

# BIG SPRING HERALD

Reflecting A Proud TEXAS Community

MONDAY  
December 18, 1995

50 Cents

## Animal control policies determine when to call warden

By KELLIE JONES  
Staff Writer

Is a dead dog in your yard considered an emergency reason to call out the city animal control after hours?

Not according to current animal control policies.

Animal Control Supervisor Lt. Terry Chamness said city officials and members of the animal control committee finalized all of their updated policies and procedures eight months ago.

This included answering such questions as what constitutes an emergency animal problem.

An animal control warden can only be contacted during off-duty time for the following emergencies:

- Any bite or scratch which breaks the skin, the owner of the animal is unknown and the animal can't be confined or is in immediate danger of escaping the area.
- Any bite that is serious or fatal.
- Severely injured animals such as those hit by a car.
- Dangerous animals that can't be safely contained.

A warden is also called out any time someone from the Howard County Sheriff's Department requests one.

However, the deputies also have a list of the emergency situations and will determine whether it is necessary to call a warden after hours.

The county picks up any

expense incurred by the warden for coming out to a call, including overtime and mileage.

There are two wardens and a supervisor, and one of them is on call at all times to handle the above emergencies.

The department is similar to the water department in that workers are not considered emergency personnel, but will respond to an emergency.

If a dead animal is off the road and not causing any problems, it will not be picked up until the next day when someone is on duty.

The hours are generally 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., with the two wardens splitting those hours over the seven-day week. Chamness said this schedule can be adjusted if

there are many problems in a specific neighborhood.

The wardens are allowed to take their vehicles home so they will be able to respond to those emergency calls in a timely manner.

They are allowed to write citations to people for such things as animal at large or failure to vaccinate the animal for rabies. The wardens have the same powers as police officers regarding animal control laws.

Chamness explained the only way they can do something about a barking dog is if the animal is still causing problems when an employee arrives on the scene.

If an animal is running loose and the warden is chasing it

and it ends back up in its own fenced-in yard, the employee has the right to issue a citation to the owner for having their animal at large.

Owners must have animals in their control to be in compliance with the "animal at large" city ordinance. A dog or cat in the front yard that is not secured and the owner is inside is considered an animal at large. There is no leash law.

Along with the revamping of the policies and procedures came the establishment of new animal control fees. They are as follows:

- Impoundment - \$25 for the first pick-up, \$50 for the second pick-up plus a citation and \$100 for the third pick-up plus a

citation. This applies to unaltered animals. If the animal has been neutered, the fee for the first pick-up is \$10 and the same as above for subsequent pick-ups.

- Boarding - \$3 a day after the first 72 hours when an animal is picked up.

- License - \$4 per animal; \$5 for multi-pet permit and \$50 for a dangerous dog. Dog owners are required to register their animals every year. A dangerous dog is one that is considered a biter. If the dog has bitten more than one person, the owner must have a \$100,000 liability insurance policy and pay the higher license fee.

- Quarantine - \$5 a day plus Please see ANIMAL, page 2

## Fraser Industries founder dies

Harold L. Fraser, founder of Fraser Industries, Inc. died Sunday at an Abilene hospital.

Fraser, 67, was born in Colorado City and attended school in Hodges. He had worked for Cosden Oil and Chemical in Big Spring before starting Fraser Industries, which he owned and operated for 15 years. He moved to Abilene from Clyde in 1983.

He had also lived in Coahoma for 20 years, where at one time he had been the Lion of the Year of the Coahoma Lions Club. Fraser had also directed choirs in West Texas churches.

He is survived by his wife, Jo Fraser, of Abilene. He is also survived by three sons, including Troy Fraser, a former state representative; Dwayne Fraser of Stephenville; and Steve Fraser of Big Spring.

Services will be 2 p.m. Tuesday at Wylie Baptist Church in Abilene, followed by Masonic graveside services at Midway Cemetery near Hodges. Arrangements are under the direction of Elliott-Hamil Funeral Homes of Abilene.

Herald Staff Report

## Help police nab vandals

The police department needs your help in finding the people responsible for shooting out several car windows recently.

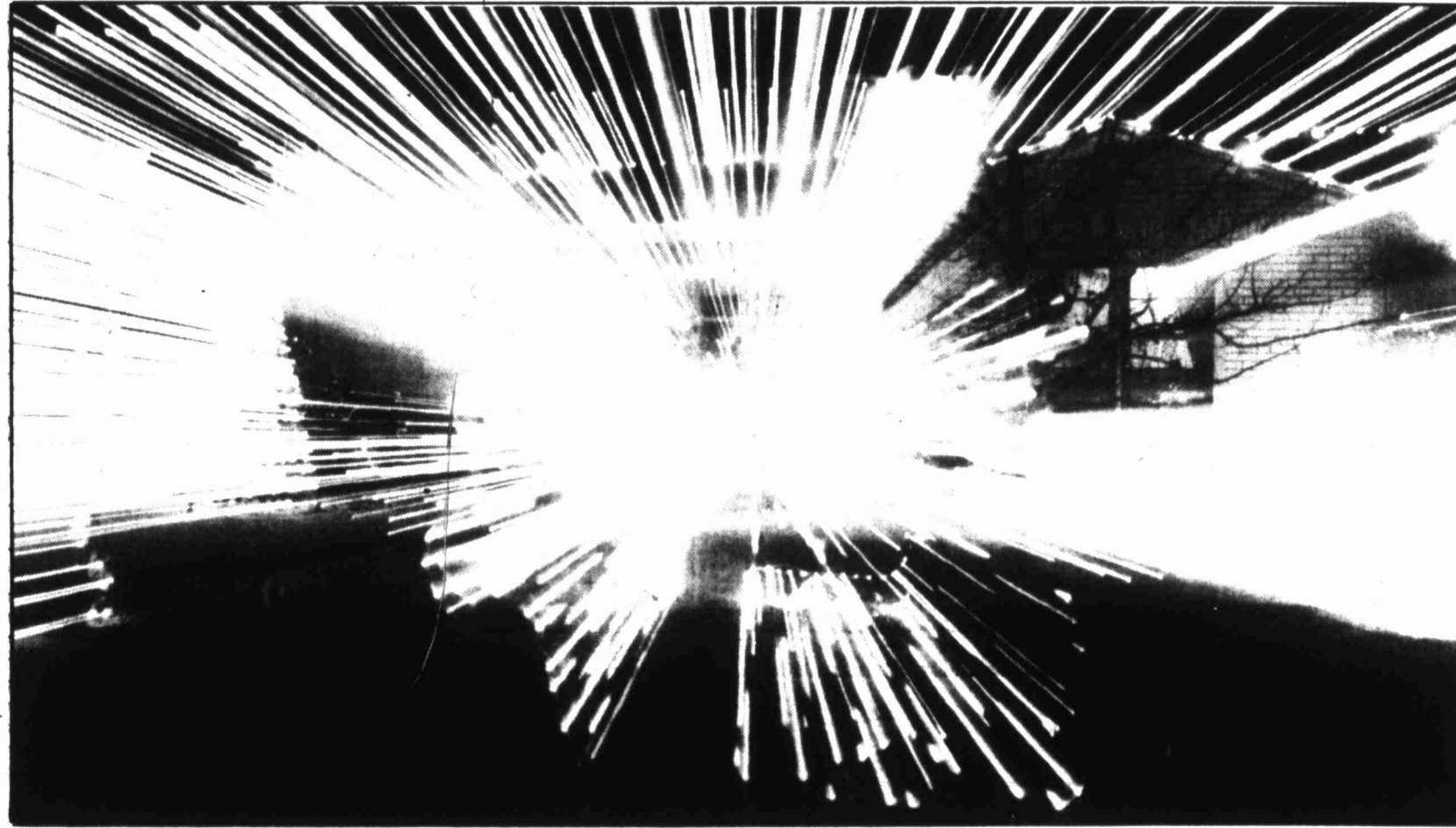
All of the incidents happened during the evening hours on Dec. 13. Nine vehicles and one business all had car windows or a glass door shot out with an air gun or BB gun.

Detectives believe the same people are responsible for all the damages, estimated at \$200 per window.

The reports were filed from the 1400 and 1500 blocks of Virginia, 1800 block of Morrison, 1400 block of Mount Vernon, 1500 block of East Fourth, 3200 block of Duke, 3200 block of Interstate 20, 500 block of West-

Please see POLICE, page 2

## SPECIAL EFFECTS



Christmas lights at 432 Westover become streaked with the use of a zoom lens. Houses around Big Spring have become colorfully lit for the holiday season.

Herald photo by Tim Appel

## Best gifts were ones used over and over

By ODESSA WOOD  
Contributing Writer

The best Christmas I remember is when I was about 6 1/2 years old. Santa brought my sister Jewel and me a little doll and a small rub board. Jewel would have been nearly 8 years old.

The doll was celloid - I have not seen that word in so many years. I do not know how to spell it. The doll must have been just about 8 or 9 inches high. Only its arms would move.

My sister and I spent many hours playing with those dolls - Mother showed us how to make them dresses.

A square piece of fabric and a hole cut for the arms to go through, and you had a dress. Well, you did have to have a safety pin to pin it in back.

We just had to pretend to wash with the rub board in win-

ter. It was too cold to play in water. When summer came and we could get out to water at the windmill, Mother gave us a small piece of lye soap (homemade) and we washed those doll dresses over and over again. Finally the arms of my doll

**U**nderprivileged, poor, I never heard these words when I was a child. My memories of my Christmas as a child were wonderful.

came off - Mother put them back on until they could no longer be repaired. I just played with it without its arms.

Now I know now that the



## NASA rocket launch aborted in final second

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — A NASA rocket launch was aborted at the last second today when the engines ignited and then shut down.

A stuck oxygen valve apparently caused computers to halt the launch just a fraction of a second before the strap-on boosters were supposed to fire, said NASA launch commentator Bruce Buckingham. The launch team at Cape Canaveral Air Station rushed to make sure the fueled Delta rocket and the X-ray telescope on board were safe.

It was the fifth launch attempt in just over a week. For the first time, the wind was calm and everything seemed to be going well in the countdown. "Six, five, four, three, two, one. We have a go for engine start. We have ignition. And we have a main engine cutoff," Buckingham announced.

A launch controller could be heard swearing in the background. Black smoke billowed from the small auxiliary engines that fired.

The unmanned rocket holds NASA's \$195 million X-ray Timing Explorer, designed to probe collapsed stars, possible black holes and other hot, compact objects in the universe from a 360-mile-high Earth orbit. The 6,700-pound satellite is about the size of a small bus.

It was to have been NASA's first X-ray astronomy mission since the successful Einstein Observatory, launched in 1978.

Launch initially was scheduled for the end of August, but was delayed because of a Delta rocket malfunction earlier that month. A Korean communications satellite ended up in a lower-than-planned orbit, and McDonnell Douglas grounded its rocket fleet while investigating the problem.

**TEXAS TRIVIA**

What city claims to be the chrysanthemum capital of the world?  
Lubbock

**INDEX**

- Abby .....10
- Classified .....11
- Horoscope .....10
- Nation .....6
- Perspective .....4
- Sports .....8
- Texas .....3
- World .....7

Vol. 91, No. 372  
Call us at:  
**(915) 263-7331**

**WORLD/NATION**

**Nation:** For 26 hours every week, Curtis Nichols rakes leaves and picks up litter in Central Park. He doesn't get a paycheck. Nichols is part of the nation's largest workfare program — 21,000. See page 6.

**World:** Two U.S. military planes landed at Tuzla air base today when five days of heavy fog finally lifted. The huge C-130s touched down 10 minutes apart, unloaded military equipment and swiftly took off. See page 7.

**STATE**

**Texas turns 150**

Sandwiched between Christmas and New Year's Day is one of the most significant dates in Texas history. But up until now, you might not have known it. On Dec. 29, 1845, Texas became the 28th state. See page 3.

**Voices of discontent**

Meetings sponsored by Citizens for Legal Reform offer a place where people from all political walks can come and vent their frustrations about the federal government. See page 5.

**TODAY'S WEATHER**

Tonight **50** ▲ Highs **30**  
▲ Highs **30**  
▼ Lows **50**

**Cloudy**

Tonight, cloudy. A slight chance of snow. Low 25 to 30. North wind 10-20 mph. The chance of snow is 20 percent.

Tomorrow **Partly Cloudy**

**Permian Basin Forecast**

**Tuesday:** Partly cloudy. High near 50. Low mid 30s. North wind 10-20 mph.

**Wednesday:** Partly cloudy, high near 50. Low mid 30s.

DECEMBER 18 1995

Animal

Continued from page 1

any veterinarian bills incurred and \$20 for removal and shipment of head to be tested for rabies.  
•Adoption - \$25 for shelter and

follow-up fees. If you adopted an animal from the shelter, you must sign a form agreeing to have it neutered within 30 days or as soon as the pet is old enough for the operation. If you don't, the shelter can take the animal back.

Police

Continued from page 1

over and 800 block of West 17th. Information about these incidents which leads to the arrest and conviction of those involved could mean up to \$1,000 in a cash reward. All callers will remain anonymous. CrimeStoppers' number is 263-TIPS.  
Meanwhile, several more criminal mischief reports were

filed with the police department over the weekend. The incidents varied from someone bending the antennae on a car to damaging Christmas lights. These occurred in the 1000 block of Baylor, 3200 block of Duke, 2900 block of Stonehaven, 2100 block of Rannels, 1000 block of N.W. Second, 700 block of East 13th and 400 block of Gregg.

OBITUARIES

Harold Fraser

Services for Harold L. Fraser, 67, Abilene, formerly of Coahoma, will be 2 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 19, 1995, at Wylie Baptist Church with Rev. Mike Patterson and Rev. Ed Jackson officiating. Masonic graveside services will be in Midway Cemetery near Hodges.  
Mr. Fraser died Sunday, Dec. 17, in an Abilene hospital. He was born in Colorado City and attended school in Hodges. He worked for Cosden Oil and Chemical in Big Spring after which he founded Fraser Industries, Inc. He was the owner and operator for 15 years. He moved to Abilene from Clyde in 1983. He married Jo Hudson in Abilene in 1945. Mr. Fraser was a member of Wylie Baptist Church and the John Sayles Masonic Lodge #1408, and had been Lion of the Year at the Lions Club in Coahoma where he lived for 20 years. He had been choir director in numerous West Texas churches.  
Survivors include his wife: Jo Fraser, Abilene; three sons: Dwayne Fraser, Stephenville, Troy Fraser, Horseshoe Bay, and Steve Fraser, Big Spring; two brothers: Gene Fraser and Meril Fraser, both of Abilene; and seven grandchildren.  
Memorials may be sent to Meals on Wheels Plus, Inc., P.O. Box 903, Abilene, Texas 79604 and Wylie Baptist Church Building Fund, 6097 Buffalo Gap Road, Abilene, Texas 79606.  
Arrangements under the direction of Elliott-Hamil Funeral Homes, Abilene.

Andrew Harris Sr.

Graveside services for Marvin Andrew Harris, Sr., 69, Abilene, will be 2 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 19, 1995, at Mt. Olive Memorial Park with Rev. Walter Hodges, associate pastor of Miracle Revival Center, officiating.  
Mr. Harris died Sunday, Dec. 17, in an Abilene hospital. He was born on April 8, 1926, in Big Spring, and married

Gilda Sharp

Services for Gilda "Freckles" Sharp, 46, Big Spring, are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.  
She died Monday, Dec. 18, 1995, in a Midland hospital.

Zaye Long

Graveside services for Zaye Long, 84, Big Spring, will be 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 19, 1995, at the Snyder Cemetery with Rev. Arnold Tonn, pastor of Spring Tabernacle Church, officiating.  
Mrs. Long died Sunday, Dec. 17, in a Stanton nursing home following a long illness.  
She was born on June 15, 1911, in Polar. She married William Floyd Long. He preceded her in death in 1981. Mr. and Mrs. Long Farmed in the Vealmoor community for many years. She was a member of the Apostolic faith.  
Survivors include six sons: Bill Long, Oklahoma City, Okla., Dean Long, Big Spring, Dell Long, San Antonio, Joe Long, Boerne, Earl Long, San Antonio, and Louis Long, Kerville; 26 grandchildren; 41 great-grandchildren; and 11 great-great-grandchildren.  
She was also preceded in death by two daughters, Lavenia Faye Long Boyd and Clara Bell Long Nabors.  
The family will be at 3309 Auburn Street.  
Arrangements under the direction of Myers & Smith Funeral Home & Chapel.

V.T. Gonzales

Services for V.T. "Lalo" Gonzales, 73, Big Spring, are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.  
He died Monday, Dec. 18, 1995, in a local hospital.

Scholarships available

Are you a High School Senior, College, Trade School or University student? Are you or your family experiencing financial difficulties in meeting the cost of your College, Trade School, University, Preprofessional or Professional Licensing education? American College Fund may be the answer to your dilemma.  
American College Fund Scholarship Programs have set goals and are seeking yearly to award over 9,000 Scholarship Awards.  
For Registration Applications send a self addressed stamped envelope to: American College Fund, Office of Applications Registration, 9357 S. Burnside Avenue, Ste. 101, Chicago, Ill. 60619.

Big Spring ON THE RUN

Walt Disney's POCAHONTAS



POLICE

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following incidents during a time period from 2 p.m. Saturday to 8 a.m. Monday:  
•JOSE DIAZ, 47, of 1406 Dixie, was arrested for assault/family violence.  
•CRUZ URIBE, 48, of 1406 Dixie, was arrested for family violence.  
•JERMAINE EVANS, 22, of 3304 West Highway 80 #4, was arrested for theft under \$50.  
•BEN RODRIQUEZ, 51, of 708 North Scurry, was arrested for theft over \$50 and under \$500. He was transferred to the county jail and later released on a \$1,500 bond.

SHERIFF

The Howard County Sheriff's Department reported the following incidents during a time period from 2 p.m. Saturday to 8 a.m. Monday:  
•JUAN F. ESCAMILLA, 20, of Stanton, was arrested by DPS troopers for driving while intoxicated. He was later released on a \$1,500 bond.  
•ROY ALLEN GARDNER, no address given, was released on a \$15,000 bond after being arrested for aggravated assault.  
•PHONE HARASSMENT in the 5100 block of Howard Road.  
• P H O N E HARASSMENT/THREATS at a residence in Coahoma.

RECORDS

Sunday's temp. 49  
Sunday's low 38  
Average high 55  
Average low 29  
Record high 76 in 1924  
Record low 13 in 1975  
Rainfall Sunday 0.00  
Month to date 0.00  
Month's normal 0.38  
Year to date 15.95  
Normal for the year 18.27  
\*\*Statistics not available

IN BRIEF

Coahoma City Council to meet on Tuesday

The Coahoma City Council will meet Tuesday at 6 p.m. Items on the agenda include: "no guns" policy, purchase of telephones, employee drug and alcohol policy, budget workshop, ambulance contract, and employee forum.

Coahoma school board to meet tonight

The Board of Trustees of Coahoma Independent School District will meet tonight at 7 p.m. Items on the agenda include: action on student expulsion hearing, discussion and action on Alternate Education Program Center.  
The next regular board meeting will be Jan. 15.

YMCA having Christmas holiday camp

The Big Spring Family YMCA is having a Christmas holiday camp program. Activities include swimming, arts and crafts, games and field trips.  
A swim suit, towel and sack lunch will be needed everyday. The dates are Dec. 21-22, 26-28 and Jan. 2-4. The camp will meet from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

MARKETS

March cotton futures 83.90 cents a pound, down 94 points; Jan. crude oil 19.48, down 3 points; cash hog steady at 47 cents even; slaughter steers steady at 66.50 cents even; Dec. live hog futures 48.02, up 2 points; Dec. live cattle futures 67.40, down 20 points. Courtesy: Delta Commodities  
Noon quotes provided by Edward D. Jones & Co.  
Index 5112.06  
Volume 77,527,460  
ATT 67% -  
Amoco 69% -  
Atlantic Richfield 111% - 1%  
Atmos 22% nc  
Boston Chicken 34% -

Cabot 48% -  
Chevron 51 - 1%  
Chrysler 53% +  
Coca-Cola 78% +  
De Beers 30% +  
DuPont 68% -  
Exxon 80% - 1%  
Fina Inc. 50% -  
Ford Motors 28% -  
Halliburton 46% -  
IBM 88% - 1%  
JC Penney 48 +  
Laser Indus LTD 9% nc  
Mesa Ltd. Prt 3% nc  
Mobile 111% - 1%  
NUV 9% nc  
Pepsi Cola 57% -

For more information, contact the YMCA at 267-8234.

Mitchell County to discuss airport

Mitchell County Commissioners' Court will meet Tuesday at 9 a.m. Items on the agenda include: discussion and action on the airport, presentation from Billy Don Everett concerning housing grant programs, and discussion and action on grant from Southwestern Bell.

Alternative conservation system approved

An alternative conservation system of surface roughening (tillage) has been approved for use in Martin and a portion of northwest Glasscock Counties for conservation compliance.  
This would allow tillage as a primary means of wind erosion control. This alternative can take the place of vegetative requirements (i.e., wind strip cropping) in conservation compliance plans.  
A soil surface roughening plan will need to be prepared for each field where surface roughening will be applied. Any required practices to address water erosion must still be applied and/or maintained as planned.  
A producer's meeting is planned for sometime in January to explain this new alternative. Time and location will be announced. For more information on this new alternative, please call the Natural Resources Conservation Service Field Office at (915) 756-3421.

Spelling bee practice books available

The 1996 Howard County Spelling Bee is scheduled for Feb. 27 at the Howard College Auditorium.  
Practice spelling books are available at the Herald for 55 cents each.  
For more information, call Kristie Carruthers at 263-7331.

Fina to test emergency alarms

The Big Spring Fina Refinery has recently installed a new emergency alarm system. It is being used to notify employees, contractors and visitors of unusual events in the refinery.  
To make sure it works properly and to acquaint everyone with the three different signals, Fina will test the system every Monday at 10 a.m. Following each alarm, there will be the all clear signal. For more information, contact Rogers Holt at 263-9322.

Phillips Petroleum 33% -  
Rural/Metro 23 -  
Sears 39% - 1%  
Southwestern Bell 57% -  
Sun 26% -  
Texaco 77% - 1%  
Texas Instruments 46% - 2%  
Texas Utilities 39% +  
Unocal Corp. 28% -  
Wal-Mart 23 -

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. For more information, contact Gina Garza, 263-7331, between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m.

TODAY

- Disabled American Veterans & Auxiliary, 6 p.m., Elks Lodge, 2305 Austin. Call Rocky Vieira, 267-7773.
- Tops Club (Take Off Pounds Sensibly), 6 p.m. Weigh-in, 5:30 p.m., College Heights Christian Church, 21st and Goliad. Call 263-1340 or 263-8633.
- "Welcome Home" Alcoholics Anonymous NON-SMOKING meeting, 6 to 7 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church located at 10th and Goliad.
- Project Freedom, Christian support group, 7 p.m. Call 263-5140 or 263-2241.
- Al-A-Teen, 7:30 p.m., 615 Settles.
- Turning Point A.A., 8-9 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 10th and Goliad. Open to all substance abusers.
- Singles, single again have been changed to the Eagles Lodge. Contact Keith or Debbie Whiteside at 263-8868 for more information.
- Alcoholics Anonymous noon open meeting, 615 Settles.

TUESDAY

- Big Spring Band Boosters, 7 p.m., band hall. Call Roxanne Wilson, 264-4840.
- CRIE (Children's Rights Through Informed Education), 7:30 p.m., Chamber of Commerce meeting room.
- Encouragers support group (formerly widow/widowers support group) 6 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, Eighth & Rannels (enter through north door). There will be a covered dish dinner. Please bring a salad or vegetable dish. Bring a wrapped gift for a gift exchange. Call 398-5522 or 398-4369. Enter through patio.
- Big Spring Art Association, 7 p.m., Kentwood Center.
- Al-Anon, 8 p.m., 615 Settles.
- Voices support group, 3:45 p.m. Call Rape Crisis/Victim Services, 263-3312.
- Spring City Senior Citizen Center, ceramics classes from 9:30-11:30 a.m. 55 and older invited.
- Pastoral counseling by Samaritan Counseling Center, First Christian Church, 10th and Goliad. For appointment call 1-800-329-4144.
- Comanche Lake Duplicate Weekly, Dora Roberts Civic Center, 1 p.m. Come early at 12:15 for mini-lessons.
- Seniors' diabetic support group, 2 p.m., Canterbury South. Call 263-1265.
- Most Excellent Way chemical dependency support group, 7 p.m., Cornerstone Bookstore. Call 267-1424 after 5 p.m., or 263-3168 before 8 p.m.
- The Coahoma Athletic Booster Club will meet during football season, 7:30 p.m., elementary cafeteria. The previous week's game film will be shown and Coach McHugh will discuss the game.
- Alcoholics Anonymous noon open meeting and 8 p.m. closed meeting, 615 Settles.

WEDNESDAY

- West Texas Legal Services offers legal help on civil matters for those unable to afford their own attorney, Northside Community Center. Call 1-686-0647.
- Gamblers Anonymous, 7 p.m., St. Stephens Catholic Church, room 1, 4601 Neeley, Midland. Call 263-8920.
- Survivors, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Call Rape Crisis/Victim Services, 263-3312. This is open to all survivors.

INVENTORY REDUCTION SALE

ALL B10-Guard pool and spa chemicals in stock are now 50% off while supplies last.

|                        | Were               | Now               |
|------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 50# Stingy Sticks      | 181. <sup>00</sup> | 90. <sup>00</sup> |
| 10# Stingy Sticks      | 45. <sup>00</sup>  | 22. <sup>00</sup> |
| 12# Burn-Out           | 33. <sup>00</sup>  | 16. <sup>00</sup> |
| 12# Burn-Out 35        | 43. <sup>00</sup>  | 21. <sup>00</sup> |
| 1 qt. Back-Up Algicide | 14. <sup>00</sup>  | 7. <sup>00</sup>  |
| 1 qt.-Polysheen        | 7. <sup>00</sup>   | 3. <sup>00</sup>  |

Many other items in stock!  
**Contempo Co.**  
1000 11th Place • Big Spring  
8:00 am-1:00 pm & 2:00 pm-5:00 pm  
Monday-Friday

**MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL**  
24th & Johnson 267-8288  
Zaye Long, 84, died Sunday. Graveside services will be 2:30 PM Tuesday at Snyder Cemetery, Snyder, Texas.

**Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Rosewood Chapel**  
906 GREGG BIG SPRING  
Marvin Andrew Harris, Sr., 69, died Sunday. Graveside services will be 2:00 PM Tuesday at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.  
Gilda (Freckles) Sharp, 46 died today. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.  
V.T. "Lalo" Gonzales, 73, died today in a local hospital. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch.

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BUY A PAIR OF  
**Red Wings**  
FOR  
*Christmas*  
412 ANDREWS HWY 682-2651 MIDLAND, TX.

BIG SPRING HERALD  
Monday, Dec 18, 1995  
Birt  
By CHIP BROV  
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# Birthday party planning better late than never

By CHIP BROWN

Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN (AP) — Sandwiched between Christmas and New Year's Day is one of the most significant dates in Texas history. But up until now, you might not have known it.

On Dec. 29, 1845, Texas became the 28th state.

For roughly a year, there have been small dedications and an exhibit near the Capitol noting that this year marks the sesquicentennial, or 150th anniversary, of the historic date.

But due to oversight, busy schedules or simply bad timing,

a party celebrating the actual date of President James K. Polk's signing Texas into the union is only now, hastily being thrown together.

In 1986, when Texas marked the 150th anniversary of its gaining freedom from Mexico and becoming an independent republic, there was a yearlong celebration culminating with fireworks, bands, a parade, you name it.

This year's celebration at the Capitol won't be held on Dec. 29, but instead on Dec. 30. At the moment, planners are scurrying to find underwriters who will provide music, barbecue and a

Texas-sized cake.

"I don't feel good about how little has been done," said Harry Montgomery, program director at the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. "But if I have to go door-to-door and get people to cook brisket, I'll do it. We are going to have a party."

Montgomery and a handful of other volunteers are attempting to pick up the ball dropped by others and make sure that Texas history isn't ignored.

In April 1994, then-Gov. Ann Richards appointed Sen. John Montford, D-Lubbock, and Rep. Jerry Johnson, D-Nacogdoches,

as co-chairmen of the Statewide Committee to Celebrate the Sesquicentennial of the Annexation of Texas.

A subcommittee was then formed, made up of nearly 40 members, including lawmakers, state employees and prominent citizens.

But after launching several noble efforts to commemorate this sesquicentennial, including an exhibit at the Capitol Complex Visitors Center and a college scholarship drive for graduating high school students, things began getting lost in the shuffle.

The chairman of the subcommittee resigned because of health reasons. Planning faltered. Days, then weeks and then months went by without setting up a party for Dec. 29.

Montgomery, who convinced the state's 37 public universities and 35 of the state's 38 independent universities to donate scholarships as rewards for a statehood essay contest, already had done his share as a member of the subcommittee.

His efforts have resulted in the Sesquicentennial Scholars Program, which will award more than \$1 million in scholarships to at least 171 high school seniors. Students have until the

end of January to write a 1,500-word essay on the topic, "Celebrating the Past, Celebrating the Future."

Montgomery volunteered to whip something up and said Saturday, Dec. 30, was selected for the celebration on the Capitol grounds in hopes that more people could attend on a week end.

"I know we have some great musicians who might be willing to play," Montgomery said. "It may be just us. Or it may be 10,000 people. Whatever the case may be, Texas deserves to have a party, by golly."

## WASHED OUT



Craig Bello walks back to his home to retrieve his wife's purse before his car floats away in a flooded part of Houston on Sunday. They finally got the car started and drove away safely.

## AG's office unhappy with fraud investigation

HOUSTON (AP) — Relations between the Texas Department of Health and the Texas attorney general's office have become strained during an investigation of the state's Medicaid dental program.

Information obtained by the Houston Chronicle under the Texas Open Records Act suggests that what was supposed to be a collaborative campaign involving the Health Department and the Texas attorney general's office has instead been a let-down.

The attorney general's office can take criminal or civil action against dentists who are abusing the Medicaid dental program, but it relies on the Health Department for referrals and assistance.

In an Oct. 5 memo to Attorney General Dan Morales, Beth Taylor, director of Margolis, Medicaid Fraud Control Unit, wrote that inaction by the Health Department and its Medicaid claims processing contractor, the National Heritage Insurance Co., could be interpreted as impeding the criminal investigative process.

Within two weeks, the agencies formally agreed to work for the examination of the program. But in July, Taylor told Susan Stoop, chief of the attorney general's office, that her written recommendations were in the wrong direction and that she was involved in the matter.

Taylor complained that the department was not conducting audits of Medicaid dentists and that it was not sending the department to work with dentists with a criminal record.

Changes in the program since Oct. 1 were also noted.

Adopting a "prior approval" process for dental services was one of the changes.

In the memo, Taylor wrote that the Heritage Insurance Co. had a "less than optimal" record of filling.

## New family violence unit focuses on prosecution of abuse

By STEFANI G. KOPENEC  
Associated Press Writer

FORT WORTH (AP) — Prosecutor Stephen Gordon waits patiently in court wondering if a man will stand trial for allegedly beating his girlfriend so badly that he broke her nose.

In years past, the odds were that the case wouldn't make it that far and even if it did, success would be limited.

But the Tarrant County district attorney's office hopes to change all that with the formation of a new unit that exclusively handles family violence cases.

"Our office really believes that if there's something in the community and we're not doing as good a job as we should, we should get a specialized unit to handle it, and that's what we've done here," Gordon said.

Such units aren't new — they exist in Harris, Dallas and Bexar counties. But they underscore the attention being given

a problem that often happens behind closed doors but has withstood the recent glare of the national spotlight during the O.J. Simpson trial.

Mary Lee Hafley, executive director of The Women's Shelter in Arlington, believes the unit's creation will help victims overcome the fear that nothing will be done if they report abuse.

"It brings some credibility to the legal community saying, 'Yes, we abhor domestic violence' and 'Yes, domestic violence is a crime,' but now they're really treating it like a crime," she said.

The hope is to prevent repeat occurrences and more serious incidents such as aggravated assault and murder, Gordon said.

"That's what we're trying to avoid," he said. "We're trying to make sure someone's in contact with our office in a domestic violence situation ... make sure they understand we take it seriously, so that we avoid the escalation of violence."

The unit, which started its work in November, is focusing on misdemeanor assaults, culling from approximately 2,000 cases the 175 worst offenders to target. The remaining cases will be handled by other prosecutors.

The sheer number of cases, coupled with reluctant witnesses and some disbelieving juries, has produced limited courtroom success.

Slightly more than a dozen such cases have been to trial in Tarrant County the past few years, Gordon said.

In 1994, the conviction rate for assaults was 27 percent compared with 70 percent to 80 percent for other misdemeanors such as drunken driving, shoplifting and theft, he said.

"That's a combination of not being able to get a lot of the groundwork done before going to trial just because of the volume, as well as the view of a lot of juries. ... They think that these things aren't that serious," Gordon said.



Steve Gordon, an assistant district attorney for Tarrant County, is shown in his Fort Worth office. He is part of a new family violence unit in the district attorney's office, which focuses on prosecution of abuse cases.

## State officials suspected man accused of covering up girl's molestation

DALLAS (AP) — The stepfather of a girl outfitted with Norplant to allow him to sexually abuse her had been considered innocuous. By state officials more than a year before his August arrest in Dallas, according to a copyright story.

The 29-year-old man was described in March 1994 as an "innocent damper" by a Child Protective Services official to a Tarrant County court in March 1994. The Dallas Morning News has reported.

The paroled drug offender beat his wife and oldest stepdaughter and began raping the girl when she was 5, court documents said. No criminal action was taken against the man for molesting the girl, now 14, or her siblings, now 10 and 12.

Witnesses testified in the Corpus Christi court that the oldest girl had been given the Norplant birth control device when

he was arrested.

The Dallas County district attorney's office, which is prosecuting the case, said the man would not be charged with a state criminal offense.

"I have a suspicion that the man would come back to the state and molest other children," said Suzanne Hines, a Dallas County district attorney who would not be charged with a state criminal offense.

State officials said the girl should be kept in the state for at least a year, less than the 18 months required by law.

The doctor who implanted the Norplant birth control device in the girl had been given the Norplant birth control device when

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DECEMBER 18 1995



# Critics call Pecos courthouse a waste

DALLAS (AP) — There's a new \$20 million federal courthouse in downtown Pecos, but there's a problem.

The courthouse has no resident judge, no resident magistrate and no resident prosecutor.

"It doesn't make sense," said Francis Florez, 38, owner of a downtown doughnut shop. "I understand they needed something better here, but they wasted too much money. It's too much."

Government watchdogs call the \$19.6 million courthouse a boondoggle for two reasons: First, the federal government doesn't even own the building, but will perpetually lease it from a private owner.

Second, critics wonder why it was built, considering the dwindling federal caseload in Pecos.

The new courthouse boasts 41,000-square-foot and 85 parking spots in the front lot, according to the GSA. A waiting room for prospective jurors can accommodate more than 100

people, though court employees said the number of federal jury trials has fluctuated in recent years, reaching an all-time low in the spring when there wasn't a single criminal indictment handed down in a month.

Supporters, like U.S. District Judge Lucius D. Bunton III of Midland, told The Dallas Morning News that it will keep federal prosecutors from having to try cases in Midland — 90 miles northeast — or in El Paso — 145 miles northwest.

U.S. Attorney James Deatley of San Antonio, who presides over Pecos, said he does not plan to assign a prosecutor to the courthouse, which opened earlier this month, because of the scarcity of cases in the 10-county division.

Officials with the General Services Administration say the building will cost taxpayers about \$726,756 a year, or about 10 times what the government paid to lease a courtroom and office space above Pecos' post office across the street.

## NO NAFTA FANS HERE



With the Gateway to the Americas International Bridge as a backdrop, former U.S. Customs inspector Richard Sparks, at the podium, joins Teamsters and others at a rally organized by the Teamsters Union and Texas Citizen Action on Sunday in Laredo. As of today, Mexican truckers are now allowed into the United States beyond the border region. U.S. truckers are also allowed into the interior of Mexico.

# Man dies of injuries from blast

ODESSA (AP) — A man severely burned in an oil pipeline blast two weeks ago has died from his injuries.

Two others were killed in the explosion on Dec. 1 while the crew was installing a valve on an empty pipeline at the McCamey Tank Farm. The site, 55 miles south of Odessa, is owned by the Shell Oil Corporation.

Jimmy Jimenez, who was severely burned in the blast died of his injuries Saturday at University Medical Center in Lubbock.

Jimenez, 46, had been in critical condition since arriving at the hospital with second- and third-degree burns over 70 percent of his body.

A spokesman for the funeral home said no additional information on Jimenez or his family was immediately available.

# Medical industry booming in South Texas

McAlLEN (AP) — The once-struggling Rio Grande Valley medical industry has become an economic force because of a growing local population, sunny climate and physician recruitment.

New hospitals, expanding existing facilities and doctors flocking in from points across Texas, the United States and the world have given South Texas a boon that's helped counteract the effects of a weak Mexican peso.

"It's good for the Valley, not only for the jobs created, but for the quality of jobs," said Randy McLelland, an area banker who serves on the board of Valley Baptist Medical Center. "The

increase in the number and quality of these services is really just a tremendous increase in the quality of life and health care."

Recent Census Bureau statistics show that the McAllen-Edinburg-Mission area was the third-fastest growing area in the nation between 1990 and 1994. That 20.2 percent expansion rate has prompted medical growth in an era of downsizing elsewhere.

"This is a rare, rare market," said Harold Siglar, administrator of McAllen Medical Center. "Across the country, everyone else is downsizing, but (here), the demand has been so good, we are growing as fast as we

need to." McAllen has seen new and expanded hospitals spring up citywide. A 125-bed, \$25 million hospital in nearby Edinburg is almost completed and a \$35 million upgrade of a Weslaco hospital recently opened.

"I think we're just trying to meet the needs right now," said Michelle Kinney, public information liaison for McAllen's Rio Grande Regional Hospital. "We're experiencing a strange phenomenon, which is a bed shortage, especially during the Winter Texan season."

Retirees from northern climes who take advantage of the area's mild winter months, have put extra strains on medical

facilities, Kinney said.

McAllen Medical's patient load has skyrocketed since 1990, when the hospital saw an average of 197 patients per day. That number today is 356 patients per day, an 81 percent jump.

Medical employment is rising as well. Texas Employment Commission figures show that health and medical care jobs in Hidalgo County have increased 37 percent from 8,100 in 1992 to 11,100.

"I think all of those jobs have provided a great cushion for the peso devaluation," said David Ruelas, TEC labor analyst. "It has really helped us. It is the fastest growing industry in McAllen."

**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY DEADLINES CLASSIFIED**

Sunday, December 24.....11 a.m. Friday, December 22  
No Sunday Too Lates  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 25  
NO PUBLICATION

Tuesday, December 26.....12:00 Noon Friday, December 22  
Too Lates.....8 a.m. Tuesday, December 26

**Offices Will Be Closed December 25**

**NO PUBLICATION MONDAY, DECEMBER 25**

*Happy Holidays*

# Group provides forum for discontent

DALLAS (AP) — It's where the ultra left meets the radical right, but it's not exactly in the middle.

Meetings sponsored by Citizens for Legal Reform offer a place where people from all political walks can come and vent their frustrations about the federal government.

It is a sort of a philosophical bazaar where one can sample a bit of everything from the Texas Constitutional Militia, the John Birch Society, the Liberty Lobby, the Fully Informed Jury Association, tax resisters, Libertarians and Constitutionalists.

Some want the nation's drug laws made fairer. Others seek a return to the gold standard.

Other occasional visitors have another purpose. State and federal officials have sat in on some of the sessions to monitor some of the exhortations. Internal Revenue Service officials said recently that an investigation prompted by one tax-resistance presentation led to several indictments.

"They are questioning and undermining the government," said Mark Briskman, regional director for the Anti-Defamation League in Dallas.

Alfred Adask, president of the group, which has no dues or membership rolls, said in an interview with The Dallas Morning News that a recent Gallup poll showed that more than 50 percent of the American people regarded government as a threat to them.

**HOLIDAY LIGHTS**

David Ben-Nun, 13, left, and brother Daniel, 12, pose with their 6-foot-tall menorah in the front yard of their Austin home. They built the Menorah because they felt bad about all the Christmas lights in their neighborhood and wanted to represent the Jewish holiday in some way.

# College provides gun classes

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — So many students at San Antonio College have taken classes proving handgun training that the school plans to continue them throughout the spring semester.

"We are planning them once a month until the supply outlasts the demand," said instructor Bobby McMillan, a former Houston police officer who has 14 years' experience in firearms training.

SAC students can't carry guns on campus, even under the state's new concealed weapons law that goes into effect Jan. 1.

But 57 students have taken advantage of the training in the past two months.

"We really are getting people from all walks of life," said McMillan, who conducts two nights of classroom training at the college and two nights at his Blackhawk Shooting Range in South San Antonio. The cost for the college course is \$75.

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Critic  
court

DALLAS (AP) — A new \$20 million house in downtown Dallas has a problem. The courthouse judge, no rate and no re- tor. "It doesn't ma Francis Florez, : downtown doug understand they thing better here ed too much r much." Government t the \$19.6 million boondoggle for First, the feder doesn't even ow but will perpe from a private o Second, critics was built, consk dling federal cas The new cou 41,000-square-fe ing spots in according to the room for prospes accommodate

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WASHINGTON

Red  
faces

Theft of newly  
printed money  
sparks investigation

By JAMES H. RUBIN  
Associated Press Writer



An unidentified Bureau of Printing and Engraving employe works on one-dollar bills at the bureau in Washington. The money is still green but faces are red because two batches of money, totalling \$60,000, has gone missing in the past month.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The money is still green at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, but the faces are red at the agency that prides itself on producing the world's most coveted currency. Twice in the past month, batches of newly printed bills have gone missing — a total of \$60,000. The Secret Service is investigating, and if there are any suspects, no one is saying publicly. Officials at the bureau, where round-the-clock surveillance cameras are on the lookout for anything unusual, are stung by the apparent thievery. "It's a breach of faith. It's the worst thing we can think of," said one official who requested anonymity.

The bureau stresses the importance of security during tours of its printing facility, which attracts more than 600,000 visitors each year. The building, less than a mile from the White House, has a fortress-like aura, at least from the inside.

It is heavily guarded by the bureau's own uniformed guards. Visitors view the printing process from a narrow, elevated walkway separated by glass partitions from the workers and machines below.

In each 24-hour day, the agency produces 8,000 sheets of U.S. currency, 32 bills to the sheet. That comes to about \$110 billion a year in greenbacks that around the globe are considered as good as gold.

The government proudly announced in September that it was launching the first overhaul of its currency in 70 years, adding security features to thwart counterfeiters. The makeover starts with the \$100 bill, but the green and black colors will remain.

It takes only a relative handful of employees to produce the vast quantity of money, with most of the work done by machines.

To the casual observer, it is hard to imagine how anyone could make off with piles of bills when their every movement is carefully controlled and scrutinized.

But the latest cases of missing money are hardly the first — or worst — theft for the 133-year-old bureau.

In March, Robert P. Schmitt Jr., a \$66,000-a-year engineer, was sentenced to 27 months in prison for stealing \$1.6 million from the plant. Accorded security clearance, Schmitt was helping supervise production of trial bills in a test to improve anti-counterfeiting measures. He admitted taking thousands of crisp \$100 bills from a vault, stashing them in his briefcase and walking past the guards as he left work one day in the spring of 1994.

Since then, the bureau has tightened security procedures — which are periodically monitored by the Secret Service. Federal investigators were tipped off about Schmitt by the cash bank where he deposited the cash.

During a recent tour of the bureau's printing plant, officials explained how money is produced in stages. The sheets are printed, back side first, and then inspected by hand for defects.

A vibrating machine, dubbed the shake-and-bake table, separates the sheets. Then government seals and serial numbers are added, the bills are cut and bundled into packages of 1,000 apiece.

Despite the rapid-fire printing process, it takes eight days to produce a finished greenback.

because there must be enough time for the ink to dry. A video presentation that helps describe the printing process for visitors points out there is high-tech electronic surveillance throughout the building and a full security check for each employee.

The bills are official currency when they leave the processing floor at the bureau, although they're not ready for circulation until the regional Federal Reserve banks receive them and record them in their books.

The bills are stored in vaults at the bureau until they are taken to loading docks and shipped in armored vehicles to the Fed banks.

As for the latest cases of missing money, employees discovered shortages while preparing cash shipments.

The Treasury Department, the bureau's parent agency, disclosed Dec. 11 that \$20,000 was missing, less than four weeks after it reported \$40,000 was gone. Officials refused to say if they believed the two incidents are linked.

But Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin said he wanted some answers. The bureau and the Secret Service were told to report on their progress and explain the steps they're taking to protect the money.

The apparent thefts "are of great concern to me," Rubin said in a terse memo to the subordinate agencies.

Government again closes doors

By JIM ABRAMS  
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Cancel that trip to the Statue of Liberty or to Paris. Put off applying for that student loan or federal housing. The government is closing its doors again and can't say when it will reopen.

But this time, the initial jolt won't be nearly so hard as when the federal government shut down last month and furloughed 800,000 employees.

The shutdown that begins in earnest today will affect about 260,000 federal workers, about 13 percent of the total. They still had to show up for work in the morning but were to be promptly sent home.

The administration has promised that Social Security and Medicare checks and veterans' benefits will be paid on time. Passports for trips to places like Paris may not get processed, but as in November, postal service will not be affected and vital workers in public health and safety will stay on the job.

In the long run, however, this shutdown could be just as crippling as the six-day closure, the longest in history, that ended on Nov. 19. That one cost the government an estimated \$750 million, more than half of it in retroactive salaries to workers who were sent home.

Senate Republican leader Bob Dole expressed pessimism

Sunday about a breakthrough in negotiations between the White House and Congress on a seven-year balanced budget plan. As a result, he said, the government "will probably be shut down for a while."

When the first shutdown began Nov. 14, Congress had passed and the president signed only four of the 13 spending bills needed to operate the government in the fiscal year beginning last Oct. 1.

By now, seven bills are enacted into law, meaning employees for such departments as Defense, Agriculture and Transportation are unaffected by the shutdown. But the remaining six bills are among the most intractable.

The president has three bills on his desk covering natural resources, veterans' affairs, housing and the departments of Commerce, Justice and State. He has threatened to veto all three because he says cuts to environmental, housing and international programs are too large.

House Majority Leader Dick Armey, R-Texas, and other Republican leaders appeared Sunday at the deserted, wind-blown Washington Monument to demand that Clinton sign the Interior Department bill and allow national parks to open.

"I've never been to the Washington Monument and kind of had my heart set on seeing it today," Armey said. Also still hung up in the

Senate is a major bill to finance education programs and the departments of Labor and Health and Human Services.

HHS spokesman Campbell Gardett said a big question is whether his department will be able to pay the states \$25 billion for Medicaid programs and \$4 billion for welfare when those bills come due on Jan. 1.

The current shutdown actually began at midnight Friday, when Congress did not extend a temporary spending measure put in place after the last closure. Over the weekend, though, about the only people who felt it were tourists shut out of museums and national parks.

People are finding a few more ways this time to keep national attractions open. The Arizona state Parks Board donated \$211,500, and a private businessman added \$53,000, to keep the most-visited parts of the Grand Canyon open.

In Washington, the National Air and Space Museum kept its gift shop, theater and planetarium, all self-supporting, in operation.

"It's really just an attempt to keep something open for the public rather than just blanket close the door," said Linda Masi, a non-federal employee at the museum.

President Clinton said he personally would pay the costs, estimated at about \$200 daily, to keep the lights of the national Christmas trees on.

Quote of the Day

"Free expression is more important than civility in a university."

Guido Calabresi, dean of Yale Law School, 1986

EDITORIAL

Flu season is here hard; shot helps protect you

The last several days have been busy for local doctors, who have treated more than 400 people in Big Spring for the flu and flu-related ailments.

The Snyder school district has been decimated by the flu as it wreaks havoc on West Texas.

It is believed this year could be a pandemic for flu, with new strains testing our immune systems. Already, scientists are working on a plan in anticipation of a pandemic.

According to an Associated Press story, the influenza virus is a dynamic chameleon that rapidly rearranges its gene structure and can produce an aggressive strain that humans have few defenses against.

In 1918-1919, a new viral strain infected more than 2 billion people and

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

Charles C. Williams DD Turner  
Publisher Managing Editor

killed an estimated 20 million to 40 million. The "Asian flu" in 1957 was also new and caused 750,000 deaths in the United States alone.

That alone should be sending you to the doctor for an available flu shot. It may not be able to keep you from getting the flu, but it reduces chances of becoming sick.

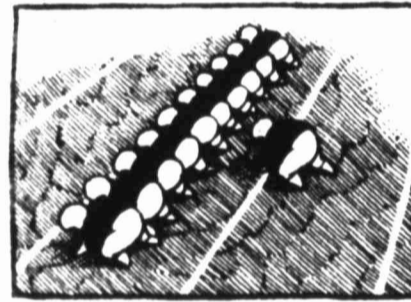
Another thing to remember is, if you are sick, stay home and get well. Don't spread it to everyone you work with, who then spreads it to everyone they know.

The flu is something we all would like to be able to avoid.



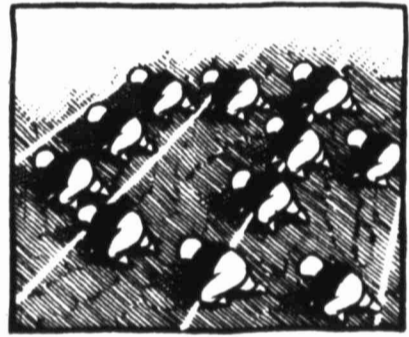
GOAL-LINE DEFENSE

ALL BUT ONE PLAYER MASS ON THE LINE OF SCRIMMAGE TO OVERWHELM THE OFFENSIVE LINE AND TO MINIMIZE PENETRATION BY A RUNNER.



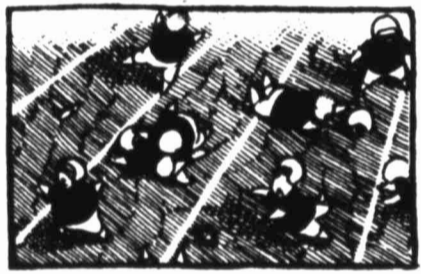
PREVENT DEFENSE

THREE LINEMEN RUSH THE PASSER, TWO LINEBACKERS AND SIX DEFENSIVE BACKS LINE UP DEEP TO COUNTER OR INTERCEPT THE PASS.



CLINTON WHITEWATER DEFENSE

PLAYERS WANDER AIMLESSLY, TRIP EACH OTHER UP, CRASH INTO THEIR OWN TEAMMATES, TRIP ON THE ASTROTURF AND GENERALLY BLOW THE PLAY.



Swallowed enough dirt yet?

The late Scotty Reston, asked what significant evolution he'd witnessed, said, "Our country has gone from Puritanism to hedonism in one generation."

Has America reached the stomach-turning point?

On Billboard's list of the top-selling 200 music albums, coming up to No. 16 already after selling 85,000 albums in its first week of release, is "Jesus Freak" by DC Talk.

DC stands for "Decent Christian."

Have Americans swallowed enough dirt? There is some rearguard buyers telling the callous movie industry "enough" when the Disney film "Toy Story" earns a record \$64 million in its first two weeks?

Has daytime toilet-television, like an angry scorpion, turned on itself — perhaps to die from

its own sting? Major advertisers are "just saying no" to the parade of porn. Proctor and Gamble is no longer sponsoring trash-talk shows. Sears, also, has had enough.

Self-government won't work without self-discipline. Ninety-seven percent of the readers of USA Weekend pronounced television "too vulgar, too violent and too racy."

So, Congress approved the Children's Television Act, requiring local stations to devote specific hours to educational and informational children's programming — or forfeit their broadcast licenses.

We will behave, or we will be forced to behave.

If there is one irrefutable lesson to be learned from history, it is that excesses ultimately, eventually, inevitably are their own undoing.

And, while sleaze appears to dominate the newsstands, it really doesn't. The best-selling magazines include Modern Maturity, Readers Digest, National Geographic, Better Homes and Gardens, and Good Housekeeping.

The girlie magazines do not

have one-fourth the readership of any one of those.

At least twice in history, our British cousins have been in just such a fix as we're in right now — they appeared headed for a collapse of principle. Britain, under the Stuarts, became bottom-up rotten until the people rebelled.

And in the wild days of George IV and William IV, it appeared Britain was again in decay, but the people rebelled, ramming through reform laws, and under Victoria, Britain went onward and upward to unprecedented peaks of deportment and power and prestige.

Generation after generation, after testing the limits of human misbehavior in the name of "freedom," we have rediscovered that if Scripture were not divinely inspired, it would still be the best rule book for an orderly existence.

If it did not promise life hereafter, it would still be the best guide book for a good life here.

Whether depravity and talking dirty has run its course, it may be too soon to say. But, if that's not the way to bet, it is the way to pray.

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WHERE TO WRITE

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JAMES E. "PETE" LANEY, Speaker of the House, State Capitol, Austin. Phone: 806-839-2478 or 512-463-3000 or fax at 512-463-0675.  
In Washington  
BILL CLINTON, President, The White House, Washington, D.C.  
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KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON, U.S. Senator, 709 Hart Office Building, Washington, 20510. Phone: 202-224-5922.  
CHARLES STENHOLM, U.S. Representative, 17th District, 1226 Longworth Office Building, Washington, 20515. Phone: 202-225-6605.

# Critics call Pecos courthouse a waste

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Second, critics wonder why it was built, considering the dwindling federal caseload in Pecos.

The new courthouse boasts 41,000-square-foot and 85 parking spots in the front lot, according to the GSA. A waiting room for prospective jurors can accommodate more than 100

people, though court employees said the number of federal jury trials has fluctuated in recent years, reaching an all-time low in the spring when there wasn't a single criminal indictment handed down in a month.

Supporters, like U.S. District Judge Lucius D. Bunton III of Midland, told The Dallas Morning News that it will keep federal prosecutors from having to try cases in Midland — 90 miles northeast — or in El Paso — 145 miles northwest.

U.S. Attorney James Deatley of San Antonio, who presides over Pecos, said he does not plan to assign a prosecutor to the courthouse, which opened earlier this month, because of the scarcity of cases in the 10-county division.

Officials with the General Services Administration say the building will cost taxpayers about \$726,756 a year, or about 10 times what the government paid to lease a courtroom and office space above Pecos' post office across the street.

## NO NAFTA FANS HERE



With the Gateway to the Americas International Bridge as a backdrop, former U.S. Customs Inspector Richard Sparks, at the podium, joins Teamsters and others at a rally organized by the Teamsters Union and Texas Citizen Action on Sunday in Laredo. As of today, Mexican trucks are now allowed into the United States beyond the border region. U.S. trucks are also allowed into the interior of Mexico.

# Man dies of injuries from blast

ODESSA (AP) — A man severely burned in an oil pipeline blast two weeks ago has died from his injuries.

Two others were killed in the explosion on Dec. 1 while the crew was installing a valve on an empty pipeline at the McCamey Tank Farm. The site, 55 miles south of Odessa, is owned by the Shell Oil Corporation.

Jimmy Jimenez, who was severely burned in the blast died of his injuries Saturday at University Medical Center in Lubbock.

Jimenez, 46, had been in critical condition since arriving at the hospital with second- and third-degree burns over 70 percent of his body.

A spokesman for the funeral home said no additional information on Jimenez or his family was immediately available.

# Medical industry booming in South Texas

McAlLEN (AP) — The once-struggling Rio Grande Valley medical industry has become an economic force because of a growing local population, sunny climate and physician recruitment.

New hospitals, expanding existing facilities and doctors flocking in from points across Texas, the United States and the world have given South Texas a boon that's helped counteract the effects of a weak Mexican peso.

"It's good for the Valley, not only for the jobs created, but for the quality of jobs," said Randy McLelland, an area banker who serves on the board of Valley Baptist Medical Center. "The

increase in the number and quality of these services is really just a tremendous increase in the quality of life and health care."

Recent Census Bureau statistics show that the McAllen-Edinburg-Mission area was the third-fastest growing area in the nation between 1990 and 1994. That 20.2 percent expansion rate has prompted medical growth in an era of downsizing elsewhere.

"This is a rare, rare market," said Harold Siglar, administrator of McAllen Medical Center. "Across the country, everyone else is downsizing, but (here), the demand has been so good, we are growing as fast as we

need to."

McAllen has seen new and expanded hospitals spring up citywide. A 125-bed, \$25 million hospital in nearby Edinburg is almost completed and a \$35 million upgrade of a Weslaco hospital recently opened.

"I think we're just trying to meet the needs right now," said Michelle Kinney, public information liaison for McAllen's Rio Grande Regional Hospital. "We're experiencing a strange phenomenon, which is a bed shortage, especially during the Winter Texan season."

Retirees from northern climes who take advantage of the area's mild winter months, have put extra strains on medical

facilities, Kinney said.

McAllen Medical's patient load has skyrocketed since 1990, when the hospital saw an average of 197 patients per day. That number today is 356 patients per day, an 81 percent jump.

Medical employment is rising as well. Texas Employment Commission figures show that health and medical care jobs in Hidalgo County have increased 37 percent from 8,100 in 1992 to 11,100.

"I think all of those jobs have provided a great cushion for the peso devaluation," said David Ruelas, TEC labor analyst. "It has really helped us. It is the fastest growing industry in McAllen."

**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY DEADLINES CLASSIFIED**

Sunday, December 24.....11 a.m. Friday, December 22  
No Sunday Too Lates  
**MONDAY, DECEMBER 25**  
NO PUBLICATION

Tuesday, December 26.....12:00 Noon Friday, December 22  
Too Lates.....8 a.m. Tuesday, December 26

**Offices Will Be Closed December 25**

**NO PUBLICATION MONDAY, DECEMBER 25**

*Happy Holidays*

# Group provides forum for discontent

DALLAS (AP) — It's where the ultra left meets the radical right, but it's not exactly in the middle.

Meetings sponsored by Citizens for Legal Reform offer a place where people from all political walks can come and vent their frustrations about the federal government.

It is a sort of a philosophical bazaar where one can sample a bit of everything from the Texas Constitutional Militia, the John Birch Society, the Liberty Lobby, the Fully Informed Jury Association, tax resisters, Libertarians and Constitutionalists.

Some want the nation's drug laws made fairer. Others seek a return to the gold standard.

Other occasional visitors have another purpose. State and federal officials have sat in on some of the sessions to monitor some of the exhortations. Internal Revenue Service officials said recently that an investigation prompted by one tax-resistance presentation led to several indictments.

"They are questioning and undermining the government," said Mark Briskman, regional director for the Anti-Defamation League in Dallas.

Alfred Adask, president of the group, which has no dues or membership rolls, said in an interview with The Dallas Morning News that a recent Gallup poll showed that more than 50 percent of the American people regarded government as a threat to them.

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**HOLIDAY LIGHTS**

David Ben-Nun, 13, left, and brother Daniel, 12, pose with their 6-foot-tall menorah in the front yard of their Austin home. They built the Menorah because they felt bad about all the Christmas lights in their neighborhood and wanted to represent the Jewish holiday in some way.

# College provides gun classes

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — So many students at San Antonio College have taken classes proving handgun training that the school plans to continue them throughout the spring semester.

"We are planning them once a month until the supply outlasts the demand," said instructor Bobby McMillan, a former Houston police officer who has 14 years' experience in firearms training.

SAC students can't carry guns on campus, even under the state's new concealed weapons law that goes into effect Jan. 1.

But 57 students have taken advantage of the training in the past two months.

"We really are getting people from all walks of life," said McMillan, who conducts two nights of classroom training at the college and two nights at his Blackhawk Shooting Range in South San Antonio. The cost for the college course is \$75.

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# Nation's largest workfare program employs 21,000

By BETH J. HARPAZ  
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — For 26 hours every week, Curtis Nichols rakes leaves and picks up litter in Central Park. He doesn't get a paycheck. Nichols is part of the nation's largest workfare program — 21,000 New Yorkers who work in exchange for welfare. Although the jobs are menial — sweeping streets, scrubbing toilets and cleaning parks — both the city and the workers deny it's makework. "I think we're making a difference. It's getting a little cleaner, a little better," Nichols said as he toiled in a six-man crew. The debate over whether workfare works — and if it's fair — will soon expand nationwide. Workfare efforts involving hundreds or even a few thousand people have gone on for years across the country. The

current welfare reform bill in the Republican-controlled Congress calls for half of the 5 million adults who receive Aid to Families with Dependent Children to be on workfare within six years. President Clinton also supports workfare. In New York City, only people on home relief — welfare for adults with no dependents — participate in workfare. Their jobs are based on a simple equation: 26 hours a week at the \$4.25 minimum wage is roughly equivalent to the monthly home relief allotment of \$320 to \$340 plus \$110 in food stamps. "In exchange for this benefit, you have an obligation to give something back," said Mayor Rudolph Giuliani. Even though no active workers are being fired and replaced by welfare recipients, workfare unquestionably takes up the slack in a shrinking city work force. For example, the city's parks department has lost 2,500 work-

ers, or half its employees, since 1986 due to budget cuts. Yet the parks remain clean — because of workfare. "It's not like we're taking these jobs away from someone," insisted Parks Commissioner Henry Stern, whose department deploys 4,000 workfare participants to supplement 2,500 paid employees. "This work just wouldn't be done." Others disagree. Maurice Emsellem, a lawyer with the National Employment Law Project, fears national workfare could hurt the job market. Since AFDC recipients are overwhelmingly female, national workfare programs would involve mostly women. Liz Krueger, who works at Manhattan's Community Food Resource Center, which helps the poor, sees workfare as exploitation. "The government gets some work they want done without having to pay for it," she said. "We're buying into slave labor."



Curtis Nichols, right, works with members of the largest workfare program in the country to clean up a roadway in New York's Central Park. A labor force numbering 21,000 New Yorkers work not for a paycheck but in exchange for welfare. The men with Curtis are, from left: Jose Velez, unidentified and Perfecto Santana.

# First woman to lead NRA brings passion to group's presidency

By JACKIE HALLIFAX  
Associated Press Writer

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — The first woman to lead the National Rifle Association carries Florida's first concealed weapons permit and every day packs either a Colt Detective 38-caliber or a Beretta 9 mm. "It all depends on which purse and what I'm wearing," Marion Hammer says. Despite such attention to appearances, Hammer pays little heed to the impressions left by her years as the NRA's Flori-

da lobbyist. Whether tagged patriot or zealot, she focuses clearly on one target: protecting the rights of law-abiding citizens to defend themselves with guns when faced with potential violence. She's been doing that for 17 years — and was doing it in 1989 when then-state lawmaker David Flagg met her "head on" after filing a bill to ban some assault weapons. "It was like walking up on a rattlesnake," Flagg, now a hospital lobbyist, said in a telephone interview from his

Gainesville office. "You knew that she was there and ... that if you disturbed her it was going to strike you." Hammer was disturbed by Flagg's legislation. She struck. And she and the NRA members she mobilized killed the bill. Flagg, however, got to know the person behind the rattle. He found her to be genuine, committed, honorable. She's concerned, he said, about the people most vulnerable to violent crime — the woman alone in a parking lot, elderly people seen as easy tar-

gets. Hammer, 56, has twice drawn a gun when threatened. Once was in an empty parking garage late at night. The other was on an open street in daylight. Both times, Hammer, who stands just 4 feet 11 inches tall, scared off her assailants without firing. Gun control advocates are not relishing future dealings. "She's going to be a lot tougher on people than any of her predecessors in recent years," Mike Beard, president of the Coalition to Stop Gun Violence, predicted

from his Washington office. Beard and Hammer have debated together and dined together. He speaks of her with respect and affection. Hammer doesn't show how tough she is by ranting or raving — just the opposite, he said. "I don't think she'd ever lose her cool," Beard said. "She will sit there and look you right in the eye and say, 'This is the way it's going to be and are you with me or against me?'" Beard said he's glad he's not a lawmaker in Hammer's line of fire. Flagg can describe what

that's like. "Those blue eyes become steely, and while she is small in stature you begin to think she is about five times bigger than you are because she is so focused and resolute," he said. Flagg, a gun-owner who does not belong to the NRA, said he hoped Hammer's controlled style would tone down the provocative and inflammatory rhetoric heard from the NRA in the past. "I think they need someone of Marion's even temperament," Flagg said.

# Christmas display downsized this year

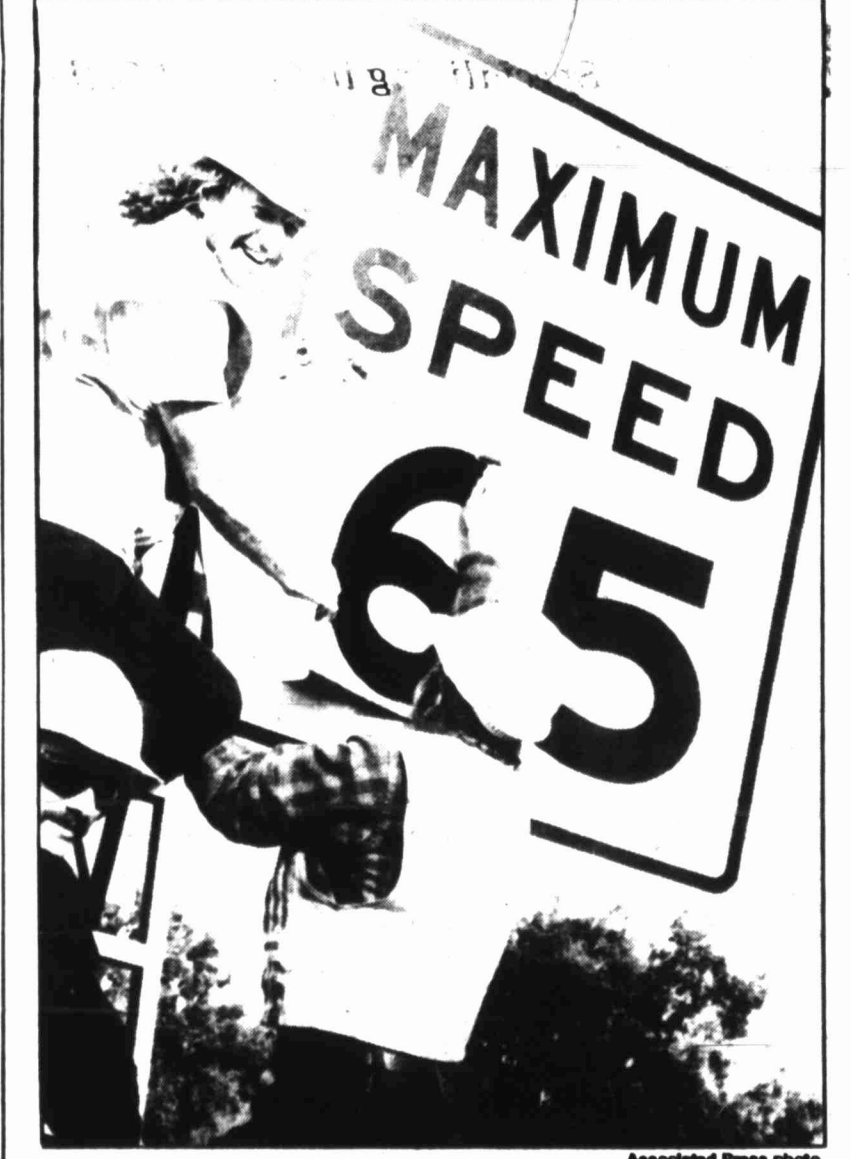
By TOM PARSONS  
Associated Press Writer

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) — What once was a 3.2 million-light Christmas display that drew thousands of sightseers, traffic jams and lawsuits is but a flicker of its former self this year.

Jennings Osborne on Saturday turned on a 12,000-light display — less than 1/2 of 1 percent of the number that caused such a commotion two years ago. "That's our guardian angel," Osborne said, pointing to a crying cherub in flashing blue lights. "She's weeping. Until we can have them like we want them, she'll be there."

Neighbors sued in 1993, claiming the old display was a public nuisance. After a court agreed, Osborne scaled down last year's display to about 174,600 lights, but the state Supreme Court found him in contempt. This year's display still spans three lots and features nativity figures, a Christmas tree, Santa and Mickey Mouse.

## GOODBYE 55



Sammy Hagar, lead singer of Van Halen, helps apply the 65 on top of a 55 as the maximum speed limit is raised from 55 to 65 mph on Highway 101 near Santa Rosa in Northern California. Hagar wrote the single, "I Can't Drive 55," after receiving several tickets when the speed limit was lowered years ago.

# Animal transplant guidelines in process

By A.J. HOSTETLER  
Associated Press Writer

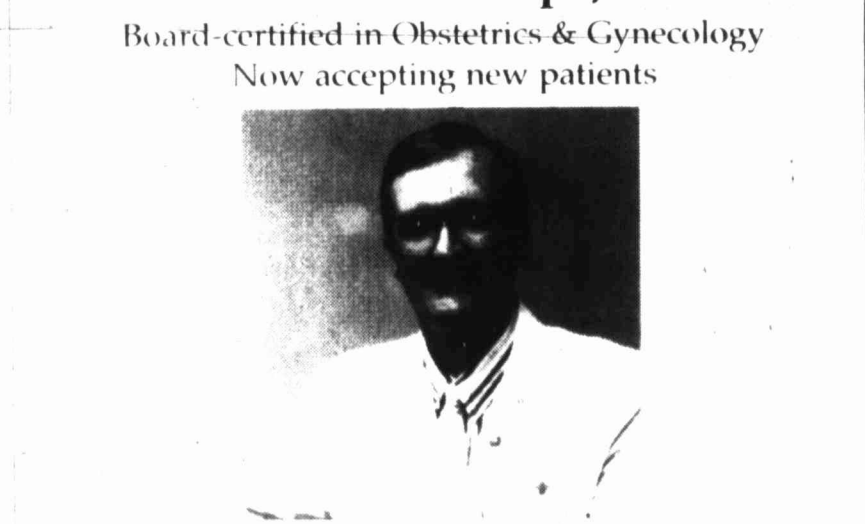
ATLANTA (AP) — Amid concerns over the recent transplant of baboon tissue into an AIDS patient, the nation's health agencies are developing guidelines to make sure such operations don't spread devastating new infections.

The question of whether animal transplants would foster new diseases among humans isn't just academic, according to Dr. Louisa Chapman, an epidemiologist with the Centers for Disease Control.

More than 150 diseases can be transmitted from animals to humans, including rabies, and some become deadlier in humans.

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# Mili

By SAMIR KR  
Associated Pre

TUZLA, Bo (AP) — Two planes landed today when a fog finally lifted. The huge C-10 minutes ap itary vehicles supplies onto swiftly took of. The planes Aviano Air although they stein, German Capt. James I many-based s C-130s were from Ramstel

# Chem fire c toxic in S.

CAPE TO (AP) — A ton burning sul residential c huring mc and forcing before it dis. The huge dpxide was dy when a gan sulfu AECI cher north of C sid.

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"We can this," sai Neil Saml Chemic belong ne ple live deserts." Robbie spokesma ry, confi caught f other det

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(C)



# Military planes finally land in Bosnia after fog delays

By SAMIR KRILIC  
Associated Press Writer

TUZLA, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) — Two U.S. military planes landed at Tuzla air base today when five days of heavy fog finally lifted.

The huge C-130s touched down 10 minutes apart, unloaded military vehicles, equipment and supplies onto the airstrip, and swiftly took off.

The planes flew in from Aviano Air Base in Italy, although they are based at Ramstein, Germany, U.S. Air Force Capt. James Law said. The Germany-based spokesman said 14 C-130s were scheduled to fly from Ramstein to Tuzla today.

"There are certain levels below which we can't fly if the weather's too bad. We met those limits today. That's why they got in," Law said.

On Sunday, poor visibility forced the U.S. Air Force to cancel 57 flights — 26 to the U.S. headquarters in Tuzla and 31 to the mission's staging area in Hungary. NATO diverted some flights carrying equipment and personnel to Sarajevo.

Among those delayed by the fog that has blanketed Tuzla since Wednesday are the first U.S. combat troops scheduled to arrive in Bosnia.

U.S. paratroopers from the 325th Airborne based in Vicenza, Italy, are responsible for securing the airstrip in Tuzla,

headquarters for the 20,000 U.S. troops who will be part of the NATO peace enforcing mission.

Military planners also ran into problems on the ground.

Eight U.S. Army trains were moving toward Croatia's Sava River border with Bosnia today, where they will build a pontoon bridge, said Col. Konrad Freitag, a chief NATO spokesman in Zagreb.

The first army train carrying 130 U.S. Army soldiers and equipment stopped at Vrpolje, 25 miles short of its destination at the border town of Zupanja, AP photographer Zoran Bozicevic reported.

The train was being unloaded because it was too heavy to continue the journey by rail. Four

70-ton Abrams M-1 tanks and 14 Bradley fighting vehicles will travel by road under Croatian police escort to the Sava River itself, Bozicevic quoted military officials as saying.

The troops will provide security for the Army Corps of Engineers, which is scheduled to start building the bridge next week, said Maj. Lew Boone at the U.S. European Command in Stuttgart.

At Mount Jahorina, above Sarajevo, Bosnian Serb leaders on Sunday conditionally ratified a Balkan peace plan, despite vehement objections to giving up territory to their former enemies.

They also approved a 10-point list of objections to the Dayton

peace deal that was largely symbolic — an attempt to save face with their people.

"We cannot just accept it outright. We have to explain something to our people," said a Bosnian Serb deputy, who spoke on condition he not be named.

They rejected the establishment of Muslim-Croat rule in Serb-held sections of Sarajevo and insisted on Bosnian Serbs' right to eventually secede from Bosnia-Herzegovina and join Serb-led Yugoslavia.

Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic negotiated the peace plan and is unlikely to back their demands.

The Bosnian Serb assembly also formally accepted the deployment of U.S.-led NATO

peace enforcers to Bosnian Serb territory.

"We do not consider the Americans our enemies," said Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic.

Deputies demanded that an international tribunal revoke war crimes indictments against their leaders, whose actions during 3 1/2 years of war they defended as "the struggle of the leadership for its own people."

Karadzic and Bosnian Serb military leader Lt. Gen. Ratko Mladic have been indicted by the Yugoslav war crimes tribunal in The Hague.

The Bosnian government dismissed the Serb assembly's declaration by declaring it irrelevant.

## Chemical fire creates toxic gas in S. Africa

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (AP) — A toxic cloud created by burning sulfur floated over a residential community Sunday, injuring more than 100 people and forcing 2,500 to evacuate before it dispersed.

The huge red cloud of sulfur dioxide was released late Saturday when a brush fire ignited a giant sulfur stockpile at the AECI chemical factory just north of Cape Town, police said.

Emergency workers wearing respirators and heavy protective suits worked through the night, pouring water on the three-foot-high heaps of sulfur spread over an area the size of two football fields.

All but a few pockets of fire were extinguished by Sunday.

State radio said the sulfur, a brittle solid used in the making of explosives, had been stored at the AECI factory for at least 20 years.

Sanctions during apartheid prevented South Africa from buying weapons abroad, so the country built up a large arsenal of the chemical.

More than 100 Macassar residents were treated at hospitals for inhalation of sulfur dioxide, a corrosive gas that irritates the eyes, nose and lungs.

Doctors believe the stress of the incident may have contributed to two deaths, but the direct cause was not immediately clear.

Medical staff said two Macassar residents in their 50s, brothers who both were asthmatic heart patients, were pronounced dead on arrival at Hotentots Holland Hospital Saturday night.

Regional fire chief Piet Harries said the gas cloud had dissipated Sunday, and he told evacuated residents of Macassar they could return home. At least 2,500 people had been taken to shopping malls and community centers to escape the gas.

"We cannot go on living like this," said Macassar resident Neil Sambaba.

Chemical factories "do not belong near places where people live. They belong in deserts," he said.

Robbie Vermont, a spokesman for the AECI factory, confirmed the sulfur had caught fire, but provided no other details of the incident.

## END OF STRIKE



A commuter reads his newspaper on the steps of a train while waiting for departure at the Saint Lazare railway station. French railway workers returned to work after their protest strike.

## Woman gets visa to donate marrow to dying brother

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — An Egyptian woman previously denied a U.S. visa so that she could donate bone marrow for her severely ill brother was given the travel document Sunday after pleas from doctors.

The U.S. Embassy initially refused her application because the woman, Wedad Astefanos, did not present the proper medical documents, embassy spokesman Rick Roberts said.

"She just applied for a tourist visa, without anything from the hospital, without explaining about the blood matching," Roberts said.

Astefanos was found to have a perfect bone marrow match for her brother, Mauris, 45, a taxi driver in New York. He immigrated to the United States 17 years ago and was diagnosed with acute myelogenous leukemia last year.

Dr. John Loscalzo of the hematology-oncology department at North Shore University Hospital in Manhasset, Long Island, said Astefanos would certainly die without the transplant.

The operation — which provides healthy bone marrow to replace that destroyed by disease and chemotherapy — is not a cure but can help the patient fight the disease.

Astefanos, 54, was found to have the matching bone marrow after sending vials of her blood from Egypt. Loscalzo said finding a suitable donor "is like winning the lottery" since there are 64 million bone marrow types.

## Communists leading in Russian elections

By BARRY RENFREW  
Associated Press Writer

MOSCOW (AP) — Angry voters handed President Boris Yeltsin a stinging rebuff today in parliamentary elections.

The Communists were leading with 22 percent of the vote based on preliminary returns from 58 of the country's 89 regions, according to the Central Election Commission.

Ultranationalist Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, who was not expected to do well, was second with 11.2 percent, officials said.

Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin's Our Home is Russia ranked third with 9.5 percent, followed by the Yabloko bloc with 8.4 percent, the commission said.

None of the other parties among the 43 running had reached the 5 percent threshold needed to get seats in the lower chamber of parliament, although that could change as more of the vote is counted.

The vote was seen as a major setback for Yeltsin and his hopes of a second term in June's presidential election.

The opposition has blamed Yeltsin and his reforms for impoverishing millions of Russians since the 1991 collapse of the Soviet Union.

Communist leader Gennady Zyuganov hailed his party's performance, saying it showed Russians wanted an end to liberal policies and the wrenching impact of a free-market economy.

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### COAHOMA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES AND SIMILAR TRUST FUNDS YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 1995

| Date Control Codes   | GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES                                                            |                              |                           |                               |                                   | TRUST FUNDS                    |                    | TOTALS (MEMORANDUM ONLY) |  |
|----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|--|
|                      | 100-199 GENERAL FUND                                                               | 200-499 SPECIAL REVENUE FUND | 500-599 DEBT SERVICE FUND | 600-699 CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND | 800-809 NONCOOPERATIVE EXPENDABLE | 810-879 COOPERATIVE EXPENDABLE | 98 AUGUST 31, 1995 | 97 AUGUST 31, 1994       |  |
| <b>REVENUES:</b>     |                                                                                    |                              |                           |                               |                                   |                                |                    |                          |  |
| 3700                 | Local, Intermediate, and Out-of-State                                              | \$2,525,554                  | \$130,595                 | \$27,115                      | -                                 | -                              | \$2,683,262        | \$2,740,702              |  |
| 3800                 | State Program Revenues                                                             | 2,803,932                    | 64,639                    | -                             | -                                 | -                              | 2,868,571          | 2,141,577                |  |
| 3900                 | Federal Program Revenues                                                           | -                            | 244,310                   | -                             | -                                 | -                              | 244,310            | 225,828                  |  |
|                      | Excluding Revenues Pledging Punction 14                                            | \$5,329,486                  | \$439,542                 | \$27,115                      | -                                 | -                              | \$5,796,143        | \$5,108,107              |  |
| 0014                 | Revenues Collected for Punding Punction 14                                         | -                            | -                         | -                             | -                                 | -                              | -                  | -                        |  |
| 3000                 | Total Revenues                                                                     | \$5,329,486                  | \$439,542                 | \$27,115                      | -                                 | -                              | \$5,796,143        | \$5,108,107              |  |
| <b>EXPENDITURES:</b> |                                                                                    |                              |                           |                               |                                   |                                |                    |                          |  |
| 0001                 | Instruction                                                                        | \$2,792,137                  | \$121,625                 | -                             | -                                 | -                              | \$2,853,762        | \$2,707,415              |  |
| 0002                 | Instructional Administration                                                       | 6,683                        | -                         | -                             | -                                 | -                              | 6,683              | 41,340                   |  |
| 0003                 | Instructional Resources and Media Services                                         | 94,517                       | 5,296                     | -                             | -                                 | -                              | 99,813             | 92,150                   |  |
| 0004                 | School Administration                                                              | 238,385                      | -                         | -                             | -                                 | -                              | 238,385            | 233,442                  |  |
| 0005                 | Curriculum & Instruct. Staff Development                                           | 11,796                       | -                         | -                             | -                                 | -                              | 11,796             | 6,447                    |  |
| 0006                 | Communication and Dissemination                                                    | -                            | -                         | -                             | -                                 | -                              | -                  | -                        |  |
| 0007                 | Guidance and Counseling Services                                                   | 42,157                       | 61,580                    | -                             | -                                 | -                              | 103,746            | 115,755                  |  |
| 0008                 | Attendance and Social Work Service                                                 | -                            | -                         | -                             | -                                 | -                              | -                  | -                        |  |
| 0009                 | Health Services                                                                    | 25,835                       | -                         | -                             | -                                 | -                              | 25,835             | 31,176                   |  |
| 0010                 | Student Transportation                                                             | 221,797                      | -                         | -                             | -                                 | -                              | 221,797            | 246,415                  |  |
| 0011                 | Co-curricular Activities                                                           | 304,809                      | -                         | -                             | -                                 | -                              | 304,809            | 356,211                  |  |
| 0012                 | Food Services                                                                      | -                            | 284,283                   | -                             | -                                 | -                              | 284,283            | 268,188                  |  |
| 0013                 | General Administration                                                             | 231,924                      | -                         | -                             | -                                 | -                              | 231,924            | 235,669                  |  |
| 0014                 | Debt Service                                                                       | 26,843                       | -                         | 785,776                       | -                                 | -                              | 812,619            | 705,507                  |  |
| 0015                 | Plant Maintenance and Operations                                                   | 543,157                      | -                         | -                             | -                                 | -                              | 543,157            | 577,815                  |  |
| 0016                 | Facilities Acquisition and Construction                                            | 225,238                      | -                         | -                             | -                                 | -                              | 225,238            | 70,886                   |  |
| 0017                 | Data Processing Services                                                           | 66,632                       | -                         | -                             | -                                 | -                              | 66,632             | 68,452                   |  |
| 0018                 | Community Service                                                                  | -                            | -                         | -                             | -                                 | -                              | -                  | -                        |  |
|                      | Expenditures Excluding Punction 14                                                 | \$4,778,330                  | \$472,798                 | \$785,776                     | -                                 | -                              | \$5,948,899        | \$5,754,876              |  |
| 0014                 | Instructional Services Between Districts                                           | -                            | -                         | -                             | -                                 | -                              | -                  | -                        |  |
| 0000                 | Total Expenditures                                                                 | \$4,778,330                  | \$472,798                 | \$785,776                     | -                                 | -                              | \$5,948,899        | \$5,754,876              |  |
| 1100                 | Excess (Deficiency) Revenues Over Expenditures                                     | 559,156                      | (38,201)                  | (878,661)                     | -                                 | -                              | (\$152,706)        | (\$646,769)              |  |
| 7900                 | Other Resources                                                                    | 53,822                       | 53,231                    | -                             | -                                 | -                              | 107,053            | 257,265                  |  |
| 9900                 | Other (Uses)                                                                       | (101,288)                    | -                         | (48,311)                      | -                                 | -                              | (149,599)          | (313,458)                |  |
| 1200                 | Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues and Other Resources Over Expenditures & Other Uses | \$91,790                     | -                         | (976,972)                     | -                                 | -                              | (\$185,182)        | (\$702,972)              |  |
| 0000                 | Fund Balance - September 1 (Beginning)                                             | 1,389,838                    | -                         | 726,972                       | -                                 | -                              | 2,116,810          | 2,858,032                |  |
| 1300                 | Increase (Decrease) in Fund Balance                                                | (58,341)                     | -                         | -                             | -                                 | -                              | (58,341)           | (238,238)                |  |
| 3000                 | Fund Balance - August 31 (Ending)                                                  | \$1,331,497                  | -                         | 726,972                       | -                                 | -                              | \$2,058,469        | \$2,619,794              |  |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

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## SCOREBOARD

| NBA                            | NFL                           |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Washington 112, Portland 100   | Detroit 44, Jacksonville 0    |
| Toronto 110, Orlando 93        | Buffalo 23, Miami 20          |
| Philadelphia 101, Minnesota 99 | Cleveland 26, Cincinnati 10   |
| Milwaukee 84, Indiana 80       | Dallas 21, N.Y. Giants 20     |
| Cleveland 92, Denver 79        | Carolina 21, Arizona 20       |
|                                | Chicago 31, Tampa Bay 10      |
|                                | Washington 35, St. Louis 23   |
|                                | Kansas City 20, Denver 17     |
|                                | San Diego 27, Indianapolis 24 |
|                                | Seattle 44, Oakland 10        |

Got an item?

Do you have an interesting story idea? Call Steve Reagan, 263-7331, Ext 113.

## Oilers down Jets in last home game in Houston

HOUSTON (AP) — Steve McNair showed the few fans who showed up for what likely was the last NFL game in the Astrodome what they'll be missing next season.

With the Oilers plotting a move to Tennessee, only 35,873 fans attended the game Sunday to watch McNair lead the Oilers to a 23-6 victory over the New York Jets in his first NFL start.

They cheered when McNair threw a 35-yard touchdown pass to Haywood Jeffires in the first quarter and set up another score with a 53-yard pass to Chris Sanders in the fourth period.

McNair completed 13 of 27 passes for 198 yards against the No. 1 ranked pass defense in the NFL and never got rattled, despite the blitzes and confusing maneuvers the Jets threw at him.

Fans booed the Oilers' conservative game plan and clapped when one fan, during a quiet moment, yelled up at owner

Bud Adams' box: "See you later Bud."

But they were on their feet again as the final seconds ticked down, and several Oilers players stayed on the field to shake hands with fans in a show of appreciation.

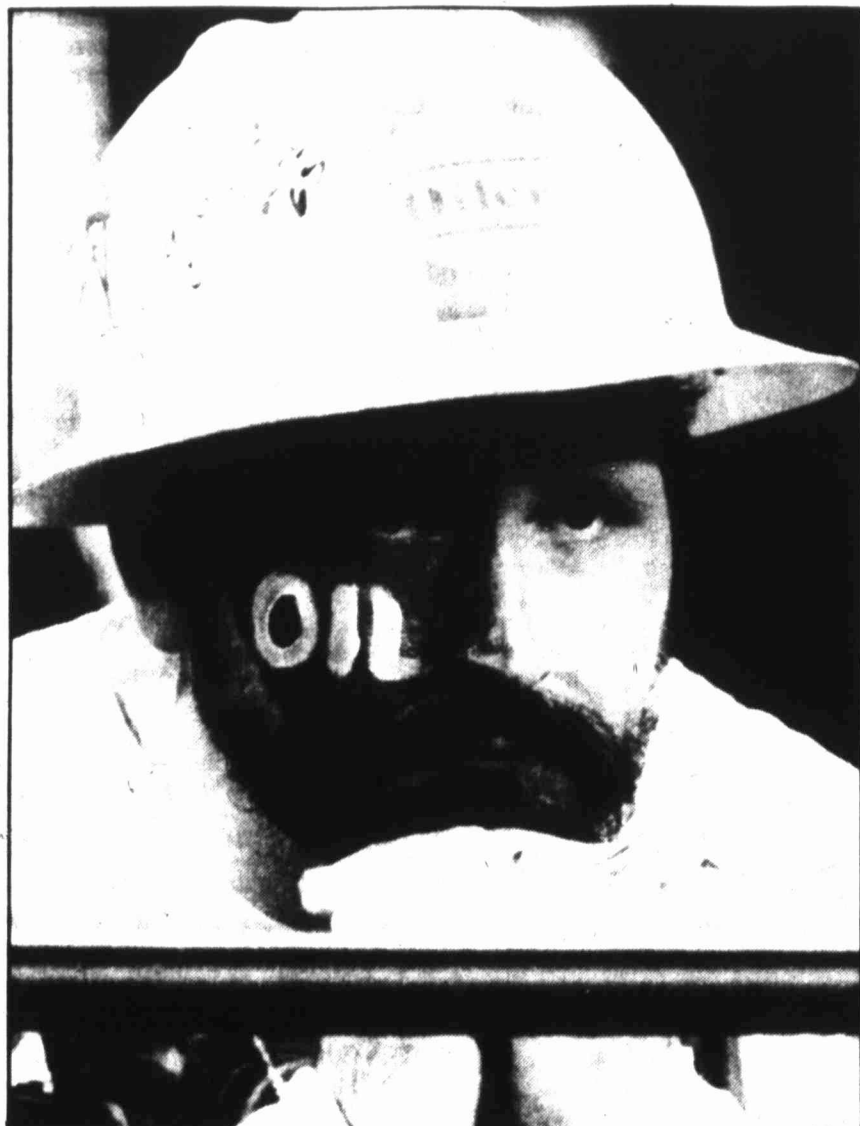
It was a dreary game for anyone wanting to see McNair throwing passes.

The Oilers (6-9) rotated their running backs in the backfield to take advantage of the Jets' (3-12) 27th-ranked run defense. That gave McNair comfortable room to work and he appreciated the help.

Al Del Greco kicked field goals of 49, 53 and 24 yards and Marion Butts scored on a 1-yard dive on the drive that included McNair's 53-yard pass to Sanders.

It didn't bother Oilers coach Jeff Fisher that the stadium wasn't packed. He appreciated the fans who showed up.

"I think fans had something to do with it," Fisher said.



Houston Oilers fan Chris Lockridge looks glum as he waits for what seems to be the team's last home game. Owner Bud Adams has signed an agreement to move to Nashville and Lockridge vows to never attend another sporting event in the Astrodome if the Oilers leave.

## Bittersweet ending to Oilers stay in Houston

HOUSTON (AP) — The victory was almost an afterthought.

There were handshakes, a few tears, some photos for the scrapbook and jeers for the villain. And ambivalence.

And then they were gone.

The season ends for the Houston Oilers next weekend in Buffalo. Their next home appearance — in 1996 — likely will be in Tennessee. What they'll be called is anyone's guess, but don't look for Houston to be part of the name.

"We're gone. I know that," 13-year offensive lineman Bruce Matthews, the team's senior player, said Sunday after the Oilers beat the New York Jets 23-6.

Oilers owner Bud Adams has a non-binding agreement with Nashville officials to move his NFL club to Tennessee for the start of the 1998 season. His lease with the county-owned Astrodome — the Oilers' home since 1968 — runs for two more years but reports have been persistent in Houston that the Oilers are seeking to buy out the final two years and play in Memphis, Tenn., until a new stadium is finished in Nashville.

Houston city officials have

refused to use public money to finance a new football stadium demanded by Adams.

On the field Sunday, heralded \$28 million rookie quarterback Steve McNair made his first NFL start, providing a glimpse of the future.

Most attention of players and fans, however, was on the past.

"Even though they've lost, it's been fun," said Phyllis Harper, who drove through torrential storms Sunday from her Beaumont home, about 85 miles east of Houston, to attend the game. She was wearing an Oilers jersey and carrying a blue-and-white pompon.

"I was thinking as I was driving over here, 'This is the last time,'" she said. "They better appreciate me."

"I feel for the fans," said defensive lineman Craig Veasey, who also played in the Astrodome with the University of Houston. "Our whole team is hurting, too. We love it here. It's something I feel. I know we really don't want to do."

As the gun fired to end the game, several players ran to the fans to shake hands.

"I just wanted to show my appreciation," running back

Please see LEAVE, page 9

## Cowboys slip past Giants

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Two months ago, the Dallas Cowboys wouldn't have considered a 21-20 win over the New York Giants worth celebrating.

On Sunday, the Cowboys acted like they had been handed a ticket to the Super Bowl.

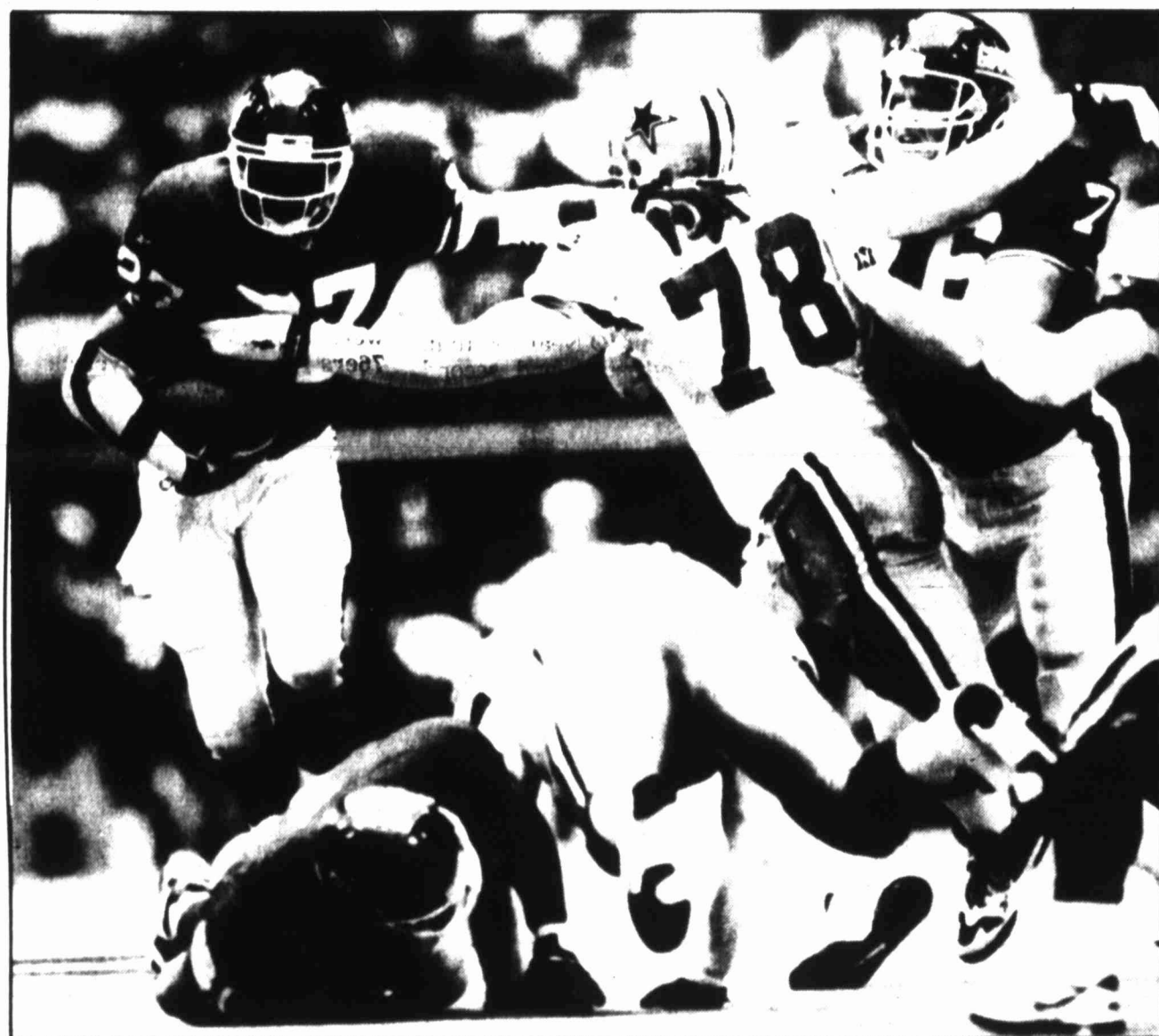
"This win has got to carry us," said wide receiver Michael Irvin. "It's a big win. We are 11-4 and still in the driver's seat for the NFC East championship."

Deion Sanders was even less restrained, gushing. "I'm thrilled. We had to have this game."

"It just feels good to win a game," said running back Emmitt Smith. "It feels like we were 4-10."

Coach Barry Switzer, whom Santers defended last week, made the correct call down the stretch this time, turning the game over to Chris Boniol, who is the hottest kicker in the NFL.

Troy Aikman converted three critical third-down passes and



New York Giants running back Rodney Hampton looks for extra yardage after he is stopped by Dallas Cowboys defender Leon Lett during first quarter action Sunday. The Cowboys narrowly won 21-20.

## High school football provides all the excitement of pros

Last week it was the Dallas Cowboys loss to the Philadelphia Eagles that had half of Texas in an uproar, wanting Barry Switzer's head on a serving tray.

Barry's off the hook in my book right now because the most exciting game anywhere is the high school playoffs.

This week, I'm not going to gripe. At least not much.

I have to take my hat off to a team just up the road in Odessa — the Permian Panthers.

What ever you may think about the "Mighty Mojo" or the city of Odessa for that matter, you have to admit Friday night lights really do have a special purpose in West Texas.

Saturday the boys in black competed for the Class 5A Division I State Championship against the San Antonio Converse Judson Rockets.

Sadly, Permian is out of the running, losing to Judson 31-28.

No matter what you hear about high school football and how wild West Texans are about their local teams, it makes you wonder what goes through the minds of 16-, 17- and 18-year-old athletes? They are still mama's little boys, but

football players with the weight of the world on their shoulders to everyone else.

I don't care how many times Midland Lee manages to beat Permian during the regular season, a rivalry I must say is probably one of the best in the state, Permian always manages to find a way to advance.

In fact the only blemish during the regular season was a 14-7 loss to the Midland Lee Rebels who fell earlier in the playoffs.

I've seen Permian teams no bigger than a minute knock guys twice their size on their butts. The 1980 state championship team was such a team.

A Permian player was quoted in an article prior to the state championship game as saying, "We work hard. It's attitude. We're going to win state this year. No reason not to be confident."

You could say it's something in the water that makes a kid want to give his soul to winning a game, but pride and determination is more like it.

If you ever want to get away from the recruiting violations and problems boosters cause for college coaches and players or the egos and multi-million dollar contracts of the NFL, find a high school football game.

It's a couple of dollars well spent!

The championship is what they all strive for, but look at what takes place to get there.

Championship or not, Permian knows winning!

## First goals send Flyers to victory

Before scoring his first goal of the season, Eric Desjardins was a bit antsy. It didn't help that the Philadelphia Flyers were trailing the Pittsburgh Penguins in the third period.

"I wanted to do something," he said. "You know you can't do

too much, but you feel like you have to do something."

Desjardins scored the tying goal and set up the game-winner late in the third period as the Flyers rallied to win 6-5 Sunday night.

"It's kind of a relief now," he said.

With Philadelphia trailing 5-4, Desjardins delivered a wrist shot from the point that snuck under the left pad of goaltender

Ken Wregget at 12:50 of the third.

On the go-ahead goal, he kept the puck in at the right point, skated around Petr Nedved in the slot and sent a backhand pass to Rod Brind'Amour, who scored his 10th goal with 2:12 remaining.

"I was shooting. I was trying everything. I was starting to feel a little pressure," said Desjardins, who scored five

## NHL Roundup

goals last season. "Everybody was mentioning it. It was good timing to get a goal."

In other games, Chicago beat Winnipeg 3-1, Dallas beat San Jose 4-2, Toronto beat Anaheim 3-2 in overtime and Vancouver beat Ottawa 4-1.

Please see NHL, page 9

BOTTOM of the ORDER

### SHOT OF THE DAY



#### Poetry in motion

Arizona Cardinals Rob Moore can't get to a pass by quarterback Dave Kreig as Eagles defender Mark McMillian gets an armful. Eagles won 21-20.

### TEXAS

#### Kidd could return Tuesday

DALLAS (AP) — The Dallas Mavericks' Jason Kidd is down, but it remains to be seen if he's out.

A Sunday morning re-examination of the Mavericks guard's injured left hip revealed a slightly different diagnosis, but the prognosis was just as positive.

Team physician T.O. Souryal diagnosed the injury as a strained hip flexor muscle. After Kidd suffered the injury Saturday night, the preliminary diagnosis was a hyperextended hip. But, like Saturday night, Souryal told The Dallas Morning News on Sunday that Kidd might be able to play Tuesday night against Chicago.

### NATION/WORLD

#### IRS checking autograph fees

NEW YORK (AP) — Caught in an Internal Revenue Service investigation, some of baseball's biggest names have agreed to pay back taxes, fines and interest for not reporting cash fees earned at an autograph show, according to today's Daily News.

The New York City newspaper reported that Charles Fransen, chief of the IRS criminal division's Brooklyn office, confirmed that some players agreed to pay after admitting they didn't report cash pocketed at a January 1989 autograph show in Atlantic City, N.J. Fransen also confirmed some players were given immunity for prosecution after agreeing to provide information on the baseball memorabilia industry in general and on other players.

### ON THE AIR

#### Football

NFL  
Minnesota Vikings at San Francisco, 8 p.m. ch 2 (ABC)  
HIGH SCHOOL  
Texas Class 5A State Championship, 7 p.m., ch. 29 (Prime Sports)

Even as Bu Francisco were sion crowns a was grabbing the NFL wild well, wilder.

Heading into the season, fiv 8-7, all with p tial. Even Den make it.

Over in the are in the sc playoff spots, a — who didn't e — own a divis

The Bills be win their sixt in eight year play a wild-ca home on Dec. Dolphins still clubs in the card rush.

"Everyone o wouldn't do it this locker could," Jim proved everyl just the AFC only half-way t

The 49ers Carolina's 21-1 ry over Atlai Super Bowl 12th NFC Wes — and their f

The Eagle Arizona 17-0 back, winni Peete's 37-ya to Calvin Will quarter.

"I didn't se our play," Rhodes, who l 20-17 upset o "Coming off a had last wee things that y a coach."

In other g implications, Oakland 10; Indianapolis Denver 17; E York Giants Jacksonville Tampa Bay 1 35, St. Louis bly were th Cleveland a Browns defe 10, while th

## Slip

Continued from

Boniol's fiftl game put the 0:00 showing

Dallas (11- East on Chri Arizona if P Chicago nex the Eagles v to the Cowb

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## NHL

Continued f

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Blackha Bob Pre his sixth 2:29 of the winner si

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# Wild card races get wilder

Even as Buffalo and San Francisco were clinching division crowns and Philadelphia was grabbing a playoff berth, the NFL wild-card races got, well, wilder.

Heading into the final week of the season, five AFC teams are 8-7, all with postseason potential. Even Denver at 7-8 could make it.

Over in the NFC, five teams are in the scramble for two playoff spots, and only the 49ers — who didn't even play Sunday — own a division crown.

The Bills beat Miami 23-20 to win their sixth AFC East title in eight years. They'll likely play a wild-card round game at home on Dec. 30 or Dec. 31. The Dolphins still are one of the clubs in the wide-open wild-card rush.

"Everyone out there said we wouldn't do it, and everyone in this locker room knew we could," Jim Kelly said. "We proved everybody wrong. It's just the AFC East, and we're only halfway there."

The 49ers benefited from Carolina's 21-17 comeback victory over Atlanta, handing the Super Bowl champions their 12th NFC West crown since 1981 — and their fourth in a row.

The Eagles fell behind Arizona 17-0 before storming back, winning it on Rodney Peete's 37-yard touchdown pass to Calvin Williams in the fourth quarter.

"I didn't see any urgency in our play," said coach Ray Rhodes, who blamed last week's 20-17 upset over the Cowboys. "Coming off a huge win like we had last week, these are the things that you worry about as a coach."

In other games with playoff implications, it was Seattle 44, Oakland 10; San Diego 27, Indianapolis 24; Kansas City 20, Denver 17; Dallas 21, the New York Giants 20; Detroit 44, Jacksonville 0; Chicago 31, Tampa Bay 10; and Washington 35, St. Louis 23. In what possibly were the final games in Cleveland and Houston, the Browns defeated Cincinnati 26-10, while the Oilers took the

## NFL ROUNDUP

Jets 23-6.

On Saturday, Pittsburgh secured a first-round bye when it downed New England 41-27 and Green Bay assured itself of playing in the postseason with a 34-23 decision at New Orleans.

**Bills 23, Dolphins 20**  
Thurman Thomas had 147 yards rushing and scored twice at Buffalo (10-5). Steve Christie kicked three field goals, pushing Miami (8-7) into dangerous territory.

**Panthers 21, Falcons 17**  
Not only did Carolina (7-8) move into position to finish at .500 in its first season, but the Panthers hurt Atlanta's playoff plans. The Falcons (8-7) were on top by two touchdowns, then saw Kerry Collins hook up with Willie Green on an 89-yard touchdown pass, the longest this season for the new guys.

Carolina, already the winningest expansion team in NFL history, clinched it by stopping Atlanta on a fourth-and-goal play with 67 seconds left.

**Eagles 21, Cardinals 20**  
At Philadelphia, the Eagles (10-5) forced five second-half turnovers. They also got a key sack that made Greg Davis try a 47-yard field goal instead of a 40-yarder. He was just short into the wind.

Garrison Hearst fumbled three times for the Cardinals (4-11).

**Seahawks 44, Raiders 10**  
At Seattle, Chris Warren ran for three touchdowns as the Seahawks (8-7) won their third in a row and sixth in seven in handing the fading Raiders (8-7) their fifth loss in a row. Warren had his eighth 100-yard rushing game of the season, with scores of 35, 15 and 14 yards.

**Chargers 27, Colts 24**  
The defending AFC champion Chargers (8-7) won on John Carney's 43-yard field goal with three seconds to go. It was their fourth straight win and ensured if they beat the Giants next Saturday they will make the playoffs.

Tony Martin, whose 10 catches

for a season-high 168 yards included TD receptions of 51 and 38 yards, called it a "huge victory."

**Chiefs 20, Broncos 17**  
At Kansas City, the Chiefs improved on the NFL's best record, moving to 12-3 as Steve Bono threw for one touchdown and ran for another. Vaughn Booker ran 14 yards with John Elway's fumble for another TD as Kansas City locked up a first-round playoff bye and pushed Denver (7-8) to the brink of elimination.

**Lions 44, Jaguars 0**  
The league's hottest offense still is cooking. Detroit (9-6) won its sixth in a row, while visiting Jacksonville has dropped eight straight.

Barry Sanders ran for two touchdowns and Scott Mitchell passed for two more. The Lions have scored 190 points in their last six games and will be in the playoffs if Minnesota loses tonight or the Lions win at Tampa next Saturday.

**Bears 31, Buccaneers 10**  
Host Chicago (8-7) still needs help to make the playoffs, but stayed alive and eliminated Tampa Bay (7-8). Rashaan Salaam rushed for a career-high 134 yards — he has 952 this year — and three touchdowns. Trent Dilfer had his first TD pass since September for the Bucs.

**Redskins 35, Rams 23**  
At St. Louis, the Rams (7-8) blew any realistic shot at the playoffs despite Mark Rypien's 347 yards passing. Tom Carter and Tony Woods scored defensive touchdowns for Washington (5-10) as St. Louis lost for the eighth time in the last 11 games.

**Browns 26, Bengals 10**  
The Browns (5-10), losers of six straight since the announcement of the franchise would move to Baltimore next season, responded to possibly their last game at Cleveland Stadium. Cincinnati (6-9) saw its glimmer of playoff hope smashed.

The Associated Press

## FOOTBALL

|                                          |                                                                                                        |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Texas High School Championship Pairings  |                                                                                                        |
| Class 5A, Division I State Championship  | Converse Judson 31, Odessa Permian 28                                                                  |
| Class 5A, Division II State Championship | Flower Mound Marcus (15-0) vs. San Antonio Roosevelt (15-0), Noon Saturday, Alamo Stadium, San Antonio |

|                             |                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Class 4A State Championship | Denson (15-0) vs. La Marque (15-0), 1 p.m. Saturday, AstroDome, Houston           |
| Class 3A State Championship | Commerce (13-1-1) vs. Soledad (15-0), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Floyd Casey Stadium, Waco |

|                             |                                                                          |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Class 2A State Championship | Colina (14-1) vs. Alto (15-0), 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Texas Stadium, Irving |
| Class A State Championship  | Roscoe (14-1) vs. Thorndale (15-0), 6 p.m., Saturday, Brownwood Six-man  |
| State Championship          | Amherst 78, Milford 42                                                   |

|                          |                 |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| All Times EST            |                 |
| AMERICAN CONFERENCE East | W L T Pct. PFPA |

|              |   |    |          |     |
|--------------|---|----|----------|-----|
| x-Buffalo 10 | 5 | 0  | 0.667333 | 307 |
| Indianapolis | 8 | 7  | 0.533321 | 306 |
| Miami        | 8 | 7  | 0.533357 | 310 |
| New England  | 6 | 9  | 0.400287 | 367 |
| N.Y. Jets    | 3 | 12 | 0.200233 | 372 |

|                 |   |    |          |     |
|-----------------|---|----|----------|-----|
| x-Pittsburgh 11 | 4 | 0  | .733388  | 303 |
| Cincinnati      | 6 | 9  | 0.400322 | 350 |
| Houston         | 6 | 9  | 0.400320 | 307 |
| Cleveland       | 5 | 10 | 0.333268 | 332 |
| Jacksonville    | 3 | 12 | 0.200251 | 383 |

|                  |   |   |          |     |
|------------------|---|---|----------|-----|
| x-Kansas City 12 | 3 | 0 | 0.800332 | 238 |
| Oakland          | 8 | 7 | 0.533320 | 301 |
| San Diego        | 8 | 7 | 0.533294 | 306 |
| Seattle          | 8 | 7 | 0.533350 | 340 |
| Denver           | 7 | 8 | 0.467357 | 317 |

|                          |                 |    |          |     |
|--------------------------|-----------------|----|----------|-----|
| NATIONAL CONFERENCE East | W L T Pct. PFPA |    |          |     |
| y-Dallas 11              | 4               | 0  | .733388  | 278 |
| y-Philadelphia 10        | 5               | 0  | 0.666667 | 318 |
| N.Y. Giants              | 5               | 10 | 0.333273 | 313 |
| Washington               | 5               | 10 | 0.333306 | 342 |
| Arizona                  | 4               | 11 | 0.267262 | 385 |

|                |                 |   |          |     |
|----------------|-----------------|---|----------|-----|
| Central        | W L T Pct. PFPA |   |          |     |
| y-Green Bay 10 | 5               | 0 | .667380  | 295 |
| Detroit        | 9               | 6 | 0.600399 | 326 |
| Minnesota      | 8               | 6 | 0.571358 | 321 |
| Chicago        | 8               | 7 | 0.533372 | 346 |
| Tampa Bay      | 7               | 8 | 0.467228 | 298 |

|                    |                 |   |          |     |
|--------------------|-----------------|---|----------|-----|
| West               | W L T Pct. PFPA |   |          |     |
| x-San Francisco 10 | 4               | 0 | .714393  | 320 |
| Atlanta            | 8               | 7 | 0.533334 | 322 |
| St. Louis          | 7               | 8 | 0.467287 | 377 |
| Carolina           | 7               | 8 | 0.467272 | 305 |
| New Orleans        | 6               | 9 | 0.400307 | 348 |

x-clinched division title; y-clinched playoff berth.

Saturday's Games  
Pittsburgh 41, New England 27  
Green Bay 34, New Orleans 23

## SPORTS EXTRA

|                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Sunday's Games                |  |
| Detroit 44, Jacksonville 0    |  |
| Buffalo 23, Miami 20          |  |
| Cleveland 26, Cincinnati 10   |  |
| Houston 23, New York Jets 6   |  |
| Carolina 21, Atlanta 17       |  |
| Philadelphia 21, Arizona 20   |  |
| Chicago 31, Tampa Bay 10      |  |
| Washington 35, St. Louis 23   |  |
| Kansas City 20, Denver 17     |  |
| San Diego 27, Indianapolis 24 |  |
| Dallas 21, New York Giants 20 |  |
| Seattle 44, Oakland 10        |  |

Monday's Game  
Minnesota at San Francisco, 9 p.m.  
Saturday, Dec. 23  
San Diego at New York Giants, 12:30 p.m.  
Detroit at Tampa Bay, 4 p.m.  
New England at Indianapolis, 8 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 24  
Pittsburgh at Green Bay, 1 p.m.  
Houston at Buffalo, 1 p.m.  
Seattle at Kansas City, 1 p.m.  
Cleveland at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.  
San Francisco at Atlanta, 1 p.m.  
Philadelphia at Chicago, 1 p.m.  
New Orleans at New York Jets, 1 p.m.

Minnesota at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.  
Carolina at Washington, 4 p.m.  
Denver at Oakland, 4 p.m.  
Miami at St. Louis, 4 p.m.  
Monday, Dec. 25  
Dallas at Arizona, 9 p.m.  
End Regular Season

## BASEBALL

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| BASEBALL American League |  |
|--------------------------|--|

## KANSAS CITY ROYALS

Agreed to terms with Mark MacLachlan, catcher, on a two-year contract, and Jose Jimenez, pitcher, on a one-year contract.

**National League**  
ATLANTA BRAVES: Traded Kent Mercker, pitcher, to the Baltimore Orioles for pitcher Mike and Richard Rodriguez.  
LOS ANGELES DODGERS: Traded Jose Marmola, catcher, to the Kansas City Royals for pitcher Drew Brewer, pitcher Bruce Bochy, and Carlos Hernandez, pitcher, on a one-year contract.

**FOOTBALL**  
National Football League  
CLEVELAND PATRIOTS: Injured reserve list  
LEROY HUNT, offensive tackle, injured reserve  
BRADY HENDERSON, defensive back, injured reserve

**HOCKEY**  
National Hockey League  
CALIFORNIA GOLDEN EAGLES: Signed Shaun Kennedy, defenseman, from Florida Panthers.  
MINNESOTA APOLLONS: Called up defenseman from Florida Panthers

NEW YORK ISLANDERS: Steve Rucchin, defenseman, signed by Philadelphia Flyers  
PETER FERRARI, defenseman, signed by Philadelphia Flyers  
WITNALL FLYNN, forward, signed by Tampa Bay Lightning  
SPRINGFIELD THUNDERBOLTS: Signed

## Slip

Continued from page 8

Bonioli's fifth field goal of the game put the Giants away with 0:00 showing on the clock. Dallas (11-4) can win the NFC East on Christmas night against Arizona if Philadelphia defeats Chicago next Sunday. A loss by the Eagles would give the title to the Cowboys.

"I've been waiting for one of these kind of games," said the 167-pound Bonioli. "I've always been wanting the chance to hit a game-winner. I'm glad we decided to set it up for the field goal instead of going for the touchdown."

Switzer had made two questionable calls in a 20-17 loss to Philadelphia last week on fourth-and-1 from his 29 late in the game. This time he didn't gamble.

"That was a hell of a job by that Cajun from Louisiana Tech," Switzer said. "We figured we were in his range. He's been hitting the ball good for a long time so that was the way to go. There was no sense in trying to push our luck. I wasn't taking any chances, that's why I chose to run the clock."

Aikman completed a 10-yard pass to Kevin Williams on third-and-7 from the Dallas 38, hit Michael Irvin for 11 yards on third-and-10 from the Dallas 49, and found Williams again on third-and-10 at the Giants 28.

## NHL

Continued from page 8

Philadelphia, which had a season-high 49 shots, won its third straight. Both teams have won nine of their last 11.

"It sure wasn't a defensive game," Flyers coach Terry Murray said. "We knew we put ourselves in a bad situation. The thing was to come back. After all, we know they are one of the premier offensive teams and they are going to get their goals and their chances. To hang in there and win was really great."

**Blackhawks 3, Jets 1**  
Bob Probert broke a tie with his sixth goal of the season at 2:29 of the third, his first game-winner since the 1993-94 season. He missed last season while undergoing treatment for substance abuse.

Said Switzer: "I'm drained."

"There are a lot of smiles around the locker room," Williams said. "I think I made the biggest catches of my life on that drive. This is the kind of win we've needed. Maybe this will turn on the light switch for a lot of things."

Dallas worked the ball to the 17, where Bonioli, not bothered when the Giants called a timeout to ice him, hit the winner from 35 yards. It was his 22nd consecutive field goal.

"The timeout didn't bother me," Bonioli said. "I just went to the sidelines, worked on my routine, and got a cold drink of water."

Bonioli had other field goals of 27, 32, 23, and 45 yards before his big one. The five field goals tied a club record held by Roger Ruzek and Eddie Murray.

Rodney Hampton rushed for a career-high 187 yards, but the Giants still sustained their 10th loss against five wins.

"We controlled the ball but still came up short," Hampton said. "It's disappointing to play like this and lose. They embarrassed us in the first game. But they didn't do it this time."

"A win is a win the way things have been going for us the last two weeks," Aikman said. "We'll take it."  
The Dallas defense got some help in the second half as the

Giants had to settle for two field goals. A holding call against fullback Charles Way negated a short touchdown run by Tyrone Wheatley. Way also dropped a sure touchdown pass in the end zone.

"That was a clean block," Way said. "There was no way I was holding. But I should have caught the pass. It touches me, because I feel responsible for us losing."

New York coach Danny Reeves said, "I didn't see the holding call, but when you lose you seem to have breaks going against you. All I know is if we get that many calls we could be sitting here 11-0."

Dallas went into the game as a 15-point favorite, although it had lost in back-to-back weeks to Washington and Philadelphia. The Cowboys beat New York 35-0 in the first game of the season.

Giants quarterback Dave Brown wasn't overly impressed by the Cowboys the second time around.

Asked if he thought Dallas was a Super Bowl team, Brown replied, "I don't want to answer that. I've played, I think, all of the contenders this season. Deep down, I think I know who the winner will be."  
Dallas? No answer.

North Stars during the 1989-90 season.

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# Raptors knock off Shaq and Co.

What more could the crowd of 25,820 at SkyDome have asked for than getting to see Shaquille O'Neal's first start of the season? How about the Toronto Raptors knocking off Shaq and his Orlando Magic teammates?

The NBA expansion team handed the Magic, the owners of the league's second-best record, their worst loss of the season, 110-93 Sunday night in front of the second-biggest crowd of the season.

"They usually close it down and pour it on in the late going," said Damon Stoudamire, who had 21 points and 10 assists for the Raptors. "But I thought we really took away their game and didn't give them the chance to get back in it."

Don't blame O'Neal for that. In his first start and second appearance since injuring his hand in an exhibition game, O'Neal had 32 points, 11 rebounds and two blocks in 35 minutes.

"He still has a long way to go, but we felt like we needed him tonight," Magic coach Brian Hill said.

In other NBA games Sunday night, it was: Philadelphia 101, Minnesota 99; Milwaukee 84,

## NBA ROUNDUP

Indiana 80; Cleveland 92, Denver 79, and Washington 112, Portland 100.

O'Neal had no excuses after the Magic trailed 63-43 at half-time and were outscored 39-19 at the foul line.

"These guys played harder tonight," O'Neal said. "We didn't play well. We'll have to learn from our mistakes and get ready for our next game."

Oliver Miller, one of six Raptors in double figures with 16 points, took the team's eighth victory of the season in stride. "We did some dumb things tonight," he said. "We just didn't do as many dumb things as we usually do."

**76ers 101, Timberwolves 99**  
Vernon Maxwell scored 30 points in Philadelphia's first road victory of the season. Clarence

Weatherspoon matched his season-high with 22 points for the 76ers, who had lost 11 straight road games over two seasons. Christian Laettner, who had 23 points, and J.R. Rider missed 3-pointers for the Timberwolves in the final seconds. Sixers center

Sharonne Wright strained his right hamstring in the first quarter and never returned.

**Bucks 84, Pacers 80**  
Reserves Lee Mayberry and Terry Cummings had 10 and 11 points, respectively, in a game losing streak that ended for a 17-point victory by Indianapolis two nights ago. Reggie Miller had 11 points, and Mark Jackson added 10 to the Indiana, which had a four-game winning streak in the Cavaliers 92, Nuggets 25.

Terrell Branch and Greg Majerle each scored 15 points, but the Cavaliers won their sixth straight and evened the playoff race at 11-11 after starting the season with seven consecutive losses. The Nuggets, who had a four-day road trip, had just eight points available. Denver won 103-92.

**Bullets 112, Trail Blazers 101**  
Calbert Cheaney scored 28 in his season-high performance in the first half as Washington won its fourth straight victory over the Muresan had 16 points, 10 rebounds and four blocks in the visiting Portland game, which had at least 12 points in the fourth quarter.

The Associated Press

able. Owners receive 100 percent of luxury box money. Proceeds from other seats are part of the NFL's revenue sharing. "It's all about greed, money," Flores' wife, Carmen, said. "It's disappointing. There's nothing like being at a live game." "It's going to be sad," Flores added. "This (season tickets) is our entertainment for the year." Wide gaps of empty seats were common in the stadium Sunday

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MONDAY

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HI AND LOIS



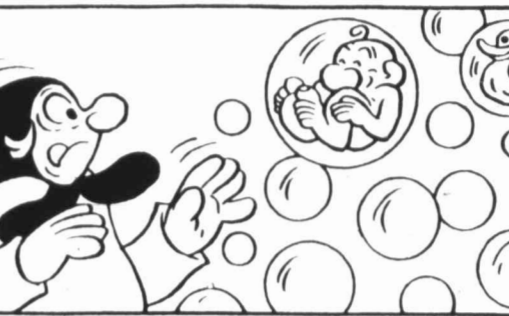
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Today's Cryptoquip clue: D equals F

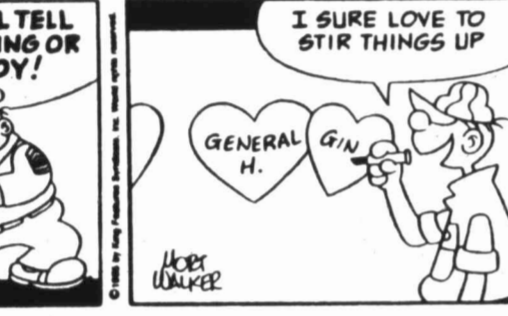
CRYPTOQUIP BOOK 2! Send \$4.50 (check/m.o.) to CryptoClassics Book 2, PO Box 6411, Riverton NJ 08077.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words.

Saturday's answer crossword puzzle grid with filled-in letters.

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BLONDIE



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B.C.



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