

BIG SPRING HERALD

Reflecting A Proud TEXAS Community

THURSDAY
December 1, 1994

50 Cents

Stamp prices are going up to 32 cents

■ Critics say to expect next increase in a couple of years

WASHINGTON (AP) — Way back when, a stamp cost 3 cents. That's how much the price is going up next year — and critics say yet another increase is probably only a year or two away.

The independent Postal Rate Commission on Wednesday endorsed the increase from 29 cents to 32 cents for a stamp for a first-class letter. The Postal Service said it hopes the new rate can take effect "as early as possible in January."

The increase is estimated to cost an extra 60 cents to 75 cents per month for the typical household.

Millions of unpriced stamps bearing the letter "G" — for Old Glory — have already been printed and will be shipped to post offices across the country to be sold at the new rate.

From the Great Depression to the Eisenhower era, the cost of mailing a first-class letter was 3 cents. The rate has risen steadily since the post office became a semi-independent agency in 1970 and Congress eliminated its tax subsidy.

The Postal Service issued a statement saying it was "disappointed" that the across-the-board increases had been turned down, but noted that the decision "appears to be designed to meet our revenue requirement."

The package is expected to bring the Postal Service \$4.7 billion in added income in 1995, said Rate Commission Chairman Edward J. Gleiman. The post office lost \$1.3 billion in the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30

and \$1.7 billion the year before. "The Postal Service clearly established its need for additional revenues," Gleiman said.

While the higher rates will ease financial pressure on the post office, Gleiman pointed out that "the future of the Postal Service rests squarely on postal management. It must control costs and it must improve service."

New York State Consumer Director Richard M. Kessel contended that no rate increase should have been permitted until postal service improved.

"I am very disappointed that the United States Postal Rate Commission today rewarded poor mail service," he said.

The Postal Service's plan, sent to the commission in March, urged what amounted to a 10.3 percent rate increase for all types of mail.

The commission held the increase to 8.9 percent for first class by setting a 20-cent postcard rate instead of the 21 cents proposed by the post office and sticking with the current 23-cent price for each extra ounce of a first-class item. The post office had wanted the extra ounces to cost a quarter each.

To make up the difference, the commission proposed increases of 14 percent for second-class items, such as magazines and newspapers, and for third-class advertising mail.

Under the new rates, it would cost about 51 cents more for a year's mailing of a monthly magazine weighing a pound. The cost to mail out a 6-ounce weekly newsmagazine would be up \$1.13 for a year.

While the decision to hold the current 23-cent rate for extra ounces of first-class mail benefits consumers, it will also be a boon to businesses like banks that mail heavier items.



Gina Massengill takes cans out of a plastic bag and puts them on a table in the hallway of Moss Elementary School Tuesday as the school is collecting canned goods that will later be distributed to local needy families. The school joins the efforts of other organizations such as the Boy Scouts and Dakota's Flowers in trying to help the less fortunate in this community.

Herald photo by Tim Appel

Food for flowers

Dakota's Flowers joining those helping others

By CARLTON JOHNSON
Staff Writer

What is it that the Salvation Army, the Boy Scouts of the Lone Star District, Dakota's Flowers & Gifts and other organizations have in common as the holiday season continues towards Christmas?

The answer: giving to others. As the holiday season approaches various organizations are preparing their annual activities as well, including donations of toys and food for those in the community who are

less fortunate.

Dakota's Flowers & Gifts at 1110 11th Place is no exception and is doing its share to see that some of the less fortunate people in Big Spring have a nice holiday. Dakota's, beginning Dec. 5 and running through Dec. 17, will give anyone who brings in two cans of food a free carnation in return.

The Boy Scouts of the Lone Star District recently had their annual Good Turn Food Drive and donated all of the food collected during the drive to the Salvation Army and the North-

side Community Center.

Dakota's owner, Max Ann Bowlin, said, "We're going to do this for the area because we want to give something back to the local area. For two cans of food we will give people donating a free carnation."

She added, "In the past we've had a good response with our coupon ads and we thought this would be a good idea."

Bowlin isn't sure at this point but said the canned goods collected will probably be distributed by contacting local churches to see if they have any needy families.

After 20 years, Fryar says so long to board

By KELLIE JONES
Staff Writer

Lomax resident Neil Fryar recently retired from the Howard Soil and Water Conservation District after serving 20 years on the board.

He was honored at a dinner and was given a 20-year service pin and plaque in recognition of his outstanding service and dedication.

"I decided that 20 years was long enough to serve on the board. For the first time since 1954, I'm not serving on any boards. I plan to continue farm-

ing and ranching in Howard, Martin, Midland and Glasscock counties," said Fryar.

"I enjoyed serving on the board and I learned a lot. I served on the Farm Bureau Board for 28 years, the Howard County Fair Board for 20 years, the Stanton school board for

three years, the Caprock board for 17 years and the Agriculture Stabilization Commission board for three years," he added.

Fryar was elected director of Zone One of the Howard SWCD on Oct. 8, 1974 and served as chairman of the board for the past seven years. He served as

board secretary for 13 years as well. Fryar has been active in both the West Texas and the State Associations of SWCD Directors.

Fryar was president of the West Texas Association for the 1991-92 term and has been a member of the Texas State "Special Committee of 100" since 1989. At this year's state annual meeting, he was recognized with a 20-year certificate for his service as a director.

Johnny Oswald, field representative of the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board in Temple, also attended the retirement party.

Neil Fryar



Courtesy photo

Neil Fryar, left, receives a plaque in recognition of his 20 years of service by Johnny Oswald. Fryar recently retired from the Howard Soil and Water Conservation District as its director. Oswald is a field representative of the State Soil and Water Conservation Board in Temple.

Texas Trivia

Opened in 1957, what was the first Texas turnpike?
Dallas-Fort Worth Turnpike
Who made the first Lone Star flag?
Joanna Troutman

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WORLD/NATION

World: Helicopters from two U.S. warships shuttled food, water and blankets today to nearly 1,000 people who had abandoned the burning Achille Lauro for safety aboard a fleet of rescue ships. See page 4A.

Nation: Under a furious lobbying barrage from the Clinton administration and a small army of corporate executives, the Senate appears ready to ratify a expansion of global free trade. See page 4A.

STATE

Threatening
A Palestine man who lost to Gov. Ann Richards in the Democratic primary has been charged with mailing a letter threatening to kill an East Texas sheriff. See page 3A.

May not return to class
A Bastrop County boy whose ponytail has kept him out of school and in various courtrooms for four years says a recent court ruling won't mean he will return to classes. See page 3A.

Texans aboard burning ship ok
Five Texans who were aboard the cruise ship Achille Lauro when it burned off the coast of Africa escaped without injury. See page 3A.

TODAY'S WEATHER

Tonight
71 [▲] Highs **45**
Lows [▼]

Cloudy, low mid 40s
Tonight, increasing clouds, low mid 40s, south winds 10 to 15 mph.

Permian Basin Forecast
Friday: Mostly cloudy, high in the lower 70s, south winds; cloudy night, low mid 40s.
Saturday: Mostly cloudy, high in the lower 70s, south winds; cloudy night, low mid 40s.
Sunday: Mostly cloudy, high in the lower 70s.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Millionaire still fighting to leave the country

HOUSTON (AP) — Federal authorities have released former fugitive millionaire Richard Minns on bond to await deportation. U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service released the former health club tycoon Wednesday on a \$10,000 bond, his attorney said. Minns spent Thanksgiving weekend in a Boston detention center after Irish officials refused to allow him to board a flight to that country. Minns, 65, founder of the Houston-based President and First Lady health spa chains, renounced his U.S. citizenship in favor of Irish citizenship in 1986. Irish officials said they had evidence that Minns had obtained his citizenship fraudulently.

Lotto winner may help repay theft

RICHMOND (AP) — A Lotto Texas winner told a Fort Bend County jury that he would help a former Richmond State School employee repay \$68,000 she stole from 170 mentally retarded students. Martin Castellanos' pledge came shortly before the jury began considering punishment for Sonya Balderas, a former school cashier who pleaded guilty to theft Tuesday. Jurors deliberated for about six hours Wednesday without deciding on punishment for Mrs. Balderas, 25. Defense attorney Lawrence Tackett argued for probation for the mother of two, telling jurors that she would work to pay the money back. Castellanos, 30, a surprise final witness, said he would be willing to help her reimburse the money "if she were in a bind."

Former president breaks ground

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — Former President George Bush, acknowledging he's passed the family's political torch to his sons George W. and Jeb, can't wait to begin a new career in academia. Even before the ceremonial first shovels of dirt were turned Wednesday at Texas A&M University for the George Bush Presidential Library and Museum Center, Bush announced he'll bring to Texas A&M next fall some of the top figures who shared the world stage with him during his four years in office. "The conference will be in the form of oral history about the dramatic events of that period and their impact on the future — what does all of that mean," he said. Already committed to talk about the end of the cold war are former Soviet president Mikhail Gorbachev and Margaret Thatcher, the former British prime minister, along with Brian Mulroney, the ex-Canadian prime minister, Bush said. Construction of the \$82 million library and school of government, not expected to be complete until early 1997, officially got under way Wednesday when Bush and wife Barbara grabbed gleaming silver shovels and dug up several scoops of what A&M President Roy Bowen called "fighting Aggie dirt."

Transportation projects funded in five towns

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Department of Transportation has announced that the cities of Mission, Hidalgo, Edinburg, Port Isabel and Roma will be receiving over \$3 million for transportation enhancement projects.

Fort Bliss loses its cavalry regiment

FORT BLISS (AP) — The Army will be reassigning one of Fort Bliss' largest units, the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, and replace it with two air defense brigades, U.S. Rep. Ron Coleman has said.

The 3rd Cavalry, a scout unit with about 6,000 soldiers, is scheduled to be transferred to an as-yet unannounced location, Coleman, D-El Paso, said in a news release Wednesday.

In return, the El Paso County post will be gaining the 108th Air Defense Brigade based at Fort Polk, La., and the 31st Air Defense Brigade, based now at Fort Hood, Texas.

"The fact that two brigades will be transferred to Fort Bliss is an absolute indication that the post will be spared from the impending round of base closures," Coleman said.

Fort Bliss officials declined to comment on the moves Wednesday.

The 3rd Armored Cavalry is equipped with heavy tanks, other armored vehicles and helicopters. The unit's mission is to probe and find potential enemies.

Besides the 3rd cavalry, Fort Bliss is also home to the 11th Air Defense Artillery Brigade, which includes Patriot missile battalions.

Coleman said the new additions show Fort Bliss is slated to become an air defense "center of excellence" once the Army completes a two-year troop restructuring.



Lou Gary Espinosa, left, is led by Marshal Dale Williams from the federal courthouse in Tyler Wednesday after he was arrested and charged with mailing a letter threatening to kill Anderson County Sheriff Mickey Hubert and others. Espinosa ran against Gov. Ann Richards in the last Democratic primary and received 22 percent of the vote.

Losing candidate sends sheriff a threatening letter

1 TYLER, Texas (AP) — A Palestine man who lost to Gov. Ann Richards in the Democratic primary has been charged with mailing a letter threatening to kill an East Texas sheriff and others.

Lou Gary Espinosa, who garnered 22 percent of the vote in the March 8 primary, was detained Wednesday by U.S. Magistrate Judith K. Guthrie. A mental evaluation was pending. "Is this going to finish me from my governor's campaign?" Espinosa asked the judge after his initial appearance hearing. Informed that the election was over, Espinosa said he meant the 1998 election. Espinosa was arrested by U.S. Secret Service agents after he

allegedly mailed a threatening letter to Anderson County Sheriff Mickey Hubert in Palestine.

The one-page letter was written without capital letters or punctuation. It says: "I still am going to kill you and blow up sheriff department and all of the cars there to and i will put bombs all over texas and i might kill the governor and maybe the president with my killer guns."

The letter also includes threats to kill police officers in Athens and Palestine, rape women, shoot anyone who passes by or lives near his home, to blow up Mother Frances Hospital in Tyler and to kill himself and his family.

Five Texans stranded on burning boat

FORT WORTH (AP) — Five Texans who were aboard the cruise ship Achille Lauro when it burned off the coast of Africa escaped without injury, relatives say.

The five included two South Texas men and three North Texas women who were working with the entertainment department on the ship.

Sharon Ashby of Granbury said her daughter, 19-year-old Jennifer Ashby, was one of three North Texans working as dancers on the ship.

Mrs. Ashby, who began watching television about 5 a.m. for news of the fire's survivors, finally learned at 9:15 p.m. that the entertainers were unharmed.

Her daughter, 21-year-old Shelley Keller of White Settlement and Jennifer Small of Dallas all were accounted for. Ms. Small owns the San Antonio-based J&J Productions dance company, for which the other two women dance.

Ms. Small's mother called her with the news after about 16 hours of waiting, Mrs. Ashby

said. "She had talked to the South African branch of this cruise line, and she said everybody in the entertainment department has been accounted for," she said.

Mrs. Ashby said the entertainers were rescued by a tanker in the Indian Ocean off the coast of Somalia. They were transferred to a U.S. Navy ship, which was carrying them on to South Africa on Wednesday night. She said she was not told when they'd dock in South Africa.

"We do feel a lot better, but we're still waiting for that call," Mrs. Ashby said.

San Antonio resident Leonard Lopez III also worked on the ship as a dancer and choreographer, his parents said. Connie and Leonard Lopez told WOAI radio in San Antonio that their son was unharmed during the blaze.

A Hardin County family also waited anxiously by the phone Wednesday for news of their son, Heath Capps, 19, a singer and dancer in the cruise ship's chorus.

Ponytail wins in court but boy may not return to class

AUSTIN (AP) — A Bastrop County boy whose ponytail has kept him out of school and in various courtrooms for four years says a recent court ruling won't mean he will return to classes.

Zach Toungate, 12, says he will continue his education at his rural home near Bastrop as long as Bastrop school officials continue to limit hairstyles.

"I'm standing up for people's rights," he told the Austin American Statesman in an interview published today.

On Tuesday, state District Judge Norman Lanford ruled that the Bastrop school district's policy forbidding long hair for boys is unconstitutional and illegal.

However, the judge also said the issue was not important enough for court intervention, and Bastrop school officials say they have no plans to change the rule.

"I think we've won a little victory here," Zach said. "A two-thirds victory. The law they have just discriminates."

In the meantime, Zach said he studies reading, math and history through private correspondence courses.

"It's convenient," he said. "You get to sleep in late when you want to. But I do work four or five hours every day on schoolwork. We have a test every 20 lessons that I have to mail in, and they send the grades back to me."

Zach and his parents say they believe he is getting a good education.

I think we've won a little victory here. A two-thirds victory. The law they have just discriminates.

Zach Toungate

"Algebra is not that hard," he said. "They give you '4a equals 16' and you work it from there. I'm also studying ancient Europe, when Charlemagne was ruling."

Zach's mother, September Toungate, filed suit against the school board four years ago after her son was forced out of the third grade because he refused to cut his six-inch "rat tail."

She and her husband, Stanley, an electrician, said they keep Zach's 10-year-old sister, Linzi, out of school because of what happened to him.

The Toungates pay about \$1,400 a year to educate the two children through the correspondence course.

"I had to rearrange my work schedule because of Zach's home schooling, but it is worth it," September Toungate said. "I think he may be getting even a little better education at home."

Zach could continue his home education for a long time. Bastrop school board President Ray Long says he is unaware of any sentiment among his six colleagues to change the hair-length policy.

Firefighters bring insurance drop

AUSTIN (AP) — Residents in 18 Texas communities should see a drop in their homeowners insurance policies due to fire fighting improvements made in their towns.

Texas Insurance Commissioner J. Robert Hunter announced Wednesday that new key rates for the communities will take effect on Feb. 1, 1995.

RESCUED



Betty Johnson hugs her 10-year-old dog Murphy after he was resuscitated by firefighters Friday in Waco. Another pet dog escape the fire and a third was found dead in the house.

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SCOREBOARD

LEAGUE	SCORES	HOWARD COUNTY
NBA	College	Today (WJCAC Classic in Odessa)
Seattle 109, San Antonio 100	TCU 119, Midwestern St. 78	LADY HAWKS vs. Frank Phillips, 3 p.m.
	Oklahoma St. 73, SMU 51	Friday (WJCAC Classic in Borger)
		HAWKS vs. New Mexico JC, 6 p.m.

Got an item?

Do you have an interesting story idea? Call Dave Hargrave, 263-7331, Ext 116.

5A

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Scramble benefits BSHS golf program

A four-person scramble at Comanche Trail Golf Course Saturday will benefit the Big Spring High School boys' and girls' golf teams. The scramble, hosted by the Big Spring Golf Boosters, has a 9:30 a.m. shotgun start. The teams will be determined by a blind draw, and entries should be in no later than 1 p.m. Friday. Call the course at 264-2366 to reserve your spot. The cost is \$25 for greens fees and cart, and prizes will be awarded to first-through third-place finishers and closest to the pin.

Hunter education class slated for Dec. 17-18

A course in hunter education has been scheduled for Dec. 17-18 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Big Spring Chamber of Commerce. According to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, if you were born on or after Sept. 2, 1971 and you are 17 or older, you must successfully complete a hunter education course to hunt in Texas. However, anyone may take the course, and all are encouraged to attend regardless of requirements.

"The course is open to adults and youngsters and will include instruction in rifle, shotgun, handgun and primitive sporting arms handling and safety; outdoor responsibility and ethics; laws and regulations; wildlife conservation and identification; hunting traditions; field care of game; and wilderness first aid and survival," said Boyce Hale, area hunter education instructor.

The minimum age of certification is 12. Students 12 years of age or older successfully completing the course will be issued a hunter education certificate from the TPWD. Those less than 12 will receive a certificate of attendance but must take the course again after turning 12 for proper certification. The course cost \$5. For more information, call Hale at 267-6957 or the TPWD at 1-800-253-4536.

YMCA has registration for basketball league

Registration is under way for the youth basketball program at the Big Spring YMCA. The program is for boys and girls ages 5-12 (grades K-6). The eight-week league will start in January.

Deadline to register is Dec. 9. Fees are \$23 for Y members and \$36 for non-members. Coaches in all age groups will be needed. For more information call 267-8234 or stop by the Y at 801 Owens St.

YMCA adult league teams to meet

On Sunday, Coahoma and Bobby Barber YMCA adult league teams will be playing in the flag football league playoff game. The game starts at 1:30 p.m. on the Big Spring band field.

BSHS relay team takes aim at record

By STEVE REAGAN
Sportswriter

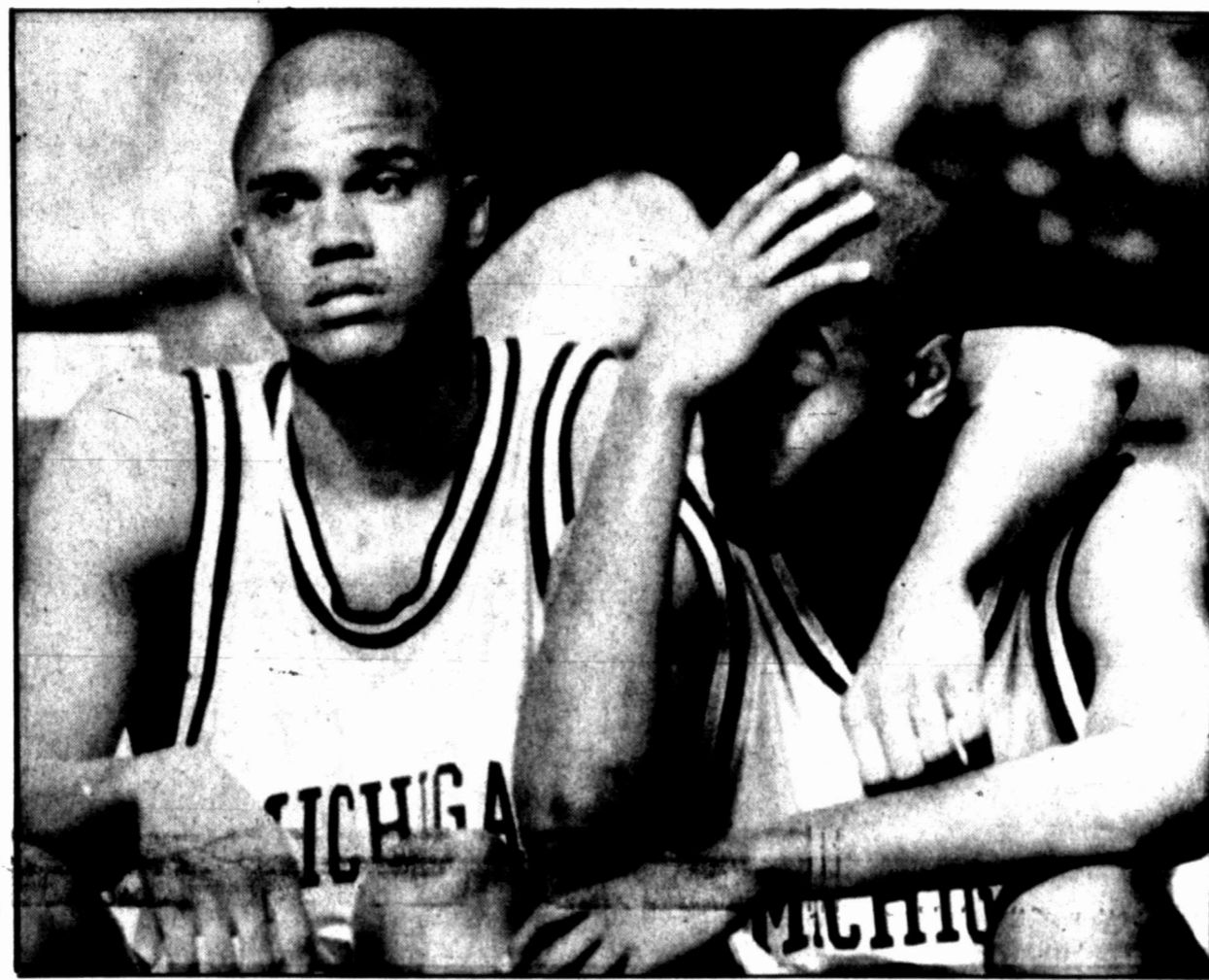
Records are made to be broken, and four Big Spring High School swimmers think they're just the guys for the job. The BSHS 200-meter freestyle relay team of Chris Bongers, Michael Wakeley, Eric Smith and Alex Padilla are closing in fast on a long-standing school mark. The school record for the event is 1 minute, 36 seconds, and the quartet is currently two seconds behind that time with most of the swim season still ahead of them. School records fall on almost a yearly basis, but what makes this group's quest notable is its youth. Wakeley is a freshman, while Bongers, Smith and Padilla are just juniors. Fast relay times are almost a legacy with the BSHS swim team, and coach Harlan Smith said that this quartet could turn out to be something special. "They haven't been beaten by a district (4-4A) team yet," Smith said. "They believe in the relays and they feel like they can out-sprint anybody in the district. We've had some good sprinters in the past ... and they feel like they need to come up to those standards." Smith said he had an inkling that the record could be in jeopardy earlier in the season.

"They want to beat those times. They want to be as fast as the best," he said. "When we used to have the record board up ... they'd look at those records, and you could just see it in their eyes." The team goes about its business in a slightly unusual way, leading off with Bongers, the slowest swimmer of the group. Coach Smith said the team plays catch-up in a hurry, however, with Wakeley, Eric Smith and Padilla, who all swim their legs in around 24 seconds. Eric Smith said the record is almost as good as broken. "It's just two seconds away," he said. "If all of us just bring down our times just a little bit,

we can do it. It just takes work." Padilla, who swims the anchor leg of the relay, said the group's youth has helped it avoid complacency. "The guys who set the record were all seniors, and we're three juniors and a freshman," he said. "I felt like since we were such a young team, we had to listen to the coach and do what he said, not slack off." Just because the team is young does not necessarily mean it is inexperienced. Padilla, Eric Smith and Bongers have been swimming together since the eighth grade, and that familiarity helps, Padilla said.

"It's like close races all the time with us," he said. "We know each other's times, and we each know what we have to do." Assuming the group breaks the 200 relay record, its next goal will be breaking the 400 freestyle relay record. Their best time in that event this year, 3:42, is 12 seconds behind the school mark. If attitude translates into results, consider that record dust as well. "When we were freshmen, our determination was to break all the school records," Eric Smith said. "It's going to take a lot of work, but we can do it. We have the background."

THE AGONY OF DEFEAT



Michigan's Maurice Taylor, left, and Jimmy King sit together on the bench late in the second half against Arizona Wednesday in Auburn Hills, Mich. Arizona defeated Michigan 78-57 in the Great Eight festival.

Baseball talks: Owners put lid on salary cap, for now

LEESBURG, Va. (AP) — Instead of reaching an agreement to end the strike, baseball players and owners struck a deal to put the salary cap on hold and prolong talks. Under pressure from mediator W.J. Utery, owners agreed Wednesday not to impose the cap next week. The owners meeting scheduled for Monday in Chicago was postponed to Dec. 15 or 16, and bargaining will resume Dec. 9, when players are expected to make a new offer.

"I feel a sense of temporary relief," management negotiator John Harrington said, adding that he believed it was "a positive note for the negotiations." Clubs want to eliminate salary arbitration and are intent on imposing a new economic system before more players enter the process. Clubs had to decide by Dec. 7 whether to offer arbitration to 82 of their former players who became free agents, but the sides agreed to postpone the deadline to Dec. 17.

The deadline for players to accept or reject the offers was pushed back from Dec. 19 to Dec. 23, but the Dec. 20 deadline to offer 1995 contracts was left untouched. "I've asked the owners to withdraw their threat of implementation, and they've agreed to do that," Utery said. "It's in

everybody's interest to change those deadlines and continue negotiating." With the postponement, bargaining will resume in nine days at Rye Brook, N.Y. The union's executive board, which meets in Atlanta next Monday through Wednesday, will attempt to formulate a counterproposal to the luxury tax plan owners offered Nov. 17. "There's still some major problems," Milwaukee Brewer pitcher Bob Scanlan said. "There's a big gap between where they are and where we are, some major philosophical differences."

If there isn't an agreement by the time owners meet in mid-December, they almost certainly will impose the cap and wipe out the system that has been in place since the free agent era began following the 1976 season. If the strike continues into the spring, Harrington said, replacement players will be used.

Management's proposal calls for tax rates that exceed 90 percent and would cause \$5 million-a-year players to cost teams as much as \$16 million per season, including the tax. The union's last plan, offered on Sept. 8, calls for a 1.6 percent revenue tax and a 1.6 percent payroll tax that would be applied to the large-market clubs.

Upon further review, the refs stink

Huddle up, here. We have to confer.

That's the motto of the National Football League official. Haven't you noticed? Every semi-difficult or semi-important call in an NFL game a good three minutes, all because a few officials have to form a caucus and vote on a decision. It's a joke. Instant replay came and went because it supposedly slowed games, but replays weren't any worse than what's going on today. Some of the calls have been atrocious, too. What the heck. Bring the replay back.



Dave Hargrave
Sports Editor

Or do something about the officials.

NFL officials, like any officials, are doing the best they can, and on the whole they do a decent job. The nature of the job is criticism - decide 99 of 100 calls correctly, and people remember only the one call you missed. It's not the officials as much as it is the system. Remember that part-time job you had at the hardware store as a kid? Well, believe it or not, those NFL officials are as part-time as you were when you were sorting nuts and bolts after school. These guys work once a week! What do they do in the meantime, practice their officiating?

Doubtful. Where can they practice officiating during the week, junior high football games? These guys are too busy anyway. One NFL official, Dale Orem, at one time spent his weeks being mayor of Jeffersonville, Ind. He's supposed to bone up on the rulebook during the week?

Think about it. When you go on vacation for a week, then you come back to work, how's your first-day back work performance? Pretty poor, usually. Maybe it's a poor comparison, but how can anyone expect NFL officials to be 100 percent sharp when they spend one out of seven days officiating?

Here's what the NFL ought to do: Give the officials full-time status. Up their pay and their benefits, but make them do workshops during the week. Send them to Camp David or somewhere, who knows? One week the officials could go on a retreat somewhere and have a rulebook retreat, a skull session. They could watch videos of difficult plays and discuss them, just like school. Another week the officials could spread out and visit various places, hosting workshops for wanna-be referees around the country. Shoot, the possibilities are as endless as those midfield conversations we've been seeing on Sundays.

Hockey talks: NHL season slipping away

In hockey terms, it's getting down to the final period. "It's fair to say that with each passing day, the meeting that is coming up is more crucial," Boston Bruins general manager Harry Sinden said. That was the general feeling as negotiators prepared to meet today in Chicago in an attempt to solve the NHL labor dispute and save the season. To show how serious the negotiators are: They have reserved room space in a Chicago hotel for three days. Both sides agree that the latest meetings are pivotal. "There is an urgency," said Troy Loney, player representa-

tive of the New York Islanders. "The meetings here in Chicago in the next couple of days are vital to find out whether there's going to be a season or not," said Jeremy Roenick of the Chicago Blackhawks. "We have to make sure we let everybody know we didn't strike. The owners locked us out." "It's getting to the point where they are going to have to make a decision (on the collective bargaining agreement)," a management source told The Associated Press. The owners' lockout has forced a work stoppage that is now in its 62nd day.

SHOT OF THE DAY

George in a box
Heavyweight boxing champion George Foreman receives direction on a studio set in Los Angeles, where he is shooting a commercial for Econo Lodge, Rodeway and Friendship Hotels.

TEXAS SPORTS

Peete's thumb improving

IRVING (AP) — Rodney Peete's sprained thumb is working so well that he could be the starting quarterback for the Dallas Cowboys on Sunday in Philadelphia. Peete, signed as the primary backup to Troy Aikman, watched from the sidelines on Thanksgiving Day as third-stringer Jason Garrett led the Cowboys to a 42-31 victory over the Green Bay Packers. Aikman didn't play because of a sprained knee and wasn't expected to play against the Eagles. "My thumb feels great, and I feel like I'm ready to play," Peete said Wednesday. "The thumb still is sore but it doesn't bother me when I throw, and that's all I'm worried about." Garrett said he has no problem with Peete starting ahead of him.

AROUND THE WORLD

Angels sign 'Wild Thing'

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Reliever Mitch Williams, released by Houston on May 31, agreed to a 1-year contract with California for \$500,000 with \$2 million in performance bonuses. Williams, 30, was 1-4 with six saves and a 7.65 ERA in 25 games for the Astros last season after recording 43 saves for Philadelphia in 1993.

Garrett honored

NEW YORK (AP) — Jason Garrett, Dallas' third-string quarterback who completed 15 of 26 passes for 311 yards and two touchdowns in the Cowboys' victory over Green Bay last Thursday, is the NFC offensive player of the week.

ON THE AIR

Basketball

NBA
Denver at Dallas, 7:30 p.m. HSE (ch. 29).

Football

NFL
Chicago at Minnesota, 7 p.m. ESPN (ch. 30).

D
E
C
O
1
9
4

New 'Bubsy' game both hilarious, complex

By BRITT and BRIAN WARNER Thomson News Service

GAME: Bubsy 2 COMPANY: Accolade SYSTEM: Sega Genesis DIFFICULTY: Adjustable PLOT SUMMARY: The evil swine Oinker P. Hamm has teamed up with the brilliant scientist, Dr. Reality, to create his most villainous and profitable scheme yet.

With the help of Dr. Reality's new invention, the Wompum, Hamm has been able to steal the world's history without anyone noticing. Anything he uses the Wompum on is erased from the world, from history, and from everyone's memory.

But it's not gone for good. The things Hamm steals are being put on exhibit inside his new theme park, the Amazatorium. Oinker's plan is to steal the past, and then charge people admission to experience it again.

The people would never know what happened. Hamm's plan would be foolproof except for one thing: Our hero, Bubsy the bobcat, and his two nephews have come to visit the Amazatorium on its opening day.

Bubsy's nephews became lost inside the enormous park and stumbled across Oinker P. Hamm talking to Dr. Reality about their fiendish scheme. Now the bobcats are the only ones who know about Oinker's plot.

It's up to them to stop him before it's all too late!

STRUCTURE: Bubsy 2 is the sequel to the original Bubsy the bobcat adventure. In the first adventure, Bubsy saved the world from an onslaught of aliens who were determined to steal the world's supply of wool.

Again it's up to Bubsy to save the world from imminent disaster. This time the danger is much closer to home. If Bubsy doesn't stop Oinker P. Hamm from enacting his evil scheme, then all of humanity will eventually fall under that evil pig's reign.

To get to the villainous swine, Bubsy must find his way through each of Hamm's five stolen exhibits (on the hardest setting Bubsy must complete three levels of each).

So far the money-hungry pig has stolen all of the history concerning ancient Egypt, music, aerial transport, space, and the medieval times. Now our beloved bobcat hero must make a successful tour of each level before he can face off with the top-bog himself, Oinker P. Hamm.

BRIAN'S COMMENTS: Bubsy 2 is a very enjoyable and humorous game. It still has a lot of the originality of the first Bubsy and a lot more of the funny antics.

I really got a kick out of the hilarious titles for all the levels. They totally livened up the game. Bubsy's new items such as the Nerf Ballzooka and the portable holes are a lot of fun too.

BRITT'S COMMENTS: Bubsy 2 is a lot of fun, but it's also a lot more complex than the first Bubsy adventure. Instead of having just one level of ground this game has multiple levels up and down. It gives you the feeling that you haven't explored the entire board and you've missed something important.

I prefer the simpler type of game, but all of the new extras make up for it.

- RATINGS: Brian...Britt Graphics...3...4 Sound & Music...4...3 Fun Factor...5...3 Maneuverability...4...3 Length...3...3 Overall...4...3

Advertisement for Saturday Morning EXTENDED HOURS CLINIC, MALONE and HOGAN CLINIC, 1501 W. 11th Place, 267-6361

The Mini Page Especially for kids and their families

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By BETTY DEBNAM

50-Year Anniversary

Remembering World War II

For the United States, World War II began in 1941 and ended in 1945. To mark the 50-year anniversary, we have been honoring those who fought and died on the front lines. We are also remembering the men, women and children who served on the home front.



The surprise air attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, united Americans behind our war effort. The U.S. declared war one day later.

We will be celebrating two big anniversaries in 1995. The 50-year anniversaries you will be hearing a lot about are V-E Day and V-J Day.



We will celebrate V-E Day, or Victory in Europe Day, on May 8. Above, a group of Yanks celebrate with the British.



On Sept. 2 we celebrate V-J Day. It marks the anniversary of the day Japan officially surrendered aboard the battleship USS Missouri.

Can someone in your family tell you firsthand about World War II?

Maybe your family's World War II expert was in the armed forces.

Maybe your family's expert served on the home front.

Save their memories in a family album or on a video- or audiotape. You will treasure them forever.

Stars in windows

The war years were very trying times at home and on the war front. Families placed blue stars in their windows representing their relatives in the service. It was always sad to see a gold star, because that meant that some family member had been lost in the war.



About 16 million Americans served in the armed forces during the war. Nearly 300,000 lost their lives before the time of victory in 1945.

On the home front

Just about everybody pitched in during World War II. Girl Scouts collected old stockings to be made into powder bags.



Air-raid wardens

Some adults served as air-raid wardens. They wore helmets and armbands. They patrolled the streets during air-raid drills and warned people to close their curtains during "blackouts." If people didn't, light might shine through the curtains and serve as a guide for enemy planes.

Go dot to dot and color. The Mini Page Book of Presidents features a black-and-white picture of each president, along with such information as dates of birth and death, dates served as president, political party, signature and important achievements. It also features stories about the president's Cabinet, political terms, and a visit to the White House. To order, send \$4.95 plus \$1 each for postage and handling. Send only check or money order payable to Andrews and McNeil, P.O. Box 419942, Kansas City, Mo. 64141.

MIGHTY FUNNY'S Mini Jokes. WHAT KIND OF ANIMAL HAS THE MOST FEET? ELE-FUN-TU! (sent in by Theresa Bennett) Q: What kind of flower has a good memory? A: A forget-me-not! (sent in by Robert Armstrong) Q: What has teeth but cannot eat? A: A comb! (sent in by J.T. Taylor)

The Mini Page Teacher's Guide. For use by teachers and parents at home and at school. For use with issue: Remembering World War II. Main idea: This issue is about the 50th anniversary of World War II. The following is a list of activities to be used with this issue. They are listed in order of difficulty. Ask the children to do the following: 1. Roman numerals are symbols used for numbers. Do research on Roman numerals. Practice writing them. 2. Compare the different warplanes. How are the warplane markings alike and different? Have a contest with a friend to see who can memorize the warplanes fastest. 3. Pretend you are putting together a time capsule to show a child living during World War II what life is like in 1994. Look through your newspaper for pictures to put in the time capsule. 4. Discuss the following: Do you have any relatives who fought in World War II? Why do you think it was important that people helped out on the home front as much as possible? What do you think it would have been like to live during the war? 5. Answer the following questions: When is V-E day? Which Japanese warplane could carry two torpedoes? What were "blackouts"?

TRY 'N FIND AIRPLANES. Words that remind us of airplanes in World War II are hidden in the block below. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally. See if you can find: AIRPLANE, FIGHTER, WAR, BOMBER, SOLDIER, AIRCRAFT, CARDS, IDENTIFY, SILHOUETTE, HOME FRONT, PATROL, BLACKOUT, STAR, VICTORY, CITIZEN, FOE. I LIKE TO FLY AIRPLANES!

Mini Spy... Alpha Betty is getting ready to take off in a World War II fighter plane. See if you can find: two snakes, word MINI, letter A, key, fish, letter B, kite, comb, toothbrush, number 3, bird, balloon.

Spotter Cards in World War II

Do you collect cards such as baseball cards? Many kids during World War II collected cards showing silhouettes of airplanes. But this collecting wasn't for fun. It was very serious. The government made the cards for people to use in spotting, or identifying, planes. The attack on Pearl Harbor was such a surprise that people didn't know what to expect. They feared U.S. cities might be the next targets. Friend or foe? Although two oceans separated them from their enemies, people at home took no chances. Citizens on the West Coast were worried about an attack by the Japanese. Those on the East Coast were more worried about being attacked by Germans. Civilians worked to spot planes and to identify if they were friend or foe. Students as young as 10, older people and mothers served as spotters. They worked in spotter observer stations along our coast and borders. The Mini Page thanks Dan Hagedorn and Melissa Kellar of the Archives Division, the National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution; and Dr. Judy Bellafaire and Ted Ballard of the Center of Military History.

HANUKKAH 11-28 through 12-5. An oil lamp in a war-ravaged temple had only 1 night's fuel but burned for 8 nights. That was important because the light protected the people inside the temple. In a way, this Jewish holiday observes the idea that things can happen that have no explanation other than faith. People light candles every night as a reminder.

solstice 12-21. Ancient Northern Europeans worshiped lots of gods. They created them to explain the Earth's mysteries - like rainbows, or the difference between day and night. These gods were like symbols of things. In the winter when it got really cold and really dark, people had ceremonies to show they knew aging would reign with light and warmth. They decorated the trees that didn't lose their leaves - evergreens. That's where the Christmas tree came from. They also gave each other wheat because food was scarce. That was called Yule - our word Yule comes from it.

CHRISTMAS 12-25. No one knows what day Jesus was born. But it seemed important to observe his birth. Since early Christians were a persecuted minority, the first celebrations were held in secret. In the year 312 the emperor of Rome - Constantine - converted to Christianity. That made celebrating the holiday way easier. His old religion had a festival for the sun god Mithras on December 25. He changed that to Christmas Day. The first calendar with Christmas Day on it was in the year 300.

Benefit cancer

A benefit for patient Rand sponsored by Lodge and L Barbecue. D p.m. at the lod \$4 per plate. A dance fr night will be All attendees come. "Prowl music. For m call 263-5438.

Teen target abus patte

By STASIA SC Scripps Howar

REDDING, O the typical do scene. Is the o old man? Doe after a day's w his meek spou Or does he school footba tim his teen-a good and popu The Shasta Refuge know violence does hood. Abusers for that matte their destruct earlier.

"Dating vi assault, sexu They're all ju the teenage adult world, Coates, comm coordinator fo And that's comes in. The refuge gram brings l abusive rela classroom, ho already in bag head off thos the road. For those teens can fin those situatio know best.

"Sexual har ly exists on a pus," said Br teacher at Sh whose studen a recent thro program. Erin Pepp Calif., a fres High School, a problem af harassment t nar, saying it as "just gestu And Kathi refuge worken from her h daughter abou campus. Sexual com and innuen mon, "I gues it," she quot saying.

Refuge wo school that The program ken into Domestic/dat al assault an ment. Students les of rights" fo ships that inc have your op as well as to not be threate Students "power too abuser, such isolating the ling the mo threats - as aus physical pushing, sho Since the 19 August 1993 have talked students, Coa

At Shasta H graders atte part of their classes. Students w discuss wat and how to k ate acts. If t is also role strate the pro During the the students examples of o And most o dents have ing those szi she believes dents are in them.

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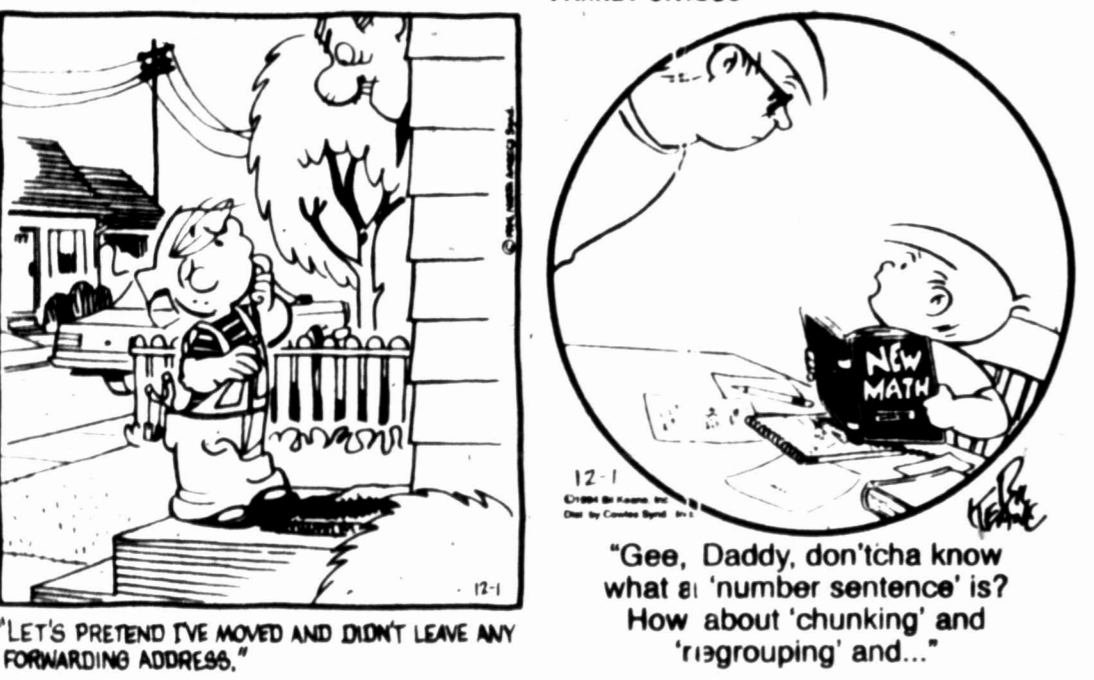
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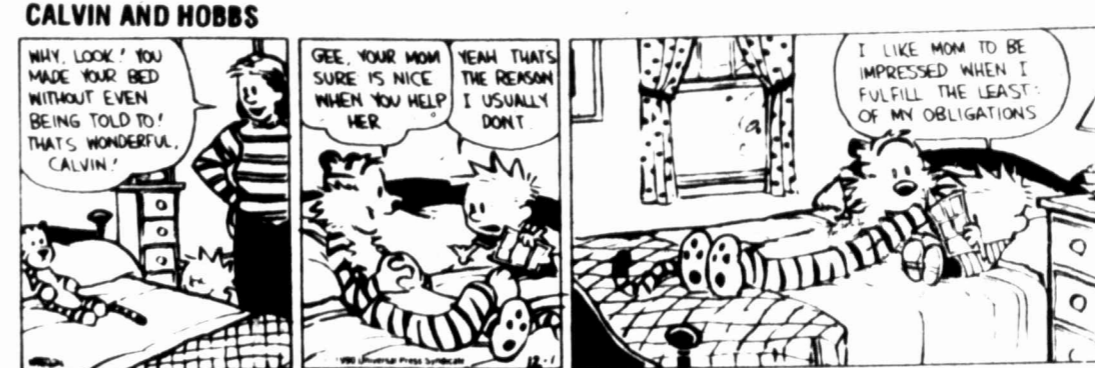
FAMILY CIRCUS

THE Daily Crossword by Roger Jurgovan

Crossword puzzle grid with clues listed on the left and right sides.



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CALVIN AND HOBBS



GEECH



HAGGAR THE HORRIBLE



PEANUTS



SNUFFY SMITH



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RITZ advertisement listing movie showtimes and prices.

CINEMARK THEATRES advertisement listing movie showtimes and prices.



This date in history: Today is Thursday, Dec. 1, the 335th day of 1994. There are 30 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Dec. 1, 1955, a milestone of the civil rights movement took place aboard a city bus in Montgomery, Ala., as Rosa Parks, a black seamstress, refused to give up her seat to a white man. Mrs. Parks was arrested, sparking a year-long boycott of the buses by blacks. (The law that required blacks to sit toward the rear of buses was eventually struck down by the U.S. Supreme Court.)

On this date: In 1913, the first drive-in automobile service station opened, in Pittsburgh. In 1919, Lady Astor was sworn in as the first female member of the British Parliament. In 1934, Sergel M. Kirov, a collaborator of Josef Stalin, was assassinated in Leningrad, resulting in a massive purge. In 1942, nationwide gasoline rationing went into effect in the United States. In 1943, President Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Stalin concluded their Tehran conference. In 1956, the Leonard Bernstein musical "Candide," based on Voltaire's work of the same name, opened on Broadway. In 1958, the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical "Flower Drum Song" opened on Broadway.

In 1965, an airlift of refugees from Cuba to the United States began in which thousands of Cubans were allowed to leave their homeland. In 1969, the U.S. government held its first draft lottery since World War II. In 1973, David Ben-Gurion, Israel's first prime minister, died in Tel Aviv at age 87. In 1990, British and French workers digging the Channel Tunnel between their countries

finally met after knocking out a passage in a service tunnel large enough to walk through and shake hands. Ten years ago: A remote-controlled Boeing 720 jetliner was deliberately crashed into California's Mojave Desert to test an anti-flame fuel additive that proved disappointing. Boston College quarterback Doug Flutie was awarded the Heisman Trophy.



THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON

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