

BIG SPRING Herald



16 Pages 2 Sections

Vol. 63 No. 177

December 27, 1991

28c Home delivered daily per month

50c Newsstand

Weather

TONIGHT **TOMORROW**

CLEAR **CLEAR**

SUNSET 5:53 PM AM 7:47 SUNRISE

Tonight: Fair and cold. Low in the mid 20s. Light and variable wind.

Saturday: Sunny and warmer. High in the mid 50s. Southeast wind 5 to 10 mph.

Extended forecast on page 8-A.

Records

Thursday's high temp.	44
Thursday's low temp.	37
Average high	56
Average low	28
Record high	75 in 1921
Record low	14 in 1938
Rainfall Thursday	0.00
Month to date	3.92
Month's normal	0.69
Year to date	29.89
Normal for year	18.48

On the side

Police honored at banquet

Numerous awards were given at the annual Police Association Christmas Banquet Thursday at the Howard College Student Union Building.

Police Chief Joe Cook presented awards to Jimmy Mayes for Police Officer of the Year, Sergeant Roger Sweat for Supervisor of the Year, Wayne Wright for Civilian Employee of the Year and Drew Bavin for Association Member of the Year.

Citizens awards were given to Howard Shivers Jr. and Martin DelaGarza for their assistance in solving two criminal cases.

Several officers also received commendations for achievement and valor.

Inside



Chuck Noll, who guided the Pittsburgh Steelers to four Super Bowl wins, resigned as head coach of the team Thursday. For more details, see page 5-A.

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To contact the Herald:
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\$5 million textile mill to be built

By MARSHA STURDIVANT
Staff Writer

A textile mill valued at nearly \$5 million may be bringing up to 200 jobs to Howard County, following action by members of the board of Moore Development for Big Spring Inc. Thursday afternoon.

"We're agreeing to facilitate a loan to Wright Fibers Inc. . . . to assist in establishing a textile manufacturing facility in Big Spring," said Ted St. Clair, Moore executive director.

Herb Wright, owner of Wright Fibers Inc. in Decatur, will apply to the Texas Department of Agriculture for a business development loan of \$1.98 million to build the facility. The Texas Agricultural Finance Authority, which functions within the department, will guarantee the loan.

The Moore Board agreed to loan \$220,000 as the community's contribution to the venture. If the state loan is not awarded, no local money will be contributed. Wright

will use about \$1 million of his own money for the plant.

St. Clair said the textile mill will be environmentally sound and will produce bale bags for ginners to wrap cotton. The bags will be made of all natural fiber, with no dyeing or finishing.

"In the textile industry, dyeing and finishing pollutes the water. But there won't be any dyeing or finishing — this will be raw cotton. The product is natural and is not an environmental hazard," St. Clair

said.

St. Clair said Wright's idea is to use waste material to make the bale bags. Now, polypropylene bags are being used, or burlap, and both may harm the environment and the natural cotton bales, he said.

"We needed the local commitment before we could proceed. Wright bought 27 knitting machines (to make the bale bags) and they're waiting for a home. He'll buy yarn on the open market

at first, but eventually we'll set up a spinning operation and spin our own yarn," St. Clair said.

Wright, a native Texan, was employed with Dan River Mills, headquartered in New York City, for 15 years. He is currently ranching and farming near Decatur.

The facility will initially hire about 60 workers who will be trained through a cooperative effort between area colleges and textile

• MILL page 7-A

Agreement near on spill cleanup

By PATRICK DRISCOLL
Staff Writer

COLORADO CITY — Efforts continue eight months later to contain petroleum leakage — now considered hazardous — into the Colorado River at a site being considered for Texas Superfund cleanup.

Fina Oil & Chemical Co. may soon agree to preliminary measures to contain the leak, which crosses U.S. 80 in Colorado City, according to terms outlined in an emergency order by the Texas Water Commission, said Jeff Morris, manager of the Fina plant in Big Spring.

The commission is the state agency overseeing the cleanup, which Morris expects to take five to 10 years and cost "millions of dollars."

The agreement, which outlines several steps already taken by Fina plus an additional fourth step, will leave open possibilities to hold previous owners of the closed Col-Tex Refinery liable for the cleanup, Morris said. Several groups, including Chevron of California, were identified as previous owners since the leak was discovered April 22, he said.

"We think it's proper. In fact, we think it's helpful because it creates a structure in which we

can get things done and bring other responsible parties to the table," Morris said of the order, which may be agreed on Jan. 7.

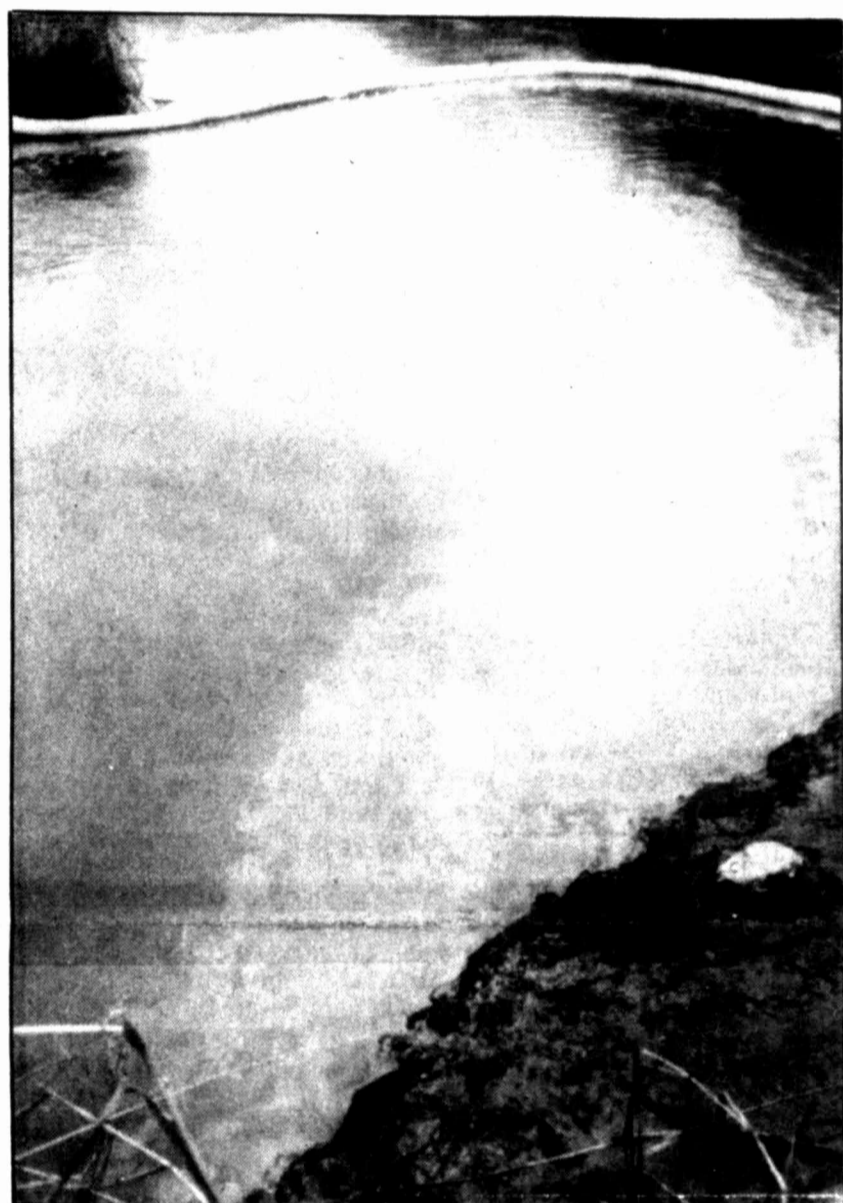
However, the commission has not identified Chevron as a potential responsible party, said commission spokesman Bill Colbert of Austin.

Morris said Chevron was the parent company of Col-Tex Refining, which sold the refinery to Cosden Petroleum Co. in 1958. Fina bought the 157-acre site from Cosden in 1963 and dismantled it in 1968. The refinery operated more than 40 years and commission officials suspect most of the ground is polluted with petroleum.

After dismantling, a 25-acre area where the leak is coming from was sold by Fina to the Colorado City Industrial Development Team. It was sold three more times since then, to, in chronological order: Mesquite Country Resources Inc. of Colorado City, Spirit Transportation & Communications Inc. of Mitchell County, and Terry Gould of Corpus Christi.

Morris said Fina may try to hold some previous owners of the 25-acre site liable for cleanup.

• OIL SPILL page 7-A



Oil seeps from the bank of the Colorado River in Colorado City as newly-replaced oil booms attempt to catch the oil. The booms broke Sunday.

State may try to block ruling

AUSTIN (AP) — An attorney representing minorities who challenged the state over redistricting plans blasted new district lines drawn by three federal judges.

James Harrington of Austin described the redistricting plan by U.S. District Judge James Nowlin and two others as a "cynical slap at the Mexican American community."

He said that the judges redrew the districts "in the name of minority rights to enhance Republican power . . ."

Nowlin said in his opinion that any partisan results in his plan were an "unavoidable consequence of the court's emphasis on the interests of the long-neglected minority concerns."

Texas Republican Party Chairman Fred Meyer said Harrington's opposition to the plans "shows he's wearing his Democratic hat."

Meanwhile, the state will probably ask the U.S. Supreme Court to block Texas House and Senate redistricting plans imposed by the federal judges last Tuesday.

"It seems like the next logical step would be to seek a stay from the U.S. Supreme Court to provide the Legislature an opportunity to work on redistricting in the special session," said Gray McBride, a spokesman for Texas Attorney General Dan Morales.

Gov. Ann Richards has summoned lawmakers to the Capitol on Jan. 2 for redistricting, which is the process of reapportioning the population into political districts. The Legislature must draw new district boundaries every 10 years after the federal census in order to adjust for population changes.

Over-35 age group blamed for cocaine use

WASHINGTON (AP) — Stop blaming the kids. It's not the youngsters who are making the nation's drug abuse problem worse. It's the folks age 35 and above.

The new National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, being formally released today, indicates the number of current users of illicit drugs — people who used an illegal substance in the previous month — dropped to 12.6 million this year.

That's down from 12.9 million last year and 14.5 million in 1988.

But the number of people 35 and older considered current users increased during that time. The 2.3 million in 1988 became 3.2 million last year. This year, they numbered 3.4 million.

The statistics were compiled from the 1991 household survey and from reports on the year's second quarter from the Drug Abuse Warn-

ing Network of hospital emergency rooms.

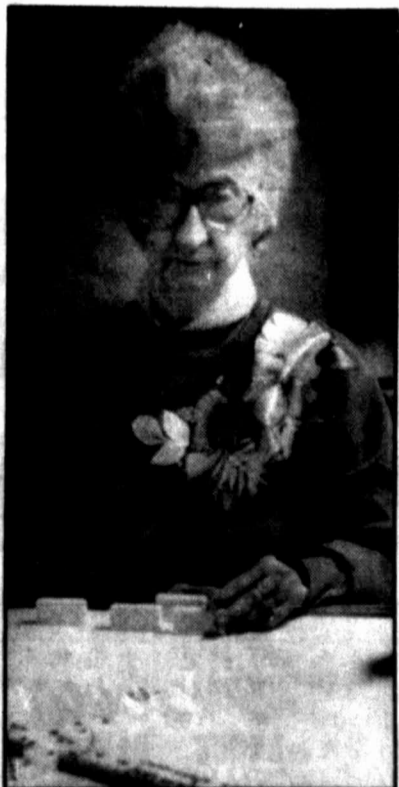
Among other findings:

- The number of monthly cocaine users rose this year to 1.9 million from 1.6 million in 1990.
- Weekly cocaine users increased to 855,000, up from 662,000 last year.
- Drug-related emergency room cases in the second quarter this year rose 8.5 percent over the cor-

responding quarter of 1990. Cocaine involvement leaped 30 percent, while heroin mentions went up 16 percent.

- Inner-city emergency rooms saw 24 percent more drug-related cases, while suburban emergency rooms saw such cases increase by 3 percent.
- Whites accounted for most of the second quarter drug-related emergency room visits at 101,100.

Patience



Wanda Erickson looks across the table as her partner prepares to make a play during a game of dominos at the Big Spring Senior Citizens Center Thursday morning.

Police STEP up DWI enforcement starting tonight

By GARY SHANKS
Staff Writer

Big Spring police will "STEP" up their DWI program starting tonight with their new Selective Traffic Enforcement Program.

STEPs use federal moneys to increase police patrols in certain areas and at certain times of the day. Big Spring's program will put two extra patrol units on the street Friday and Saturday during peak drunk driving hours — usually from 10:30 p.m. to 3 a.m. — said STEP coordinator Terry Chamness.

"The reason we were one of the cities chosen to receive this grant is — Big Spring has a high number of alcohol related accidents," Chamness said.

"Our goal is to have a 10 percent minimum decrease in the number of alcohol related accidents," he said.

The two officers will work on an overtime basis. The funds will be used primarily for the overtime pay (85 percent). Three percent will be used for public education and 12 percent will be used to reimburse the city for mileage on the vehicles, according to City Manager Hal Boyd.

The state grant mandates added



Big Spring Police Officer Robert Fitzgibbons warns partygoers that if they do not appoint a designated driver, the City of Big Spring will appoint one for them. The police are increasing ef-

orts to get drunk drivers off the streets as their Selective Traffic Enforcement Program starts today.

coverage in five areas of the city. These are high traffic areas and include both North and South Gregg streets, FM 700, Business Interstate 20 and the outer service roads of the interstate, Chamness said.

This year, Big Spring drivers have suffered more than 620 accidents, with about half of those resulting in some form of injury. Approximately 100 of these are alcohol related.

"Where you really see a dif-

ference is in the number of fatalities — in 1990, there were six (traffic accident) fatalities in Howard County and three of those were DWI related," explained a Department of Public Safety statistician in Austin.

Texas

Sidelines

DA to fight DWI ruling

AUSTIN (AP) — A prosecutor is spearheading a challenge to the 3rd Court of Appeals' ruling prohibiting Texas courts from using a driver's out-of-state record to stiffen driving-while-intoxicated convictions. Williamson County District Attorney Ken Anderson says if he cannot get the court's decision overturned, he will join Mothers Against Drunk Driving and the mother of a child paralyzed in a wreck in asking the Legislature to rewrite Texas law. "It's a matter of legislative interpretation," Anderson said. "We can't believe the Legislature meant to reward habitual drunk drivers with out-of-state convictions." Fred Leon Mitchell II consumed 18 drinks before being in a wreck that paralyzed his son, according to testimony from his March 1990 trial.

Detainees undergo forced feeding

SAN BENITO (AP) — Doctors ordered intravenous feeding Thursday for six detainees who had been conducting a hunger strike at an Immigration and Naturalization Service detention center, a newspaper reported. The six were among 59 detainees from Pakistan, India and Bangladesh who were in the eighth day of a hunger strike to protest their detention. They were admitted Thursday morning to a hospital, officials told the Valley Morning Star.

City Bits

MINIMUM CHARGE \$4.80 DEADLINE CB ADS: DAILY — 3 p.m. day prior to publication SUNDAY — 3 p.m. Friday COWBOY HOLIDAY DANCE — Saturday, Dec. 28. The Stampede — "Jody Nix & The Texas Cowboys." \$7 per person. Call 267-2060, 267-2072 or 394-4263 for reservations. NEED EXTRA CASH? Call Debbie at City Finance for information. 263-4962. Martha's Hideaway New Years Eve Party with Ralph Passmore & Ronnie Salmon playing country & western, 8 p.m.-midnight. FOX HUNT AT 11 p.m. Free refreshments — blackeyed peas and cornbread at midnight. CALL FOR RESERVATIONS, 267-9775. ONLY \$4 PER PERSON. STOREWIDE CLEARANCE NOW IN PROGRESS AT LA LANI FASHIONS! Not too late to register for December birthdays — \$50 shopping spree to be given away Dec. 31st. La Lani Fashions, 1004 Locust. EAGLES LODGE, 703 W. 3rd. Dance very Wednesday & Saturday nights. Make reservations early for New Years Dance with the COUNTRYFOUR. SUNSET TAVERN, Richard Powell. Big Spring's best home grown entertainer is back at the Sunset after 14 months absence and just returned from Nashville recording session. Saturday, 8:30 p.m. — 1 night only. No cover, no reservations. Paul & Gloria. Be sure to check out the Professional Services Directory located in the Classified section for new and established services/businesses in the local area! HELP! VOLUNTEERS needed to help with cats at the Humane Society adoption center. Two hours per week can make a difference. Call 267-7832.

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Dana Steinheimer jumps to the bank of the Colorado River from his floating home and theater Wednesday in Wharton, which was being threatened by floodwaters.

More rain increases threat of flood in Southeast Texas

WHARTON (AP) — Southeast Texas residents braced for more flooding today as rain-swollen rivers overflowed their banks, and President Bush announced plans to inspect the damage before beginning a 3-day quail hunting vacation in the state. On Thursday, Bush approved federal aid for five Texas counties hit hard by flooding. Gov. Ann Richards said White House officials told her Bush signed the necessary orders to declare Dallas, Travis, Bastrop, Bosque and Brown counties disaster areas. President Bush was expected to fly today over some of the hardest hit areas near Wharton, a town of about 10,000 people that was bracing for more flooding as burgeoning waters flow toward the Gulf of Mexico. Wharton is about 55 miles southwest of Houston. Bush already was scheduled to go quail hunting this weekend on a ranch near Beeville owned by his longtime friend, millionaire businessman Will Farish. Wharton is about 60 miles from the ranch. Weather officials said flood damage is likely throughout Southeast Texas during the next several days as swollen rivers carry water to the Gulf of Mexico. Thursday's rain, including more than an inch at Houston, added to the problem because the ground is already saturated. Skip Ely, a National Weather

President Bush was expected to fly today over some of the hardest hit areas near Wharton, a town of about 10,000 people that was bracing for more flooding as burgeoning waters flow toward the Gulf of Mexico.

Service meteorologist, said additional rain was expected today across much of Texas. "Fortunately for most places, the precipitation totals will be light," Ely said. "It'll be Friday night before it (the rain) dribbles off. We should get a break Saturday, and the first part of next week looks dry," he said. Flooding caused by days of heavy rain over the past week has killed at least 15 people across Texas, swamped farmland, drowned scores of livestock and caused millions of dollars in damage. A week ago today, Central Texas capped four days of light to moderate rain with a 4.21-inch downpour. The steady rains over a wide area contributed to the floods

and made this the state's wettest December on record (14.12 inches in Austin) and 1991 the wettest year (52.17 inches), weather officials said. Heavy rain continued Thursday over soggy Southeast Texas. Officials in Wharton, a city of 10,000, urged 1,800 people to leave their homes as water from the Colorado River moved into their neighborhood, but many appeared to be waiting until the last minute. The Colorado river was expected to crest this morning at 48 feet, about 9 feet above flood stage. It was almost 6 feet above flood stage Thursday night, officials said. The river's flooding damaged more than 200 homes in Travis and Bastrop counties, officials said. Estimates of total damage in those two counties exceed \$40 million. The Brazos River was about four miles wide northwest of Houston, and the Trinity River isolated low-lying communities between Dallas and Houston. In Liberty County, John Bunch was able to rescue his truck from the rising Trinity River. "When I parked it yesterday, it was high and dry," he said. Rick Warren said he had no intention of leaving his flood-threatened home because of bad experiences during the 1990 floods. "They came in air boats and broke in to our places," he said. "We had a lot of thefts."

Ruby's gun fetches \$220,000 at auction

NEW YORK (AP) — A New Jersey gun collector has bid \$220,000 to become the new owner of the revolver Jack Ruby used to kill presidential assassin Lee Harvey Oswald. The 5-inch-long gun still had the police evidence tag attached when it was auctioned off Thursday at the Omni Park Central Hotel in Manhattan. Bidding started at \$100,000 and quickly escalated. It peaked at \$200,000, plus a 10 percent commission retained by the auctioneer. The buyer, a gun collector who wished to remain anonymous, did not attend the auction. He sent another man, Frank Roman, to place his bids. "I'm purchasing it for a gun collector," Roman said as he hurried away from a crush of reporters. Asked what the man would do with the gun, he said: "I guess he's go-

ing to put it away." Ruby's brother Earl, a Detroit businessman who retired to Boca Raton, Fla., recently got control of Ruby's estate after a long court fight. He said he intends to use \$86,000 of the proceeds to pay Ruby's income tax bill and \$50,000 for legal bills. His brother's criminal trial cost him \$60,000 and legal battles over his estate cost about \$30,000, he said. "I feel great," Earl Ruby said after the sale. "I don't feel too good about having to get rid of the gun but I'm glad the bills will be paid." The plain black gun had a tag attached to it from the Dallas police bearing the words: "Jack Ruby W M 11-24-63 Capt. Fritz." The gun is a .38-caliber Colt Cobra, a lightweight revolver whose manufacture was discontinued about 10 years ago, according to New York gun dealer An-

thony Jovino. An ordinary model would sell for about \$550 unused or \$300 if used and in good condition, he estimated. The auctioneer, Herman Darvick, said Wednesday he thought Ruby's gun would fetch between \$200,000 and \$300,000. Millions of television viewers saw Ruby use the revolver to shoot Oswald as the suspected slayer of President John F. Kennedy was being moved from a Dallas police station Nov. 24, 1963. Ruby, convicted of murdering Oswald, died in jail Jan. 3, 1967 while awaiting a retrial. A 24-year-old legal battle over Ruby's estate was settled in August with Earl Ruby being named executor over a claimant, Jules Mayer, Ruby's one-time lawyer. In the meantime, the gun rested in a safe deposit box in Dallas and Ruby's income tax arrears grew from \$17,000 to \$86,000.

Six Flags officials applaud acquisition

ARLINGTON (AP) — Officials of Six Flags Over Texas has been acquired by a group headed by Time Warner Inc., providing instant stability to the world's second largest theme park operator. A transaction announced Thursday includes a \$150 million infusion of new capital from Time Warner Inc., the Blackstone Group and Wertheim Shroder. "This is great news. It's a terrific marriage, a perfect fit," said Bob Bennett, president and general manager of Six Flags Over Texas. Six Flags has been struggling to stay out of bankruptcy for several months. The company lost \$25.4 million last year on revenues of \$431.3 million. It lost another \$18.1 million on revenues of \$179.6 million in the first six months of 1991. As a result of the new capital, Six Flags Corp. will retire almost all of its high-interest indebtedness. Robert Pittman, president and chief executive officer of Time Warner Enterprises, also is chief executive officer of the new

parent company of Six Flags. The new Six Flags owners are banking on demographic changes in the 1990s to help them expand the business made up of seven theme parks which are located within a day's drive of more than four out of five Americans, Pittman said. Six Flags, which was founded 30 years ago in Dallas, operates Six Flags Over Texas, which is halfway between Dallas and Fort Worth; Six Flags Great Escape, Jackson, N.J.; Six Flags Great America, near Chicago; Six Flags Over Mid-America, near St. Louis; Six Flags Magic Mountain, near Los Angeles; Six Flags Over Georgia, Atlanta; and AstroWorld, Houston. "Now that our parent company's debt problems have been solved, our corporate staff will be able to concentrate fulltime on the business of entertainment," Bennett said. Bennett noted that Six Flags personnel already had been working closely with Warner Bros. on the development of major attractions scheduled to open during the 1992 season.

Names in the news

LOS ANGELES (AP) — "Entertainment Tonight" host Mary Hart plans to take about a month to get acquainted with her newborn son before returning to the air. Miss Hart and husband Burt Sugarman didn't immediately name their son, who was born Christmas Eve at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center. "This is the greatest Christmas present in the entire world, our own little Christmas elf," Miss Hart said. Miss Hart and her baby, who weighed in at 6 pounds, 3 ounces, were shown on the syndicated TV show Thursday night. LAS VEGAS (AP) — The nation's schools are not getting enough money, and that is endangering the country's future, says entertainer Lou Rawls. "A lot of those kids out there may be the ones who come up with the answers to the problems we face today, but they've got to have the opportunity to get an education and fine-tune their abilities," Rawls said Thursday as he prepared for Saturday's 12th annual "Lou Rawls

Parade of Stars" telethon. Over the years the show has raised about \$90 million for the United Negro College Fund. This year's seven-hour show will be broadcast from Los Angeles and New York. It will include appearances by Ed McMahon, Bill Cosby, Bob Hope, Melba Moore, John Forsythe, Chaka Kahn, Reba McEntire, and Roseanne and Tom Arnold. LOS ANGELES (AP) — Pat Conroy got a firsthand look at Hollywood's way of doing business when his best seller "The Prince of Tides" was made into a movie. The story of a football coach who falls for a psychiatrist was sold and resold several times. At one point



or another, it was in the hands of CBS, United Artists, Robert Redford and finally Barbra Streisand, who directed the movie and starred as the psychiatrist. Although Conroy got a screenplay credit, his script was rewritten by a number of people. "We talked a great deal," he said. "There would be differences, and whenever we had one of those differences or an argument Barbra usually won." Still, he said she was a "complete pleasure to work with" as long as he understood the pecking order. NEW YORK (AP) — Actress Sandra Dee, who lost 20 years of her career to drugs and alcohol, said she was overwhelmed when she received a standing ovation during a recent appearance in the play "Love Letters." The perky teen idol of 1950s and '60s movies received the ovation when she walked on stage during a recent performance of the play in Los Angeles, People magazine reported. "It was the strangest, most overwhelming feeling I've ever experienced," the 49-year-old actress said. She said her co-star, John Saxon, leaned over and quipped, "You ought to leave now, while you're ahead." Dee said in an earlier interview that she dropped out of show business for two decades while she battled drugs, alcohol and eating disorders.

Herald Advertiser Index table listing various services and their page numbers, such as Abernathy Cars, BentTree Apartments, Carter's Furniture, etc.

CHIROPRACTOR Dr. Bill T. Chrane 263-3182 1409 Lancaster

MONICA YARBROUGH Formerly of Regis Is Now Located At: STYLISTICS, TOO! Upstairs in the Grey Building 406 E. FM 700 267-2697

Bob Brock Ford Lincoln, Mercury, Nissan For The Best Deal In West Texas! See Randy Gee "Now in Sales"

RITZ 401 MAIN CHILD \$1.50 ADULT \$1.50 All I Want For Christmas - Rated G 2:00 P.M. 4:00 P.M. 7:10 P.M. 9:00 P.M. Ernest Scared Stupid 2:00 P.M. 4:00 P.M. 7:10 P.M. 9:10 P.M. The Ritz Will Close Today, Dec. 26 at 6 P.M. And Open Dec. 28th at 6:30 P.M. "MERRY CHRISTMAS"

CINEMARK THEATRES MOVIES 4 Big Spring Mall 263-2479 BOX OFFICE OPENS 1:00 P.M. FRI.-THURS. Beauty and the Beast The most beautiful love story ever told. Fri. 4:30 7:20 9:30 Sat. 1:30 4:30 7:20 9:30 STAR TREK: THE UNDISCOVERED COUNTRY Fri. 5:00 7:30 9:50 Sat. 1:45 5:00 7:30 9:50 THE LAST BOYSCOUT The goal is to survive. BRUCE WILLIS RAMON WILKINS Fri. 4:45 7:10 9:40 Sat. 2:00 4:45 7:10 9:40 Hook DUSTIN HOFFMAN ROBIN WILLIAMS Fri. 4:05 7:00 9:55 Sat. 1:15 4:05 7:00 9:55

Blac NEWAL of black tention th to celebr newer h African-A roots in A "This is Debra Ji joined a St. Rocco learning: Those which in Enro WASHI college e rise despi in the li and junior Council of Total er 12 states Connectic York, the issued Th Last ye Dis MOSCOV how to re questions; former So trouble sp old Soviet commonw Defense monweal discuss th powerful; men but n Former S. Gorbac mood a da reporters Thursday vacation fr ed to say v "I am scene," th pledged. E fected bei to rival F Yeltsin. Yeltsin: 11-membe dependen month mu divide, th forces. Ye The Chair Soviet legi bothered t

Nation/World

Black families celebrating holiday

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — Millions of black families turned their attention this week from Christmas to celebrate Kwanzaa — a much newer holiday that highlights African-American culture and its roots in Africa.

"This is my first Kwanzaa," said Debra Jackson of Roselle, who joined a celebration Thursday at St. Rocco's School in Newark. "I'm learning about it just like the kids."

Those who celebrate Kwanzaa, which in Swahili means "first

fruits of the harvest," say it's not meant to replace other holidays, and isn't a religious or political affair.

"This is a holiday designed to make people of African descent reclaim and understand their African culture," said Bill Davis, an administrator at Middlesex County College.

On each of the celebration's seven days, families discuss a principle of African culture that's also a guideline for year-round living.

Enrollment is up in junior colleges

WASHINGTON (AP) — Overall college enrollment continues to rise despite the recession, especially in the less expensive community and junior colleges, the American Council on Education says.

Total enrollment this fall rose in 12 states and dropped in three: Connecticut, Minnesota and New York, the council said in a report issued Thursday.

Last year, Connecticut was the

only state to report an overall decline in the number of students.

The council's survey covered private and public institutions. It said the 15 states constitute more than 40 percent of the nation's enrollment.

The council said half the nation's colleges and universities and two-thirds of public four-year institutions suffered mid-year cuts in their 1990-1991 operating budgets.

Trying to save bike



Nikola Lukac, 2, attempts to salvage his charred bicycle from his family's destroyed house in the village of Balinci, Yugoslavia, Thursday. The house was allegedly set ablaze by Croatian forces fighting with the Yugoslav army for control of the region.

Rebel troops free political prisoners

TBILISI, Georgia (AP) — Opposition forces who have besieged the parliament building for six days attacked the Georgian KGB headquarters today and freed three political prisoners, Georgian radio said.

The move was another blow for President Zviad Gamsakhurdia, who has been holed up inside the parliament vowing to fight to the death, because one of the freed prisoners is a key foe, the radio said.

Fighting outside the parliament building had stopped for a time Thursday amid speculation that a cease-fire may be in the offing, but witnesses said gunfire broke out there again before dawn. The rebels then switched their attack to the KGB building, also in downtown Tbilisi, the radio report said.

At least 42 people have been reported killed and 260 wounded in the Georgian capital since Sunday.

Islamicists win 167 seats in elections

ALGIERS, Algeria (AP) — Muslim fundamentalists won a huge victory in Algeria's first free parliamentary elections, capturing at least 167 seats that put it in reach of winning a majority in a runoff, according to returns today.

The ruling National Liberation Front, which ran Algeria as a Marxist state for 29 years, captured only 16 seats in the first-round voting Thursday for the

430-seat National People's Assembly, said Interior Minister Larbi Belkheir.

The fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front had been gaining support among the nation's young, who make up the largest chunk of the country's population and have been hard-hit by 23 percent unemployment.

The Salvation Front arose early in 1989.

Disputes emerge during transition

MOSCOW (AP) — A dispute over how to reform the economy and questions about what to do with the former Soviet military are early trouble spots in the transition of the old Soviet monolith into a loose commonwealth of sovereign states.

Defense ministers of the commonwealth met Thursday to discuss the military, which has a powerful arsenal and 3.7 million men but no clear mission.

Former Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev was in an upbeat mood a day after resigning, telling reporters at a goodbye party Thursday that he was going on vacation for two weeks, but declined to say what he would do next.

"I am not leaving the political scene," the 60-year-old statesman pledged. But Gorbachev flatly rejected being a "opposition leader" to rival Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

Yeltsin and other leaders of the 11-member Commonwealth of Independent States formed this month must decide how to share, or divide, the former Soviet armed forces. Yeltsin said this week that

he will pull the army out of Georgia, which has not joined the commonwealth.

Defense chiefs and parliamentary representatives of the republics in the commonwealth met behind closed doors Thursday at the former Soviet Defense Ministry.

A spokesman, Col. Ivan Skrylnik, said they were considering "problems of mutual defense" and drafting proposals for consideration by the presidents of the republics at a meeting next Thursday in Minsk, the capital of Belarus, formerly Byelorussia.

No other details of the talks were available, Skrylnik said.

Yeltsin assumed responsibility for 27,000 Soviet nuclear warheads after Gorbachev's resignation. Commonwealth leaders have named Yevgeny Shaposhnikov, the former Soviet defense minister, to head both conventional and nuclear forces.

But the presidents of Ukraine and Azerbaijan have claimed control over all non-nuclear Soviet troops and bases on their soil.

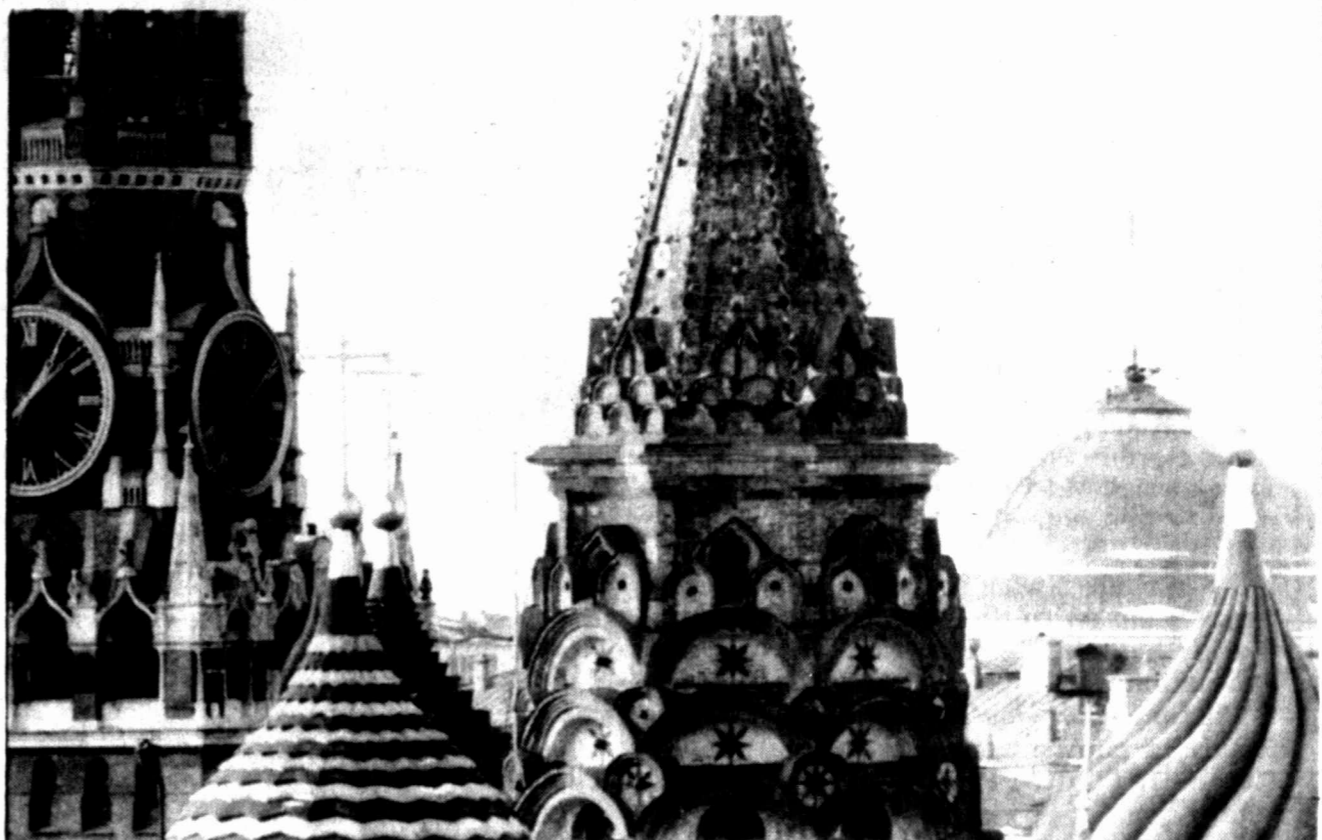
The commonwealth leaders also face the complex task of reviving and reforming their collapsed economies, which are still highly dependent on each other for trade and resources after more than seven decades of central Communist control.

The Russian Council of Ministers approved a plan to privatize state enterprises and stores, but railways, civil aviation and most natural resources are to remain under state control.

The plan still needs parliamentary approval or a presidential order to take effect, but it marks a step forward in economic reform as Russians brace for planned liberalization of most prices next Thursday.

There were already signs of friction and further decline.

Russian Vice President Alexander Rutskoi called Yeltsin's reforms "another grand experiment on the country." And the Russian Communist Workers' Party pledged to rehoist the Soviet flag over the Kremlin "in the near future."



The Russian flag flies over the Kremlin Thursday in between the spirals of St. Basil's Cathedral in Moscow. In a 40-minute session in the Kremlin

Thursday, the Supreme Soviet voted itself out of existence and recognized the loose federation of sovereign state replacing the Soviet Union.



The Chairman of the Supreme Soviet conducts the last session of the Soviet legislature in the Kremlin Thursday for which very few people bothered to show up.



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NEW YEAR'S PARTY
Tuesday, December 31st
Dance To The
New Heart Of Texas Band

Cover Charge **\$10.00** per person
Reservations Accepted

8:00 PM-2 AM
Band Plays 9 PM-1:30 AM

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Sports

Chuck Noll quits after 23 seasons

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Back in 1969, six NFL coaches debuted with new teams: Clive Rush, John Rauch, Jerry Williams, Vince Lombardi, John Madden and Chuck Noll.

Oakland before retiring in 1978, complaining of coaching burnout. And whatever happened to that other guy, Noll?

Now, the world of sports can't even count on Chuck Noll anymore. Noll has retired after 23 seasons, four Super Bowls, 12 playoff appearances and the knowledge he turned the NFL's worst team in 1969 into the best. Four times.

to step back ... and see what the flowers smell like." If 23 years doesn't sound all that long, consider that Noll coached the same team longer than all but four coaches or managers in major American pro sports history; baseball's Connie Mack and John McGraw, and football's Tom Landry and Curly Lambeau. And he did it better than almost anyone; he's still the only coach to win four

Super Bowls, and he did it in just six years. The Steelers without Chuck Noll? Even many of the Steelers found the thought nearly unthinkable after Noll's announcement. "I'm really stunned," said team captain Tunch Ilkin, who predicted Noll would return for a 24th season. "I talked to some of the other guys,

• NOLL page 6-A

Sidelines

YMCA hoops signups under way

Registration for the The Big Spring YMCA Boys Basketball League is currently under way at the YMCA. Youngsters in first through sixth grades are eligible to compete. Entry fee is \$22 for members and \$35 for non-members. For more information, call 267-8234.

Basketball tourney set in Grady

LENORAH — The Grady Student Council will host a three-on-three basketball tournament Jan. 9 at the Grady gym. Entry fee is \$45 and the bracket is limited to the first eight teams to pay their fees. Prizes will be awarded to the top finishers and all teams are guaranteed three games. For more information, call Johnny Tubb at 459-2444 or J.C. Odom at 459-2321.

Benefit scramble set for Saturday

A benefit two-man scramble will be Saturday at the Comanche Trail Golf Course. The scramble is for the Colin Carroll family, whose house recently burned down. Entry fee is \$25 per person. Mel's Catch of the Day will have a fish fry following play, which is included in the entry fee. Donations will also taken for those not wanting to play golf. Call Al Patterson for tee times at 263-7271.

Stanton hosting small tourney

STANTON — Stanton will be hosting a four-team basketball tournament today and Saturday. In the boys division, Seagraves will play Stanton B team at 3:30 p.m. At 7:30 p.m., Stanton will play Colorado City. In the girls division, Seagraves will play Stanton B at 2 p.m. Colorado City will play Stanton at 6 p.m.

Younger Shula will coach Bengals?

CINCINNATI (AP) — The Cincinnati Bengals called a news conference for today, reportedly to announce that assistant coach David Shula, son of Miami Dolphins coach Don Shula, will be their new head coach. Shula would replace Sam Wyche, who left as head coach this week amid a controversy over his departure. Wyche said he was fired. The Bengals said he quit. Shula is the Bengals' receivers coach. If he gets the job, it would be the first time that a father and son were head coaches in the NFL at the same time.

Nothing definite on Tampa Bay job

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Bill Parcells reportedly has been offered the Tampa Bay Buccaneers coaching job, but so far there's no vacancy for him to fill. While other NFL teams have moved quickly to create openings for new coaches, Bucs owner Hugh Culverhouse has yet to pull the plug on Richard Williamson's regime. Culverhouse and Williamson met Thursday without resolving the situation. The meeting is to continue today amid reports that the coach will be fired after just one full season on the job. "Richard sat down with my father this afternoon and they discussed his future and the future of the team," Gay Culverhouse, team president, said in a brief statement. "They did not conclude those discussions and will resume them (Friday)." Meanwhile, Parcells is said to have been offered about \$6.5 million over five years to leave NBC-TV for the Bucs, who finished 3-13 this season and haven't had a winning record since 1982. Culverhouse and Parcells have successfully negotiated most of the key components of a long-term contract agreement.

Monkeying around



Lincoln Kennedy, an offensive lineman for the University of Washington Huskies, poses with an orangutan named Lowell and a 30-foot replica of King Kong wearing a Huskie uniform while the team toured Universal Studios Thursday in Los Angeles. Washington will play Michigan on New Year's Day in the Rose Bowl.

Rookie of the Year comes from AFC New England runner named tops on offense Denver linebacker top defender by a landslide

NEW YORK (AP) — It took Leonard Russell just one season of major college football to make an impression on the NFL. It took Russell one season in the NFL to impress everybody else. Russell, the first running back chosen in the draft, was selected today as the NFL Offensive Rookie of the Year by The Associated Press. The New England Patriots star received 34 of 82 votes by media members, easily outdistancing running back Ricky Ervins of Washington, who had 14. "I felt that I could play (in the NFL)," Russell said. "It was a hard adjustment for me. I had a lot of people here to help me out. John Stephens was a big help." Stephens, the 1988 offensive rookie, helped inadvertently by holding out until the week before the season started. Russell won the job and held it, gaining 959 yards, fourth in the AFC, despite missing nearly two full games.

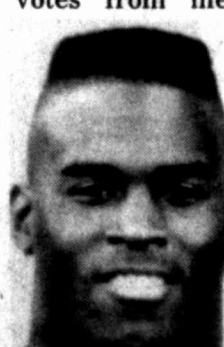
"Next year," Russell said immediately after gaining 45 yards in the season finale, a 29-7 loss at Cincinnati, "I want 1,500 yards to make up for this year." Stephens has no doubt Russell will get it. "Leonard was capable of gaining 1,000 yards," Stephens said. "He had it in him and a lot more." Russell played just one year at Arizona State after two seasons at Mount San Antonio Junior College. He rushed for 810 yards and nine touchdowns for the Sun Devils, then opted to turn pro. The pros liked what they saw and the 235-pound powerhouse was the 14th choice in the draft. "He hasn't played that much," Patriots coach Dick MacPherson said. "That's a beautiful body that hasn't been bruised up." That body gained 112 yards against the Jets after being held to 5 yards by New York in their first meeting. Russell also had a 106-yard effort against Buffalo. His output, along with the blocking of rookie tackle Pat Harlow, helped New England improve from 25th to 18th in league rushing. Not coincidentally, the Patriots went from 1-15 to 6-10. "It feels good to say you contributed to that," Russell said.

DENVER (AP) — Impact. It's the word his coaches use to describe Denver Broncos rookie linebacker Mike Croel. And it's the reason Croel was selected on Thursday as the Associated Press Defensive Rookie of the Year. Croel was a landslide winner of the award, getting 68 of the 82 votes from media members. Atlanta nose tackle Moe Gardner was a distant runner-up with seven votes. The only other player to get more than one vote was Phoenix defensive back Aeneas Williams with two. Getting one vote each were defensive tackle Russell Maryland of Dallas, the top pick in the draft; safety Stanley Richard of San Diego; linebacker Mo Lewis of the New York Jets; safety Eric Turner of Cleveland; and cornerback Larry Brown of Dallas, a 12th-round choice. Although not a particularly pro-

ductive player at Nebraska, the 6-foot-3, 231-pound Croel soared to the top echelon of the draft ratings after clocking 40-yard dash times of sub 4.5 seconds at the scouting combine in Indianapolis. Shortly before the combine, he was timed by a coach in 4.48 seconds — unheard of speed for a player his size. That made him irresistible to the Broncos, who made Croel the fourth player selected in the NFL draft in April. Croel reported 28 days late to training camp while his contract was being negotiated, but wasted little time making his presence felt. He moved into the starting lineup in the fourth game of the season after outside linebacker Tim Lucas broke his leg. By mid-season, he had recorded eight sacks and was threatening the NFL sack record for rookies of 12½ set by San Diego's Leslie O'Neal in 1986. An injury (sprained left foot) and an illness (chicken pox) late in the year caused him to miss three games, and he finished the season with 10 sacks, second on the team to Simon Fletcher's 13½. "This is a nice award," Croel said.



RUSSELL



CROEL

SportsExtra, pages 6,7-B

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Littlefield downs

Lady Steers, 54-39

SLATON — The Big Spring Lady Steers suffered a poor third quarter and dropped a 54-39 decision to the Littlefield Lady Wildcats in the opening round of the West Texas Girls Invitational Thursday. Littlefield outscored Big Spring 19-9 in the third quarter to take control of the game. After trailing 11-6 after one quarter of play, Littlefield rallied to take an 18-16 halftime lead. "We played awful," said Lady Steers coach Ron Taylor. "You could tell we hadn't worked out, awful is the only way to describe it. I think the kids were embarrassed the way they played. It's not an excuse, but I think just about everybody on the team is sick. We've got three going to the doctor this morning. "It's like we had forgotten all we the things we had learned. We cut it down to seven in the fourth quarter, then we missed three or four layups and turned the ball over several times with no defensive pressure on us." The Lady Steers, 9-5, will play Dalhart at 3:30 today. In other action it was: Crosbyton 55, Lubbock Roosevelt 47; Levelland 53, Ralls 28; Abilene Wylie 46, Floydada 31; Plainview 61, Wall 42; Abilene High 56, Perryton 41; Sweetwater 49, Dalhart 44; Slaton 63; Idalou 16.

BIG SPRING (3P) — Leslie Fryar 20.5; Theresa Ross 10.2; Casey Cook 10.2; Wanda Pefferson 10.2; Teveyan Russell 7.2; Amber Grisham 10.2; Cassie Underwood 7.0; Syretta Shellman 2.4; totals 174.12.39. LITTLEFIELD (5P) — Rogers 61.13; Heard 62.2; Coffey 1.0; Short 1.0; Sewell 1.0; Brown 20.4; Waltrip 2.8; Gonzales 1.1; Belvins 4.5; totals 1818.25.54.

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Big Spring Herald

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Subic to close by 1993

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — The U.S. Navy will leave the Subic Bay naval station by the end of 1992, the Philippines said today, ending nearly a century of American military presence in this former colony.

Subic is the largest American military base in East Asia and together with the recently closed Clark Air Base constituted the United States' largest overseas military installation.

Subic's strategic value had been called into question this year by the decline of Soviet and Chinese military threats in the region and by the damage sustained by the base in the eruption of Mount Pinatubo.

The base, although once considered an integral element in Mideast military operations, played no substantial role in the Persian Gulf War.

President Corazon Aquino's chief aide, Franklin Drilon, made the closure announcement at a news conference after he and U.S. Ambassador Frank Wisner failed to iron out differences blocking a lease extension. A main point of contention was the Philippines' ban on nuclear weapons at the facility.

Drilon said the announcement would not preclude further talks after a new government takes office next June 30. But a U.S. official in Manila said the United States had no intention of doing so and that some equipment was already being removed from the base.

He said the withdrawal would be accelerated "very, very soon."

In announcing the withdrawal, Drilon said, "The friendly and cordial relations between the United States and the Philippines will continue."

There was no immediate comment from the Pentagon on the announcement. But U.S. officials said the two governments had agreed to discontinue talks on Thursday.

Despite the decline in Subic's strategic value, U.S. officials said the facility's location, excellent deep water harbor and storage capability had made it a valuable military asset. It contained the Navy's largest warehouse overseas.

America's military presence in the Philippines began in 1898 when the United States seized the islands from Spain. Until this year, there were six U.S. bases in the country.

All survive



A Scandinavian Airlines MD-80 jetliner lies broken in three pieces on a snowy field after crashing three minutes after take-off from Stockholm's Arlanda International Airport today. Of the 122 passengers and seven crew members aboard, at least 16 people were injured, but no deaths were reported.

Judicial discretion increases sentence

WASHINGTON (AP) — Accused cocaine dealer Warren Copelin may have thought he faced a maximum of 16 months in prison when he was convicted of selling 1.44 grams of crack.

Instead, the judge sentenced the 20-year-old first-time defendant to more than five years behind bars — basing the longer term on drug charges prosecutors failed to prove.

Such judicial discretion in the federal sentencing system is stirring debate and anger. Critics say the rights of the accused are being violated. Supporters say the flexibility lets judges impose punishment that fits the crime.

For example, Copelin was sentenced to 63 months because U.S. District Judge Royce C. Lamberth disagreed with the jury's innocent verdict on the more serious charge — possession of 5.63 grams of crack with intent to sell.

Public defender Robert Tucker, representing Copelin, plans to appeal.

"This person is being sentenced precisely as if he had been convicted of the (more serious) of-

fense, which I find to be a rather astonishing result," Tucker said. "There was no point in even having the trial on Count 2."

The jury found that the government failed to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Copelin possessed the larger amount of crack with intent to sell. But the standard used by judges in sentencing — a preponderance of the evidence — is less stringent.

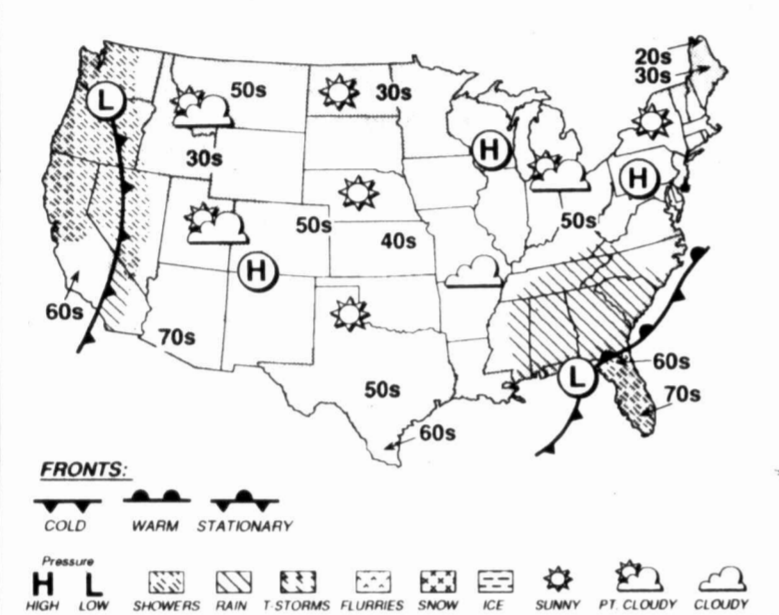
"At first blush, I agree it is troubling," Lamberth said at the sentencing. But he said the possession of the 5.63 grams of crack was "relevant conduct" that federal sentencing guidelines in effect since 1987 permitted him to weigh.

For example, a person convicted of robbing a bank can be ordered to serve extra time for carrying a gun during the robbery, even if the weapons charge is unproven or not included in the indictment.

Supporters say the system gives judges needed flexibility, noted U.S. District Judge William W. Schwarzer, head of the Federal Judicial Center that oversees research and training for the federal courts.

Weather Preview

The national map



Permian Basin

Sunday: Mostly sunny. High in mid 50s. Low in mid 30s.

Monday: Increasing cloudiness. Warming trend.

Tuesday: Mostly cloudy. High in lower 60s. Low in lower 40s.

Bush nominates commerce secretary

WASHINGTON (AP) — Commerce Secretary nominee Barbara Franklin has earned a reputation as a big-league player among Republicans and she's backed that with more than \$60,000 in recent personal contributions to the GOP.

In November the high-profile businesswoman with government ties dating to the Nixon White House augmented her donations by helping to raise nearly \$1.2 million at a fund-raising dinner in Washington for President Bush's



BARBARA FRANKLIN

re-election bid. On Thursday, Bush named her to replace another longtime political ally, Robert Mosbacher, as commerce secretary. Mosbacher has been named chairman of Bush's re-election campaign.

Franklin, 51, heads her own management consulting firm, serves on seven corporate boards and is a member of Bush's Advisory Committee for Trade Policy and Negotiations.

Deaths

Francis Carrillo

Mrs. Francis R. Carrillo, 67, Big Spring, died at her residence on Thursday, Dec. 26, 1991.



MRS. FRANCIS R. CARRILLO

Rosary will be 7:30 p.m. today at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Services will be 10 a.m. Saturday at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church with the Rev. Michael Dwyer, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in Trinity Memorial Park under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

She was born on June 4, 1924, in San Antonio. She married Concepcion Carrillo on Jan. 28, 1950, in Big Spring. He preceded her in death

on July 2, 1986. She came to Big Spring in 1945. She was a member of Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church and Cruillista. She was a homemaker.

Survivors include one son, Eugene Carrillo, Midland; two daughters: Rose M. Carrillo and Christy Baldwin, both of Big Spring; two sisters: Teodora Ramirez and Lupe Gonzales, both of Big Spring; two brothers: Filip Ramirez, Dallas, and Camilo Ramirez, San Angelo; three grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

She was also preceded in death by one son.

Pallbearers will be Pete Carrillo, Live Carrillo, Camilo Ramirez, Filip Ramirez, Fidel Saldivar, Robert Ross, Oscar Zertuche and Juan Jojola.

Rev. Michael Dwyer, pastor, officiating. Burial was in Mt. Olive Memorial Park under the direction of Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

He was born Nov. 2, 1942, in Big Spring. He had been a lifetime resident of Big Spring and had worked as an automotive painter at the Body Shop. He was a member of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church. He married Rachael Gonzales in April, 1988, in Big Spring.

Survivors include his wife, Rachael Franco, Big Spring; three sons: Michael Franco, Calif., Robert Gonzales and Arthur Gonzales, both of Big Spring; two daughters: Tammy Gonzales, Big Spring, and Sylvia Parras, Dallas; four sisters: Carmen Rodriguez, Brownfield, Esperanza Gonzales, and Josie Hernandez, both of Lamesa, and Mary Paradez, Big Spring; six brothers: Armando Salgado, and John Ramirez, both of Big Spring, Leo Salgado, Washington, D.C., Jimmy Franco, Hobbs, N.M., Joe Ramirez and Manuel Ramirez, both of Denver, Colo.; nine grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by one son and one sister.

Pallbearers were Manuel Ramirez, Joe Ramirez, Michael Franco, Raul Paradez, Feliciano Gonzales and Johnny Renteria.

Carlos Franco

Carlos Franco, 49, Big Spring, died Monday, Dec. 23, 1991, in a Midland hospital after a long illness.

Rosary was 6 p.m. Wednesday, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home Chapel. Funeral mass was 2 p.m. Thursday, Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church with the

Money-Saving Coupons every Wednesday Big Spring Herald

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29.99 Caruso Leather Skirts (Orig. 49.99)

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1/2 OFF S.M.L. Fleece Jogsets (Orig. 29.99)

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1/4 OFF California Ivy Hand Knit Sweaters (Orig. 29.99)

1/3 OFF Comit Suede Skirts (Orig. 39.99)

1/2 OFF CHILDREN'S Girls 7-14 Ski Jackets (Orig. 39.99)

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1/3 OFF Williams & Wilder Flannel Shirts (Orig. 14.99)

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49.99 Joyce Leather Boots (Orig. 59.99)

49.99 Deliso Fashion Boots (Orig. 59.99)

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40% OFF Vanity Fair Robes (Orig. to 81.00)

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MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

267-8288

James Don Slate, 55, died Wednesday. Funeral Services were 9:00 A.M. today at Myers and Smith Chapel. Graveside Services will be 2:30 P.M. today in Gouldbusk Cemetery in Gouldbusk, Texas.

Rodolfo S. Deleon, 83, died Tuesday. Funeral Services will be 2:00 P.M. today at Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Interment will follow at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Rosewood Chapel

906 GREGG BIG SPRING

Mrs. Francis R. Carrillo, 67, died Thursday. Rosary will be 7:30 P.M. tonight at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Services will be 10:00 A.M. Saturday at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church. Interment will follow in Trinity Memorial Park.

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Religion

"900" number attracts Christian callers

DANVILLE (AP)—Lonely hearts who are too shy for bar scenes can do some "highly moral" flirting in the privacy of their own homes thanks to a new "900" telephone number targeted for Christian callers.

For \$3 each minute, customers listen to messages left by other callers and—if their interest is piqued—can leave their own message.

It's called the Christian Meeting Service and may be the first of its kind in a sea of sleazy 900 numbers.

"Nine-hundred numbers have such a bad image, always targeting kids and sex," says Christian Meeting Service founder and Danville resident Richard Ujder.

"We wanted to start something for people who really wanted another option, not just entertainment."

After watching his widowed father struggle to find a "moral companion"—which he finally did through a church—Ujder suspected there was a market for

**"We wanted to start something for people who really wanted another option, not just entertainment."
Richard Ujder**

such a dating service.

Before acting on his idea, he undertook a marketing study.

When the results showed that 70 million people in the United States are Christian, Ujder, a Catholic, invested in a \$150,000 computer, hired a public relations firm and put his 900 number in the Sunday classified sections of papers around the country.

The response has been impressive: More than 60,000 people have called the service, he says, talking for an average of four minutes each time.

Most are between 35 and 40 years old, more than half are women and many are single parents.

"Everybody thought it would fail because they said it was too (specific)," says Ujder.

"But we thought there were people out there who were really sincere and wanted to meet others in a highly moral atmosphere. We're finding that's true."

Though he wouldn't say how much money he is making, Ujder said he expects his company will be profitable by August, after loans for his computer are paid for.

Last year, Jackie Kenny was thumbing through a San Francisco newspaper when she ran across the Christian Meeting Service ad.

"At first I was leery," says Kenny, a 61-year-old widow who lives and works in Danville.

"I wasn't one to go out into bars and actively look, so I tried this."

She called the number, talked a bit about herself and her hobbies. Now she's engaged to one of the

three men who responded to her message.

Her fiancée, a 69-year-old widower from Seattle, "seemed like a really nice person to me, so we got acquainted and my kids seemed to like him and it's worked out."

Ujder says it's worked out for a lot of his customers, though he doesn't keep a record of such things because they're private.

Callers don't just use the service for dating.

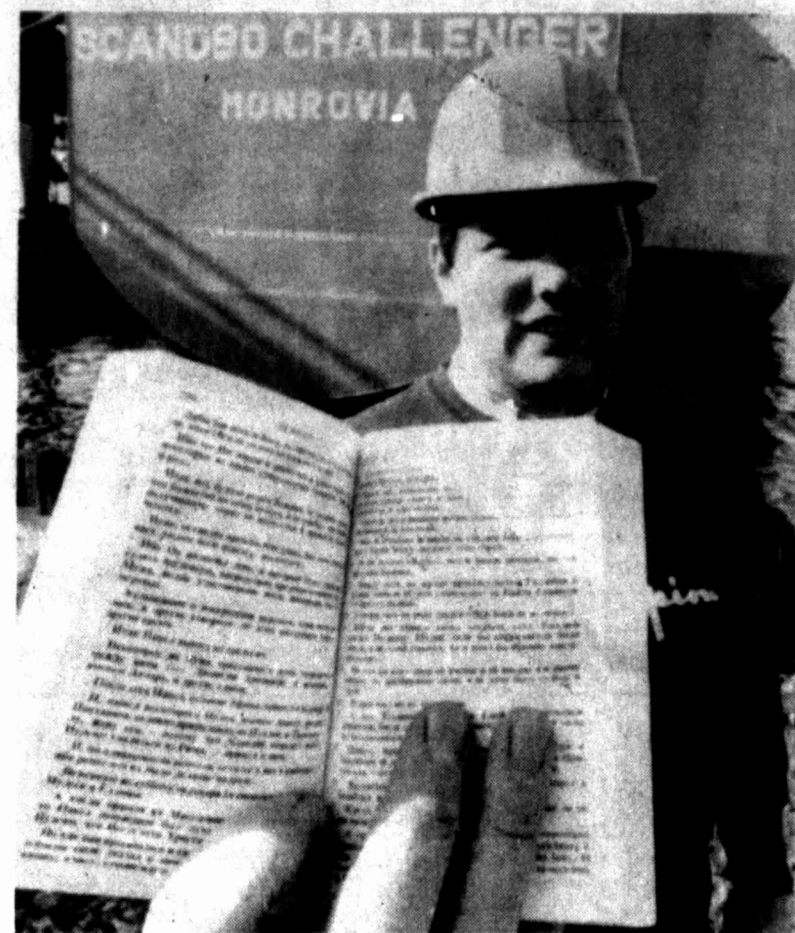
Bridge, tennis and golf partnerships have been forged over the wire, along with platonic friendships, Ujder says.

One of Kenny's suitors, a Florida man in his 20s, wanted to become her pen pal.

"I think he was looking for a mother," she says.

A former real estate developer who lives in the Shadow Creek subdivision, Ujder himself is engaged—but not through Christian Meeting Service.

Bible mission



NORFOLK, Va. — Glenn Mongold of the Lighthouse Baptist Seamans Mission in Norfolk holds one of the Bibles printed in Russian that he distributed to Russian crewmen aboard the Scanoblo Challenger, background, as it loaded coal at the Norfolk Southern Pier recently. The mission distributes Bibles to many international crews that use the port.

Old rugged cross



This 500-year-old crucifix is believed to be the oldest symbol of Christianity found in the Western Hemisphere. Unearthed by archaeologists from the University of Florida, it was discovered at the ruins of La Isabela, the Dominican Republic site where

Christopher Columbus established the first European colony in the New World. Also shown are a Spanish coin and a buckle from Spanish armor.

A look at the year's top religion stories

Briefs

NEW YORK (AP)—Various experts shuffle the lists of the year's top religion stories a bit, but just about whoever does it, the same stories show up somewhere in the upper brackets.

That, as usual, is the case in 1991 in comparing the choices made by members of the Religion Writers Association and by two respected religion journals, Christianity Today and Christian Century.

Those two magazines both cited the Gulf War and its religious ramifications as the No. 1 religion story, while it was ranked fourth in a survey of RNA members.

They put in first place the upheaval in the churches over sexual ethics, as epitomized in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), which knocked down efforts to condone sex relations of homosexuals and the unmarried.

While traditional standards were upheld, the sexuality conflict is denominationally widespread and continuing in mainline Protestantism. The Christian Century, an ecumenical weekly, ranked that issue in second place.

It was ranked third by Christianity Today, an evangelical fortnightly.

Both it and the more liberal Century gave a high place to the immense reforms allowing religious freedom in eastern Europe. To CT, that was the second-placed story after the Gulf War and was third to the Century, after the war and controversy over sexual ethics.

RNA members ranked the religion reforms in the former communist areas as No. 2 after the tumult over sexuality, with third place going to a breakup of a small monopoly's control over the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Those important finds of more than 40 years ago, only about half of which have been published, now have become available to scholars generally. CT ranked that story 10th, while the Century ranked it ninth.

Here are some of the other, often intertwining rankings by the three

sets of religion watchers, with some distinct contrasts:

Religious concern about "right to die" and euthanasia proposals, along with controversy about Derek Humphry's suicide manual, "Final Exit." This was rated fourth both by CT and the Century, 10th by the RNA.

The start of Middle East peace talks was ranked fifth by Century, but didn't make the top 10 in CT or the RNA survey.

Suspension of participation by five Eastern Orthodox denominations in the National Council of Churches because of asserted liberal leanings by some members was ranked sixth by the Century and seventh by the RNA.

That story didn't make the CT list. But it ranked fifth as an erosion of protection of religious freedoms as a result of a Supreme Court decision that a state need not show "compelling interest" to restrict religious practice.

Neither the Century nor the RNA included that story in their top 10.

However, all three sources included in that category the continuing factional struggle among Southern Baptists as fundamentalists widened their control over denominational agencies and moderates formed their own fellowship, without splitting from the denomination.

RNA rated that story as sixth while CT and the Century ranked it seventh.

The demonstrations against abortion clinics, leading to hundreds of arrests in Wichita, Kan., was the RNA's fifth-ranked story, and sixth to editors of CT. But that one didn't make the Century list.

The economic squeeze on church programs and personnel and shifting religious landscape in Latin America toward a greater Protestant presence were ranked eighth and ninth by CT.

But neither made the top 10 of the RNA or the Century.

The Century named in 10th place a special kind of story not mentioned by the others—the death of the "god" of Soviet communism.

Retreat scheduled

A Texas Baptist River Ministry Training Retreat is scheduled Feb. 14-15 at Circle Six Ranch, seven miles north of Stanton.

Since 1967, River Ministry has coordinated programs of evangelism, church planting, health care and agricultural/economic development along the Texas-Mexico border. River Ministry is supported by Texas Baptist gifts to the Mary Hill Davis Offering for State Missions.

The training retreat is designed to provide up-to-date information on border area changes and training opportunities to meet current priority needs as expressed by local missionaries.

Seminars at the retreat are led by field missionaries and volunteers who work regularly with projects related to River Ministry. Most seminars will be offered in both English and Spanish.

Cost is \$35 per person, which includes three meals and lodging. To guarantee reservations, a deposit must be received in the River Ministry office no later than the Friday prior to the weekend of the retreat. No reservations will be accepted by telephone.

Available openings will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Participants are required to bring their own bedrolls and linens. No child care will be provided.

Registration forms are available from the Baptist General Convention of Texas, River Ministry, Attn.: Elmin Howell, 333 N. Washington, Dallas 75246-1798; (214) 828-5244.

Global Mind Link

Millions will gather around the world at one moment in time - noon Greenwich time - to release spiritual energy for peace and harmony on planet Earth.

The sixth annual Global Mind Link will occur on Dec. 31 and crosses all barriers in uniting people through activities, prayer, meditation and concentration on world healing.

The time for West Texans who want to participate is 6 a.m. For additional information call Nancy

Patrick at 263-6311.

Open communication

NEW YORK (AP)—Officials of the World Muslim League and Reform Judaism have launched a continuing dialogue between Muslims and Jews.

Calling it an "epoch-making event," the director of the international Muslim group, Gutbi Ahmed, told a workshop at the biennial convention of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations:

"The positive aspects between us have never been emphasized. ... The potential for good relations arises out of our religious traditions and transcends conflict."

Rabbi Garry Bretton-Granatoor of the UAHC's interreligious affairs department said it was drafting an extensive guide for the talks and plans to distribute articles and study materials.

Missionary exchange

NEW YORK (AP)—For the first time in 30 years, the United Methodist Church and the Methodist Church in Cuba have initiated a pilot project for exchanging missionaries. U.S. church officials announced.

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Public's 'right to know' doesn't include all

DEAR ABBY: I read with interest the letter from Dr. Marvin Leaf suggesting that the fact that a person has been from a smoking-related disease should be included in his or her obituary. But why stop there?

Dear Abby



LONG ISLANDER DEAR STUART: Thanks for an amusing piece of satire. Laughter is sometimes very close to tears.

DEAR ABBY: May I add a few words to the letter from "One Hopeless Guy" who decided to chew tobacco instead of smoke it?

Let me tell you what "dipping snuff" will do to you: The nicotine from the tobacco seeps into your bloodstream, causing the arteries to constrict. The blood platelets become sticky, while the heart starts to pound. Since the heart is beating faster through narrowing arteries, the blood pressure rises, increasing the chances of heart disease and stroke.

While all of this is going on, the tobacco that has been stuffed between the cheek and gums is leaving a white lesion - a precancerous condition that becomes malignant in from 3 percent to 5 percent of the cases. Your teeth will scream for a dentist, not to mention the fact that your chances for developing cancer of the lip, nasal sinus, pharynx, larynx and esophagus also increase.

Your sense of taste and smell are diminished, which could result in the excessive use of salt, putting you at risk for high blood pressure and/or kidney disease. Also, too much sugar may invite dental problems.

I know this is not pleasant, Abby, but people who dip snuff need to know the facts. - RON JETTE, OTTAWA, CANADA

P.S. As my stationery indicates, I am director of communications of the Lung Association.

DEAR RON JETTE: On behalf of those who dip snuff - or consider it the lesser evil to smoking - I thank you.

Jeane Dixon

FOR SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1991 HAPPY BIRTHDAY! IN THE NEXT YEAR OF YOUR LIFE: You are independent, highly capable and infuriated by petty criticism. Curb an urge to fly off the handle when troublesome people rock your boat in March. An unexpected windfall or legacy brings financial security next summer. Hire people who will level with you. Build your social life around your loved ones in late fall and early winter. Romance blossoms with someone you have known a long time.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DATE: golfer Ben Crenshaw, composer Mary Rodgers, actor Rod Taylor, singer Naomi Judd. ARIES (March 21-April 19): Get essential tasks out of the way early in the day. Increased energy and artistic growth will come in new surroundings. An alliance is not as strong as you think. Nurture it. TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Curtail your enthusiasm or someone may try to overcharge you. You can achieve the impossible if you are patient. A business trip will be successful. Get agreements in writing. GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You get your ideas across more easily now. A parent or landlord decides to be lenient and postpone a deadline. Protect your reputation by being more discreet in romance. CANCER (June 21-July 22): A petty squabble can escalate into a major dispute unless you keep your temper under control. If you are an artist, put more feeling into your work. An exhibit or show goes well. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): A young person means well but tends to overstep boundaries. You need not justify your actions to a romantic partner. Be willing to make the hard but necessary decisions. Take on more responsibility.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You are more financially secure than you realize, but someone wants to keep you in the dark. Focus on solving a family problem instead of placing blame. A candid conversation works wonders. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Visitors from out of town could disrupt your schedule in a delightful way. Role reversal is good for a romantic relationship. Look for ways to improve your financial situation. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): A performance will go brilliantly if you rehearse enough. A change of residence is possible in the near future. You must make a difficult choice. Be honest about your needs and goals. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You may be able to get out of a financial obligation that has put too much pressure on you. Business associates could prove to be fine weekend companions. Dine out tonight. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Be flexible. A last-minute change of plan could work in your favor. A romance with a business associate is possible. Your self-confidence increases when love comes your way. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): A chance encounter could prove helpful to your finances. You are flying high socially. Be careful not to neglect practical matters. A project still requires promotion on your part.

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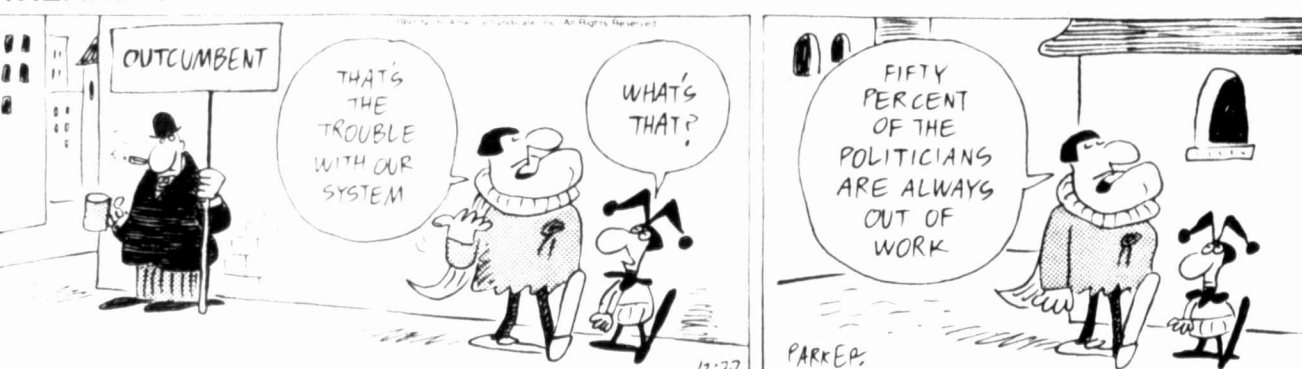


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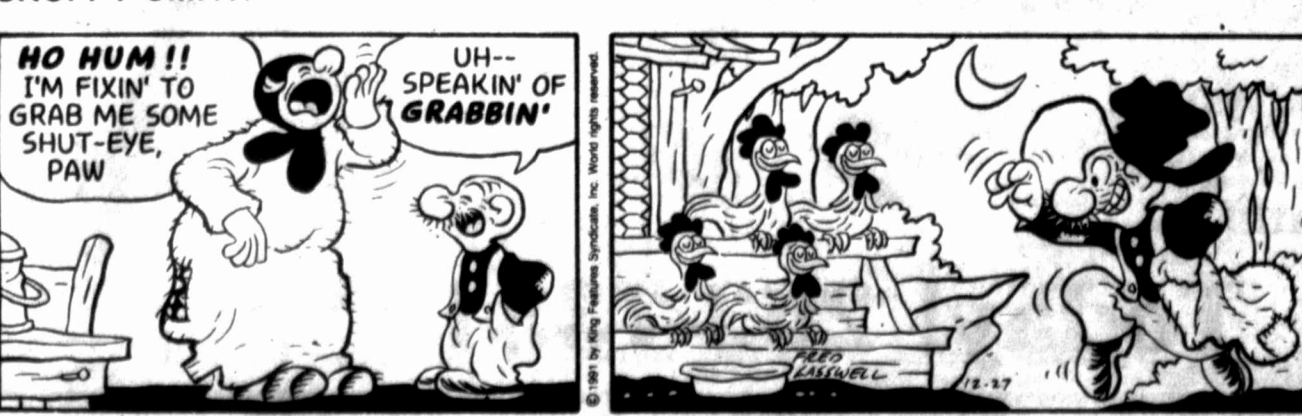
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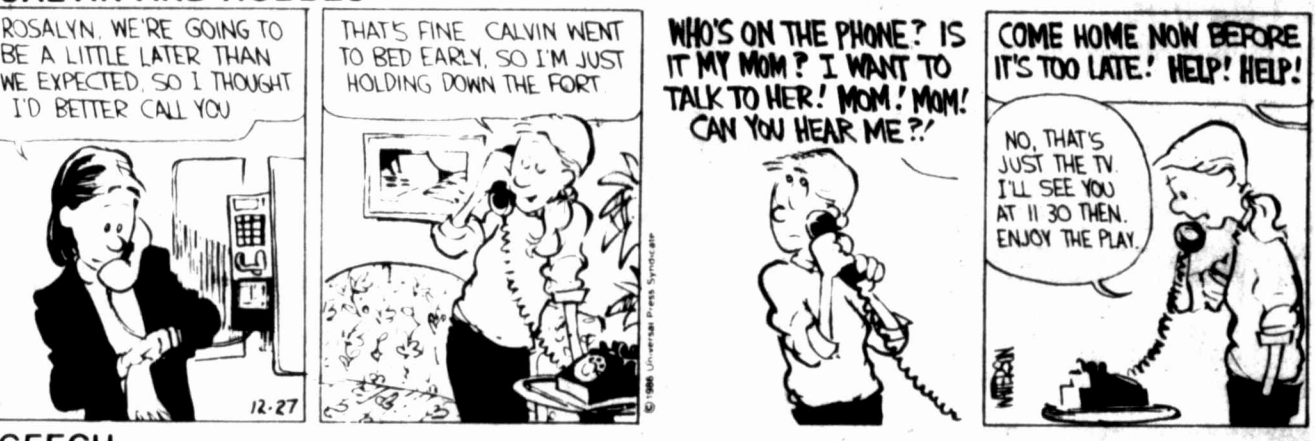
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