



## Petition leader files for mayor

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

The Big Spring mayoral race slated for May has drawn at least one candidate this week, as local resident Shannon Thomason filed his candidacy Thursday.

Thomason, who was one of the driving forces behind an effort to recall Mayor Russ McEwen — who announced he will run for reelection but has not yet filed — and four other Big Spring City Council members, is the first candidate to file for the Big Spring ballot.

The recall effort was spurred by the councils approval of a city ordinance that effectively banned smoking in public places.

In the petition affidavit filed by Thomason and his group — dubbed the Big Spring Freedom Fighters — charges were made that the mayor and four council members "did not act in the public interest and instead acted to further certain personal agendas" and said they placed "unfair and unenforceable restrictions upon the citizens and businesses of Big Spring."

As a result, McEwen will have the distinction of having his name on the May 12 ballot twice, as voters will be asked to vote for or against a recall that was triggered by the petition in addition to the regular election.

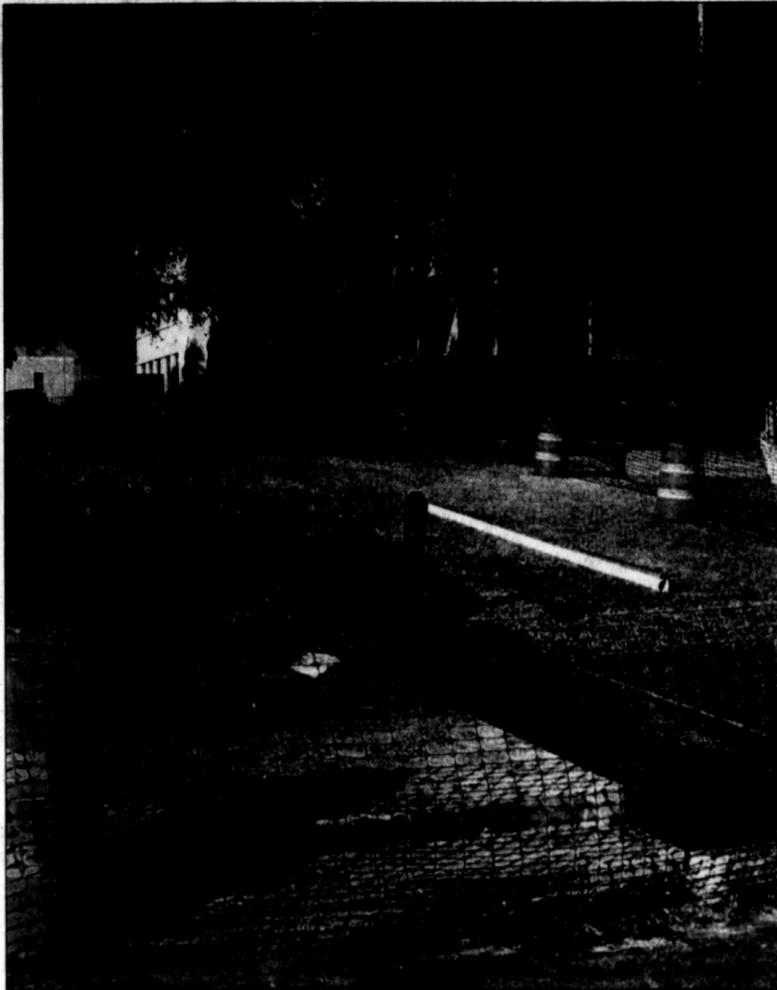
Thomason said the smoking ordinance certainly played a role in his decision to run for office, but it wasn't the only reason.

"I feel like there are a lot of things that are not

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Thomason



Work recently began on a standpipe system to supply firefighting water for the Howard County jail. The work is part of efforts to bring the jail back into compliance with state jail standards.

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

## Suspect peanut butter bought locally

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Jars of peanut butter with a product code identifying them as possibly being involved in a recent salmonella outbreak have been sold in Big Spring.

Almost 300 people nationally have been infected with salmonella bacteria believed to have come from Peter Pan and Great Value brands of peanut butter, officials with the Food and Drug Administration said.

The affected jars have a product code on the lid that begins with the number "2111." The affected jars are made by ConAgra in a single facility in Sylvester, Ga., the FDA said.

Several people contacted the *Herald* this morning to say they've pur-

chased peanut butter with the 2111 code from the local Wal-Mart or H-E-B grocery store. No one has reported falling ill, however.

H-E-B officials have decided to remove all Peter Pan products from the shelves of their Texas stores, said Dya Campos, director of public affairs with the company.

"We're doing this as a precaution," Campos said. "This was not mandatory ... but it was important for customers to know that items on our shelves are safe."

The action affects more than 300 H-E-B stores in Texas, she added.

Anyone with a suspect jar of Peter Pan peanut butter may bring it to the local H-E-B and exchange it for a jar of Hill Country Fare peanut butter, Campos said.

See **SOLD**, Page 3A

## The 'Music of Europe' to fill municipal auditorium here

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Next stop, Europe.

The Big Spring Symphony will present music with a European flavor during the third subscription concert of its "Music Around the World" concert season at 8 p.m. Saturday in the Municipal Auditorium.

Entitled "The Music of Europe," the concert will present a variety of popular musical classics by European and Scandinavian composers.

Tickets, which cost \$15 for adults, \$10 for senior citizens and



Graumann

Featured guest artist will be violinist Kirsten Yon, assistant professor of violin at Texas Tech University, who will perform the "Third Violin Concerto in B Minor" by 19th century French composer Camille Saint-Saens.

Yon received her undergradu-

ate and graduate degrees from the University of Michigan and the Cleveland Institute of Music before pursuing her Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University.

The winner of multiple competitions, she has been a soloist, concertmaster and performer with numerous professional orchestras in the United States and South America, including the Ann Arbor Symphony and the Houston Symphony Orchestra.

Yon was a founding member of such chamber ensembles as the

Champlain Trio, the Athena Quartet, and the Archiano Ensemble, giving concerts and master classes throughout the United States and Brazil.

She spent several summers at the Meadowmount School for Strings, where she was the first recipient of the Catherine Tait Memorial Scholarship for Teaching and Outstanding Leadership.

Most recently she was awarded a Texas Tech University Alumni Association New Faculty Award for her work at the School of

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## Brush up on your child's health

Annual Dental Fair scheduled Saturday at Howard College

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

For children — and many adults, for that matter — the thought of dental care conjures images of dentists and drills.

But officials with the Howard College Dental Hygiene Department want children to know proper den-

tal care also can be fun.

The HC Dental Hygiene Department will host a Dental Fair for children from 10 a.m. until noon Saturday at the department's clinic in the Horace Garrett Building on the HC campus.

Dental hygiene instructors and students will be on hand for educational games, treats and door prizes.

In addition, children can bring their old toothbrushes in for a free replacement.

"We've been doing this for at least the last 10 years," said Linda Stallings of the dental hygiene department. "We do a lot of fun stuff for the kids, and parents can learn stuff, too."

"February is National Dental Health Month," she

added. "That's the reason we always hold the fair at this time."

Parents wishing to have their children examined can leave pertinent information with officials during the fair. Stallings said parents would be contacted later.

For more information, call 264-5143.



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Obituaries

Beverly Fern Lovelace Alexander



Beverly Fern Lovelace Alexander, 89, of Big Spring, passed away Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2007, in a local hospital. Memorial services will be held at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 17, 2007, at the First United Methodist Church with Dr. Shane Brue, pastor, officiating.

Beverly Fern Alexander was born Nov. 18, 1917, in Fargo, Texas to William Bryan and Nell McGill Lovelace. She married Jack Alexander July 7, 1940, in Colorado City and he preceded her in death Sept. 15, 2001.

She graduated with a degree in home economics from Texas State College for Women in Denton in 1939 and received her masters degree from Texas Tech University in 1971. She taught for 25 years in Colorado City and Big Spring and was honored as the State Homemaking Teacher of the Year in 1980 and as the Doan's Woman of the Year in Wilbarger County in 2002. She was a member of First United Methodist Church. Fern was active in the First United Methodist Church, Retired Teachers, Kiwanis Club, 1948 Hyperion Club, Delta Kappa Gamma and was a charter member of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Survivors include two daughters, Beverly Logsdon and husband, Buddy of Memphis and Sherri Key and husband, Dr. John of Big Spring; four sons, Ray Alexander and wife, Norma of Big Spring, Don Alexander and wife, Helen of Decatur, Mark Alexander of Arlington and Mike Alexander and wife, Kathleen of Dallas; 11 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. She is also survived by a sister, Doris Cowling and husband, Ben of Dallas and a sister-in-law, Janie Alexander of Abilene.

In addition to her husband and parents she was preceded in death by a great-granddaughter, Alexandra Whitehead.

The family suggests memorials be made to the First United Methodist Church, P.O. Drawer 1229, Big Spring, 79720 or to a favorite charity.

The family will be at the home of Dr. John and Sherri Key at 801 Scott in Big Spring.

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

*Paid obituary*

Barbara Delores Ann Smallwood



Barbara Delores Ann Smallwood, 38, of Big Spring, died Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2007, at her residence. Funeral services will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 17, 2007, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Byron Brown and the Rev. Dana Brown, pastors of the First Church of the Nazarene, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Friday at the funeral home.

She was born Jan. 30, 1969, in Hamlin and had lived in Big Spring for over 26 years. Barbara was a lifetime member of the Girl Scouts and attended the First Church of the Nazarene. She enjoyed spending time with friends and attending church. She loved cats, playing and watching sports, singing and cooking special meals for her parents.

Survivors include her parents, J.W. "Jay" and Jonel Smallwood of Big Spring; her grandfather, John Edwards of Hamlin; an uncle and aunt, James and Diane Edwards of Hamlin; a cousin, Kyle Edwards of Hamlin; an adopted sister and brother, Brianna Brown and Austin Brown, both of Big Spring and numerous relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by one brother, Berry Smallwood; and her grandparents, John and Frances Smallwood and Earlene Edwards.

Pallbearers will be Pete Rosenbaum, Burl Cooley, Leonard Hadley, Edwin Vela, Darryl Reagan and Candy Garcia. Honorary pallbearers are all her friends at Canterbury and throughout the area.

The family suggests memorials be made to a charity of your choice.

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

*Paid obituary*

Lottery

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Thursday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 4-13-21-22. Bonus Ball: 11. Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0. Estimated jackpot for Monday night drawing: \$725,000.

...

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Thursday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 3-11-14-19-33. Number matching five of five: 2. Next Cash 5 drawing: Friday night.

...

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Thursday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 1-7-6

Margaret Aken Creeley Nixon



Margaret Aken Creeley Nixon, 79, of Big Spring died Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2007, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Funeral services will be 11 a.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel with the Rev. Joey Bacon and the Rev. R. T. Havner officiating. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. Sunday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

She was born May 31, 1927, in Pittsburgh, Pa., to Edith Belle and Harry Edward Failor. She was an Army-Air Force wife and homemaker until 1969 when the family moved to Big Spring from California. She and John operated a cafe and camera center and worked for Stucky's until they retired.

She is survived by two sons, Leonard Alexander Aken of Rocky Mount, Va., and Albert Edward Aken of Big Spring; four daughters, Caryann Hartley and her husband, Mike of Redmond, Ore., Pat Mahlman and her husband, Gary of Cheyenne, Wyo., Cynthia "Kandi" Clanton and Rose Mayhew and her husband, Frank all of Big Spring; one step-son, Jack Nixon and his wife, Donna of Big Spring; three step-daughters, JoJo Weathers and her husband, Ron of Buffalo, Retha Henley and her husband, Jack of Midland and Ginger Beecher and her husband, Edward of Rochelle, Ga.; three brothers, Richard Failor of Lebanon, Tenn., James Failor and Harold Failor, both of Quincy, Ill.; two sisters, Mary Wehl of Wichita, Kan., and Hallie Benson and her husband, Homer of New Buffalo, Mich.; 43 grandchildren; 56 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family suggests memorials to the Margaret Nixon Fund at Wood Forest Bank, 201 W. Marcy, Big Spring 79720.

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

J.D. Spears

J.D. Spears, 94, of Coahoma, died Friday, Feb. 16, 2007, at the Home Hospice Facility in Odessa. 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 7 a.m. Thursday and 7 a.m. today:

- **MARK VELASQUEZ**, 36, of 605 Bell, was arrested Thursday on a charge of Class C assault - family violence.
- **GEORGE W. KOSTELAZ**, 47, of 411 Edwards, was arrested Thursday on charges of public intoxication and possession of drug paraphernalia.
- **CEDRIC R. JEFFERSON**, 45, of 3304 W. Highway 80, was arrested Thursday on two local capias warrants.
- **MARKUS D. GRAVES**, 21, of 1700 Johnson, was arrested Thursday on eight local warrants.
- **THEFT** was reported:
  - in the 700 block of Interstate Highway 20.
  - in the 400 block of Gregg Street.
- **POSSESSION/DELIVERY OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA** was reported in the 700 block of Willia.
- **ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported:
  - in the 1100 block of Ridgeroad.
  - in the 600 block of Bell.

Fire/EMS

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 200 block of Sandlin Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 500 block of Sunset Blvd. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported near mile marker 185 on Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 1600 block of Johnson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1600 block of State Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 3200 block of Fordham. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 3200 block of Duke. One person was transported to the VAMC.

Bulletin Board

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

**TODAY**  
• Spring City Senior Citizens Center 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**  
• American Legion Post 506 fish fry from noon to 3 p.m. at 3203 W. U.S. Highway 80. orders can be delivered from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The public is invited. Delivery orders can be made by calling 263-2084..

• Big Spring Shrine Club meets at 6:30 p.m. at Goliad and First streets for a meal with a meeting to follow.

• Big Spring Symphony presents "Music of Europe" at 8 p.m. in the Big Spring Municipal Auditorium.  
• Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.  
• Big Spring Squares. Call 267-7043 or 263-6305 for more information.

**MONDAY**  
• The Big Spring-Howard County Retired Teacher's Association meets in the Cactus Room at Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m.

• 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. in the First Christian Church of Big Spring, 911 Goliad. A different program is offered every week. Enter through the south side door off 10th Street. Call 263-2786 for more information.

• Evening Lions Club meets at 6:30 p.m. at the Event Center, 1607 E. Third St.

• DAV and Auxiliary Chapter 47 meets at 6:30 p.m. at 610 Abrams St.

• Christian Singles Fellowship meets from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church Youth Hall. All singles in the community are invited for an evening of fellowship, food and table games.

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

Sheriff's report

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 44 inmates at the time of this report.

• **JOEL RUDY PEREZ**, 26, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on charges of failure to identify as a fugitive from justice, evading arrest or detention and an Austin parole warrant.

• **MICHAEL RENE ROBLES**, 34, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of theft of service.

Weather

Tonight...Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 20s. Northwest winds 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 50s. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 20s. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph shifting to the southeast after midnight.

Sunday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 50s. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.

Sunday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows in the mid 30s. Presidents day...Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 60s.

Monday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 40s. Tuesday...Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 60s.

Tuesday night...Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 40s.

Wednesday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 60s. Wednesday night...Partly cloudy. Lows around 40.

Thursday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 60s.

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**Man falls from Interstate 10 overpass in suspected suicide**

EL PASO (AP) — An unidentified man was killed Thursday after falling from an overpass on to Interstate 10 in a suspected suicide, police said.

Witnesses saw the man fall more than 70 feet onto the highway near downtown El Paso about 1 p.m. Thursday, said Officer Chris Mears, an El Paso police spokesman.

Mears said the incident closed the two left lanes along eastbound I-10 for more than an hour. Though witnesses said the man jumped, the incident is being investigated.

**Dallas County DA agrees to let group review cases for DNA testing**

DALLAS (AP) — Dallas County District Attorney Craig Watkins has agreed to let the Innocence Project of Texas review 354 cases of convicted criminals to determine whether DNA tests should be done to ensure the convicts' guilt.

DNA evidence has exonerated 12 Dallas County men since 2001, according to the national Innocence Project in New York, and a 13th is expected in the near future.

"When you hear 13 people, that's sobering," said Terri Moore, first assistant district attorney. "And you have to say maybe it didn't happen on my watch, but it has happened. I am this criminal justice system, and I have to do my part in it."

The 354 convicts, some of whom were found guilty of murder and rape dating back to 1970, have already submitted applications for DNA testing to the district attorney's office.

Most of those requests were denied by judges on the recommendation of the previous district attorney.

Barry Scheck, co-director of the national Innocence Project, said Dallas County's decision marks "an unprecedented level of cooperation and unprecedented sensitivity to the possibility that mistakes have been made."

Watkins, who took office Jan. 1, and Moore have been meeting with leaders of the Innocence Project of Texas over the last month.

The two parties agreed to allow volunteer lawyers and law students review records to determine which cases warrant DNA testing.

Jeff Blackburn, director of the Innocence Project of Texas, said the work will take several months. Participating students will mostly come from Texas Wesleyan University's School of Law in Fort Worth.

The students will have to be approved by the district attorney's office, officials said. They will be trained by Innocence Project lawyers to screen cases, and their work will be supervised by experienced lawyers.

Moore said the district attorney's office will follow through on DNA testing for the recommended cases. She said the county might ask private laboratories for a bulk rate if the cost of testing turns out to be high.

**Woman accused of trying to steal ring from mom's body**

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — Police charged a woman with felony theft on Thursday for allegedly trying to steal a \$7,000 ring from her mother's body during the funeral.

Teresa Svajada, 50, and Perry Beck, her 70-

year-old friend, are accused of trying to take the ring from the hand of Svajada's mother during her funeral at Seaside Funeral Home, police Cmdr. David Torres said.

Police said the mother had requested that she be buried with the ring, the Corpus Christi Caller-Times reported in its Friday editions.

Police said the ring was recovered and returned to family members.

Neither suspect could immediately be located for comment Thursday night.

**Report: Guaranteed tuition program could be billions short**

AUSTIN (AP) — The state's prepaid tuition program is underfunded and could be up to \$3.3 billion short of meeting guaranteed tuition payments over the next two decades, according to the state comptroller.

The Texas Tomorrow Fund, which has been closed to new participants since 2003, lets parents invest in their young children's future college tuition while locking in current prices.

The 158,000 Texas families that have invested in the program are guaranteed set tuition rates, meaning the state and universities would have to make up any shortfalls.

Comptroller Susan Combs said in a letter earlier this month to Gov. Rick Perry, Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst and state House Speaker Tom Craddick that a group of outside financial experts found that the shortfall will be worse than previously predicted.

Combs said the group estimated the plan will be between \$1.74 billion and \$3.31 billion short by 2029.

**MAYOR**

Continued from Page 1A

being done properly at city hall," said Thomason. "They're probably being done legally, but that doesn't make them right. There's a difference between legal and right, but 99 times out of 100, if you do the right

thing, it will be legal.

"We're looking at how to run the campaign now. We're considering advertising in the newspaper as well as radio, yard signs, bumper stickers... all the normal things you would expect in a campaign. We also expect to have a Web site for voters to visit online."

The District 5 seat on the Big Spring City

Council will also be up for grabs during the upcoming election, as incumbent Joann Knox has announced she will not run for re-election. Knox was also targeted by the recall effort.

The city of Stanton has had a single filing, as council member Tommy Haislip filed to run for re-election. Stanton will also offer a second seat during

the election, currently held by Steven Villa, who has not yet filed his candidacy.

While Big Spring and Stanton have both seen lone filings, the city of Coahoma has yet to have a candidate — incumbent or otherwise — step forward. Seats held by David Elmore, Ricky Stone and Mayor Bill Read are all expected to be on the May

ballot. The deadline to file for the May ballot is March 12.

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

**SYMPHONY**

Continued from Page 1A

Music. Currently the concertmaster of the Caprock Pro Musica Chamber Orchestra, she also performs with the Texas Tech University Faculty String Quartet.

You will not be the only musician giving the symphony a helping hand. During performance of "Jupiter" from Holst's "The Planets," Symphony Conductor Dr. Keith Graumann will call on the assistance of Big Spring High School Band members, including flautist Crystal Ward, oboist Meagan Smith, bassoonist Simon Hilario, trumpeter Royce Perez and percussionist Eric Welch.

"Jupiter" requires a very large orchestra, with many more players than is normally required. We have called on the enormous talent of players from the Big Spring High School Concert Band to join us on this piece," Graumann said. "I am grateful to (BSHS Band Director) Rocky Harris for coaching his students in preparation for this performance. It will be a wonderful experience for the students to 'sit in' with a professional orchestra. And, it will be

very gratifying to the orchestra and me as well."

Other music to be performed during the evening includes the "Academic Festival

Overture," by German composer Johannes Brahms, the "Peer Gynt Suite No. 1," by Norway's Edvard Grieg, "The Moldau," by Czech Bedrich Smetana and

"Finlandia," by Finnish composer Jean Sibelius.

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

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**Contract Bridge**  
By Steve Becker  
Bidding Quiz

You open One Diamond, and partner responds One Spade. What would you bid now with each of the following five hands?

- 1. ♠ KJ7 ♥ 83 ♦ AQ9862 ♣ A5
- 2. ♠ KQ85 ♥ K6 ♦ AKQ873 ♣ 10
- 3. ♠ 6 ♥ AQ5 ♦ KQJ94 ♣ A983
- 4. ♠ AK8 ♥ 94 ♦ AQJ86 ♣ A75
- 5. ♠ Q4 ♥ AQ8 ♦ KQ9764 ♣ AK

1. Two spades. This is not the most accurate rebid in the world, but it is the best available. There is a natural aversion to raising immediately with only three trumps, and there is also an aversion to not rebidding a good six-card suit.

However, an accurate rebid in diamonds is not possible. To leap to three diamonds would constitute an overexaggeration of your values, while two diamonds would understate the value of the hand. Faced with this dilemma, it is best to raise spades. This is the bid most likely to cause partner to view his values more favorably, and thus is more likely to get him to bid again.

2. Four spades. It would be wrong to bid either three diamonds or three spades, either of which partner may pass. The leap to four is not a close-out bid. On the contrary, it states in plain English that game is certain even if partner has only six points.

Four spades is therefore a form of slam try. If partner has two aces, he will presumably press on.

3. Two clubs. Again, two diamonds would be too weak and three diamonds too strong. Two notrump is out of the question because it would indicate 18 or 19 points and balanced distribution. Two clubs has the advantage of being ambiguous, as it may be based on minimum values or a fairly strong hand (up to 18 points). If partner passes two clubs, game is very unlikely.

4. Three spades. Usually, the jump-raise of partner's suit shows four trumps, but here, with no better bid available, it must be made with three. Your 18 high-card points are adequate compensation for the missing fourth trump.

5. Three notrump. Here, you must make a bid that puts you in game or forces partner to bid again. With the unbid suits double-stopped and a minor your best suit, the most sensible thing to do is to bid game in notrump. The leap to three notrump indicates 20 points or more, since the one-spade response may have been based on as little as six points. Whether partner is satisfied with playing in notrump, or whether there might be a slam, becomes partner's responsibility at this point.

Tomorrow: Reducing the luck factor.  
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Roslind Ann Davis, 54, died Monday. Funeral Services will be at 11:00 AM Saturday at Mt. Bethel Baptist Church. Burial will be at Port Arthur. The family will receive friends from 7:00 until 8:00 PM Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.  
Mary De La Rosa, 62, died Tuesday. Funeral Services will be at 10:00 AM Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.  
Lora Moore, 64, died Wednesday. Funeral Services will be at 1:00 PM Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Seminole. The family will receive friends from 5:00 until 7:00 PM Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.  
Margaret Aken Creeley Nixon, 79, died Wednesday. Funeral Services will be at 11:00 AM Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel. The family will receive friends from 4:00 until 6:00 PM Sunday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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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.

Ronnie Cupstid  
Publisher

John A. Moseley  
Managing Editor

Bill 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:

- Elbow Elementary School students, teachers, administrators and staff on being crowned University Interscholastic League academic champion for the north zone of District 11-A. It is the fifth year Elbow has won zone competition. Wow, congratulations!

- Coahoma Independent School District administrators and trustees who were able to save taxpayers a bit of money when interest rates dropped from a forecasted 5.6 percent to 4.5 percent.

- All of you "sweethearts" out there for making Wednesday so very special.

- State of Texas law enforcement — in particular a Department of Public Safety trooper who pulled over a third suspect in the Roland David Dickinson murder investigation and held him for Howard County authorities. Christopher David Lovett joins Kirk Douglas Flanary and John Michael Hays as suspects in the month-old case.

- Everyone who has purchased tickets for the State of the City Community Luncheon, to be held Feb. 27. Remember, if you get tickets before the close of business today, you'll save \$5 a pop. Call the Chamber at 263-7641 to get yours now!

- Home Hospice on hosting Business After Hours, a Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce-sponsored program, Thursday.

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.

## HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions. In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

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

## LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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

## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

Dear Lord, You save us when we walk with You.

Amen

# Party earns points with vaccine

Texas Gov. Rick Perry now has something in common with former presidential candidate John Kerry.

Both are susceptible to charges of political flip-flopping. Democrat Kerry, for his views on the war in Iraq; he voted for the war before he was against it. And now Republican Perry, an avowed social conservative, for his recent executive order mandating the human papilloma virus (HPV) vaccine for young women entering sixth grade.

Politics has gone askew in Austin, with Perry looking and sounding more Democrat than Republican, but public policy and Texas women came out ahead.

It's enough to make my head spin. As difficult as it is to admit and even harder to write, Perry did a good thing. In Texas, because of Perry's executive order, we'll have lowered the incidence of and deaths from cervical cancer, which is caused by HPV. Who could argue with that? None other than Perry's fellow Republicans, who couldn't bring themselves to follow his common sense lead.

Democrats lined up to praise Perry for his decision, but Republicans are on the media circuit crying foul, and executive usurpation of legislative authority, an allegation that has the stench of sour grapes. Perry renounced his compatriots. He scooped them on a Friday afternoon, not enough time for a rush to the courthouse to ask for an injunction against his executive order. And they know it. They're a little irked at

his power play, which prevented them from pontificating to the hometown crowd on the evils of teenage sex.

It's easier to ask for forgiveness than permission, and the novelty of Perry's decision will soon fade. It's easier to oppose innovation than establishment, and Perry is holding the line on this one. The wounds of political betrayal may take longer to heal.

First in line at the mike was state Sen. Jane Nelson, R-Lewisville, chair of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee. She offered that the issue needed "closer examination" in the legislature. Cut-to-it West Texans have two descriptive words for Nelson's political fancy talk, but they can't be printed in family newspapers, so let's call it "horse pucky."

Nelson needs to get over herself and stop the pout and whine routine. If she couldn't get the job done, she shouldn't fault Perry for doing it. No amount of committee strategy or old-fashioned political wrangling (or even a little back-room bribery) on the state House and Senate floors would have passed legislation mandating the vaccine.

Perry's decision can't be as simple as following his personal convictions on preventing women from contracting and dying from cervical cancer, some conservative critics claim. State Rep. Jim Keffer, R-Eastland, is alleging Perry has some insidious political and perhaps personal financial motives for issuing his executive order. Perry reportedly has close ties with and has received campaign contributions from the drug company Merck, the manufacturer of the HPV vaccine.

The scandal. The outrage. How

will the democracy survive? A governor seeking re-election has accepted \$6,000 in contributions from one corporation since 2005. Yawn. Does anyone really believe that Perry works so cheaply?

Or maybe Perry's decision stems from his rumored vice presidential aspirations for 2008. He's trying to move to the political center, to appear more moderate, to appeal to a national constituency. Perry is a flip flopper, as is any politician who has ever thought twice on an issue. We certainly don't want elected officials to err on the side of serious and second consideration, do we?

Critics' real concern, though, is the vaccine will encourage premarital teenage sex.

I had a conversation on this very topic recently with a young, Hispanic single mother of two elementary-school-aged daughters. We talked about the reason why some people thought Perry mandating the HPV vaccine was a poor public policy, because it might encourage or endorse teenage sex.

She said, "It's a cancer vaccine, not birth control." Makes sense to me.

Less cervical cancer incidence and fewer deaths are good things. In Southern vernacular, Perry done good.

Cynthia Hall Clements has worked for the legislatures of both Tennessee and Louisiana and was most recently a columnist for the *Lufkin Daily News*. She is presently attending law school. She can be e-mailed at [cynthiahallclements\\_mmm@yahoo.com](mailto:cynthiahallclements_mmm@yahoo.com).

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(432) 268-9909.

# Molly Ivins ... may she rest in wit

Molly Ivins died on Jan. 31. She was 62; not young to the young, but way too soon for a vibrant force of nature like Molly.

She was, I would argue, the foremost liberal columnist of her time — more liberal than Mike Royko, tougher than Art Buchwald, more down-to-earth than Russell Baker. She spent her life giving comfort to the afflicted and afflicting the comfortable, while making people laugh all the while.

Not everyone laughed, of course. I doubt Rush Limbaugh joined in. Of the right-wing radio talker, she wrote: "I have been attacked by Rush Limbaugh on the air, an experience somewhat akin to being gummed by a newt. It doesn't actually hurt, but it leaves you with slimy stuff on your ankle."

When Pat Buchanan delivered his bellicose speech at the 1992 Republican National Convention, announcing that we as a nation were locked in a cultural war, she said that the speech "probably sounded better in the original German."

She spent her most productive years and did her best work in her home state of Texas. She adopted a good 'ol girl, homespun style that was somewhat at odds with her Smith College-Columbia University resume, but which fitted her earthy sense of humor like a cowboy boot.

Texas was invented for her. It was, she said, "reactionary, cantankerous and hilarious" and when the state's legislature was about to convene she would issue the warning, "every village is about to lose its idiot."

Dallas, she said, was a town "that would have rooted for Goliath to beat David."

Of a Texas congressman, she wrote: "If his I.Q. slips any lower, we'll have to water him twice a day."

President Bush, or "Dubya" as she called him (when she wasn't referring to him as "Shrub" or "President Billy Bob Forehead"), was another of her favorite targets.

"Denial is not just a river in Egypt," she wrote. "It's a court-appointed presidency and they are behaving as if they have a mandate." "There are two kinds of humor," she told "People" magazine. One kind "makes us chuckle about our foibles and our shared humanity. The other kind holds people up to public contempt and ridicule. That's what I do."

Elsewhere she would write: "I only aim at the powerful. When satire is aimed at the powerless it is not only cruel — it's vulgar." Which is perhaps the best argument I've heard against the "politically incorrect" folks who would have you believe that it's brave to tread on the downtrodden in the name of free speech.

She tried reporting for "The New York Times" but it didn't work out. The "Times" was, then as now, a staid and proper institution and Molly was wild and crazy.

While working in the Denver bureau of the "Times," she was sent to cover a festival in Corrales, N.M., that featured a mass slaughter of chickens. She called it a "gang pluck."

That never made the paper but her use of it offended the "Times" executive editor Abe Rosenthal who, while a great journalist, had a sense of humor so narrow you could slice cheese with it. She and the "Times" soon parted company.

"The New York Times" is a great newspaper," she later wrote. "It is also no fun."

She was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1999 and spent the rest of her life fighting it, always with courage and characteristic flair.

Of her treatment, she said: "First they mutilate you; then they poison you; then they burn you. I have been on blind dates better than that."

At the time of her death she was syndicated in nearly 400 newspapers, the author of several best-selling books — several at the expense of George Bush — and the winner of numerous journalism awards (many of which she used as trivets on her dining room table).

But not the grandest prize of all; she never won the Pulitzer. I'm not sure the award will ever fully recover from that, nor should it.

Don Kaul is a two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning Washington correspondent who, by his own account, is right more than he's wrong. Email him at [dkaul1@verizon.net](mailto:dkaul1@verizon.net).

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# Church News

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## First Church of God

The Rev. Dr. Stephen Walls of Norton, Va., will be guest speaker Sunday at 10:45 a.m. at the First Church of God, located at 2009 S. Main. There will be a dinner in the fellowship hall following the service and the public is invited.

Walls is a native of Oklahoma and has pastored in Virginia, Oklahoma, Texas, Kentucky, Mississippi and Arkansas. He is an ordained minister of the Church of God (Anderson, Ind.) and has a doctorate in theology. He has been in full-time pastoral ministry for 15 years and served in positions of state leadership in several of the states where he pastored. He and his wife of 24 years, Lupe, have two children still at home, Rebecca, 18, and Alfred, 10.

The Rev. Jerry Kolb, who has served the congregation as interim pastor for the past eight months said, "We are excited about the possibility that Dr. Walls may move to Big Spring to minister and lead our church. We hope everyone will come Sunday morning and give the Walls family a warm West Texas welcome."

## First United Methodist Church

This Sunday, Dr. Shane Brue will deliver the final sermon in the series Family First. This week's topic will be "Church; Ministering to and Through the Family."

Worship services are 8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m. with Sunday School classes for all ages at 9:45 a.m. The Senior Adult Ministry (SAM) goes to Midland on Sunday to see "Beauty and the Beast" at Midland Community Theatre. Those who have reserved tickets are reminded to bring a sack lunch, eat in Garrett Hall following the 10:50 a.m. service and leave for Midland at 12:30 p.m.

The young adults of the church will have "Night Out" on Sunday from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. in Garrett Hall. Pot luck for adults and sack lunch for the kids who will have their own entertainment.

The Open Door class is planning a "Fun Night" at

7 p.m. Monday.

Our Childrens Day Out program is held from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Wednesday's and Fridays for pre-school age children. There is presently an opening for a teacher and substitute teachers. These are paid positions. For more information please contact Loryne Colette at 270-7103.

The candle continues to burn on our altar in honor of our servicemen.

If you need a church home there is a place for you at First Methodist. We are located at Fourth and Scurry streets in the heart of downtown Big Spring, 267-6394.

## St. Mary's Episcopal Church

Holy Communion will be celebrated at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Sunday school for all ages meets at 9:30 a.m. Father Jim Liggett's sermon will be "The Transfiguration."

St. Mary's traditional Mardi Gras Party and Shrove is 6 p.m. Tuesday Pancake Supper in the Parish Hall.

Ash Wednesday is Wednesday. Lent begins with the Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes at 7 a.m. in the chapel; noon and 7 p.m. services will be in the church.

For more information about St. Mary's Episcopal Church, call 267-8201 or visit www.stmarysbst.org. St. Mary's is located at 1001 South Goliad.

## North Birdwell United Methodist

North Birdwell United Methodist Church Angelfood Ministry pick-up date is Saturday, Feb. 24, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. All orders that are not picked up at this time will be donated.

North Birdwell United Methodist Church is located at 2702 N. Birdwell. The Rev. Joel Miller is pastor. Worship service is held at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday with Sunday school at 10:45 a.m. Night service is at 5 p.m.

Adult Bible Study is held each first and third Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. The class is finishing the short Disciple study of the Old Testament and will begin study of the New Testament in March.

March 17 is the date set for the annual Community Stew Supper. The men of the church prepare the stew and the women do the cornbread and desserts. The supper is free and we encourage

anyone who loves stew and cornbread to attend. Instead of the usual book fair, an arts and crafts and bake sale will be held to benefit the building fund.

Because of the smallness of the church building, a building fund has been started to accommodate our Angelfood Ministry mission which is serving not only the Big Spring community, but surrounding towns and communities.

The Angelfood Ministry is a non-qualifying food ministry that will provide food for two for one month for \$25. For more information, please call 267-2202 (leave a message if no answer) or 267-4082.

The United Methodist Women meet each second and third Thursday at 4:30 p.m. Vacation Bible school for children five through 12 years is set for June 18-21. All children are welcome.

North Birdwell United Methodist Church, located at 2702 N. Birdwell, welcomes all to study and worship with them. For more information, call Madeline Boadle at 267-2203 or the Rev. Miller at 267-4082.

## East Side Baptist Church

Services are at 9:45 and 10:45 Sunday mornings and at 1:45 Sunday afternoon. Nursery for 4 year olds and younger is provided and Junior Church, for 5 year olds through 10, meets during the Sunday morning message. Youth, 10 years and older, meet at 6 p.m. Wednesday and the church has a Bible study at 7 p.m.

## Mt. Bethel Baptist Church

In honor of Black History Month, Mt. Bethel will host a combined effort along with Baker's Chapel A.M.E. and Shiloh House of Praise to recognize and honor those pioneers who have worked to build and maintain the churches in our black community.

The service will be held at 3:30 p.m. Sunday at Mt. Bethel Baptist Church located at 630 Sgt. Paradez St. NW 4th St. Elder Eddie Nelson of Miracle Center San Angelo will be guest speaker.

## Friends of Unity

Friends would like to express appreciation to the Big Spring Community for 12 years of acceptance, encouragement and support. Also to

Big Spring Main Street for helping to make beginning and growth possible by renting the east boxcar in the beautiful Downtown Railroad Plaza.

Deepest gratitude is given to Infinite Spirit God who gave the vision of the endeavor and gives guidance for the continuation. Anticipation runs high for 2007, the year when more of the peace of God is allowed to manifest on planet earth.

The Center is open weekday afternoons during the month of February. Drop-by visits are welcome. A cup of tea, spiritual conversation, a quiet place for prayer and meditation or an inspirational book-browsing opportunity are offered to all travelers on this life's journey.

A friend will answer the phone at 267-8782 (TRUE) or a message can be left.

## First Christian Church

This Sunday at First Christian Church marks the beginning of a new Sunday school model for young people and children.

Based on workshop rotation model used at large churches, this version will rotate the learning stations among two age groups of young people. Each unit will focus on the same Bible story from a variety of interesting, exciting approaches including faith and money issues, cooking, art and banner making, theater and dance, poetry and creative writing and music.

This new model will be introduced at a pancake breakfast starting at 9 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Come and check it out!

Our worship will start at 10:50 a.m. This week our minister, Dr. Kep McIntosh, will preach a sermon titled "The J Word."

Finally, our youth group has changed its meeting day and time. Called "The Great Adventure," young people ages 10 to 18 are invited to join us Wednesday

evenings from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The church is searching for a part-time youth minister. Interested adults are encouraged to call the church at 267-7851.

## St. Paul Lutheran Church

From 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, friends are invited to celebrate with Bob and Jaunell Roever on their 50th anniversary in the parish hall at the church. Your presence will be their gift.

We continue to get thank you notes from our chaplains in Iraq. Our military just love the "love gifts" we send them through our chaplains. More than 300 pounds of care packages have been sent since June of 2006. February's special items are: Small magnet-backed photo holders, gGel insoles for boots, dried fruit and fruit roll ups. They especially appreciate the donations to the AT&T phone card fund.

Anyone can join us in helping with these endeavors. We have heard that other churches have started to follow our example.

Don't forget the Bible classes that are ongoing on Mon. at 7 p.m., Wednesday at noon, Friday at 6 a.m., and Sunday at 5:30 and also a 6 p.m. class. Call the church for locations.

A number of ladies in the community are attending the Wednesday noon class, led by Suzanne Haney and using the Beth Moore series. All ladies are invited. We are located at 810 Scurry, Worship services are at 9 a.m., Sunday school and adult Bible classes at 10:15 a.m.

## Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church

Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church will have Fridays of Lent with Stations of the Cross at 6 p.m. A fish dinner will be held at 7 p.m. and will include fried fish, pinto beans, potato chips, bread, tartar sauce,

dessert and tea. Plates are \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children. Ash Wednesday is Wednesday, Feb. 21. Readings and ashes will be 9:30 a.m. at Big Spring State Hospital; 11 a.m. at the VA Medical Center. Services at the church will be 12:15 p.m. and 5 p.m. with mass at 7 p.m. The church is located at 1009 Hearn St., Big Spring. For more information call 267-4124.

## Spring Creek Fellowship

You are joyfully welcomed to Spring Creek Fellowship Church. Our mission is to connect you to God, others and ministry. A church "Where you make connections for life."

Sundays start out with holy grounds cafe, a time for fellowship, at 9 a.m. Sunday school is at 9:30 a.m., followed by children's church and worship at 10:30 a.m. Sunday evenings include a men's Bible study at 5 p.m. and worship at 6 p.m.

Wednesday evening is a time for fellowship with a potluck meal at 5:30 p.m. and adult Bible study at 6 p.m. along with youth worship and children's choirs. Adult choir practice is at 7 p.m.

Our pastor is Dennis Steeters, music minister is Stan Hanes and Chris Tucker is our student minister. You can contact us at springcreekfellowship.org or at 714-4584. We are located at I-20 and Spring Creek Road in Sand Springs. Go down I-20 East and take the Salem exit. Go under I-20 and turn back west. Spring Creek is about 300 yards down the road.

Come and start "connecting" with us this Sunday.

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Baker's Chapel AME Church will be celebrating Black History Month each Sunday of February.

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### IN BRIEF

#### Forsan basketball playoff update

The bi-district game between Forsan and Iraan has been scheduled for Wednesday, at Angelo State University in San Angelo.

The Buffaloes have now made an appearance in four out of the past five years.

The tip-off is slated for 7:30 p.m.

#### Hawks fundraiser has been set

On Tuesday, Feb. 27, the Howard College Rodeo team will conduct a Cow Pattie Bingo fundraiser.

The event will be held at 1:30 p.m. on the east grounds of the Student Union Building and all squares are \$ 10. Tickets are now available.

For more information contact Coach Greg Kernick at 816-9477.

#### Register for girl's softball

The Big Spring Girl's Softball Association will be holding sign-ups to register for the upcoming 2007 season.

Females from ages 4 to 7 (as of Jan. 1st) are eligible to participate in the league.

Sign-ups will be held each Saturday, beginning Feb. 24th, through March 17th at the Big Spring mall.

The registration fee is \$40 and there is a discount for the second child. This fee will cover all uniforms.

A division for boys between 4 and 6 years old will be available this season.

For more information contact Ron Shafer at 213-3747.

#### Cowboys hire another coach

The Dallas Cowboys on Thursday hired Skip Peete as their running backs coach.

Peete spent the last eight seasons with the Oakland Raiders in the same position.

#### A&M-Corpus Christi triumphs

Josh Washington scored 22 points and Texas A&M-Corpus Christi shot 60 percent from the field as the Islanders beat Texas State 99-89 on Thursday night.

Texas A&M Corpus Christi (19-5, 10-1 Southland) jumped out to a 20-4 lead and never looked back.

Scooby Johnson added 16 points and seven rebounds for the Islanders. Chris Daniels and Taurean Mitchell had 14 points apiece for Corpus Christi.

## Hawks escape Snyder with 1-point win

### Howard eyes tournament and moves into 4th place

MIKE GRIMES

Sports Editor

SNYDER — Howard College left here Thursday night in good position to make the Region V basketball tournament in March.

Corey Allmond hit a game-tying 3-pointer with 13 seconds remaining and followed that up by bouncing home his second-of-two free throws with one second left in regulation to give the Hawks a 63-62 win over Western Texas College.

Sean Watson led the Hawks (20-6, 7-5 conference) in scoring with 19-points on an impressive 8-for-13 shooting night. The 6-foot-5 sophomore from New York also managed to pick up three steals on a night when every possession counted — unlike the first meeting when the Hawks blew out the Westerners at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum in January.

Terrence Hill struggled from the field and made only 4-of-14 shots. He still managed to finish second in scoring with 14 points for the Hawks and he added a game-high four steals.

"Our motto is to keep it close and to give the fans their money's worth — you don't want to miss a Hawks game. We're going to make it exciting for you," Howard coach Marks Adams half-jokingly said after the win.

The Hawks were not the only ones making things exciting in the ancient gym the Westerners call home.

Derek Williams and Derron Gray scored 14-points each, including the duo hitting on 3-of-4 from beyond the 3-point arc.



Terrence Hill looks for an open teammate in the first half of the Hawk's 1-point win over Western Texas college Thursday night. The Hawks are now 7-5 in conference and move 1/2 game ahead of Odessa for fourth place in the WJCAC standings.

With 0:20 left on the clock, Gray hit what appeared to be the game-winner for the Westerners and was fouled on the play. Going to the free throw line he had an opportunity to make it a two-possession basketball game.

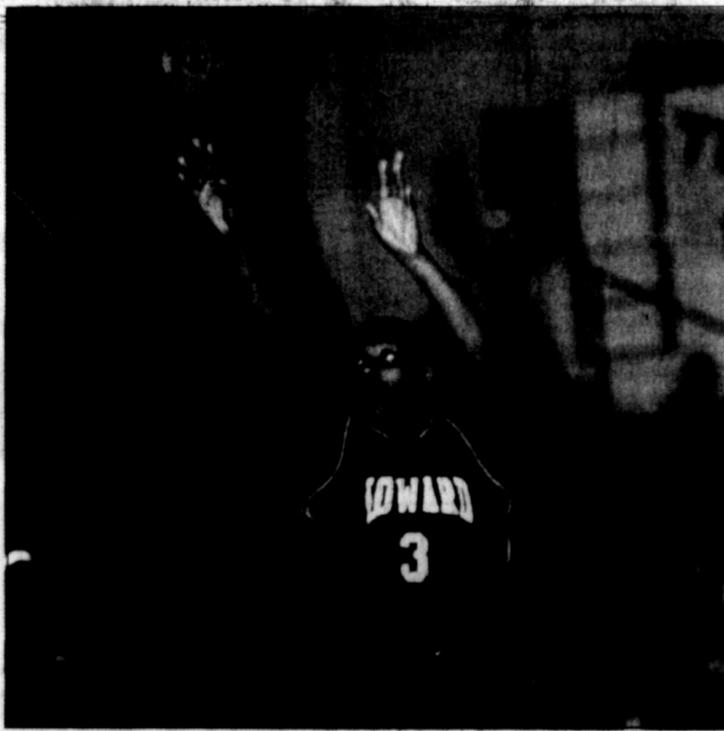
He missed. As Hill raced the rebound up

the court he saw an open Allmond to his left and sent a no-look pass for the open shot. Allmond hit nothing but net and with 13 seconds to play the game was tied at 62-62.

"First of all I want to thank the trainers and 'Doc' for getting me healthy and back out on the

court to play," Allmond said, referring to a high ankle sprain that has caused him to miss several conference games. "Then I need to thank my teammates and coaches for telling me to keep on shooting — despite being in a

See HAWKS, Page 2B



Candace Lambert shoots for 2 of her team-high 12-points in the loss to Western Texas College Thursday night.

## Howard women lose, will miss Region V tournament

MIKE GRIMES

Sports Editor

SNYDER — The Howard women's team was officially eliminated from advancing to the Region V basketball tournament after a 52-41 loss Thursday night to Western Texas College.

In the first half, the Hawks (12-15, 2-9 conference) led the Lady Westerners by as many as 8 points, but with less than a second before half-time, Pasha Cornish concluded WTC's comeback by draining a game-tying shot as she fell to the floor and slid out of bounds.

Howard shot 34 percent from the field in the first 20 minutes of play and Western Texas (15-11, 3-7) manage to shoot an almost identical 33 percent.

Heading to the locker rooms, the score was knotted at 24-24, but the momentum had clearly shifted in favor

of the Lady Westerners and more importantly, the home crowd at the Western Texas College Gym was sent into a frenzy.

Candace Lambert finished with a team high 12 points for the Hawks, but the guard shot a dismal 4-for-13 from the field. She was 3-for-5 from the free throw line and pulled down 3 rebounds to go along with 3 assists, but she had very little help down the stretch.

On the opening possession of the second half the Lady Westerners scored to take the lead and with 10:00 to play they had gone up by 10 points, 40-30.

The Lady Westerners had two players in double figures — Marah Guzman with a game-high 17-points and Sirena Medrano with 10.

"We just don't score enough points to win basket

See WOMEN, Page 2B

## Mavericks prove they are the best in Texas

By KRISTIE RIEKEN

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON — Dallas coach Avery Johnson thought Jason Terry might have been a bit distracted through most of Thursday night's game against Houston.

But the Mavericks point guard was able to get it together just in time to make the winning shot in a 80-77 victory over the Rockets, Dallas' ninth consecutive win.

Terry was just 1-of-9 before hitting the go-ahead jumper with 1:09 remaining and then sinking two free throws in the final seconds to secure the win.

Johnson only half-jokingly suggested that Terry's thoughts may already be on this weekend's All-Star festivities.

"He came up big with a big shot and two free throws," Johnson said. "Other than that he wasn't at his best tonight.

Maybe he was thinking about the 3-point shootout too early. He and Dirk (Nowitzki) have a little wager going on. I was trying to get him here in Houston rather than getting ready for Vegas too early."

Terry wasn't surprised that his coach discussed that theory with the media.

"I knew he was going to do that," Terry said.

He said he remained confident

despite struggling for most of the game.

"I was focused man," said Terry, who finished with nine points.

"It's just some nights where your shot is not going to be there, but you've got to find a way to stay in it I mean emotionally. I was trying to keep the guys pumped."

See MAVS, Page 2B

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# Hardaway won't represent NBA at All-Star game after anti-gay remarks

By MELISSA MURPHY  
AP Sports Writer

The NBA banished Tim Hardaway from All-Star weekend in Las Vegas because of his anti-gay remarks.

Hardaway, who played in five All-Star games during the 1990s, was already in Las Vegas to make a series of public appearances this week on behalf of the league. But after Hardaway said, "I hate gay people" during a radio interview, commissioner David Stern stepped in.

"We removed him from representing us because we didn't think his comments were consistent with having anything to do with us," Stern told reporters Thursday at the open-

ing of a fan festival at a Las Vegas casino, part of the NBA's All-Star weekend.

Stern said he had not spoken with Hardaway, who left Las Vegas on Thursday, but he planned to do so.

While Stern said a discussion about openly gay players could be part of future rookie orientation programs, he doesn't see a need to address the league.

"This is an issue overall that has fascinated America. It's not an NBA issue," Stern said, pointing to the ongoing debate over gay marriage at the state and federal levels.

"This is a country that needs to talk about this issue," he said. "And, not surprisingly,

they use sports as a catalyst to begin the dialogue."

Hardaway apologized for his comments.

"As an African-American, I know all too well the negative thoughts and feelings hatred and bigotry cause," Hardaway said Thursday in a statement issued by his agent. "I regret and apologize for the statements that I made that have certainly caused the same kinds of feelings and reactions."

"I especially apologize to my fans, friends and family in Miami and Chicago. I am committed to examining my feelings and will recognize, appreciate and respect the differences among people in our soci-

ety," he said. "I regret any embarrassment I have caused the league on the eve of one of their greatest annual events."

The NBA brings in many former players to take part in various All-Star events. Hardaway had already represented the league in Las Vegas earlier this week at a Habitat for Humanity event and a fitness promotion. The former U.S. Olympian was also scheduled to be an assistant coach at a wheelchair game Thursday night and later appear at the fan-oriented Jam Session.

"His views are not consistent with ours," Stern said.

Amaechi, who spent five seasons with four teams, came out

last week in advance of the release of his autobiography, "Man in the Middle." He is the sixth professional male athlete from one of the four major U.S. sports — basketball, baseball, football, hockey — to openly discuss his homosexuality.

Though Stern said last week a player's sexuality wasn't important, Hardaway disagreed Wednesday on a Miami radio show.

"First of all, I wouldn't want him on my team," the former Miami Heat star said. "And second of all, if he was on my team, I would, you know, really distance myself from him because, uh, I don't think that is right."

## HAWKS

Continued from 1B

slump. And Hill too, he trusted me to hit the big three. Even though I have been struggling lately, he had the confidence in my game to kick the ball to me on the break and that's what allowed me to get the knock down."

Benson Akpan led the Hawks on the glass, as he seems to do every game, by pulling down a game-high 8 rebounds. Brandon Sampay finished with 7

rebounds and added 2 blocked shots.

"This win puts us a whole lot closer to the tournament," Adams added from outside the Hawks locker room. "We're fighting with Odessa and I really think we have a favorable schedule down the stretch. I like the way everything looks if we can go to New Mexico and return with a win."

Odessa College was idle last night, but the Wranglers and Hawks are separated by a half-game

in the WJCAC standings for the final spot in the Region V basketball tournament.

One thing Adams made clear he did not like was the Hawks' inability to hit free throws. Howard made only 12-of-24 from the charity stripe as the rowdy fans at Western Texas College Gym seemed to have an impact on the Howard shooters.

With the game on the line, Allmond missed the front end of his two free throws before hitting the game winner.

"I really thought the first was good when I let it go," explained Allmond. "We have to hit free throws. On the second one I just made sure I had a little more air on the shot and it hit the rim and fell down. We won and that's what matters right now."

The Hawks will return to the hardwood Monday, as they will go on the road to challenge New Mexico Military Institute (6-16, 1-10 inconference) in Roswell, N.M.

## WOMEN

Continued from 1B

ball games right now," Hawks coach Earl Diddle said after the loss.

The Hawks were outscored 28-17 in the second half.

"I thought we got pretty careless with the ball and we didn't play

well when the burners were turned up," Diddle added. "We had a hard time keeping up with them and they did a good job of getting loose in the corners and making some shots. Our inability to free our shooters and find good shots was the difference tonight."

With 2:51 remaining, the Hawks pulled to within 45-41 and it looked like the game might come down to the final possession. However,

Howard would not score again, missing its last nine shots.

The loss drops the Hawks into eighth place in the WJCAC women's standings — one game ahead of Clarendon College.

The women will return to action on Thursday, when they host New Mexico Junior College (12-13, 2-7 conference) at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Tip-off is scheduled for 6 p.m.

## MAVS

Continued from 1B

Nowitzki had 26 points and Jerry Stackhouse scored 17 for the Mavericks.

Tracy McGrady scored 27 points to lead Houston and Juwan Howard added 14.

"They're very good defensively," Rockets coach Jeff Van Gundy said. "I thought the last two minutes, I've got to do better when they're committing two guys to McGrady even without the ball. We didn't play with assertiveness."

The Mavericks led by two points before the Rockets took a 76-74 lead on a free throw and a 3-pointer by McGrady with about three minutes remaining.

McGrady elicited chants of "M-V-P" from the home crowd when he cut through the middle of the lane for a layin that pushed Houston's lead to 69-66. The crowd was quieted though as Nowitzki soon answered with two 3s in a row to put Dallas back on top 72-69 with 6:16 remaining.

Houston trailed by 3 before going on a 6-0 run punctuated by a Dallas turnover and a dunk by Juwan Howard that made it 63-60 with 10:33 remaining.

A steal and a pair of baskets by Josh Howard, followed by two quick 3s by Stackhouse gave Dallas a 58-55 lead with less than 30 seconds remaining in the third quarter. It was the first time the Mavericks had led in the second half.

"We were getting bumped around early," Johnson said. "I just didn't like our body language in the first half. I don't like us being in a surrender, retreating position. We had to come out in the second half and establish ourselves a bit more."

Shane Battier said Houston's play just after halftime was the key to the loss.

"We didn't play a complete game," he said. "You can talk about the last couple of minutes, but where we lost the game was in the third quarter. We didn't come out with the rebounding fire that we came out with in the first half."

The Mavericks' last three wins have come on the road, a fact that pleases Johnson.

"I'm extremely proud — three road wins — are you kidding me? I don't care if they're against my son's team, it's a good three wins," he said.

Nowitzki scored eight points in the first quarter,

but didn't score in the second as he sat out almost half of it with two early fouls.

One of the highlights of the first half came when Nowitzki bit on a fake on the baseline by Head, who drove past him for the two-handed dunk. The play earned the second-year player a standing ovation from the sellout crowd.

The Rockets trailed 21-12 before going on a 13-0 run to take a 25-21 lead early in the second quarter. Battier hit three free throws at the end of the second quarter to push Houston's lead to 45-38 at

halftime. It was just not enough to upset Dallas.

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**PRE-SCHOOL TEACHER** needed full-time. Prefer 1 yr. exp., but will train. High School Diploma required. Apply in Person, 1901 W. 16th Street, Learning Tree Academy.

RN I POSITION

**Tired of shift work & working holidays!** The Texas Department of State Health Services is recruiting for an RN I to be responsible for providing comprehensive public health nursing services to the residents of Howard County. Serves as the Team Leader for Family & Community Health Services at the Big Spring Field Office Clinic. Perform clinical duties for the following programs: Child & Adult Immunizations, Family Planning, Child Health, HIV/STD and TB Elimination. Perform population based, community focused health promotion and disease prevention activities. Duties require independent clinical leadership skills. Participate in regional emergency response plan. Work hours M-F 8-5. Travel requirements: 10% day, 5% overnight. Monthly salary: \$2,773.00-\$2,838.00. Current license to practice as a Registered Nurse in the State of Texas. Apply at website: <https://accesshr.hhs.state.tx.us>. Position Requisition #47606 or complete application at 501 Birdwell Lane, Suite 28-B in Big Spring. For additional information, contact Melony Bennett at (432)571-4132. EEO/ADA.

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

STATE LICENSED JOURNEYMEN ELECTRICIANS and HELPERS

Local Company Seeks Qualified applicants for LOCAL work. Paid holidays, Vacation and Sick Time. Weekends Off. All interested applicants, please phone (432)263-3939.

**THE MARTIN County Hospital District** is seeking Registered Nurses, for full-time high positions. Please contact Rance Ramsey, DON at 610 N. Saint Peter, Stanton, Texas or (432)756-3345 ext. 228.

**WANTED - 2 Mature individuals** for Full-time & Part-time position working with developmentally disabled individuals. Applicants must possess Valid Texas drivers license, high school diploma/GED and reliable transportation. Must be willing to work week-ends. Call 432-263-1408 for more info. Closing Date 02/26/07.

**WAREHOUSE/ DELIVERY** Wanted for local Rental Store. Benefits include paid vacation, retirement & health insurance. Requirements are back ground check, drug screening, good driving record and be at least 21 years old. Starting pay \$8.50 per hour. Apply in person, Credit World, 1611 Gregg.

**WIS INTERNATIONAL** is now hiring for Inventory Clerks. Starting pay \$7.00/hr. up to \$9.00/hr. for Crew Managers. No experience required for inventory clerks. Must have some management experience for Crew Manager. All who are interested please call Natasha, (806)543-1778. Apply at the Workforce Network of Big Spring.

Items for Sale

**2005 MID-SIZE 4-wheeler.** \$1,500. Original title. Call (432)213-2773.

**A NEW QUEEN Pillow top mattress set.** \$129.00 Midland. Call 432-349-4043.

**FIREWOOD. PREMIUM OAK FIREWOOD.** Satisfaction Guaranteed. \$275.00 Full Cord & \$175.00 Half Cord. Delivered and Stacked. Call 325-648-2818 or 512-913-8297.

**FOR SALE** full blooded Labrador puppies (3) black, (1) brown, \$100. each. Also 4x4 fiberglass deer blinds, new. \$800. each. Call (432)354-2511.

**FOR SALE,** 1995 Maroon Ford Van with inside lift, \$9,600. Triple white dresser & nightstand, \$450. (4) arm chairs on rollers, tan, like new. (432)393-5712.

**FOR SALE,** family home gym; GMC pickup bed homemade trailer with new floor, commercial register counter and Casio cash register. New scrubs 1/2 off marked price. Lots of used scrubs from \$5-\$10. Call (432)213-3510.

Miscellaneous

**\$199. KING/ Cal King Pillow-Top mattress set.** In plastic, warranty. (806)549-3110

**2005 OUTPOST Lite Bumper Pull Camper,** 16 ft., sleeps 5. Almost New! \$7500. Call (432)394-4836.

**A KING PILLOWTOP** Mattress Set. Must Sell \$249. Brand New still in Plastic. Full Factory Warranty. 432-349-4043.

**A NASA MEMORY FOAM** Mattress Set. List \$1399.00 Sacrifice \$350.00. Conforms to body. New in plastic. 432-349-4043.

**A NEW CHERRY Sleigh bed** \$259.00. Midland. Call 432-349-4043.

**ALL WOOD.** Complete bedroom set. 6-pc. List \$2550. Sacrifice 4749. 806-549-3110.

**BRAND NEW Queen pillow top mattress set.** In wrapper. Warranty. Must Move. Sacrifice \$175.00. 432-349-4043.

**BUTTERFLY LEAF** pub table and chairs, Brand new in crate. List \$899. Sell \$399. 806-549-3110.

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

**CAN DELIVER LEATHER SOFA** & love, Never uses. LIFETIME WARRANTY! List \$1899. Sacrifice \$649. 806-549-3110.

**FULL MATTRESS** and box \$129. Twin mattress set \$99. Brand Name, in plastic. (806)4549-3110.

**MEMORY FOAM mattress set.** Conforms to body. \$399. Never used. In plastic. (806)549-3110.

**PRIVATE INVESTOR PAYS** cash for your seller financed note: \$50K-\$5M. Residential, commercial, or business notes. Professional service/fast closing. Call anytime to speak to a real person: 1-800-816-7066.

**UP TO 80% SAVINGS POSSIBLE** on many medications. Generics now available for Celebrex, Crestor, Lipitor, Nexium, Plavix, Zolof and many more. Canada Drug Topeka 1-866-804-6100.

**WANTED: RESPONSIBLE** Party to take on small monthly payments on High Definition Big Screen TV. Call 1-800-398-3970.

Pets

**THIS NEWSPAPER** is not responsible for the specific content of the Classified ads. Before investing money in a pet ad with which you are unfamiliar, please call the National Better Business Bureau at 703-276-0100 or visit [www.bbb.org](http://www.bbb.org)

**ENGLISH POINTER,** registered. 5 months old. All shots. \$350.00. Wanted chain link dog kennel. Call 832-233-4873.

**FREE TO good home.** 8 week old Blue Heeler/ Lab mix, male pup. Call 264-9577 after 5pm or leave msg.

**YORKIE FOR Sale:** Health guaranteed, shipping is available, delivery. Contact for more information: [petsbreed01@yahoo.com](mailto:petsbreed01@yahoo.com)

Real Estate for Rent

**SEVERAL OFFICES** available. Call (432)263-6514, 517-0038, (432)770-5656.

Real Estate for Rent

**BARCELONA APARTMENTS** \$299 MOVE IN SPECIAL + APPLICATION & SECURITY DEP. ALL BILLS PAID 538 Westover 263-1252 1-866-265-4104 Housing Assistance Accepted

Real Estate for Rent

**BEAUTIFUL GARDEN COURTYARD**

- Swimming Pool
- Private Patios
- Carports
- Appliances
- Most Utilities Paid
- Senior Citizens Discount
- 1 & 2 Bedroom Unfurnished

**PARKHILL TERRACE APARTMENTS**  
800 W. Marcy Drive  
263-5555 267-5444

**LOVELY NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLEX**

- Swimming Pool
- Carports
- Most Utilities Paid
- Senior Citizen Discounts
- 1 & 2 Bedrooms & 1 or 2 Baths Unfurnished

**KENTWOOD APARTMENTS**  
1904 East 25th Street  
267-5444 263-5555

**South Plains Apts**  
Efficiency, 1 & 2 Bdrms

- New Appliances & Fixtures
- Dish Network w/ 300+
- Channels incl 34 Latino
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- Picnic/BBQ Area
- New Laundry & Vending

Ask about our Move-In Special  
3304 W Hwy. 80  
(432) 714-4840

**\$390/MO!** buy a three bedroom, 2 bath! 5% down, 20 years, 8% APR. For listings 800-544-6258 ext F086.

**1608 SUNSET.** 2 Bedroom, 1 bath, CH/A, fenced yard. Newly Remodeled. \$410.00 Month. \$295.00 deposit. Call 432-263-8005 or 816-1330.

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

**407 East 8th- 1/1 bath.** Stove & refrigerator. \$275. month, \$175. deposit. CH/A. No HUD and no pets. No Bills Paid. Call (432)267-2296.

**602 LINDA LANE,** 3 bedroom, 1 bath, carport. New paint, tile and carpet. CH/A. \$535. month, \$450. deposit. Call (432)263-8005 or 816-1330.

**712 GOLIAD.** 2 Bedroom, 1 bath. Washer & dryer connections, CH/A. \$550. month, +deposit. No HUD. No Bills Paid. Call (432)267-2296.

**DOWNTOWN OFFICE** for rent-421 Main, approx. 2500 sq. ft. of executive offices, reception area and storage. Call (432)263-7676.

**Real Estate for Sale**  
1.05 ACRE. 305 Driver Rd. Water well, great view. Forsan District. Call (432)213-2400.

**1812 BENTON.** 3 bedroom, 1 bath, CH/A, 1224 sq. ft. Close to Goliad school. Covered patio and yard. \$44,900. No Owner Finance. Call (432)264-8983, (432)263-0118.

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

**3 BDRM 2 bath home** in Sand Springs. 2 acres, 2 water wells, shop, 4 car carport and motor home carport. New Above-ground swimming pool. Hardwood floors and ceramic tile. New metal fence around back yard. Covered Patio. New kitchen cabinets and counter-top. Living, dining and kitchen remodeled 2 years ago. Asking \$150,000.00. Call (432)393-5966.

**611 EAST 13TH.** 2/1 + house behind it. \$5,000. OBO. 404 Lancaster, 3/1 \$4,000 OBO. Call (432)816-1895, (432)816-3016.

**BARCELONA APARTMENTS** \$299 MOVE IN SPECIAL + APPLICATION & SECURITY DEP. ALL BILLS PAID 538 Westover 263-1252 1-866-265-4104 Housing Assistance Accepted

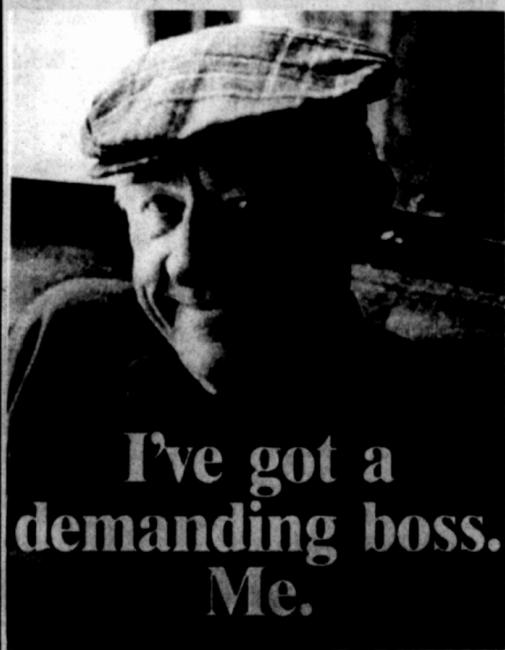
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IF YOU LOVE THE COMFORT AND FREEDOM OF WORKING IN HOME HEALTH, YOU'LL LOVE WORKING WITH OUR COMPANY. CARING HEARTS HOME HEALTH IS STEADILY OUT GROWING OUR PATIENTS AND IN NEED OF ANOTHER GREAT NURSE. IF YOU'RE ENTHUSIASTIC, HONEST, DEPENDABLE AND REALLY CARE ABOUT YOUR PATIENTS, PLEASE APPLY AT

1900 SCURRY

CARING HEARTS HOME HEALTH WE SPECIALIZE IN EXCELLENT CARE...

\$400 TO \$1,000 PROFIT PER MONTH



I've got a demanding boss. Me.

But the rewards are great! I work for myself and make a good living. I take responsibility for my performance - It's all up to me. A lot of people depend on me, and I wouldn't have it any other way.

Contracts are available now for motor route carriers. For information, call 432-263-7331.

BIG SPRING HERALD

NOW HIRING

Part-time Mail Room

Position demands standing in one pace for long periods of time and fast hand/eye coordination.

Must be able to work Saturday afternoons

Apply in person at 710 scurry

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AFFORDABLE w/garage, kitchen & Smith, age 432-263-1101

**FORECLOSURE** 2 bath, on 2 Must See 800-544-6100

**HOUSE T** room 1 b 393-5517.

**INVESTMENT** Two hous bdr., 1 bat garage 8100/yea call 9432) p.m.

**MOBILE** doublewide port, stora Excellent transferring sale! 213-

**OWNER F** bedroom from. Call tors, 213-5454.

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Real Estate for Sale

**AFFORDABLE, COZY...** 2/1 w/garage, CH/A. Updated kitchen & bath. \$30's. Charles Smith, agent @ Home Realtors 432-263-1284.

**FORECLOSURE!** 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, only \$49,500! Spacious Must See! For listing Call 800-544-6258 ext F906.

**HOUSE TO be moved.** 3 bedroom 1 bath, brick. Call (432) 393-5517.

**INVESTMENT PROPERTY-** Two houses on 1 lot. Both 2 bdr., 1 bath with a shared 2 car garage. Current income 8100/year. \$56,900. Please call 9432)263-8005 after 5:00 p.m.

**MOBILE HOME,** 2 year old doublewide, great area, carport, storage buildings, hot-tub. Excellent condition! Owner transferring, priced for quick sale! Serious inquires only! (432)213-3235, (432)213-0917.

**OWNER FINANCE!** Two nice 3 bedroom properties to choose from. Call Janet @ Home Realtors, (432)263-1284 or 213-5454.

**OWNER FINANCE,** \$4000 down. Four to choose from. Call (432) 264-9907.

**OWNER FINANCING-** Homes from \$49,900. Down payments of only 5%. Open for inspection- Every Sunday in February, 12 P.M.-5 P.M. tough credit OK. We know bad things can happen to good people. Get your credit back on track. Stop renting and enjoy full home ownership. For a listing of homes available. Call 432-687-2696, ext. 4 or pick up a list at 1611 W. Texas Ave., Midland.

**OWNER FINANCE.** Newly remodeled two bedroom, one bath, corner lot. 1400 Mesa, Big Spring. Low down, low monthly. (432)556-7829. Se Habla Espanol.

**THE OFFICE Building,** 710 Gregg Street, for lease, excellent space for a medical doctor or lab available, also have individual offices starting @ \$250. per month with bills paid. Call (432)770-5656 or (432)517-0038. Broker/ Owner.

Services Offered

**RON'S HANDYMAN** Roof Repair, don't replace it, fix it. 17 years exp. Please leave message if no answer (432)395-9486 or email: edwaw8@aol.com

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**Several New 2006 Models To Choose From Huge Discounts!**  
**Bob Brock Ford**  
500 W. 11th 267-7424

**\$500! Hondas from \$500!** Buy police impounds! For Listings 800-544-1092 Ext. A106.

**2002 CHRYSLER Sebring** (grey). Runs great, new tires. Blue Book \$9,100.00 Asking \$8,000.00. Perfect interior and exterior. Call (432)213-6353.

**su | do | ku**  
© Puzzles by Pappoom

**ANSWERS**

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Legals

**AMERICAN SELF STORAGE**  
Pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, American Self Storage which is located at 3314 E. FM 700 Big Spring, TX 79720 will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale will be at 10:00 o'clock A.M. on Saturday, February 17, 2007, at American Self Storage. Property will be sold to highest bidder for cash. Seller reserves the right to not accept any bid and to withdraw property from sale. Property may be sold item by item or in batches, or by the space. All sales are subject to Texas State Sales Tax. Sale is on the contents of:  
Tenant: Lane Corley  
Consisting of: Miscellaneous items  
Tenant: Jennie Nix  
Consisting of: Household items  
Tenant: Stephanie Johnson  
Consisting of: New bathroom fixtures, sink & cabinets  
Tenant: Michelle Futrelle  
Consisting of: Networking equipment  
Tenant: Deborah Jones  
Consisting of: Miscellaneous items  
#5227 February 9 & 16, 2007

**NOBODY ASKS FOR IT**  
Help STOP Sexual Assaults  
Call 263-3312  
Rape Crisis Services/Big Spring

BY HOLIDAY MATHS  
Humans need contact. We need it almost as much as we need water.

This is an important thing to remember when both the sun and the moon are in Aquarius, the sign of the water bearer. Being friendly and inclusive — even to the hermits, grumps and jerks — is a gesture that has far-reaching benefits for humankind.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). Practicing a ritual puts you in harmony with your surroundings. An ordinary ritual, such as jogging, is your vehicle for crossing from one plane of perception to another.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). Deciding to begin again isn't the same as actually starting over. You need a plan, and this is your best day to come up with a workable one. For extra luck, involve a Virgo person.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). Unhappy with work?

Don't wait to be invited to a new situation. Enter on your own accord. Let your interest guide you forward. Volunteer your services. You'll soon be engaged in exactly what you want to be doing.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). You meet deadlines and take care of business. This puts you in the mood to celebrate tonight. As far as your love life goes, the more selective you are, the more you'll enjoy dating.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). You're mixing with an upscale crowd. Successful friends can be quite motivating. Still, you must grab success in your own way — only then will you be satisfied and proud of your achievement.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your confidence more than makes up for your lack of experience in a particular area. Presentations go brilliantly. Also, you could hit the jackpot by making a sale.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). What's done is done. Turn from the past, preferably with an attitudinal snap in the air, and get on with being the person you've always wanted to be. A relative's advice is help-

ful. **SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're gearing up for a huge challenge. But is it too huge? Is this just crazy? Absolutely not! Crazy is when you don't rise to the occasion while the minutes of your life tick away.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You'll be enticed into the strangest situation. Thank goodness there are persuasive people around you. Later, you'll look back and realize you wouldn't have missed it for the world.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your astral gift du jour is eloquent boldness! You're capitalizing on your fortunate social and political status — exercising your right of free expression. You could even get some applause.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Though you have nothing against a well-planned day, this isn't it. You're caught up in the chaos and making the most of whimsical, unforeseen opportunity. You're blowing in the wind!

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). The words "friend," "free" and "Friday" all

derive from the same root — a Germanic word, "fri," meaning love. The stars align to suggest that this is your day to give your heart freely to friendship or romance.

**WEEKEND LOVE FORECAST:** Your relationships bloom if you're open to change. **ARIES:** Speak from the heart; your sweetie longs to hear it. **TAURUS:** Having the satisfaction of an ex-love coming back isn't as sweet as you thought it'd be. **GEMINI:** Love thrives in a different environment. Change it up. **CANCER:** You probably won't even notice that person who is fixated on you. **LEO:** Romantically, you might feel like you're in a rut. It's time for an energizing flirtation! You've a special connection with Pisces. **VIRGO:** You've enough enthusiasm for two people, which is a good thing since your partner might be dragging. **SCORPIO:** Find someone who already fits your qualifications; otherwise, you wind up trying to mold someone to fit your ideal, which is so exhausting! **SAGITTARIUS:** You're not exactly in an easy-to-please mood.

**CAPRICORN:** Low on faith? It's not so wrong to ask for proof once in a while. **AQUARIUS:** You're attractive and popular, and you know how to use it. **PISCES:** Prepare to pursue and be pursued.

**COUPLE OF THE WEEKEND:** Aquarius and Libra are two peas in a pod — air sign intellectuals with high standards and even higher expectations of each other. But at the same time, these two can be very easygoing when romance doesn't go as planned. It's a good thing, too, because this weekend will be anything but predictable. One thing leads to another, and by the end of it, they could even be married in Vegas!

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

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Annie's Mailbox : Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: I have been a single mom for 15 years. Early on, I married a wonderful man who died shortly after from cancer. We were together only four years. I was devastated and never imagined I'd find love again, but last year, I met "John."

John and I are both middle-aged, and were making plans for retirement and spending the rest of our lives together. I have children-in-college that I occasionally help out. I feel that God has been good to me and I can afford to help them.

John told me that if I continue to help my children, he would leave me. I honestly didn't believe him. When I saw a winter coat on sale, I bought it for my son, who has no car and is walking to work. When John asked if I bought the coat, I lied and said "no." He then went through my credit card receipts. When he discovered I'd bought the coat and lied about it, he walked out. He said he could never trust me again.

Annie, I thought he loved me. I asked him to go for counseling, but he refused. It was just cut and dried, over and done. I am devastated. I know lying is wrong, but is it wrong to occasionally buy gifts for my children? All of my friends say it's OK.

Not only am I lost because the man I was planning on spending the rest of my life with has left me, but I am also experiencing a huge case of "empty nest syndrome" since it's been only a few months since my youngest child moved out. What do you think of this? — Brokenhearted in Minnesota

Dear Brokenhearted: We think you dodged a bullet. John sounds stingy, controlling, unforgiving and rigid. It is perfectly normal for parents to buy their children occasional gifts, and John's intransigence on this issue did not bode well for your future relationship with your kids. You should not have lied, but John should not have made such an unreasonable demand. Find things to fill the empty space. Join a book club, choir, theater group, political campaign or health club, take in a foster child, do volunteer work. You will get past this. We promise.

Dear Annie: I have a



KATHY MITCHELL  
MARCY SUGAR  
BNS 211A... 311... 2R 3H

terrible habit. I pop my pimples to the point where they don't stop bleeding. I get teased at school, and when my mother looks at me, she is ashamed of what I do.

I do it because I'm filled with pain and anger, but when I try to stop, I get very nervous and end up pinching my arms and legs. I now wear jeans and long-sleeved shirts to hide the marks. Some of my friends worry because they think I could end up cutting myself. What can I do? — Anonymous

Dear Anonymous: Compulsive skin picking, to the point of self-mutilation (neurotic excoriations), may be a form of body dysmorphic disorder. You no doubt already know that picking at pimples can lead to inflammation and scarring, and you need to learn how to control this behavior. Please talk to your parents and ask them to find you a therapist. You also can contact the Obsessive-Compulsive Foundation (ocfoundation.org), 676 State Street, New Haven, CT 06511.

Dear Annie: Why is the former husband always a much better person than the present one? My wife's ex was cruel and abusive. She spoke of their marriage as being unbearable. I have never struck my wife, nor have I been verbally abusive. Yet I am constantly being compared unfavorably to him. Why did she divorce him if he is so much better than me? — Wondering

Dear Wondering: This certainly is not the case with most second marriages. However, some people idealize what they don't have. If you invited your wife to go back to her first husband, we guarantee she wouldn't move a step. Ask her to knock it off, but if she won't, do your best to

ignore those comments.

Dear Annie: My husband and I have been married five years and have two toddlers. I am a working mother, and with that comes much guilt for being away from my children during the day. My husband and I try to spend as much non-working time with our children as possible. We do not go out unless our children are allowed to accompany us.

My widowed mother-in-law lives two hours away and likes to visit often. She is a kind woman, but gets frustrated when we don't spend as much time with her as she thinks we should. She was upset that we stayed only two days at Christmas. We were with her at Thanksgiving, so it wasn't like we hadn't seen her.

Mom's job allows her many long weekends, and when she comes to see us, she likes to stay until Monday morning, when we have to go to work. Not to mention, our weekends are very valuable to us as a family. It's the main time we get to spend with our kids. My husband agrees, but he is uncomfortable saying anything to his mother.

She once told me she thought we should spend one weekend a month at her house, and she would come to us one weekend a month. I think this is too much. Is that terrible of me? We only see my family a few times a year.

How can I approach this without living in her doghouse for the rest of my life? — Guilt From All Angles in the Midwest

Dear Midwest: It is your husband's job to let his mother know she must respect your family's private time. But try to understand that she, too, wants to be with her child (your husband) and her grandchildren. Consider videotaping the kids and sending Mom regular updates. You can even install a camera on your computer and hers, and let her interact with the children in real time — from a distance. Five minutes a day could save you countless visits per year, guilt-free.

Dear Annie: My husband and I have been married for 60 years. He is very kind and helpful, but he likes to give advice to everyone, whether he is

asked for it or not. It is making me angry, and I am often embarrassed because of it. If I confront him about his behavior, he gets mad and it turns into an argument.

He's always been like this, but with aging, it's gotten worse and bothers me more. Is there anything I can do? — Married to Annie's Mailbox

Dear Married: Is his advice any good? Suggest he start putting his ideas into a book. It will keep him occupied, and who knows — maybe he can sell it. Other than that, you'd best grin and bear it. After 60 years, he's not going to change.

Dear Annie: I am writing in response to "Still Young," whose 71-year-old mother wants a part-time job. I will be 71 in a couple of weeks and work as a receptionist for the State of Oregon House of Representatives. I love my job. It is fun, interesting and very rewarding. Three other receptionists are older than I am. We look forward to working, and we greet everybody with a smile.

When the Legislature is not in session, we volunteer in Visitor Services at

the State Capitol. By being out in the public, working or volunteering, we stay young and our brains keep working.

If her mother likes working and enjoys her job, she will stay healthier. It is a known fact that seniors who keep busy live longer. My husband is 82 and still working in a very demanding physical job. He acts like he's 60. — Shirley in Salem, Ore.

Dear Shirley: We are truly impressed with the variety and difficulty of the jobs held by our over-70 readers. And if it improves your health at the same time, we are all in favor.

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

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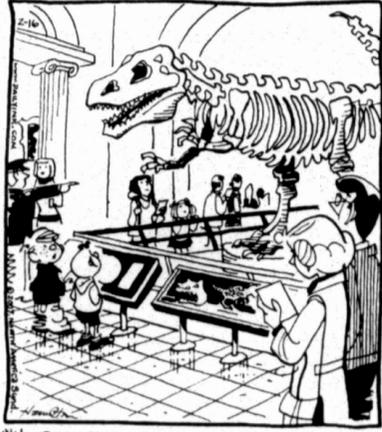
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710 SCURRY  
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FRIDAY

Table with 28 columns (WFAA, KMID, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLN, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KPBT, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN, SCIFI) and 12 rows (6:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:30, 11:30, 12:30) listing various TV programs and their channels.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"WONDER WHERE THEY KEEP THE LIVE ONES?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"You better learn your states, Billy, or you'll never be a TV weatherman."

HAGAR



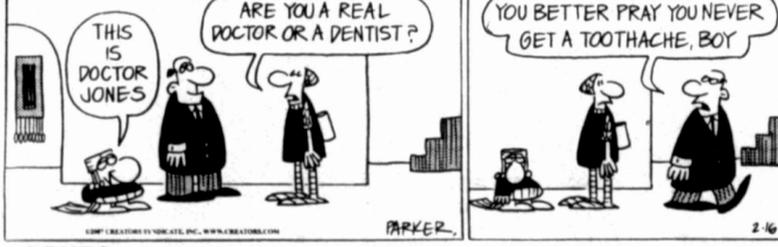
BLONDIE



BC



WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Friday, Feb. 16, the 47th day of 2007. There are 318 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Feb. 16, 1862, during the Civil War, some 14,000 Confederate soldiers surrendered at Fort Donelson, Tenn. (Union Gen. Ulysses S. Grant's victory earned him the nickname "Unconditional Surrender Grant.")

In 1923, the burial chamber of King Tutankhamen's recently unearthed tomb was unsealed in Egypt by English archaeologist Howard Carter. In 1945, American troops landed on the island of Corregidor in the Philippines during World War II. In 1959, Fidel Castro became premier of Cuba after the overthrow of Fulgencio Batista. In 1968, the nation's first 911 emergency telephone system was inaugurated, in Haleyville, Ala. In 1977, Janani Luwum, the Anglican archbishop of Uganda, and two other men were killed in what Ugandan authorities said was an automobile accident. In 1987, John Demjanjuk went on trial in Jerusalem, accused of being "Ivan the Terrible," a guard at the Treblinka Nazi concentration camp. (Demjanjuk was convicted, but the conviction ended up being overturned by the Israeli Supreme Court.) In 1996, 11 people were killed in a fiery collision

between an Amtrak passenger train and a Maryland commuter train in Silver Spring, Md. Today's Birthdays: Singer Patty Andrews is 89. Kim Jong Il, the president of North Korea, is 65. Actor Jeremy Bulloch is 61. Actor Pete Postlethwaite is 61. Actor William Katt is 56. Actor James Ingram is 51. Actor LeVar Burton is 50. Actor-rapper Ice-T is 49. Actress Lisa Loring is 49. Tennis Hall of Fame player John McEnroe is 48. Rock musician Andy Taylor is 46. Rock musician Taylor Hawkins (Foo Fighters) is 35. Singer Sam Salter is 29.

Answer to previous puzzle

Grid of crossword puzzle answers: IAGO, ARMOR, DOES, QTIP, SOARE, IDLE, SENE, STREP, ROBE, SHUTYOURTRAP, CST, ORES, BOY, APE, PEN, OLDWEST, BANJO, ALLI, OLEO, AROUNDTHECORNER, NERD, EVA, SKIRT, ASSIGNS, HAS, NEE, CAT, SART, ODS, DECISIONTREE, OKRA, SMITE, AJAX, PEAR, TAPES, COKE, EDGY, SNERT, HEAD

Newsday Crossword

WILD AND WOOLLY by Donna Levin Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS 1 Luncheonette order 4 Most common American surname 9 Goes limp 14 Anvil site 15 Ruby's actor-husband 16 French farewell 17 End of Horner's boast 18 Cuddly critter 20 African prairie 22 Give the once-over 23 Deliberately exposes 24 Purple flower 27 Fail to include 29 Sticky wicket 34 "Howya doin'?" response 35 \_ chi 36 Diver's tank 38 Bog 39 More than enough 42 Popeye, e.g. 43 Bisected 45 Dockworkers' org. 46 Hold off 47 Anticlimactic anecdote 51 Nash creature 52 Typical 53 Jazzman Baker 56 Doc bloc 58 Dentist's exhortation 61 Peach-schnapps cocktails 65 Society-column word 66 Worked on a galley

- 67 Throng 68 Cream puff, perhaps 69 Oodles 70 Uneasy feeling 71 Medical care co. DOWN 1 '60s sitcom son, familiarly 2 Weak, as an excuse 3 Minute fraction 4 Piano, to a musician 5 School in E. Lansing 6 Nation estd. in 1948 7 Flag 8 "Pssst!" 9 Simple card game 10 Asinine 11 Place 12 Big top 13 Brewski 19 Relief-agency acronym 21 Actor Bogarde 25 Regarding 26 "See ya!" in Salerno 28 \_-bits 29 Stereo precursor 30 Hallelujah choruses 31 Like wallflowers 32 Spacey 33 Bobcat or Timberwolf 37 Multitude 39 Caesarean garb 40 Baseball family name 41 Hounds 44 Danced to "True Love" 46 Deneb, for one 48 Fed 49 Harley alternative 50 Included group 53 Corp. bigwigs 54 '50s anti-subversive grp. 55 Old Testament book 57 View from Stratford 59 Something let out by a tailor 60 Grinder 62 QB's quest 63 Joule fraction 64 The Mormons: Abbr.

Grid for Newsday Crossword puzzle with numbers 1-71 indicating starting points for words.