tee are in contact for such a short time that the influence of the tee is minimal. "I think that the influence that the tee has on the ball is equivalent to the influence a hailstone has on the speed of your car as you're driving along," says Thomas.

