

## Big Spring gets white Christmas — almost



MONDAY MORNING GREETING — Big Spring residents awoke Monday morning to find their cars carpeted with 2-3 inches of soft powdery snow, like these autos parked at the Canterbury apartments. Once the snow and

ice were cleared from vehicles, however, motorists faced the treacheries of driving on ice-glazed streets.

Herald photo by James Iley

### Snow covers Panhandle; temperatures to warm

From staff and wire reports

Dreams of a white Christmas turned to nightmares for some Big Spring residents as sleet and snow which fell Sunday paralyzed Monday morning traffic, causing minor accidents on the city's ice-glazed roads and leaving several stalled vehicles in the storm's wake.

The local forecast called for clearing skies and warmer temperatures, according to the National Weather Service.

Striking one day after a windy, overcast Christmas day, the storm dropped freezing rain and drizzle on the city before blanketing the area with three inches of light, powdery snow Sunday afternoon.

Temperatures plunged to the lower 20s early Monday morning, encrusting roads and walkways with a solid layer of ice.

The dangerous driving conditions apparently persuaded many workers to take an extra day of vacation Monday. Big Spring police this morning reported light traffic and no serious weather-related incidents.

A Colorado storm brought two to six inches of snow to portions of West Texas and the Panhandle, while the Beaumont-Port Arthur area was weathering out a series of heavy thunderstorms that flooded streets.

Weather watches and warnings were posted for the most of the state early today as the storm, combined with a moist low pressure system from Mexico, made its way eastward, triggering snow, freezing rain and thundershowers.

Rainfall amounts of six to eight inches had fallen in far Southeast Texas from Sunday morning until early today and Jefferson and Orange counties and southern portions of Jasper and Newton counties were under flood warnings, authorities said.

Rain also drenched the Panhandle and South Plains. Freezing drizzle was reported at Amarillo before dawn. Lubbock had recorded seven inches of rain.

Bridge City, located in far Southeast Texas near the Louisiana border, was cut off by flooding on Texas 87 early today, but no evacuations had been necessary, said a police dispatcher who asked not to be identified.

"We've got pretty good drainage here and everyone is watching out for more rain," the dispatcher said.

No deaths or injuries had been reported from the high water, which was limited mostly to streets, according to Mary Ann Hemker, assistant director of the Jefferson County Civil Defense Department.

A small residential area known as Hildebrand Acres was evacuated due to water in low-lying areas and officials were putting down sand-

bags in a Port Arthur residential area known as Port Acres, Ms. Hemker said.

"Right now, there doesn't seem to be that many houses flooded," she said.

Snow had fallen over West Texas by Sunday night from far West Texas into the South Plains and Panhandle. The National Weather Service warned that the El Paso area could expect more than one foot of snow.

"There is packed snow and ice on the overpasses and slush other places," said El Paso police dispatcher Gerald King. He said a few local streets were closed but that highways remained passable.

The slippery roads caused a rash of accidents Saturday as people left the Sun Bowl, but traffic was light on Sunday, he said.

"A lot of the El Paso drivers have never driven in this kind of weather ... This is a little heavier than usual," King said.

An ice storm warning was issued for North Texas west of a Paris-Temple line, along with a travelers' advisory in the Panhandle and plains of North Texas, where up to three inches of snow was forecast.

In Central Texas, a winter storm watch was in effect for a mixture of snow, sleet and freezing rain.

A mixture of freezing rain and snow fell in the Panhandle and West Texas, while rain continued over parts of North Central and South Central Texas. In East Texas and along the coast, drizzle and fog restricted visibility.

At the Dallas-Fort Worth Regional Airport, where hundreds of Denver-bound travelers remained stranded Sunday, extra maintenance crews were called in to prepare for icy weather.

Only one flight left the airport for Denver, with the rest canceled on Sunday, according to Larry Chambers, assistant airport operations officer.

Small craft advisories were posted along the coast, where northerly winds were gusting to near gale force. Lake wind advisories also were in effect for much of the state.

Winds were northwesterly across the Panhandle and South Texas and westerly across West and North Texas, blowing at speeds up to 15 mph.

Pre-dawn temperatures were in the 20s and 30s across West and North Texas and in the 40s and lower 50s in South and extreme East Texas. Readings at 4 a.m. ranged from 25 at Lubbock to 51 at Lufkin and Brownsville.

The forecast called for the rain and snow to end from the west tonight, leaving partly cloudy skies and cold temperatures Tuesday.

## Storm brings floods more snow

By DEAN FOSDICK  
Associated Press Writer

Floods from almost 15 inches of rain washed through Louisiana communities today, blocking more than 1,000 people from their homes, and Colorado residents were urged to stay home until the snow from a Christmas Eve blizzard could be cleared.

Related story, page 3-A

A Greyhound bus careened off icy Interstate 80 near Kearney, Neb., early today, injuring 20 people, as freezing rain, sleet and drizzle spread from western Oklahoma into a large part of Kansas and Nebraska.

In northern Mississippi, rescuers in boats and four-wheel drive vehicles evacuated dozens of families as rain sent rivers out of their banks and marked the state's wettest December on record.

Mississippi civil defense officials said about 70 families had left their homes in Grenada, about 15 homes were evacuated in Calhoun City and other evacuations were under way in Greenwood, Tupelo and other communities.

Tornadoes on Sunday damaged buildings and timberland in Neshoba County and flash flooding affected several hundred homes in Grenada County.

Louisiana officials said more than 50 roads were impassable in places and many bridges were washed out.

Flash flood watches were posted today for all of Arkansas and Illinois and the southern and eastern sections of Missouri and southeastern Iowa.

But some states in the nation's snow belt had the warmest

Christmas holiday of the century, delighting joggers but dismayed skiers.

Massive traffic jams developed today in snowbound Denver and delays continued at Stapleton International Airport as the city dug out from under the record weekend blizzard that claimed three lives.

Colorado authorities urged commuters to stay home unless they had jobs essential to public safety. To make matters worse, the Colorado State Patrol was forced to close a section of Interstate 70 near downtown Denver when some low-level radioactive material spilled from a van.

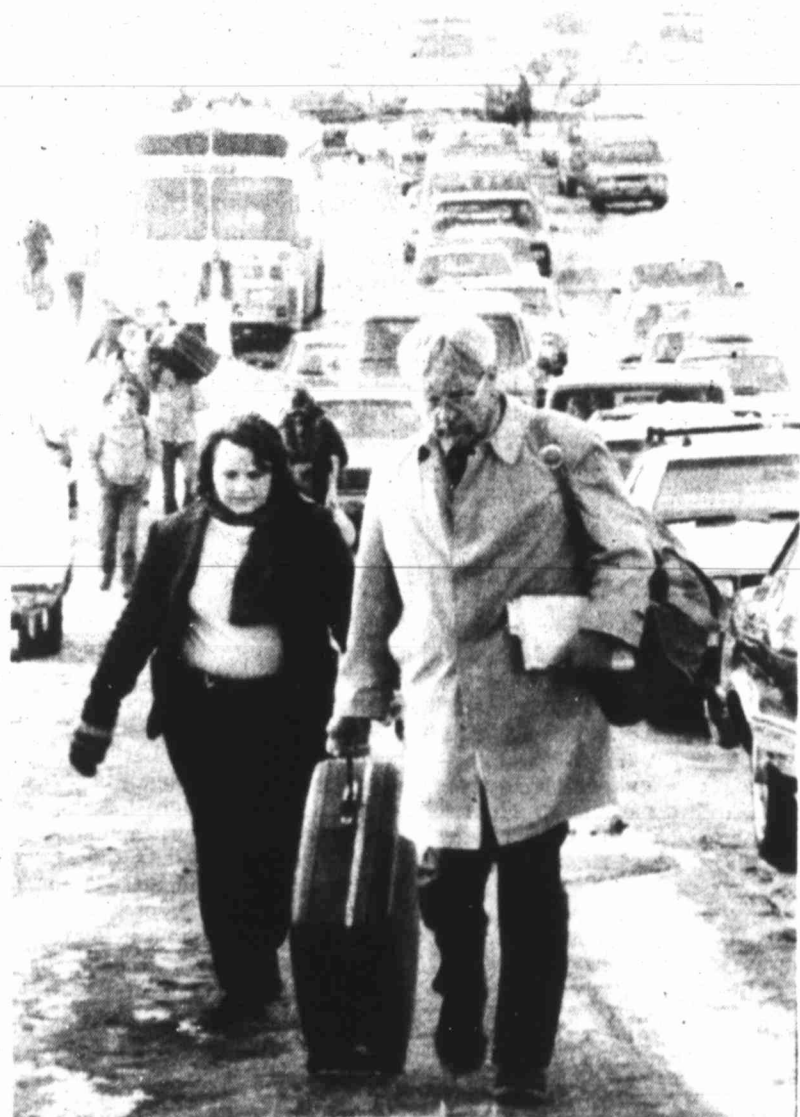
Steady weekend rain spilled waters from bloated rivers and bayous into residential areas of Louisiana, forcing evacuations across the central and northeastern part of the state, officials said.

Up to 14 1/2 inches of rain had fallen in Alexandria, La., since late Saturday and parts of southwest Louisiana had received about 10 inches with forecasts predicting another 3 to 6 inches today.

"There's no relief in sight for Louisiana for at least another day," Nolan Duke, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Kansas City, said early today. "They're flooding like crazy. It's coming down faster than it can drain. It's a slow-moving storm system and it's been raining like that for two days."

Joe Colson, head of Louisiana's Office of Emergency Preparedness, said about 250 people had to leave their homes in Alexandria because of the fast-rising waters, some transported in city buses equipped with makeshift snorkels for their

See Storms, page 2-A



SURE BEATS WAITING — Robert Morris, along with several other Christmas travelers, decided it might be faster to get out of his car and walk to Denver's airport Sunday. Severe congestion was created in the area when the airport was closed for 30 hours.

Associated Press photo

## Official confirms: O.I.L. lays off 40

The story that O.I.L. gave to the Herald for Sunday's paper — that 40 employees were laid off last Thursday — is "absolutely right," said Hank Meyer, O.I.L. director of manufacturing, Monday morning.

A newscast by China Long on KBST quoted Richard Fackler, chief operating officer of O.I.L., as saying 80 persons had been laid off.

"The story that Carol Daniel wrote is absolutely right," Meyer said.

"I do know that the information that I gave Carol is supposedly as was authorized. That is the exact numbers. That number does not vary 2 or 3 people. Where she (China Long) got her information is only supposition on my part," he

said. "The layoff that transpired — I believe we gave notification at noon on Wednesday or Thursday. I believe it was Thursday — the total number of people including contract welders was 40," he said.

"Now there's a possibility — I have a real problem — it's only hearsay what she (China Long) and Dick talked about because I do know that Dick was pretty much out of pocket. I really can't comment on that. I can only say that there were 40 people that were laid off due to lack of work," Meyer said.

"As I say, the statement that I gave Carol that she published Sunday in the paper is pretty much the statement of how things went down," Meyer concluded.

### New Year's advertising deadlines set

The deadline for retail and classified display ads for Friday is Tuesday at 5 p.m. The deadline for Sunday is Wednesday at 5 p.m.

For next Monday and Tuesday, the deadline is 5 p.m. Thursday.

Classified word Ads must be in on the following days:

For Friday the deadline is noon

Thursday for classified and 3 p.m. Thursday for Too Lates. For Sunday, the deadline is 5 p.m. Thursday for classified and noon Friday for Too Lates.

The deadline for ads running next Monday is noon Friday for classified and 9 a.m. Monday for Too Lates.

## Focalpoint

### Action/reaction: Senator's address

Q. How can I write U.S. Senator Barry Goldwater?  
A. Write as follows: The Honorable Barry Goldwater, United States Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510.

### Calendar: Council meeting

TUESDAY  
● Big Spring City Council meets at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, Fourth and Nolan. The meeting is open to the public.

### Tops on TV: AFC tilt

The Miami Dolphins and the Buffalo Bills square off in an American Football Conference contest at 8 p.m. on Channel 2. At 10 p.m. on Channel 5 two American short stories — "Bernice Bobs Her Hair" by F. Scott Fitzgerald and "I'm A Fool" by Sherwood Anderson — will be performed on the PBS series "American Short Story."

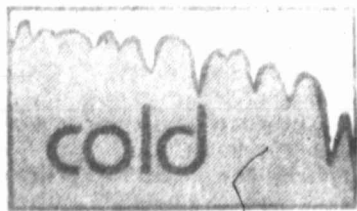
### Inside: Lebanese talks

Fighting in areas near Beirut threatened to hurt talks between Israel and Lebanon aimed at withdrawal of foreign troops. See story on page 3-A

President Reagan left for a California vacation today with a stack of bills to sign and a new call for Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan. See story on page 3-A

### Outside: Cold

Partly cloudy today with highs in the upper 30s. Low tonight will drop to the lower 20s. High on Tuesday should jump to the upper 40s. Winds will blow from the northwest at 10-15 mph. A traveler's advisory continued throughout today as ice and snow on bridges and overpasses make driving hazardous.



27 DECEMBER 27



# Fighting threatens Lebanon withdrawal talks

**By KATE DORIAN**  
Associated Press Writer  
KHALDE, Lebanon — Israel poured troops and tanks into the hills surrounding this Beirut suburb today to halt sectarian fighting that threatened the opening of Israeli-Lebanese talks here on the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon.

"They (the Israelis) have moved into the hills and there hasn't been any shooting today," said Lebanese army spokesman Col. Fawzi Abi Farhat.

He said the Lebanese army had been

assured by the feuding rightist Christian and leftist Druse Moslem militiamen who have been battling in the area for five days that there would be no fighting while the talks were in progress. Negotiations are scheduled to begin Tuesday.

The two private armies traded heavy artillery fire throughout the night in the hill towns of Shweifat and Kfar Shima, overlooking Khalde, the state radio reported. Police said 18 people were killed and 27 wounded in sectarian fighting in the past 36 hours.

Abi Farhat, the army's "security coord-

inator" for the talks, said 100 Lebanese soldiers were now responsible for security in and around the Lebanon Beach Hotel in Khalde, the site of the talks.

But "the Israelis are responsible for that area," he said pointing to an Israeli tank about a mile away in the surrounding hills.

There were no immediate reports from Israel on the deployment of its forces to halt the fighting.

An Israeli armored personnel carrier was parked outside the Lebanon Beach Hotel, and Israeli soldiers were putting up

barbed wire on the edge of the highway leading to it.

The Lebanese state radio had said earlier the government was exerting pressure on Christians and Druse to stop the fighting, which had gone on for five consecutive days. Shelling also was reported at the mountain resort town of Aley, 7 1/2 miles southeast of Beirut.

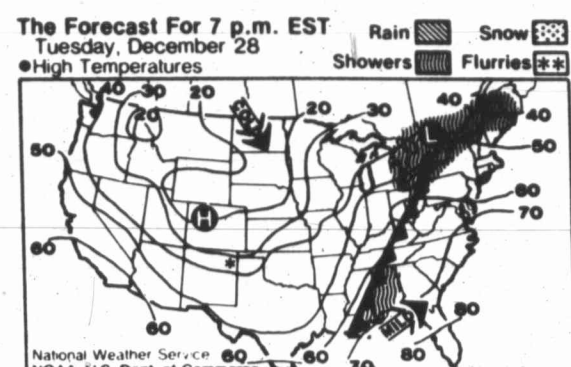
Five Christian militiamen were killed overnight in an attack on Druse gunmen in the village of Maaroufieh, near Shweifat, Beirut newspapers reported today.

The clashes have claimed 170 lives since they began two months ago, police said.

Fighting Sunday extended to the edge of Beirut International Airport, headquarters of the U.S. Marine peacekeeping contingent in Lebanon. No Marines were reported involved.

Farhat also said part of a 30-member Israeli logistics team had arrived at the Khalde hotel to prepare for the negotiations, which will alternate between Lebanon and the Israeli Galilee border town of Kiryat Shmona.

## Weather



## Flash floods hit Louisiana

**By the Associated Press**  
More than 1,000 people were forced to flee their homes as a storm brought flash floods to Louisiana and troubled the lower Mississippi Valley and southern Plains today.

In Colorado, residents continued to dig out after a weekend blizzard that dumped two feet of snow and left three people dead.

Cloudy skies prevailed from Oregon and northern California to the upper part of the Missouri River valley. Light rain was scattered along the Ohio River and northern Virginia.

The National Weather Service predicted scattered snow from northwest Texas to Wyoming, and snow or freezing rain in the central Plains. Rain was forecast over the southern Plains, with thunderstorms from the lower Mississippi Valley to the Tennessee Valley. Scattered rain was also expected from the mid-Mississippi Valley through the Ohio Valley to the mid-Atlantic Coast and southern New England.

Windy weather was predicted for the northern Plains, with the Southeast and West mostly sunny. Temperatures around the nation at 1 a.m. CST ranged from 8 degrees in Scottsbluff, Neb., to 74 degrees in Fort Lauderdale, Homestead, Miami and Key West, Fla.

Here are the latest weather reports from some key cities around the nation:

- East: Atlanta 61 cloudy; Boston 39 partly cloudy; Buffalo 28 fair; Cincinnati 46 rain; Cleveland 36 partly cloudy; Detroit 33 cloudy; Miami 73 fair; New York 40 fair; Philadelphia 40 partly cloudy; Pittsburgh 38 cloudy; Washington 51 cloudy.
- Central: Bismarck 23 cloudy; Chicago 40 cloudy; Dallas-Ft. Worth 37 rain; Denver 9 fair; Des Moines 29 foggy; Indianapolis 43 rain; Kansas City 32 foggy; Minneapolis-St. Paul 28 foggy; Nashville 65 cloudy; New Orleans 71 hazy; St. Louis 39 foggy.
- West: Albuquerque 30 cloudy; Anchorage 29 cloudy; Las Vegas 33 fair; Los Angeles 52 fair; Phoenix 44 fair; Salt Lake City 28 cloudy; San Diego 50 fair; San Francisco 43 partly cloudy; Seattle 35 foggy.
- Canada: Montreal 23 fair; Toronto 28 partly cloudy.

**FORECAST**  
West Texas — Cloudy to partly cloudy and continued cold through Tuesday, except fair west of the mountains. Occasional light snow or freezing drizzle Panhandle and South Plains ending tonight. Highs 32 Panhandle to 45 Big Bend. Lows near 10 Panhandle to 28 Big Bend. Highs Tuesday near 30 Panhandle to 55 Big Bend.

**EXTENDED FORECAST**  
West Texas — Cloudy and cold Wednesday with a slow warming trend through Friday. Scattered rain or snow west Wednesday spreading across the entire area by Friday. Lows Wednesday near 10 in the Panhandle to mid 20s south warming to mid teens in the Panhandle to near 30 south Friday. Highs Wednesday near 30 in the Panhandle to mid 40s in the Big Bend valleys, warming to mid 30s in the Panhandle to low 50 extreme south Friday.

## Man of the Year? Well, not exactly

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Time magazine's 1982 Man of the Year has a heart as cold as a silicon chip but a brain as quick as whirling magnetic discs: it's the computer.

"The enduring American love affairs with the automobile and the television set are now being transformed into a giddy passion for the personal computer," the magazine said in announcing its selection Sunday.

The artificial brain won out over Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker and E.T., the alien hero of the year's biggest movie.

It succeeds the 1981 Man of the Year, Lech Walesa, leader of Poland's Solidarity union.

"There are some occasions when the most significant force in a year's news is not a single individual but a process," according to Time, "and a widespread recognition by a whole society that the process is changing the course of all other processes. That is why ... Time has decided that 1982 is the year of the computer."

Time said that when 1982's figures are totaled, 2.8 million personal computers will have been sold by 100 companies for \$4.9 billion. Just two years ago, 20 firms sold 724,000 units for \$1.8 billion.

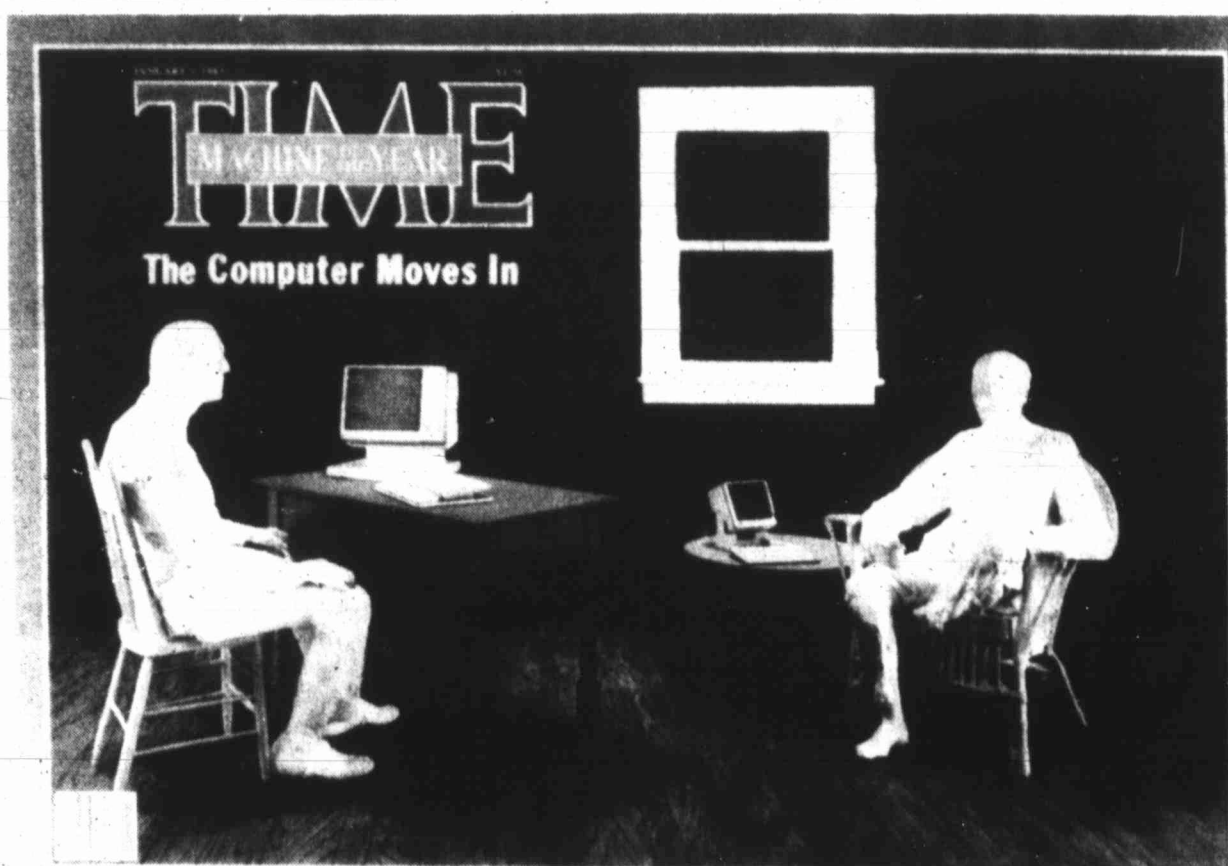
"In 1982 a cascade of computers beeped and blipped their way into the American office, the American school, the American home," Time said.

Because of the computer, "America will never be the same," according to Time.

"In a larger perspective, the entire world will never be the same," it added. "The industrialized nations of the West are already scrambling to computerize."

The magazine commissioned a poll of 1,019 registered voters nationwide, in which almost 80 percent said they expected computers to be as common as televisions or dishwashers in the near future.

About two-thirds said they believed the computer would raise production and therefore living standards



**ELECTRONIC MAN OF THE YEAR** — For the first time, Time magazine's "Man of the Year" isn't human — it's a computer. "The enduring American love affairs with automobiles and television sets are now being transformed into a giddy passion for the personal computer," Time said in announcing the cover. Last year's winner was Polish union leader Lech Walesa.

## Reagan issues call for Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Reagan flew west on vacation today with a stack of bills to be signed and a renewed call for a total Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan.

The president and his wife Nancy, who celebrated Christmas at the White House for the second year, headed first for Phoenix, Ariz., to visit Mrs. Reagan's recently widowed mother, Edith Davis.

The Reagans and their daughter, singer Patti Davis, left the White House by helicopter at midmorning in a chilling rain for Andrews Air Force Base in suburban Maryland. The president did not stop to speak with reporters, but wished them a happy new year.

On Tuesday, the Reagans will travel to Los Angeles, where the president will take part in re-commissioning ceremonies for the battleship USS New Jersey.

The next day, they will make their annual pilgrimage to Palm Springs for the New Year's holiday. They will stay at "Sunnylands," the 200-acre estate owned by publisher Walter Annenberg. The Reagans return to Washington Sunday.

Before he left Washington,

Reagan declared the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan a failure and said the United States supports a negotiated settlement there, based on a complete withdrawal of Soviet forces.

"We in the United States sincerely hope that the new leadership of the Soviet Union will take advantage of the opportunities the new year will no doubt offer to achieve a solution for Afghanistan," the president said in a statement issued Sunday.

Although his official schedule was light, the president was likely to sign a number of bills passed in the closing days of the 97th Congress.

Among those acted upon, but unsigned, were the 5-cent-a-gallon increase in the federal gasoline tax, a nuclear waste disposal bill, an anti-crime measure, and legislation guaranteeing Social Security disability recipients continued payments while federal officials question their eligibility.

Also awaiting presidential action was a bill giving tax breaks worth \$75 million to the pharmaceutical industry over the next five years to encourage development of drugs to treat rare diseases for which the

## CIA reports Soviet living standards rise

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The Soviets are eating more meat and vegetables and have more hospital beds than they did 30 years ago, but the Americans, Japanese and most Europeans still enjoy a higher standard of living, a CIA report says.

The Joint Economic Committee of Congress released the CIA report, which said consumption of food and goods by average Soviet citizen nearly tripled between 1950 and 1980.

Rep. Henry J. Reuss, chairman of the committee, said, "This important study helps put into perspective for Americans the fact that the USSR, far from being on the verge of collapse, has experienced major growth."

The report, released Saturday, said the average Soviet citizen ate over 2.5 pounds of meat a week in 1980, instead of a little more than a pound in 1950. Besides meat, more butter and vegetables were on the table, but less bread and potatoes. Twice as much vodka was consumed, however.

On the education front, Soviet children were going to school for more than nine years in 1980, instead of five in 1950.

The Soviet economy grew at an average rate of 3.5 percent a year over the 30-year period, faster than the economy of the United States and many other countries. But rate of growth slowed down to 2.2 percent a year between 1976 and 1980.

The CIA noted that housing in the Soviet Union improved slowly, with living space for the average city dweller in 1980 "still remaining below the minimum norms for health and decency set by the government in 1928." It quoted a Soviet source as saying in 1976 that 30 percent of city families still had to share kitchens and bathrooms.

## Hundreds forced from homes as flash floods hit Louisiana

**By The Associated Press**  
Civil defense officials brace for more flash flooding today as heavy rains that forced hundreds of people to evacuate their homes continued to drench all but extreme southeast Louisiana.

The National Weather Service this morning said about 14 1/2 inches of rain had fallen in the Alexandria area since Saturday night. Parts of southwest Louisiana were hit with 10 inches of rainfall.

Forecasters predicted the storms would continue throughout today.

"As it stands now, I don't think the water is going to recede. I think it will take a day to recede," said Joe Colson, head of Louisiana's Office of Emergency Preparedness.

Besides flooding homes, the rains made parts of more than 50 roads inaccessible and washed out some small bridges, officials said.

"We're recommending people not travel today," said state police Sgt. Ronnie Jones.

The weather service said some of the larger rivers and bayous would

probably approach or surpass record flood levels in the next couple of days.

"The ground already is saturated," the weather service said in a 7 a.m. flash flood warning. "Where flooding already exists, it will likely become worse."

In Rapides Parish, where about 250 south Alexandria residents had to evacuate, parish and city officials declared a local emergency and asked Gov. Dave Treen to declare a state of emergency today.

Treen was to meet with Colson today at 10 a.m.

"I saw well over 200 houses with their floors under water," said Colson after visiting the central Louisiana city where water stood five feet deep in low-lying areas.

Most of the city's evacuees found shelter with relatives and friends, but about 75 remained at an emergency shelter at the Rapides Parish Coliseum.

"All that talking about a white Christmas," said evacuee Gertrude Rainey. "Well, we had a wet Christmas."

Deputies and National Guardsmen patrolled the deserted section against looting and vandalism. The state Office of Emergency Preparedness promised drainage pumps to protect five major residential subdivisions from high water.

In northeast Louisiana's Ouachita Parish, about 800 residents in Monroe and West Monroe were forced from their homes on Sunday.

Among the first to go in the 4:30 a.m. Sunday evacuation were 180 elderly residents of the West Monroe Guest House, many of them bed-ridden or confined to wheelchairs.

The state gave Monroe about 30,000 sandbags and several pumps to protect three low-lying subdivisions from flooding, Colson said.

"The river is up, the streams are full. There's just nowhere for the water to go," said West Monroe Mayor Dave Norris.

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27 DECEMBER 27





**JOE'S CHRISTMAS** — Joe McKinney sits with his adoptive mother, Virginia McKinney as they prepare to celebrate their first Christmas as mother and son in Los Angeles Friday. Mrs. McKinney adopted Joe shortly after a Los Angeles judge signed a birth certificate declaring that he legally existed.

# Deaf-mute teen-ager has 1st family holiday

By KATHY HORAK  
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES — The Christmas tree of Joe McKinney is decorated with birds, rabbits, deer, boots and toy soldiers — telling the story of his life before the deaf-mute teen-ager had a home, a surname or even a legal identity.

"One of his earliest communications was that he came from a place that was cold and snowy, where he had to wear boots," said Virginia McKinney, his adoptive mother. "He made us understand that a man used to shoot animals in the woods and cook them for him. The toy soldiers are the policemen you hide from."

Mrs. McKinney, director of the Center for Communicative Development, which aids deaf-mute adults, adopted Joe on Dec. 6, the same day a judge signed a birth certificate declaring Joe legally existed. Joe never learned to communicate and is just now learning reading, sign language and writing. He doesn't know how old he was when his mother abandoned him, although a radiologist estimated his bone age at 19.

THE DARK-COMPLEXIONED youth, who anthropologists believe may be an American Indian, survived on the streets by doing odd jobs and sleeping in cars or culverts. He was living in an abandoned trailer near a wrecking yard where he worked when the state learned of his plight in May 1981.

Officials referred him to Mrs. McKinney, who persisted through months of bureaucratic red tape to become his guardian.

On Christmas Eve, seated in their living room with gifts covering half the carpet, Mrs. McKinney described Joe's first family holidays.

"He never indicates what Christmas was like before," she said. "I think he just went off by himself somewhere."

The two spent several days writing about 250 Christmas cards to people around the nation who had sent encouragement when news of Joe's saga spread. Mrs. McKinney typed the addresses, but Joe signed his name and stuffed envelopes.

One card went to the White House in thanks for President Reagan's holiday greeting, a signed letter that Mrs. McKinney plans to frame.

The 6-foot youth — who courteously gave up his chair to a visitor — listens intently but with few smiles.

"He's just beginning to relax since the court hearing," Mrs. McKinney said. "I think he still has the feeling it all could be snatched away any moment. The thing that always amazes me is his philosophy. He just takes life as it comes, shrugging his shoulders if

something goes wrong and signing, 'that's too bad.'"

ON THURSDAY NIGHT, they visited Joe's old haunts in Los Angeles, delivering presents to people who once helped the homeless youth. Joe chose a warm jacket for an elderly gardener who sometimes shared dinner with him.

"That was the first time I saw him really get excited," Mrs. McKinney said. "He was so thrilled to be able to do something for those people. Many of them are really poor themselves."

Her presents to Joe included an electric typewriter, a remote-control car and a tape recorder to help with lessons he takes five days a week at the center.

"He hasn't gone near the packages," Mrs. McKinney said. "I'm a little scared that he thinks Santa Claus might be coming. When he finished decorating the tree, he opened the drapes and indicated it was so Santa knew where to come."

She won't predict whether 1983 will be the year Joe learns to speak, but says there are at least two goals inspiring him.

"At first he wanted a job working on cars, but now he says he wants to be a boss," Mrs. McKinney said. "He has the ability to spot a manager or boss anywhere."

The second inspiration is girls. Joe knows sign language for "kiss" and recently asked Mrs. McKinney's other adopted son, Walter, 21, whether he had a girlfriend.

"We were at a (benefit) car wash and he signed to my niece for a kiss," she said. "I tried to explain that a girl wants a boy who can read and write, so get on with that first."

## Jerry Lewis in good condition

LAS VEGAS, Nev. (AP) — Comedian Jerry Lewis was in satisfactory condition and "doing fine" today after a quiet Christmas weekend in the hospital where he is recovering from open-heart surgery.

Lewis was limited to only a few holiday visitors, but an adjoining hospital room was filled with flowers, gifts and letters from all over the world, hospital officials said.

The 56-year-old comedian "is doing fine right now. In fact he's resting comfortably," Desert Springs Hospital nursing supervisor Janene Bantz said today. "He has been in good spirits."

Lewis underwent double bypass surgery Tuesday, a day after he walked into the hospital complaining of

chest pains. Among those sending notes and telegrams to Lewis were President and Mrs. Reagan, and some of "Jerry's kids" — beneficiaries of the \$300 million that Lewis has raised for the Muscular Dystrophy Association, said Joe Stabile, Lewis' longtime manager.

In light of his "excellent progress," Lewis could be released as soon as the weekend, Stabile said. Lewis walked for the first time Friday and was continuing to exercise with the help of nurses.

Lewis' fiancée, Sandee Pitnick, was with him Saturday, but holiday celebrating was postponed until after Lewis returns to his Las Vegas home, Stabile said.

## Official killed in crash

CECILIA, La. (AP) — A police captain from Plano, Texas, his wife, and young daughter are dead follow the crash of their small plane near this rural St. Martin Parish community.

The dead were identified as Daniel O. Williams, 36, his wife, Kathy, and daughter Stephanie.

St. Martin deputies said they did not have any further information on the crash, other than that it was under investigation by the Federal Aviation Administration in Baton Rouge.

The plane was found about noon Sunday by repairmen sent out after someone called Gulf States Utilities' Lafayette office to report a "flash on the line," said spokesman Bill Benedetto.

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27 DECEMBER 27

# Lifestyle



Herald photo by James Iley  
**PARTY TIME** — (L to R) Sherry Hampton, Sharon Richardson and Peggy Payne are ready for a festive evening of dancing and celebrating the new year. The trio, along with the rest of their sorority sisters in Mu Zeta Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi, will host a New Year's Eve Charity Dance at Dora Roberts Community Center Friday evening from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Proceeds will be donated to the Child Abuse Center. The dance will feature "The Music Machine" from Odessa. Tickets may be purchased for \$15 a couple from any member of Mu Zeta, or call 267-3385, 263-7876, 267-7114, 267-1558 or 263-4375.

Dear Abby

## Bathroom hazards

**DEAR ABBY:** On Jan. 17, 1980, our "baby-proof" home was the location of a freak accident — the same freak accident experienced by Mr. and Mrs. J.G. of Phoenix.

Our 10-month-old daughter, playing with her toys within 20 feet of us, disappeared into the bathroom. Her death followed five days later in a large city hospital after she was resuscitated at our local hospital.

We, too, never dreamed of such a lethal hazard. After a great deal of research and letter writing, we have learned that this is not such a "freak" occurrence. What upset us most was the lack of information we were provided. Constant warnings are read and heard about household poisonings, electrocution, other type of bathroom hazards, plant hazards, auto safety, but never drowning in a toilet bowl!

Further, we learned that this type of accidental drowning information has been recorded at the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission in Washington, D.C. But why did we not hear or read a word about such a tragic possibility?

The sorry lesson we learned is that without supervision, a bathroom must be totally off limits to infants and small children. Thanks for helping to spread the word, Abby. Our lives have been tragically changed. Perhaps other parents will take heed to the danger their bathrooms hold. Sincerely,

MR. AND MRS. FRANK DOWNS

\*\*\*  
**DEAR ABBY:** This is to thank you for printing the letter from "Mr. and Mrs. J.G. in Phoenix," whose precious toddler

actually drowned in a toilet bowl!

As a water safety instructor for the American Red Cross, I am appalled at my own ignorance in not recognizing the toilet as a safety hazard for children. The bathtub I recognized. The toilet bowl, never!

That mother's letter will be read and discussed in every class I teach from this day forward. Please let Mrs. J.G. know that she opened the eyes of at least one person, and that her tragedy should not occur to anyone I can reach through our water safety program.

MELISSA DRUFF

\*\*\*  
**DEAR ABBY:** My husband had the habit of leaving the toilet seat up until I showed him the letter in your column from "Mr. and Mrs. J.G. in Phoenix." Now he very carefully puts the seat and the lid down so our child will not be tempted to play in the toilet, as she has done in the past.

Please let those parents who lost their child in that freak accident know that because they cared enough to write and share their tragedy, they have changed my husband's habits and may have saved our precious baby's life.

THANKFUL PARENTS  
 \*\*\*

If you hate to write letters because you don't know what to say, send for Abby's complete booklet on letter-writing. Send \$2 and a long, stamped (37 cents), self-addressed envelope to Abby, Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 38923, Hollywood, Calif. 90038.

## Furniture for home office use

As a rule, consumers shopping for home office desks pay more attention to decorative details and prefer wood desks in traditional styling to the utilitarian metal office desks.

One category that can be expected to increase is furniture for home office machines. At the furniture market, several manufacturers were showing tables to accommodate computers, word processors and printers. Most of these were bulky objects, hastily thought-out and less efficient than the furniture already being offered by firms specializing in office furniture.

However, the new items represent only the first attempts of home furniture manufacturers to come up with solutions. It seems clear future markets will produce more and better responses to the need.

For consumers who are thinking about setting up a home office, one furniture company came up with some points to consider: a home office should reflect the mood of the home but still provide for efficiency. It seems likely most home offices will be located in rooms also used for other purposes. So, it's wise to think through the storage problem carefully so that supplies and office equipment can be stored out of sight when not in use. Closets fitted with shelves, wall systems and banks of file cabinets are some of the possibilities for accomplishing this goal.

Keep accessories to a minimum in a room that will function as a home office. Make sure utilitarian needs are met first. These include adequate light and ventilation, a comfortable desk chair at the right height and a phone and electric outlets where they are needed.

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Dear Dr. I. herpes angir recently, bot out-of-state! it is an inter inflammation I am told that fearful that hygiene on otion? — B.K. Herpangin and it is usu remiss in ho in the diges the mouth, v fever. There on the palat Even with t possible to testinal trac cannot fault Herpangin within one t past by the t mononucleo is no special being propo fort and is g infant to be DEAR R dreds of le spleen," I r definite.

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## Dr. Donohue A childhood problem

Dear Dr. Donohue: I would like some information on herpes angina. Although I had never heard of it until recently, both my 1-year-old daughter and the son of an out-of-state friend of mine contracted it. I understand it is an intestinal upset bacteria that causes the throat inflammation. There were white blisters in the mouth. I am told that "mono" can be a complication, and I am fearful that it was somehow caused by a lack of proper hygiene on our part. Can you tell me about this infection? — B.K.

Herpangina is an infection with the Coxsackie virus, and it is usually a child's disease. You have not been remiss in household hygiene. The virus is usually found in the digestive tract, and it is easily transferred to the mouth, where it causes the sore throat along with fever. There is also a rash on the back of the throat and on the palate. It progresses into shallow ulcers there. Even with the most meticulous care, it is next to impossible to keep infants from transferring the intestinal tract virus to other parts of the body, so you cannot fault your housekeeping.

Herpangina infection is fairly common and is over within one to two weeks. It certainly should be in your past by the time you read this. And it does not turn into mononucleosis, so you can discard that concern. There is no special treatment except to make sure the child is being properly nourished during the period of discomfort and is getting enough fluids. It is very easy for an infant to become dehydrated.

DEAR READERS: After receiving literally hundreds of letters regarding the term "venting one's spleen," I received one that might be considered truly definite.

Dear Dr. Donohue: Regarding venting the spleen. Hippocrates coined the term, hypochondria, meaning the area of the liver and gall bladder on the right side and the spleen on the left side. Around 350 BC, Diocles of Carystus, and later Paul of Aegina blamed this area of the body, and the spleen in particular, for the source of the humors of melancholia, which are now known as depression. In ancient Greece, splenic and hypochondriacal were synonymous.

Hypochondria was regarded as the male counterpart of hysteria. Hypochondria was caused by the humors, or vapors, from the spleen. Hysteria, from the Greek, hystera (womb), was caused by vapors from the uterus. The fact that women also have spleens seem not to have entered the picture.

The physicians of that era would make a small incision in the area of the spleen and hope the vapors would escape the body and cause no further harm. What they did to the women no one seems to know for sure. Early male chauvinism? This procedure gave rise to the expression, "venting the spleen," or, as it said today, "letting it all hang out." In closing, I wish to thank you for the many things I have learned from your column. — J.L.G.

I want to assure readers ready to vent their spleens over this discussion that this ends it. I thank J.L.G. and all the others who succeeded in closing this gap in our medical knowledge.

Dear Dr. Donohue: For the past seven years I have been taking birth control pills and have had no side effects from them. My husband and I are now thinking of starting a family. I was wondering what your opinion is as to how long I should be off the Pill before trying to become pregnant. — M.R.

The recommendation usually given is to discontinue the birth control pills "for a period of time," which really leaves matters up in the air. There just is no good information regarding how long that should be. Many doctors recommend three months before trying to conceive. That makes sense from one standpoint. For one thing, you will have time in that period to re-establish your menstrual cycles, and then can determine when conception has taken place (when the re-established cycles stop).

FOR C.S. — I don't really care what kind of a weight-loss plan you are using, the general advice is to forego dieting for weight loss when one becomes pregnant. That's unless it is a diet required by your doctor. I doesn't make sense otherwise.

How to get rid of leg cramps and foot pains? The answer may be simple — write to Dr. Donohue, inc are of the Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 11210, Chicago, IL 60611, for a copy of the booklet, "How to Stop Leg Cramps and Foot Pains." Enclose a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope and 50 cents.

Dr. Donohue welcomes reader mail but regrets that, due to the tremendous volume received daily, he is unable to answer individual letters. Readers' questions are incorporated in his column whenever possible.

## Dirty chimney is cited as cause of many fires

By CINDY COX  
Lancaster New Era  
LANCASTER, Pa. (AP)  
— Mid-January. Snow hurls itself at windows, swirls in doorways and whirls across rooftops.

Protected from it all, you snuggle up next to your fireplace. Let the wind howl. You're basking in a fire's protective, warm glow. It is delightful indeed.

Until you begin to notice a funny smell. You hear a cracking noise. Then a howling sound. You see something falling down into your fireplace — pieces of tile and glowing white balls of flame.

And with an explosive blast, your chimney erupts into a column of flame. This horrifying scenario

occurs in anywhere from 50 to 100 homes in Lancaster County every year. And nine times out of 10, it's caused by one thing — neglect.

"Whether it's a stove or a fireplace, you should keep the chimney clean," says fire Lt. Randy Zimmerman, assistant fire marshal for Lancaster City. "Chimney fires are usually caused by dirty chimneys."

Fireplace chimneys should be cleaned every other year, fire marshals and chimney sweeps recommend. Woodstove chimneys should be cleaned more often — once a year for those who use their stoves occasionally, twice a year for those who use their stoves every day.

A chimney gets dirty from creosote accumulation on the flue. Creosote is a black, tarry substance that is formed in the flue from deposits of resin and unburnt particles of wood.

Creosote comes in three degrees: the first is a fine dust; the second, a flaky deposit; and the third, and most serious, a glazed deposit. If a homeowner allows creosote to accumulate to the third degree, it's almost impossible to remove.

If creosote catches on fire it can heat a chimney's flue to the point of ignition, which is usually around 1800 degrees Fahrenheit.

Then, flue tiles crack, the fire spreads into the surrounding brick, mortar

melts into molten balls and, if left untended, the fire can spread onto the roof or into the house's structure.

Woodstove chimneys collect creosote much faster than fireplace chimneys because the wood burning inside an airtight stove doesn't get as much oxygen as it does in a fireplace, causing it to burn slower.

Slow-burning wood gives off more unburnt particles.

The biggest cause of creosote build-up is burning the wrong kind of wood.

"The worst offender is green wood," says Tom Harner of Tom's Chimney Service. Harner recommends

burning hard woods like oak, hickory, elm and locust and avoiding soft woods like pine and fruit woods like cherry, peach and plum.

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**Our 13th Month Sale starts Tuesday, December 28th. Hours: 9 A.M. til 6 P.M. Don't miss this sale on Fine Furniture and Accessories, also many gift items.**

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27 DECEMBER 27

# Israel tries to deny massacre testimony

By MARCUS ELIASON  
Associated Press Writer  
JERUSALEM — Attorneys for the Israeli military chief of staff and an aide to the defense minister today sought to discredit testimony about when the two officials learned of the Beirut massacre.

In occasionally heated exchanges, the attorneys cross-examined two witnesses, both military officers, before the three-man judicial panel investigating the massacre. It was the second day of testimony by witnesses called by officials who have been warned the panel's findings may harm them.

The first session was conducted behind closed doors Sunday.

At the focus of today's session were two officers who were staffing the Defense Ministry situation room Sept. 16-18, when Lebanese Christian militiamen massacred hundreds of Palestinian civilians in the Sabra and Chatilla refugee camps of west Beirut.

The militiamen had been sent into the camps by Israel to flush out Palestinian guerrillas, and Israeli officials say they never expected a massacre.

Lt. Col. Reuven Gai, who had testified that he promptly passed on reports of a possible massacre to Defense Minister Ariel Sharon's top civilian aide, Avi Dudai, stuck to his account under sharp questioning by

Dudai's lawyer.

Gai, an officer in the Defense Ministry's national security unit, said that on the morning of Friday, Sept. 17, he had given Dudai raw, unsubstantiated information that 300 civilians had been killed in the camps.

But attorney Gabriel Cohen sought to discredit Gai's memory of events. Sharon has testified he heard of the massacre late Sept. 17.

Cohen produced an army major, Yehuda Meraz, who testified that he heard Gai telling about how he received the raw data about the massacre.

Meraz said he asked Gai whether he had passed the information to

Dudai for transmission to Sharon.

"Gai said he didn't remember," Meraz testified.

The commission has warned eight civilian and military officials, including Prime Minister Menachem Begin, that they may be harmed by the inquiry's findings. The panel has no power to issue charges.

Sharon, who is to appear again before the panel next Sunday, was notified that he could be cited for failing to order the Lebanese militias out of the camps quickly enough. Dudai was warned that he might be cited for failing to pass on massacre reports to Sharon.

During the session today, attention also focused on whether the

chief of staff, Lt. Gen. Raphael Eytan, had early knowledge of the massacre. Eytan has received a warning similar to Sharon's.

His lawyer, Lt. Col. Elan Schiff, called Maj. Avraham Kober, who was in the Defense Ministry situation room on Saturday, Sept. 18, and asked him for his account of events.

Kober testified that at midday Saturday he was phoned by a senior Foreign Ministry official, who asked him about claims made by Morris Draper, a U.S. negotiator on the Lebanon crisis, that a massacre was taking place.

Kober said he contacted Dudai, who told him to report to Sharon. The lawyer exhibited the log in

which Kober had written that "the Defense Minister knows about and has already talked to the chief of staff (Eytan) about it."

Lawyer Schiff then pointed to erasures and scribbles near the notation and asked Kober what they meant. He questioned him in detail about his method of making entries in his log and asked him for a specimen of his signature to show the judges.

Kober said he did not know the meaning of the erasures and scribbles. Schiff asked him if he would take a lie detector test. Kober agreed.

# 23 killed in Chinese airline crash

PEKING (AP) — It took 330 firefighters an hour to douse a blaze on a Chinese airliner that landed in Canton and exploded in flames, killing 23 people including at least two Americans, a newspaper from the southern Chinese city said today.

The Yangcheng Evening News, giving the first detailed account of the Christmas Eve disaster, said flames leaped from every window and door and smoke billowed more than 100 feet skyward when the plane made an emergency landing.

Twenty-five people also were injured in the inferno aboard the four-engine Soviet-built Ilyushin-18 of China's state-run CAAC airline. The plane landed with 69 people aboard on a flight from Changsha, capital of Hunan province. Chinese officials have refused to disclose many details about the disaster.

U.S. consular officials reached by telephone from Peking said a Los Angeles man and a Chinese-American newspaper editor were among the dead. A third American was still listed as missing.

They identified the Los Angeles victim as Neil David Konheim, 31. They said the editor was Madame Liang Tong-ji of the Chinese language newspaper Ex-

press in the United States. Her age and hometown were not known.

The third American was identified as Professor Conrad P. Heins. A consular official said Heins was "assumed dead," though no positive identification had been made.

Coverage of the fire were difficult because China's Communist government is sensitive about news coverage of domestic disasters and does not have a system for disseminating information to the foreign press.

It is widely believed that China does not announce domestic air mishaps unless foreigners are aboard. Canadians, a Japanese, a Mexican and several overseas Chinese also on the Canton plane.

Correspondents in Peking received virtually all information through long-distance telephone calls to the U.S. Consulate in Canton and other foreign diplomatic officials, and through local newspaper accounts.

The headquarters of CAAC, acronym for the Civil Aviation Administration of China, said Sunday that the fire was under investigation but refused to elaborate. The airline did not acknowledge that people were kill-

ed and injured until more than 2½ days after the disaster.

The injured were taken to hospitals and one survivor was placed in a hospital where officials said the telephone could not be used for outside calls, the U.S. Consulate said.

One of those injured was Janette Rangel Konheim, 26, a Mexican citizen and wife of the dead American. She was hospitalized for treatment of smoke inhalation.

A Canadian resident, Chen Li-Fang, was killed and two others were missing, the Canadian Embassy reported. Names of the missing Canadians were unavailable. The last known Chinese air disaster was April 26 when a Chinese airliner crashed in the picturesque southwest city of Guilin, killing 112 people, including 54 Chinese from Hong Kong. The cause was never announced.

China acknowledged what it called the nation's first hijacking last July 25 when five men tried to commandeer an aircraft over Shanghai and fly to Taiwan, seat of the rival Chinese Nationalist government.

# Prague says CIA behind pope shooting charges

PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia (AP) — The CIA is orchestrating reports of Bulgarian involvement in the shooting of the pope to weaken Western European opposition to NATO missile deployment, Czechoslovakia's news agency claimed today.

"Anti-communist centers want to injure the international prestige of the Socialist countries, to weaken the movement which is expanding in Western Europe against the U.S. missiles which are to be deployed at the launching bases in West European countries ...," the CTK news agency said, quoting from an article from Washington in the Czechoslovak Communist Party newspaper.

The article said "CIA misinformation activities" it claimed were behind the reports of Bulgarian involvement in May 13, 1981 shooting of Pope John Paul II were part of this campaign.

The Warsaw Pact has accused the United States and its North Atlantic Treaty Organization allies of escalating the East-West arms race with its planned deployment of 572 cruise and Pershing 2 missiles in Western Europe beginning next December.

NATO says the missiles are to counter Soviet SS-20 missiles aimed at Western Europe from bases alone the western

edge of the Soviet Union.

Bulgaria has denied any connection with the papal shooting of the pope by Turkish gunman Mehmet Ali Agca, though Italian investigators arrested a Bulgarian in the investigation and issued an arrest warrant for another.

The so-called Bulgarian connection to the shooting has severely strained relations between Italy and Bulgaria.

The government-run media of most Warsaw Pact states have come to the defense of their Bulgarian ally.

In Poland today, a government newspaper ridiculed charges of Bulgarian involvement in the attempted assassination of the Polish-born pope, calling them "slander against ... Socialist states."

The commentary in the daily Zycie Warszawy, or Warsaw Life, claimed Italian politicians singled out Bulgaria for their accusations because Agca had passed through the Balkan state on his way to Western Europe.

Agca is serving a life term in an Italian prison for shooting the pontiff. Italian newspapers have claimed he admitted to investigators in prison that he had Bulgarian accomplices, though the Italian government has never confirmed the reports.

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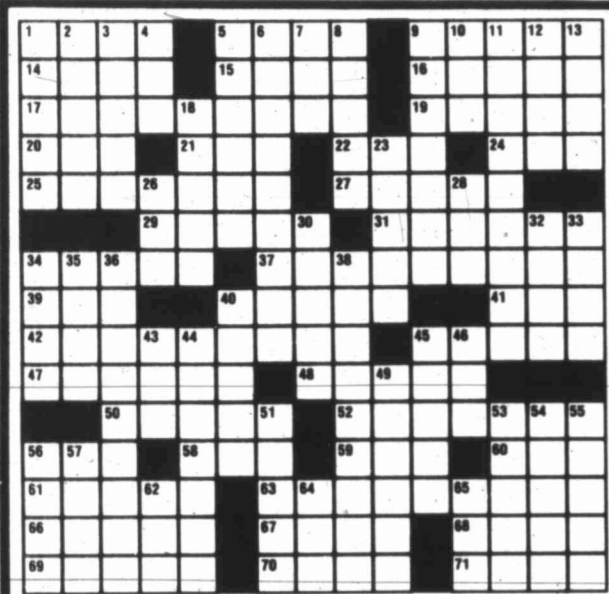
### CROSSWORD PUZZLE

**ACROSS**  
 1 Implore  
 5 Dry  
 9 Takes a breather  
 14 Kansas city  
 15 Gambling city  
 16 Devour completely  
 17 Eccentric  
 19 Cite  
 20 Actress  
 21 Simple sugar  
 22 Rattle bird  
 24 Sight: Fr.  
 25 Ancient acetics

**DOWN**  
 2 Set of rooms  
 29 Feel  
 31 Oozed  
 34 Sprints  
 37 Kind of payment  
 39 World-wide working grp.  
 40 Loved  
 41 Before: pref.  
 42 Dull speaking voices  
 47 Spangle  
 48 Alter: a garment  
 50 Declare  
 52 Opposite

**Saturday's Puzzle Solved:**

ROMP RECAP EVEN  
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 AMEARTOFGOLD  
 SOIS AEGIS  
 AMAN HEADSTICK  
 PLAN BODIES TITA  
 AINTY ARIDE SECT  
 SKIT ELATED POLE  
 HARTLEIS DIZIE  
 HISSIT SITH  
 HEARTANDSOUL  
 DATA BOONE OGLE  
 ALLS CHATIE RIENE  
 BATHI DAITER SEAR



### DENNIS THE MENACE



"HE'S NICE... BUT YOU DON'T EXPECT ME TO GIVE UP AN OLD FRIEND, DO YA?"

### THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"We forgot to put baby Jesus in the manger on Christmas Eve, Mommy. He's still in the drawer."

## Your Daily HOROSCOPE

from the CARROLL RIGTER INSTITUTE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, DEC. 28, 1982

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** The morning is fine for deciding just what your overall ambitions are and to implement them by constructive action. Strive to bring more efficiency into your life.

**ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19)** Don't neglect to pay important bills. A co-worker could pose a problem at this time. Maintain your poise.

**TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20)** Try to compromise more with an associates who does not agree with you. Plan how to gain your finest aims.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 21)** You find it hard to put across ideas in the morning but later all changes for the better. Don't spend money foolishly now.

**MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21)** Ideal day to confer with associates and express your views. Figure out what obstacles you have to overcome.

**LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21)** Morning is fine for handling financial matters. Try to meet expectations of family members and increase harmony at home.

**VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22)** Schedule your activities wisely so that everything will go smoothly later. Sidestep one who has an eye on your assets.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)** State your plans to loyal friends and they will quickly cooperate with you in gaining them. Show more generosity.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)** Express some hidden talents you have and make a fine impression on others. Take no risks in motion.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)** You will have to exert more effort in business matters to gain your cherished goals. Think constructively.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20)** Not the right time to engage in a new course of action. Show that you are wise. Relax at home tonight.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19)** Be more cooperative with associates for mutual gain. Handle a responsibility that has been worrying you.

**PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20)** Talk with a partner so that you can accomplish more in your line of endeavor. Stop wasting precious time.

**IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY...** He or she will be one who will like to makes changes of a creative nature and upon growing up will have a pretty good idea of what it takes to be successful. Give good ethical training and teach good health habits.

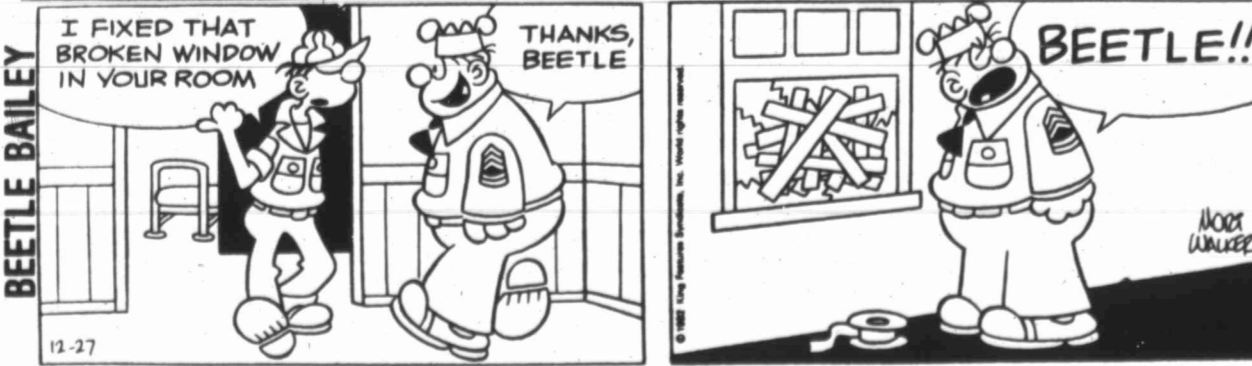
"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

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### NANCY



### BLONDIE



27 DEC 27





# Ector County ranchers: a vanishing breed

By ELIZABETH SIMPSON

Odessa American ODESSA, Texas (AP) — His bowlegged walk, gnarled hands and sun-weathered face attest to the years he's spent rounding up cattle.

Hence Barrow, 73, bought his first cows when he was 8 years old and still ranches on the first Ector County homestead northwest of here.

Back when his father began ranching at the Barrow ranch in 1904, "all you had to do was establish a water windmill and steal enough calves to get started," Barrow said. In those days, Ector County was ranching country. Today, it's oil that keeps the economic heart of the county throbbing. But the American tradition still digs its roots deep into the ranching business that Barrow and a handful of other Ector County ranchers have sustained.

That has not been easy, however.

Barrow and other area ranchers say ranching makes precious little, if any, profit. "If you break even, you're doing great," Barrow said. "It seems that if a man has sense enough to run a ranch, he'd have sense enough to get out."

Yet a love of the free life and a passing down of ranches from father to son has kept cowboys riding the range and traditional roundup breakfasts cooking in the kitchen.

Dr. John Bill Oman, a veterinarian, grew up on a farm north of Abilene and now raises cattle and yearlings on land he leases north of Odessa.

Oman said once a person takes into account the cost of interest, transportation of cattle, feed, death loss and bad weather, the market price a rancher is able to get for his cows barely covers his costs. In fact, he said, for the past two years, it hasn't come close.

But Oman is hopeful about the future.

"We feel like 1984 is going to get better," Oman said. "But cattlemen are eternal optimists."

Boasting poor prices for cattle and consumer beef boycotts, the range offers more than enough discouraging words these days. But there's something in the blood of a cattleman that keeps him out there. Asking a rancher why he stays with it most often elicits a shrug of the shoulders.

"I grew up in agriculture, and I just like cattle," Oman said. "People in the cattle business are a special breed. Some years you're rich and some years you're a pauper."

Barrow said it's the free life that keeps many ranchers out on the range. "I inherited this. If I sold it, I'd give Uncle Sam the money and you the title," he said.

Barrow's family owned Texas land before it was Texas. He said the King of Spain awarded his ancestors a Spanish grant near the Trinity River. His father moved to Ector County in 1904, when Odessa consisted of three houses.

Ector County Agent Jim Mazurkiewicz said the old-time ranches will always be here, and although some large-scale ranchers have sold some land, "they have 10 times that left." He said 15 large ranches remain in the county.

While hardly like the old range wars between ranchers and farmers, encroachment of civilization poses a problem in West Texas. "As Ector County becomes more urbanized, and more rural land gets developed, we are losing grazing land," Mazurkiewicz said.

More and more people are buying what Mazurkiewicz calls "ranchettes," small 10-acre ranches on which they raise a few horses and cows.

"Yeah, they're moving to the country, but no they're not," he said.

Mazurkiewicz said some ranchers do not have heirs, and subsequently their land goes to nieces and nephews who may not have grown up inclined to the ranching life. They sell the land for hefty sums, and the land falls into the hands of developers.

Oman pointed out that, for those who persisted, new technologies and ranching philosophies have brought the cattle business great lengths from the old days. Ranching now is more cost- and labor-efficient, he said, and cross-breeding produces a heartier, leaner cow.

Pickups and squeeze shoots cut down on time and hassle. And, Oman said, the Chicago Board of Trade can provide an edge of financial security by allowing a rancher to sell his cattle when prices are high.

Barrow said the cattle market has widened its parameters.

"Used to, in the 1900s, we lived in Texas, period," Barrow said. "Then it was the Southwest. Then by 1930, we were living in the United States. Now we're living in the world. What happens in Japan before sundown affects us before sunrise."

And, of course, oil has altered the lives of many Ector County ranchers. Mazurkiewicz said one rancher puts it this way: The best cross-breeding program in Texas is cattle and oil. Another rancher says there are two things that make a rancher happy:



ECTOR COUNTY RANCHING — Dr. John Oman rounds up a stray calf on his North Ector County ranch. Oman grew up on a farm north of Abilene and now raises cattle and yearlings on land he leases north

of Odessa. Oil has replaced ranching as the major industry of this West Texas area, but the tradition lives on amid the oil rigs.

another good rain or another oil well.

But Barrow said he gets enough money from oil "to grease the windmills."

The biggest change he said he has seen in ranching life has been transportation. His family used to load up the wagon and go to Midland about twice a year, and the trip took all day. "When you went to Midland, you made a trip. It was like going to the Hawaiian Islands today," he said.

Chores like putting out salt blocks for cows might take all day on a horse, but with a pickup truck the same job can be done in a matter of hours. Rounding up a neighbor's cattle for branding and de-horning might take a week,

whereas today Barrow can get back by sundown.

A cowboy's pay also has followed ranching's progression into the 20th century. Barrow said a cowhand used to receive \$25 a month and work 15 hours a day.

"Now I hire cowboys for \$25 a day in Colorado," he said. "I bring them from town to the ranch at 8 and take them back at 5 and they didn't do a darn thing when they were there."

But the ranching life still enamors the American society — a little too much for some ranchers' tastes. The recent cowboy craze rings hollow for those who are more familiar with mesquite-filled ranges than concrete and traffic lights.

"It just irks me to no end," Barrow said of the urban cowboy. "He's got his boots and cowboy hat, cowboys."

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Published Weekly by the Big Spring Herald

BIG SPRING (TEXAS) TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1982

## Big Spring gets white Christmas — almost

Dreams of a white Christmas turned to nightmares for some Big Spring residents as sleet and snow which fell Sunday paralyzed Monday morning traffic, causing minor accidents on the city's ice-glazed roads and leaving several stalled vehicles in the storm's wake.

The local forecast called for clearing skies and warmer temperatures, according to the National Weather Service.

Striking one day after a windy, overcast Christmas day, the storm dropped freezing rain and drizzle on the city before blanketing the area with three inches of light, powdery snow Sunday afternoon.

Temperatures plunged to the lower 20s early Monday morning, encrusting roads and walkways with a solid layer of ice.

The dangerous driving conditions apparently persuaded many workers to take an extra day of vacation Monday. Big Spring police this morning reported light traffic and no serious weather-related incidents.

A Colorado storm brought two to six inches of snow to portions of West Texas and the Panhandle, while the Beaumont-Port Arthur area was weathering out a series of heavy thunderstorms that flooded streets.

Weather watches and warnings were posted for the most of the state early today as the storm, combined with a moist low pressure system from Mexico, made its way eastward, triggering snow, freezing rain and thundershowers.

Rainfall amounts of six to eight inches had fallen in far Southeast Texas from Sunday morning until early today and Jefferson and Orange counties and southern portions of Jasper and Newton counties were under flood warnings, authorities said.

Rain also drenched the Panhandle and South Plains. Freezing drizzle was reported at Amarillo before dawn. Lubbock had recorded seven inches of rain.

Bridge City, located in far Southeast Texas near the Louisiana border, was cut off by flooding on Texas 87 early today, but no evacuations had been necessary, said a police dispatcher who asked not to be identified.

"We've got pretty good drainage here and everyone is watching out for more rain," the dispatcher said.

No deaths or injuries had been reported from the high water, which was limited mostly to streets, according to Mary Ann Hemker, assistant director of the Jefferson County Civil Defense Department.

A small residential area known as Hildebrandt Acres was evacuated due to water in low-lying areas and officials were putting down sandbags in a Port Arthur residential area known as Port Acres, Ms. Hemker said.

"Right now, there doesn't seem to be that many houses flooded," she said.

### French artist in exhibit

Thirty collages by French artist George Braque are being shown at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., through Jan. 16, 1983.

The exhibition celebrates the 100th anniversary of the artist's birth.

Snow had fallen over West Texas by Sunday night from far West Texas into the South Plains and Panhandle. The National Weather Service warned that the El Paso area could expect more than one foot of snow.

"There is packed snow and ice on the overpasses and slush other places," said El Paso police dispatcher Gerald King. He said a few local streets were closed but that highways remained passable.

The slippery roads caused a rash of accidents Saturday as people left the Sun Bowl, but traffic was light on Sunday, he said.

"A lot of the El Paso drivers have never driven in this kind of weather ... This is a little heavier than

usual," King said. An ice storm warning was issued for North Texas west of a Paris-Temple line, along with a travelers' advisory in the Panhandle and plains of North Texas, where up to three inches of snow was forecast.

In Central Texas, a winter storm watch was in effect for a mixture of snow, sleet and freezing

rain.

A mixture of freezing rain and snow fell in the Panhandle and West Texas, while rain continued over parts of North Central and South Central Texas. In East Texas and along the coast, drizzle and fog restricted visibility.

At the Dallas-Fort Worth Regional Airport, where hundreds of Denver-bound

travelers remained stranded Sunday, extra maintenance crews were called in to prepare for icy weather.

Only one flight left the airport for Denver, with the rest canceled on Sunday, according to Larry Chambers, assistant airport operations officer.

Small craft advisories were posted along the coast, where northerly winds were gusting to near gale force. Lake wind advisories also were in effect for much of the state.

Winds were northwesterly across the Panhandle and South Texas and westerly across West and North Texas, blowing at speeds up to 15 mph.

Pre-dawn temperatures were in the 20s and 30s across West and North Texas and in the 40s and lower 50s in South and extreme East Texas.

Readings at 4 a.m. ranged from 25 at Lubbock to 51 at Lufkin and Brownsville.

The forecast called for the rain and snow to end from the west tonight, leaving partly cloudy skies and cold temperatures Tuesday.

## News of Big Spring Business and Industry



THERE'S STILL TIME TO FIND BEAUTIFUL GIFTS ...see Roy, Silvia, Brian and Iris at Inland Port 213

### It's still not too late for great jewelry gifts

It's Christmas week, but it's not too late to make a beautiful selection of jewelry at Inland Port 213.

There are diamonds galore, turquoise and many other items at Inland and they are really exquisite.

Most women love jewelry and drop by Inland Port 213 and see their selection before you make that final choice this week.

Inland Port 213 has other gift items from all over the world, including items in brass, silver, crystal, wood and wrought iron — just to name a few.

If you are doing your Christmas shopping this week, drop by 213 Main for a really special gift.

They also have gag gifts for the office Christmas party.

So drop by Inland Port, for the world's beautiful gifts.



DOLLS AND TOYS FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE ...at Grandmother's Delight in College Park center

## Grandmother's Delight helps with Christmas

Grandmother's Delight in College Park has enough great gift ideas to round out your last-minute gift needs.

They specialize in gifts for children as well as gifts for children to give. The store is managed by Cecilia and Guy V. Speck. They have created a friendly, pleasant atmosphere and are willing to help you in any way they can.

Besides clothes for new arrivals (including premature infant clothes), Grandmother's Delight is a great place to shop for unusual gifts for infants and

young children. These include stuffed animals, piggy banks and picture albums and frames.

They also have combs, brushes, luggage and many fun gifts with cartoon designs. These make great stocking stuffers

The store is designed to provide the finest in children's clothing and gifts. The store is located in College Park shopping center (next to Young 'n' Alive) and is open from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

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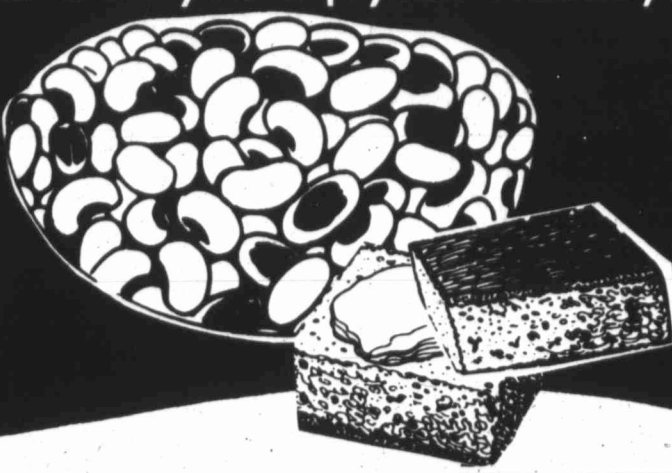
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or Oranges**  
5-Lb.  
Bag **\$1.29**

- Spillmate Assorted Paper Towels ..... Roll **69c**
- Uloc (9-inch) White Plates ..... 100-Ct. **69c**
- Stagg Chili & Beans ..... 2 15 Oz. **\$1.00**
- Chick Assorted Drink Mixers ..... 2 One Liter **89c**
- (With Green Chilies) Rotel Tomatoes ..... 2 10 1/2 Oz. **\$1.00**
- Arrow (12-inch) Aluminum Foil ..... 25-Ft. Roll **59c**
- Deep South Waffle Syrup ..... 24-Oz. Bottle **99c**
- Thrifty Maid Macaroni & Cheese ..... 4 7 1/2 Oz. **\$1.00**

- Lipton Family Tea Bags ..... 24 Ct. **\$1.69**
- Western Style Bunkhouse Beans ..... 3 15 Oz. **\$1.00**
- Gabhardt Taco Shells ..... 12-Ct. **59c**
- Disie Darling Layer Cake Mix ..... 19 Oz. **59c**
- Arrow Assorted Dinner Napkins ..... 50-Ct. **89c**
- Thrifty Maid Tomato Juice ..... 46-Oz. **87c**
- Crackin' Good Assorted Pretzels ..... 2 10 Ct. **\$1.19**
- Crackin' Good Squares Snack Crackers ..... 2 10 Oz. **\$1.00**

**Oven Gem  
White Bread**  
24-Oz.  
Loaf **69c**

Only at stores with license

**BUDWEISER  
REG. BEER**  
12-Ounce Cans  
**\$3.89**  
12 PK.

Reg. \$1.29 Ruffles  
Potato Chips  
8-Oz.  
Pkg. **89c**

**Play Dallas Cowboy Pro-Football  
Game...WIN UP TO A \$1,000.00!**  
Pick up a Free Game Card each time you visit Winn-Dixie. (no purchase necessary)



Only at Stores with License

**Almaden  
Mountain  
WINES** 1.5 Liter **\$3.97**

**Jacques  
BONET  
Champagne** 750 ML **\$2.49**

## WINN DIXIE WINNERS OF FREE BONELESS HAMS

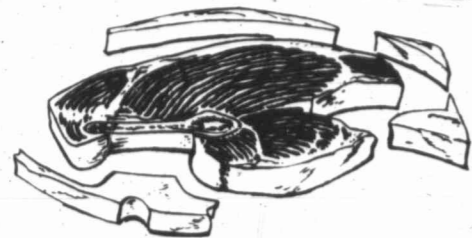
- |                |                  |                 |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Judy Allen     | Domingo Guerra   | Linda Patterson |
| Carl Busby     | Fay Harrell      | Sarah Roberson  |
| Skinny Diggs   | W. Johnson       | V. R. Patton    |
| Lorene Dubose  | Ginger Lawhon    | Kendra Rushing  |
| Richard Geirpy | Ellen Miller     | Francis Smith   |
| Linda Gonzales | Mrs. R. H. Moore | Linda Sosa      |
|                | Lavern Wilcox    | Mary Vick       |





# WINN DIXIE

Now more than ever, we're right for you!



## SIRLOIN STEAK TRIM

All W-D Brand steaks and roasts are closely trimmed of excess bone and fat. BEFORE they're weighed and sold. You don't pay steak prices for meat scraps. When you buy W-D Brand beef, you know what you're getting for your money... more choice meat... less waste.

W-D Brand  
USDA Choice  
**Sirloin STEAK** **\$1.99**  
Lb.

Open 9:00 AM til 7:00 PM New Years Day

Open 9:00 AM til 7:00 PM Sun. Jan. 2

WE GLADLY REDEEM YOUR U.S.D.A. FOOD STAMPS

**WEEKLY SUPER SPECIAL**

Superbrand Lowfat or HOMO MILK Half-Gal. **99¢**



**WEEKLY SUPER SPECIAL**

W-D BRAND WHOLE HOG SAUSAGE (2-LB. BAG \$2.98) 1-LB. BAG **\$1.49**



**FROZEN FOOD**

Superbrand Ice Cream 1/2-Gal. **\$1.29**



W-D Brand USDA Choice Boneless New York Strip Steaks . . . . .lb. <b>\$3.69</b>	Hickory Sweet or Buckboard Whole Boneless Hams . . . . .lb. <b>\$2.19</b>	Dry Salt Jowls . . . . .lb. <b>59¢</b>
E-Z Corve Rib Roast . . . . .lb. <b>\$2.99</b>	Eckrich Smoked Sausage . . . . .lb. <b>\$2.49</b>	Meaty Ham Hocks . . . . .lb. <b>69¢</b>
W-D Brand USDA Choice Boneless Top or Bottom Round Roast . . . . .lb. <b>\$2.39</b>	Oscar Mayer Little Smokies . . . . .lb. <b>\$2.89</b>	Sliced Beef Liver . . . . .lb. <b>69¢</b>
W-D Brand USDA Choice Boneless Top or Bottom Round Steak . . . . .lb. <b>\$2.49</b>	Oscar Mayer Variety Pack . . . . .12 Oz. <b>\$2.19</b>	Sea Trout Fillets . . . . .lb. <b>99¢</b>
Boneless Cube Steak . . . . .lb. <b>\$2.99</b>	Oscar Mayer or Eckrich Franks . . . . .lb. <b>\$1.89</b>	Arrow Tooth Flounder . . . . .lb. <b>99¢</b>
Boston Butt Pork Steak . . . . .lb. <b>\$1.49</b>	Suiff's Sizzlean . . . . .12 Oz. <b>\$1.79</b>	Holly Farms USDA Grade A Fryer Breast . . . . .lb. <b>\$2.99</b>
W-D Brand Meat Franks . . . . .12 Oz. <b>99¢</b>	Kingsford Broasted Patties . . . . .14 Oz. <b>\$1.39</b>	French Fried Cod Fish Cakes . . . . .3 lb. <b>\$1.99</b>
W-D Brand Sliced Cooked Ham . . . . .12 Oz. <b>\$2.79</b>	Oscar Mayer Chili . . . . .21 Oz. <b>\$2.99</b>	W-D USDA Grade A Reg. or Basted Turkeys . . . . .10-Lb. & Up <b>69¢</b>

Chun King Egg Rolls . . . . .6 Oz. **99¢**

Island Inn Margarita and Daiquiri Mix . . . . .2 Oz. **\$1.00**

Jeno's Pizza Rolls . . . . .6 Oz. **99¢**

Superbrand Crushed Ice . . . . .8 Lbs. **89¢**

Taste-O-Sea Shrimp Cocktail . . . . .3 Oz. **\$2.87**

Sou-Sea Cooked Shrimp . . . . .10 Oz. **\$4.49**

Oregon Farms Pound Cake . . . . .12 Oz. **\$1.69**

Dixiana Blackeye Peas . . . . .24 Oz. **\$1.59**

Hungry Jack Microwave Popcorn . . . . .Three Pack **\$1.39**

**DAIRY**

PARKAY (QTRS.) MARGARINE 2 16-Oz. Pkgs. **\$1**



Farmfield (Except Avocado) Asst. Dips . . . . .3 Oz. **\$1.00**

Farmast Egg Nog . . . . .Qt. **99¢**

Kraft Velveeta . . . . .32 Oz. **\$3.49**

Kraft Cheez Whiz . . . . .16 Oz. **\$2.29**

Superbrand Sour Cream . . . . .2 Oz. **\$1.00**

Kraft Buttermilk Dip . . . . .8 Oz. **89¢**

Kraft Parkay Light Corn Oil Spread . . . . .32 Oz. **\$1.69**

W-D Brand USDA Choice **T-BONE STEAKS** **\$2.59**



PURE GROUND BEEF

W-D Handi-Pack Ground Beef Any Size Pkg. **\$1.18**




Boston Butt Pork Roast Boneless Lb. **\$1.29**



1/4-Loin Sliced Pork Chops **\$1.59**



W-D Sliced Meat Bologna (Beef 12-oz. 99¢) **89¢**



W-D SALAMI BEEF SALAMI Pickle & Pimento Spiced Luncheon **\$1.99**



**ALKA SELTZER TABLETS** 36-Count **\$1.79**

Super Special Health & Beauty Aids



Colgate Great Regular Flavor Colgate Winter Fresh Gel Your Choice **\$1.59**

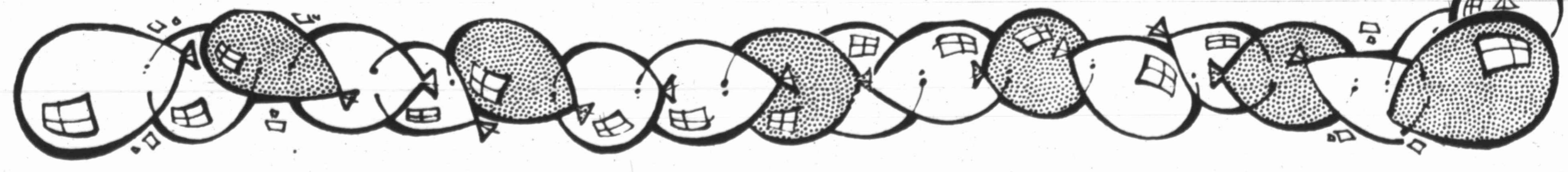
SUAVE SHAMPOO and CONDITIONER 16 OZ. **\$1.29**

EVEREADY ENERGIZER BATTERIES C & D 2-pk. 9-Volt 1-pk. "A" 2-pk. **\$1.39**



27 DECEMBER 27

2602 SOUTH GREGG





# HAPPY NEW YEARS START AT SAFEWAY

FOR NEW YEAR'S EVE...

FOR SNACK TIMES

FOR NEW YEAR'S DINNER

**Ground Beef**  
Regular Any Size Package Special!  
Regular Ground Beef Patties -Lb. \$1.10  
**SAVE 21¢**  
**\$1.08** -Lb.

**Sliced Bacon**  
from Slab - Cryovac or Tray Pack Special!  
Dry Salt Jowl -Lb. 59¢  
**SAVE 31¢**  
**\$1.48** -Lb.

**Grapefruit**  
Texas Ruby Red Special!  
**SAVE 66¢** ON 5  
Each **5 \$1** for 1

**Avocados**  
California Zutano Safeway Special!  
**SAVE 66¢** ON 5  
Each **5 \$1** for 1

**Beef Patty Mix** Made from Beef and Vegetable Protein -Lb. **99¢**  
**Beef for Chili** Coarse Ground Premium Quality Safeway Special! -Lb. **\$1.69**  
**Cubed Steak** Lean & Tender Beef Safeway Special! -Lb. **\$2.98**

**Thin Sliced Meats** 7 Varieties Safeway Brand Special! 2 1/2-oz. Pkg. **98¢**  
**Sliced Ham** Safeway Brand Cooked Special! 6-oz. Pkg. **\$1.65**  
**Armour Patties** Armour's Star Chicken Fried - Beef or - Pork Special! -Lb. **\$1.59**

**Green Cabbage** -Lb. **19¢**  
**Tomatoes** Red & Ripe 10-oz. Pkg. **79¢**  
**Carrots** Fresh & Crisp 1-Lb. Bag **39¢**

**Orange Juice** Safeway Brand (Save 20¢) 1/2-Gal. Bottle **\$2.29**  
**Ranch Dressing** Maria's (Save 10¢) 12-oz. Special! Jar **\$1.59**  
**Leaf Lettuce** Red or - Green (Save 1¢) Special! Bunch **59¢**

**Homo Milk**  
Blossom Time Special!  
**SAVE 45¢**  
**\$1.99** Gallon Jug

**Large 'AA' Eggs**  
Lucerne Special!  
**SAVE 30¢**  
**59¢** Doz. Ctn.  
Limit 2 Dozen with \$10 or more add'l purch. excl. cig.

**Cascade**  
Dish Compound Special!  
**SAVE \$1.06**  
**\$1.99** 50-oz. Box

**Bath Tissue**  
Truly Fine Assorted Special!  
**SAVE 22¢**  
**77¢** 4-roll Pkg.

**Blue Bonnet**  
Regular Quarters Margarine Special!  
**SAVE 31¢**  
**48¢** 1-Lb. Ctn.

**Enriched Flour** Mrs. Wright's 5-Lb. Bag Special! **99¢**  
**Treesweet** Frozen Orange Juice Concentrate 6-oz. Can Special! **59¢**  
**Honey Buns** Bel-air 9-oz. Pkg. Safeway Special! **79¢**  
**Handi-Wrap** Plastic Wrap 12-Inches Wide Safeway Special! 100-ft. Roll **79¢**

**Half & Half** Lucerne Safeway Special! Quart Carton **99¢**  
**Sour Cream** Lucerne Safeway 16-oz. Special! Ctn. **99¢**  
**Cheese Spread** Lucerne 24-oz. Pimento Ctn. **\$2.79**  
**Buttermilk** Lucerne Safeway 1/2-Gal. Ctn. **99¢**  
**Lucerne Choc** Lowfat Milk Chocolate Flavored Gal. Jug **\$2.29**  
**Whipping Cream** Lucerne Safeway Special! Pint Ctn. **\$1.33**

**Wolf Chili** Without Beans Safeway Special! 15-oz. Can **88¢**  
**Velveeta** Cheese Food Safeway Special! 16-oz. Pkg. **SAVE UP TO 66¢** **\$1.59**

**Crushed Wheat** Mrs. Wright's Bread 24-oz. Loaf Safeway Special! **75¢**  
**Jewish Rye** Mrs. Wright's Bread Special! 16-oz. Loaf **69¢**  
**Cinnamon Rolls** Mrs. Wright's 8 Count 9-oz. Pkg. **79¢**  
**Breakaway** Mrs. Wright's Bread Brown & Berne Safeway Special! 16-oz. Pkg. **85¢**  
**Pecan Pie** Mrs. Wright's Special! 21-oz. Pkg. **\$1.99**

**Pork & Beans** Town House 16-oz. Can Safeway Special! **36¢**  
**Post Toasties** Cereal Safeway Special! **\$1.15**  
**Success Rice** Boil-In Bags Safeway Special! 14-oz. Pkg. **\$1.39**  
**Hot Cocoa Mix** Nestle Packets 12-Count Safeway Special! 12-oz. Pkg. **\$1.39**

**DOUBLE COUPON DAYS WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY!**

Bring in any number of manufacturer's "Cents Off" coupons... and we will DOUBLE your savings. This offer excludes retailer coupons, free coupons, cigarette or tobacco coupons or refund certificates. Coupon value cannot exceed value of the item. Limit rights reserved. Offer good for limited time only.

**Joy Liquid Detergent**

12-oz. Plastic	22-oz. Plastic
89¢	\$1.65
32-oz. Plastic	
\$2.33	

**Diamond Paperware...**

• 6.75-Inch Lunch Plate	20-ct. Pkg. \$1.09
• 8.75-Inch Lunch Plate	16-ct. Pkg. \$1.12
• 8.75-Inch Deluxe Lunch	40-ct. Pkg. \$2.69
• 10.25-Inch Compartment	15-ct. Pkg. \$1.63
• 10.75-Inch Dinner Plate	15-ct. Pkg. \$1.59
• 6.5-Inch Bowls	16-ct. Pkg. \$1.09
• Oval Platters	8-ct. Pkg. \$1.35

**10¢ Off** on 6-oz. Jar **Maxwell House Instant Coffee**  
Coupon good Sunday, December 26 thru Tuesday, December 28 1982  
DALLAS DIVISION COUPON

**Oxydol Laundry Detergent**

20-oz. Box	49-oz. Box
\$1.09	\$2.59
84-oz. Box	
\$4.29	



Prices Effective Sunday, December 26 through Tuesday, December 28, 1982 in Howard County. Sales in Retail Quantities Only.

**SAFEWAY**

Co  
Farr  
By  
Howard (along with may face t of business duction ar farmers a say. Texas is percent r production devastating Texas Agri vice econ College Sta is expecte Black said. Howard President ) the 1983 out as "below predicted s be forced o due to econ "We are i tion, of pric the bleakes said. The Far credited th to three ca "Farmer: refinancing stop farmir fitable any "it's not wor Statistics Stabilization vice show t ed erratical accompany. Although figures an County ind this year, t the 8 to 1 farmers' ex the Agricul Conservatio Spring said. Farmers payments t bably recei those will b said. This i years the average yie bad," Hall 55,000 bales pounds per. Plans are the cotton s of low price gram, calle in Kind, wo not grown rather than A cotton baled cotton not growing number of a payment, H "This wou marginal to Federal a start of the organization Hopper said "Things added. Howard C tension Age the local cot was "about Bale produc half of the Richardson He cited tors to the p hail storms the worst b years. Busi The Chri burglars t business a Unlike the which wer Spring pol said. • Somer window at Friday nig \$4,500. • W.R. broken at 1 night. Burg and a \$1,40 • Bonar Othma tol from the re • Edwar meone stol 504 Johnso • Someo 2102 Merri guitar. • Jess ' broke into 30.06-calibe magnum p cassette ta Brass Mon • Tony V broke into l player, a \$2 tapes. • Lola G stole four l Third Thur • Wayne meone stol • Minnie stole \$75 fr bedroom d • Valeri meone stol • Juanit

# Cotton's tough year

## Farmers make best of damaged crops

By MIKE DOWNEY  
Staff Writer

Howard County cotton producers, along with other Texas farmers, may face the prospect of going out of business this year due to low production and lower prices, local farmers and agriculture officials say.

Texas is expected to suffer a 56 percent reduction in cotton bale production this year because of devastating spring hailstorms, said Texas Agricultural Extension Service economist William Black of College Station. The economic loss is expected to reach \$2.2 billion, Black said.

Howard County Farm Bureau President Paul Hopper described the 1983 outlook for Howard County as "below subnormal." Hopper predicted some local farmers would be forced out of business this year due to economic conditions.

"We are at the bottom of production, of prices and of outlook ... it's the bleakest of the bleak," Hopper said.

The Farm Bureau president credited the possible attrition rate to three causes.

"Farmers won't be able to get refinancing," Hopper said. "They'll stop farming because it's not profitable anymore ... or they'll say 'it's not worth it — I quit.'"

Statistics from the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service show that cotton has performed erratically in the past here. (See accompanying graphs.)

Although cotton production figures and receipts for Howard County indicate an expected drop this year, the figures do not show the 8 to 10 percent increase in farmers' expenses, said Tim Hall of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service Office in Big Spring said.

Farmers will be paid disaster payments this year and will probably receive a higher price, but those will be offset by inflation, Hall said. This is the first time in eight years the county will have an average yield instead of "good or bad," Hall added. He predicted 55,000 bales with an average of 325 pounds per acre.

Plans are underway to combat the cotton surplus, the major cause of low prices, Hopper said. One program, called the PIK for Payment in Kind, would give the commodity not grown by the farmer to him rather than cash, he said.

A cotton farmer would receive baled cotton from the surplus for not growing cotton on a certain number of acres instead of a cash payment, Hopper said.

"This would allow the financially-marginal to stay in," Hopper said.

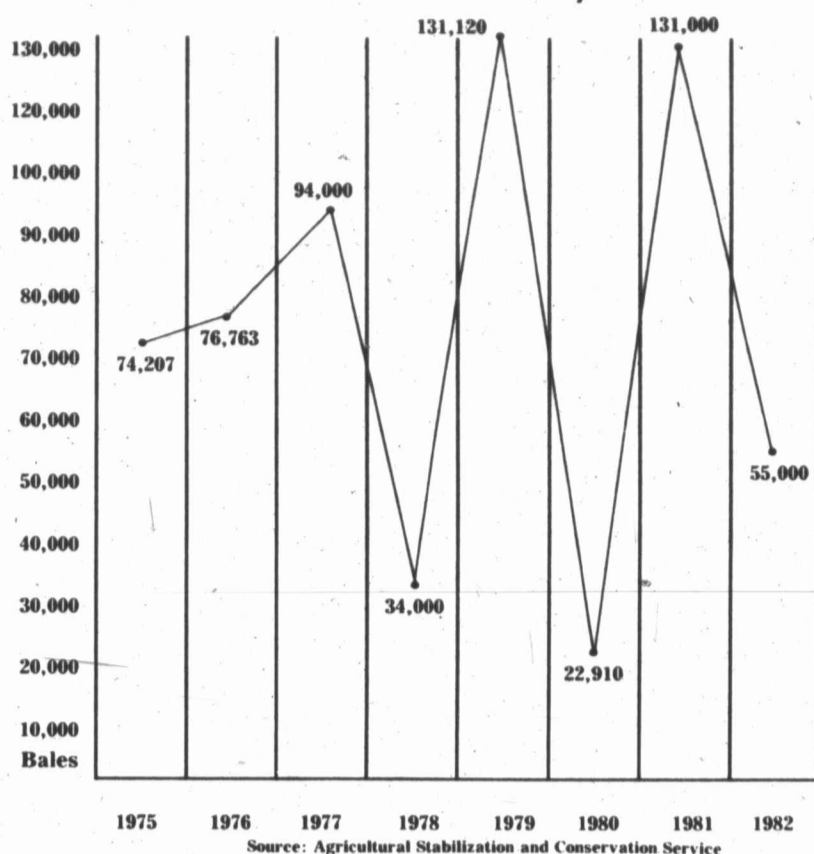
Federal aid could come by the start of the new year if enough organizations became involved, Hopper said.

"Things are being done," he added.

Howard County Agriculture Extension Agent Don Richardson said the local cotton production situation was "about as bad as it could be." Bale production was only about one-half of the expected production, Richardson said.

He cited three contributing factors to the poor local cotton: spring hail storms, summer drought and the worst boll weevil infestation in years.

Number of bales in Howard County — 1975-1982



Source: Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

"Some cotton planted after the hail is making one-quarter a bale (per acre) or less," Richardson said.

Local officials were optimistic early in the ginning season since the first cotton was very high-quality, Richardson said.

D.V. Cook, manager of Lomax Farmers Gin, estimated cotton production was off 40 to 50 percent this year at his gin.

"It's about as dim as it can get," Cook said.

Although producers are ginning quality cotton, "there's no price for it ... they can't sell it," Cook said. "It's pretty depressed."

Producers in the Lomax area are waiting to see what programs the government will develop, Cook said.

However, in the Ackerly region, production is not suffering as much as other county areas, according to Steve Marshall, gin manager of Farmers Co-Op Gin in Ackerly.

"This gin will do OK," Marshall said. "Things are not that bad here. The further north you go, the worse things get, though."

Marshall said the Vealmoor and Luther areas had some of the best cotton this year in the county. He estimated the gin would handle approximately 18,000 bales this year as opposed to 25,000 last year.

"The big threat right now is ... low prices," Marshall said.

Coahoma farmer Donnie Reid also pointed to low prices for cotton as the main culprit.

"For the cotton farmer, things don't look good at all," Reid said. "With drastically low prices, farmers will be hard-pressed to cover costs this year."

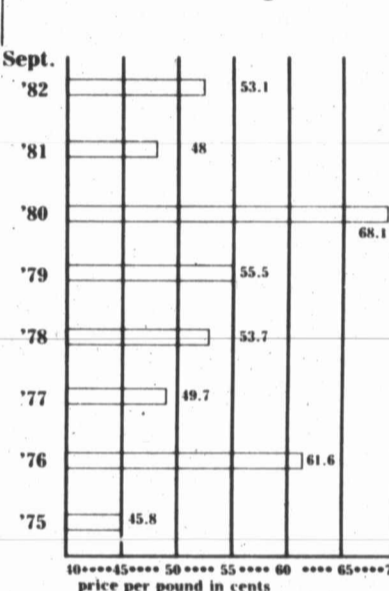
A huge surplus of cotton from previous years, coupled with below-average yields and low prices, has produced a grim picture for local producers, Reid said.

"This is the first time in 19 years I'm really concerned about paying my out-of-pocket expenses," Reid said.

Reid said area farmers have had

Cotton price per pound

State average



three bad years in a row, making 1983 "pretty bleak." He said financing for next year would be the main problem for local cotton producers.

"There's going to be a lot of 'em having a hard time with re-financing," Reid said.

Not all area farmers are reporting as grim a picture. Luther farmer Mike Moates credited luck for what he called a fair crop this year.

"The production per acre is pretty good, but we're not able to sell it," Moates said.

Moates said different federal financial programs were helping some farmers continue to stay in business.

"We'll be able to hang in there one more year," Moates said.

# OIL lays off 40 employees

The story that O.I.L. gave to the Herald for Sunday's paper — that 40 employees were laid off last Thursday — is "absolutely right," said Hank Meyer, O.I.L. director of manufacturing, Monday morning.

A newscast by China Long on KBST quoted Richard Fackler, chief operating officer of O.I.L., as saying 80 persons had been laid off. "The story that Carol Daniel wrote is absolutely right," Meyer said.

"I do know that the information

that I gave Carol is supposedly as was authorized. That is the exact numbers. That number does not vary 2 or 3 people. Where she (China Long) got her information is only supposition on my part," he said.

"The layoff that transpired — I believe we gave notification at noon on Wednesday or Thursday, I believe it was Thursday — the total number of people including contract welders was 40," he said. "Now there's a possibility — I

have a real problem — it's only hearsay what she (China Long) and Dick talked about because I do know that Dick was pretty much out of pocket. I really can't comment on that. I can only say that there were 40 people that were laid off due to lack of work," Meyer said.

"As I say, the statement that I gave Carol that she published Sunday in the paper is pretty much the statement of how things went down," Meyer concluded.

# SAFEWAY film service

Snapshots are FUN... Snapshots are LASTING... Snapshots are INEXPENSIVE... when you have your film developed at Safeway!



Film Processing Prices Good through Saturday, January 1, 1983

Bring Your Christmas Film to Safeway!!

**12-EXPOSURE COLOR PRINTS**  
DEVELOP & PRINT  
1 PRINT **\$1.69**  
(SAVE \$1.10)  
2 PRINTS (SAVE \$1.22) **\$2.65**

**20-EXPOSURE COLOR PRINTS**  
DEVELOP & PRINT  
1 PRINT **\$2.59**  
(SAVE \$1.80)  
2 PRINTS (SAVE \$1.80) **\$4.19**

**15-EXPOSURE DISC PRINTS**  
DEVELOP & PRINT  
1 PRINT **\$2.09**  
(SAVE \$1.30)  
2 PRINTS (SAVE \$1.75) **\$3.29**

**24-EXPOSURE COLOR PRINTS**  
DEVELOP & PRINT  
1 PRINT **\$2.98**  
(SAVE \$1.81)  
2 PRINTS (SAVE \$2.05) **\$4.90**

**36-EXPOSURE COLOR PRINTS**  
DEVELOP & PRINT  
1 PRINT **\$4.39**  
(SAVE \$2.60)  
2 PRINTS (SAVE \$2.96) **\$7.27**

Let Us Process Your **MOVIE FILM**  
• 8 MM OR SUPER 8 EACH ROLL **\$1.39**  
(SAVE 50¢)

Let Us Process Your **COLOR SLIDES**  
20-EXP. ROLL **\$1.39** (SAVE 50¢)  
36-EXP. ROLL **\$2.29** (SAVE 90¢)

# Businesses plagued by thefts

The Christmas season turned into open season for burglars here as police were flooded with auto, business and residence burglary reports last week. Unlike the Midland-Odessa area police departments which were plagued with armed robbery reports, Big Spring police received none, detective Troy Hogue said.

- Someone smashed a rock through a plate glass window at Bryson's Texas Discount, 1709 S. Gregg, Friday night and stole merchandise worth about \$4,500.
- W.R. George of 1604 State reported a window broken at Easy TV and Rental, 501 E. Third, Friday night. Burglars got away with a \$500 living room suit and a \$1,400 video player/recorder.
- Bonanza Family Restaurant Manager Cynthia Othma told police someone stole a \$300 park bench from the restaurant foyer Thursday night.
- Edward R. Moren of 1301 11th Place told police someone stole a \$1,600 welder from Western Auto Store, 504 Johnson, last week.
- Someone broke a glass door at McKiski Music Co., 2102 Merrily, Friday night and stole a \$200 electric guitar.
- Jess Tucker of Gainsville told police someone broke into his car Thursday night and stole a \$300 30.06-caliber Argentine Mauser rifle, a \$200 .22-caliber magnum pistol, a Marlin lever action rifle and five cassette tapes. Tucker said his car was parked at Brass Monkey Lounge, 3801 W. Highway 80.
- Tony Walker of 306 N.W. Fifth told police someone broke into his car yesterday and stole a \$200 cassette player, a \$20 tool set, a \$15 calculator and five cassette tapes.
- Lola Gomez of 402 N. Alfred told police someone stole four hubcaps from her car parked at 308 N.W. Third Thursday night.
- Wayne Todd of 1908 S. Monticello told police someone stole a \$50 circular saw from his garage Friday.
- Minnie Hooper of 907 E. 13th told police someone stole \$75 from Christmas cards she had set on her bedroom dresser last week.
- Valerie Anderson of 2008 S. Scurry told police someone stole \$200 from her wallet Wednesday night.
- Juanita Lewis Bishop, 56, of 1400 Virginia was ar-

rested Friday night on suspicion of driving while intoxicated.

• Linda Martinez of 1505-B Wood told police that 24-year-old Rafael Hernandez of the same address was assaulted Friday night by two white males he knows. Ms. Martinez said Hernandez suffered numerous knife wounds in the assault at Cuatro Copas, 3800 W. Highway 80.

• Police said they arrested Michael Dean Williams, 35, of 707 Settles on suspicion of driving while intoxicated after a three vehicle accident at South Birdwell and Stadium yesterday.

Vehicles driven by Williams, Robert McEwen of 2207 Morrison and Raul Gonzalez of 1502-A Sycamore collided about 6:25 p.m.

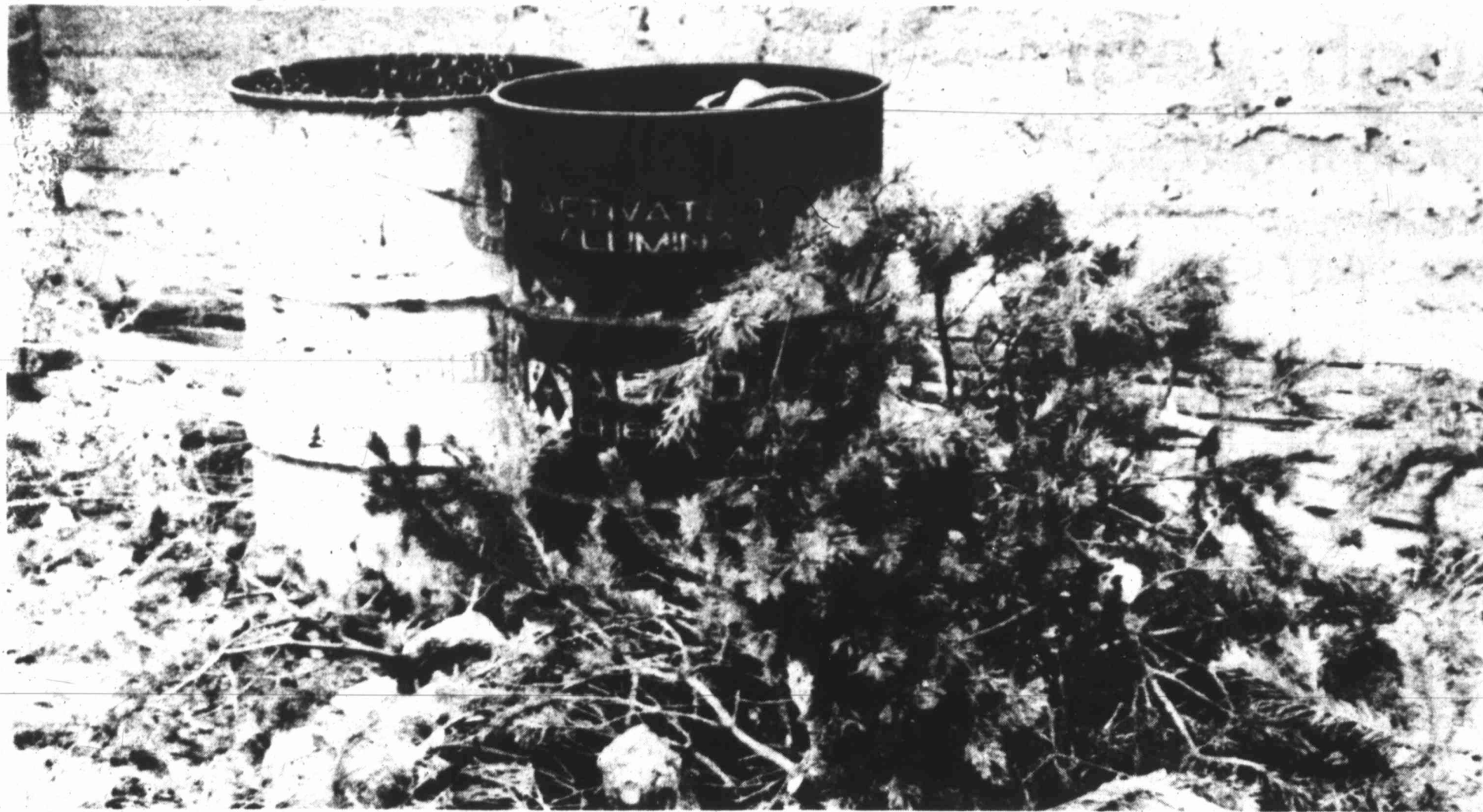
Dr. D. H. McGonagill  
OPTOMETRIST

Has Moved  
To His New Office At  
**109 East Third**

Next Door to  
Texas State Optical  
Downtown Big Spring

Everything you want from a store ... and a little bit more

27 DECC 27



**BAD TIDINGS** — This Christmas tree, unpurchased for the holiday season, met an early demise Friday near the rear of the Optimists Club Christmas tree lot on Gregg

Street. Most of the club's trees, however, were purchased and avoided this fir's ignominious fate.

Herald photo by James Iley

## County will keep insurance contract

Members of the Howard County Commissioner's Court voted today to continue a county health and dental contract with Blue Cross-Blue Shield.

Commissioners had considered switching to a policy offered by the Texas Association of Counties, but decided to stay with Blue Cross-Blue Shield because of cheaper costs.

County Treasurer Bonnie Franklin said TAC had offered a health and dental plan for \$83.46 a month per employee. The Blue Cross-Blue Shield plan is \$64.96 a month per employee, she said.

In other business, the commissioners voted to allow Mrs. Franklin to move county school records from the county judge's office to her office.

Commissioners also discussed a student loan program proposed by the West Texas Higher Education Authority, Inc. The group is "proposing a vehicle to promote higher education" and is a branch of the guaranteed student loan program.

County Judge Bill Tune said the county would have no financial responsibilities if the plan is accepted. He compared the proposal to an industrial bond.

Commissioners decided to seek more information on the issue, and contacted Cheri Sparks of Howard College. Mrs. Sparks agreed to talk to the commissioners later today.

## Fire blamed on train's sparks

**COLORADO CITY (SC)** — A grass fire that started near the railroad tracks south of Colorado City on Airport Road last night had local firemen busy for approximately an hour as light winds buffeted the flames.

Three pieces of firefighting equipment from Colorado City and one from Loraine manned by 12 firemen extinguished the blaze. Assistant fire Chief Jack Green said the fire probably was started by sparks from a passing train.

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