

Big Spring Herald

Thursday

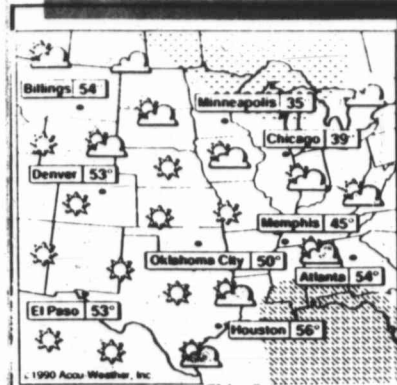
At the crossroads of West Texas

14 Pages 2 Sections

Vol. 62 No. 161

December 6, 1990

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Saddam calls for release of hostages

Saddam Hussein today urged his parliament to free all foreign hostages, saying they were no longer needed to deter an attack by the U.S.-led multinational force in the Persian Gulf.

The White House called the announcement "a hopeful sign." Britain and relatives of the detained foreigners also welcomed the move.

Saddam told parliament: "I invite you to take a just decision to end the travel ban imposed on foreigners and restore to all of them the freedom to travel. We apologize to those who may have been harmed, and from God we seek forgiveness."

Saddam said that when the travel ban was first announced, Iraqi forces "had not completed their mobilization in Kuwait to con-

"I invite you to take a just decision to end the travel ban imposed on foreigners and restore to all of them the freedom to travel. We apologize to those who may have been harmed, and from God we seek forgiveness."

Saddam Hussein

front a potential military aggression.

"Any measure that could delay war at the time was appropriate... so that we use the opportunity to complete preparations for that possibility."

"We had suggested different timing," for the release of hostages, Saddam said, referring to the previous offer to allow the foreigners to leave in batches over a three-month period starting on Christmas. But, he added, recent

overtures have prompted him to "respond to positive changes."

The U.N. Security Council, meanwhile, was reportedly considering a draft resolution on a Middle East peace conference — a measure that could allow Saddam to pull out of Kuwait without completely losing face.

Saddam said recent diplomatic moves have prompted him to "respond to positive changes" and he instructed his National Assembly to approve the foreigners' release,

the official Iraqi News Agency reported.

He also said Iraq had completed its deployment in Kuwait, and therefore the hostages were no longer needed to prevent an attack. More than 400,000 Iraqi troops now are deployed in the conquered emirate.

The report did not say when the foreigners would be freed, but parliament routinely accepts Saddam's recommendations, and the release was expected soon after the

vote, which could come as early as Friday.

Iraq's press attache at its London Embassy, Naiel Hassan, said foreigners were free to leave now. "Now they can leave the moment they want," he said.

There are thousands of Westerners held in Iraq and Kuwait, including about 900 Americans. About 90 of the detained Americans have been held at strategic sites to deter an attack on Iraqi forces.

Bush administration officials are trying to convince Congress that trade sanctions against Iraq will not force its withdrawal from Kuwait and that the lawmakers should support a possible military strike on Iraqi forces.

Saddam's announcement ap-
• SADDAM page 8-A

Weather

Clear and cold tonight with lows in the 20s. Sunny Friday with highs in the 50s.

Wednesday's high temperature	66
Wednesday's low temperature	34
Average high	61
Average low	32
Record high	79 in 1956
Record low	06 in 1950
Rainfall Wednesday	0.00
Month to date	0.00
Normal for Month	0.69
Year to date	20.42
Normal for year	18.04

VA postpones no-smoking ban

The no smoking policy at the Veterans Administration Medical Center has been postponed until Jan. 7, according to Conrad Alexander, director. He said delays in receiving instructions for implementation resulted in postponing the policy that was scheduled to begin Dec. 3.

"This is a nationwide directive from headquarters and applies to all VA medical centers. We feel that a facility that has a primary responsibility to cure illness and disease is inconsistent to permit a practice that has proven to cause disease," Alexander said.

The no smoking ban applies to all areas of the hospital except the fourth floor nursing home care unit. He said those patients will be allowed to smoke, but that all other employees, volunteers and patients will be required to smoke outside.

Smoking areas have been designated at the entrances, the gazebo, rest shelters at the walk and jogging tracks and an outside patio has been built outside the hospital cafeteria. An exit will be cut in the Canteen wall leading to the patio, Alexander said.

"We'll couple our no smoking policy with a strong educational effort to help people stop smoking," said Alexander, adding that a nurse has been designated to offer stop smoking seminars.

City takes Settles' owner to court

City officials are filing eight complaints in municipal court today against Gilbert F. Cuadra, owner of the Settles Hotel building.

Assistant City Manager Tom Decell said the complaints cite Cuadra "for failing to comply with the final order of the board of adjustments and appeals."

Cuadra had agreed to do "a number of things" to the building to make it conform to city codes, Decell said. But city officials have seen no action on the issue, and Cuadra has reportedly not responded to inquiries.

"We feel we have an obligation to do something about this," Decell said. He said the filing of complaints will continue as long as is necessary, until "some action is taken."

Christmas ball, social planned

The Martin County Historical Museum will have its only fundraiser of the year, the annual Christmas Ball and Social, from 8 p.m.-midnight Saturday at the community center.

Admission for the event is \$5 per person, according to Nelda Hazelwood, publicity chairman for the Friends of the Museum. Refreshments will be served. For more information contact the museum at 756-2722.

Study finds drop in student drug use

AUSTIN (AP) — A new study of Texas students indicates that fewer are using illegal drugs today than two years ago, the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse says.

But that good news was offset by some bad news, said commission Executive Director Bob Dickson. The survey also found that use of tobacco and alcohol has increased since 1988.

"And the use of these licit, 'gateway' drugs places these young people at serious risk for later use of illicit drugs. In fact, when alcohol and tobacco are included, only one-third of Texas youth remained drug-free during the 1990 school year," Dickson said Wednesday.

However, Dickson said, "The news is generally good. It's not all good, but it's generally good."

The survey of some 110,000 secondary school students found that current use — defined as use within the past 30 days — of all illegal drugs had declined between 1988 and 1990. It said 10 percent of

• DRUGS page 8-A



Shopping trip

Patients of the Big Spring State Hospital have been travelling to Mott's in College Park Shopping Center this week to do their Christmas shopping. Pacheco an item from one of the shelves. Revvie McLemore, left, looks at a scarf as a possible gift for a family member. At right, service assistant Raymond Ontiveros shows Jesus



Herald photo by Tim Appel

Board hopes to select director quickly

By DEBBIE LINCECUM
 Staff Writer

Moore Development for Big Spring Inc., the corporation charged with furthering economic development in our community, is moving ahead with its search for an executive director and a local office, the chairman of the board of directors said today.

The five-member board has appointed two committees — one to locate suitable office space in Big Spring and the other to interview candidates for director of the corporation. Owen Ivie, chairman of the board, said both committees may be ready to make recommendations soon.

He said the committee looking

for office space "may be in a position to recommend an office to the board at the next meeting." That group has met several times to consider proposals from local building owners.

The executive-search committee has received about 12 applications, Ivie said.

"They meet (Friday) and will continue to screen the applications," he said. "We hope that... by shortly after the first of the year, they will have made a decision. (The choice of a director) is so important to the ongoing efforts of the board that we have asked the committee to make an in-depth study of applicants."

Ivie said the executive director

will work "directly under the board," and experience is foremost among desired qualifications.

"The person's credentials should be beyond reproach," he said. "We feel that is absolutely essential. Big Spring being the smallest populated city in the area involved in in-depth (economic) development... we've got to have people that can stand up head and shoulders above (other area cities)."

Ivie said the idea for a "town hall meeting," discussed by the group at a November meeting, has been postponed until after the first of the year.

"The consensus seems to be that due to holiday festivities... and

such, our turnout may not be as large as we would like for it to be," he said. "We very much hope we have a significant turnout."

The meeting's purpose will be to inform citizens about Moore Development for Big Spring, he said.

"We want to let the citizens know the true purpose of (the board), what we can legally do and what we can't do." The group hopes to "solicit the support of the citizens," Ivie said.

"If there are those with suggestions, ways to increase efficiency, we'd like them to come forth," he said.

The board will meet Thursday, Dec. 13. Both committees will report on their progress.

Depression common during holiday season

By DEBBIE LINCECUM
 Staff Writer

During the holiday season, despite thoughts of family, togetherness and gift-giving, many people may feel depressed, a Big Spring social worker said.

Gail Zilai, director of Howard County Mental Health Services, said the agency sees quite a few cases of "the blues" at this time of year. Local residents can receive counseling at the center, and fees are determined on a sliding scale based on the patient's income.

Dr. John Farquhar, a board-certified family practice physician, agreed that many people may feel blue at this time of year. But, he said, other factors, not just the

holiday season, may influence the feelings.

Zilai said symptoms of depression include: the disruption of sleep patterns, crying spells, feelings of hopelessness or helplessness, a change in appetite and a short temper.

"One reason it seems to be prominent at Christmastime," she said, "is that many people have loved ones or families on their minds, but they may not be close enough to go see them."

She added that financial problems often strike families at this time of year. "We'll see some parents with children who want certain things, and they don't know how they are going to pay."

• DEPRESSION page 8-A

Rural garbage service growing

By PATRICK DRISCOLL
 Staff Writer

A new residential trash pickup service has burst upon the scene this week with 40 customers signing up since advertising the service five days ago. It is the only competition for another residential service that lists 60 customers.

But when Jack Dorris, owner of Pack Rat Containers, of Andrews, talks about expanding his 3-year-old business out of Andrews and Gaines counties where he now serves 200 customers, he does not talk about competition. He talks about proposed stringent federal landfill regulations expected to close more half the country's landfills next year.

"They're looking to close half of them. That's just what they're going to do," Dorris said. "Towns will have to go elsewhere."

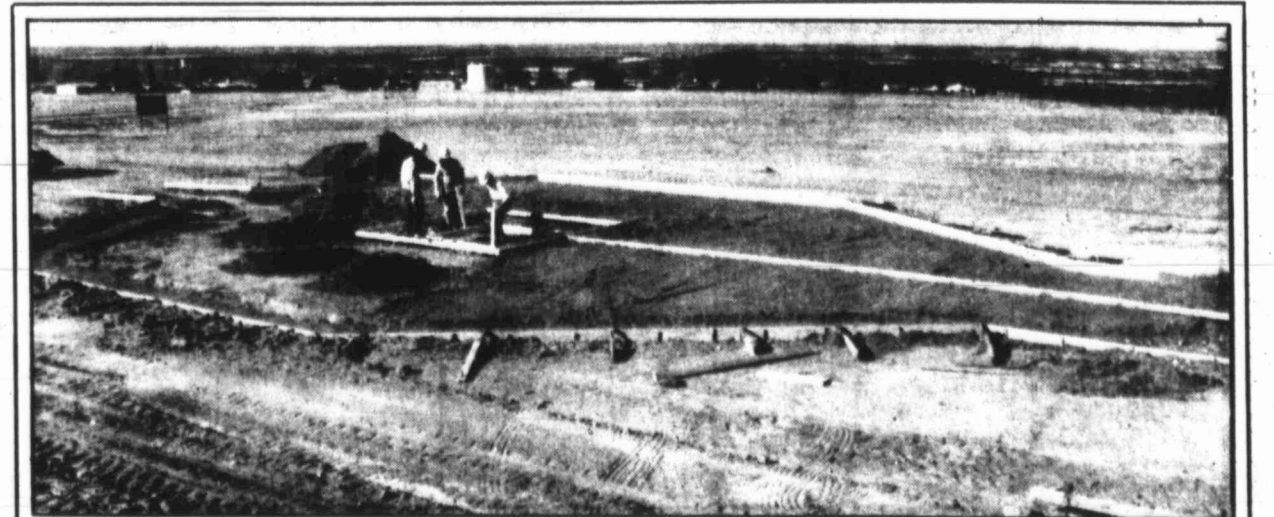
Of six landfills in Howard and Mitchell counties, the ones in Coahoma and Forsan have already closed. In addition, the landfills in Colorado City, Loraine and Westbrook are expected to close after the new regulations are passed sometime next year, according to officials. That leaves only the Big Spring landfill.

Dorris said he is negotiating with 14 West Texas cities, including Coahoma and Colorado City, for contracts to haul their trash. This is one of the first areas the firm is expanding into, prompted by one of Dorris' partners owning a home on Lake Champion, near Lake Colorado City.

A permit to dump Howard County trash at the Big Spring landfill was approved for PRC in November. The company will pay \$3.50 for every cubic yard of trash dumped and an \$186.50 annual permit fee.

The company is offering weekly home pickup in rural Howard and Mitchell counties for \$15 a month, \$12.50 for members of the American Association of Retired People, according to the company's advertisement. Commercial

• RURAL TRASH page 8-A



Herald photo by Tim Appel

Under construction

Workers with Lee George Construction put together the wooden forms where concrete will be poured for the Vietnam Memorial east of SWCID Tuesday afternoon. Pouring of the con-

crete should be completed by the end of next week, including a 120-foot walkway to the road and a 90-foot sidewalk that will parallel the road.

Sidelines

Infant killed in car fire

ARLINGTON (AP) — A North Texas infant was killed in a car fire set by her sister, who was playing with matches in the back seat, fire officials said.

Katlyn Dawn Cromwell and her sister Jessica, 3, were left alone in the car yesterday while their grandmother had run an errand.

Officials believe Jessica, who was in the front seat of the car, crawled into the back with her sister and started the fire.

Jessica escaped unharmed, but Katlyn, strapped in a car seat, was unable to get out.

Katlyn's first birthday would have been next week.

The baby girl was taken to Parkland Memorial Hospital, where she died from burns covering 82 percent of her body.

Lewis probe continues

AUSTIN (AP) — House Speaker Gib Lewis says he welcomes an inquiry into his relationship with a San Antonio law firm that specializes in delinquent property tax collections.

Officials said Wednesday that 20 subpoenas have been issued in the investigation that is reportedly reviewing dealings between Lewis and Heard Goggan Blair and Williams.

Lewis has denied any impropriety.

"I am confident ... that once the facts are presented, true and accurate conclusions will allow those questions raised to be answered to the satisfaction of everyone," Lewis said in a statement.

The inquiry reportedly may involve several lawmakers.

Steve McCleery, an assistant to District Attorney Ronnie Earle, said more subpoenas will be issued, but he declined to say whether Lewis or any members of the Texas Legislature have been subpoenaed.

Reporter could face jail time

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — A Corpus Christi newspaper reporter is testing her First Amendment rights by refusing to reveal what she and a capital murder defendant talked about in interviews.

But the price for Libby Avery's silence could be a jail sentence.

Prosecutors want to enter as trial evidence articles written last month by Ms. Avery, a reporter for the Corpus Christi Caller-Times.

But the 26-year-old reporter and her newspaper maintain that anything that was not published is nobody else's business.

Police probe pipe bomb

ARLINGTON (AP) — Campus police are investigating a pipe bomb explosion that shattered windows and damaged a park car near a University of Texas at Arlington dormitory.

No one was injured in the blast, possibly because the bomb was apparently detonated underneath or beside a garbage Dumpster, officials said.

Campus police have no suspects.



19 shopping days to Christmas

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Richards says ethics will be top priority

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov.-elect Ann Richards says ethics reform legislation will be a top priority when she takes office next year.

The Democrat, who will be sworn in Jan. 15, said in an interview with The Associated Press that she already has discussed ethics reform with Bob Bullock, who will become lieutenant governor, and House Speaker Gib Lewis.

"We are of one mind that ethics legislation should be No. 1 or 2 or 3 on our agenda. It'll be discussed and debated very early on in the session," Richards said Wednesday.

All three leaders made ethics



Richards said she wants to require disclosure of lobby expenses of more than \$100 per occasion and the creation of an ethics commission to oversee ethics law enforcement.

Lucas elated over stay

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — Henry Lee Lucas says he will use the time given him by a stay in his execution to determine "who done it" on the murders for which he is charged.

Lucas, 54, faced lethal injection early Monday for the 1979 slaying of a woman whose body was found near the Central Texas town of Georgetown. The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals late last week gave him an indefinite stay.



HENRY LEE LUCAS

"I jumped up and down," Lucas said of his reaction after hearing of the court ruling. "I had my first good night of sleep in a long time."

Lucas once claimed he killed nearly 600 people in 26 states but later recanted his confessions for all but one slaying, that of his mother in Michigan in 1960.

The Monday execution date, his first, was for the slaying of an unidentified woman known only as "Orange Socks," for the lone item of clothing she was wearing when her body was found.

Besides the death sentence, Lucas has six life prison terms, two 75-year sentences and a 60-year term for other Texas convictions. He also is wanted in Florida on three first-degree murder charges for slayings in 1980 and 1981.

"Now I can start working on those different cases, who done it and stuff," Lucas said in his first interview since receiving the stay. "That's going to take a lot of writing and envelopes and stamps. My whole goal is to clear these cases up and get the people to open them up."

He said fellow inmates had congratulated him.

"They hollered from one end of the block to the other," he said, grinning. "They all seemed to know I'd get a stay and told me not to worry, but I still worried."

"I know how hard some people are pressing against me. I don't know if they actually believe the lies or if they are using something else. I don't know."

The appeals court said it would consider a claim by Lucas' attorneys that the jury in the Orange Socks trial should have been able to consider mitigating circumstances before sentencing Lucas to death.



Back to Texas
CLARENDON, Ark. — David Hernandez, 37, in handcuffs, is escorted from the Monroe County Courthouse here Tuesday. Hernandez and another man arrested at the same time are wanted by Texas authorities for abducting two women during a Nov. 27 robbery in Fort Worth.

Jury deliberates Dixon accusations

DALLAS (AP) — The government built its bank fraud case against former Vernon Savings Association owner Don R. Dixon with witnesses "even a child would know are lying," the defendant's attorney said.

During closing arguments Wednesday, defense attorney Billy Ravkind said the government's investigation of Dixon was sloppy and focused on "a few minor transactions in a multibillion-dollar business."

But assistant U.S. attorney David Jarvis rebutted Dixon's testimony by saying, "The truth is very flexible in his eyes."

The case went to the jury later Wednesday but no verdict was reached. The jury was expected to go back to work this morning.

Dixon is charged in 38 counts with misusing thousands of dollars of the thrift's money for political contributions, a California beach home and prostitutes. The combined charges carry a maximum

Dixon is charged in 38 counts with misusing thousands of dollars of the thrift's money for political contributions, a California beach home and prostitutes. The combined charges carry a maximum penalty of up to 190 years in prison and fines of up to \$9.5 million.

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The thrift collapsed in 1987 at a cost to taxpayers of more than \$1.2 billion.

Jurors listened to five weeks of

testimony. After final arguments and instructions from U.S. District Judge A. Joe Fish Wednesday, jurors selected a leader and mapped a schedule for deliberations.

Jarvis said Dixon's defense focused on which "drawers from the cash register" the thrift owner got his money.

"What's he doing in the register? What is Don Dixon doing tapping Vernon's till?" the prosecutor asked.

Jarvis portrayed Dixon as a "master manipulator" of Vernon and its employees. He said the case was a "classic story of power and wealth that caused Don Dixon to lose his moral bearings."

Dixon schemed and used sham documents to render the disputed dealings unaccountable to regulators and its board of directors, Jarvis said. "If these are legitimate deals, why wouldn't (Dixon) put them on the table?" he asked.

Rancher pleads guilty to drug charges

HOUSTON (AP) — A South Texas rancher believed to have been the kingpin in one of region's largest drug rings has pleaded guilty to federal racketeering and money laundering charges.

Ramon Dionicio Martinez, 44, of Donna, faces up to 30 years in prison and forfeiture of more than \$6 million in property gained from

the estimated \$100 million earned in illegal drug sales since 1973.

Martinez, known in drug trafficking circles as "El Lechero" or "The Milkman," entered the plea Wednesday in U.S. District Court.

However, Martinez will not be sentenced until next year, on June 27.

Perry: Plants may be economic answer

LUBBOCK (AP) — Agriculture Commissioner-elect Rick Perry says his plan to bring processing plants to Texas for goods including leather ought to please the folks where cowboy boots reign supreme.

"We have got Justin, the world's largest boot maker, in Texas and other businesses here that use a lot of leather," Perry said Wednesday.

"If we can produce it here and process it here they will make boots out of it. And I think they will be tickled to death to buy Texas leather."

Perry said attracting processing plants to the Lone Star State for such goods as leather, cashmere and mohair will help spur a slowing economy.

Perry, who defeated Agriculture Commissioner Jim Hightower by a razor-thin margin in one of the election's biggest surprises, said bringing processing plants to Texas will be one of the highest priorities on his agenda. He takes office next month.

"I think we can buffer any recession woes in the agricultural industry very quickly with processing," Perry said.

"Obviously you can't build a pro-

cessing plant overnight. But processing will be one of the major things the Texas Department of Agriculture will be focusing on in the next few years."

Perry said he has already received support from Gov.-elect Ann Richards about pursuing the plants.

"Ann Richards is a great proponent of value added processing and talked about it in her economic development plan," Perry said. "Ann and I are going to work very closely together. And I am excited about the possibility of taking her processing ideas and putting them to work."

Perry said West Texas is an ideal location to tan leather.

"Obviously a leather-tanning plant would be right out here (in West Texas)," he said. "Texas Tech is the premier institute in the country on it, and I would expect a major tanning plant within a 100-mile radius of Lubbock."

Perry said he has gotten off to a quick start in his new job after visiting with President Bush, Vice President Dan Quayle and U.S. Agriculture Secretary Clayton Yentler in Washington last week.

Perry said he recommended to Bush that federal laws restricting U.S. trade with the Soviet Union due to oppressive Jewish immigration laws in Russia be relaxed.

Perry said the laws should be handled with sensitivity out of respect to the Jewish community.



RICK PERRY

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American Legion Post 506 will be serving barbecue this Saturday to observe Pearl Harbor Day. Just \$5 per plate, enjoy it there or take it with you. Proceeds will go to the Christmas Fund at the VA Hospital. Serving time noon until 7 p.m. American Post 506 is located at 3203 West Hwy 80, Big Spring.

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Shuttle observatory is shut down

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — Columbia's astronauts today lost the only working computer terminal for operating their \$150 million observatory, once again shutting down their stargazing efforts. The flight deck computer shut down automatically after the crew smelled something burning this morning. The same thing happened Sunday, when the only other similar terminal overheated and turned off. It has remained off since then. No smoke was reported in the cabin either time. There was no danger to the crew, but their observing was interrupted by the second computer shutdown. The telescope lenses were covered for protection as ground controllers tried to get either of the problem computer terminals working. At least one is needed to operate the Astro observatory's three ultraviolet telescopes unless a method of operating them from the ground can be developed.

Tape transcripts to be released

MIAMI (AP) — CNN said it is giving up the fight to prevent the release of court transcripts of its Manuel Noriega prison tapes. U.S. District Judge William Hoeweler, ruling in favor of four news organizations that demanded access to the transcripts, said Tuesday they would be released today unless CNN appealed. On Wednesday, CNN said it would not do so. "CNN's main concern in opposing unsealing of the transcripts has been to protect the integrity of agreements with sources," CNN spokesman Steve Haworth said. But after reviewing the transcripts, network officials decided there was little danger of compromising those sources. CNN has televised some of seven tape recordings of Noriega's jailhouse conversations with his legal team and had argued that the recordings of the telephone calls, and therefore the transcripts of them, were its property. Sanford Bohrer, the attorney for the news organizations that asked for the transcripts, applauded CNN's decision.

Georgia anti-mask law is upheld

ATLANTA (AP) — A Ku Klux Klansman arrested for wearing his hood in public lost a state Supreme Court bid to overturn a 39-year-old ban on masks. The court voted 6-1 Wednesday to reject arguments by Klansman Shade Miller Jr. that the Georgia law enacted to curb Klan activity is unconstitutional. The justices said the 1951 law does not violate free-speech rights and is a legitimate attempt to prevent violence and intimidation. The decision overruled a Gwinnett County judge who dismissed misdemeanor charges against Miller for wearing a mask in public. Attorney General Michael Bowers said Miller faces arrest if caught wearing his Klan hood. The offense carries up to a year in jail and a \$1,000 fine. Disguise is commonly used by those committing crimes of violence and intimidation, Chief Justice Harold G. Clarke said. "A nameless, faceless figure strikes terror in the human heart," he wrote for the majority. "But remove the mask, and the nightmarish form is reduced to its true dimensions. The face betrays not only the identity, but also human frailty." Miller's lawyer, Michael Hauptman, said that the high court's description of the no-mask law's range might allow for Klan members to wear hoods in explicitly non-threatening situations, such as a parade.

Black gives damaging testimony



WILLIAM K. BLACK

WASHINGTON (AP) — William K. Black, a blunt-spoken savings and loan regulator, once prompted financier Charles H. Keating Jr. to write, "Kill him dead." Lawyers for the so-called Keating Five senators didn't go that far, but they clearly were unhappy with Black's testimony Wednesday. Black offered the most dramatic and damaging testimony so far in the panel's hearings into allegations that the senators improperly intervened with S&L regulators on behalf of Keating, a financial contributor. "It is the most fundamental smear," declared William Taylor, attorney for Sen. Alan Cranston, D-Calif.



Associated Press photo

Soviets unload Israeli aid

MOSCOW — Two Soviet troopers unload Israeli melons from a pallet at Moscow airport early Wednesday morning after an El Al jumbo jet flew direct to Moscow from Tel Aviv with food relief of tomatoes, oranges and melons. The 10 tons of food was a gift from the Jewish Agency to the Soviet people.

Computer tampering is an increasing threat

Herald Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Computers, relied on by modern business and government to store everything from military secrets to credit history, are increasingly vulnerable to tampering and outright attack, a report issued Wednesday by the National Research Council warns. "Our central conclusion is that national computing and communications systems are vulnerable to potentially catastrophic security breaches and accidental failures. So far the nation has been remarkably lucky in escaping any successful systematic attempts to subvert critical computing systems," panel chairman David D. Clark of MIT said at a press conference here. "Unfortunately, there is reason to believe that our luck may soon run out unless we take action now." The report, by the research arm of the National Academy of Sciences and Engineering, said that recent highly publicized accounts of computer fraud and tampering may be only a "leading indicator" of a problem that could affect both industry and government computers into the next decade. Cases such as the Stanford University hacker, whose computer "virus" scuttled its way into thousands of linked computers within hours, and the West German "Wily Hacker" who broke into at least 30 computers operated by the U.S. military and its contractors, demonstrate the potential for more aggressive sabotage and information theft of any computer system linked by telephone lines. That includes systems run by banks, insurance companies, law enforcement, hospitals, credit issuers, and government agencies. Businesses and institutions typically maintain computer networks, in which computers from outside the system can use a telephone modem to connect to a "mainframe" to transmit or receive information. A simple example is the credit card reader employed by nearly all retail stores. They are actually telephone modems that call a phone number, transmit the credit card number and purchase amount, then receive authorization to ring up a purchase. Many are more complicated, such as law enforcement systems which share fingerprints and stolen vehicles reports. Usually, passwords are required to gain access to information from the system. One hospital in Michigan had its entire patient record system scrambled by a virus that came with new software. The Pennsylvania Lottery was the target of a fraud attempt that could have amounted to \$15.2 million. "The thing is, it's really easy to protect yourself from most hackers," said John V. Guttag, a professor of computer science at MIT. "If businesses would just take passwords seriously, not use their wife's middle name or 'opensesame,' a lot of these problems would cease, he said.

World

Jet crashes into Italian high school

BOLOGNA, Italy (AP) — An Italian military jet crashed in flames into a suburban high school today, killing at least 12 people and injuring 70, officials reported. Students jumped out of windows of the two-story building to escape the smoke and flames, witnesses said. Rescue workers said all the dead were believed to be students. About 200 students, aged 14 to 18, were in the school. Rescue workers were digging for more bodies four hours after the midmorning crash. Bologna prosecutor Mario Forte said he expected the death toll to remain at 12. Police said the pilot bailed out safely and the plane crashed minutes later into a classroom of the red brick school. "I saw this plane in flames coming down slowly, it seemed to level off and then it turned suddenly and crashed into the school," a witness told state RAI television.

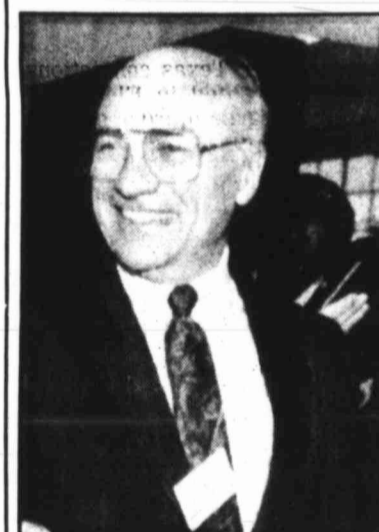
Political rally attacked by gunmen

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — After gunmen attacked one of his rallies, the populist priest who is leading the race for president tearfully urged supporters not to fear casting ballots in the Dec. 16 election. The Rev. Jean Bertrand Aristide blamed the Wednesday night attack, in which five people were reported killed and 54 wounded, on the Tonton Macoutes, the private militia that enforced the brutal 29-year Duvalier family rule. The violence occurred just as a rally by about 10,000 people near Port-au-Prince was breaking up and appeared intended to intimidate Aristide supporters into staying away from the polls. It came as Haitians were feeling optimistic they could at last have democratic elections, the first in the 186-year-old history of this former French colony. "Take heart, dry your tears, hold one another's hands," Aristide said in a tearful interview with Radio Antilles. "We are going to continue walking together because on the 16th of December, whether they like it or not, the Macoutes will disappear from Haiti."

Real Tyminski remains obscure

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — Stanislaw Tyminski, an unknown emigre businessman who has not lived in Poland for the past 21 years, became a serious contender for the nation's presidency with hardly a question raised. When journalists finally started to take a hard look at Tyminski's past, he called them "wolves" and benefited from a wave of voter sympathy. What started as a cautious first foray into fair election coverage has ended in a virtual free-for-all as the final round of elections between Tyminski and Solidarity leader Lech Walesa draws to a close Sunday. Almost daily, newspapers and television unleash a torrent of disturbing news about Tyminski. But truth has been mixed with rumor and supposition. Some reporters, frustrated by Tyminski's evasive answers, have become so partisan that they boo and hiss him at news conferences. In a country in which Communist authorities manipulated the news media for decades, people became accustomed to believing that the opposite of what they were reading must be true. Lost in the fury were late-surface facts: that Tyminski has advocated arming Poland with nuclear weapons, that he is connected with long-time Communist operatives, that he claims a life-changing spiritual experience in the Peruvian jungle, that he is not the well-known magnate he claims to be.

Trade talks seek to break deadlock



CLAYTON YEUTTER

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — U.S. and other officials today extended talks on an ambitious plan to lower world trade barriers, seeking to break a deadlock over cutting Europe's huge subsidies for its farmers. "We will just never reach an agreement in agriculture until something changes in the European Community," Agriculture Secretary Clayton Yeutter said at the 107-member nation conference of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, known as GATT. Despite a deadline of noon (6 a.m. EST), delegates planned to resume their meeting five hours later to see if there was any chance of progress.

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Opinion

"I may not agree with what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it." — Voltaire

Views of other Texas papers

Texans care about Earth

Texans long have carried an image as being a people who place economic concerns above all else — even above protecting the Earth. A recent public opinion survey may have put that image to rest. The first Texas Environmental Survey, headed by Stephen Klineberg, a Rice University sociologist, taken late this past summer, determined that, yes indeed, Texans care about the environment. The study, according to Klineberg, determined quite refreshingly that environmental awareness isn't limited to tree-huggers or flower children. . . . The state is armed now with valuable information from its residents: It is that most Texans no longer favor unbridled growth that endangers their environment.

Beaumont Enterprise

Not a bodacious bonanza

As a promise of big bucks for the state treasury and a boon to economic growth, pari-mutuel horse and dog racing so far ranks right up there with "the check is in the mail." . . . Back in 1986, the racing promoters told us taxes from the industry would produce more than \$100 million a year by 1992 — a figure some called a huge exaggeration. (A) new report says that as of last month the taxes had produced only about \$1.3 million. Meanwhile, the state had spent more than \$6 million in general revenue to operate the Texas Racing Commission and to pay for the Department of Public Safety's regulatory investigations of the industry. . . . Folks, we've been hornswoiggled. It makes *The Post* extremely suspicious of the claims that a state lottery would be a bodacious bonanza if only the Legislature and voters would approve that sleazy way to finance state government, too.

The Houston Post

Opting for school uniforms

Around the country, more students (perhaps it's closer to the mark to say "more parents") are opting for a return to school uniforms. The reasons aren't difficult to spot. Outfitting a grade-school child with designer clothes can break most family budgets. And in some inner-city areas, violence and intimidation have been used to appropriate such things as popular-brand and expensive sneakers from some children. There is also the fact that uniforms seem to create a better atmosphere for discipline in the classroom, as well as eliminating social pressures. More districts, including those in Corpus Christi, should make uniforms an option, at least on elementary and perhaps middle school campuses, offering parents a voice in deciding the issue.

Corpus Christi Caller-Times

Kohl leads into a new era

The dramatic transformation that began just over a year ago with the fall of the Berlin wall Nov. 8 and intensified with free East German elections March 18 and the merging of the two currencies in July reached its full fruition Sunday when voters in a united Germany chose Chancellor Helmut Kohl to lead them into a new era. It was a decisive win for those who have led the move to reunification. . . . While the great drama of a new Germany seemed to be the theme of the balloting, it appears too that behind this consideration was a keen interest in maintaining a prosperous nation anchored in the European Community. Mr. Kohl has been phenomenally successful in building such a state in the western part of the country. Now his mandate is to extend the free market eastward. He has been riding high on the crest of history for the past year. Now it's time to consolidate his extraordinary gains.

Dallas Times Herald

Congress must vote on war

The United Nations Security Council has approved the use of force to free Kuwait. That declaration amounts to an ultimatum, a warning of war, and it does seem strange that such a dire statement of purpose should come first from the United Nations and not the U.S. Congress. . . . Congress must become involved, and its leaders should seriously consider a special session before Christmas rather than waiting until the next regular session convenes the first week of January. . . . President Bush's policy, although dangerous in that it has put us on the road to war, is not complicated and need not be subjected to endless, if not partisan, debate on Capitol Hill. . . . And members of Congress must not only conduct hearings and debate the unmistakable direction in which the president's policy is taking this nation, but they must also vote — up or down — on a simply worded resolution of support.

El Paso Times

Laws governing economic downturns

Here are some of the questions I am being asked as I travel around the country this week:
Can the President declare that the country is in a recession?
No. Under the Constitution only Congress can do that.
What can the President declare?
He can declare an economic downturn.
Can the President place blame for the economic downturn on the Democrats?
Yes. Under the law he has 90 days to do this. If he doesn't, the country goes into a recession automatically.
At what stage of a recession may a President declare an economic downturn?
When all the economic indicators are falling and his popularity is dropping in the polls. Then, by decree, he must go on television and tell the American people that his administration had nothing to do with the slump, which was caused by 50 years of reckless Democratic spending and high taxes.
Can the President mention the word "unemployment" in his State of the Union address?

He can, but he would be crazy if he did. He'd be much better off referring to unemployment as an unexpected blip in the GNP screen, which was triggered by a bad rice crop in Mongolia.
What does the President do when he declares an economic downturn?
He calls up all his economists and issues them gas masks.
Is he supposed to take any action to stimulate the economy?
That's what a President is for. He promises the country that the recession will disappear as soon as rich people get tax breaks and start buying houses in Palm Springs again.
What is the danger of Congress being the only one to lawfully declare a recession?

SKELL



Art Buchwald



The big danger is that whenever Congress votes an important measure such as a recession, it tacks on many pork barrel amendments that have nothing to do with the crash. These include bail-outs for S&L bankers, pollution relief for special interest groups and appropriations for new

military weapons that don't work. It is estimated that a congressional bill on a recession will cost this country \$90 billion in legislation which Congress would ordinarily have no chance of getting passed.
Should the President consult with Congress on the economic downturn?
It helps because if he stays mum about the downturn, they will refuse to help him get out of his doldrums. When it comes to assigning blame, it is very difficult for the President and the Hill to have a meeting of the minds. This is because there is enough to go around for

everybody. Is this because the President wants to turn a corner in the economy, and the Democrats can't see the woods for the trees? You said it, I didn't. Isn't it strange that the President has mentioned nothing about Reagan sticking all of us with a trillion-dollar catering bill?
By law President Bush is not permitted to criticize President Reagan for his voodoo economic policies.
When does a recession become a depression?
When you can no longer read Mr. Bush's lips.
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Please scare up a few extra presents

By STEVE REAGAN Staff Writer

Dear Santa:
I know you're probably deluged right about now with letters and requests and such, but I thought, if you're not too terribly busy, you might lend an ear.
You see, there's a bunch of people on my Christmas list this year, and there's no way I can possibly get them all gifts on my budget.
And — since you are the one and only Saint Nick — I thought you might be able to help me out this time.
I know, I know . . . you and your elves are really busy building toy trains, making lists and checking them twice and all that good stuff, but I wouldn't ask if it weren't important.
Besides, if you really are able to whisk around the world in one night (and far be it from me to doubt you), then scaring up a few extra presents shouldn't be any great shakes, right?
S-o-o-o-o-o, Santa, if you can possibly help out, here's what I need:
• For Saddam Hussein — An alarm clock to help him wake up and some coffee for him to smell.

Beyond the realm



- For my copy editor — A deaf ear to turn in my direction.
 - For my publisher — Peace on Earth, good will toward men and an irresistible urge to hand out hefty Christmas bonuses this year.
 - For my oldest brother — Some real fish to go along with all those great stories.
 - For my youngest brother — Some spare tools, so he won't mind letting me borrow a few.
 - For my cats — A Christmas tree of their very own, so they won't be so tempted to tear mine apart.
 - For my wife — Patience, and plenty of it.
 - For my son — Everything he wants (space is too limited for a complete list here).
 - For me — A copy of "Cooking Made Easy," a sure-fire easy way to kill weeds and about 52 more column ideas.
- There, that wasn't too tough, was it? Thanks for hearing me out, Santa. Have a safe trip on Christmas Eve, and we'll leave a plate of cookies out for you. As for your reindeer, if they get hungry, I've got plenty of weeds for them to munch on.



Quotes

"Highest priority — get Black. Good grief — If you can't get (former House Speaker Jim) Wright and Congress to get Black — kill him dead — you ought to retire." — Lincoln Savings executive Charles Keating in memo, released at Senate hearing, to his lobbyist about government S&L regulator William K. Black.
"I'm a bit suspicious of the mafia in Murmansk. But people from the church have promised to help us so that it will be families with children who get the Christmas gift." — Tore Waeraass, Norwegian slaughterhouse owner.

Addresses

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Letters to the editor on issues of general interest always are welcomed by the Big Spring Herald and always are printed if these guidelines are followed:
Letters should be 350 words or less, typewritten if possible, and double-spaced. If not, the handwriting must be legible to reduce chances for mistakes. They are subject to editing, but the essence of the writer's message will not be altered. Letters exceeding the 350-word limit will be cut.
They must be signed, free of libelous statements and in good taste. Political endorsements won't be accepted during a campaign; candidates are allowed a single letter during a campaign. Letters listing numerous donors to projects are not published.
Please write your name and address on the letter and include a daytime phone number for verification. Letters submitted without signatures won't be published.
Address letters "To the editor," Big Spring Herald, Box 1431, Big Spring, Texas 79720.

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GIB LEWIS, Speaker of the House, State Capitol, Austin, TX 78701. Phone: 512-475-3311

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UTPB

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NEW YOR Spielberg an Webber will their first pr full-length a film based o "Cats." The winne Awards, inc musical, "C T.S. Eliot's Book of Pra music by L lyrics by T.S original pro London in 19 York in 1982 "Cats" ma animated fe laboration b Universal P panies' two were "An An "The Land

Look in

Rosanne

always enj dark side o Her latest a contains s both in relationship

Entertainment

Sidelines



'Babes' star

Wendie Jo Sperber, shown during a recent interview in Los Angeles, had misgivings about taking the leading part in the Fox Network's "Babes." She's always been a supporting player, and it was the first time her weight had any bearing on a role. "Fat is not really what it's about now," she said. In the show, she's one of three overweight sisters sharing an apartment.

UTPB to present music, candlelight

The University of Texas at the Permian Basin will present the annual Carol of Candles, featuring violinist Kevin Lawrence Saturday.

The performance will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the student lounge and courtyard. Music will include favorites by Charles Ives, Mozart, Prokofiev and Aaron Copland. Luminario lighting, carol singing and Santa Claus will be part of the event as well.

For more information, call 367-2125.

Program seeks to explain the 'star'

Possible astronomical explanation for the Star of Bethlehem will be explored in "The Christmas Show," a sky program at the Marian Blackmore Planetarium in Midland.

The show will take place Saturday at 2:30 p.m. and 3:15 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

The "star" is mentioned in Bible scriptures relating to the birth of Jesus and the trip of the Three Kings.

The planetarium is located in Haley Park at the corner of K Street and Indiana Avenue in the Museum of the Southwest Complex. Admission is free. For more information, call 683-2882.

Duo to make film based on hit 'Cats'

NEW YORK (AP) — Steven Spielberg and Andrew Lloyd Webber will collaborate on their first project together: a full-length animated feature film based on the hit musical, "Cats."

The winner of seven Tony Awards, including best musical, "Cats" is based on T.S. Eliot's "Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats," with music by Lloyd Webber and lyrics by T.S. Eliot. The original production opened in London in 1981 and in New York in 1982.

"Cats" marks the third animated feature film collaboration between Amblin and Universal Pictures. The companies' two previous efforts were "An American Tail" and "The Land Before Time."



Look inside

Rosanne Cash says she's always enjoyed exploring the dark side of life in her work. Her latest album, "Interiors," contains songs of loneliness both in and out of relationships.

Movie has insight, humor

By C.A. Appel
For the Herald

Movie review

"Sibling Rivalry," now showing in Big Spring, answers the question, "When you marry for better or worse, does this include the family?" with both humor and insight.

Margerie Turner (Kirstie Alley) finds herself the doormat of her marriage due to the insensitivity of her in-laws, all doctors in a shared practice. As time passes, her husband (portrayed with yuppie style by "Quantum Leap" star Scott Bakula) offers little attention either in or out of the bedroom.

After much prodding from her younger sister, Margerie finally is convinced to have an affair. But her one-night stand truly is one because her lover (Sam Elliot) dies of a heart attack in the hotel bed.

This is only the beginning of the web of lies the former good girl must weave to cover her infidelity.

A Willy Loman-like window blinds salesman named Nick (Bill Pullman) enters the hotel room and joins the intrigue. To make matters worse, Margerie discovers her lover was none other than her brother-in-law who had recently returned to the country.

Meanwhile, Margerie's sister Jeannine has fallen in love with the friendly cop who investigates the incident. He happens to be the good-for-nothing Nick's brother. The strain of it all is enough to make Margerie confess — until the guilt-stricken Nick beats her to the punch.

Veteran director Carl Reiner knows instinctively how to go for the laughs in the dark humor of "Sibling Rivalry." The audience is drawn into the story as it gets less comfortable for the

characters.

We truly sympathize with the luckless Nick and the desperate Margerie. We come to despise their adversaries, which are sometimes their own weak natures.

Carrie Fisher adds some nice touches to her role as the sister-in-law that even a saint could grow to hate with a passion.

The casting of Alley as the naive but maturing housewife downtrodden by her husband's overpowering family is a stroke of genius: Her clumsiness and shyness gradually melt away to show a character of true strength who can go after what she wants in life, her husband back and a reopening of their communication channels without sabotage from outside forces.

In a holiday season full of thoughts of family togetherness and sharing good times, "Sibling Rivalry" sheds some valuable light on the human spirit.



Justify her video

Pop megastar Madonna, right, is interviewed by Forrest Sawyer during ABC-TV's "Nightline" early Tuesday after the news program aired her too-hot-for-MTV video "Justify My Love." Madonna said she may dress like a bimbo, but she's in charge of her fantasies and her life.

Rare sheet music collection chronicles culture



Del Rovis, a volunteer curator at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, works Monday to catalogue a monumental new collection of nearly 200 years of popular American music. It consists of 130,000 original editions of illustrated sheet music.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Smithsonian Institution curators are busy cataloguing a monumental new collection of nearly 200 years of popular American sheet music, including stacks of rare, long-forgotten Broadway melodies by George Gershwin and Irving Berlin.

This bonanza from the nation's musical past, a gift from Fort Wayne, Ind., broadcaster Sam deVincent, consists of 130,000 original editions of illustrated sheet music, nearly 20,000 recordings and boxes of posters, concert programs, newspaper clippings and other memorabilia.

"This is one of the great, legendary collections of sheet music in the world," said John Edward Hasse, curator of American music at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History. "It contains some of the rarest of the rare."

The scope of the deVincent collection is staggering. It ranges from yellowing reprints of parlor piano pieces of the 1790s to mourn-

ful Civil War ballads, the shameless bigotry of minstrel show music, railroad songs and ragtime, military marches, antiwar protest songs, Beatles favorites and political campaign choruses.

Hasse says the deVincent collection, a rich and diverse repository of Americana, will give historians an intimate portrait of the nation's cultural tastes and social upheavals over the past two centuries.

No fewer than 500 songs give testimony to America's love affair with the automobile. Others trace the rise of labor unionists, suffragettes and abolitionists. Popular songs toasted Charles Lindbergh's solo flight across the Atlantic, lamented the Titanic's sinking and poked fun at peculiarities of East European immigrants.

Some of the sheet music covers are decorated with outstanding examples of the illustrator's art. Winslow Homer, later to gain fame as a painter and watercolorist, sketched a cover for the 1850s song

"Kitty Clyde." George M. Cohan's patriotic World War I song, "Over There," featured a Norman Rockwell painting of four doughboys singing around a campfire.

The collection represents a 60-year labor of love by deVincent, retired music director of Fort Wayne radio station WOWO, who began hoarding sheet music as a 12-year-old in Chicago.

DeVincent says the rarest items in his collection include an original copy of Berlin's first published song, "Marie From Sunny Italy," written in 1907, and a first edition of "Old Zip Coon," an 1816 minstrel song that later became known as "Turkey in the Straw."

Even the eminent Cohan wrote "coon songs" for the popular blackface minstrel shows of his day, Hasse noted.

"We may find the lyrics distasteful today," he said, "but it is important for historians to preserve this material so we can understand the past and build a better future."

Menudo singers found with drugs

MIAMI (AP) — Two members of the Puerto Rican singing group Menudo were arrested after an airport drug-sniffing dog detected marijuana in their pants, police said.

Sergio Gonzalez, 18, and a 16-year-old member of the group, whose name was not released because he is a juvenile, were arrested Thursday evening at Miami International Airport. Metro-Dade police Lt. James Kaelin said.

The group was on a stopover en route from Mexico City to Venezuela when a U.S. Customs Service dog smelled the marijuana, Kaelin said. Customs agents took small amounts of the drug

from the two, who were charged with possession of marijuana, he said.

Gonzalez was released on a \$1,000 bond Thursday night, officials said.

Members of Menudo, which loosely translates as "pocket money" or "small change," are replaced as they get too old to appeal to their pre-teen and teen audience.

Members were active in Nancy Reagan's anti-drug "Just Say No" campaign. The group has been highly successful in the Spanish-speaking world, performing before sold-out stadiums throughout Central and South America.

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Competition turns heavy in SWCID drama

By KAREN MCCARTHY
Managing Editor
Accelerating competition between neighbors at Christmastime is the focus of a two-act play, "Light Competition," by the Drama Club at SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf.

Robert Benton's furious desire to have a better Christmas lighting display than his neighbor creates problems for the entire Benton family and shows every sign of ruining the family holiday.

Mrs. Benton, ably played by Sarita Perales, creates a crisis by taking the handyman, Scott Greathouse, away from his job of stringing lights and sending him to the store. Mr. Benton, played by Billy Baker, comes home and panics because the display's not finished, the flasher is missing, and he needs help putting up the neon lights.

Visiting Aunt Margaret, played by Billie MacGillis, counsels patience but the children, with Rhonda Williamson as Buntie and Tommy Lynn as Bob, have had enough. Together they plot to send their father and their neighbor each a letter conceding victory in the competition to the other.

With a sigh of relief Mr. Benton gives up the lighting display while the rest of the family prepare for a relaxed Christmas.

Of course, when the neighbor drops by for drinks, the conspirators get caught. But by that time the family has enjoyed a more traditional Christmas evening.

This short play, directed by student Steven Irwin, is performed in sign language, with voice interpretation for the non-deaf. There will be one performance at the Student Union Building, SWCID, Friday at 7:30 p.m. and a second performance at the First Baptist Church, Midland, on Saturday. Admission is free.



Rhonda Williamson and Tommy Lynn, as the children of a man obsessed with having the neighborhood's best Christmas display, wait for their father, right, played by Billy Baker, to discover their interference in a two-act play by the Drama Club at SWCID. The play, Light Competition, is scheduled Friday at 7:30 p.m. in the Student Union Building. Admission is free.



GREENLAND — Lt. Joe D. Hanna Jr. is shown in a snapshot made by a crew member shortly after the B-17 Big Stoop and seven other planes on their way to England crash landed on the ice cap in Greenland in 1942.

Woman given piece of plane bearing her name

CHAMBLEE, Ga. (AP) — A piece of a B-17 bomber buried for 48 years in the Greenland icecap was presented last week to the woman whose name was painted on the piece of metal by her pilot husband before he flew off to fight the Nazis.

Explorers who found the bomber buried in the arctic icecap presented the keepsake to Phyllis Arlene Hanna at Peachtree-DeKalb Airport north of Atlanta.

In return, Mrs. Hanna of St. Louis gave keys to the plane to the explorers who set out nine years ago to locate eight American warplanes that crashed in Greenland in July 1942 on their way to England.

The two B-17s and six P-38 Lightning fighters ran out of fuel after receiving false radio transmissions from German submarines. The crews camped for nine days until rescuers arrived on dog sleds.

One of those rescued was Mrs. Hanna's husband, Joe D. Hanna Jr., who had painted her name under his cockpit window. Hanna died in 1981, the year the Greenland Expedition Society was formed to find and maybe even fly the planes out.

"They've been in my basement 48 years," Mrs. Hanna said of the

keys. "I'd much rather have a piece of the plane with my name on it."

The expedition, which raised donations, located the bomber with radar in 1988 and used a borer to cut a 3 1/2-foot-wide hole and take the piece with Mrs. Hanna's name on it. Last summer, the explorers cut a much larger cavern 20 feet long on one side.

The fuselage of the bomber was found to have collapsed under the weight of 250 feet of ice. Movement within the glacier had broken it apart.

"It was, of course a disappointment," said Pat Epps, co-founder of the expedition. Explorers removed the top turret of the B-17 and two machine guns, ammunition, instruments and other memorabilia.

"The B-17 is certainly not flyable," said Epps. "We expect when the P-38s are excavated, they would not be flyable from the icecap."

Because of technical problems and water from the glacier filling their hole as fast as they could pump it out, the expedition didn't get to a fighter.

"Next year, we are giving our full attention to the P-38," Epps said.

Police score touchdown with free ticket 'sting'

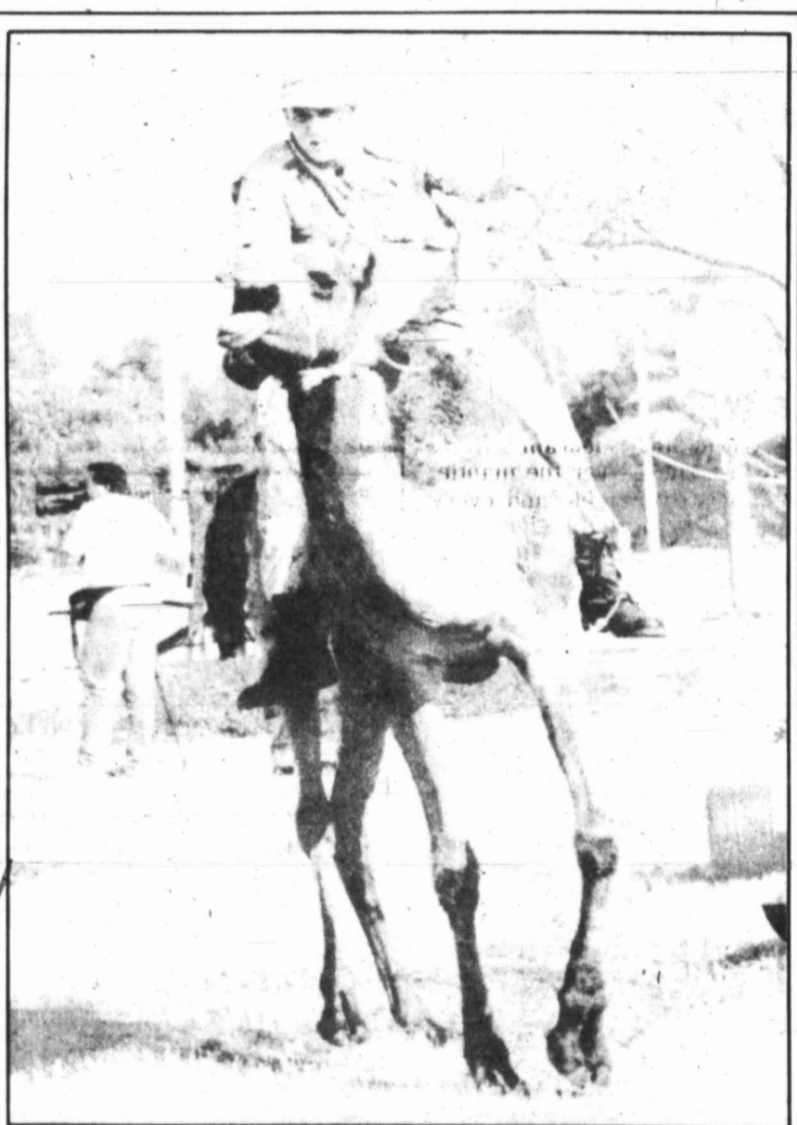
BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — Police said they scored a touchdown with a "sting" that nabbed about 200 fugitives by making them think they had won tickets to Saturday's Auburn-Alabama football game.

Police Chief Arthur Deutsch said people wanted for crimes including robbery and drug dealing were apprehended when they showed up for a "winner's party" on the designated night at the Birmingham-Jefferson Civic

Center. About 800 letters were sent from phony cable television station WGGY — whose call letters stood for "We're Gonna Get You," and were signed by J.L. Byrd, or jaibird, Deutsch said.

The scheme was dubbed "Operation Touchdown," said police spokesman Mike Crawford.

"The idea was that if we got 10, we were at the 10-yard line," he said. "If we got 20, we were at the 20-yard line. More than that would be a touchdown."



SAUDI ARABIA — U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Tim Gray of Florissant, Mo., patrols the "Desert World" recreation center on his mount Suzie, Tuesday. The camel is a Bedouin gift to the Marines and security guard Gray uses it for patrol duty around the rest area.

Free AIDS tests offered to patients of deceased doctor

BALTIMORE (AP) — Dozens of people called Johns Hopkins Hospital in response to its offer to test for AIDS about 1,800 patients who were operated on by a surgeon who died of the disease.

The hospital said it would send a letter this week to all patients Dr. Rudolph Almaraz had operated on since joining its staff in 1984. The breast cancer specialist died Nov. 16 at age 41 of what his family's lawyer, Marvin Ellin, said was AIDS.

Ellin said the letter will generate "nothing but panic" among Almaraz's former patients. "Every ache and every pain they experience is going to cause them to wonder if they have AIDS," he said.

The hospital received dozens of calls Sunday as a result of a story in *The Sun* in which Ellin said Almaraz had died of AIDS. Documents that would confirm his

"Every ache and every pain they experience is going to cause them to wonder if they have AIDS."

Attorney Marvin Ellin

illness, including the death certificate, are confidential under Maryland law.

Johns Hopkins said in its letter that the possibility that the AIDS virus was transmitted to any person during surgery is remote.

Ellin said Almaraz told him he was exposed to AIDS when blood from an AIDS patient squirted into his eyes and mouth during an operation in New York about seven years ago.

Suzanne Rauffenbart, a spokeswoman for Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York where Almaraz was on a fellowship, on Sunday said the hospital had no records that would indicate Almaraz contracted AIDS

there. He practiced at the hospital in 1983.

Almaraz also had privileges at Children's Hospital, where a spokeswoman said Almaraz never operated, and Homewood Hospital South. Homewood spokesman Larry Wilson said the hospital will consider sending letters to the surgeon's patients.

Almaraz was surgeon-in-chief of surgical oncology and endocrinology at Hopkins until 1985, when he started his private practice. Almaraz sold his practice March 1 and resigned from the Johns Hopkins staff June 30.

Dr. Timothy Townsend, senior director for medical affairs at Johns Hopkins, said the hospital

made repeated efforts, starting in late summer, to determine the nature of Almaraz's illness amid rumors that he had AIDS.

While Johns Hopkins could not give the exact number of patients Almaraz operated on, Townsend estimated the figure at 300 a year. At that rate, he could have operated on more than 1,800 patients while on the staff.

AIDS most commonly is transmitted through sexual contact or the sharing of needles by intravenous drug users or exposure to tainted blood.

Dr. Gregory B. Bulkley, a professor of surgery at the Hopkins Medical School, said a study has found that a doctor who pricks himself while operating on a person with AIDS has a 0.2 percent chance of picking up the virus.

The risk of a doctor transmitting AIDS to a patient is so small as to be immeasurable, he said.

Home-imprisoned inmate commits murder

CHICAGO (AP) — A car thief confined to his home by an electronic ankle bracelet lured a man to his apartment with the promise of a drug deal, then robbed and murdered him, police said.

Samuel Santiago, 18, also robbed a pizza deliveryman in front of his apartment while under the electronic supervision of prison officials, police said.

The ankle bracelet transmits a signal to a receiver attached to the telephone if the prisoner moves outside a 100-foot radius of the phone.

"He knew just how far he could go without setting off the alarm," police Sgt. Ron Rwers said Thursday.

Santiago was charged with murder and two counts of armed robbery. He was jailed without bail.

Santiago began serving a three-year sentence for car theft in 1989 and a month ago was accepted into a home imprisonment program that includes 460 felons, said Nic Howell, a state Corrections Depart-

ment spokesman.

Last week, Santiago fatally shot Rudy DelCastillo, 18, at the entrance of his home after an accomplice, Federico Conde, 18, lured the victim there by offering to sell him drugs, police said.

Santiago and Conde allegedly robbed the man of gold chains and more than \$1,000 in cash. Conde also was charged with murder and armed robbery.

The night before the shooting, a pizza deliveryman was robbed at gunpoint while making a delivery to Santiago's home, Detective A. Perez said.

Howell said this was the first serious criminal charge made against a participant in the home imprisonment program, which was started in 1989 as a way to ease prison overcrowding and has had 1,800 participants.

Officials monitor inmates 24 hours a day via the telephone receivers, which signal Correction Department computers if prisoners stray, Howell said.

Only non-violent offenders are selected, Howell said.

"This one incident should not bear on the rest of the program," he said.

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Lifestyle

Well-placed phone could save your life



McFadden sarong

NEW YORK — A model wears a short evening dress, which is a variation on a sarong during the showing of Mary McFadden's haute couture collection for spring/summer 1991.

DEAR ABBY: This letter is about an experience that I and several people I know have endured. We are old, and sometimes we fall. I have "mini-strokes" and never know when they will happen. So far, I have been fortunate in that there have been no serious injuries. However, once down, I can't get up without help. I am very independent and prefer to live alone in my own house.

When I come to, I can wiggle and crawl — which is how I got help the last time. My phone is on a low table by my favorite chair. I reached it and dialed 911. They came right out and helped me.

One of my neighbors fell and broke her leg. She did the same thing (her phone is also low). They came and took her to the hospital.

Another woman fell and broke her hip. Even if she could have reached the phone, she couldn't have used it because it was mounted high on a wall. She laid on the floor for 16 hours before anyone came!

My point is this: Anyone who lives alone should have a phone that is low enough to be reached



Dear Abby

from the floor. We are all in our late 70s, but I'm the only one who had a stroke. The other two just "fell." People can fall at any age!

Most of the people I mention this to say they aren't going to fall. I hope that you can get through to them. God bless you for your concern for others. — PEGGY

DEAR PEGGY: To deny that something can go wrong is a common human frailty. (If I don't think about it, it won't happen.) But you make an excellent point, Peggy. People of all ages fall, but older people are more vulnerable. Thanks for a possibly lifesaving letter.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I are preparing to buy our first house. (We now live in a mobile

home.) My mother is mad because she thinks the neighborhood we chose is too far from her.

I will be living near my sister-in-law, but she's mad because my father-in-law (her father) is lending us the money to buy the house. (He can well afford it.)

My stepchildren are upset because now we won't have quite as much money to spend on them.

And, last night, my husband's ex-wife told him if we could afford to buy a house, she's taking us back to court to raise the amount of child support we pay her each month. (We have never missed a payment.)

Abby, I am very hurt. I thought buying a house would be a happy experience, and others would be happy for us. Is it selfish of me to want a nice home? — KEEP ME ANONYMOUS

DEAR KEEP: Certainly not! Turn a deaf ear to the whining of your mother, your sister-in-law and your stepchildren. Jealousy frequently brings out the greed and pettiness in some people.

However, the ex-wife is not whining; she's threatening. Your hus-

band should discuss this with his attorney. He needs to be prepared should she make good her threat.

DEAR ABBY: I have a problem I've never seen in your column, and I'd appreciate a prompt reply because it's been preying on my mind.

I have gone to the same hairdresser for years — I'll call her Marietta. Anyway, while Marietta was on vacation, I went to another shop closer to my home and happened to get a hairdresser who does a better job and charges less.

I suppose most hairdressers are used to having customers switch to someone else, but Marietta was more like a friend. I don't want to lie, and I hate to hurt her feelings, but I feel guilty ducking her.

I'm turning to you because you seem to have all the answers. — SWITCHED IN VIRGINIA

DEAR SWITCHED: Don't lie, and stop ducking Marietta. Either call her or go to see her and tell her honestly that you have found a hairdresser closer to home who does an excellent job and charges less.

Funds to fight AIDS

NEW YORK (AP) — Few people recognized Calvin Klein as he quietly rehung dresses during a sale of \$4 million in merchandise donated by fashion designers to benefit the fight against AIDS.

The clothes donated by Klein and more than 100 other U.S. designers brought in more than \$3.5 million by the end of the three-day sale Sunday and surpassed the goal of \$1 million.

In an industry where huge egos are legendary, what stood out was that the fashion leaders were able to put their rivalry aside and work together on a cause close to many in the clothing business. Many in the fashion industry — including Perry Ellis — have died of AIDS.

Man lives with Santas all year

By CHRISTOPHER EVANS
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

ARP — They cover the mantle, the dining room table and every tinsel-daubed niche, tugging sleds, piloting airplanes, nodding their heads, prodding their elves.

One forlorn and depleted Santa, his beard tousled, sits astride a reindeer, apparently taking the lonely road back to "the Pole" after yet another harrowing yule.

Some of the Santas are straw-stuffed or large, key-wind "nodders" whose noggins bob when their metronome-like mechanisms are wound up. Some are pumpkin-shaped "roly-polies." Others are tiny, made of celluloid or bisque or aluminum or papier-mache, and once held candy or small gifts.

There are between 300 and 400 in all, each one created before 1950 and some as early as the turn of the century.

All — from the distinctly German "Kris Kringles" to the Dutch "Sinter Claese" variations — ended up in America.

They are the property of Bob Cook, the so-called Santa Man of Arp, an out-of-the-mainstream man in a mainstream East Texas town of 900.

Cook's collection might not be the nation's largest in terms of sheer numbers. It is, however, presumed to be the most hifalutin in terms of expensive Santas, the ones that cost \$3,000 or more. In 1988, Cook's Santa menagerie was featured in the New York Times.

Most of the Santas are German or Japanese in origin, primarily



Bob Cook displays a 1920s Santa doll with straw-stuffed mask face. Cook, the so-called Santa Man of Arp, has collected 300 to 400 Santas.

because Germany was the source of most Santas before World War II, a role the Japanese later assumed.

"For the most part, the German Santas are more elaborate and the craftsmanship is better," Cook says. "A lot of the Japanese Santas were mass-produced. Those particular ones were produced like cookies. The detail just isn't there."

The predominant colors in Cook's Santas — red, black and white — are consistent with the American St. Nick.

Some of the faces, however, are not.

Many are long and sad and hollow-eyed. Others are dark and menacing and fright-inspiring.

Further, a majority of Cook's Santas are, shall we say, less than portly.

What would children believe if Santa were neither jolly nor fat?

Pretty much what they believed after the Protestant Reformation and before the dawning of the Americanized, good-guy Santa, says Cook.

Americans aren't eating right

WASHINGTON — Most Americans think they are eating the right things — cutting down on calories and fat and consuming healthy amounts of nutrients and fiber. But the fact is, they've got a long way to go.

That is the conclusion of a group of researchers who study public opinion and eating habits for the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

"Perceptions and reality do not always match," said nutrition researcher Linda Cleveland, who outlined the results of the USDA's new diet and health knowledge survey at the 1990 Agriculture Outlook Conference.

"Almost two-thirds of our survey respondents agreed that the things they ate and drank were healthy and saw no reason to change," Cleveland said.

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Thursday notes

Lepard inducted into Hall of Fame

By STEVE BELVIN
Sports Editor

Big Spring native Leon Lepard, now of Brownfield, was recently inducted into the Hall of Fame at Abilene Christian University.

Lepard graduated from Big Spring High School in 1948, where he was a state champion in the 880 yard run. He was a four-year letterman at ACU, then known as Abilene Christian College. He was one of the first national class athletes at ACC. His teams won several national championships with Lepard running the 880 and anchoring the mile relay, gaining All-American status.

Lepard was third in the voting for Texas Amateur of the Year in 1951. He competed in the 1952 Olympics and finished fifth in the 880. He graduated from ACU in 1955.

Lepard's offspring also turned out to be fine athletes. His eldest son Richard was a starting defensive back on ACC's 1973 national championship football team. Russell was a defensive back for Texas Tech and Randall was an All-American trackster at Texas Tech.

Leon's grandson is Randall Lepard, Sweetwater's All-District tailback. Last year as a sophomore, Randall ran a 48.0 in the 400 meters and competed in the state meet in the 1600 meter relay.

Leon's mother, Gladys Lepard, lives in Big Spring.

Irons earns academic award

Dallas native Craig Irons, a senior split end at Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Va., has been selected to the GTE College Sports Information Directors' Association District III Regional Academic All-America football team.

Irons, an English major with a 3.246 grade point average, led the team in receiving the last three seasons. This season he caught 33 passes for 387 yards and a touchdown. He was also named to the All Old Dominion Athletic Conference for the second consecutive year.

Last season Irons set a school season record with 75 catches for 1,010 yards. He is the grandson of Big Spring residents, Ms. Kate Irons and Ted O. Grobel.

HSU hosting baseball camps

Dec. 28 and 29 Hardin-Simmons University will be hosting a baseball camp on their campus.

The camp will be for youth ages 9-12 or any non-varsity baseball players in high school.

Cost is \$60 for commuters and \$95 for overnight campers. For more information call Gary Murphy at 670-1494.

Alexander, Garcia racketball champs

Conrad Alexander and Eddie Garcia were the winners in the YMCA fall racketball league. Alexander won first the A League and tournament play. Garcia did the same in the B League.

Finishing behind Alexander were Tim Thornton, Robert Hayes, Stan Partee, Mike Thomas, Dub Clinton, Frank Anderson and Shelly Erwin. Finishing behind Garcia were Lisa Majors and Johnny Jackson.

Registrations are now being taken to join the winter league, which is open to YMCA members only. Entry fee is \$15. Deadline to enter is Jan. 3. For more information call 267-8234.

Youth basketball hoops starting

The Big Spring YMCA Youth Basketball League is having signups until Dec. 21. The

Notes page 2-B

Two great offensive teams to meet

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

Two teams featuring explosive offenses and overlooked defenses will meet in Coleman Friday when the Garden City Bearkats and the Valley Mills Eagles square off in a Class A quarterfinal playoff game at 8 p.m.

The 11-1 Bearkats, coached by Sam Scott, and the 12-0 Eagles, coached by Allan West have several similarities. Both are state ranked (Valley Mills sixth; Garden City seventh), both feature high-powered offenses that average more than 30 points a game and both have defenses that have been lost in the offensive fireworks.

Garden City's offense, led by quarterback Shae Scott and tailback James Soles, has been averaging 370 yards and 42 points per game, while the Eagles, champions of District 16-A, have averaged 38 points and almost 400 yards per outing.

Given both offenses' capabilities, one would expect a lot of scoring in the contest, right?

"It wouldn't surprise me if it was not a high-scoring game," said West, 17-4 in two seasons at Valley Mills. "On the other hand, it wouldn't surprise me if it was a high-scoring game."

"It could go either way," Scott said. "There might be 80 points scored, or it could be something like 7-3 — you just never know."

The reason both coaches are hedging on their predictions may lie with their respective defenses. Both units have been downright stingy giving up points of late.

The Eagles have surrendered an average of six points per game so far this season and come into this game fresh off a 24-0 whitewash of Eden in the regional round. In addition, Valley Mills is allowing opponents on the average of 170 yards a game.

West gives a lot of credit for this stinginess to the Eagles' front four of Michael Bohannon, Michael Sexton, David Pack and Alexander Ekrut. "They're a real talented group," he said of the four. "Their technique is just great."

The defensive secondary has some impressive stats, also, led by



BRADY — Garden City Bearkats junior tailback James Soles (22) runs away from Axtell Longhorns defenders John Underwood (78) and Kyle Gholson (88) during regional football action Friday.

senior middle linebacker Andy Sadler, who leads the team with 111 tackles, and freshman defensive back Donnie Sadler, who has grabbed 16 interceptions this year. "If ever a freshman deserved to make the all-state team, he has," West said.

In contrast, the District 9-A Bearkats have surrendered plenty of yardage, but not very many

points. In its two playoff games, Garden City has given up 700 total yards but only two touchdowns per outing.

What makes the Bearkats' defensive effort more remarkable is that they have had to do it without their leading tackler, middle linebacker Eric Seidenberger, who's missed the last two games with a knee injury. Seidenberger has returned to

Wisconsin runner top female athlete

BEAUMONT (AP) — Suzy Favor, a 14-time All-American and the winningest woman in NCAA track and field history has become the first recipient of new award designed to honor outstanding female athletes.

Ms. Favor, a senior who competes in both indoor and outdoor track for the University of Wisconsin, received the first Babe Zaharias award, named in honor of the Beaumont sports legend.

Designed to parallel such top sports honors as the Heisman Trophy and the Lombardi award, the Babe Zaharias award is sponsored by the Beaumont Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Babe Zaharias Foundation Inc.

"This is such a wonderful honor," said Ms. Favor, a graphic art major, who has won nine NCAA championships. "This is such a wonderful way to end my college career."

The honor pays tribute to the late Mildred "Babe" Zaharias, considered the greatest female athlete of all time.

Runners-up were Leigh Ann Fetter of Louisville, a swimmer for the University of Texas; Carlette Guidry of Houston, a track and field star at Texas; and Vicki Huber of Bryn Mawr, Pa., a track star at Villanova.

Ms. Favor set records in the 1990 national outdoor meet in the 1,500 and 800-meter runs.

She earned national titles in NCAA Indoor Championships in the 3,000-meter and mile run. In international 1,500-meter competition, Favor won the 1990 TAC Outdoor Championships and placed third in the Switzerland Grand Prix.



BEAUMONT — Suzy Favor, a middle distance runner at the University of Wisconsin, is the first winner of the Babe Zaharias Female Athlete of the Year award.

Hawks on the go

Howard College Hawks guard Harvey Petty (12) leads the fast break as teammate Johnny McDowell follows against Murray State in action earlier this season. Tonight in Hobbs, N.M. the Hawks play new Mexico Junior College at 9 p.m. The Lady Hawks play NMJC at 7.

Who says you need 10?

CARTERVILLE, Ill. (AP) — They called it basketball, but the final four minutes were more like hockey.

A bench-clearing brawl and subsequent penalties gave John A. Logan College of Carterville a kind of power-play advantage in the junior college game.

Logan started the final four minutes, down 86-75, with four players on the court; Mineral Area College of Flat River, Mo., had three. The rest of the starters and subs had been kicked out.

Each team lost another player before the final buzzer because of personal fouls, leaving a total of five players in the game.

"You have to start the game with two full teams, but you don't have to end it that way," said P.D. Highsmith, director of region 24 for the National Junior College Association.

Logan used its one-man advantage to narrow the 11-point gap, but couldn't make it, losing 104-101.



Eyeing the target

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. — Heavyweight boxer Alex Stewart of Brooklyn, N.Y., eyes the speed bag during a Wednesday workout. Stewart will

box Mike Tyson Saturday night at the Atlantic City Convention Hall.

Teams, players come to terms?

ROSEMONT, Ill. (AP) — After five years and two months of battle, the collusion wars may come to an end today.

The 26 major league clubs voted Wednesday to give players \$280 million as compensation for their collusion against free agents. The Major League Baseball Players Association is expected to approve the deal today during a meeting of its executive committee at Orlando, Fla.

Fifteen players, including Gary Gaetti and Brett Butler, will become "new-look" free agents in three or four days as part of the deal.

The owners will pay \$280 million as of Jan. 2 — approximately \$10.77 million per team — and interest will be added if the payment is made after Jan. 2. It will be the largest payment in sports history from management to players. The union must then determine pro-

Baseball page 2-B

Table with 18 columns (KMD, KPEJ, KERA, etc.) and 12 rows (5-12) listing TV programs and channels.

Names in the news

LaBelle in Hall of Fame PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Singer Patti LaBelle says she's thrilled people in Philadelphia can now "walk all over me."



Anderson, John Coltrane, Frankie Avalon, Eugene Ormandy, Teddy Pendergrass, Todd Rundgren and Dick Clark. "They put me in the ground and can walk all over me now," said LaBelle...

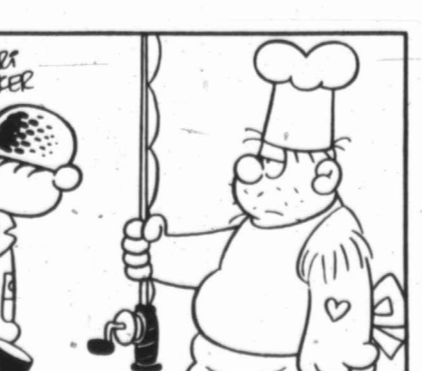
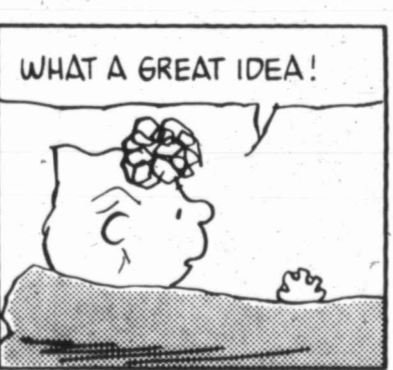
away from the lip-synching front men of Milli Vanilli will not be given to another act. The National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences decided that when an award is withdrawn, "the category will remain vacant," academy president Michael Greene said Tuesday.

DENNIS THE MENACE THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"My dad had to learn how to tie his shoes. They didn't have Velcro when he was little."

"I have just run out of patience!" "Don't worry, Mommy. I'll be your patient."

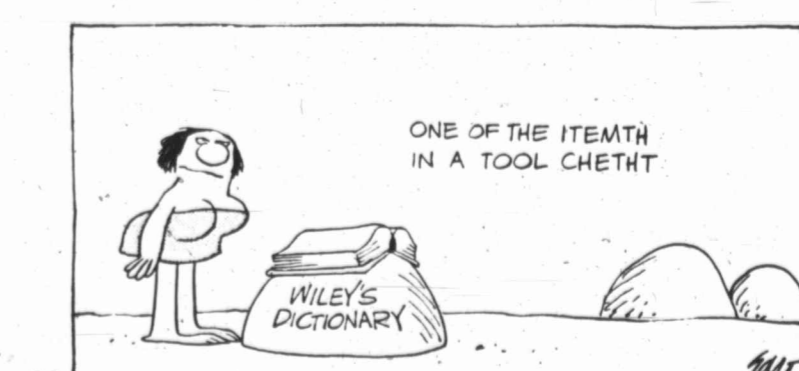
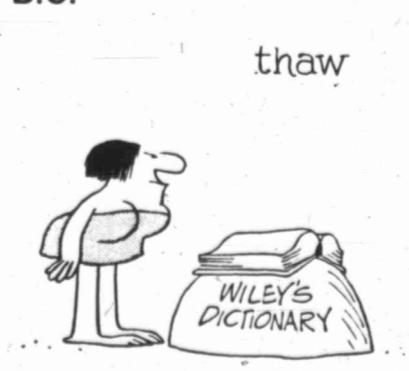
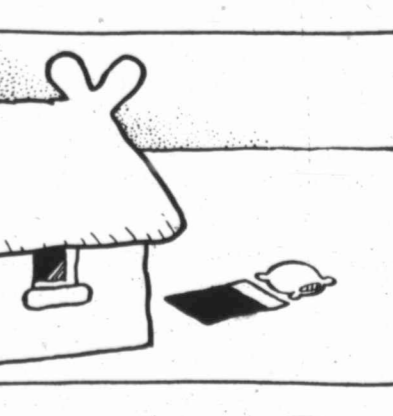
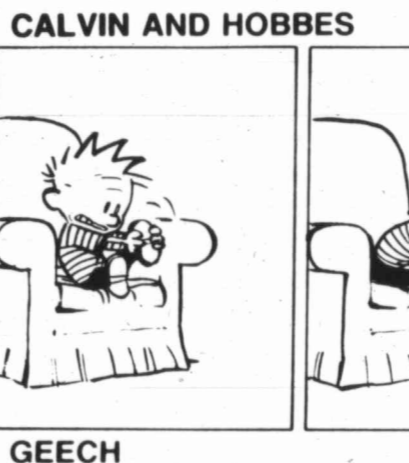


Jeanne Dixon's Horoscope

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1990 HAPPY BIRTHDAY! IN THE NEXT YEAR OF YOUR LIFE: Substantial business and financial gains are possible in the coming months. Be careful not to drop the ball at work. Plan ahead and keep your associates informed of any changes you intend to make.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Consider carefully when faced with several options. Do not jump at the first offer. Invite someone special to lunch. Sharing a secret with this person could have a profound effect on your happiness.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): A message received from afar needs clarification. Read between the lines. Stick to tried-and-true methods where your work is concerned; influential people prefer the conventional approach.



16 Pa... Clear... Wet... Clear... Wednes... Average... Record... Rainfall... Normal... Play... at T... LEN... after t... Mustar... the are... Wink... champ... Countr... game a... ding to... Gibson... Fort... state S... McLea... p.m. S... Ticket... and \$1... The... the ser... Lazbur... ed San... action... "We... munity... Gibsor... booste... cession... crew c... Grady... helping... as con... Tru... esta... A tr... Trust... of Star... for Jo... is criti... Basin... Andre... For... tact H... North... Chr... prog... The... Progr... needy... day se... Marti... The... that S... any yo... and pr... ner fo... might... afford... Chair... App... this y... cepted... Satur... Reddy... Peter... Con... to Ra... First... maile... ton, 7... Chi... soc... The... Muse... drais... Chris... from... at the... Ad... per p... Hazel... for th... For... fact t...

Stanton Herald

Thursday

Edition of the Big Spring Herald

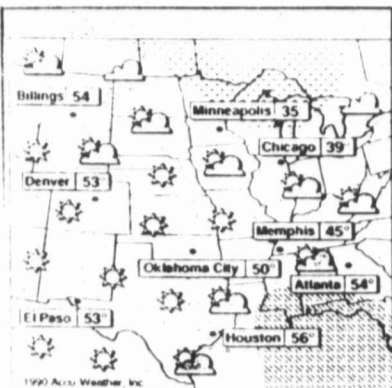
Serving Crossroads Country — West

16 Pages 2 Sections

Vol. 2 No. 153

December 6, 1990

35¢ Newsstand — 25¢ Home Delivered



Weather

Clear and cold tonight with lows in the 20s. Sunny Friday with highs in the 50s.

Wednesday's high temperature	66
Wednesday's low temperature	34
Average high	61
Average low	32
Record high	79 in 1956
Record low	06 in 1950
Inches	
Rainfall Wednesday	0.00
Month to date	0.00
Normal for Month	0.69
Year to date	20.42
Normal for year	18.04

Playoff game at Tunnell Field

LENORAH — Two weeks after the Fort Hancock Mustangs defeated Grady in the area six man playoff in Wink, the defending state champions will visit Wildcat Country for their semifinal game against McLean, according to GHS principal Richard Gibson.

Fort Hancock, the defending state six man champion, and McLean will square off at 6 p.m. Saturday, Gibson said. Ticket prices are \$3 for adults and \$1 for students.

The Mustangs advanced to the semis with a 66-20 win over Lazbuddie while McLean downed Sands, 22-16, in quarterfinal action last weekend.

"We are making this a community and school project," Gibson said. "The Grady booster club will man the concession stands and the chain crew on the field, while the Grady school employees will be helping make everybody's stay as comfortable as possible."

Trust fund established

A trust fund at First Bankers Trust and Savings Association of Stanton has been established for Jon Cox of Stanton, who is critically ill at Permian Basin General hospital in Andrews.

For more information contact Helen Thrailkill at 208 North St. Peter or call 756-2805.

Christmas Cheer program underway

The annual Christmas Cheer Program, designed to help needy families during the holiday season, is underway in the Martin County area.

The program aims to insure that Santa Claus does not miss any young child in the area, and provides a Christmas dinner for some families that might not otherwise be able to afford it, according to Program Chairman Bob Deavenport.

Applications to participate in this year's program will be accepted from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday at the Texas Electric Reddy Room, 310 North St. Peter.

Contributions may be made to Raymond Walton at the First National Bank, or may be mailed to P.O. Box 1190, Stanton, 79782-1190.

Christmas ball, social planned

The Martin County Historical Museum will have its only fundraiser of the year, the annual Christmas Ball and Social, from 8 p.m.-midnight Saturday at the community center.

Admission for the event is \$5 per person, according to Nelda Hazelwood, publicity chairman for the Friends of the Museum. Refreshments will be served.

For more information contact the museum at 756-2722.

Holiday music on tap Sunday

HERALD STAFF REPORT

The First Baptist Church youth group will perform the production, "Live at the Palace," Sunday, according to Mike Harris, minister of youth and music director.

"About 35 participants will be performing in this religious musical. The setting is at the Burger Palace, which is a hangout for kids, kind of the happening place to be," Harris said. "The program will start at 6 p.m. at the church and everyone is invited."

On Dec. 16, the worship choir and the combined children's choir will perform two musicals.

The worship choir musical will start at 11 a.m. It will center around a family Christmas with 30-35 members of the congregation participating.

The combined children's choir will perform "Christmas, Far and Near" during the evening program at 6 p.m. The program will highlight Christmas traditions as they are celebrated around the world from culture to culture, Harris said.

"This production will combine the choirs of the three directors: Jeannie Barry, Mary Swihart and Shelia Devore; and five assistant directors, Zana Traweck, Kareen Lively, Lynn Smith, Mickey McGregor and Cathy Stewart," Harris said. "About 50 youngsters will take part in this musical."

Saddam: Free all hostages

(AP) Saddam Hussein today urged his parliament to free all foreign hostages, saying they were no longer needed to try to deter an attack by the U.S.-led multinational force in the Persian Gulf.

The White House called the announcement "a hopeful sign." Britain and relatives of the detained foreigners also welcomed the move.

Oil prices plunged following the announcement.

The U.N. Security Council, meanwhile, was reportedly considering a draft resolution on a Middle East peace conference — a measure that could allow Saddam to pull out of Kuwait without completely losing face.

Saddam said recent diplomatic moves have prompted him to "respond to positive changes" and he instructed his National Assembly to approve the foreigners' release, the official Iraqi News Agency reported.

He also said Iraq had completed its deployment in Kuwait, and therefore the hostages were no longer needed to prevent an attack. More than 400,000 Iraqi troops now are deployed in the conquered emirate.

The report did not say when the foreigners would be freed, but parliament routinely accepts Saddam's recommendations, and the release was expected soon after the vote, which could come as early as Friday.

Iraq's press attache at its London Embassy, Naeel Hassan, said foreigners were free to leave now. "Now they can leave the moment they want," he said.

There are thousands of Westerners held in Iraq and Kuwait, including about 900 Americans. About 90 of the detained Americans have been held at strategic sites to deter an attack



BAGHDAD, Iraq — Charlene Coutre-Williams, left, of Dallas, greets her daughter, Jennifer Williams, through a bus window outside a Baghdad hotel Wednesday night. Jennifer is among a group of 17 U.S. women that recently arrived here to secure the release of family members.

fluence those deliberations and the direct U.S.-Iraq talks on the standoff in the gulf scheduled in Washington and Baghdad for later this month.

White House press spokesman Marvin Fitzwater said the announcement was "a hopeful sign."

"If it's true we'll do what is necessary to get our people out. It shows he realizes his position, that taking hostages has incurred the outrage of the world," Fitzwater said in Chile, where he was accompanying President Bush on his South American tour. He said Bush was informed of the news aboard Air Force One as it flew from Argentina to Chile.

● **HOSTAGES** page 8-A

Survey finds lower student drug use in Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — A new study of Texas students indicates that fewer are using illegal drugs today than two years ago, the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse says.

But that good news was offset by some bad news, said commission Executive Director Bob Dickson. The survey also found that use of tobacco and alcohol has increased since 1988.

"And the use of these licit, 'gateway' drugs places these young people at serious risk for later use of illicit drugs. In fact,

"And the use of these licit, 'gateway' drugs places these young people at serious risk for later use of illicit drugs. In fact, when alcohol and tobacco are included, only one-third of Texas youth remained drug-free during the 1990 school year."

Bob Dickson

when alcohol and tobacco are included, only one-third of Texas youth remained drug-free during the 1990 school year," Dickson said Wednesday.

However, Dickson said, "The news is generally good. It's not all good, but it's generally good."

The survey of some 110,000 secondary school students found that current use — defined as use within the past 30 days — of all il-

legal drugs had declined between 1988 and 1990. It said 10 percent of 1990 respondents reported having used such substances within the past month compared with 17 percent in 1988.

The study also said that current use of marijuana dropped from 12 percent to 8 percent; uppers — amphetamines, "speed" and others — dropped from 6 percent to 2 percent; downers — sedatives, tranquilizers and others — dropped from 4 percent to 1 percent, and current use of inhalants, cocaine and hallucinogens also decreased.

"Lifetime use of illicit substances also decreased between 1988 and 1990. Most significantly, the percentage of Texas' secondary school students who had ever

● **DRUGS** page 8-A



A high shine

HEILBRONN, Germany — Juergen Bayer washes the front end of a Trabant car, mounted to the entrance of a youth club, near here Wednesday. For years, the Trabants were the basic form of transportation in the former East Germany, but now the cars are finding new — if somewhat unusual — uses.

Bush among friends, but some differences remain

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP) — President Bush comes bearing gifts of restored economic and military ties to the newly revived democratic government of Chile.



PRESIDENT BUSH

Bush's jumbo jet Air Force One departed Buenos Aires this morning on a 2½-hour flight over the Andes Mountains to the Chilean capital.

Guerillas exploded five bombs during the night in Santiago to protest the Bush visit. Four Mormon chapels — targeted as a "tool of yankee imperialism" — were damaged, but no one was injured. One bomb went off after midnight in a downtown park near a hotel where several officials in the Bush party were staying.

On Wednesday police used tear gas and water cannons to scatter 400 demonstrators marching through the streets and chanting anti-Bush slogans.

Bush's five-nation tour is dedicated to resurgent political freedoms in Latin America — and Chile, which saw the democratic election of President Patricio Aylwin in March after 16 years of military rule, gives him ample cause to celebrate.

The Bush administration prefaced the visit by lifting sanctions imposed during the dictatorship of

Gen. Augusto Pinochet Ugarte.

In late November, Washington allowed Chile back into the General Preferences System, which grants tariff concessions to exports from various countries.

Finance Minister Alejandro Foxley said that should allow Chile to increase exports to the United States by around \$100 million from the present \$1.45 billion a year.

The Reagan administration excluded Chile from the system in 1988 to protest Pinochet's repression of the Chilean labor movement.

Last weekend, the administration lifted a ban on military aid and the sale of military equipment imposed in 1976 following the murder in Washington of former Chilean Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier, a prominent foe of Pinochet, and an American aide, Ronnie Moffitt.

Aylwin and his top aides recognize Washington's support for their struggle to restore democracy, but will not let Bush leave without airing a few grievances.

His country is upset about a bill before the Senate on the import of Chilean fruit that Chile says imposes unfair trade restrictions.

Chileans also still complain about last year's four-day sale of all Chilean fruits in the United States after two grapes laced with cyanide were found in a shipment in Philadelphia.

Spring board

How's that?

Q. What are the most common kinds of worms found in dogs and how serious can these conditions be?
A. The most common worms found in dogs are large roundworms and hookworms. Untreated, these worms can result in serious side effects. Both types of worms can be fatal to young puppies, according to North American Precip Syndicate, Inc.

Calendar

Basketball

- TODAY**
- Stanton j.v. tournament.
 - Senior Citizen Game Night at 6 p.m. at The Depot.
- FRIDAY**
- Martin County Pecan Show: food entries due by 9 a.m.; auction at 10 a.m.
 - Sands tournament continues.
 - Stanton j.v. tournament continues.
- SATURDAY**
- Sands tournament continues.
 - Stanton j.v. tournament continues.
 - Christmas Ball and Social from 8 p.m. to midnight at the Community Center. \$5 per person.

Drugs

Continued from page 1-A

used any illicit drug dropped from 39 percent in 1988 to 25 percent in 1990," the study said.

The percentage of students reporting that they had ever used marijuana fell from 32 percent in 1988 to 23 percent; use of uppers fell from 17 percent to 7 percent; and use of downers dropped from 13 percent to 5 percent.

Since the 1988 survey, a number of new programs aimed at prevention have been started. Dickson said this year's results show that prevention is the right track.

"It's an indication of what we've been saying for three years now: Prevention efforts do work," he said.

The study said that while students appear to be responding to messages about illegal drugs, they continue to use alcohol and tobacco.

"Eighty-one percent of secondary students have drunk alcohol in their lifetime, up from 76 percent in 1988," the study said.

"Drinking is now more prevalent among groups that were among the lowest users in 1988: lifetime alcohol consumption among seventh graders rose from 59 to 69 percent, among blacks it rose from 64 to 83 percent, and among females it rose from 74 to 81 percent."

The percentage of students who smoked cigarettes during the previous month increased. Among high school seniors it was up from 21 percent in 1988 to 26 percent in 1990, the study said.

Schedule for JV tournament

Here is the schedule for Thursday and Friday games at the Stanton Junior Varsity Basketball Tournament, which begins today at Stanton High School. All teams are junior varsity unless noted otherwise:

THURSDAY

- Girls — Coahoma vs. Grady, 4:30 p.m., new gym.
- Girls — Stanton vs. Colorado City, 6 p.m., new gym.
- Boys — Stanton vs. C-City, 6 p.m., old gym.

FRIDAY

- Girls — Grady vs. C-City, 4:30 p.m., new gym.
- Boys — Coahoma freshmen vs. C-City, 4:30 p.m., new gym.
- Girls — Stanton vs. Coahoma, 6 p.m., old gym.
- Boys — Coahoma vs. Stanton, 6 p.m., new gym.

Stanton Classified

THE STANTON HERALD needs 2 motor route delivery people in Western Martin County and in the Grady/Merrick area. You must have a dependable automobile with insurance. Income depends on the size of the route you get. Apply in person at the Stanton Herald Office, 210 N. St. Peter between 1:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m., Monday-Friday.

THREE BEDROOM, two bath, 1 acre of land, 2.2 miles Northwest of Stanton on FM 3113. For appointment call Dan or Pam Yates, (915) 758-2017.

1984 BROADMORE 14x90, 3 bedroom, 2 baths, lots of extras. Assume note, pick-up payments. 1-756-2753.

Don't look to feds for disaster aid this year

Farm scene

WASHINGTON (AP) — Rep. Kika de la Garza is asking Agriculture Secretary Clayton Yentter to quickly make low-interest loans available to farmers who lost crops or livestock to drought, floods or other natural disasters.

While the government's budget situation made it impossible for Congress to provide direct disaster assistance to farmers this year, it set aside \$600 million in disaster loans, de la Garza said.

Congress also waived a federal law which prohibits emergency disaster loans to producers if crop insurance was available. The waiver, included in the 1990 farm bill, applies only to crops for harvest this year.

But for many farmers in Texas who are operating on the edge, the 4.5 percent interest loans won't do much good, a critic said.

"If you're in the hole and you're

broke, a loan doesn't help," said Joe Rankin, president of the Texas Farmers Union, which represents 4,000 member families.

Disaster payments, approved by Congress in four of the past five years, while "not lucrative... are very helpful," Rankin said Wednesday. "We need to have those disaster payments."

Jack Eberspacher, executive director of the National Grain Sorghum Producers Association in Abilene, said he believes the low-interest loans would be very helpful to a large number of producers in Texas, New Mexico and Oklahoma.

"It is some avenue that they have for assistance to operate this

... a substantial portion of Texas' 186,000 farmers lost crops because of bad weather this year. Half a million acres of cotton was lost west of Lubbock because of dry weather, which also caused poor yields from Amarillo west to the New Mexico line and south to the Rio Grande Valley.

for emergency loans because of disaster declarations this year.

In a letter to Yentter, de la Garza asked him to move quickly to implement the waiver, saying "this modest step will help alleviate the difficult circumstances that many of our farmers and ranchers face as a result of various natural disasters."

But Rankin said he believes many farmers in Texas will give up the business, in part because they're at retirement age and in part because of economics.

"A lot of people are going to give it up this time, it's so difficult to get financed," Rankin said. "Some people are just going to hang it up and retire. We're going to lose a lot of farmers here in the state of Texas, but I don't have a number."

Joe O'Neill, spokesman for the Farmers Home Administration, said the agency is looking at all regulations in the 1990 Farm Bill

Hostages

Continued from page 1-A

Oil prices fell about \$2 a barrel in frantic trading today in London after the announcement. North Sea Brent Blend, the most widely traded international crude oil, fell to \$25.60 a barrel for January delivery. It was the lowest level since August, when Iraq began the crisis by invading neighboring Kuwait.

Prices fell \$3 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange on Wednesday.

Cable News Network reported that several hostages in Baghdad joyously greeted the news. In London, several hostage relatives also were jubilant.

"I'm over the moon. It's what we've prayed and prayed for," said Briton Sue Dorrington, whose husband, David, is being held in Baghdad.

"I have been in tears all morning since I heard the news. I just hope it is true," said Linda Grant, a relative of a detained British Airways employee.

Diplomats in Baghdad said today that Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz would meet with Bush on Dec. 17 in Washington. Iraq has accepted Bush's offer to send Secretary of State James A. Baker III in Baghdad. No date has been set.

On Wednesday, CNN reported that Saddam was offering to negotiate in his 4-month-old occupation of Kuwait. CNN quoted an unidentified, ranking Iraqi source as saying, "All issues are on the table, everything."

Baker, however, said on Wednesday that he would only restate U.N. demands that Iraq withdraw unconditionally from Kuwait.

A senior U.S. official said today the U.N. Security Council was considering a draft resolution that would have the council members consider "carrying out at an appropriate time" a "properly structured" peace conference to advance a Middle East peace settlement. However, the White House today denied that the United States was proposing such a move.

Saddam has repeatedly tried to link a resolution of the gulf crisis to talks on the Palestinian uprising in Israel. Such a linkage, which the United States has rejected, could presumably allow Saddam to withdraw from Kuwait and still

claim that he had accomplished a long-held Arab goal.

Saddam's offer to free the hostages comes one week after passage of a U.N. resolution authorizing force against Iraq by Jan. 15 if it fails to withdraw from Kuwait. The United States also recently announced it would dramatically boost its forces in the gulf region to give it an offensive option.

The Iraqi News Agency said Saddam urged parliament to act in a letter he sent to the National Assembly Chairman Sadi Mehdi Saleh.

Saddam told parliament: "I invite you to take a just decision to end the travel ban imposed on foreigners and restore to all of them the freedom to travel. We apologize to those who may have been harmed, and from God we seek forgiveness."

Saddam said that when the travel ban was first announced, Iraqi forces "had not completed their mobilization in Kuwait to confront a potential military aggression."

"Any measure that could delay war at the time was appropriate... so that we use the opportunity to complete preparations for that possibility."

"We had suggested different timing," for the release of hostages, Saddam said, referring to the previous offer to allow the foreigners to leave in batches over a three-month period starting on Christmas. But, he added, recent overtures have prompted him to "respond to positive changes."

Sen. Richard Lugar, R-Ind., member and former chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and Rep. Lee Hamilton, D-Ind., a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, welcomed the announcement during an appearance on the CBS show "This Morning."

"It seems to me that the hostages are simply in Saddam's way at this point and it would be good to get rid of all of them," Lugar said.

"If he does... release the hostages, that will make a very positive atmosphere for the talks, and I think would accelerate the so-called negotiating track here. I can't imagine a better step to improve the climate for negotiations," Hamilton said.



Worth the wait
 MOSCOW — Soviets line up for fresh fruits at a state-owned sidewalk stand here Thursday. With some foods in short supply, relief from various countries, including Germany and Israel, continues to arrive.

Bill's Foodstore

& True Value Hardware

200 N. Saint Mary Stanton, TX 756-3375

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