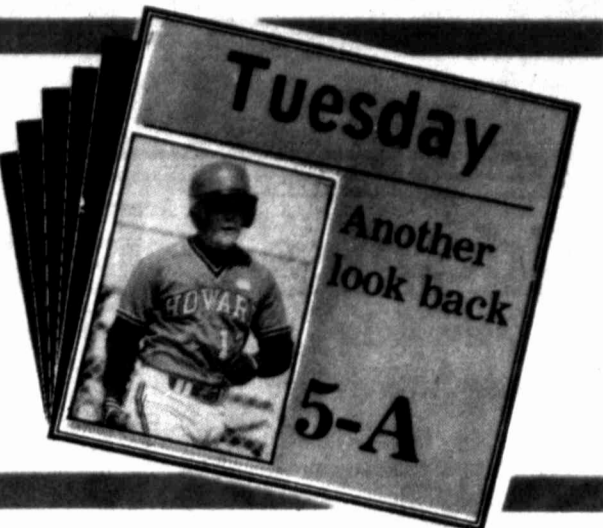




BIG SPRING Herald



14 Pages 2 Sections

Vol. 63 No. 180

December 31, 1991

28¢ Home delivered daily per month

50¢ Newsstand

Weather

TONIGHT TOMORROW

CLEAR CLEAR

SUNSET 5:55 PM
SUNRISE 7:49 AM

Tonight, fair. Low in the lower 30s. Northwest wind 5 to 15 mph.

New Year's Day, sunny. High around 55. Variable wind 5 to 15 mph.

Extended forecast on page 8-A.

Records

Monday's high temp.	61
Monday's low temp.	61
Average high	56
Average low	29
Record high	84 in 1951
Record low	10 in 1974
Rainfall Monday	0.00
Month to date	3.92
Month's normal	0.69
Year to date	29.89
Normal for year	18.57

On the side

Authorities break into wrong house

HOUSTON (AP) — A Houston homeowner said he feels "trampled" after Harris County officials searching for a parole violator broke into his home while his family was on vacation.

Members of the Precinct 6 Parole Violators Task Force destroyed one door on Ted Murray's home in the Memorial area and damaged another before deciding they had the wrong house.

"They absolutely violated our constitutional rights," Murray, an attorney, said Monday.

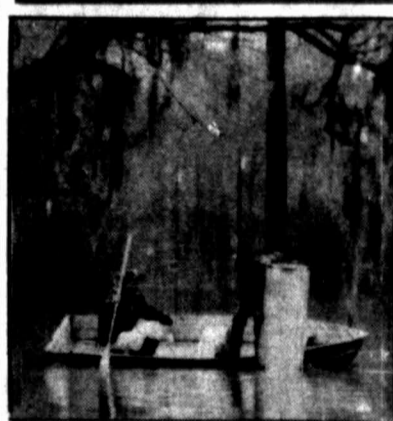
ACS attacks research study

DALLAS (AP) — A researcher's report on the American Cancer Society in Texas is nothing but a smoke screen for the tobacco industry, a cancer society spokesman said.

The critical report issued nearly two weeks ago was conducted for the Washington, D.C.-based Capital Research Center by George Mason University professor James Bennett.

Bennett's report accused the cancer society's Texas chapter of spending more money on salaries than patients and not using the amount for research that was indicated in financial statements.

Inside



Heavy flooding in South Texas forced these two phone company employees to work by boat in Camilla Monday. For more information, see page 2-A.

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To contact the Herald: Phone 263-7331

Prison meeting set for Friday

By PATRICK DRISCOLL
Staff Writer

A public meeting on a proposal to locate a state prison next to the Big Spring McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark is scheduled for Friday.

The 7 p.m. meeting at Garret Hall of the First United Methodist Church, 400 Scurry St., will end about two weeks of concerted efforts by local officials to garner community support before submission of a bid for a 2,250-bed prison or 1,000-bed prison or substance

abuse facility.

If Big Spring is selected as a site for a facility by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, 300-800 jobs would be created with an average annual employee payroll of \$21,000. At least three large and 15 of the smaller facilities are expected to be built around the state.

"We're just merely putting before the public what we have done, what our proposal is . . . and to allow people to ask questions and make comments," said

Howard County Commissioner Bill Crooker, who is helping put together the proposal package. Officials with the county, city and business organizations are cooperating in the effort.

Attendance at the meeting and petitions that will be made available at the meeting will be submitted with the proposal to state officials, Crooker said.

Petitions for the proposal that have circulated the past 10 days in various locations in the community

will also be submitted to the state, said Joyce Crooker, who organized that petition effort.

"We have a little over 2,000 signatures right now and we would like to double that if we can," Joyce Crooker said. "I think the cutoff date with the petitions will be Jan. 6 (when the final proposal is expected to be written.)"

The petitions are located at 7-Eleven Food Stores, Don's IGAs, Malone and Hogan Clinic, the Fina Oil & Chemical Co. plant and the

Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Joyce Crooker said. They may soon be located at Wal-Mart Discount Cities and the Big Spring State Hospital.

Signers do not have to be registered voters or a resident of Big Spring or Howard County, she said. Those who sign only need to be in communities affected by the prison.

"Now, we're not going as far as Midland or places like that (for signatures)," she said.

It was a very wet year

By GARY SHANKS
Staff Writer

Rainfall for the area currently stands at 167 percent of the yearly average, which is ironic considering the current dismal cotton yields, said Anita Vaughn of the United States Agricultural Research Station.

Recent weather systems have dropped more than 2 inches of precipitation in and around Big Spring, bringing the yearly total to 31.12 inches at the research station, and 31.57 inches within the city limits.

Big Spring very rarely receives 30 inches of rainfall in a year. Tommy Hart of Big Spring said. "We have had measurable rainfall on 50 days this year. That averages out to almost once a week, and that's rare for West Texas."

Recent rains stem from upper level disturbances on the edge of a strong upper-atmospheric storm originally centered over Arizona, a NWS official said.

The upper level low pressure system has been making a very slow trek to the east, which has caused the extended periods of cloudy skies.

The rains occur when moisture-laden air circulates into the system from the Gulf of Mexico and the Pacific Coast of Mexico as well, he said.

"Small disturbances along the edge of the upper level system trigger the rains we're experiencing," he added.

Although the Big Spring area is sometimes referred to as a desert, a desert classically receives less than 10 inches of rainfall annually. According to NWS records, Big Spring usually receives 18.58 inches.

• RAIN page 7-A

Swing, batter!



Three-year-old Nicholas Portocarrero prepares to swing his bat at a softball flying overhead as he was practicing his batting skills on a clear Saturday afternoon.

Zales announces restructuring, closure plans

DALLAS (AP) — Zale Corp. had hoped Christmas would save it from a massive restructuring. Instead it got the worst holiday sales in recent history.

The result was an announcement Monday that the nation's largest jewelry retailer will close 400 of its 2,000 stores and stop paying some bills, including a \$52 million interest payment due Thursday.

The fate of Big Spring stores owned by Zales has not yet been determined, company officials said.

The store closures mean 2,500, or 20 percent, of the company's employees will lose their jobs.

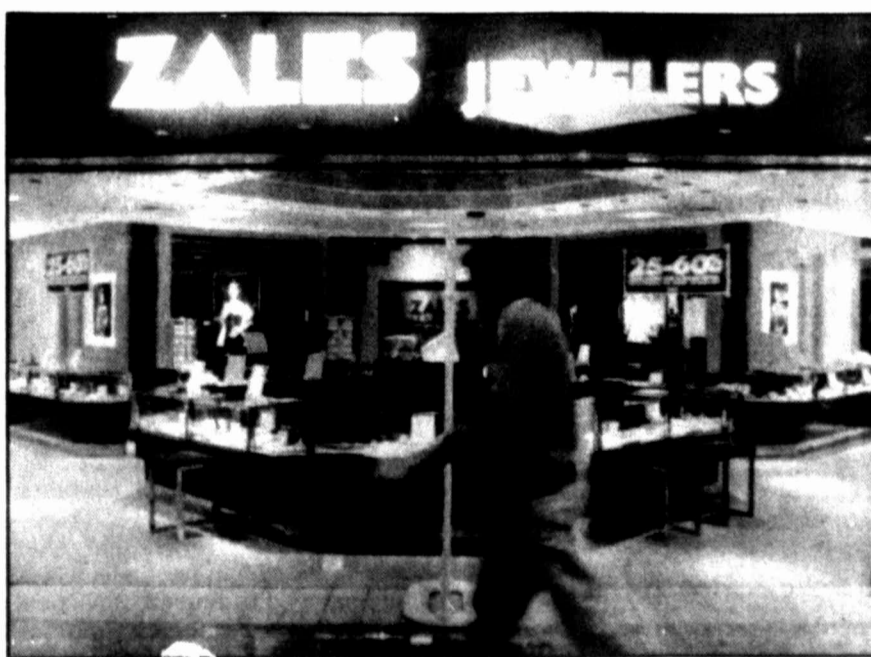
The company earlier had said it hoped Christmas would provide enough cash to pay the interest, but Chairman Irving R. Gerstein said holiday sales were off about 11 percent from last year's already weak numbers.

In addition to the interest payment, Zale said it would not pay bank debt, bondholder debt and liabilities to merchandise vendors pending a reorganization.

Gerstein said the company will immediately begin negotiating with creditors and vendors.

"We look to do the best we can so that we serve all the constituencies," he said.

Zale operates four separate retail chains — Zale's, Bailey Banks & Biddle, Gordon's and Cor-



A shopper walks past a Zales Jewelers store in Dallas Monday afternoon. Zales Corp said Monday it would close 400 of its 2,000 stores and stop paying some bills.

rigan's — which combine for annual sales of about \$1.2 billion. It has about twice as many stores as the second-ranked chain, Sterling Jewelry and Distributing Co., according to National Jeweler, a trade publication.

The company will decide which stores to close by March, and complete shutdowns of the stores three or four months after that, a Zale

spokeswoman said. Many of the stores are located in shopping malls and many malls have more than one of the chain's stores. The company said they would close many stores in malls where they have duplications, but would make the decisions on a mall-by-mall basis.

The company said they would continue to have at least one store

in most malls where the chain currently has stores.

The company has about \$850 million in outstanding debt, according to its latest filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. It lost \$85 million in the quarter ended Sept. 30. Its last profitable year was fiscal 1990, which ended in March, 1990.

In addition to Thursday's interest payment, \$6.6 million of interest is due in May and in June the company is supposed to pay \$52 million of interest and \$108.3 million of principal.

"The continuing economic recession and contraction in spending by consumers has hurt all retailers and in particular the jewelry business," the company said.

Gerstein said the reorganization plan the company is presenting to creditors is realistic and that both sides want to put Zale on sound financial footing.

Domestic jewelry sales were up 1.8 percent according to a post-Christmas survey of about 600 stores by National Jeweler.

"Two percent is not good; it's certainly wiped out by inflation," editor-in-chief S. Lynn Diamond said. "But we expected zero or down."

"It was a very bad year," she said. "I think we'll see a number of jewelers of all sizes going out of business."

Officials extend deadline

By PATRICK DRISCOLL
Staff Writer

Today's candidate filing deadline for all state and local races was extended to Jan. 10.

"The decision was final this (Monday) afternoon," said a spokeswoman with the disclosure filing office of the Secretary of State in Austin.

The deadline was extended based on an interpretation of a federal-court ruling last week that implemented interim redistricting plans for state Senate and House legislative districts and ordered candidate filing deadlines extended to Jan. 10. The court also waived residency requirements.

Secretary of State John Hannah applied the ruling on the new deadline to all races. It affects filings of campaign treasurer designations with the Secretary of State and county clerks as well as filings with party chairmen for places on the ballot.

The scheduled March 10 primary and early voting from Feb. 19 to March 6 has not changed.

The interim redistricting plans implemented by the federal three-judge panel in Austin, who are all Republican appointees, include two area districts that pit incumbents against each other. They are senators Temple Dickson, D-Sweetwater, and Bill Sims, D-San Angelo; and representatives Troy Fraser, R-Big Spring, and David Counts, D-Knox City.

Dickson and Sims, whose district includes Mitchell County and Abilene, have filed for re-election and Fraser and Counts both said they will file for re-election.

The interim plans followed state court rejection of a Senate plan and lack of approval of House plans by the U.S. Department of Justice. Minority groups, the state attorney general and some lawmakers appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court today to block the ruling. They may ask that the Legislature, which convened today to redraw plans, be given another chance.

"I think it's a travesty, an outrage," Dickson said of the Senate interim plan, which is similar to a plan proposed in May by state Republican lawmakers.

"What has occurred is something someone would have expected to happen during Reconstruction after the Civil War," Dickson said.

Sims said he is unhappy with the plan too but will support it because it does not stretch his district out of West Texas.

He fought to have the Texas Supreme Court throw out the last standing Senate plan because lines were redrawn, in an out-of-court settlement with minority groups, without the Legislature convening and would have extended Sims' district into urban areas of San Antonio and Travis County.

"I plan to support this (interim) plan because it's by far the best plan for West Texas," Sims said.

The House interim plan does not change the district that Fraser and Counts were put in by the redistricting plan passed by the Legislature in May.

It only made some changes in El Paso and Bexar counties, said Counts, who voted for the plan in May. "It's basically the same House plan."

Fraser, who opposed the legislative House plan, could not be reached for comment.

Nation/World

Mother Teresa in serious condition

LA JOLLA, Calif. (AP) — Mother Teresa was reported in serious condition today after suffering an episode of congestive heart failure and undergoing a procedure to unclog her coronary arteries.

The 81-year-old Roman Catholic nun, who won the Nobel Peace Prize for her work with the poor of Calcutta, India, was admitted to Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation with pneumonia on

Thursday.

"She is seriously ill, but she is making steady progress," Dr. Paul Teirstein said. He said she was "chipper" Monday and looked well, and could be released from the hospital in about a week.

Mother Teresa on Saturday developed symptoms of myocardial ischemia, an inadequate blood supply to the heart, doctors said. That caused congestive heart failure.

Stock prices hit high for third day

NEW YORK (AP) — Stock prices climbed to an all-time high for the third session in a row amid hopes of a healthier economy in 1992.

The Dow Jones average of 30 industrial stocks soared 62.39 points Monday to a record 3,163.91. Overall on the New York Stock Exchange, stocks gaining in price outnumbered losers 3-to-1. Trading was heavy.

In the past nine sessions before

today, the average has climbed 261.63 points, or more than 9 percent. The Dow set new highs on Thursday and Friday as well.

Analysts said hopes apparently were spreading for a better 1992. In the meantime, they said, low and still-falling interest rates have touched off a scramble to move money into stocks and bonds.

Before Monday's session, the Bank of Japan unexpectedly lowered its discount rate.

Owner of chicken plant fined \$808,150

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — The owner of a chicken processing plant where 25 people died in a September fire has been fined \$808,150 in civil penalties, the North Carolina Labor Department announced Monday.

Imperial Food Products was cited for 54 willful, 23 serious and six non-serious violations of health and safety standards, state Labor Commissioner John Brooks said in a statement.

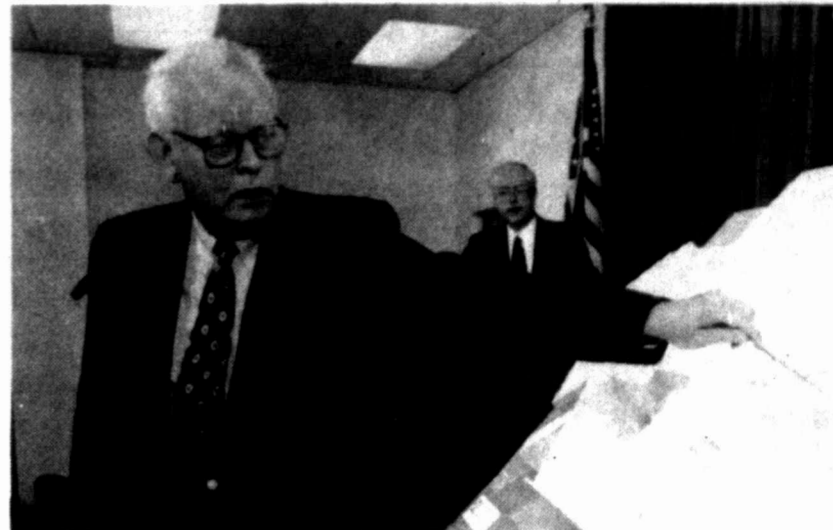
A proper amount of doors at proper locations there would have been no need for anyone to die... the state's lead investigator, Frank Trogdon, said at a news conference.

Before the fire, the 11-year-old plant had never been inspected by the state.

Brooks said at the news conference that employers, not the state, are responsible for guaranteeing a safe workplace. "We have no responsibility to periodically inspect plants. We never have had," he said.

The Sept. 3 fire also injured 56 people.

The penalties are the largest ever assessed by the state Labor Department, Brooks said. Trogdon said the company had not indicated whether it would appeal the fines to a state review board.



State Labor Department Investigator Frank Trogdon points to a model of the Imperial Food Products plant during a news conference in Raleigh, N.C., Monday. State Labor Commissioner John Brooks, center, announced fines of \$808,150 against the owners of the plant where 25 workers died in a September fire.

Skirmishes spreading in Soviet Georgia's capital

TBILISI, Georgia (AP) — Skirmishes were spreading through the Georgian capital in the second week of a violent power struggle, and rebel forces say the fight against President Zviad Gamsakhurdia could become a republic-wide civil war.

The first week of fighting, mainly along central Rustaveli Avenue near the parliament building, has left nearly 60 people dead and 300 wounded, according to the Health Ministry.

Gamsakhurdia against an opposition coalition led by intellectuals and rebel National Guardsmen. The conflict, which began Dec. 22, has involved several thousand people and has been fought around the Parliament building, where Gamsakhurdia has taken refuge.

Opposition forces on Sunday were pushed back from the area around the mammoth Parliament building, but fighting persisted Monday three blocks away near the opposition headquarters.



Georgian children find refuge behind a sand-bagged apartment window while street fighting continues in Tbilisi, Georgia, over the weekend between pro-government troops and rebel soldiers. Both sides have ignored a plea for a cease-fire.

"If this continues much longer, there will be a sea of blood," said opposition leader Giorgi Chanturia during a news conference. "I'm afraid that it will not only be on Rustaveli, but throughout Tbilisi and Georgia."

The unrest in Georgia has left the South Carolina-sized state of 5.4 million residents in political disarray as 11 other former Soviet republics work on developing the new Commonwealth of Independent States.

The fighting pits soldiers loyal to

Skirmishes were spreading around this city of 1.5 million, with random shootings reported between bands of armed fighters.

Chanturia said more than 1,000 Georgian veterans of the Soviet war in Afghanistan were considering helping the opposition after the leader of their veterans' union, Nodar Georgadze, was arrested Sunday.

The opposition said Monday that Foreign Minister Murman Omanidze also had been arrested.

Koreas agree on mutual inspections

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korea and North Korea today initialed a pact that would forbid the manufacture of nuclear weapons and allow each side to inspect the other's nuclear facilities, officials said.

to make a crude atomic bomb in a few years, though the North has insisted that its nuclear programs were not weapons-related.

The agreement came after nearly eight hours of talks at the border village of Panmunjom, the officials said. A formal agreement will be signed by the two Korea's prime ministers in January, they said.

Today's agreement commits North Korea to abandon nuclear weapons programs, and it would create a joint watchdog group that would arrange "rules and methods" for conducting inspections of each other's nuclear sites.

Experts believe North Korea, one of the last hard-line Communist states, could have the ability

to make a crude atomic bomb in a few years, though the North has insisted that its nuclear programs were not weapons-related.

Aristide hoping to regain position

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — After two days of meetings, a group of Haitian congressmen and Haiti's deposed president, Jean-Bertrand Aristide, have both expressed confidence Aristide will return soon as president.

30, is feeling world pressure.

"I think... that we will have an agreement within the next month or two months that will allow him to return to Haiti as president," Micha Gaillard, a member of Haiti's Commission for International Affairs, said Monday.

Gaillard said the military, which ousted Aristide in a coup on Sept.

Organization of American States imposed an economic embargo on the impoverished Caribbean island nation of 6.4 million people. The trade cutoff has brought further suffering.

Gaillard said the embargo cut deep into supplies of gasoline and food in Haiti, and that the military leaders seek a solution which would allow Aristide to return as president, "but not with all the authorities he had before."

Celebrities make common resolutions

Mike Royko doesn't make them, Andy Rooney won't say if he does and Bozo the Clown is too pooped from holiday appearances to come up with a list. But when the rich and famous do make New Year's resolutions, they sound a lot like the ones everybody makes every year.

of conscience everywhere in an alliance committed to the same ideal: peace on earth."

Opera star Luciano Pavarotti wants to "sing in every corner of this earth, to bring happiness."

In the season of Peter Pan... my main resolution is not to get old, and to keep chasing after the Captain Hooks of the world," said Harvard law professor and writer Alan Dershowitz.

"I'm going to try to lose 10 pounds, too," he added, "but I know reality."

Oklahoma State football coach Pat Jones, whose team just suffered its first winless season in 71 years, just wants the first game of the new season to "hurry up and get here." He said when it comes to resolutions, he's determined to go to a bowl game. "I should say to quit smoking. But I'm not going to do that."

Singer Dolly Parton reeled off a dizzying list: making really great records, doing another TV show, recording children's albums, put-

ting out a line of cosmetics, publishing her writings, appearing in more great movies and starring in a Broadway show.

And if that's not enough, "I want to make the most of what I'm doing so far," she said, "and wake up tomorrow with a new dream and get to work on that."

The recession inspired a resolution and a wish. Texas Gov. Ann Richards said her resolution is to sell her state and create jobs, and TV producer-reporter Linda Ellerbee wished "that everyone should have that status symbol of the '90s — a job."

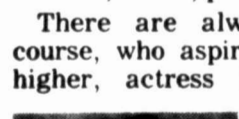
Royko, the syndicated Chicago Tribune columnist, said he hadn't made any New Year's resolutions. "I never do," he said. "I simply have nothing to resolve."

Neither does veteran baseball announcer Red Barber. "When you reach my age, you don't worry about resolutions," he said. "I'll be 84 in February. I just look forward to making it."



JOAN COLLINS

Aging sex kitten Joan Collins vows to exercise every day ("It is one I make every year"), syndicated radio broadcaster Paul Harvey wants to improve his golf game ("I'm embarrassed to say it: I'm a bogey golfer"), and horror writer Stephen King promises to give up sweets ("No cookies, cakes, pie or chocolate").



MARLO THOMAS

There are always those, of course, who aspire to something higher, actress Marlo Thomas among them.

"My wish for 1992 is that Americans will seize the opportunity to reach out to the millions of courageous people of the former Soviet Union... who are now free to touch other people



PAVAROTTI

of conscience everywhere in an alliance committed to the same ideal: peace on earth."



MIKE ROYKO

of conscience everywhere in an alliance committed to the same ideal: peace on earth."

Human fireworks



Fireworks supplier Peter Frangoullis is illuminated as he is surrounded by sparklers in Adelaide, Australia, Sunday. Frangoullis performed the stunt to encourage people to light up on New Year's Eve.

Malone & Hogan Clinic
is pleased to announce the association of
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We Will Be Closed Jan. 1st
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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

Big Spring Herald

Editorial opinions expressed in this column are those of the Herald's editorial board, unless otherwise indicated.

Patrick Morgan
Publisher

John Walker
Managing Editor

Betty Johansen
Copy Editor

Steve Reagan
City Editor

Sex muddles the message

The No. 1 maxim in advertising is that sex sells. No. 2, if recent ads are any barometer, seems to be that more sex sells more. Although Madison Avenue is entitled to a great deal of freedom in the way it markets products, ads that approach soft-core pornography can undermine even the most diligent efforts to teach youngsters the virtues of responsible sexual conduct.

As a recent *New York Times* report makes clear, some ads leave nothing to the imagination. What's disturbing about the trend is how out of sync it is with today's headlines. Over the last six months, Americans have been bombarded with news underscoring the dangers of casual sex: rape charges against William Kennedy Smith, the disclosure that Magic Johnson has become infected with the AIDS virus, a surge in the rate of births to teen-agers.

Even so, graphic sexual images have pervaded the very media bearing the grim tidings. We're not talking about routine underwear ads. Consider these excesses, which are just a small sampling of the bare-it-all advertising seen mainly in magazines and on television:

An ad for men's cologne that shows a nude male in profile, derriere exposed, with a nude woman draped over his shoulder, caveman style.

A TV commercial for soap that features quick cuts of male and female torsos, lathered up.

An ad for toilet fixtures in which a woman clad only in a sheet, and then only from midbuttocks down, appears to gaze out a window.

A centerfold-style lingerie ad in which the scantily dressed model seems to be fondling herself.

Blame the titillating material on the fitness craze, music videos and what seems to be society's inability to find anything shocking. One observer told *The New York Times* that the AIDS epidemic may perversely be fueling the naughty ad trend, because people's fantasy lives have become more active as their sexual encounters have diminished.

If that's the case, then rougher times may be ahead. Youngsters, even teen-agers, are far less capable than adults of distinguishing between fantasy and reality. Print ads and commercials that say "yes" to sex can drown out the voices urging kids — for good reason — to "just say no." If you've ever seen a parent turn a 4-year-old loose in a toy store but told him or her not to touch anything, you can appreciate the mixed messages at work here.

It's not government's job to tell advertisers whether or how to market their wares. But it would behoove Madison Avenue to weigh the social consequences of the messages — overt or hidden — that it sends. The less responsibly advertisers behave, the more likely they will be subject to calls for repressive curbs.

For advertisers there's a more pragmatic concern: By pushing the limits of taste, they risk alienating the people they hope to entice. Suppose modesty were to sell better than sex?

Milwaukee Journal

'Whiz kids' all had help from families

By JEANNINE CLEGG
Herald Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — A *National Geographic* map of the world went up on my living room wall a few months ago, shortly after I encountered the first of the "whiz kids" who came to Washington this year.

The bright 11- to 14-year-olds participating in the National Geography Bee impressed adults with their encyclopedic knowledge of the locations and major physical and historical characteristics of areas throughout the world. They also made some of us realize that we could use refresher geography lessons.

The geography experts were not the only young Washington visitors to surprise me with their poise and intelligence this year. Participants in the National Spelling Bee did, too. But it was the high school presidential scholars, at a White House ceremony in their honor, who made it clear that winners in such contests do not consider themselves better than their peers.

Micah Burch, an 18-year-old from St. Joseph, Mich., echoed the words of others when he said he actually was surprised to be a part of the group.

Standing in front of the White House, Burch also said, "I learned a lot about the caliber of students in this country." Contrary to the cry of education critics, the caliber of students re-

Capitol report



mains high, despite the supposed decline in the quality of education, he said.

Statistics about the nation's apparent poor record of education are easy to come by. Just look at the nation's educational report card from the National Center for Education Statistics. Three years ago, fewer than half of the fourth, eighth and 12th-graders in a nationally representative sample exhibited proficiency in history, geography and literature, it said.

To improve those and other statistics, President Bush has been pushing his Education 2000 goals. Leading Bush's crusade is Secretary of Education Lamar Alexander.

Maybe what is needed in Education 2000 more than the list of reforms and testing procedures in our schools is a bit of family encouragement that sparks interest in and curiosity about learning. Here's where we can take a lesson from the whiz kids.

The presidential scholars and spelling bee participants acknowledged that one or both parents encouraged them to learn more about their area of interest.



Art Buchwald

A few names to drop

New Year's Eve is the time of year when people try to get everyone's attention. Here are some ways to do it:

I like Boris Yeltsin personally — but what do we know about his wife?

Wake up, everybody! Who wants to go to Au Bar in Palm Beach and have one for the road? Last year when they were in the States we invited the Gorbachevs to spend the entire winter with us in Boca Raton. Guess what? They just accepted.

Judge Thomas was lynched and Anita Hill was pilloried. If that doesn't make good TV I don't know what does.

Mike Tyson would be a better fighter if he didn't go with girls.

If Pat Buchanan burns a cross on David Duke's lawn, Duke will have no choice but to burn one on Pat's.

I told Charles Keating that installing hidden cameras in his S&Ls would get him into trouble sooner or later.

Even if it doesn't fly any more, Pan Am still has the best food.

Some of the biggest white-collar crimes in this country are now being committed by guys wearing sports shirts.

They say that Robert Maxwell's last words were, "If you want to know what a yacht costs you can't afford it."

President Bush believes the only way to resolve the recession is to stop using filthy language on TV.

John Sununu was not only given his severance pay when he was fired from the White House, but they let him keep his seat from Air Force One.

If you're not a woman celebrity, you won't even be a footnote in Gerald Rivera's book.

I'd rather go to hell with Jimmy Swaggart than with Jim Bakker.

The more I see of Madonna, the more she reminds me of the girl who married dear old dad.

Do you think that Princess Di and Prince Charles are a nuclear family?

If you don't tell me what Donald Trump did last night, I won't tell you what Marla Maples did to get even.

At least when you bank with BCCI, you know who stands behind it.

I'd rather see congressmen bounce their checks than turn to street crime.

If Noriega did all the things the government said he did, then he deserves a medal.

I'm carrying a semiautomatic pistol in my pants leg, but I won't use it unless a guest provokes me.

I'm the designated driver, and I need a designated lady to take for a ride.

I applied to the National Endowment for the Arts for a grant to hold an exhibit of photos of Jesse Helms taking a shower, but they turned me down.

If you see Salman Rushdie at the party, tell him that I'm looking for him.

I never met a pit bull who didn't like me.

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Bringing down a whole country

By GEORGE GEDDA
Associated Press Writer

Guest column

WASHINGTON (AP) — It's hard to bring down a whole country.

Since the United Nations was founded 46 years ago, more than 100 countries have come into being but only two have ceased to exist: East Germany in 1990 and South Vietnam in 1975. Both were absorbed into a neighbor with which they were rooted historically but from which they had been artificially divided.

Another candidate for extinction nowadays is that bogus brotherhood called Yugoslavia.

Normally, however, once countries come into being, they survive, even the fragile ones. This can explain the nearly universal astonishment over the fact that the once robust Soviet Union, now a sickly 74, didn't live long enough to greet the new year.

"I never thought I would live to see the day," says Norman Podhoretz, a veteran of the anti-communist cause.

Some countries consist of little more than a flag, an anthem and a relative handful of subjects. But they don't become extinct.

Leaders of a country may come and go, its economy may be in ruins, its people may be restive but its place on the map is generally secure.

The world usually does not look kindly on dictators who try to redraw maps. Saddam Hussein miscalculated when he decided to try to make Kuwait Iraq's 19th

province. Kim Il Sung paid dearly when he tried to reunify the Korean peninsula by force. Kuwait and South Korea live on.

Who would have believed even a year ago that the Soviets would now be taking their final breaths? This is the same country that once felt confident enough to say that its productive capacities were such that it would one day "bury" the West, the same one that once envisioned a New World Order built around the concept of Marxism-Leninism, with Moscow at its center.

Cuba, under Fidel Castro, was so taken by the allure of Soviet communism that permanent friendship with the U.S.S.R. is even enshrined in the Cuban constitution, a document now sorely in need of amending.

Not long ago, nothing seemed more permanent than the Soviet Union. Internal dissenters were put down with unsubtle ease and potential problems near Soviet borders were handled the same way.

In its obsession with national security, the Soviets developed a mighty arsenal of 27,000 nuclear weapons. But as the leadership found out, the country's problems were internal — too many people alienated by a system unable to deliver.

The Soviets could boast as recently as two years ago that no

country that had come under Communist rule had ever reverted to another system. Now we not only find communism disappearing from the Soviet Union but the country itself disappearing.

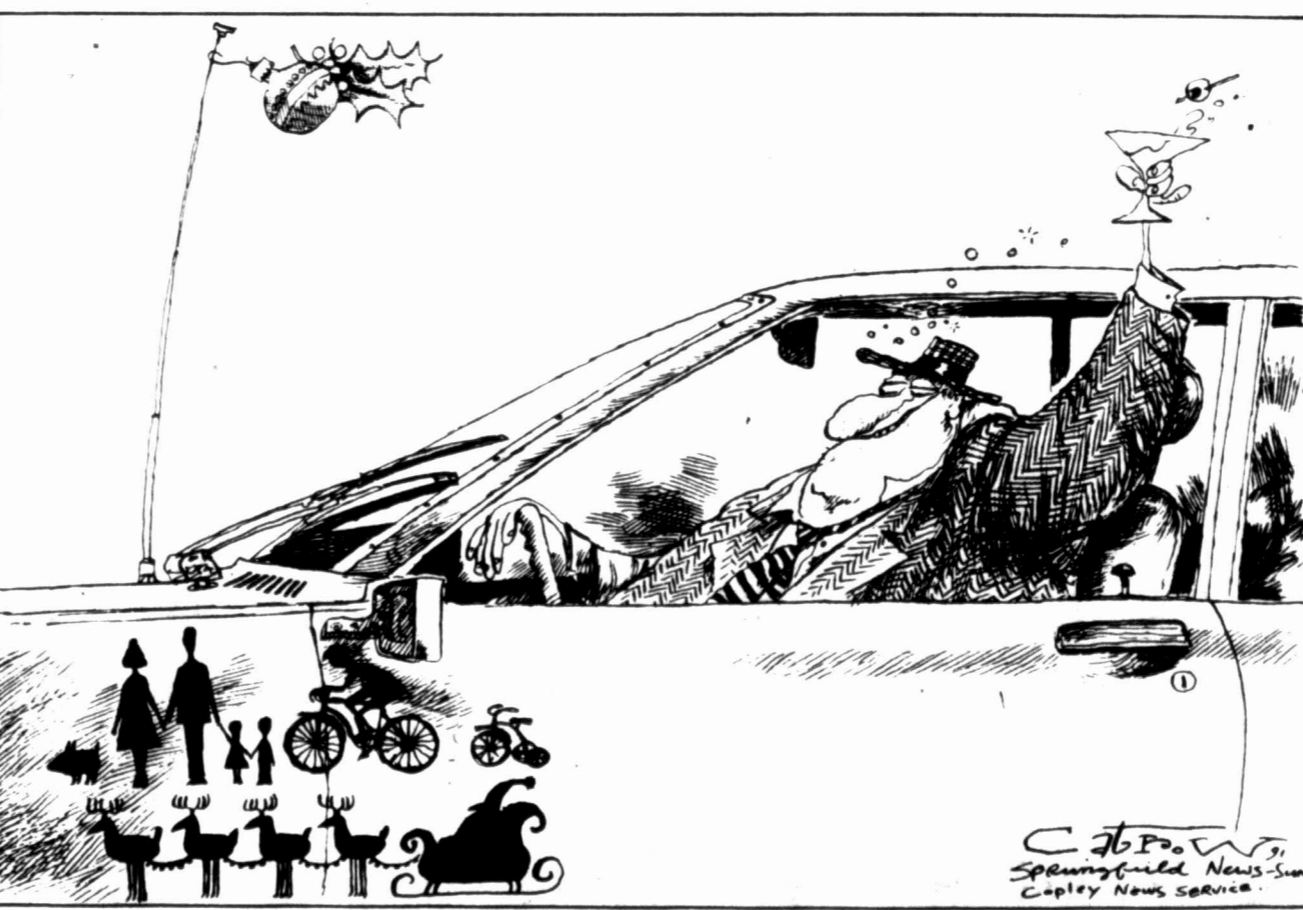
Nine years ago, Ronald Reagan dreamed of relegating the Soviet Union and its philosophy to the ash heap of history. But that seemed more of a hope than an expectation. Now it is actually happening. The remaining superpower, the United States, is unable to savor the victory because concern over the American economic decline far outstrips all other priorities.

But that doesn't lessen the drama of the events in the East, events that leave an extraordinary number of unanswered questions. Will what used to be the Soviet Union be able to make the transition from state-run to a market economy? Will there be starvation this winter?

Will the nuclear weapons built by the Communists be dealt with responsibly or will they wind up in unsafe hands? Will the scientists who helped develop them now make themselves available to the Iraqis or some other nuclear weapons aspirant? Who will get the Soviet seat on the U.N. Security Council?

And what will become of Mikhail Gorbachev, *Time's* Man of the Decade in January 1991 — unemployed in January 1992?

George Gedda has covered foreign affairs for the Associated Press since 1968.



Letters

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 typewritten if possible, and double-spaced. If not, the handwriting must be legible to reduce chances for mistakes. Letters are subject to editing, but

the essence of the writer's message will not be altered. Long letters may be cut because of space limitations. Letters 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.

BIG SPRING Herald

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Researching what happened to center field home runs

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (AP) — Quarks and quasars aren't the only things on the minds of scientists at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Sometimes they take up problems even people without Ph.D.s can comprehend.

For instance, why are there fewer home runs hit to dead center at Boston's Fenway Park these days? How do you cure a sick fish? And how do you make a submarine cut through the water more quickly?

The more cynical of Red Sox fans probably have a lot of quick answers for the first query, and the latter two may sound more like riddles, but all are grist for the research mill at MIT.

Long before he was a professor in MIT's department of aeronautics and astronautics, Paul Lagace was a Red Sox fan. So when the roof behind home plate was torn down after the 1988 season and replaced with a higher one, he noticed that fewer balls were hit into the center field stands.

"I have season tickets in the center field bleachers, and it was easy to see that something was up," he said.

Or down, actually. Balls that once soared into the stands were

falling short.

But why would a wall behind home plate affect balls flying into center field?

Curious about the situation and in need of a research project for his undergraduates, Lagace had the students build a wooden model of the ballpark. The model was then put in a wind tunnel for tests.

Lagace found that the higher stands created a vortex, or backwind, that could cause a fly ball hit to center to travel about 10 feet less.

Lagace next plans to next have his students figure out a way to eliminate the effect.

Think of sick fish, and you probably think of the goldfish lying belly up in a little bowl.

But in a fish farm, one sick fish can make hundreds ill. And it's not easy to get medicine into a salmon that's underwater and under the weather.

So Yonathan Zohar, a visiting scientist in chemical engineering at MIT, came up with a way to employ ultrasound — usually used to diagnose and treat illnesses in humans — to cure what ails fish.

Zohar put an ultrasound probe into fish tanks and found that the vibrating device helped fish absorb



MIT Professor Paul Lagace poses with a model of Fenway Park in October at MIT in Cambridge, Mass. Lagace, a life-long Red Sox fan, noticed that

when the roof behind home plate was torn down and replaced with a higher structure, fewer home runs were hit over center field.

substances like antibiotics and vaccines put in the water. It can also help fish absorb reproductive hormones, making them spawn.

Zohar theorizes that the ultrasound briefly alters a fish's skin and gills so they absorb the chemicals.

Before, the only reliable way to vaccinate fish was to inject each one — not much fun for the fish, and not terribly practical. "We're talking about millions and millions of fish," Zohar said.

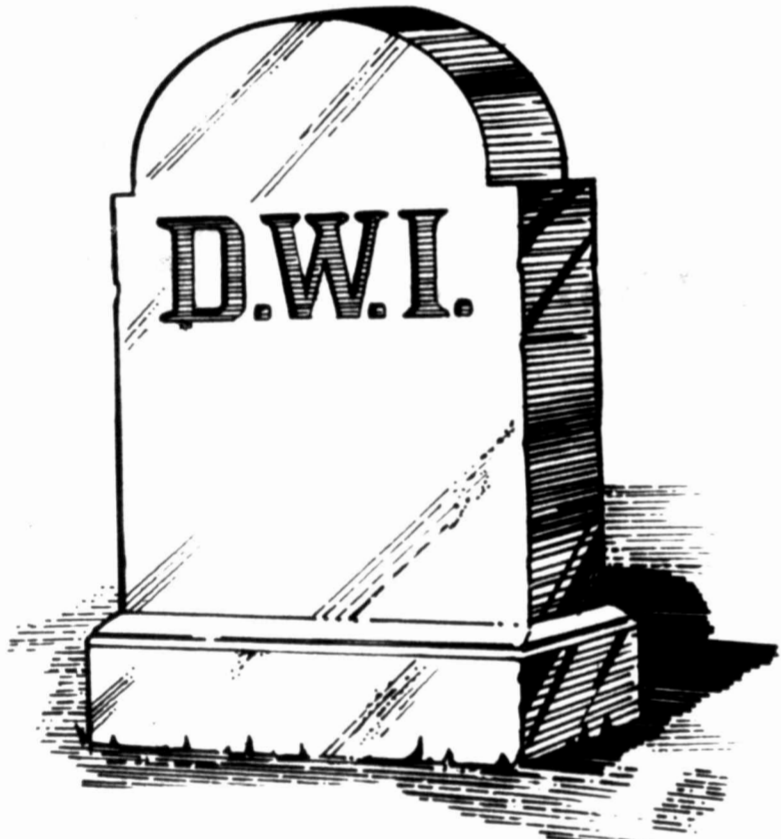
The methods may have tremendous practical application for fish farming, he said.

"Consumption of seafood is growing, but with pollution, commercial fisheries are catching fewer fish," Zohar said. "Aquaculture is expected to close the gap between the increasing demand and the decreasing supply."

If humans can help fish, why not vice versa? That's the thinking of Michael Triantafyllou, an ocean engineering professor at MIT who is designing a submarine that flaps its tail like a fish.

Triantafyllou found that submarines cause eddies that create drag. Fish, however, flap their tails in such a way that the eddies help push them along.

Will this old acquaintance be forgot?



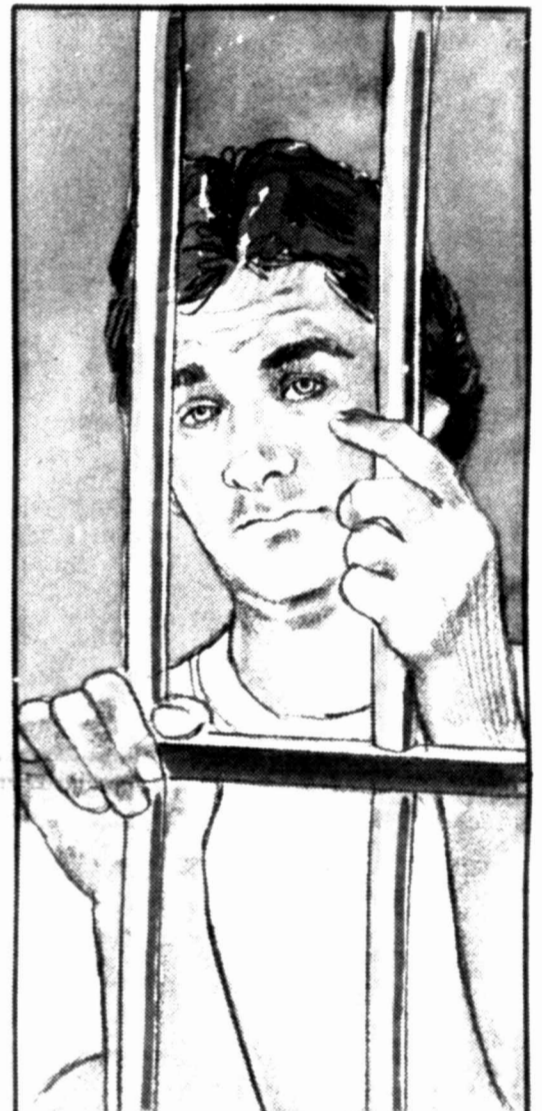
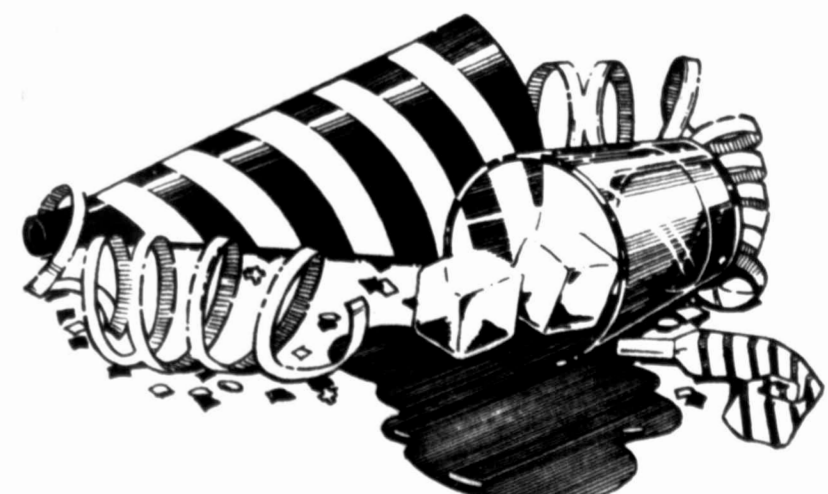
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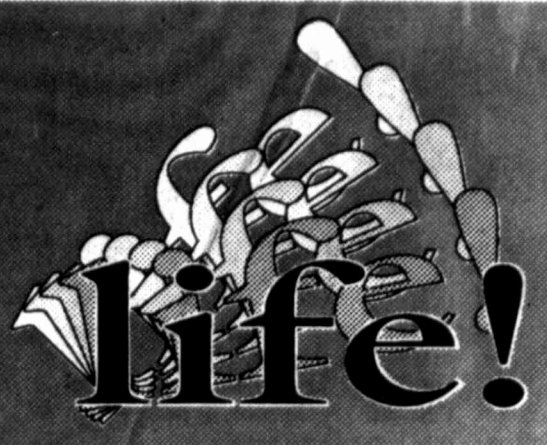
All of us want to see all of you next year!
Wishing you a happy, healthy and
SAFE New Year.
We value your friendship and support.

When Charlie left the New Year's party he said "see you next year". But unfortunately, he didn't live to see the following day.
He was just one of thousands of ordinary people who are killed or injured in alcohol-related auto accidents each year.

And what his friends will remember most, is that they just didn't notice that he had had too much to drink before he got behind the wheel.
This holiday season, make a resolution to use good judgement. Don't drink and drive. And watch out for the other guy, too.



B



Influenza type A will effect 10% of population

By MARSHA STURDIVANT
Staff Writer

As much as 10 percent of an area's population will suffer from influenza, according to the Texas Department of Health.

"If you've got about 30,000 people, at least 3,000 will have had the flu. Statewide, prior to Christmas, we had 189,000 cases reported," said Lynne Sehulster, a staff epidemiologist with TDH.

Sehulster said that figure is not an accurate representation because reports are difficult to obtain. These figures have been kept since the beginning of October and contain data primarily from the Houston area.

"Every season ends differently. Typically in the state of Texas it ends in mid-February or mid-March but we've seen it last until mid-April.

Herald story-at-a-glance

WHAT - An increase has been reported in influenza and upper respiratory problems.

WHO - Anyone can be stricken, although children seem most susceptible.

TREATMENT - Doctors are prescribing Tylenol-like medication for fever and advising sufferers to get plenty of rest and drink lots of fluids.

Herald graphic

"Usually we'll see flu season start up in mid-December, but this year it surprised us. This year it started in mid-September. It's

been an unusual season," Sehulster said.

Bed rest, fever reducing medication and increasing fluids is a standard prescribed treatment, but there is a medication available to combat the viral infection, she said.

"The usual recourse, Grandma's remedy, is okay, but this is the 90s now and one has access to physicians and clinics. Amantadine Hydrochloride is an anti-viral medication and is available on prescription. If it's started early in the course of influenza type A, it can shorten the duration of the illness and lessen the severity of the symptoms," she said.

Influenza type A, also called the Beijing strain, is most common throughout Texas now, she said. Symptoms might include a high fever, usually more than 100

degrees, muscle aches and pains, chills, headaches, sore throats, coughing and congestion.

"What's different from allergies and colds is the high fever and the systemic, that is, muscle aches," Sehulster said.

Vomiting and diarrhea are not unusual symptoms of Influenza type A, she said. They may indicate another type of viral infection.

There are three types of influenza, type A, B and C. Type C is subclinical, she said, meaning most people would not know they were sick.

"Types A and B are the two major illnesses with more severe symptoms. Type B is less serious and usually adults are immune. But it can affect children and young adults," she said.

Type A has an incubation period of about three days and a person

may expect the illness to last five to seven days. Type B lasts four to six days, she said.

"Normally healthy people may expect to be off their feet for a couple of days. They shouldn't try to push it, to go back to work too soon, because that can delay recovery longer," Sehulster said.

Persons are contagious during the incubation period and the first few days of the illness. Avoiding someone with the flu, as well as good hygiene, such as washing hands and covering your mouth when you sneeze or cough, are also preventives, she said.

Getting a flu shot is important for any person in a risk category, such as the elderly or a cardiopulmonary or diabetes patient. Flu vaccine is no longer available at the Howard County Health Department, so local residents should contact their doctors about getting immunized.

Flu has impact on local population

By MARSHA STURDIVANT
Staff Writer

The cold and flu season hit Big Spring recently, and area medical facilities are seeing a large amount of flu patients, especially children.

Pam Stewart, office nurse for Dr. Bruce Cox at Hall Bennett Clinic, said, "We've had a lot of flu-like illness with upper respiratory problems and high fever, especially the kids. It seems the kids have really had it."

"Dr. Cox is advising Tylenol for the fever, and hydration — that is, lots of liquids. And bed rest," Stewart said.

"Antibiotics may be prescribed to cure or prevent a secondary illness such as an ear infection or strep throat, but will do nothing for the flu."

"We have seen some cases (of the flu) and we have a few in the hospital, but there's not a whole lot to do. The flu is viral and about all you can do is get plenty of rest and drink lots of fluids," said Shirleen Brown, director of nursing at Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

Brown said that most flu sufferers do not need to be in the hospital unless they allow themselves to severely dehydrate. Drinking plenty of liquids is crucial to replacing body fluids lost during the course of the virus.

"But do see your doctor. There are many things that can mimic the flu," Brown said.

Dr. Nandlal Patel, an internist at

"We have seen some cases (of the flu) and we have a few in the hospital, but there's not a whole lot to do. The flu is viral and about all you can do is get plenty of rest and drink lots of fluids."

Shirleen Brown
nursing director

Malone Hogan Clinic, reported that about 70 to 80 percent of all patients seen recently in that office were suffering from the flu virus. And the pediatricians there reported many cases of flu in children.

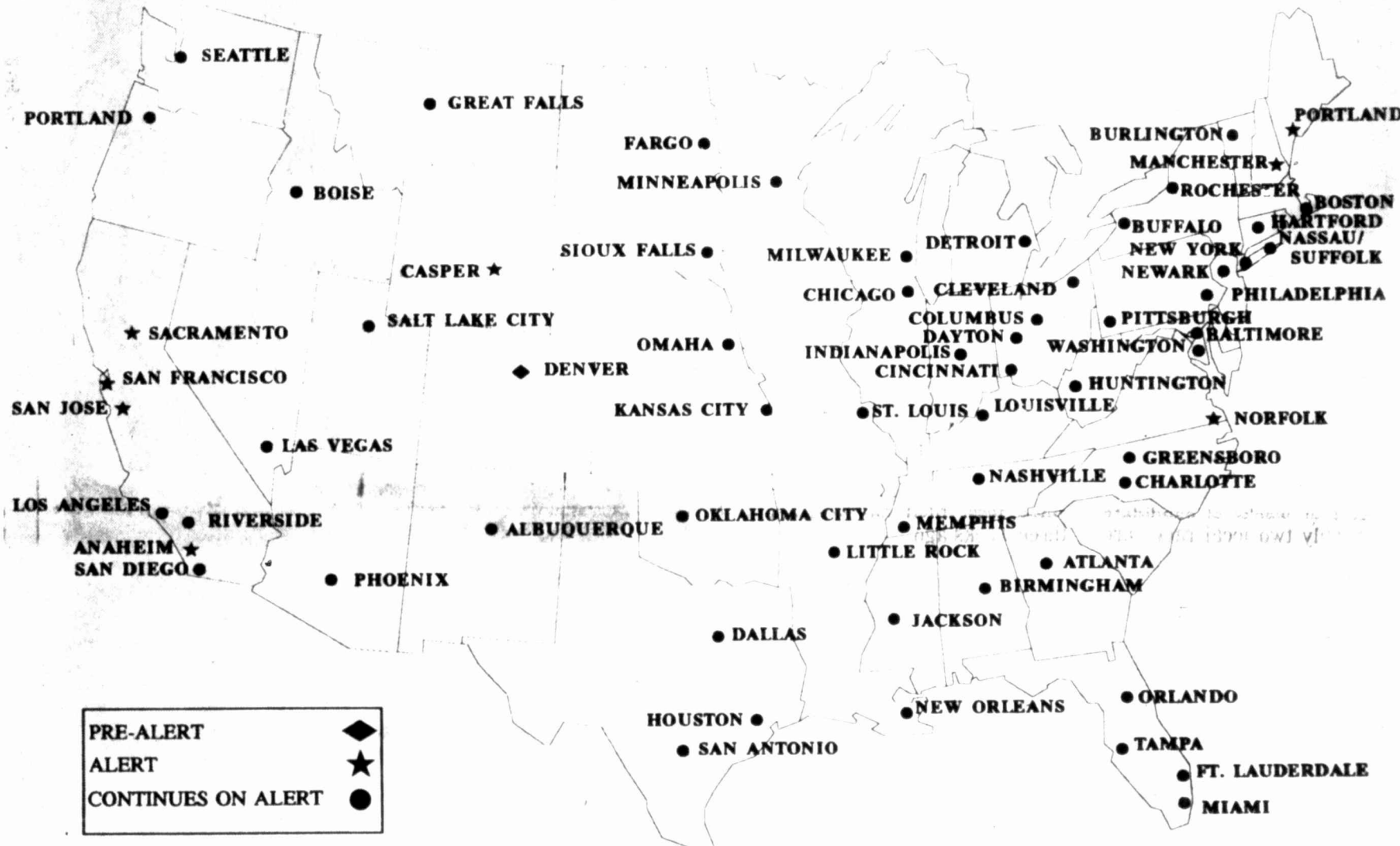
Dr. Nell Sanders with Medical Arts Clinic, said she's seen about three genuine cases of the flu each day.

"They have the aching all over where even their hair hurts and they ache right down to their toe nails. Then we have flu-like symptoms, the garden variety of colds," Sanders said.

She recommends patients with the flu or flu-like illness to get plenty of bed rest and drink lots of fluids.

"Hopefully the worst of it is over now," Sanders said.

RESPIRATORY DISEASES REACH "ALERT" STATUS IN 64 OF 65 MAJOR METROPOLITAN AREAS



Respiratory diseases are the most widespread that they have been at this time of year in a decade, according to the Flu Activity Notification Program (FAN). FAN tracks respiratory illness in 65 major metropolitan areas. By the first week of December, 64 of these areas had reached alert status; signifying severe increases in colds, flu, bronchitis and pneumonia.

Cold, flu treatments

Antihistamines	SIDE EFFECTS
Relieve sneezing, itching, watery eyes.	Can give you dry mouth, nose and eyes.
Decongestants	Can increase your heart rate and blood pressure, create insomnia.
Aspirin, Acetaminophen, Ibuprofen	Can mask consistent pain that may indicate a more serious problem.
Expectorants	No major side effects, but drinking lots of fluids can do the job about as well.
Suppressants	The active ingredient Dextromethorphan can act as a sedative.

AP/Carl Fox

Time for shots

NEW YORK (AP) — Now is the time to get your flu shot.

According to the Federal Centers for Disease Control, flu is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States, claiming 40,000 to 50,000 lives every year.

The flu season normally hits in January. And although healthy young people don't need a flu shot, older people and the chronically ill do — as do those who care for them.

Doctors recommend that people over 65 or those with an underlying medical condition, such as diabetes or a heart condition, should get vaccinated before cold weather sets in. This group is more susceptible to flu.

In addition, the winter months also pose the threat of respiratory bacterial infections and pneumonia for older people.

There's another type of vaccine — a once-in-a-lifetime shot — that can protect against a major kind of bacterial pneumonia and bacterial meningitis and can be given at the same time as the flu vaccine.

Book advises best treatment for common or uncommon ailments

NEW YORK (AP) — A doctor says to take two Tylenol and call in the morning. Mom always recommended aspirin for a fever. Does it matter which you take?

Yes, according to Dr. Isadore Rosenfeld, author of "The Best Treatment," which examines methods of treating roughly 100 ailments.

Doctors recommend that people give (patients) perhaps a different point of view to discuss with their doctor," Rosenfeld said in an interview. "Doctors don't have the time always to explain a side effect or a dosage or why a particular drug is given."

For instance, the book explains that the acetaminophen in Tylenol and Panadol acts directly on the brain's temperature regulatory center to lower a fever. It also has fewer side effects than aspirin.

The book cautions that in some cases it's best not to take anything for a fever because some infectious organisms are killed by higher

"What I've tried to do here is give (patients) perhaps a different point of view to discuss with their doctor. Doctors don't have the time always to explain a side effect or a dosage or why a particular drug is given."

Dr. Isadore Rosenfeld
author

body temperatures.

"For me to go on record this way and endorse a particular approach, from among many, is neither unusual nor presumptuous," Rosenfeld writes in his introduction. "Doctors constantly indicate their therapeutic preferences in medical journals and textbooks."

From the first chapter, "Acne: No Longer a Wallflower at the Prom," to the last, "Worms and Parasites: Ugh!" Rosenfeld uses simple language, case histories and anecdotes to cover conditions from the annoying to the acute.

Some unusual topics, like jellyfish stings, are included. Some common maladies, like fibroids, are not.

Appendixes compare generic and name-brand medication, discuss types of pain killers, and recommend supplies to keep in the medicine chest.

Rosenfeld believes certain antibiotics should be on hand at home, with the caveat that people not take them before consulting a doctor. "There are times when they need an antibiotic and I would prefer they not wait until the pharmacy opens in the morning," he said.

Rosenfeld said his book is written with the assumption patients already have a diagnosis, and he doesn't worry that readers might try to use his advice to cure themselves.

A spokeswoman for the American Medical Association had not seen Rosenfeld's book, which was released in early November. In general, however, the AMA supports efforts to inform the public about their medical options and even writes its own health guides, said the woman, who would not allow her name to be used.

Rosenfeld said the feedback he has gotten from the medical community has been positive.

Spring board

How's that?

Q. What state park is known for its large prairie dog population?
A. According to Texas Trivia, it is MacKenzie State Park.

Calendar

TODAY

- The Coahoma ISD Tax Office will be closed Jan. 1-3, 1992.
- Spring Tabernacle Church, 1209 Wright St., has free bread and whatever's available for area needy from 10 a.m. to noon.
- Recovery Solutions, Inc., Mens Support Group, will meet 6:30-8 p.m., 307 Union St. For information call 264-7028.
- Al-Anon will meet 8 p.m., 615 Settles.
- AMA (Adults Molested As Children) will meet 5:15 p.m., Saint Mary's Episcopal Church library, 1001 Goliad. Anyone interested must call first. Dr. Federman or Dawn Pearson, 267-8216.
- Compassionate Friends, a support group for parents and

grandparents who have lost a child through death will meet 7:30 p.m., First Baptist Church, room 113. Use S.E. entrance.

WEDNESDAY

- The Divorce Support Group will meet 6-7 p.m., First United Methodist Church, room 101. Anyone welcome. Child care available. Use back entrance at Gregg St. parking lot. For information call 267-6394.
- Co-Dependents Anonymous will meet 7 p.m., Scenic Mountain Medical Center, fourth floor.
- West Texas Legal Service offers legal help for civil matters (disability, divorces, adoptions, etc.) for those unable to afford their own attorney, Northside

Community Center. For information call 1-686-0647.

• Recovery Solutions, Inc., Womens Support Group, will meet 6:30-8 p.m., 307 Union St. For information call 264-7028.

THURSDAY

- City of Big Spring Water Department will have the water off on Ann St. to replace a fire hydrant from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- The Genealogical Society will meet in the Howard County library at 7:15 p.m. Use west entrance which will be open until 7:30 p.m. Visitors welcome.
- Spring Tabernacle Church, 1209 Wright St., has free bread and whatever's available for area needy from 10 a.m. to noon.

• L.U.L.A. of Big Spring Chapter #4375 will meet 7 p.m. at the Howard County Courthouse. For information call Nina at 267-2740.

• Texas Public Employees Association will meet noon at La Posada.

• Adolescent Support Group will meet 4-5 p.m., Howard County Mental Health Center. Anyone interested must call first. John McGuffey or Dawn Garrett, 267-8216 ext. 287.

• Al-Anon will meet 8 p.m., Scenic Mountain Medical Center, room 414.

Doctors fake illness to see hospital from patients viewpoint

LONG BEACH, Calif. (AP) — Jeff Ortiz felt lonely as he languished in a hospital bed. Nurses repeatedly jabbed Dynse Crunkleton with an intravenous needle. Jose De Souza was shocked at his \$1,000 bill for a one-night hospital stay.

But Ortiz, Crunkleton and De Souza weren't really sick. They were young doctors who faked illness in an innovative program designed to help them see the hospital through patients' eyes.

"A hospital is not necessarily a pleasant place when you're a patient," said De Souza, 28, now chief resident of family medicine at Long Beach Memorial Medical Center.

During each of the last five years, the hospital's six incoming family medicine residents spent their first work day assuming fake names and diagnoses and posing as patients. Doctors and the supervising nurse are told about the ruse, but other nurses and staffers are kept in the dark.

"I'm a better doctor because of it," said Grant Uba, 31, a Long Beach family doctor who posed as an AIDS-infected patient when the program started in 1987. "I'm a lot more aware of what the patient is feeling — the fears, the anxieties, the uncertainties."

The program inspired a scene in "The Doctor," a film in which William Hurt portrays an arrogant doctor who gains new sensitivity when he becomes a cancer patient. He ends up making his residents spend three days pretending to be patients.

The goal of Long Beach Memorial's program "is to give the residents a taste of their own medicine as well as sensitizing them to the needs of their patients," said Dr. Stephen Brunton, 40, who devised the program as head of family medicine at the hospital.

"It's incredible how we can spend our lives treating patients yet never have the experience of being one."

Brunton was inspired by his own unpleasant hospital experience after being kicked in the face during a karate tournament two decades ago. The blow broke his eyeglasses and sent glass into one eyeball. At a hospital in Melbourne, Australia, he was appalled by the staff's lack of concern.

"While I was waiting to be seen, I could hear a resident and a nurse flirting. I became irrelevant. I was frightened. I couldn't see. I was in shock. Yet no one allayed my anxiety. Many patients may feel similar fears and estrangement."

**Stephen Brunton
doctor**

To help doctors improve bedside manners, hospitals and medical schools conduct classes on communications, empathy, interviewing and medical ethics. Dozens of medical schools hire actors or other "professional patients" to help students learn to deal with real patients.

Brunton said he is unaware of any other hospital that has doctors pose as patients, although hospitals around the country have called him asking how to start such a program.

nurses had trouble finding a vein for an IV needle.

"After the third or fourth poke, they finally got it in," Crunkleton said. "It was really painful."

Crunkleton said she now thinks twice before ordering IVs for patients, especially children.

De Souza pretended to have a back injury and faked "excruciating pain" when he entered the hospital in a wheelchair two years ago. He said he felt powerless during his overnight stay because "everybody was controlling everything for me."

So he tries to make his own patients feel less helpless by sitting on their beds and having them sit up when he speaks with them.

A month after his stay, De Souza got the itemized \$1,000 bill. The residents don't have to pay, but are billed so they know how patients feel.

"It was amazingly expensive," De Souza said.

Ortiz now routinely orders extra foam padding for patients' beds, avoids awakening them for tests, puts them on special diets only if essential, and tries "to minimize the number of times they need to be stuck" for blood samples.

Dynse (pronounced Denise) Crunkleton, 29, faked a concussion and a broken right arm when she was admitted to the hospital last July. Her arm was placed in a cast. The worst experience came when

arm, placed electrodes on his chest to monitor his heart, fed him a bland diet meant for cardiac patients, and kept waking him up for tests.

"It was incredibly lonely. I was very bored, extremely bored," Ortiz said. "It was uncomfortable in that leg cast. The bed was uncomfortable. ... I actually started to feel sickly. It made me appreciate how isolating, how boring, how uncomfortable it can be to be a patient."

Ortiz now routinely orders extra foam padding for patients' beds, avoids awakening them for tests, puts them on special diets only if essential, and tries "to minimize the number of times they need to be stuck" for blood samples.

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Associated Press photo
Dr. Jeffery Ortiz pretends to be a patient with injuries as he enters the Long Beach Memorial Medical Center's family practice residency program in 1990. The program, devised by Dr. Stephen Brunton, right, requires young doctors to spend the night as patients to learn what it's like to be ill.

Doctors expand use of alternative surgical technique

CHICAGO (AP) — Doctors are removing increasingly larger defective organs and performing ever more complicated operations without cutting open the patient, because of advances in video and surgical technology.

Laparoscopy — in which surgery is performed through tubes one-half inch thick or smaller inserted into the patient — has been a mainstay of gynecologists for years and has recently been used for routine gallbladder removal.

The team inserted a nylon bag into a patient's body and opened it. They then used laparoscopic tools to drag the patient's tumor-bearing kidney inside the bag, demolish the organ and removed the fragments through the tube.

The patient needed only one injection for pain relief and no oral pain relievers after surgery and was discharged on the sixth day afterward, the doctors reported.

It is now poised to revolutionize operations ranging from hernia repair to cancer removal to bowel reconstruction, said physicians and exhibitors at the American College of Surgeons' 77th Clinical Congress.

"Surgery is evolving into its own 'magic bullet,'" said surgeons led by Dr. Ralph V. Clayman from Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis.

Dr. W. Peter Geis, vice chairman of surgery at Lutheran General Hospital in suburban Park Ridge, said developments in tool technology are allowing surgeons to use laparoscopy to stitch up hernias without the traditional long-healing incision, said

In many cases, patients can return to strenuous activities within five days of the operation, rather than the weeks required after traditional surgery, Geis said.

During a typical operation, doctors insert one tube with a tiny video camera and light source, and one or more different tubes are used to get surgical instruments to the area which requires medical attention.

The doctors from Washington University prepared a report on a method of removing infected or tumor-bearing organs through a laparoscopic tube.

And tools now coming onto the market such as medical staplers and sewing devices that can pass through a laparoscopic tube will allow surgeons to perform bowel surgeries without an incision, Geis said.

Medical schools and businesses are beginning to reflect surgeons' interest in the procedure.

Briefs

Medication helps in drug-resistant epilepsy

NEW YORK (AP) — An experimental medication reduced the frequency of epileptic seizures in patients whose condition was not controlled by standard drugs, a study found.

The drug, felbamate, helped control "partial" seizures, which are those that arise in a particular location of the brain.

take those drugs during the study. Fifty-six patients completed an 11-week treatment with felbamate and another 11-week period with the placebo instead.

During the last eight weeks of each period, patients averaged 34.9 seizures when taking felbamate, compared to 40.2 seizures when taking the placebo.

Chemical discovery aids brain disease treatment

NEW YORK (AP) — Scientists have discovered the molecular structure of a substance that helps brain cells survive, a step that should aid research into possible treatments for degenerative brain diseases like Alzheimer's.

Partial seizures can produce such symptoms as vertigo, fear, laughing, talking strangely or automatic movements like lip-smacking or walking while the consciousness is clouded.

The felbamate study is reported in the November issue of the journal Neurology by Dr. Ilo Leppik and colleagues at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis and scientists at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville and the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke.

The study focused on nerve growth factor, one of a family of natural substances thought to promote nerve cell survival and function.

The three-dimensional structure of the molecule was reported Dec. 5 in the journal Nature by Tom Blundell of Birkbeck College in London and colleagues there and elsewhere.

Patients in the study had experienced at least four partial seizures a month despite taking the standard drugs phenytoin and carbamazepine. They continued to



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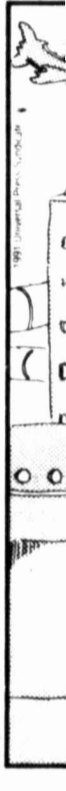
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10 Deep ocean
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14 Bet
15 Ringing
response?
16 Portent
17 Statesman borr
Dec. 31, 1880
20 Equip with
weaponry
21 Wrong
22 Strong
23 Thrash
24 Mai
25 Award to 17A
33 Lendl et al.
34 Ponder
35 Ship-shaped
clock
36 Rush of wind
37 " — a Hot Tin
Roof"
39 Young salmon
40 Yale student
41 " — "Fatha"
Hines
42 Lead
43 European —
(plan of 17A)
47 Triumph
48 Up to the —
49 Medicinal plant
52 Reposes
54 Alma mater of
17A
57 "Thou — with
thy goodness"
60 Water: Sp.
61 Purloined
62 Lab burner
63 Osseous
64 Piano expert
65 Musical sound

DOWN
1 Heroic tale
2 Unique
thing
3 Particle
4 Through
5 Wipe off —
(destroy)
6 Tell from
memory

Holiday Bowl

Table with Iowa vs Brigham Young scores and statistics.

Table with Punts, Fumbles-Lost, Penalties-Yards, Time of Possession.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS RUSHING—Iowa, Saunders 19-103, Montgomery 7-35, Rodgers 7-(minus 13).

Freedom Bowl

Table with Tulsa vs San Diego scores and statistics.

Table with Comp-Aff-Int, Punts, Fumbles-Lost, Penalties-Yards, Time of Possession.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS RUSHING—Tulsa, Jackson 46-211, Rubley 4-31, Headd 4-10, Fair 2-4, San Diego St., Faulk 30-157, Pittman 5-20, Lowery 3-12.

Table with All Times EST, WALES CONFERENCE, Patrick Division, W L T Pts GF GA.

Table with W L T Pts GF GA, Detroit, St. Louis, Chicago, Minnesota, Toronto, Smythe Division.

NHL standings

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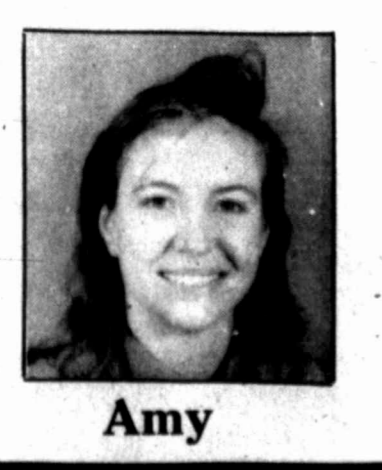
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5	PM	Cosby Show	Ninja Turtle	Sesame	Captain N	Jeopardy!	News	ABC News	News	ABC News	News	ABC News	Hillbillies	Andy Griffith	Marie Niede	Noticiero	Wia, Lose	Movie: All	(56) Movie: My Chauffeur	Supermarket	1991 Return	Countdown	Smurfs	Movie: It Takes Two	Avengers	Beyond 2000	Gilligan	Bugs Bunny	NHL Hockey	Devils at	NBA Today	Up Close																				
6	PM	News	Who's Boss?	C. Sandiego?	Falson Kids	News	ABC News	News	ABC News	News	ABC News	Addams	All Family	Muchachitas	Dege Go to	Heaven	Be a Star	China Beach	Orchestra	(Cost.)	Orchestra	MacGyver	David Letter-	Man	Wild. Monitor	and Pals	Penguins (L)	SportsCenter	College																							
7	PM	Full House	Movie: 8 Million	Bernstein in	East Berlin	Poppe's	Rescue: 911	Full House	Home	King Orange	Parade	Copper Bowl	Baylor vs.	De	Aai Se Hizo	Movie: R. & H. Clander-	ella	Nashville	1991 Return	Countdown	Movie: Dick	Tracy	Murder, She	Wrote	Movie: Grem-	linas 2: The	Comedy	Africa's Great	Migration	Movie	Superboast																					
8	PM	Roseanne	Coach	Ways to Die	New Year's	Prince Val't	Movie: Oldest	Roseanne	Coach	In the Heat	of the Night	Indiana at	Tucson, Ariz.	La Noche de	Los Grandes	Movie: King	and I	Nashville	1991 Return	Countdown	Movie: Back	to Future II	Madonna's	Tour '90	Chuck & Pat	Comedy	Elephant	Movie Re-	venge of	Cotton Bowl	Cotton Bowl	Basketball																				
9	PM	Homefront	Merv	Eve	700 Club	Bridesmaid	Griffith's	Homefront	Law & Order	(L)								Crook, Chase	After the	This Man	Lightness of	Being	(Cost.)	Movie: Back	to Future II	Madonna's	Tour '90	Chuck & Pat	Comedy	Elephant	Movie Re-	venge of	Cotton Bowl	Cotton Bowl	Basketball																	
10	PM	News	New Year's	MacNeil/	Lehrer	Bordertown	Movie: Duel	News	Hard Rock	News	Images of	News	(35) Tonight	Movie					On Stage	New Year's	Movie																															
11	PM	New Yr.	New Yr.	Sense of the	'60s	Cale New	Year's Eve	'91	Dick Clark	Show	(35) Letter-	Coolay High	(55) Guerra	Movie: Okis-	homa!	Citrus Eve	Nashville	Another This	Man	It's Garry	Molly Odd	Countdown	Mystery	Modusa:	(55)	Parry's	(55) One-	Night Stand	Comedy	Waterhole	Movie Frank-	enstein	Greatest	Games	Basketball																	
12	AM	Cheers	Ent. Tonight	Love Connect	'60s	Healthy Kids	Off Air	New Yr.	man	(35) Costas	(45) Movie	La Movida	Movie	Now				(15) Movie: Shadow of	Self-	improve-	Donna Reed	Deceptions	Movie:	(35) One	(55) One	Comedy	Wild. Monitor	Prairie Wat.	Created Wo-	man	Movie																					

Small successes bring major victories

DEAR READERS: My New Year's column has become an annual tradition since 1973. These New Year's resolutions are based on the original credo of Alcoholics Anonymous. I have taken the liberty of using that theme with some variations of my own:

Just for today I will live through this day only, and not set far-reaching goals to try to overcome all my problems at once. I know I can do something for 24 hours that would appall me if I felt I had to keep it up for a lifetime.

Just for today I will be happy. Abraham Lincoln said, "Most folks are about as happy as they make up their minds to be." He was right. I will not dwell on thoughts that depress me. I will chase them

Dear Abby



thought and concentration.

Just for today I will do something positive to improve my health. If I'm a smoker, I'll make an honest effort to quit. If I'm overweight, I'll eat nothing I know to be fattening. And I will force myself to exercise — even if it's only walking around the block or using the stairs instead of the elevator.

Just for today I'll do something I've been putting off for a long time. I'll finally write that letter, make that phone call, clean that closet or straighten out those dresser drawers.

Just for today, before I speak I will ask myself, "Is it true? Is it kind?" and if the answer to either of those questions is negative, I won't say it.

Just for today I will make a conscious effort to be agreeable. I will look as good as I can, dress becomingly, talk softly, act courteously and not interrupt when someone else is talking. Just for today I'll not improve anybody except myself.

Just for today I will have a program. I may not follow it exactly, but I will have it, thereby saving myself from two pests: hurry and indecision.

Just for today I will gather the courage to do what is right and take the responsibility for my own actions.

To one and all: Have a happy, healthy new year. And to ensure a happy new year for everyone else, if you're driving, don't drink, and if you're drinking, don't drive. Have a designated driver or take a cab.

— LOVE, ABBY

P.S. God bless our men and women in uniform in every corner of the world where our flag is flying. And let us not forget those patriotic Americans who are serving their country in the Peace Corps.

Jeane Dixon

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 1992

YOUR HOROSCOPE: IN THE NEXT YEAR OF YOUR LIFE: Now is the ideal time to launch a new career. You have all the know-how you need! Educational projects enjoy especially favorable influences from now through June. Romance is on a more positive and fulfilling course than in the past. An August honeymoon could be in the cards. You win an award and gain important backing next fall. Open up to those in a position to help you realize your dreams.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DATE: comedian Don Novello, actor Dana Andrews, economist Elliot Janeway, boxer Rocky Graziano.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Extra shut-eye may be needed after last night's celebration. Attend an open house, then spend some quiet time making plans for the months ahead. Eat vitamin-rich foods every day.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You could blow your diet resolutions today. Get back on track tomorrow. Scan newspapers for business or employment opportunities. This is your year to shine!

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Start the New Year right! Extend the olive branch to someone you have been at odds with. An informal buffet sounds enticing. Watching the football games on TV provides inexpensive entertainment.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Romance is in the air! Keep things on an upbeat note at a family gathering. Show respect for other people's opinions. Diplomacy helps you bridge a generation gap.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): A change of scenery gets the New Year off to a flying start. Visit old friends and plan future gatherings. Rely on public transportation if the weather turns rough.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Those in colder climates should spend some time outdoors sledding, skating or skiing. Small fry will benefit from getting to know their grandparents better. Romance heats up.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Share the cooking chores today or host a pot luck dinner. A brief social encounter could put thoughts of romance in your head. Know what you could be getting into! Look elsewhere.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): A telephone call brings glad tidings from loved ones at a distance. Resolve to replace bad habits with good ones this year! Invite someone to dinner who otherwise would be alone.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Listen to an older person's views on diet and nutrition — you could learn something new. Avoid jumping to conclusions when others share their ideas.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Be more honest with yourself and others. Acknowledge your own shortcomings before trying to change your loved ones. Family responsibilities must not be shirked.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Wonderful new adventures lie ahead. Stop dwelling on the disappointments of the past. Write down a list of priorities as well as resolutions for 1992. Enlist loved ones' help if trying to economize.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Phone old friends and wish them a Happy New Year. Taking someone's critical remarks to heart would be a mistake. Tune them out. Jot down a clever idea before you forget it.

DENNIS THE MENACE



THE FAMILY CIRCUS



PEANUTS



GEECH



WIZARD OF ID



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BLONDIE



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



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