

BIG SPRING Herald

"Reflecting a proud community"

Vol. 90 No. 183

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NEWS DIGEST



Donations sought for refitting center

Donations are being sought for renovation and equipment costs as former locker rooms inside the Howard College Fitness Center are being turned into a classroom and free-weight room.



Blocks shot

Using both hands, Tony Barrera prepares to knock the ball over the net to his opponents as he and several others were playing volleyball at the Big Spring YMCA Tuesday evening.

Perfect placement

Tim Parker looks above his safety glasses to adjust a block before he drills into it as he was working on a project in his industrial technology class at Runnels Junior High School Thursday.



Careful handling

At the end of the day, Sammy Martinez carefully folds the American flag after it was taken down from the flagpole in front of the Corral Wednesday afternoon.

Briefs

Chamber committee meeting: The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Member Relations Committee will meet at noon Monday, Jan. 10, at the College Park Cafe inside the new bingo building. Chamber goals will be discussed, as will plans for the upcoming annual Chamber banquet.

Honor roll time again: The Herald plans to publish all area A and A-B honor rolls on Jan. 19. In order to do so, we must have them submitted from each school by Friday at 5 p.m. All grade levels are accepted. Mark mailed lists to the attention of Debbie Lincecum.

Chili cook-off set for Jan. 15: The Big Spring Harley Owners Group will have its annual Boss H.O.G. Chili Cook-off Saturday, Jan. 15, at the Big Spring Harley Davidson Shop. Cooking begins at 10 a.m., judging at 1 p.m. Proceeds benefit charities.

Weather

Variable clouds, high in 60s: Today, variable high cloudiness. High in the mid 60s. South wind 10-20 mph. Low around 30.

Permian Basin Forecast:
Monday: Partly cloudy. High between 60 and 65. Low between 25 and 30.
Tuesday: Fair. High in the upper 50s. Low around 30.
Wednesday: Fair. High in the upper 50s. Low around 30.

TONIGHT	TOMORROW	TONIGHT
PARTLY CLOUDY	PARTLY CLOUDY	SUNSET 5:59 PM
		SUNRISE 7:50 AM

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Call The Herald at (915) 263-7331

Perry, Rominger deliver message

Ag leaders praise for effects NAFTA, GATT should have

By TIM JONES
Staff Writer

The effects the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the General Agreements on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) will have on Texas agriculture were explained by Rick Perry, state agricultural commissioner, and Richard Rominger, deputy secretary of the USDA, Saturday afternoon during the West Texas Agricultural Exposition.

Big Spring Mayor Tim Blackshear, master of ceremonies for the event, introduced the prominent guests to the audience which had come from several West Texas counties.

Jeff Morris, president of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, welcomed the speakers and told the crowd, "Agriculture is the largest part of Howard County's economy, and farming and ranching is the backbone on which local history has been built. The first settlers here were farmers and ranchers, and they will be here long after other businesses fail or fade off the scene."

Perry, who first became familiar with Big Spring while stationed at Webb Air Force Base from 1972 to 1973 during basic training as a pilot, said "speaking here is like getting home to me." Perry grew up on a farm and ranch in Haskell.

"Farming is the second largest industry in Texas and provided \$36 billion in income last year," Perry explained.

"Less than two percent of the present population live on farms," he added. "The national census bureau no longer even counts how many farmers and ranchers there are."

"Consumers no longer understand the farmer's prob-

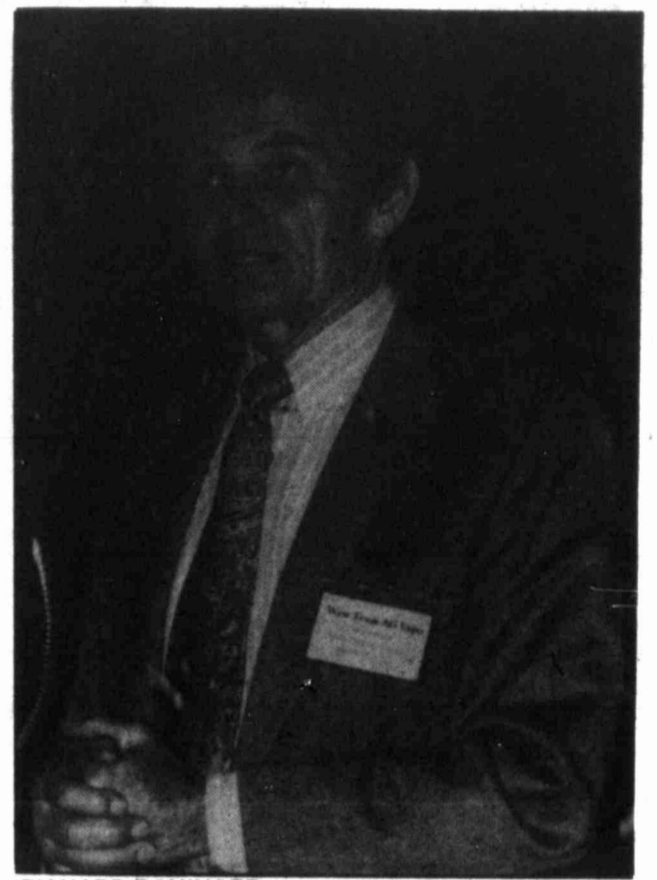


RICK PERRY

lems, which is perpetuated by decries from environmental groups. Farmers need to become more proactive and advocate their causes, especially to politicians considering legislation that affects them," he explained.

Perry spoke on value-added agricultural processing in clear economic terms.

"Of the state's agricultural goods, only eight percent remains here at present, to which processing can add value. The national average is 20 percent. If we could raise Texas one percent, that would add \$2.2 billion in agricultural economic activity. If we could equal that national figure of 20 percent, we'd see a \$26 billion



RICHARD ROMINGER

increase," he said.

Perry supported his value-added processing ideal, noting "the Texas Agricultural Finance Authority has loaned funds to 34 business in Texas and only three have run into any snags. No losses of funds occurred because those losses were recouped by the resale of collateral. The program's investments have saved 4,600 jobs and added \$4.63 million into the state's economy. That's a 1,800 percent return on investment, which is phenomenal, even in the realm of illegal activities," he

Please see SPEAKERS, page 2A



Herald photos by Tim Appel

AgExpo goings-on

More than 500 people flocked to Dorothy Garrett Coliseum on the Howard College campus Friday evening, not one of them planning on watching a Hawks or Lady Hawks basketball game.

It was time for the start of the Third Annual West Texas Agricultural Exposition, and that meant a barbecue dinner, a big one... for all comers.

According to Terry Burns, executive director of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, the feed catered by Al's & Son Bar-B-Que was attended by 542 people, as seen in the top photo.

Some 50 exhibitors displayed various agribusiness products both on the coliseum floor and outside in the east parking lot.

In bottom photo, Rick Liles (right) with the Howard County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service presented Fred Phillips with the Farmer of the Year award during the dinner.

Saturday's activities began with a breakfast, visitors touring the exhibits and registering for numerous drawings. Workshops covering all aspects of agribusiness were featured from 10 a.m. until noon.

The speakers' portion began shortly after 2 p.m., and afterwards, a style show was presented.

Texas Five Star drawn by city's central location

By TIM JONES
Staff Writer

Due to Big Spring's central geographic location, the Texas Five Star Meat Company announced plans Friday to locate a beef distribution operation here.

Plans are underway to open in two or three weeks. Most of the approximately 25 employees needed will be hired locally, company officials said.

Operating out of a building the company leased at 3404 East FM 700, seven delivery trucks will provide for door-to-door sales and delivery of Angus beef to Abilene, Lubbock, Midland, Odessa, San Angelo and southeastern New Mexico.

The company, based in Longview, has a second operation in Austin. With its third expansion now underway in Big Spring, a fourth facility is planned to open in California in about 60 days.

Company representative Clifton Rogers is currently in town making arrangements to begin operations within two to three weeks. A manger has been selected and is moving here from Longview.

Company officials said they have been pleased with the coordination of activities from local businesses, city hall and utility companies in getting arrangements made to begin the company's Big Spring operation.

"Texas Five Star's decision confirms Big Spring is the best location as a central geographic point from which companies can expeditiously distribute their products in West Texas," said Jim R. Purcell, president of Moore Development for Big Spring.

"We are extremely pleased to have been selected for this operation and the 25 jobs will add significantly to the employment base in Big Spring."

PBRPC slates annual lunch for Wednesday

Herald Staff Report

The Permian Basin Regional Planning Commission will hold its annual luncheon and general membership meeting at noon Wednesday, Jan. 12, at the Big Spring Country Club.

State Sen. Teel Bivins from Amarillo will be the featured guest speaker.

The PBRPC has received the city of Big Spring's HOME program application for assistance from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs to fund a proposed project to rehabilitate owner-occupied housing in northwest Big Spring.

The HOME program was authorized by the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990.

"The city is delighted that Big Spring was chosen to host the luncheon and that the PBRPC is reviewing the application to fund the needed remodeling in the northwest neighborhood," City Manager Lanny Lamber said.

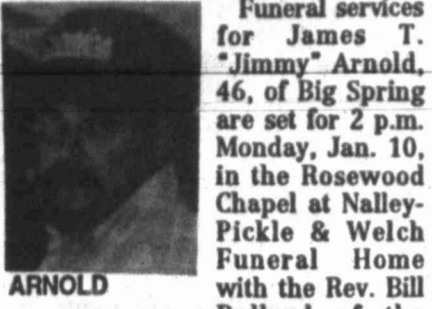
The PBRPC has operated for 22 years serving as a council of governments and providing various planning and grant seeking functions.

Let the customers know about your business in the Herald Professional Service Directory...Call Deborah, or Chris (915) 263-7331

JAN 9 1994

Deaths

James T. Arnold



Funeral services for James T. "Jimmy" Arnold, 46, of Big Spring are set for 2 p.m. Monday, Jan. 10, in the Rosewood Chapel at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home with the Rev. Bill Ballard of the Central Baptist Church in Elbow officiating. Burial with military rites provided by an honor guard from Good-fellow Air Force Base will follow in Trinity Memorial Park.

Mr. Arnold was born on May 22, 1947, in Big Spring and died Friday, Jan. 7, in Big Spring. He attended Forsan High School and was a veteran, having served in the U.S. Army from 1967-68 in Vietnam where he received the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star. He had worked for the Coca-Cola Bottling Co. and had also worked in construction. He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion.

Survivors include a daughter, Tammy Denise Arnold of Dickinson; a sister, Jessie Evans of Kennett, Mo.; three brothers, Tony Ray Arnold of Ft. Leonardwood, Mo., Robert Arnold of Gatesville; and several nieces, nephews and other relatives.

He was preceded in death by his parents, James and Bertie Arnold.

Edna Robertson

STANTON — Funeral services for Edna Ruth Robertson, 63, of Stanton are set for 10 a.m. Monday, Jan. 10, at the First Baptist Church of Stanton with the Rev. Tim Swihart officiating. Burial will follow at Resthaven Memorial Park in Midland under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton.

Miss Robertson died Saturday, Jan. 8, at Martin County Hospital in Stanton. She was born on Dec. 26, 1930, in Martin County. She was a lifelong resident of Martin County and a member of the First Baptist Church of Stanton.

Survivors include two sisters, Thelma Reynolds of Plainview and Jessie Glaze of Tarzan, and four brothers, Howell Robertson of Flynn, Henry Robertson of Houston, Dewitt Robertson of Bangs and Ray Robertson of McQueenie.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. G.W. Robertson; a sister, Ella Wingard; and two brothers, Ollie Robertson and Winfred Robertson.

Ira A. Wright

STANTON — Ira A. Wright of Midland died Friday, Jan. 7, at his residence. Funeral services are pending with Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton.

William T. Casteel

William T. Casteel, 68, of Big Spring died Saturday, Jan. 8. Funeral services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Bessie L. Love

WASHINGTON, Iowa — Bessie Lucille Love, 89, of Washington died Dec. 29, 1993, at Brownlee Health Center of the United Presbyterian Home in Washington following a short illness.

Services were conducted Sunday, Jan. 3, in conjunction with Evenson Service at the United Presbyterian Home with the Rev. Clifford Ramsdale officiating. Burial was made in the Oregon Township Cemetery in Ainsworth, Iowa, under the direction of Jones Funeral Home of Washington, Iowa.

A memorial fund has been established with the United Presbyterian Home or the Boys Club of Big Spring.

Bessie Love was born on Jan. 20, 1904, in Centerville, Iowa, a daughter of Samuel Arthur and Ella Theodora Euwer (Nelle) Love. She was educated in the Washington area, the University of Denver and the Washington County Hospital. She returned to Washington in 1983. She worked as a registered nurse and was the chief of nursing service in various Veterans' Administration hospitals in Texas and Iowa before retiring from the VA Hospital in Big Spring. She was a member of the United Presbyterian Church, American Legion and was a veteran, having served in the U.S. Army during World War II as a captain. She was also an active member of the Howard County Council on Aging.

Survivors include one sister, Thelma R. Wagner of Washington, Iowa; one stepbrother, Rolland D. Benson of Washington, Iowa; two nieces; and one nephew.

She was preceded in death by her parents and one sister.

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PAID OBITUARY

Edward Guess

Edward Guess, a former journalist, editor and actor, died of heart failure on Dec. 22, 1993. He was 68.

Mr. Guess was born in Rome, Miss., in 1925 and traveled throughout Europe as a journalist before moving to New York where he was employed as an editor by the Ford Foundation. He is the author of "Martin Luther King, Fighter For Freedom," as well as several articles, short stories, cartoons and plays.

He also enjoyed small roles in several movies including "Hannah and Her Sisters" and the upcoming Ron Howard production, "The Paper."

Survivors include his brother, Thomas Guess of Big Spring, and Theresa Voss of Lincoln, Neb.

At his request, no funeral services were held. Instead, he was cremated and his ashes spread at sea in Alaska. Memorial gifts may be sent to any artistic charity.

Garland Coulter

STAMFORD — Graveside funeral services for Garland Coulter, 82, of Stamford are set for 11:30 a.m. Monday, Jan. 10, at the Mt. Olive Cemetery in Big Spring with the Rev. Chad Selpoff officiating. Kinney Funeral

Home of Stamford has charge of arrangements.

Mr. Coulter was born on March 2, 1911, in Wallington, a son of Jess Lee and Mary Franks Coulter. He died Saturday, Jan. 8, at Abilene Regional Medical Center. He married Evie Underwood in Reno, Nev., on Sept. 19, 1941. They resided in Big Spring until her death in 1985, at which time he moved to Stamford.

He was a veteran, having served in the Army during World War II. He operated a produce truck and was a member of the First Baptist Church and VIP Center.

Survivors include a daughter, LaRue Shelhamer of Stamford; two brothers, Ed Coulter of Albuquerque, N.M., and Jess Coulter of Longview; one sister, Darlene Bailey of Dallas; six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Chelsa Taroni

Chelsa Taroni, 95, of Big Spring died Friday afternoon, Jan. 7, 1994, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

A rosary will be at 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 9, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Monday, Jan. 10, in the Myers & Smith Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Christopher Coleman, pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, officiating. Graveside services will be at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 12, in the Rose Hedge Cemetery in Gordon, Ark.

Mrs. Taroni was born on March 16, 1898, in Bagnacavallo, Italy. She married Ettore Taroni in 1920 in Italy. They came to the United States in 1920. Mr. and Mrs. Taroni made their home in Gordon, Ark.

Mr. Taroni died on May 22, 1958, and Mrs. Taroni had lived in Big Spring since 1979. She was a member of Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church.

She is survived by one son, Henry A. "Tony" Taroni of Big Spring, a daughter-in-law, Ruby Taroni of Big Spring; two grandchildren, Toni Lynn Normand of Hemphill and Thomas Anthony Taroni of Lake Jackson; five great-grandchildren, William C. Edwards and Tami L. Edwards, both of Seabrook, Tara L. Edwards of Hemphill, and Chelsa K. Taroni and Jason A. Taroni, both of Lake Jackson.

NASA contract worker claims being harrassed by astronaut and wife

HOUSTON — A NASA contract worker sued astronaut Charles Gemar and his wife Friday, alleging they harassed and stalked her for several months after she gave birth to a child she claims was fathered by the astronaut.

Bernadette Cardenas, 35, filed civil lawsuits in Houston state court against Charles and Charlene Gemar and Space Family Education Inc., a non-profit day care facility at Johnson Space Center. Mrs. Gemar also is employed by NASA.

Neither Charles nor Charlene Gemar returned repeated calls to their NASA offices Friday. There was no telephone listing for their home in Nassau Bay.

Gemar, 38, was selected as an astronaut in June 1985. He flew aboard Atlantis on a secret defense mission in November 1990 and a satellite deployment mission in September 1991.

He and four other astronauts are assigned to a 14-day microgravity research mission aboard the shuttle Columbia in early March.

Dave Leestma, director of shuttle flight crew operations, said he did not know if the allegations would affect Gemar's flight status. It was not immediately clear whether Gemar, an Army lieutenant colonel, could face military sanctions.

The Gemars "stalked and followed plaintiffs, made telephone calls to

Lotto

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — The winning numbers drawn Saturday night in "Lotto Texas" are:

5-9-13-40-41-44
Estimated jackpot: \$3 million

The Lotto Texas Pick 3 winning numbers drawn Saturday by the Texas Lottery, in this order: 4-0-0

Commissioners to discuss jail, librarian applicants on Monday

By TIM JONES
Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners will consider securing new recording equipment for use during their meetings and applications from prospective librarians when they meet in regular session at 10 a.m. Monday Jan. 10.

Under new business, the commissioners will consider securing new recording equipment for use during their meetings, because the old equipment is outdated and produces poor quality tapes that are difficult to hear.

Commissioners will also consider 11 applications for the position of county library director. Currently, Milton Perkins is acting director, replacing Donna Jackson who left after accepting a job in Houston.

The commissioners' court will discuss the new county jail with architect Norris Fletcher of Dallas-based Aguirre Associates.

Commissioners say they have more questions to ask about the construction of a new jail, and he and his firm have built several similar projects statewide.

Sheriff A.N. Standard is requesting that the court consider paying matrons who routinely provide the sheriff's department female coverage in transporting female prisoners.

The department has no on-duty matrons now because they subcontract female prisoners out to nearby facilities, and sometimes transport females directly to a Gatesville state prison facility.

The commissioners will also set the terms of court for the upcoming 1994 year.

Speakers

Continued from page 1A

In terms of NAFTA's impact, Perry said 70 percent of current national agricultural products sold are to Mexico. "We are in a geographical location to benefit from NAFTA and grab the major share of their trade," he explained. "They are a willing and eager customer base."

"I'd like to see 'Made in Texas' labels surpass those saying 'Made in America' down there in Mexico," Perry added.

Commenting on private property rights and the impact of the Endangered Species Act on farmers and ranchers, Perry shot squarely.

"Those wild animals and landowner farmers/ranchers very successfully coexisted long before the government experts ever thought there was a problem," he said. "Environmentalists think that wild species survive in spite of farmers and ranchers. Private stewardship will protect them more than bureaucratic policies. Who would love the land and animals more than those who base their livings on it?"

"Government zeal has replaced common sense with nonsense," he continued. "They are burdening those they should be listening to, after all, agriculture does feed and clothe us."

"The only way those of us in government can help is making services the most efficient and extraordinary as possible, making Texas agriculture number one."

Rominger took the podium and dis-

cussed GATT. He explained that 117 countries took seven years to finalize the agreement signed in Geneva on Dec. 15, and noted this is the first time the alliance members have addressed farm trade.

"Assuming Congress will vote positive on ratification of the agreement later this year, GATT will turn the tide on international farm trade the likes of which we've not seen in 40 years. Exports are the key to a viable farming industry," Rominger said.

"The difference is this: We used to stand at trade borders with one hand tied behind our backs and they were wearing face masks," he explained. "In the next six years, we'll see all those barriers coming down. It will be one of the most historic events in modern agricultural history."

"The years between 1993 to 1995 will be landmark years for U.S. agricultural trade, especially with NAFTA now in effect," Rominger continued. "Mexico's population is rapidly growing, and is expected to be 30 million people by the year 2010."

"We are working to streamline the United States Department of Agriculture from 43 internal agencies to 30 to give more efficient and better service. A 7,500 reduction of current USDA personnel is planned over the

next five years reducing by a third the work force at a savings of \$2.3 billion for taxpayers," he explained.

Rominger added that the USDA's sixfold mission of realignment is designed to help improve farm income, strengthen conservation activities, increase economic activity and development projects in rural communities, improve food assistance and nutritional programs, assure food quality and safety and strengthen research and education programs.

In his final comment, Rominger said, "Hopefully, the next time someone walks up to you and says 'Hello, I'm from Washington and I'm here to help you,' you'll believe them."

U.S. Rep. Charles Stenholm spoke on several issues facing Congress later this year including welfare reform, both in the food stamp and in the school nutritional lunch program.

State Rep. David Counts mentioned that he is serving as chairman of the Natural Resources Committee which has been charged with ensuring a safe water supply.

He explained his difficulty in voting to limit water supplies pumped to farmers and ranchers, "rather than turn the Edwards aquifer over to a federal judge."

Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Rosewood Chapel
906 GREGG BIG SPRING

James Thomas Arnold, 46, died Friday. Funeral Services will be 2:00 P.M. Monday at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

William T. Casteel, 68, died Saturday. Funeral Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

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John Candy in
Cool Runnings PG
7:10-9:00; Sat. & Sun. Mat. 2:10-4:00

Sylvester Stallone & Wesley Snipes in
Demolition Man R
6:50; Sat. & Sun. Mat. 1:50

Alec Baldwin & Nicole Kidman in
Malice R
9:20; Sat. & Sun. Mat. 4:20

CINEMARK THEATRES

MOVIES 4
Big Spring Mall 263-2479

*TOMBSTONE R
STEREO 1:50-4:30-7:25

*GERONIMO PG-13
STEREO 2:10-4:40-7:00

MRS DOUBTFIRE PG-13
STEREO 2:00-4:35-7:20

BEETHOVEN'S 2ND PG
STEREO 2:20-4:20-7:10

*Restrictions Apply

Bill T. Chrane, B.S., D.C. CHIROPRACTIC HEALTH CENTER

is proud to announce the association of **Dr. Michelle Wiggins** in the general practice of chiropractic medicine.

Dr. Chrane **Dr. Wiggins**

Dr. Wiggins is a recent graduate of Parker Chiropractic College in Dallas, licensed in December 1993 by the Texas State Board of Chiropractic Examiners, and the only female Chiropractor in this area. Both Dr. Chrane and Dr. Wiggins invite new patients to the clinic for the latest Chiropractic Health Diagnosis and Procedures.

1407 LANCASTER PLEASE CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT 263-3182

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 1994

Carolyn Honea Crav to the board while up sex education board that more than required by the state

TEA seniors pass

The Associated Press

AUSTIN — More Texas seniors have the graduation test to get their diplomas figures released by Education Agency.

Of 184,023 students scheduled to graduate first took the test a 83 percent have passed figures distributed of Education meeting.

In the latest round October, 26,647 students all parts of the Academic Skills. It writing and math.

The seniors, who chances to take more try before can continue try number of times allowed.

Several thousand members of the Cl have moved out of public school system or TEA spokeswoman.

The 83 percent better than that for the same point in gram. In the fall of

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It's about off and shir accomplished Technical Providing high-tech have earned Our gradu and the na And our fa new and fa

Equal Opportunity/Equal Employer

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Hutchison to be tried on four charges

The Associated Press

AUSTIN — U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison will stand trial on four felony ethics charges related to her 2-year tenure as state treasurer, a judge ruled Friday.

Visiting Judge John Onion Jr. also said he would move the trial from Austin.

Mrs. Hutchison, a Republican, had claimed that she could not get a fair trial in Austin because of publicity surrounding her case, and the dominance of the Democratic Party in the city.

After Onion's decision, Mrs. Hutchison, who attended every day of the 8-day pre-trial hearing, said, "I'm very pleased with the change of

venue. I'm looking forward to going to trial. I hope it's very soon because I know that when we can get this to trial, a fair jury will find me innocent."

The charges carry a maximum punishment of 50 years in prison. If she is tried on all the counts at the same time and convicted, she would face a maximum of 20 years in prison.

Mrs. Hutchison refused to answer questions from reporters. Prosecutors from the Travis County District Attorney's office also declined to comment after Onion's ruling.

Onion, a retired presiding judge of the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, said he would try to find a site for the trial as soon as possible and then set

a trial date. He urged prosecutors and Mrs. Hutchison's attorneys to stop bickering with each other.

"We need to get down to it. The case continues to be tried in the newspapers," he said.

Prosecutors allege that while state treasurer in 1991 and 1992, Mrs. Hutchison used state funds, state employees and state computers for political and personal purposes, and then had Treasury computer records altered to hide her activities.

Mrs. Hutchison has denied wrongdoing, and says the charges are part of a Democratic-driven plot to hurt her re-election chances. She won the Senate seat in a special election June 5 and is now seeking a full, six-year term.

On Dec. 28, Onion had tossed out four of five charges against Mrs. Hutchison, saying the indictments were too vague to allow for a defense. He gave prosecutors 10 days to try and fix them.

On Friday he considered the amended indictments and a re-indictment handed up by a Travis County grand jury. He rejected Mrs. Hutchison's motions to toss them out, except for a misdemeanor official misconduct charge.

Mrs. Hutchison now faces two charges of official misconduct, tampering with physical evidence and tampering with a governmental record.



Associated Press photo

Carolyn Honea Crawford, chairman of the State Board of Education, speaks to the board while votes are being registered to approve guidelines setting up sex education policies Friday in Austin. TEA officials have informed the board that more than 26,000 seniors still have to pass the graduation exit required by the state.

TEA says 26,000 seniors still must pass exit testing

The Associated Press

AUSTIN — More than 26,000 Texas seniors have not yet passed the graduation test required for them to get their diplomas, according to figures released Friday by the Texas Education Agency.

Of 184,023 students who were scheduled to graduate this year and first took the test as juniors in 1992, 83 percent have passed, according to figures distributed at a State Board of Education meeting.

In the latest round of testing last October, 26,647 seniors didn't pass all parts of the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills. It includes reading, writing and mathematics.

The seniors, who have had four chances to take the test, get one more try before graduation. They can continue trying an unlimited number of times after that.

Several thousand other prospective members of the Class of 1994 either have moved out of state, left the public school system or dropped out, said TEA spokeswoman Della May Moore.

The 83 percent passing rate is better than that for the Class of 1993 at the same point in the testing program. In the fall of 1992, 81 percent

of the previous year's seniors had passed all sections of the test.

Juniors this school year also have passed the test at a higher rate than those in past years, according to the agency. Their passing rate is 67 percent, compared with 54 percent in October 1992 and 48 percent in October 1991.

This year's juniors were allowed to take the exam for the first time as sophomores.

Education Commissioner Lionel "Skip" Meno says it's too early to tell whether the higher passing rates are the start of a trend.

But he said he expects to see continued improvement, noting that the Education Board has moved to establish higher student standards, and that the state has tried to give local educators more flexibility to improve achievement.

Of the seniors who have yet to pass all sections of the graduation test, 16,869 failed only one section and only must re-take that part. Of the rest, 6,628 failed two tests, and 3,150 failed all three.

Also Friday, the State Board of Education:

— Gave final approval to guidelines for state-developed sex education materials.

The Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — The confrontation that ended in a hellish fire and led to the deaths of religious leader David Koresh and more than 80 followers last April has moved from his compound to the courtroom.

Had Koresh survived, the witness stand may well have become a pulpit for his doomsday prophecies that the world would end after a cataclysmic clash with the government.

But 11 of his devoted followers are left to defend his beliefs and themselves against murder charges stemming from the blood bath that occurred outside Waco last Feb. 28.

A twelfth Branch Davidian, who was charged with the others last August in a 10-count indictment, has agreed to plead guilty to a lesser charge in exchange for her testimony against the others.

Defense attorneys will attempt to show that the government was to blame for a gun battle that led to the deaths of four federal agents and a handful of Branch Davidians.

Prosecutors, meanwhile, intend to prove that the defendants murdered the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agents as part of a conspiracy to wage war on the government.

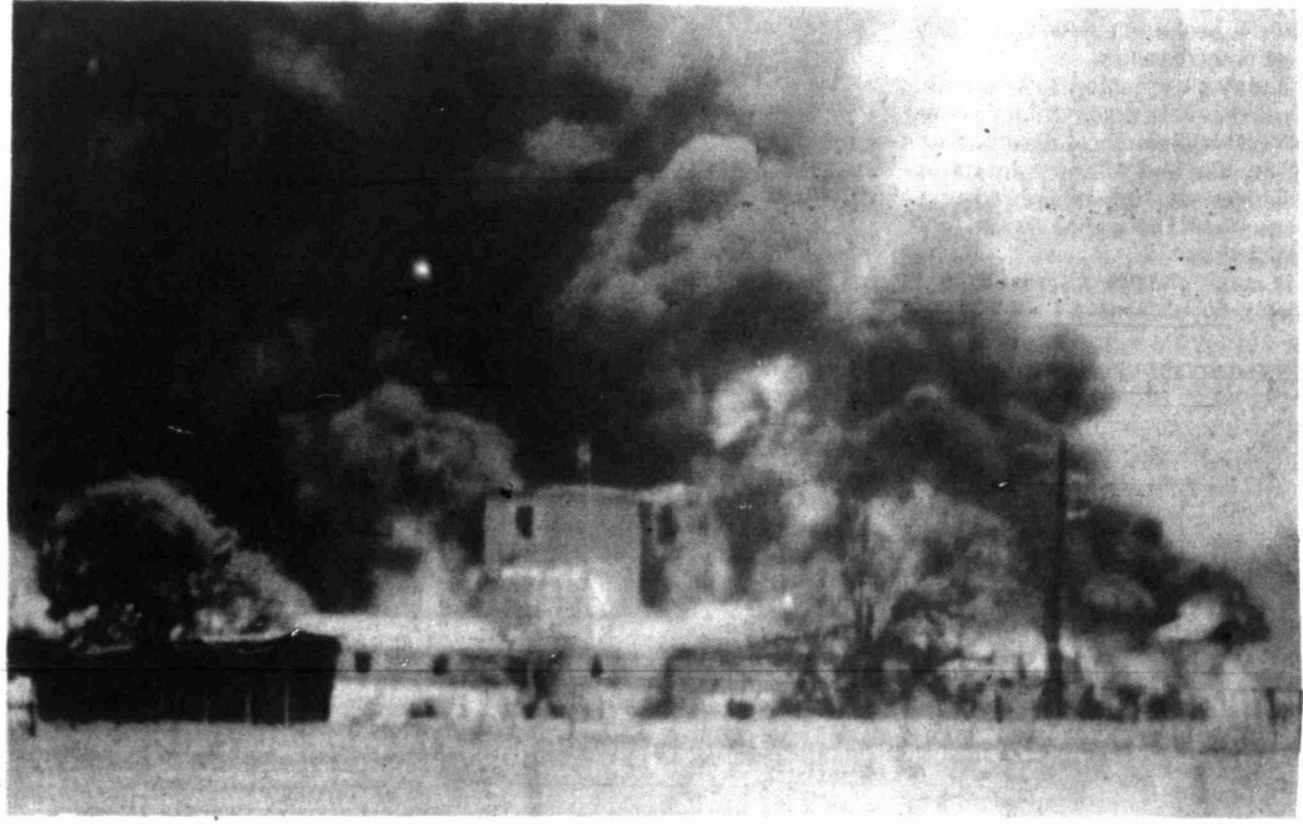
What remains to be seen is how the legacy of Koresh, the 33-year-old rock singer-turned-prophet who took young girls as part of a harem of wives, will influence the trial, which is expected to last two months.

Because the defendants remain committed to the beliefs of the self-proclaimed messiah, some of their lawyers have indicated they will try to avoid blaming Koresh in court. Other attorneys have said some of his actions are indefensible.

"It may occur that there is a split on how Koresh is portrayed by the defense," said Gene Silverblatt, who served as the court-appointed attorney for Branch Davidian Livingston Fagan before withdrawing from the case over a month ago.

Inevitably, lawyers say, freedom of religion and the right to bear arms will be central themes in the trial.

Dick DeGuerin, a Houston attorney who represented Koresh during the standoff, said the Branch Davidians were devoted to God, the Bible and



Associated Press photo

Fire engulfs the Branch Davidian compound near Waco on April 18, 1993. The compound burned to the ground after FBI agents in an armored vehicle smashed compound buildings and pumped in tear gas. The confrontation that ended in a hellish fire and led to the deaths of religious leader David Koresh and more than 80 followers last April has moved from the compound to the courtroom.

each other.

"They believed sincerely that the world was going to end and end in catastrophe," DeGuerin said. "They believed that they were going to be attacked and they were right. Unless the religious issues are given a full and fair airing in court, then it's not going to be a trial, it's going to be a sentencing."

The trial was moved to San Antonio due to the intense media coverage of a 51-day standoff that ended April 19 in a deadly inferno as the FBI tried to force Koresh to surrender with a tank and tear gas assault.

U.S. District Judge Walter Smith has ordered attorneys not to discuss the case and has ordered that the identities of jury members be kept secret. Anonymous juries also were used in the Reginald Denny and Rodney King cases in Los Angeles.

According to court motions and interviews prior to Smith's order, defense attorneys intend to dispel the murder charges by showing the Branch Davidians:

— were merely defending them-

selves against "excessive force" used by 100 ATF agents seeking to arrest Koresh on weapons charges last Feb. 28.

— were educated people who were minding their own business out in the country, studying their religious beliefs. One defense attorney has even filed a court motion seeking to prohibit prosecutors and witnesses from using the terms "cult" or "members of a cult."

— had the right to bear arms as provided by state and federal law.

The five-member prosecution team from the Waco U.S. attorney's office will be led by the husband-wife tandem of Ray and LeRoy Jahn.

They will put their case together with hundreds of photographs and more than 20,000 pounds of charred artillery fragments that were believed to be part of a \$200,000 cache of weapons stockpiled by Koresh.

Prosecutors also will rely on reels of video and audio tape, some of which was recorded with eavesdropping devices sent into the compound

with food and other items.

The government likely will attempt to use the testimony of Branch Davidian Kathryn Schroeder, who pleaded guilty to a lesser charge of forcibly resisting federal officers, in detailing the actions of each defendant on the day of the ATF raid.

Ms. Schroeder also is expected to help corroborate the government's contention that the Branch Davidians had a longstanding, shoot-to-kill battle plan if federal agents should ever approach their home.

Some defense attorneys have contended that forcing the Davidians to stand trial together will make it easier for prosecutors to convince a jury to convict everyone because all were close to Koresh.

Under federal conspiracy laws, prosecutors can assert that any of Koresh's followers who contributed in any way to the group's ultimate alleged criminal acts can be prosecuted for the murders of the federal agents.

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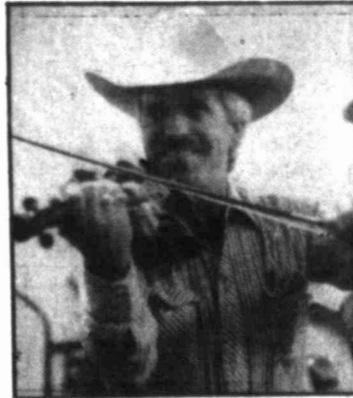
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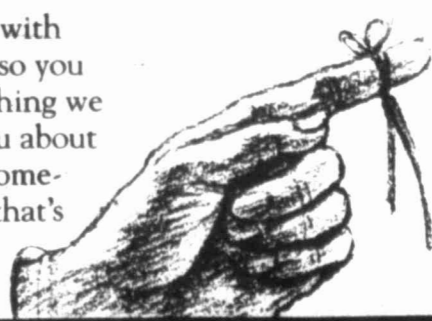


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Car bomb explodes in Mexico City

The Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — A taxi packed with explosives blew up in a parking lot underneath a Mexico City shopping mall early Saturday, barely a day after rebels were implicated in two bombings east and west of the capital.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the car-bomb explosion, which Red Cross spokesman Joaquin Ibarra said injured at least one woman, left a hole in the floor and damaged about 20 stores.

But suspicion fell immediately on rebels involved in guerrilla fighting in southern Chiapas state.

A police spokesman would say only that the bombing was being investigated.

The army estimates 105 people have died in fighting in the south since it broke out New Year's Day, most of them rebels.

Today's explosion followed the dynamiting Thursday night of two 400,000-volt electrical lines in nearby Puebla and Michoacan states. Callers to newspapers and radio stations said the rebel group was responsible.

It came shortly after midnight, after a top government official went on national TV and radio Friday night to accuse the rebels of trafficking in arms, ambushing soldiers and exporting money from Indians in southern Mexico.

"They are two-faced: Friendly and civil with tourists in San Cristobal de las Casas, and extremely violent and bloody with our indigenous and mestizo (mixed-race) compatriots in Ocosingo," Deputy Interior Minister Socorro Diaz said.

Some leaders of the Zapatista National Liberation Army have been identified as highly trained combat experts, many of them foreigners or with links to leftist guerrilla groups in Central America, she said.

Others are from the poverty-stricken southern state of Chiapas, where the rebellion erupted Jan. 1, but were "manipulated or pressured" into joining, she said.

The rebels, who take their name from the early 20th-century Mexican revolutionary Emiliano Zapata, say they are fighting for poor Mayan peasants, for socialism and against Mexico's elite.

Continuing its public relations offensive against the insurgents, the government said Friday that five rebels found shot in the head were not executed as originally suspected



Journalists photograph an Indian woman Saturday in San Cristobal de Las Casas, southern Mexico. Following a New Year's uprising by Indian rebels, the city has been flooded by Mexican Army units and reporters covering the fighting.

— at least not by the army. The bloody bodies of the five men apparently executed were found by reporters Tuesday in the marketplace of Ocosingo, scene of the fiercest fighting, about 40 miles northeast of San Cristobal de las Casas.

They were found lying in a row with their hands behind their backs. All appeared to have been shot in the head.

The discovery has been cited by those who fear human rights may be violated as the army hunts down rebels.

But the attorney general's office said the men had not been executed, at least not by the army.

The statement said 30 bodies from the town were taken to Tuxtla Gutierrez, the capital of southern Chiapas state, for autopsies.

Of those, only four had been shot in the head. Those four were shot at different times with different weapons, including low-caliber guns and a shotgun, weapons "not used by

the armed forces," the statement said.

Jorge Madrazo, head of the respected National Human Rights Commission, had said he planned to investigate the shootings. He was not immediately available for comment.

An American artist who was visiting relatives in the town of Huixtlan when it was seized by about 200 rebels last Sunday said he doubted the government's contention that the uprising was the work of outsiders.

"There were only Tzotzil Indians in Huixtlan and their weapons were very primitive," Randy Browning of Dallas said. "I spoke to some of the rebel leaders who said they decided to fight because they were dying of hunger, worms and worse."

U.S. Embassy personnel got word Browning was in Huixtlan and arrived in an unmarked van Tuesday — after rebels had left — to evacuate him and his family.

Meanwhile heavily armed troops continued to block highways, and soldiers conducted house-to-house

searches Friday for Indian rebels who appeared to have retreated into the mountain forests and jungles of Chiapas state, which borders Guatemala and the Pacific.

The army said troops had ousted insurgents from Chanal, the last village they were known to occupy on Thursday, "after some resistance."

The army appears to be hunkering down for a long haul, bringing in new equipment daily. Journalists, meanwhile, reported fresh rocket attacks east of San Cristobal, about 450 miles southeast of Mexico City.

The deputy interior minister, reading from a 26-page statement, said the government learned about the rebels in Chiapas last year.

Some rebels and arms were captured last year, she said, but some police and army actions had led to conflicts with local communities.

President Carlos Salinas de Gortari has said his government would consider pardoning rebels who could show they had been tricked or forced into joining the rebellion.

Clinton to reassure old European allies during nine-day trip

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — On his nine-day journey overseas, President Clinton will try to patch up relations with anxious allies who have felt overlooked as the United States readjusts its post-Cold War foreign policy priorities.

Clinton will try to reassure Eastern and Central European nations worried about the threat of nationalism and aggression from Moscow. But Clinton and other western leaders won't grant their pleas for concrete security guarantees.

In Russia, Clinton will seek to steady the wobbly path of reforms under Boris Yeltsin, under attack from inflation-weary citizens, extreme nationalists and Communists.

But saddled with a huge budget deficit, Clinton will have to cut back new aid for Russia to about \$1 billion, aides say. That's less than half the \$2.5 billion that Congress approved in September.

Finally, in Geneva, Clinton will try to bring Syria back to the Middle East bargaining table by meeting with President Hafez Assad, hoping that the U.S. goodwill gesture will reinvigorate flagging peace talks.

For Clinton, a president more comfortable with handling problems at home than abroad, it's an ambitious trip, offering opportunities to enhance his role as a world statesman and dispel doubts about his global leadership.

For a few days, at least, it also will divert attention from the Clinton Arkansas land investments and other controversies.

"It's kind of rounding out his claim to be a world leader," said Catherine Kelleher, a senior fellow in foreign policy studies at Brookings Institution. "They're not going to carry him from any room on their shoulders but he's quick, he's smart, he's very political, he dazzles people. He will bring that kind of charm to all of the encounters."

Clinton's peace-making mission begins Monday with the opening of a NATO summit in Brussels, first

stop on a trip that later will take him to Prague, Moscow, Minsk (the capital of Belarus) and Geneva.

Remarkably, it's his first trip to Europe, a frequent stop for American presidents during the Cold War.

Now, with the dismantling of the Soviet Union and the cracking of the cement that held NATO together, European leaders are uncertain about Clinton's priorities. His administration has spoken openly about Europe's decline and the importance of new ties with the booming economies of Asia.

Moreover, Clinton has had different ideas than European leaders about how to stop the war in Bosnia. There are still differences on that score, and they're sure to be raised in Brussels this week.

As for Clinton's intentions for Europe, the allies have "kind of a show-me" attitude," Kelleher said. "There's been a lot of sort of miffed feelings about not having been as important as Asians or the Japanese or others."

Vice President Al Gore tried to answer European doubts last week when he delivered a foreign policy speech for Clinton, whose mother died suddenly.

"Nothing is more important to our security than our relations with Europe," Gore said. "With the Cold War over, some may think Europe doesn't matter as much to our nation as it used to. President Clinton says, 'They're wrong.'"

Clinton, in an interview, said he recognizes the concerns and hopes the fact that he plans three trips to Europe this year "would clearly re-establish the fact that the United States is committed to, interested in Europe."

In Brussels, NATO leaders will ratify Clinton's cautious blueprint for closer military and political ties with the nations of Eastern Europe while stopping short of promising to protect them from any Russian aggression.

Western European nations, leery of new security obligations and rising military costs, seem happy with Clinton's slow approach.

President buries his mother; Calls her 'American original'

The Associated Press

HOT SPRINGS, Ark. — President Clinton bid farewell to his mother for the last time Saturday at a funeral where she was remembered as "a celebration on the way to heaven."

Thousands of mourners, from neighbors and friends to top administration officials and entertainer Barbara Streisand, paid their respects to Virginia Kelley. Clinton's 70-year-old mother died in her sleep Thursday after a battle with breast cancer.

The service was held just hours before Clinton was to leave on a scheduled nine-day European trip. All Hot Springs residents were invited to what the Rev. John P. Miles, the Clinton family pastor, called a "celebration of Virginia's life."

Hundreds waited outside the city convention center in 18-degree weather for an hour before the doors opened at 7:30 a.m. local time. Nearly all 3,000 seats inside were filled by the time the service began at 9:25, about 25 minutes late.

"I wanted to get a glimpse of Mr. Clinton," said Dorothy Peoples Bennett, a Hot Springs native who now lives in San Diego. "I'm proud that he's our president, and that she (Mrs. Kelley) had a great influence on his life."

Clinton, his wife, Hillary, and their daughter, Chelsea, sat somberly in the front row as soloists sang hymns, including "His Eye Is On The Sparrow" and "Just A Closer Walk With Thee." Clinton did not speak.

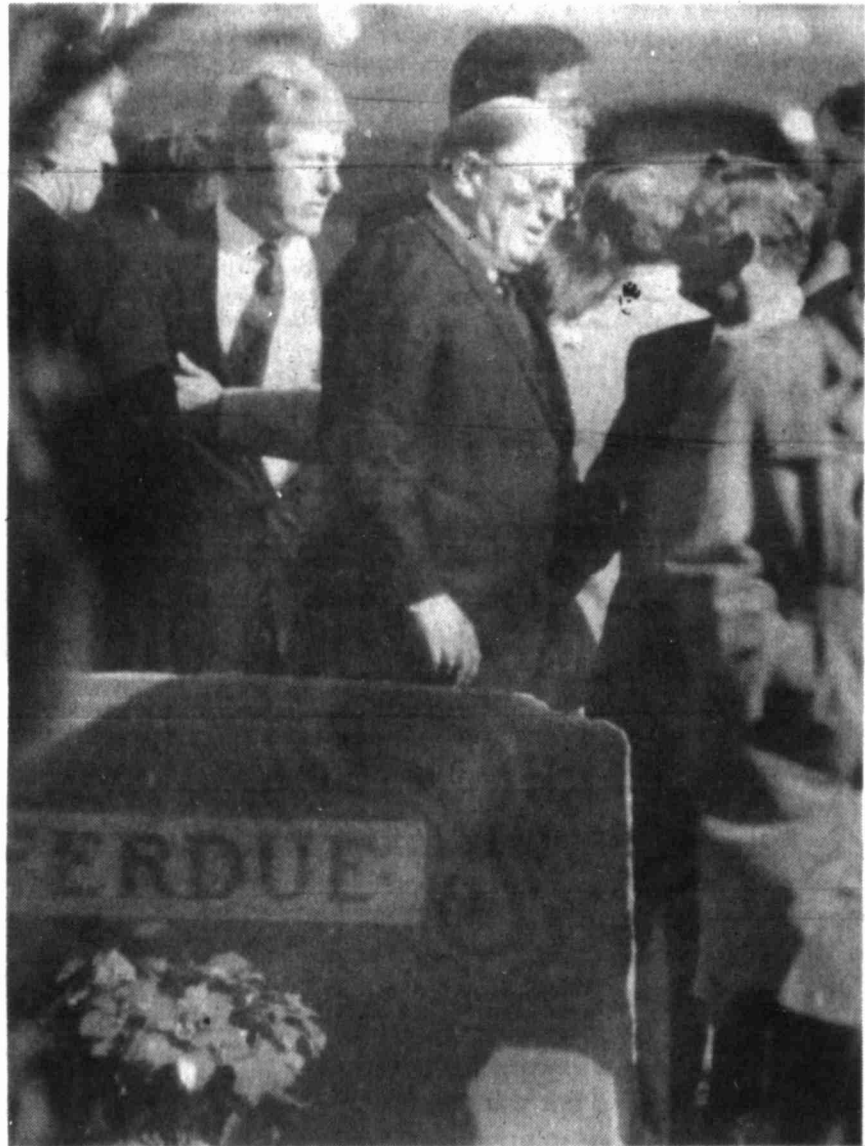
Miles, pastor of St. James Methodist Church of Little Rock, called Virginia Kelley "an American original" during a light-hearted eulogy.

Miles recalled how Mrs. Kelley said she once told her husband, "There's no telling what I could have accomplished in life if I had just been born with eyebrows."

Mrs. Kelley stood out with her arched, pencilled-in eyebrows.

"She was filled with the essence of life. She was a celebration on the way to heaven," he said. "She loved her sons unconditionally. And she needed to at times. Both of them."

Mrs. Kelley had two sons — the president, 47, and Roger Clinton, 37, who wore a red jacket to the service. Miles also praised Mrs. Kelley for



President Bill Clinton talks with friends and family members Saturday following graveside services at Rose Hill Cemetery in Hope, Ark., for Virginia Kelley, Clinton's 70-year-old mother died in her sleep Thursday after a battle with breast cancer.

bravely facing her illness and other adversities throughout her life.

"She faced one tragedy after another. But she was like a rubber ball. The harder life put her down, the higher she bounced," he said.

After the hourlong service, Clinton left the auditorium with his half-brother and stepfather, Richard Kelley. The president and his family joined a 28-car funeral procession for the 90-mile drive to his birthplace in Hope, Ark., for burial.

By the time the procession reached Rose Hill Cemetery, it had grown to a mile in length. After a brief service with family and close friends, Mrs. Kelley was buried, among the graves

of other family members. Clinton's father, William Jefferson Blythe, is also buried in the same cemetery.

White House chief of staff Mack McLarty, a boyhood friend of the president's, said Clinton was holding up well.

"He was renewed seeing so many friends of longstanding," McLarty said.

It was the third time in a year that death brought the first family back to Arkansas. Hugh Rodham, Mrs. Clinton's father, died in April. White House lawyer Vince Foster, a close friend from Arkansas of both the Clintons, committed suicide in July.

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Opinions expr of the P Patrick J. M Publishe

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"We have g to be proac So said Big attending the ture Commiss culture Richa Proactive is taking care of A proactive begins the pr need is, it c prison, induc It takes ste making those Being proac find the best lem. A reactive them and the with the lest It pays a cc it needs for tl

Editor Big Spring Box 1431 Big Spring, Letters to t

A solution to

Editor: A new year's works. Joshua s Verse 15; But a house we will s every person in H loves the Lord w January the secur resolve to be th when able, I pro Good Lord will b never before. Thi crime rate to d Neighbor we ha problem in thi answer to our ne lem is in Christ J and living God. We invite you t Lane Baptist Sun and 6:00 p.m. an Up. Thanks for readi

Thieves still than decorat

Editor: It is now 12:4 happened again great pleasure of lollipops out of a total of 10 lollipo has been stolen started out with being with fami Christmas Day. A cially tonight peop admire our Chris Some would take picture to remem ly had to offer the of sharing. But s have to come to family was tryin from all the exci had to ruin it ag depriving our joy community. If anyone know orations may be your hearts to rel ask no questions. that also enjoy de ing with this com want them to lear good. So Big Spr keeping the spirit MR. &

Coats galore

Editor: "Hey Mister, Coat?" How abo sweaters and 1 windbreakers, et Woman's Club w everyone who do 1993 Coat Drive. goes to Lisa Carr lege who coordin the Community gram at HC and S to the following b ing as drop-off p Realtors, Harris ware, and Don's Quality, Greg

The ultimate expression of free speech lies not in the ideas with which we agree, but in those ideas that offend and irritate us.

Chuck Stone, columnist, 1991

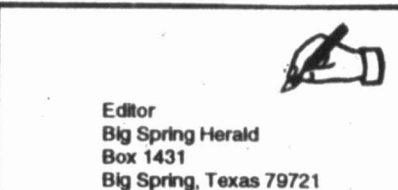
BIG SPRING Herald

Opinions expressed in this column are those of the Editorial Board of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

Patrick J. Morgan Publisher, DD Turner Managing Editor, John A. Moseley News Editor

Being 'proactive'

"We have good people locally but the main thing we have to be is proactive before getting reactive." So said Big Spring Mayor Tim Blackshear to the audience attending the '94 AgExpo Saturday to hear Texas Agriculture Commissioner Rick Perry and Deputy Secretary of Agriculture Richard Romjinger speak.



Letters to the Editor

A solution to crime

Editor: A new year's resolution that works. Joshua said in Chapter 24, Verse 15; But as for me and my house we will serve the Lord. If every person in Howard County who loves the Lord would be in church January the second, 1994 and would resolve to be there every Sunday when able, I promise you that the Good Lord will bless you like He has never before.

Thieves still more than decorations

Editor: It is now 12:45 a.m. and it has happened again. Someone took great pleasure of stealing some more lollipops out of our yard. This is a total of 10 lollipop decorations that has been stolen this year. Today started out with excitement and joy being with family and friends on Christmas Day. All week and especially tonight people would stop and admire our Christmas decorations.

Coats galore

Editor: "Hey Mister, Can You Spare A Coat?" How about 374 coats, 37 sweaters and 15 miscellaneous windbreakers, etc. The Big Spring Woman's Club would like to thank everyone who donated coats to their 1993 Coat Drive. A special thanks goes to Lisa Carnes of Howard College who coordinated the efforts of the Community Involvement Program at HC and SWCID.

Comet Cleaners provided dry-cleaning at no charge, and Big Spring Cable and the Herald helped with the advertising. Last but not least, thanks to Brenda Brooks and the Public Affairs Committee for their hard work in making this a successful program.

Thanks for caring

Editor: Recently, I submitted a letter to the Editor, concerning the homeless in Big Spring. I thank her for printing it, and to those who responded. A fund for the homeless has been set up at the State National Bank account #3742423, as of 12/27/93, for the purpose of acquiring a building to shelter the homeless, and to meet their daily needs, when such is possible.

Thanks are in order

Editor: As citizens and businesses of Big Spring, we need to give thanks to our city employees for their part in the affairs of our community. To the Police Department, in their efforts to keep us out of harm's way in their patrol of our houses and businesses; to the Fire Department, dedicated to the preservation of life and property; to the Public Works Department, for supplying the essentials of our lives that we seem to take for granted.

Coats galore

Editor: "Hey Mister, Can You Spare A Coat?" How about 374 coats, 37 sweaters and 15 miscellaneous windbreakers, etc. The Big Spring Woman's Club would like to thank everyone who donated coats to their 1993 Coat Drive. A special thanks goes to Lisa Carnes of Howard College who coordinated the efforts of the Community Involvement Program at HC and SWCID.

THADEUS & WEEZ



by Charlie Fincher

Point

In 1994 look for about 3 percent growth, 2 to 3 percent inflation

By ALLEN SINAI For Scripps Howard News Service

The U.S. economy finally appears to be up and running after years of subpar, anemic and chronically depressed activity. This promises to be the best year for the U.S. economy since 1988, potentially the first in a string of several good years, and without many of the legacies that plagued the 1980s — rising federal government deficits and debt, excesses in real estate and financial markets, and high private and public sector consumption at the expense of saving and investment.

Counterpoint

In 1994 look for 3.7 percent growth, 1.9 percent inflation

By LARRY KIMBELL For Scripps Howard News Service

The U.S. economy will grow faster in 1994 than it did in 1993. The broadest measure of this stronger performance will be a 3.7 percent increase in real Gross Domestic Product, almost 1 percent faster than last year's growth. I expect 2.6 million more people on the payrolls in 1994 than in 1993, almost 1 million stronger job growth, leading to an unemployment rate of 6 percent by the end of 1994.

Counterpoint

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cent in 1994, the best performance since 1984. Consumer confidence has been rising for good reasons. Real consumer spending will increase 3.5 percent, less than the income increase, as consumers add to their saving rate, as well as boost the economy. A large backlog of needs also drives consumption, including the need for new furniture to furnish new houses and the need to replace an aging auto/truck fleet.

The thrill of lens victory, agony of a defeated shot

What you see is what you get, especially when looking through the lens of a camera.

And, no matter how you position the camera — either horizontally or vertically — you are only going to see what is in the lens.

So, when you are shooting action shots such as basketball, you tend to miss a lot of the action on the court.

For example, you are waiting for the action to get back down to where you are standing. You have the camera at your eye following the pointman as he brings the ball down the court.

All of a sudden, in sensoround sound, you hear pounding footsteps, the ball seems to be pounding in your ear and, occasionally, you feel a whoosh of air as bodies pass by.

You slowly drop the camera from your face only to realize you have barely been missed by flying bodies.

That's half the fun of shooting sports, though. The lens just doesn't capture all the action going on, so it takes some getting used to.

The worst part is when you have no where to run from the flying bodies because the gym is small or you oblivious to what's happening outside the view finder.

When that happens, you try to make yourself as small as possible to avoid hurting the camera.

That's right, bodies are expendable, cameras cost money — lots of money! So the credo is to protect the camera at all costs.



DD Turner

high school football game. Afterward, he couldn't move his head side to side for about a week but the camera was OK. He was so proud of having taken the knock and protected the camera at the same time.

I remember the one time I got hit on the sidelines. It was only a junior high game but, those kids are tough. All I remember is being hit, going over the kid's back and trying to keep the camera from hitting the ground.

I was more embarrassed than hurt from the incident. Basketball isn't much safer. In fact, from my perspective, it can be much worse mainly because you have less room to run in. But, there is less chance of it happening in a basketball game.

The gym in Rockport wasn't very big and didn't offer much room for shooting pictures from behind the goals where the best photos can be taken of this action sport.

I remember standing up against the wall, camera to my face and, after taking the shot and putting the camera down, I noticed, on either side of me, two players. My first thought was how nice they to try and avoid me because it wasn't some-

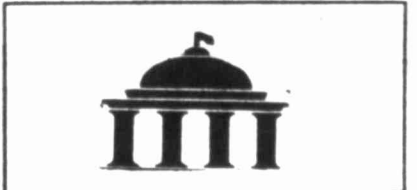
thing they had to do. My second thought was "I wanna go home!"

This wasn't something they taught in photography class in college. Baseball, soccer, volleyball — none of them are safe from being clobbered either by a ball or a body.

But, as with anything, the more you did it, the easier it got. It got easier to sense where the players were on the floor and when they were fixing to pound you.

I found myself creeping in closer and closer, camera fixed to the eye, not at all worried about the flying bodies. And all in the hope of capturing that elusive "perfect" shot.

Someday, that shot will be mine! DD Turner is managing editor of the Herald. Her column appears Sunday and Wednesday.



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JAN 9 1994

Overtons have 'sweet' touch

Plants grown from grocer's yams shocker

By GLENDA CUMMINGS
Staff Writer

LOMAX — With educational workshops at the Ag Expo in Big Spring featuring horticulture and gardening tips for West Texans this weekend, it should come as no surprise that a local woman has grown some extraordinarily large sweet potatoes.

"I've never grown a sweet potato in my life!" said Fannie Overton, displaying several of the giants. "But I grew these from three little potatoes I bought at Winn Dixie."

Fannie put toothpicks in the potatoes she bought and stuck them in a jar sometime last February. They grew to cover the walls, ceiling and window of her kitchen.

In June, she took them outside to the garden and stuck them in the ground.

"They looked almost dead and I just planted one here, one there and the last a little farther down the row," she gestures.

"We had planted a large garden. We raised all the typical garden plants - black-eyed peas, peppers, squash, radishes, potatoes, purple hulled peas and tomatoes," Overton says.

Fannie and Raymond lived in Coahoma for 30 years. Raymond retired from Parners Well Service and they moved to Lomax two years ago. Raymond plowed the land and they watered by flood irrigation down the rows. No fertilizer. No pesticides. Just good, old-fashioned hard work.

Fannie freezes most of the vegetables and makes jelly. So she has worked almost all year in the garden.

Last month, Raymond plowed the garden and they began to use the shovel to harvest the sweet potatoes. About two and a half to three feet underground, they found amazing discoveries.

Five huge sweet potatoes, the largest weighing in at six pounds, were unearthed.

The Overtons worried about them not being any good, so they cooked one just to see how it tasted. Fannie said it was good, so her plans are to bake them in the oven, mash them and freeze them so she can use them to make sweet potato pies.

They haven't gotten close to harvesting all their sweet potato patch. It is work, and Raymond isn't well, having experienced some respiratory problems.

They have, however, really enjoyed their garden, even growing watermelons they shared with



Herald photo by Glenda Cummings

Fannie Overton, displaying several of the giant sweet potatoes she grew from three sweet potatoes she purchased at HEB earlier this year. She put toothpicks in the potatoes she bought and stuck them in a jar sometime last February. They grew to cover the walls, ceiling and window of her kitchen. In June, she took them outside to the garden and stuck them in the ground. The result were yams, the largest of which weighs more than six pounds.

the Mountain View Lodge residents.

"I'm thinking I should enter some of my jellies in the fair this year. I have apple, peach, grape, apricot and pear," she said, displaying several of the jars. "This

year I tried something different - yellow pear tomato jelly. It sure is pretty."

"Everyone told me that I just couldn't grow some things here, but this sandy land seems to grow anything we've tried," she proudly

added. The "Guinness Book of Records" record for a sweet potato in 1990 was 40 3/4 pounds. The Overtons may have a way to go to beat the record, but they're content just setting their own records.

CRMWD deliveries climb

Special to the Herald

Deliveries by the Colorado River Municipal Water District showed a healthy gain in 1993 over the previous year.

The total passed the 16 billion-gallon mark - 16,743,028,000 gallons - a gain of 1,100,411,000 gallons, up 7.03 percent.

Municipal deliveries were responsible for the increase, while industrial deliveries declined. The municipal total for the year was 15,564,384,000 gallons, up 1,381,436,000 gallons, or 9.74 percent; industrial totals showed 1,238,694,000 gallons, a decline of 221,625,000 gallons, or 15.41 percent.

By cities, Big Spring used 2,412,629,000 gallons, a gain of 268 million gallons or 12.52 percent; Odessa used 6,787,120,000 gallons,

up 299 million gallons, or 4.61 percent; Snyder drew 957,934,000 gallons, a gain of 81,770,000 gallons or 9.33 percent; Midland (a contract city which takes water at a comparatively even rate) took 4,642,965,000 gallons up 5.7 million gallons, or .01 of one percent; and Stanton 110,566,000 gallons, up 11 million gallons or 11.21 percent.

Establishing monthly fixed charges for water to member cities will highlight the Thursday, Jan. 13, meeting of the directors of the Colorado River Municipal Water District. All other rates hinge on those to most proximate member cities of Big Spring, Odessa and Snyder.

Other agenda items for the meeting set for 9:30 a.m. at the headquarters office in Big Spring include recognition of the "Employee of the Year"; ratification of year-end transfers.

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Briefs

Stanton City Council sets Monday meeting

STANTON - The city council of Stanton will meet in regular session at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 10, in the council chambers.

Among the items listed for discussion on the meeting's agenda are: the ADA draft, the Stanton landfill, the police department, payment of bills and reports from city officials.

Glasscock County ISD board to meet Monday

GARDEN CITY - The Glasscock County Independent School District Board of Trustees will have a called meeting for long range planning at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 10, in the high school library.

Items on the agenda are discussion of school programs, optional offerings, usage fees, facilities, employee benefits and funding.

Glasscock County slates livestock show for Jan. 13

GARDEN CITY - The Glasscock County Livestock Show will be Thursday through Saturday, Jan. 13-15, in the bus barn.

Details of showing times will be available next week, according to show organizers.

SCS announces flexibility built into federal conservation plans

Special to the Herald

TEMPLE - Harry W. (Wes) Oneth, a conservationist with the Soil Conservation Service, received requests this week from some West Texas farmers for additional time to implement their conservation compliance plans.

The 1985 and 1990 federal farm bills required that all highly erodible cropland to have conservation plans developed and implemented by Dec. 31, 1994, or USDA benefits could be withheld. The plans, when fully implemented, would reduce wind and water erosion to acceptable levels.

During quality reviews conducted by the Soil Conservation Service, it was discovered that some plans had not adequately addressed the treat-

ment of water erosion to the levels required by the farm bills.

"Since water erosion was not addressed in many of these plans and this oversight has been documented, the SCS officials must do the job we were assigned by Congress and the president," Oneth said.

He went on to explain that this will be accomplished in the following manner:

- The SCS will notify the producers that are currently operating farms with inadequate plans.
- The SCS will assist the producers in development of plans that are in full compliance with the law.
- The time schedules for implementing the plans will be flexible.
- Eligibility for commodity payments will not be interrupted, as long as the producer makes a good faith

effort to implement the current plan of record.

In explaining what he meant by flexibility in time schedules, Oneth said, "In other words, if a new practice is required as a result of our technical error, the new practice will not necessarily have to be installed by Dec. 31, 1994.

"This schedule will be jointly agreed to by the SCS employee and the producer as long as the producer exhibits a good faith effort to implement."

Oneth emphasized that this new flexibility does not apply to plans that have all needed practices scheduled. These plans will have to be fully implemented by Dec. 31, 1994.

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Sports stars sitting ducks



Dave Harrell

On April 30 factory worker world with a sports superstar on the playing to their oppone That was te Seles. Thursda still on the loc skater Nancy I blunt object Kerrigan was ing field - sh scenes at the U Skating Champ her once-cert Olympics next Seles and Ke nate victims, they weren't they were. On of these attack comes next is t How could s happen?

Answer: Easy If you're re: likely familiar dards at Am events.

Did you tal camera bag in two years ago lucky enough game? Did you lars up to Lul see Texas Tech

How many ti officials chec Always? Some The answer: Face it - some security in the none have it or the field in Ker

When Seles started think ing events I've NCAA basketb March. That c Dome in Indis my binoculars stiles. The bin small case that I entered, and of any metal c

Sure, the co were a harmll lars, but a knll have fit in th Sounds farfet Seles, who w between game a "fan" came stabbed her in

As a sportsv countless event some minor, i my camera b photos. Not of bag checked v the job. Shoul among our n who have ter the sports wo figures, not o insane and att subject?

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Security has America's sta Metal detec entrances wou ment. Sure, minor inconven fan, but who prices haven't ple from atte neither would

If you can li port, you can ball game. It took Rober sination for th to give presid Secret Serv Perhaps the at Kerrigan, whic to the RFK ass ry's grand sca not-so-grand needed impro at sporting eve

Dave Harrell editor of the Her

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Sports stars are sitting ducks



Dave Hargrave

On April 30, a knife-carrying factory worker stabbed the sports world with a startling revelation: sports superstars are vulnerable on the playing field, and not just to their opponents.

That was tennis star Monica Seles. Thursday, some nut who is still on the loose attacked figure skater Nancy Kerrigan, driving a blunt object into her knee. Kerrigan wasn't even on the playing field - she was behind the scenes at the United States Figure Skating Championships - and now her once-certain date with the Olympics next month is iffy.

Seles and Kerrigan are unfortunate victims, but they're lucky they weren't hurt worse than they were. Once the initial shock of these attacks passes by, what comes next is the usual question.

How could something like this happen?

Answer: Easy.

If you're reading this, you're likely familiar with security standards at American sporting events.

Did you take your purse or camera bag into Texas Stadium two years ago when you were lucky enough to see a Cowboys game? Did you take your binoculars up to Lubbock this year to see Texas Tech play football?

How many times have stadium officials checked your bags? Always? Sometimes? Never?

The answers aren't too good. Face it - some sports stars have security in their checkbooks, but none have it on the field (or near the field in Kerrigan's case).

When Seles was attacked, I started thinking about the sporting events I've attended, like the NCAA basketball tournament in March. That day at the Hoosier Dome in Indianapolis, I carried my binoculars through the turnstiles. The binoculars were in a small case that no one checked as I entered, and there was no sign of any metal detectors.

Sure, the contents of the case were a harmless pair of binoculars, but a knife or a pistol would have fit in there just as easily. Sounds farfetched? Tell that to Seles, who was taking a break between games at a match when a "fan" came from behind and stabbed her in the back.

As a sportswriter, I've been to countless events, some major and some minor, and I usually take my camera bag so I can shoot photos. Not once have I had my bag checked when I've been on the job. Should we assume that among our nation's reporters, who have tremendous access to the sports world's most popular figures, not one is going to go insane and attack their interview subject?

Maybe I'm paranoid, but consider how unique the sports stars' situation is.

Presidents have Secret Service people, and they do their work behind closed doors. Movie stars can hire bodyguards, and they work on closed sets.

Sports stars play on wide-open playing fields in front of thousands of spectators and have no protection.

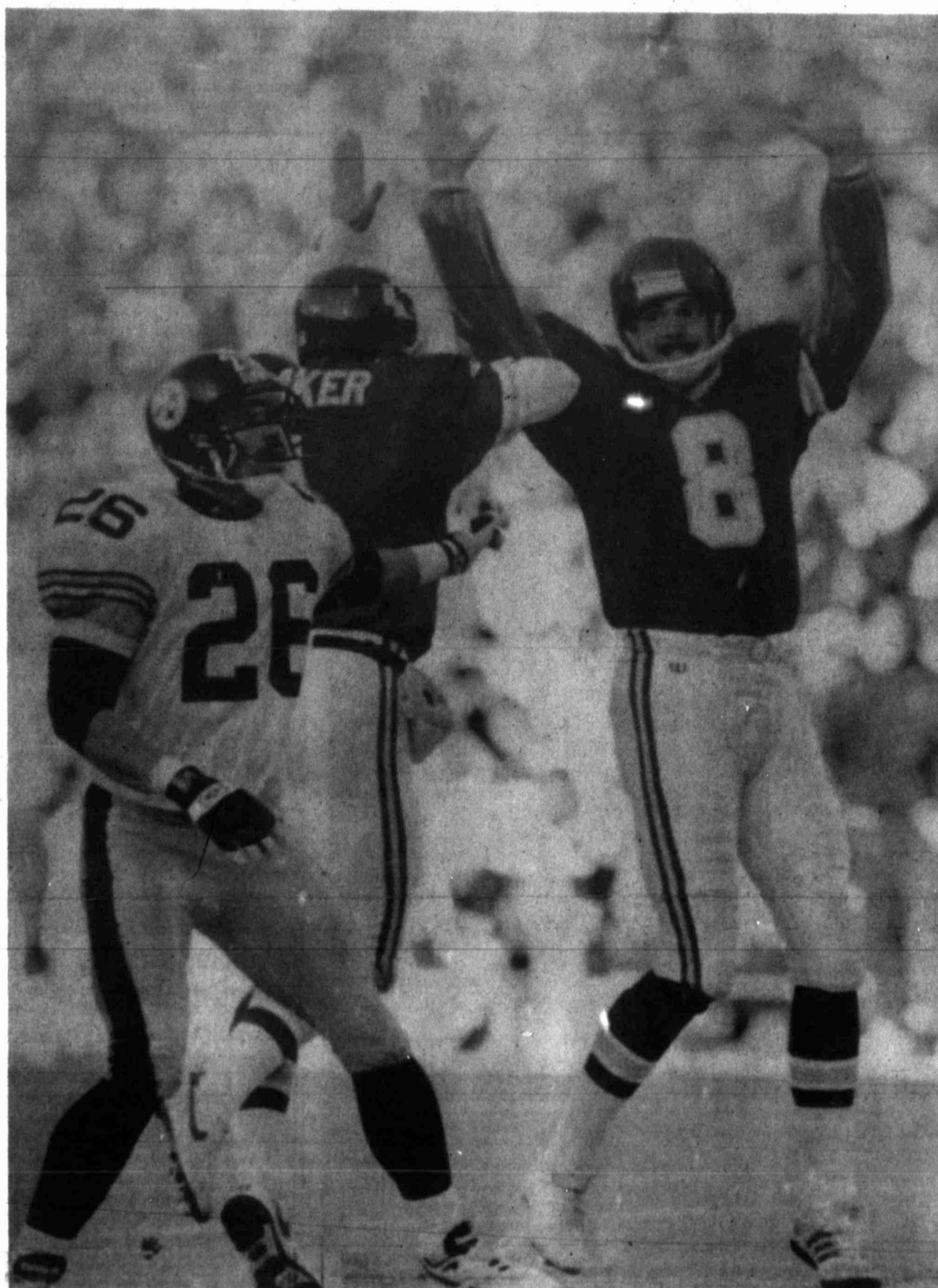
Security has to improve outside America's stadiums and arenas. Metal detectors at stadium entrances would be a wise investment. Sure, that would be a minor inconvenience to the sports fan, but who cares? High ticket prices haven't stopped many people from attending games, and neither would increased security.

If you can live with it at the airport, you can live with it at the ball game.

It took Robert Kennedy's assassination for the U.S. Government to give presidential candidates Secret Service protection. Perhaps the attacks on Seles and Kerrigan, which aren't even close to the RFK assassination on history's grand scale, will produce a not-so-grand-scale but much-needed improvement in security at sporting events.

Dave Hargrave is the sports editor of the Herald.

Chiefs, Pack survive wildcard games



Associated Press photo

Kansas City Chief kicker Nick Lowery (8) celebrates his game-winning kick with holder Bryan Barker, while Pittsburgh Steeler Rod Woodson (26) watches his team's season end. Kansas City won the AFC playoff game 27-24 in overtime on Lowery's kick. Lowery had missed a kick at the end of regulation that would have won the game sooner. The Chiefs will play Houston in the second round.

Montana works magic again as Kansas City beats Pittsburgh

By The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Joe Montana was supposed to bring to Kansas City the kind of playoff magic that won four Super Bowls at San Francisco.

Kansas City got magic from Montana and from its special teams Saturday in beating Pittsburgh 27-24 in overtime to advance to the second round of the NFL playoffs.

Montana's magic was a 7-yard touchdown pass to Tim Barnett on fourth down, tying the score with 1:43 left in regulation. But he couldn't have done it had not Keith Cash blocked a punt and Fred Jones returned it 31 yards to the Pittsburgh 9 just before the 2-minute warning.

Then Montana moved the Chiefs into position on their second overtime possession and the special teams came through, with a 32-yard field goal by Nick Lowery after 11:03 winning it and atoning for Lowery's miss at the end of regulation.

The Chiefs, who won the AFC West at 11-5, now go to Houston to face the Oilers, who beat them 30-7 at the Astrodome in the regular season.

Pittsburgh scored on its first and last possessions of the first half on TD passes from Neil O'Donnell of 10 yards to Adrian Cooper and 26 yards

to Ernie Mills.

The Chiefs began to take over in the third quarter, during a period in which Montana was 17 for 21. Lowery hit a 23-yarder with 1:09 left in the third quarter, then Marcus Allen took it in from 2 yards out at the end of an 80-yard drive to tie it 17-17 with 8:58 left in regulation.

The Steelers came right back, going 74 yards in nine plays, capped by a 22-yard pass to Eric Green from O'Donnell, who was 23 of 42 for 286 yards. Pittsburgh stopped the Chiefs the next time and the Kansas City defense reciprocated.

Now there was 2:38 left in regulation. Kansas City had one time out left and Mark Royals lined up to punt from his 48. Up the middle came Cash to block the ball, Jones plucked it out of the air and raced 31 yards to the 9 before being caught by Gary Jones.

But even that wouldn't have been enough had it not been for Montana.

Allen ran for a yard, Montana's pass to Keith Cash in the end zone was knocked away by Willie Williams, and Allen ran for another yard.

The Chiefs called timeout.

Then it was Montana time.

"J.J. was supposed to be my man

Please see CHIEFS, page 8

Green Bay wins in Silverdome, earns right to play Cowboys

By The Associated Press

PONTIAC, Mich. — Brett Favre got the last laugh on the Detroit Lions, despite a record performance by Barry Sanders.

Favre, burned by four interceptions against the Lions in the season finale a week ago, hooked up with Sterling Sharpe for three touchdown passes Saturday, the last with 55 seconds remaining, as the Green Bay Packers defeated Detroit 28-24 in their NFC wildcard game.

The Packers (10-7) advance to the NFC divisional playoffs against the NFC East champion Cowboys in Dallas. The Lions (10-7) had downed the Packers 30-20 six days earlier for their second NFC Central title in

three years.

Sanders, who hadn't played since spraining his left knee on Thanksgiving Day, came back to rush 27 times for 169 yards, both single-game club playoff records.

Brett Perriman also set a club record with 10 catches for 150 yards, but it wasn't enough against the gritty Packers, who came from behind three times.

Sharpe, who broke his own NFL reception record with 112 catches during the regular season, had five catches for 101 yards against the Lions. His touchdown catches covered 12, 28 and 40 yards.

Favre completed 15 of 26 passes for 204 yards with one interception.

Please see PACKERS, page 8

Lady Steers put the hurt on Pecos in district contest

Earnst scores 29 and gets plenty of help in easy win

By STEVE REAGAN Sportswriter

The Big Spring Lady Steers reduced basketball to its basics Friday night and basically blew Pecos out of the gym.

The Lady Steers, in effect, played catch: someone would pass the ball to Amy Earnst, and she would turn around and score. This simple but effective formula worked to the tune of a 60-35 victory for Big Spring in District 3-4A action at Steer Gym.

The win improves Big Spring's record to 13-5 overall and 3-0 in district play. Pecos fell to 2-13 and 0-3 with the loss.

Earnst, Big Spring's senior post player, took advantage of the Lady Steers' inside height advantage to lead all scorers with 29 points. Reserve post player Sarah Bristow added 10 points for the Lady Steers, while Dana Magers paced Pecos with nine points.

Earnst, who has scored 59 points in the Lady Steers' last two games, had no explanation for her recent points explosion.

"I really have no idea," she said. "They're just watching for me and passing it to me when I'm open."

Regardless of the reason, it was obvious that Pecos had no answer to Earnst. She and fellow post player Kerry Gregg scored Big Spring's first

seven points as the Lady Steers raced to an 18-3 lead after one quarter.

Things didn't get any better for Pecos in the second quarter either, as Big Spring increased its lead to 36-16 at intermission.

Things turned a bit sloppy in the second half, but BSHS coach Ron Taylor said that was not too surprising.

"I think we came out and took care of business early," Taylor said. "Then it got sloppy, but that's to be expected when you're up by 30."

Taylor added that the Lady Steers, who have won 12 of their last 13 games, can no longer use their youth (Earnst is the only senior on the roster) as an excuse.

"It was like I was telling them, 'You're really not sophomores anymore. You're juniors now,'" Taylor said. "That's the only way you can get experience - just keep on playing. And, like I've said before, the first part of our schedule was awfully tough."

The Lady Steers' next two games, on the road against Andrews and Lake View, will go a long way toward determining the team's status in the district race, he said.

"The hardest part of the district is coming up," Taylor said. "If we win those two games, maybe we'll prove ourselves as the class of the district, but not until then."

In the junior varsity game, Tisa Sevey and Molly Smith scored 10 points apiece to lead Big Spring to a 54-23 win over Pecos. The JV Lady Steers improved to 7-6 with the win.

Big Spring returns to action Friday at Andrews. Game time is 6 p.m.

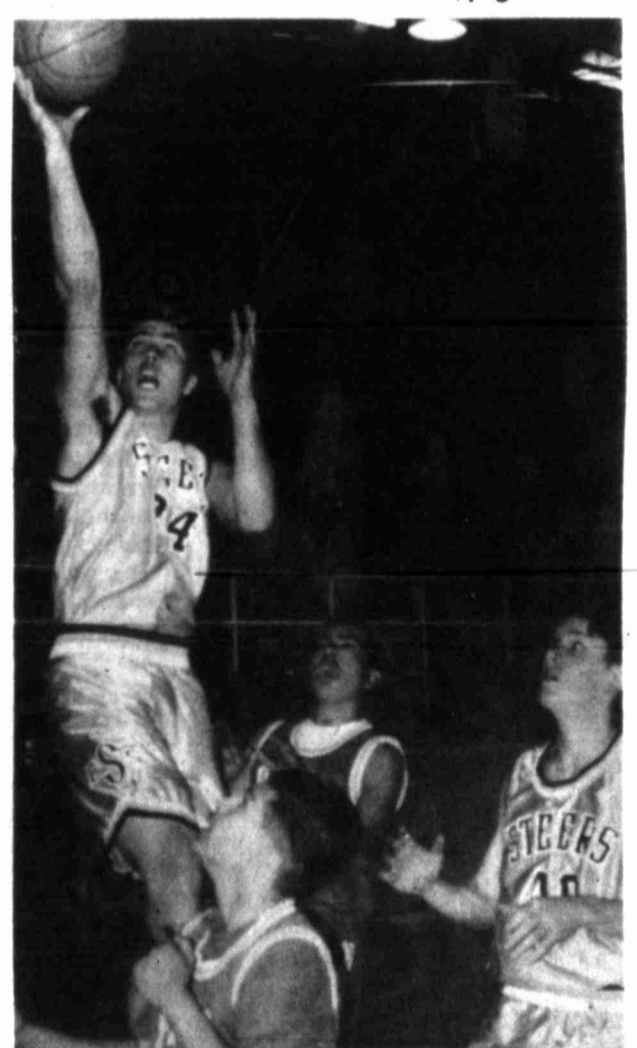
PECOS (25) — Nichols 2 3-5 7; Zamarripa 1 2-4 10; Gomez 1 4-7 6; Arlviva 0 4-8 4; Sims 0 1-2 1; Dominguez 2 0-0 4; Magers 2 5-6 8; totals 6 17-34 35.

BIG SPRING (60) — Birell 1 4-4 8; Bristow 4 2-4 10; Armstrong 1 0-0 2; Hall 0 0-1 0; Wise 2 0-0 4; Earnst 13 3-4 29; Gregg 4 1-1 2; totals 25 10-14 60.

Pecos 3 13 8 11-35
Big Spring 18 18 12 12-60
Three-pointers — none; Total fouls — Pecos 19, Big Spring 20; Fouled out — Simms, Earnst, Birell.



In the photo on the left, Big Spring Lady Steer Sarah Bristow (22) gets around Pecos' Jenny Oliver (52) and shoots for two. At right, Big Spring's Wes Hughes (34) drives in for a layup over Pecos' Michael Oliver (12). Ready for the rebound is Big Spring's Chris Wollenzien (40). The Lady Steers won 60-35, while the boys won 68-51.



Herald photos by DD Turner

Steers win, even district mark

By STEVE REAGAN Sportswriter

Everything finally went right for the Big Spring Steers. After losing 15 of their first 18 games, it was the Steers' turn to dish out the punishment. And if no one was claiming Friday night's win over Pecos as a season-saver, at least a whole lot of frustration got left on the floor of Steer Gym.

The Steers raced out to a 16-point first-quarter lead, then turned things over to their defense as they flattened the Pecos Eagles 68-51 in a District 3-4A matchup.

The win improved Big Spring's record to 4-15 overall and 1-1 in the district standings. Pecos fell to 5-11 and 0-2 with the defeat.

Inside play was a key to the Steers' win, with Dustin Waters leading all scorers with 21 points and Torbin Lancaster adding 14. Wes Hughes

provided outside scoring punch, getting 9 of his 15 points on three-pointers.

Pecos was led by Gary Herrera, who scored 17 points, and Jeremiah Hall, who added 10.

BSHS coach Gary Tipton, who has been tinkering with the starting lineup, inserted Tyron Banks at point guard Friday night, and said the move helped settle the team.

"Tyron really came to the front, and played the position for us," Tipton said. "We had been using him to break presses a lot, and we just felt this would be a move we would want to try."

Another key was Hughes. The Steers' leading scorer, although cold in the first half, was able to contribute to the offense to the tune of seven assists.

"I think a lot of times, Wes is underrated in other parts of his game," Tipton said. "Tonight, he

showed what he could do. He's an excellent shooter, but there's other areas of his game he plays well for us."

The Steers grabbed control of the game early and never let go. Waters canned a pair of free throws with six minutes left in the first quarter to key a 15-0 run that ended with Big Spring holding a 19-3 lead.

Pecos chipped at the lead a bit in the second when Herrera canned consecutive three-pointers to cut the lead to 10, but Lancaster sandwiched a pair of baskets around a Waters lay-in to put Big Spring up 25-9 with 4:48 left in the half. The Eagles never got closer than 10 points after that.

"We definitely needed to win this game," Tipton said. "We came out ready to play ... Wednesday morning's practice was not very good, but they came back Wednesday after- Please see STEERS, page 8

Olympic team will likely save spot for Kerrigan

By The Associated Press

DETROIT — Nancy Kerrigan was going to prove emphatically that she had risen from the depths of a year-long skating slump. Instead, she met unimagined adversity and must start all over again.

She has six weeks to do it.

Kerrigan, the 1993 U.S. Figure Skating Championships winner, withdrew from the event Friday, saying she was "upset, hurt, angry" that an unidentified attacker robbed her of a chance to defend her title. Kerrigan was smashed on the knee by a club or metal bar after practice Thursday and sustained a severely bruised knee and a bruised tendon.

Early Friday, after she was unable to hop when doctors asked her to test the right leg, she was forced to withdraw.

"I kept crying. 'Let me try it again,'" Kerrigan said of the test. "And he said there was too much swelling."

"Right now, I'm going to focus on just getting better and hopefully get ready for the Olympics. I never worked so hard as I did this year."

Kerrigan, the 1992 Olympic bronze medalist, will need to be given a spot on the U.S. team for next month's games in Lillehammer, Norway. There is every indication that will happen.

Claire Ferguson, president of the U.S. Figure Skating Association, hinted strongly Kerrigan would be placed on the team. The USFSA's international committee is empowered to do so. The United States has two berths in the Olympics.

"No spot is reserved for anyone until after the competition," said Ferguson, who spoke to the women competitors and their coaches before the technical program Friday, which was won by Tonya Harding. "I reminded them of the rules. They're veteran coaches and have been through this before."

The USFSA went through this in 1992 with national champion Todd

Eldredge, who withdrew from the U.S. championships with a back injury. He was placed on the Olympic team instead of Mark Mitchell, but was not in competitive shape for Albertville and finished 10th.

Kerrigan's peers didn't seem disturbed by the possibility she would be put on the team at the expense of one of them.

"I would accept it," said Nicole Bobek, who was second heading into today's free skate. "Nancy's been in it much longer and if the (officials) think she deserves to go, that's their choice."

"I think we'd accept it graciously," said Bobek's coach, Kathy Casey. "Nancy certainly has paid her dues. She's had good internationals and has skated well. If they chose to do that, I think we'd have our strongest team."

At a news conference Friday, Kerrigan described the attack and her emotions concerning it.

"I was coming off the ice and went through curtains and was walking away from the ice when I heard something behind me," she said. "I turned and saw somebody running behind me and he whacked me with a long black stick and it was really hard, and he kept running."

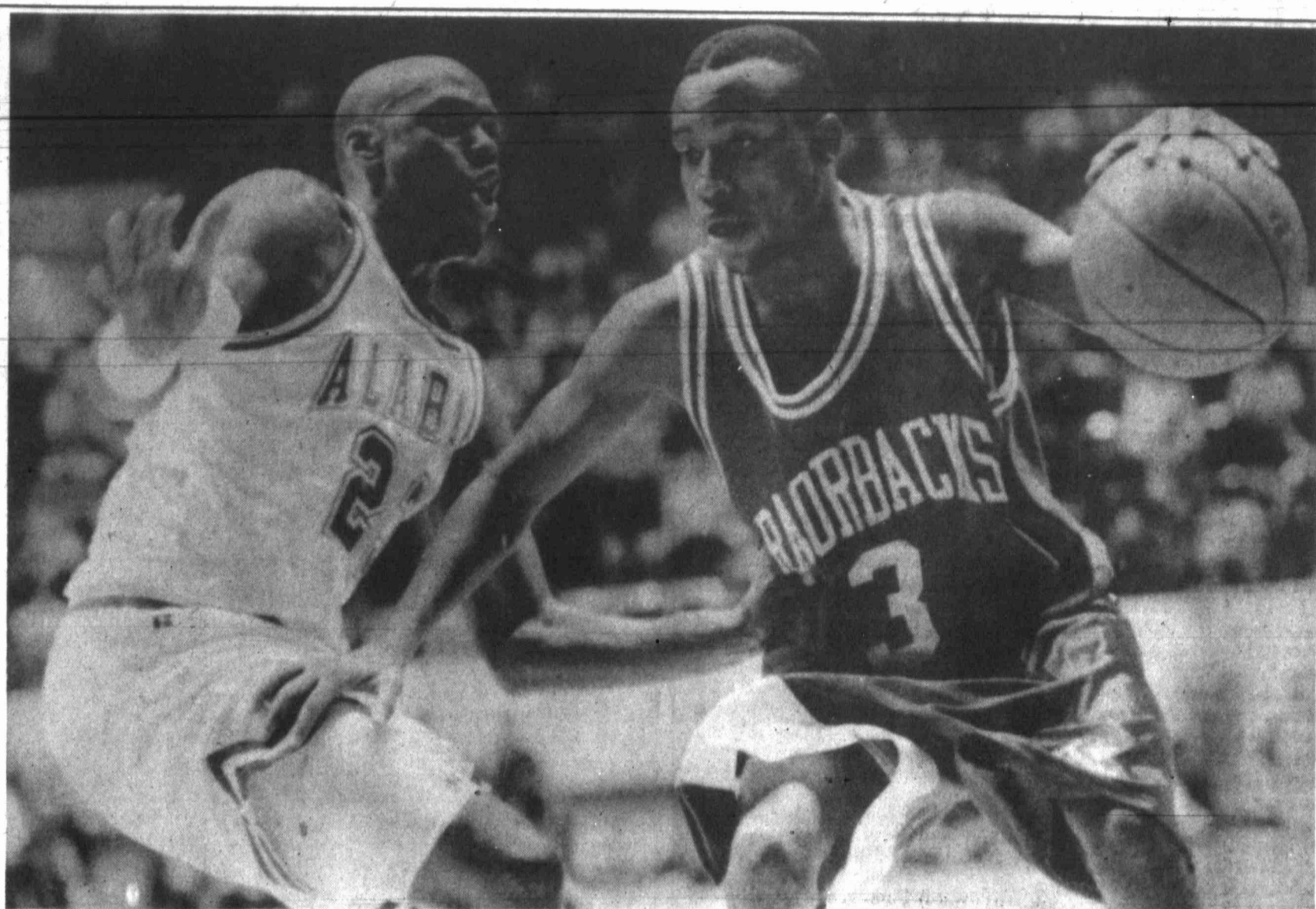
The assailant escaped.

Police gave conflicting information about the description of the attacker. The first reports Thursday described him as a 6-foot white man wearing a black jacket, black shirt, black hat and white or tan pants. On Friday, deputy chief Benny Napoleon described him as a "light complexioned black man," but a person in the police public information office said they were sticking with the original description.

Evy Scotvold, Kerrigan's coach, criticized the lack of security in the area at Cobo Arena, which is adjacent to Joe Louis Arena, the site of the competition.

"When she went down, I ran looking for security," he said. "We're not saying there was no security in the building, but there was none for 100 yards. I ran in both directions looking for them."

"There's a lot of security at these events; it's very strong and very adequate. This was a glitch and I think this was somebody knowing what they were going to do and how they were going to do it."



Done being No. 1

Arkansas guard Al Dillard (3) battles Alabama's Walter Pitts (23) in the first half of their contest Saturday. The unranked Crimson Tide beat No. 1 Arkansas 66-64. For a list of college hoops scores, check page 11A.

Aggies' probation opens door for Longhorns

By The Associated Press

DALLAS — The pressure just shifted to John Mackovic and the Texas Longhorns.

Texas A&M's one-year absence from the Cotton Bowl derby because of NCAA probation makes the Longhorns heavy favorites to represent the Southwest Conference on New Year's Day, 1995.

If the Longhorns don't win at least six games and get to Dallas, Mackovic could have some hard questions to answer from the Texas alumni.

It's time for Texas to carry the load for SWC prestige. Although the Aggies lost the last three Cotton Bowls, they finished in The Associated Press Top 10 the last four years.

Their 3-point loss to Notre Dame helped the SWC's much-tarnished reputation.

Texas must step up big to keep the

Cotton Bowl from being embarrassed.

Newspapers back east, most notably in New York and Philadelphia, gave Texas A&M high plaudits for its near-winning effort against Notre Dame in the Cotton Bowl.

"Most underrated team in the country," one Philadelphia scribe wrote.

"A tremendous team," another New York scribe said.

At least A&M's 24-21 loss to the Irish, who whipped national champion Florida State, should serve notice that rodeo isn't the only sport where expertise exits down here in cactus country.

The Aggies could have and should have beaten the Irish, particularly after they went up 14-7 at halftime.

However, several things doomed the SWC champions. The offense got conservative and offensive coordinator Bob Toledo forgot freshman

Leeland McElroy was suited up.

Toledo was fired two days later by A&M coach R.C. Slocum and you have to wonder if the McElroy situation was involved. This kid from Beaumont who looks like a young Walter Payton ran the ball a grand total of four times. The fact he gained 45 yards in doing so should have told Toledo something.

Look at what happened after Notre Dame scored to tie the game at 14.

McElroy tore off runs of 21, 2, and 16 yards to get the Aggies down to the Notre Dame 19 where Rodney Thomas scored from a yard out with 6:50 to play in the third period.

McElroy NEVER touched the ball again, except returning a kickoff 33 yards after Notre Dame tied it at 21 and again after Notre Dame kicked the field goal to go-ahead 24-21.

Criminal neglect? It could have cost Toledo his job.

Because the Aggies offense wilted in the second half, Notre Dame's

massive offensive line kept pounding away until the wall broke for two second half touchdowns.

It comes at a time when A&M may not be back in such a high stratosphere.

Slocum must replace 14 seniors, including 12 starters who won their last 22 SWC games.

Recruiting could be hurt by all the NCAA probation talk and it's a critical year for the Aggies to find offensive and defensive linemen and linebackers. The Aggies didn't lose any scholarships with their probation.

Slocum realizes it will be tough for the Aggies to rebuild on the fly.

He has a formula: "You try to take the positive things and build on them. That's how you start trying to put the team back together."

The Aggies won't have a bowl game next year unless you count Thanksgiving.

Wouldn't it be interesting if Texas had to beat A&M to get into the Cotton Bowl?

The dawn of a new year has meant the chopping block for NFL coaches

By The Associated Press

Last week in Washington, owner Jack Kent Cooke surveyed the debris of a sorry season for his beloved Redskins and decided, to the surprise of very few, that he needed a new head coach.

So long, Richie Petitbon. At about the same time in Atlanta, owner Rankin Smith laid the blame for the Falcons' failure to fly at the feet of Elvis No. 1 fan.

See you later, Jerry Glanville. In Phoenix, boss Bill Bidwill did some front office house cleaning but left his coach in place — for now.

Good luck, Joe Bugel. In New York, where the Jets needed a win in their last game to make the playoffs and failed to score a point in the effort, owner Leon Hess said nothing. He rarely does. GM Dick Steinberg suggested, though, that some new offensive ideas might be appropriate.

Adios, Bruce Coslet. If you happen to be an NFL coach, missing the playoffs is distinctly dangerous for job security. Some owners are high profile, like Cooke and Bidwill. Others are low key like Smith and Hess. None of them, however, accepts failure warmly.

Petitbon was a trusted assistant coach in Washington for 15 years, a key cog in the success of the Redskins. He played or coached on all five Washington Super Bowl teams and probably hums "Hail to the Redskins" in his sleep. He was a natural choice to be head coach when Joe Gibbs decided he'd rather race cars than draw up game plans.

All of this earned Petitbon one season on the sidelines, a season marked by injuries and disappointment. Washington finished 4-12 and that finished the coach, described at his dismissal by owner Cooke as "my good friend."

With friends like this ...

Glanville, at least, had more time with the Falcons, lasting four years after being imported from Houston. In his second season, he had the team at 10-6 and in the playoffs. After that, things went sour with identical 6-10 seasons that spelled sayonara.

Glanville's legacy are the predominantly black team colors that replaced the predominantly red the Falcons wore when he got there. All things considered, ownership would have been just as happy with Chartruse, if it meant getting into the postseason.

The bowtied Bidwill, tired of seeing the Cardinals annually lose more games than they won, imposed a nine-win quota on Bugel. Phoenix finished with a flurry to reach seven as the players rallied for their beleaguered coach.

Was that enough? Maybe.

All around Bugel, heads rolled. Larry Wilson resigned as general manager during the season. Then director of pro personnel Erik Widmark and pro scout Carl Hairston were dismissed.

And Bugel remains.

Coslet had the Jets on a treadmill to oblivion. Under his leadership, they went from 6-10 to 8-8 to 4-12 to 8-8. This is not exactly progress. Ultimately, though, he was doomed by his reluctance to yield offensive strategy to a coordinator. A late-season foldup included four losses in the final five games and the 20th non-playoff season in the Jets' last 25.

Perhaps the greatest indictment of the team was the shutout at the hands of the Oilers, who had nothing to gain from the victory. In their last six games, crunch time of the season, the Jets scored three touchdowns.

No wonder Steinberg thought they might need a coordinator.

So, in the aftermath of the season, three coaches are gone and at least one other is hanging on. It has always been thus. You want job security, work for a bank. They don't have two-minute drills.

Still, it seems, those who have been burned by the coaching hot seat never get enough of the fire. Houston defensive coordinator Buddy "One Punch" Ryan is not hiding the fact that he wants to be a head coach again.

How about Atlanta?

"Atlanta would be great," Ryan told the Houston Chronicle. And Washington?

"If an owner wants to hire a coach that can win, he knows where to find this one," Ryan said.

They are like moths, drawn permanently to the flame.

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ON THE AIR

Football
NFC Wildcard Game - Minnesota Vikings at New York Giants, 11:30 a.m., NBC.
AFC Wildcard Game - Denver Broncos at Los Angeles Raiders, 3 p.m., NBC.
Pro Basketball
Golden State Warriors at Phoenix Suns, 7 p.m., TNT.
College Basketball
Mississippi State at Mississippi, ESPN, 2 p.m.
West Virginia at St. Bonaventure, HSE, 3:30 p.m.
Alabama-Birmingham at Cincinnati, HSE, 6 p.m.
Golf
PGA Mercedes Championship, ABC, 2 p.m.

FOOTBALL

NFL Playoffs

All Times EST
Saturday, Jan. 8
Kansas City 27, Pittsburgh 24, OT
Green Bay 28, Detroit 24
Sunday, Jan. 9
Minnesota at New York Giants, 12:30 p.m. (CBS)
Denver at Los Angeles Raiders, 4 p.m. (NBC)
Saturday, Jan. 15
Denver-Los Angeles Raiders winner at Buffalo, 12:30 p.m. (NBC)
Minnesota-New York Giants winner at San Francisco, 4 p.m. (CBS)
Sunday, Jan. 16
Green Bay at Dallas, 12:30 p.m. (CBS)
Kansas City at Houston, 4 p.m. (NBC)
Sunday, Jan. 23
AFC and NFC Championship
Sunday, Jan. 30
Super Bowl at Atlanta, 6 p.m. (NBC)

BASKETBALL

College Scores

Table listing college basketball scores for various teams including Alabama, Clemson, Coastal Carolina, Davidson, DePaul, Duke, E. Kentucky, East Carolina, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisville, Maryland, Michigan State, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania State, Rice, Stanford, Texas, UCLA, Wake Forest, and Wisconsin.

FOOTBALL

NFL Playoffs

Bradley 61, Wichita St. 58
E. Michigan 80, Toledo 67
Indiana 80, Penn St. 72
Kansas 91, Southern Miss. 67
Kent 55, Bowling Green 62
Miami, Ohio 79, Ohio U. 69
Michigan 71, Iowa U. 70
Michigan St. 79, Illinois 74
Minnesota 73, Northwestern 65
Missouri 83, Kansas St. 43
Nebraska 108, Colorado 67
SW Missouri St. 61, Tennessee St. 80
W. Michigan 91, Akron 68
Wisconsin 69, Ohio St. 55
Wright St. 77, Dayton 64
Xavier, Ohio 79, Brown 64

BASKETBALL

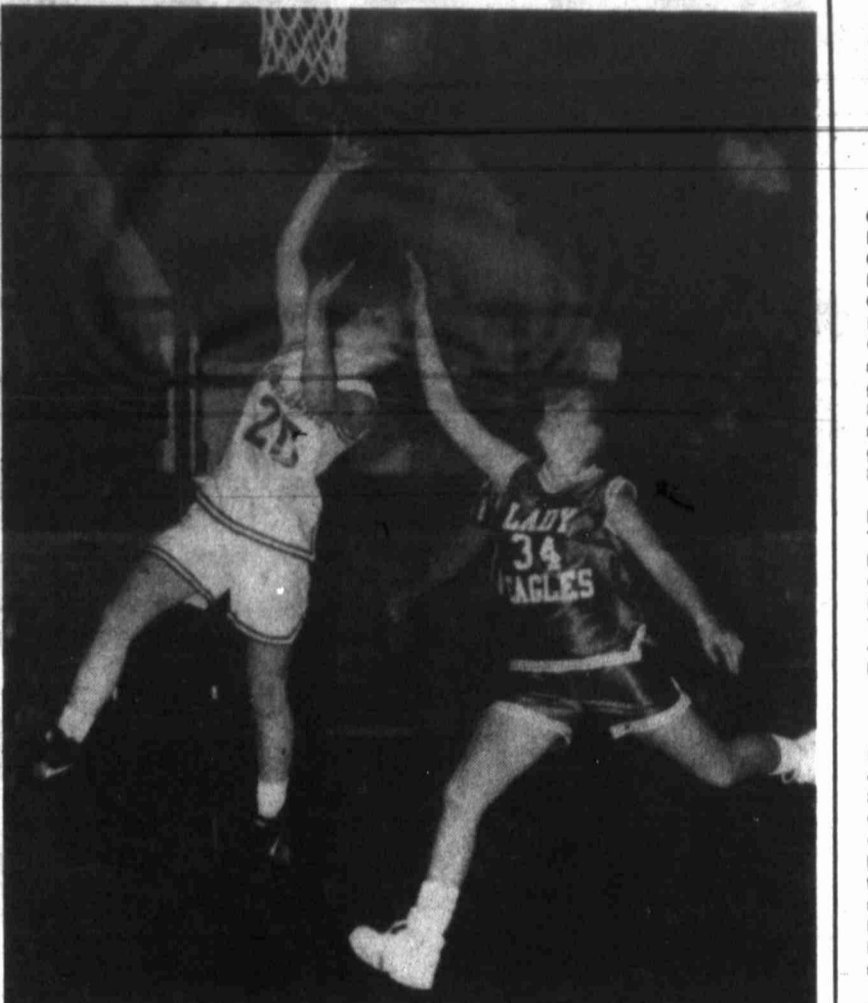
College Scores

Table listing college basketball scores for various teams including Arizona, California, Southern Cal, St. Louis, UCLA, Wake Forest, and Wisconsin.

Outdoors

What's in, what's out for 1994?

By TOM STIENSTRA
San Francisco Examiner
What's the difference between an empirical deduction and a wild guess? In a lot of cases, not much, but regardless, here are 18 predictions for the coming year. As for their validity, well, like I said...
1. On the way in: Higher fees at national parks, a done deal within a month or two, as the Clinton administration cashes in on the most popular business the government has to offer.
2. On the way out: Inexpensive, stripped-down, 4-wheel drive sport utility vehicles. The automakers have discovered that they can make a killing by offering only models with deluxe interiors.
3. On the way in: Camping will zoom past fishing in popularity this summer, perhaps by more than a 2-to-1 ratio in some states, such as California.
4. On the way out: Logging in national forests, which is now looked on as just a side affair of forest management by new Forest Service chief Jack Thomas.
5. On the way in: Rules on trout streams mandating catch-and-release fishing wherever trout can successfully spawn and maintain populations without plants.
6. On the way out: Diesel engines in 4-wheel drive pickup trucks, the result of the recent sky-high increase in the price of diesel fuel, as well as the awareness that diesel, an oil, thickens in cold weather and can cause engines to become very difficult to start.
7. On the way in: Hiking, especially day hikes to remote parks: a great family trip, first date, or answer to those seeking quick seclusion.
8. On the way out: The big inboard/outboard cruiser as the boat of choice. They're too big for easy storage for those who live in cities, and every market trend is pointing to an increase in the sales of smaller, easy-to-trailer boats with outboard motors.
9. On the way in: The outdoors departments at Thrifty, Payless and Wal-Mart, as well as mail-order houses such as Cabela's and Pro Bass, where the range in selection and low prices makes shopping like visiting a toy store.
10. On the way out: Ma-and-pa bait and tackle shops, unless they offer unrivaled expertise, the absolute best in equipment, and have a quality fishing spot nearby as a traffic builder.
11. On the way in: Snowboarders at the ski slopes, mountain bikers at suburban parklands, and in-line



Easy bucket
Coahoma's Tammy Bennett (20) stole a pass and scored on this play Friday, beating the defense of Eldorado's Angi Fitts (34). Little else went right for Coahoma, however, as Eldorado won 64-37. See page 8 for details on the game.

NBA Standings
Table with columns for Division, Team, W, L, Pct., and GB. Includes Eastern Conference Atlantic, Central, and Western Divisions, and Western Conference Midwest and Pacific Divisions.

Tony's Auto Sales, 72-84; Who Cares, 70-86; B.B. 69-86; Family Fun, 60-51; T and A, 66-86; Team Nine, 60-79; Tubb Construction, 60-79; M & M Computer, 60-68; Late Arrivals, 58-62; Timco, 55-81; Wrecking Crew, 60-86; Lone Star Armadillo, 46-80; The Rescuers, 44-82; The Stanton Four, 96-82.

LADIES MAJORS
RESULTS - Lacrosse over Campbell Cement, 6-2; Morrow Masonry over Gutter Gals, 6-2; Tom Boy over E.P. Driver, 6-2; C.L.E.A.T. over Rocky's, 6-2; Arrow Refrigeration over Barber Glass & Mirror, 8-0; Strickland & Knight over Vanessa's, 8-0; Hell Allocated Engine over Sassy Ladies, 6-2; Pretty Things over Day's Inn Mills, 6-2; Cline Construction over KC Kids, 6-2; Ni sc. game and series Delores Wilson, 233 and 651; Ni sc. team game Pretty Things, 771; Ni sc. team series Strickland & Knight, 2103; Ni hdp game and series Delores Wilson, 254 and 714; Ni hdp team game Pretty Things, 676; Ni hdp team series Strickland & Knight, 2472.
STANDINGS - Lacrosse, 94-34; Strickland & Knight, 88-40; Campbell Cement, 82-46; Pretty Things, 78-50; Tom Boy, 75-53; Morrow Masonry, 74-54; Arrow Refrigeration, 69-69; Cline Construction, 66-59; Gutter Gals, 64-84; E.P. Driver, 64-84; Sassy Ladies, 609-68; KC Kids, 66-72; Rocky's, 52-76; Vanessa's, 49-79; C.L.E.A.T., 46-83; Barber Glass & Mirror, 46-82; Day's Inn Mills, 44-84; Hell Allocated Eng. 40-88.

PIN POPPERS
RESULTS - D & S Installations over Unearned Points, 8-0; Pelly Farms split Health Food Center, 4-4; Tret-O-Lite over Kuykendall Inc., 8-0; Steve Smith Agency over Calvert's Liquor Store, 7-1; Country Gals over Casual Shoppe, 8-2; Kinella's Cafe split A & B Farms, 4-4; Ni sc. game Laura Hughes, 208; Ni sc. series Sue Russell, 541; Ni sc. team game Health Food Center, 619; Ni sc. team series Casual Shoppe, 1808; Ni hdp game Laura Hughes, 249; Ni hdp series Sue Russell, 652; Ni hdp team game Country Gals, 630; Ni hdp team series A & B Farms, 2363.
STANDINGS - Tret-O-Lite, 68-46; D & S Installation, 82-62; Casual Shoppe, 80-84; A & B Farms, 78-88; Health Food Center, 76-88; Country Gals, 76-88; Kuykendall Inc., 76-88; Steve Smith Agency, 75-89; Calvert's Liquor St., 75-89; Kinella's Cafe, 72-72; Pelly Farms, 69-76; Unearned Points, 8-136.

WEDNESDAY NITE TRIO
RESULTS - Security State Bank over NTS, 6-2; Just Us over Slow Starters Two, 6-2; Fifth Wheels over Moss Lake, 6-2; Loan Stars over Copy Cats, 8-0; Fast Stop over Leisure Liquors Company, 4-4; Big Spring Music over Dewey Sage Regl, 6-2; Main St. Baker & Deli tied Neels Sporting, 4-4; Carlos Restaurant (unopposed), 8-0; A Timeless Design over Fly By Night, 8-0; Ni sc. game and series (man) Tom Davis, 248 and 648; Ni hdp game and series (man) Tom Davis, 273 and 730; Ni sc. game (woman) Sadie Wallace, 208; Ni sc. series (woman) Joyce Davis, 602; Ni hdp game (woman) Ursula Gomez, 692; Ni sc. team game Loan Stars, 617; Ni sc. team series Big Spring Music, 1744; Ni hdp team game and series Loan Stars, 747 and 2009.
Tom Davis & Ursula Gomez won a dinner from Gunslinger's Restaurant.
STANDINGS - Loan Stars, 94-38; Big Spring Music, 80-46; Moss Lake, 80-56; A Timeless Design, 79-55; Main St. Bakery & Deli, 77-57; Saunders Company, 76-60; Neels Sporting Goods, 74-62; Security State Bank, 72-62; Just Us, 70-66; Fly By Night, 69-65; NTS, 65-71; Copy Cats, 63-73; Fifth Wheels, 62-72; Carlos Restaurant, 62-74; Slow Starters Two, 58-78; Fast Stop Agency, 55-81; Dewey Sage Regl, 54-82.
TUESDAY COUPLES
RESULTS - Big Spring Skipper over Kit Smith Enterprise, 6-2; Paris Agency over Del's Cafe, 8-0; Holy Roly over Fina Oil & Chemical, 8-2; L & M Properties over Angle at Stylitics, 8-2; A Timeless Design over Team Twenty, 6-2; Bowt-A-Rama

over Double H Cattle Co., 8-0; C & T Cleaners over Arrow Refrigeration, 8-0; Team Twenty-one over BB Mobile House Park, 8-0; K.C. Beachhouse over Kwik Kat, 8-2; Trio Fuel over Webco Printing, 8-2; Ups & Downs over Headwaters Beauty, 8-2; Ni sc. team game and series Paris Agency, 991 and 3472; Ni sc. game and series (man) Randy Robertson, 888 and 692; Ni sc. game and series (woman) Joyce Davis, 648 and 692; Ni hdp team series Paris Agency, 8674; Ni hdp team game (man) Marsha Dobak, 270; Ni hdp series (woman) Marie Pats, 714.
STANDINGS - Bowt-A-Rama, 100-48; Paris Agency, 100-82; Ups & Downs, 94-88; K.C. Beachhouse, 89-80; Webco Printing, 80-82; Fina Oil & Chemical, 69-86; Headwaters Beauty, 68-70; Kwik Kat, 66-70; C & T Cleaners, 66-78; Big Spring Skipper, 79-74; Kit Smith Enterprise, 78-74; Double H Cattle Co., 74-78; A Timeless Design, 74-79; Angle at Stylitics, 70-82; Holy Roly, 70-82; L & M Properties, 68-82; Team Twenty-One, 66-87; Trio Fuel, 60-82; BB Mobile House Pa, 57-86; Team Twenty, 57-87; Del's Cafe, 55-88; Arrow Refrigeration, 54-88.

HOCKEY

NHL Glimpse

Table showing NHL Glimpse for Eastern and Western Conferences, listing teams, W, L, T, Pct., GF, and GA.

BOWLING

Local Leagues

BOWLING
DOUBLE TROUBLE
RESULTS - Timco over Nelco, 6-2; Fun Bunch over Pocket Seekers, 6-2; Late Arrivals over Team Three, 6-2; Tubb Construction over The Stanton Four, 6-2; T and A over Lone Star Armadillo, 6-2; Wrecking Crew split with Who Cares, 4-4; T-N-T Bar-B-Cue over Family Fun, 6-0; Team Nine over B.S.P.A., 7-1; M & M Computer over The Rescuers, 8-0; Pinkies over Tony's Auto Sales, 8-0; Ni sc. team game and series Fun Bunch, 785 and 2165; Ni sc. game (man) Junior Barber, 247; Ni sc. series (man) Fred Van Steenburg, 629; Ni sc. game and series (woman) Evelyn Williams, 220 and 613; Ni hdp team game and series Fun Bunch, 898 and 2504; Ni hdp game (man) Junior Barber, 260; Ni hdp series (man) Fred Van Steenburg, 665; Ni hdp game (woman) Verinda Hinsley, 258; Ni hdp series (woman) Evelyn Williams, 655.
STANDINGS - NALCO, 98-30; T-N-T Barbeque, 90-48; Pinkies, 88-48; Fun Bunch, 80-56; Pocket Seekers, 80-56; Team Three, 73-63.

Advertisement for 'Cram the Coliseum' basketball conference play between Howard College and South Plains College. Features graphics of players, an airplane, and text: 'Monday, January 10 "/>

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•West Texas

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What's for lunch
this week?/3

Girl Scout cookie
sale begins/4

Sunday, January 9, 1994

life!

Pet Connection
growing/7

M.A. Snell
realtor of year/7

Section B

Big Spring Herald

Springboard

To submit an item to Springboard, put it in writing and mail or deliver it to us one week in advance. Mail to: Springboard, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79720; or bring it by the office, 710 Scurry.

ATTENTION CALENDAR USERS: Bingo listings appear on Sunday Springboard.

Today

•The Humane Society will have a Rummage Sale from 1-4 p.m. at W. 4th and Galveston.

•Maximum Prize Bingo is offered at the Lions Building, Monday-Friday at 6:30 p.m., Saturday at 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m. 1607 E. 3rd Street. Lion's Lic. #12372690748, CIA Lic. #17521878011, HARC Lic. #30008084854.

•St. Thomas Catholic Church offers bingo at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday. Lic. #3-00-786055-1.

•Bingo at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, 1009 Hearn, Fridays and Saturdays beginning at 6:30 p.m. Lic. #1751274202. Maximum payout.

•American Legion Post #506 will have a Shuffle Board Tournament at 2 p.m. on Saturday. Entry fee is \$2. Draw for partners 3203 W. Hwy. 80.

•College Park Bingo Sunday at 2 p.m., Monday-Friday at 6:30 p.m. and Saturday at 1 p.m. Located at 502 Birdwell #27, College Park Shopping Center. Maximum prizes allowed by law. Big Spring Main St. Lic. # 1-75-2246942-2. BPO Elks Lodge #1386 Lic. # 1-75-0871835-4. BS Professional Firefighters Assoc. Local 2922. IAFF Lic. # 1-75-2046854-1.

Monday

•There will be gospel singing at the Kentwood Center on Lynn Drive at 7 p.m. Everyone welcome. For information call 393-5709.

•Howard County NAACP will meet 7 p.m. at the Chamber of Commerce conference room. For information call Clarence Hartfield at 267-1806.

•Christian Home Schoolers of Big Spring will be having a cake decorating class for girls ages 10-adult. For more information call Jeana at 264-0304.

Tuesday

•Spring Tabernacle Church, 1209 Wright St., has free bread and whatever else is available for area needy from 10 a.m. to noon.

•The Big Spring Senior Citizens Center will have ceramics classes from 9:30-11:30 a.m. 55 and older invited.

•High Adventure Explorers Post 519 will meet 7 p.m. at the V.A. Medical Center room 212. Ages 14-20 welcome.

•Christian Home schoolers of Big Spring will be having a recreation day from 2-4 p.m. For more information call Stacy at 267-3518.

•Christian Home Schoolers of Big Spring will be having an auto mechanics class for boys age 10-adult from 7-8:30 p.m. For more information call Tony at 267-3496.

Wednesday

•Thistles Writers Club for Howard College students will meet at noon in room A-203. Bring lunch.

•The Rap Group will meet 6-7 p.m., Veterans Administration Medical Center, room 212. All veterans of Vietnam, Lebanon, Grenada, Panama, & Persian Gulf invited.

•Big Spring Outreach Aglow is sponsoring their monthly Harvest Luncheon from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the La Posada Restaurant. Debra Quinn will be the speaker. She will be speaking on "The Two Commandments."

Thursday

•Spring Tabernacle Church, 1209 Wright St., has free bread and whatever is available for area needy from 10 a.m. to noon.

•Big Spring Senior Citizen Center offers art classes from 9:30-11:30 a.m. 55 and older invited. And bingo from 12:45-1:45 p.m.

•There will be a Country/Western music & singing at the Kentwood Center, 2805 Lynn, at 7 p.m. Public invited.

•Permian Basin Aids Coalition will meet at The Corral, 611 E. 3rd, 7 p.m. For more information call Diane Linhart at 263-0900.

•Rackley-Swords Ch. 379 Vietnam Veterans of America will have its regular monthly meeting 7 p.m. in the VFW Hall on Driver Road.

•The American Legion and Auxiliary will meet 7 p.m. For more information call Helen Hall at 263-2858.

•Masonic Lodge #598 will meet 7:30 p.m. at 219 Main.

•There will be Country/Western music and singing at the Kentwood Center 7 p.m. 2805 Lynn. Public invited.

•West Texas Republican Women will meet at noon at La Posada.

BANISH your

BLUES

So, the holidays are over and it's back to your routine.

The days are short, cold mornings make it hard to get out of bed, and there's little excitement planned until well into next month. What's more, the weather's constantly changing and everybody you know has got a cold or threatens to get one.

Complaints and complainers are everywhere.

Sound familiar? Then you may be suffering from a bit of the post-holiday, had-enough-of-this, how-long-'til-spring blues.

"One of the biggest things is that people have all these expectations of the holidays," said Shannon Nabors, director of the Howard County Mental Health Center. "They expect everything will be just perfect, and at the new year, they will get a fresh start. They've set themselves up for feelings of disappointment."

Instead of letting the cycle of expectations and failures continue, Nabors said, "it's important to look at small changes."

The cure for these blues is a matter of personal choice, but following is a list of ideas gleaned from many sources. Their goal: Conquer the blahs, banish the blues, and help you hold on:

1. Make a splash.

Missing the hallmarks of summer? Head for the YMCA's new indoor pool. Swim a few laps, clown with the kids or just float peacefully and contemplate.

"It's a great idea," said Linda Perez, the YMCA's program director. And you don't even have to be a member: Adults can swim for \$7, kids for \$1.50.

2. Sneak off to the movies.

Big Spring Mall's Cinemark Theatres continues to show movies that begin in the late afternoon, when prices are \$2 per person, as well as the regular-priced evening shows. At the Ritz, all seats are \$1.50.

3. Grow something.

Many houseplants thrive indoors during the winter months - even flowers.

"It's very therapeutic," said Lila Tucker of Green Acres Nursery, whose job is keeping green things alive.

"I may be having something dreadful going on at home, and when I get busy in here, I forget it."

She suggests narcissus, hyacinth, hanging baskets of ivy, African violets or kalanchoe. Tucker herself is nurturing an herb garden in her kitchen window these days.

"That's a bonus with the herb garden, because you get the satisfaction of it, and your food tastes better, too," Tucker said.

4. Be childish.

When the going gets rough, release the child within. Blast away at some other-worldly foe on a video game. Stop at home on your lunch hour and put the kids' Nintendo to good use.

Read a couple of Dr. Seuss books, which are well-known for their life messages. Watch cartoons and play with your food.

5. Get moving.

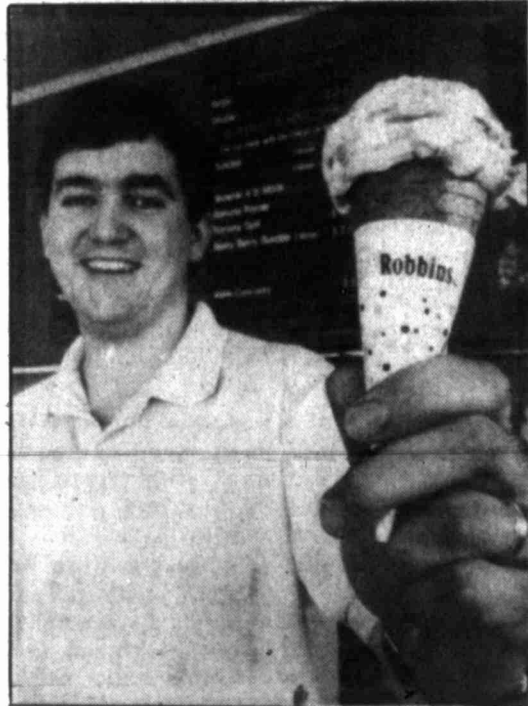
Sure, a new diet was your New Year's resolution and you broke it five times last week, but have you really given exercise a chance to work its magic?

"It's a fantastic stress-reducer," said Roy Green, director of the Harold Davis Fitness Center at Howard College. "Regular exercise boosts your overall energy, and you feel better about yourself, so it improves your self-esteem."

Besides, Green adds, joining a fitness facility or taking an exercise class gives you the chance to be around other people - another plus during these dark winter evenings



Feeling low? Hang around some kids and forget your troubles, like child care worker Mary Jo Moron.



Go ahead, have a treat.



Grow something to beat the blahs, like Windy Miers of Johansen's Nursery.

when the blues attack.

The YMCA recently added a whole new slate of step aerobics classes to its bursting schedule of fitness activities. Aerobics are also available along with the circuit of machines at the HC Fitness Center, among other local exercise programs.

6. Hang around a child.

Just can't bring yourself to act like a child? This one might make a good substitute. It often surprises even those who consider themselves hardened against the charms of the young.

"They illuminate," said Mary Jo Moron, who spends every day with children at Hillcrest Child Development Center. "Just being with them makes the work worth-

while. If I have family problems or things bothering me, just stepping through these doors takes it all away. Everything's about the children."

Don't have a kid? Borrow one. What child-blessed friend wouldn't give one up for a day at the Heritage Museum, Abilene Zoo or a goofy cartoon movie?

"They get all excited about every little thing, and you get excited for them," said Moron.

7. Indulge in a treat.

Everyone deserves an ice cream cone once in a while, and besides, many doctors say the best weight-control plan is eating moderate amounts of a variety of foods.

But for the dieters, there are many varieties of low-fat yogurts that taste just as good as ice cream's high-fat flavor. They are available at local ice cream parlors and restaurants, as well as any grocery store.

8. Help someone else.

Local charitable organizations can always use a few extra hands. Volunteer with Mobile Meals, which delivers food to elderly shut-ins; or care for homeless animals at the humane society. There are a host of local causes that require volunteers.

"For two hours a week, you can come out and work with the cats, for example," said Margaret Lloyd of the Big Spring Humane Society. "The animals need someone who will come in and stroke them a little bit, too. They need someone to socialize with them."

Whatever your choice, Nabors said it should have one important element: You should enjoy it.

"Take time out and do things you enjoy. Be good to yourself," she said. "A lot of times I think people forget they need to work toward mental health, just as they need to do certain things to be physically healthy. It's not automatic."

Story by
Debbie Lincecum

Photos by
Tim Appel



Work your blues away.



Take a dip in the YMCA's new pool, and pretend it's summer.



Blast away and release the child within.

Menus

BIG SPRING SENIOR CITIZENS' CENTER LUNCH

MONDAY - Baked chicken; blackeyed peas; carrots; biscuit; milk and custard. TUESDAY - Beef tips/noodles; broccoll/cheese sauce; tossed salad; rolls; milk and fruit. WEDNESDAY - Country fried steak; potatoes; broccoll; rolls; milk and lime custard. THURSDAY - Baked ham; candied sweet potatoes; green beans; rolls; milk and peach cobbler. FRIDAY - Enchiladas; rice; pinto beans; corn bread; milk and peaches.

COAHOMA SCHOOLS BREAKFAST

MONDAY - Glazed donuts; ham; fruit and milk. TUESDAY - Peanut butter sandwiches; juice and milk. WEDNESDAY - Cereal w/fruit; toast and milk. THURSDAY - Ham & cheese sandwiches; fruit and milk. FRIDAY - Biscuits and sausage; jelly; juice and milk. LUNCH MONDAY - Chicken tenders with gravy; creamed potatoes; blackeyed peas; hot rolls and milk. TUESDAY - Chili mac and cheese or chicken patti; sweet peas; tatar tots; milk and chocolate milk. WEDNESDAY - Stromboli with stew; corn; fruit and milk. THURSDAY - Tacos or enchiladas; pinto beans; salad; cornbread and milk. FRIDAY - Ham & cheese sandwiches; lettuce & tomato; fruit; potato; chips and milk.

BIG SPRING SCHOOLS BREAKFAST

(All Schools) MONDAY - Sugar & spice donut; cereal; sliced peaches; whole or low-fat milk. TUESDAY - Pancake; syrup & butter; cereal; apple juice; whole or low-fat milk. WEDNESDAY - Apple cinnamon muffin; cereal; grape juice; whole or low-fat milk. THURSDAY - Pancake & sausage-on-a-stick; orange wedge; whole or low-fat milk. FRIDAY - Nutty bar; cereal; fruit punch; whole or low-fat milk. LUNCH (Elementary) MONDAY - Chicken patty, gravy; mashed potatoes; spinach; chilled pear half.

hot rolls; whole or low-fat milk. TUESDAY - Chili mac & cheese; corn; English peas; hot rolls; chocolate pudding; whole or low-fat milk. WEDNESDAY - Burrito & salsa; escalloped potatoes; cut green beans; fruit gelatin/whipped topping; whole or low-fat milk. THURSDAY - Chicken fried steak, gravy; whipped potatoes; blackeyed peas; hot rolls; lemon pie/whipped topping; whole or low-fat milk. FRIDAY - Hamburger; French fries, catsup; pinto beans; butter cookie; whole or low-fat milk. LUNCH (Secondary) MONDAY - Chicken patty, gravy or char-broiled meatballs; mashed potatoes; spinach; chilled pear half; hot rolls; whole or low-fat milk. TUESDAY - Chili mac & cheese or hamburger steak, gravy; corn; English peas; carrot sticks; hot rolls; chocolate pudding; whole or low-fat milk. WEDNESDAY - Burrito, salsa or baked ham; escalloped potatoes; cut green beans; fruit gelatin/whipped topping; whole or low-fat milk. THURSDAY - Chicken fried steak, gravy or stew; whipped potatoes; blackeyed peas; hot rolls; lemon pie/whipped topping; whole or low-fat milk. FRIDAY - Hamburger or fish fillet; French fries, catsup; pinto beans; lettuce & tomato salad; cornbread; butter cookie; whole or low-fat milk.

FORSAN JR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOLS BREAKFAST

MONDAY - Apple fritters; juice and milk. TUESDAY - Sausage; eggs; biscuits; juice and milk. WEDNESDAY - Oatmeal; cinnamon toast; juice and milk. THURSDAY - Texas toast; jelly and peanut butter; juice and milk. FRIDAY - Doughnuts; juice and milk. LUNCH MONDAY - Ravioli; green beans; cheese wedge; salad; peanut butter cookie; peaches and milk. TUESDAY - Corn dogs; pinto beans; cabbage; corn bread; fruit pies and milk. WEDNESDAY - Hamburgers; chili; tater tots; salad; pickle relish/onions; brownies; applesauce and milk. THURSDAY - Taco salad; ranch style beans; cheese and taco sauce; salad; pudding and milk. FRIDAY - Chicken dinosaurs; whipped potatoes; gravy; broccoll and cheese; hot rolls and butter and milk.

SANDS SCHOOLS BREAKFAST

MONDAY - French toast; bacon; jelly; milk and juice. TUESDAY - Donuts; milk and juice. WEDNESDAY - Cereal; juice and milk. THURSDAY - Scrambled eggs; juice; sausage; toast and milk. FRIDAY - Muffins; milk; cinnamon and applesauce. LUNCH MONDAY - Barbeque on bun; French fries; ranch style beans; cake and milk. TUESDAY - Chicken fried steak w/gravy; green beans; whole new potatoes; hot rolls and milk. WEDNESDAY - Beef & cheese enchiladas; salad; pinto beans; cornbread; fruit and milk. THURSDAY - Steak fingers; mashed potatoes w/gravy; June peas; w/carrots; hot rolls and milk. FRIDAY - Fiestadas corn; cookies; fruit; salad and milk.

WESTBROOK SCHOOLS BREAKFAST

MONDAY - Pancake pups; juice and milk. TUESDAY - French toast; little smokies; juice and milk. WEDNESDAY - Cinnamon rolls; juice and milk. THURSDAY - Muffins; juice and milk. FRIDAY - Cereal; juice and milk. LUNCH MONDAY - Chicken nuggets, gravy; creamed potatoes; blackeye peas; hot rolls; raisins and milk. TUESDAY - Italian spaghetti; corn; spinach; garlic bread; chill peaches and milk. WEDNESDAY - Tuna casserole; mix veg; etables; batter bread; cobbler and milk. THURSDAY & FRIDAY - NO SCHOOL.

GARDEN CITY SCHOOLS BREAKFAST

MONDAY - Waffles; syrup; juice and milk. TUESDAY - Eggs; toast; juice and milk. WEDNESDAY - Taco burger; spicy fries; salad; fruit and milk. THURSDAY - Oatmeal; toast; juice and milk. FRIDAY - Cheese toast; juice and milk. LUNCH MONDAY - Burritos; corn; cheese; fruit and milk. TUESDAY - Fish; scalloped potatoes; hughpuppies; salad; pineapple and milk. WEDNESDAY - Taco burger; spicy fries; salad; fruit and milk. THURSDAY - Spaghetti meat sauce; salad; peaches; garlic bread and milk. FRIDAY - Tacos/sauce; corn; cheese; salad and milk.

ELBOW SCHOOL BREAKFAST

MONDAY - Waffles; syrup; juice and milk. TUESDAY - Eggs; toast; juice and milk. WEDNESDAY - Taco burger; spicy fries; salad; fruit and milk. THURSDAY - Oatmeal; toast; juice and milk. FRIDAY - Cheese toast; juice and milk. LUNCH MONDAY - Burritos; corn; cheese; fruit and milk. TUESDAY - Fish; scalloped potatoes; hughpuppies; salad; pineapple and milk. WEDNESDAY - Taco burger; spicy fries; salad; fruit and milk. THURSDAY - Spaghetti meat sauce; salad; peaches; garlic bread and milk. FRIDAY - Tacos/sauce; corn; cheese; salad and milk.

Warning to men: Guard your beards

EDITOR'S NOTE: This column originally appeared in December, 1992.



Christina Ferchalk

In some ways, society manages to keep men on a short leash. Men, unlike women, have very few options when it comes to their personal appearance. The style and manner in which they may dress is severely limited.

Even in the most casual clothing, only very young men can get away with outlandish colors. When an older fella kicks back, he wears blue. While I understand that men have a natural preference for the color blue, it still must get tiresome after a few decades. I see no reason why a 50-year-old guy can't wear a raspberry silk shirt without throwing his poker buddies into homophobic spasms. Men, with the exception of rock stars, are forever being told to get a haircut.

Men, with the exception of rock stars, can't wear cosmetics ... ever. A man can have his body tattooed, but he can't paint his nails. It is now permissible for a man to wear earrings, but only in one ear at a time and they must be of the pierced variety. Clip-ons are strictly taboo.

Men are subjected to a lot of meaningless rules, restrictions and codes. The one area of personal style where a man has the advantage over a woman is facial hair. A woman can't check out her face in the bathroom mirror one morning, scratch her cheek and say, "Umm, maybe I'll grow a beard for hunting season."

Recently a state agency ruled that Domino's Pizza can legally refuse to hire a bearded delivery man, even if his religion requires him to wear a beard and even if he promises to keep it covered with a hairnet. Domino's said studies show that 16 percent of its customers probably or definitely would not buy Domino's Pizza in the future if they saw an employee with a beard.

I can understand Domino's concern. Customer complaints have to be taken seriously. But if Domino's had taken the study a step further, it might have discovered that more than 16 percent of its customers probably or definitely would not buy Domino's pizza in the future if they saw an employee who just happened to remind them of their Uncle George.

Some people will complain about anything. Complaining is part of their nature. It floats their boats. Some people complain only because they dearly love the sound of their own voices. Some people complain because it's an addiction. They can't get through the day without complaining to somebody somewhere about something. Some people complain simply because they have nothing better to do except make life needlessly difficult for the next guy.

Unfortunately, the squeaky hinge does get the grease, and these whiny, intolerant crybabies are consistently appeased.

Ugly box? No sale

By JACK KAPICA Toronto Globe and Mail

TORONTO — Young people are less likely to start smoking if cigarettes are sold in ugly packages instead of attractive ones designed by tobacco marketers, a Canadian Cancer Society study concludes.

The 129 teen-agers in the study were shown colorful brand-designed packages, and samples designed by the cancer society. The cancer-society models were buff-colored, carried the manufacturer's name in unadorned block type and featured a prominent warning saying, "Cigarettes cause fatal lung disease."

Among words the teens used to describe people who would buy the colorless packages were "losers," "wimps" and "geeky," said researcher Josie d'Avernas of the cancer society. Words used to describe people who bought the brand-designed packages were "smart," "cool" and "with-it."

Robert Parker, president of the Canadian Tobacco Manufacturers' Council, dismissed the \$100,000 study, saying that it wouldn't cost even 25 cents to discover which packages are more attractive.

-Scripps Howard News Service

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Military

Navy Seaman Recruit Bobby H. Williams, son of Rodney E. and Kathrine F. Williams, Sterling City, recently completed basic training at Recruit Training Command, San Diego. He is a 1993 graduate of Sterling City High School.

Air Force Airman Christopher S. Polyniak has graduated from Air Force basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio. He is the son of Daniel J. and Claudia N. Polyniak, Big Spring.

Jesse Ralph Crane III, Big Spring, has joined the U.S. Army. He was scheduled to report Dec. 28, 1993 to begin basic training at Fort Benning, Ga.

He is a graduate from Big Spring High School and attended Howard College. He is the son of Jesse Ralph Crane III, Big Spring and Doris Marie Crane, also of Big Spring.

Navy Fireman Apprentice Cheryl A. Hetue, daughter of John A. and Debra G. Trent, Big Spring, recently departed for a six-month Western Pacific and Persian Gulf deployment aboard the destroyer tender USS Acadia, homeported in San Diego. The 1990 graduate of Big Spring High School joined the Navy in Oct. 1990.

Navy Seaman Recruit Christopher S. Northcutt, son of James D. Northcutt, Snyder, recently completed basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill. He is a 1992 graduate of Snyder High School.

Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Michael P. Luera, a 1983 graduate of Snyder High School, recently returned from a six-month Western Pacific, Indian Ocean, and Persian Gulf deployment with Fighter Squadron 213, Moffit Field, Calif. embarked aboard the aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln.

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Ms. Right Linda Baker of Santa Monica, Calif., lost patience with waiting for Mr. Right, so for her 40th birthday last month, she invited friends to a blues bar, declared herself Ms. Right, slipped a ring on her finger and cut her own wedding cake. She married herself.

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Never stumped for laughs

Woman costumes Sweetwater tree stump for enjoyment of local residents

I was attending a meeting the other day and someone asked me if I had ever seen that old tree stump on Highway 70 between Sweetwater and Roby that someone decorates with different seasonal costumes. I said no and asked for more information. Someone nearby overheard the conversation and said with a smile, "O, yeah. That's been there for years. We always enjoy it when we go by and see it."



Tumbleweed Smith

On my next visit to Sweetwater I took Highway 70 and headed north. About eight miles out of town I saw the old mesquite stump wearing a scarecrow's costume with the head of a turkey on it. Appropriate fall attire.

Since there was no residence nearby, I went to the cotton gin up the road a piece and asked the girl behind the desk who decorated that mesquite stump. She smiled and said, "O, that's Dot Thompson. She lives over in the Busby community. Isn't that a neat thing she does? Everybody around here just waits to see what she comes up with next."

I drove the three miles to Busby and stopped at the two-story house where a girl was getting some groceries out of her car. I told her I was looking for Dot Thompson. "That's my mom who lives next door and she's in Rotan today doing some painting and wallpaper work at the hospital." I told her I wanted to interview her mom about decorating the stump. "I'll call her," she said. She agreed to have her mom at home by 5 o'clock.

I returned to Sweetwater and visited with a couple of folks and mentioned that I was going out to interview Dot. Each person grinned when I brought up the topic of the stump. Dot told me about twenty years ago

her daughters started dressing that old stump. "It's about five feet high and kinda looks like a person who's waving," said Dottie, "so they put a pair of pants and a shirt on the stump and on the part that looks like a waving hand they put a glove."

After awhile, the costume started looking so bad that Dottie started dressing it. "I added another arm," says Dot. "I nailed an old board on it to give it balance."

At Christmas time, the stump is decorated like Santa Claus. Valentine's Day it's holding a big valentine or a heart shaped box of candy. In early spring it's dressed like the Easter Bunny. On July 4 it'll look like Uncle Sam.

It sometimes reflects events. If an area high school football team is having a good year, it'll wave a banner for that school. During the famous Sweetwater Rattlesnake Roundup it'll be dressed with snakes around its neck. During Desert Storm it was a soldier. "Sometimes it's a female, sometimes it's a male, sometimes it's an animal," says Dot. "A lot of times

I've hung happy birthday signs on it for people. When there's a wedding, it's dressed as a bride."

People leave notes of appreciation on the costumed tree. Highway 70 is a popular route for people traveling to Oklahoma, so the traffic count at the stump is substantial.

"I was out there changing its costume when some people from Oklahoma came by and told me how much they looked forward to seeing what it's wearing when they come by."

One year someone stole a Santa suit the stump was wearing and Dot left it bare. "But people started writing and complaining and so I thought what the heck, I'll just go get another one. About that time the Roby Volunteer Fire Department donated a Santa suit for the stump."

Her whimsical art has become a highway landmark. "If I'd known that it would attract so much attention I would have done a better job dressing it," says Dot. "I usually go out there and just slap something on it."

This -n- that

A Community Newsletter

Shipmate reunion

The National LST Association is looking for Shipmates for reunions held each year. The next National reunion will be held in Las Vegas, Nev. in Sept. 1994.

For information write: United States LST Association, P.O. Box 167438, Oregon, Ohio 43616-7438 or contact: Bob Garner LST 461 HC 52 Box 362, Hemphill, Tx. 75498 Ph. (409) 579-3732

Kennel club awards

Big Spring Kennel Club is one of nine U.S. kennel clubs to be awarded the American Kennel Club's new Community Achievement Merit Award during 1993.

The awards are given in recognition of outstanding public education efforts. Diane Hart, Midland, Big Spring Kennel Club's Public Education Coordinator, was one of

three persons from 3,264 clubs which have PEC's to be singled out for recognition at the AKC's December delegates meeting in New York City.

Big Spring Kennel Club is the only Texas club to be recognized thus far. Efforts by Ms. Hart and other Big Spring Kennel Club members have included publication of the newsletter, "Waggin' Tales" for distribution through offices of area veterinarians. The newsletter highlights dog ownership issues and canine activities in the Permian Basin.

BSKC also runs a free Breeders' Referral Program which helps West Texans locate responsible breeders from which to purchase pets. Special publications developed by BSKC include the booklet "So You Want a Puppy" and the flyer "Good Breeding Practices" which identifies characteristics pet owners should look for in a breeder.

New during 1993 has been the club's Advertisers' Contact Program, in which educational materials are sent to persons advertising dogs for sale.

"Big Spring Kennel Club invites dog owners to attend the local dog shows Jan. 22 and 23 at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum," said Breeder Referral Co-Chairman Carole Owen.



Ashley Marie Hembree was born Jan. 1, 1994, 12:20 a.m.; parents are Daniel and Kristina Hembree. Grandparents are Cherie Dorton, Frank and Gloria Chapman, all of Big Spring.

Time to clean the garage? Let's make it worth your while...
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Associated Press photo

King and I

British Elvis Presley look-alike Leyton Summers poses next to life-size bronze statue of the King of Rock 'n' roll at an American restaurant in central London Friday. Friday would have been the singer's 59th birthday. The statue will be auctioned Jan. 18.

Parisians

Continued from page 4.

ments have disappeared. The left-wing Paris newspaper Liberation even runs its own telephone chat line.

But how has this industry grown so big?

"In French cities today, time is short," said Boris Cyrulnik, a psychoanalyst and ethnologist. "There is no time for tenderness, no time to build relationships. We only have time for amorous interludes."

Madeleine Ghertman, director of a dating agency, Ion International, said attitudes have changed, too. "Everyone distrusts everybody else nowadays, so it is just not on for people to start chatting each other up in the street."

The figures support this argument. Almost half the apartments in Paris are inhabited by people living alone.

And, in a recent survey, 12 percent of French women and 6 percent of men aged between 18 and 45 said they had not had sex within the previous year.

(Experts say that French women do not, in fact, have sex less often than French men, as the survey appears to suggest; it's just that the men are more likely to lie about their sexual history.)

Nevertheless, the French remain convinced of the need to find a partner, whether it be for a night or a lifetime, according to Michele Lassere, head of the Paris dating agency Reciproque.

"We get incredibly worried if we are not in a relationship," she said. "Here, celibacy is considered in a very pejorative way, as though there is something wrong with you."
-Scripps Howard News Service

Gourmet coffee trend hot, hot, hot

MARY ANN GREIER
Thomson News Service

SALEM, Ohio — Espresso. Cappuccino. Caffe Mocha. Caffe Caramello. The entertainment alternative of the future rests with specialty coffee drinks and the cafes which serve them, coffee specialist John Graham says.

"People are going away from alcohol as an entertainment beverage," says Graham, vice president of Advanced Brewing Machines in Cleveland.

Kimberly Sarchet, owner of a gourmet coffee and tea room in Columbiana, Ohio, known as Paris & Truffles, says more people are turning to specialty coffee drinks.

A former California resident, she said the trend started out west and is growing here.

Coffee houses appeal to people looking for an evening out, she said, and atmosphere plays a part. In Cali-

fornia, many of the coffee houses are located near bookstores or art centers, she said.

Graham says the specialty coffee business is part of a cultural change sweeping the country.

"The better coffee you drink, the better coffee you want," he said.

While conventional coffee sales have decreased, the specialty coffee market has increased more than 900 percent in the past 20 years, according to a survey in a Los Angeles newspaper, Graham said.

In the 1990s, sales of specialty coffee for home consumption are expected to double to an estimated \$3 billion, according to a report by Ted R. Lingle, executive director of the Specialty Coffee Association of America. Sales of specialty coffee drinks in retail food service are expected to reach \$1.5 billion by 1999.

The growth in retail outlets, such as coffee houses and espresso bars, is one of the reasons for the increase

in sales.

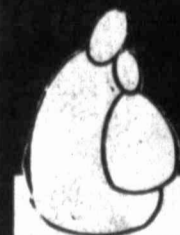
"Everybody's so health conscious now. With flavored coffees, you can get the taste without the treats," said Teresa McMillan, owner of a combination flower and coffee shop in Lisbon, Ohio.

Arabica, the bean used for gourmet coffees, is grown at higher elevations and contains half the caffeine of conventional coffee, Sarchet said. Conventional coffee is made from the robusta bean, which is more plentiful and less expensive.

The average cost of a cup of conventional coffee is 50 cents, compared with the cost of a cup of premium gourmet coffee ranging from 85 cents to \$1.

Espresso is made by forcing steam through finely ground coffee beans. Espresso-based drinks include cafe latte, which is a shot of espresso added to steamed or foamed milk, and cappuccino, which contains 8 espresso, 8 hot steamed milk and 8 foamed milk.

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KATHLEEN SULLIVAN

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JAN 09 1994

AgExpo: Great success

If there were any doubts left in anyone's mind about the importance of agriculture to the West Texas economy, and to Howard County in particular, they must have been totally shut off from the world this past weekend! The third annual West Texas Ag Expo was another big success, to say the least.

Crowds were on hand, in spite of the cold weather, to hear the latest in agricultural production practices ranging from cotton to horses to ostriches and how to plant a garden or freeze brand a horse!

Boer goats were there, some other real bores and some real exiting and dynamic folks like our Texas Department of Agriculture Commissioner Rick Perry, who seems like "home folk" to most of us from his appearances out here in our area and his public references about people and places we are so familiar with.

Washington heads like Deputy Secretary Rominger from the USDA showed up and our own Charlie Stenholm and a lot of other local politicians, including our Howard County Judge, Ben Lockhart, who was looking at deals on fencing at the Expo as his fence line was burned down last week during one of those grassfires experienced all over the area.

Big Spring Mayor Tim Blackshear was there to present the award to our top farmer of the year, Fred

Phillips. Mel Prather was recognized for all he has done for Expo in lining up exhibitors in only the manner he can.

Texas A&M was here in force, some still licking wounds from the recent Cotton Bowl loss to the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame, but still potent enough to deliver some top notch performances in the educational programs. Big Spring's Dr. Mary (Kinney) Beilamowich, now a top nutritionist from Aggie land was back home sharing her knowledge about beef in today's diets.

Other locals that had big roles in the educational programs was Mrs. Lucille Sterling, a big supporter for the beef industry, and a member of the National Beef Industry Board. Sunday evening "TV Horticulturist", the popular Debbie Bengel, Extension Agent in Horticulture for Ector and Midland Counties, shared her talents with us and all our top specialists, including Charles Neeb, our District Extension Director, from Ft. Stockton was here. There was a big representation of area County Extension agents and groups from their respective counties all here, as well. These people did a lot of publicity for our Expo back in their home counties this year and we surely noticed a lot of their people here this year.

The latest in fashions was modeled by the locals and Dene Sheppard got that put together. No agricultural



Don Richardson

activity in West Texas can properly be held without the traditional barbeque and just about everyone connected with ag showed up to kick off the grand opening of this year's Expo at the Ag Appreciation Bar-B-Que on Friday evening.

The Chamber of Commerce reported that over 500 tickets had been picked up for the event by Wednesday and more barbeque was called for! I think our folks with the goats were getting a little nervous about the situation! (afterall, haven't these goats been publicized as MEAT goats?!) All in all, Expo '94 was a big success again, thanks to all those people in our community and area who worked to make it so. It is just one example of what can be accomplished when enough heads get together thinking in a positive wave... "It can be done, it can be done?"...and generally, things like this GET done with this kind of attitude. My personal thanks to all those that got behind Expo and helped make it happen! It was great!

Don Richardson is the Howard County Extension agent.

Slumping stocks affect Texas index

Herald Staff Report

Slumping energy and financial stocks hurt last year's final Texas Stock Index which dropped 4.2 points in November 1993 to 183.1, according to John Sharp, state comptroller.

The 2.3 percent decline represents only the third time in the past year that the "Index" has fallen, but it remains 30 percent higher than at the close of 1992.

"The Texas Stock Index was dragged down mainly by big drops in energy and financial sector stocks," Sharp stated in a recent release. "All energy stocks on the index lost value, as the sector

declined for the third straight month.

"A number of factors are to blame, including plummeting oil prices, depressed international demand, lack of an OPEC agreement on production quotas and the growing possibility that Iraq will resume oil exports," Sharp added.

Sharp also noted that all stocks in the financial, insurance and real estate sector either declined or remained flat. Despite November's dip, stock prices in the finance sector are up 22 percent compared to a year ago.

There were some big gainers, however, including Fort Worth's Tandy Corp., Austin-based Dell Computer Corp. and Houston's Compaq Computer Corp., according to the

comptroller's report.

"Lower oil prices reduced operating expenses and boosted profits for airlines," Sharp said. "Southwest Airlines stock rose nearly 12 percent, as the airline reported a 23 percent increase in passenger traffic and ordered 63 new Boeing 737X aircraft.

Continental Airlines stock rose nearly 30 percent as the company reported earning \$12.4 million in its first full quarter emerging from bankruptcy.

The Comptroller's Office compiles the "Texas Stock Index" each month to measure investor confidence in 61 Texas companies. They represent a cross-section of the Texas economy, including energy, technology, finance and general business.

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Store covers 20,000 wheels

NICK CARTER
The Milwaukee Journal

MILWAUKEE — Long before the ugly crime of carjacking made the scene, juveniles indulged in the much more innocent pursuit of stealing hubcaps. Back then, if a kid lifted a cap or two off your car, you'd simply head out to the local junkyard and pick out a pair of replacements.

But today, at Hubcaps Unlimited you can simply walk in and pick out what you want from a neatly arranged display of hubcaps and wheelcovers. There are imports, domestic, new, used; whatever the ride requires, the store is likely to have it.

One wall sports the latest in designs, while on the opposite wall there's a variety of spiffed-up, reconditioned stock waiting for a car to adopt it.

Store owner Rick Dynek started in the wheelcover biz 11 years ago.

"It's a different business today," Dynek said. "Over 70 percent of the new caps and all the imports are made of plastic and nylon, which actually has a longer life than the chrome-steel covers, which eventually rust."

"Most of the time a customer comes in looking for a front right cover because they lost it hitting a curb. They might be embarrassed to admit that and instead say someone stole it, but usually that's not the case."

Northern winters can be brutal on a car's wheels. Hubcaps originally were designed to protect the area where the lug nuts connect the wheel to the car's axle, but the newer covers protect the entire wheel surface from dirt and road debris.

"(In the North) wheels get eaten up faster because of the roadsalt and winters," Dynek said. "If you drive in these parts, your car will definitely go through more hubcaps during its life."

Customers can have their caps installed free of charge. And Dynek says its prices are as much as 40 percent less than a dealer would charge.

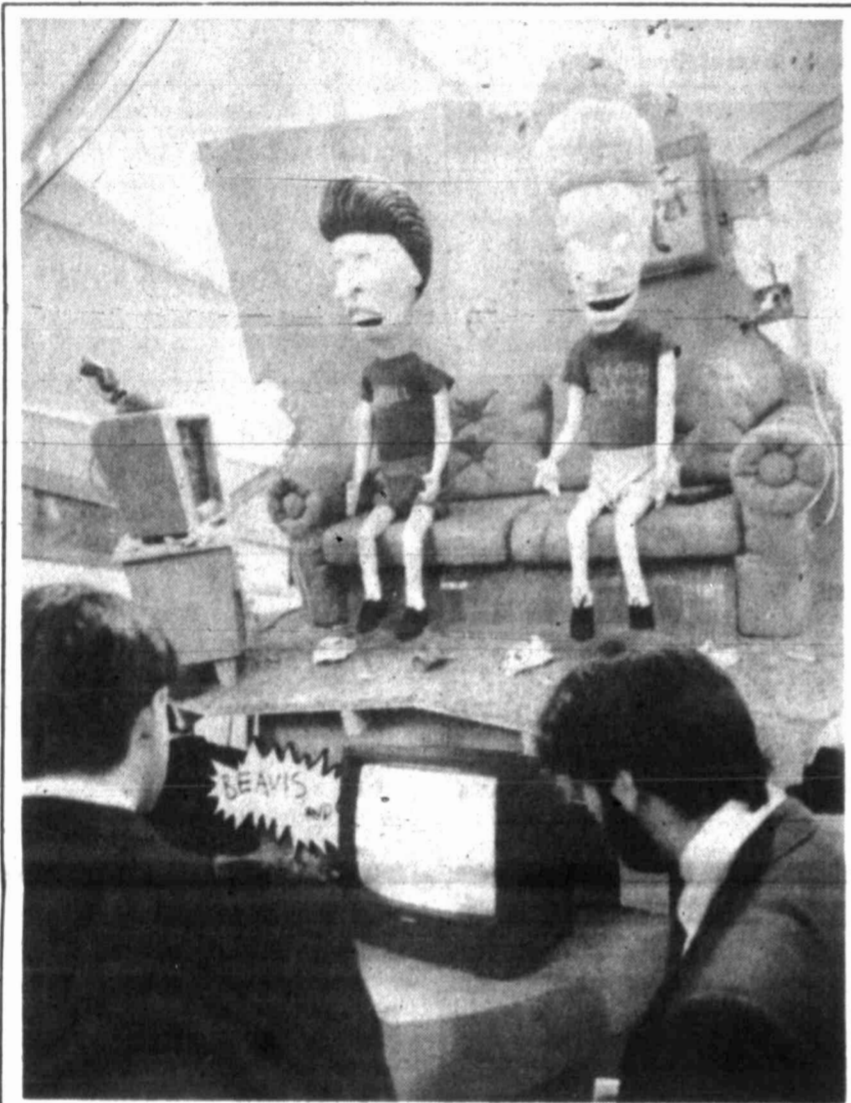
The store specializes in covers made from 1978 to the present and in imports, which sometimes are hard to come by.

"We have over 20,000 covers in stock, and we ship anywhere in the country," Dynek said.

Dynek said one time a visitor from the Virgin Islands stopped in the shop and bought a set of after-market covers. He said no such covers existed back home. A month later, the man called the shop from the islands and said that a friend of his had seen the caps and just had to have a set for himself; price was of no concern. Dynek shipped the caller a set via Federal Express.

"The shipping charge was more than the actual covers, but he wanted them, so he got them," Dynek said.

The shop also carries covers for trucks and recreational vehicles. These sometimes are hard to find. -Distributed by Scripps Howard News Service.



Associated Press photo

What will sell?

Potential wholesale and retail buyers examine the new "Beavis and Butt-Head" game display at the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas Friday. The show displayed the latest in computer software and electronics.

SPORTS & More Sports
In the Big Spring Herald daily

YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS

Many middle-income retirees are being assaulted by the 1993 tax bill — and they don't have anywhere to run for cover. If you're receiving social security benefits and have significant income from any other source, your taxes are probably going up.

To determine how much of your benefits will be taxable under the new rules, you must first calculate your "provisional income."

Provisional income consists of (1) adjusted gross income plus tax-exempt interest and dividends, (2) certain foreign income, and (3) half your social security benefits.

If your provisional income is between \$32,000-\$44,000 for marrieds and \$25,000-\$34,000 for singles, up to 50% of your social security benefits may be taxable, as under the old law. If you're under the \$32,000 or \$25,000 thresholds, none of your social security benefits are taxable.

Beginning in 1994, the new rules add a second, more expensive tax bracket for social security recipients. If your "provisional income" exceeds \$44,000 for marrieds, \$34,000 for singles, and \$0 for those married filing separately, up to 85% of your social security benefits may be taxable.

Unfortunately, there aren't many ways to reduce your exposure to tax on your benefits. You might shift your investments into growth instruments that don't generate dividends, or invest in Series EE savings bonds which don't pay out interest until redemption or maturity. Of course, this strategy works only if you don't need current investment income to live on.

As with the old law, if you receive a lump-sum payment of social security benefits in 1994 that includes benefits for prior years, you may elect to treat those benefits as having been received in the year to which they relate. This enables you to use the more favorable pre-1994 rules.

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