

BIG SPRING HERALD

Reflecting A Proud TEXAS Community

THURSDAY
December 21, 1995

50 Cents

Payback of advance subsidies eased

WASHINGTON (AP) — Farmers may have as long as three years to return \$1.7 billion in advance subsidy payments that were made before corn and wheat prices skyrocketed.

Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman said Wednesday his department would announce the relief as early as this week. Senate Democrats said the Agriculture Department would give farmers up to three years to

repay the money.

The refunds have been a selling point for the Republican farm plan, contained in a larger budget-balancing bill being negotiated between the Clinton administration and congressional Republicans.

The GOP-passed plan, which would give farmers lump-sum payments that decline over seven years, won farmer support partly because it will let

growers deduct the refunds from their next year.

Glickman and other Democrats have criticized the Republican plan, engineered by Rep. Pat Roberts, R-Kan., chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, for rewarding farmers when crop prices are high.

Subsidies traditionally fall when crop prices rise. The Republican plan would end the traditional subsidies and the

red tape surrounding them, using the lump-sum payments to ease the switch.

A House Agriculture Committee aide, Tom Hemmer, said Glickman's announcement on repayments undercut Democratic arguments. USDA is acknowledging that "many farmers, despite high prices, are experiencing extreme financial difficulties this year," he said.

Most farm programs end Dec.

31, putting pressure on Congress to either agree or extend existing programs. At this point, even Democrats are feuding among themselves.

Fiscally conservative Democrats from the House said Wednesday that some liberal Midwestern senators, including Minority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., and Sen. Byron Dorgan, D-N.D., one of the negotiators, were hindering an agreement.

Rep. Collin Peterson of Minnesota, a leader of the conservative Democrats, said that if senators accepted the Republican plan in principle, they could negotiate additional price protections for their farmers.

"We're in a position to get the safety net for agriculture," Peterson told reporters.

Dorgan countered that sup-

Please see PAYBACK, page 4A



Herald photo by Mary McAttee

Claude Horn puts the finishing touches to the new speed limit signs on Interstate 20 Wednesday morning.

Ante upped during holiday season; new speed limit reason for caution

By KELLIE JONES
Staff Writer

A total of 75 people could die on Texas highways during the holiday season.

The Department of Public Safety's Operation Motorcade kicks in Friday at 6 p.m. and ends at midnight Christmas. Officials anticipate as many as 35 people will be involved in fatal accidents.

The second phase of the operation begins Dec. 29 at 6 p.m. ending at midnight Jan. 1 with the prediction of 40 fatalities during this time period.

Local DPS Sgt. Larry Meadors said all eight highway patrol officers in his service area will be working during Operation Motorcade. This includes Howard, Martin, Glasscock and Reagan counties.

The number is higher this year because of the new speed limit allowing people to drive 70 miles an hour during the day. Truckers can drive 60 miles an hour during the day and 55 miles an hour at night.

Not all signs on Texas roads have been changed so when you are travelling, it is important to pay attention to what the speed limit is.

Last year, 32 people died during the Christmas weekend and 33 for the New Year's holiday. Most of the fatalities were linked to either drunk drivers or people not wearing their seat belts.

Here are some safe driving tips from the DPS:

•Don't drive fatigued - stop for breaks every few hours and if possible, change drivers every two to three hours.

•Don't drive under the influence - avoid using alcohol or any type of drug, including prescription medicine, before getting behind the wheel.

Please see DRIVING, page 4A

ONE NOTE AWAY

Adusumilli, Tyler head to area band competition

By KELLIE JONES
Staff Writer

Two Big Spring students are just one step away from state band competition.

Josna Adusumilli and Quin Tyler advanced to the area round earlier this month at the all-region competition in Odessa. They, along with 16 fellow band members, played a selection of music before a panel of judges. They competed against both 4-A and 5-A schools.

Band Director Rocky Harris said Big Spring had the second largest number of students

entering the contest and the second largest group making the all-region 4-A band.

The selection process includes a group of students who play the same instrument entering a room together. Each one then walks up to a panel of five judges and plays while the other competitors listen. This allows the student to hear what his or her competition sounds like, making the experience beneficial.

Adusumilli, Tyler, Stefanie Waggoner, Angela Sturm and Mike Mata were selected to the regional band with Jacob Quisenberry selected as alternate. All students who made it

at the Odessa competition will perform a concert on Jan. 27 at Midland Lee High School. The public is invited to attend.

Tyler made sixth chair out of 42 students and was the highest ranking freshman at the contest. Harris said Odessa and Midland schools rarely let their freshmen even try out for the all-region band.

Tyler, who plays the trumpet, and Adusumilli, who plays the oboe, will go to the area competition in Lubbock on Jan. 6.

Tyler said, "You work hard to do your best and that's all you can do. You want to play better at area and hope to advance to Please see BAND, page 4A



Herald photo by Kellie Jones

Several Big Spring High School band members recently competed in the all-region concert. Seated in the first row, left to right, are: Angela Sturm, Stefanie Waggoner, Josna Adusumilli and Quin Tyler. Back row, left to right, are: Farrah Schooler, Mike Mata, Tim Paton, Jacob Quisenberry, Damian Puentes, Nick Puentes, Lupita Barraza and Dusty Clayton. Adusumilli and Tyler will advance to area competition next month in Lubbock.

Memories of family appreciated

By DEBBYE VALVERDE
Contributing Writer

I have always appreciated just about everything I got for Christmas. Whether it was socks, a box of candy or kitchen utensils, and I know everybody



has special memories that they cherish. But memories happen every Christmas in my family. My family has given me a great Christmas gift every year.

Please see BEST, page 2A

NAFTA brings more Canadian truck traffic to Big Spring

By CARLTON JOHNSON
Staff Writer

The entry of Mexican trucks onto Texas highways as part of the North American Free Trade Agreement has some, but not all, in the trucking industry a bit concerned.

Depending on who you ask, Texas' highways could turn

Please see TRUCKS, page 4A

Texas Trivia
What unique Dallas businesswoman built the first iron bridge across the Trinity River?
Sarah Cockrell

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Vol. 91, No. 375
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WORLD/NATION

Nation: Edy Solomon braced himself as the jet on which he was a passenger skidded off an icy runway and struck a concrete tower. See page 7A.

STATE

Runner shot
Teachers at Permian High School pitched in to buy a new suit for star sprinter Today! Cuiver. And the Permian Basin Track Club raised \$1,800 for the concrete vault for the athlete's burial Friday. See page 6A.

Weather blamed
Insurance companies say Texas' volatile weather has created a need for higher average homeowners' insurance rates. See page 5A.

TODAY'S WEATHER

Tonight
37 ▲ Highs 23
Lows ▼

Snow possible
Tonight, cloudy, 40 percent chance of rain, changing to snow during the evening, low mid 20s, east to northeast winds 5 to 15 mph.

Permian Basin Forecast
Friday: Cloudy, slight chance of snow, high upper 30s, northeast winds 5 to 15 mph, 20 percent chance of snow; cloudy night, chance of rain, low mid 20s.

DECEMBER 21 1995

Marj Carpenter main speaker at annual chamber banquet

By CARLTON JOHNSON
Staff Writer

The annual banquet of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce is set for Friday, Jan. 5, at 6:15 p.m. at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Banquet Chairperson Gloria Hopkins updated the chamber's board of directors at their monthly meeting Wednesday and said the chamber would like to exceed last year's attendance of 475 people.

Tickets for the banquet will be \$12.50 per person and the reservation deadline is Dec. 29.

The theme for the banquet is "Celebrating Big Spring ... A Premier Community" and guest speaker will be Marj Carpenter, moderator of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

Big Spring's "Man and Woman of the Year" will also be announced at the banquet.

Outgoing chamber President Jim Weaver said the selection committee has unanimously chosen both the man and woman to be honored, but names will not be released until the night of the banquet.

Other items at Wednesday's meeting included implementation of the master plan and associate membership to the chamber.

Community and Governmental Affairs Chairperson Cheryl Sparks told the chamber board

everything is going well with the master plan, which took more than a year to complete.

"We as a chamber need to focus on the implementation of the plan. We need to remember it is a tool as well as a guideline and will need to be changed from time to time, but it will also keep us all going in the same direction," Sparks said.

She added the chamber needs to follow the lead of other communities that have had similar plans implemented.

"We have a start and we can go back to the drawing board whenever we need to. Right now we need to focus on the plan, encourage its implementation and be flexible," Sparks said.

Membership Development Chairman David Wrinkle said the idea behind associate membership to the chamber is to increase numbers and have as many people as possible interact with the chamber.

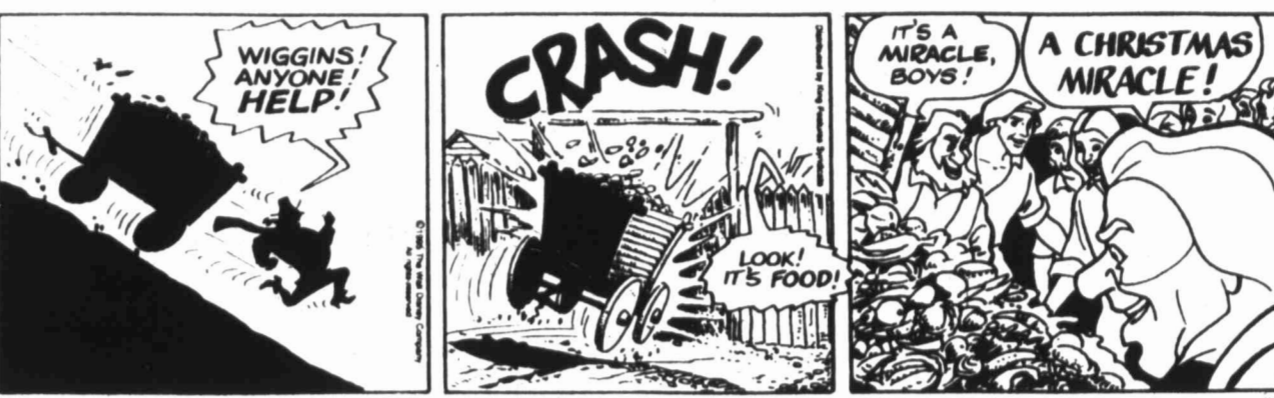
The board voted to accept the idea of associate membership to the chamber and set \$75 as the associate membership fee.

To become an associate member of the chamber, the company an individual works for must already be paying regular membership fees.

Sparks added, "This is a matter of inclusion. We want to get as many people as possible involved with the chamber and its activities."

ON THE RUN

Walt Disney's POCAHONTAS



DID YOU WIN? LOTTO: 2, 7, 16, 36, 38, 41
PICK 3: 7, 4, 1

POLICE

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following incidents during a 24-hour period ending 8 a.m. Thursday:

- CHRISTY LYNN MORGAN, 18, of 1504 Wood, was arrested on outstanding local warrants.
- CLAUDE MEANS, 45, no address given, was arrested for public intoxication.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF in the 600 block of East Third.
- INVESTIGATING SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY in the 500 block of Lancaster, 3300 block of East 11th, 600 block of Oak Glen, 700 block of Martin Luther King Blvd. and 1800 block of Benton.
- THEFT in the 900 block of Willis.
- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING in the 1200 block of Wright.
- UNATTENDED DEATH in the 500 block of Lancaster. The manner of death was ruled as being natural causes.

SHERIFF

The Howard County Sheriff's Department reported the following incidents during a 24-hour period ending 8 a.m. Thursday:

- ANDREW AGUILAR, 31, of 1615 Canary, was transferred from the city jail after being arrested for driving while intoxicated. He was later released on a \$2,000 bond.
- JOCK LASHANE BANKS, 21, of 1503 Cherokee, pleaded guilty to unlawfully carrying a handgun and failure to appear in court for the charge. He was sentenced to five years deferred adjudication and fined \$500.
- MANUEL CUELLAR, 23, of 702 Douglas, pleaded guilty to violating his parole for burglary of a building. He was sentenced to 30 months probation and 180 days in a state jail facility. He was also fined \$1,000.
- JIMMY LEE ANDERSON, 23, of Route 3 Box 171, turned himself in on a motion to revoke his probation. He had been on probation for his second charge of driving while intoxicated. He was later released on a \$2,000 personal recognizance bond.
- EDDIE DWAYNE WHITE, 27, of 1201 Mulberry, was transferred from the city jail after being arrested for driving while intoxicated and possession of marijuana under two ounces. He was later released on bonds totaling \$3,000.
- KEVIN RAMIREZ, no address given, was arrested by DPS troopers for driving while license suspended. He was later released on a \$1,000 bond.
- RUNAWAY from residence in Coahoma.
- ALARM at business on East Interstate 20.
- CAR FIRE near mile marker 169.
- SUSPICIOUS PERSON at Midway Baptist Church.
- SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE on Todd Road.
- INJURED DEER in the 5100 block of Callahan Road.
- DOG PROBLEM on Jonesboro Road.

intoxicated. He was later released on a \$2,000 personal recognizance bond.

He was later released on bonds totaling \$3,000.

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FIRE

The Big Spring Fire Department reported the following incident during a 24-hour period ending 8 a.m. Thursday:

•GRASS FIRE under bridge at South Highway 87 and Whiskey. Transients had started a small fire to keep warm.

RECORDS

Wednesday's temp.	49
Wednesday's low	25
Average high	56
Average low	28
Record high	78 in 1981
Record low	8 in 1973
Rainfall Wednesday	0.00
Month to date	0.00
Month's normal	0.48
Year to date	15.95
Normal for the year	18.37

**Statistics not available

IN BRIEF

Seminar on relapse sponsored

The Howard County Mental Health Center will sponsor a video presentation on "Understanding Relapse: Managing the Symptoms of Schizophrenia," 6 p.m. Dec. 28, at The Corral, Third and Benton streets. The Big Spring AMI meeting will be at 7 p.m.

Library closings announced

The Howard County Library will be closed for the Christmas holidays Dec. 23 - 26.

Practice spelling 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. Any individual wanting more information can call Kristie Carruthers at 263-7331.

Tips on keeping purses safe and sound

The Big Spring Police Department has reported several purse thefts from cars. In most cases, the purse was left on the front seat of a locked car, and the thief broke the window out and took the purse. Most of the missing purses have been recovered, but any cash in them was stolen.

The Big Spring Police Department advises women who want to leave their purses in their cars to lock them in the trunk where they are concealed. Lock the car and take the keys.

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

- Masonic Lodge #1340, 7:30 p.m., 2101 Lancaster. Call Dalton Lewis, 263-8411.
- Spring Tabernacle Church, 1209 Wright, free food for area needy, 10 a.m.-noon.
- Salvation Army drug education program, sponsored by Permian Basin Regional Council on alcohol and drug abuse, 7 p.m., Salvation Army Building, 308 Aylford.
- Spring City Senior Citizen Center art classes, 9:30-11:30 a.m. 55 and older invited.
- Battered women support group, 2:30 p.m. Call 263-3312 or 267-3626.
- Good Shepherd Fellowship, 610 Abrams, has services at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome to come.
- Al-Anon, 8 p.m., Scenic Mountain Medical Center, small cafeteria on first floor.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, noon open meeting, 615 Settles.

FRIDAY

- Dominoes, 42, bridge and Chickentrack, 5-8 p.m. at 2805 Lynn, Kentwood Center. Public invited.
- Turning Point A.A., 8-9:30 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 10th and Gollad. Open to all substance abusers.
- Spring City Senior Center, free fashion painting classes, 9:30-11:30 a.m. 55 and older invited.
- Spring City Senior Citizens country/western dance, 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Music by The Super Six Band. Area seniors invited.
- Alcoholics Anonymous noon open meeting and 8 p.m. Big Book Study, 615 Settles.

SATURDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous, noon, 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. open meetings, 615 Settles.

SUNDAY

- Good Shepherd Fellowship, 610 Abrams, has services at 6 p.m. Everyone is welcome to come.
- Incipient Shire of Crossroads, local branch of the Society of Creative Anachronism, weekly fighter practice, 2 p.m., Comanche Trail Park. Call Robert Black, 393-5438 or A.J. Hashem, 267-5825.
- Alcoholics Anonymous 11 a.m. closed meeting and 7 p.m. open meeting, 615 Settles.
- MONDAY
- Tops Club (Take Off Pounds Sensibly), 6 p.m. Weigh-in, 5:30 p.m., College Heights Christian Church, 21st and Gollad. 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 Gollad.
- Project Freedom, Christian support group, 7 p.m. Call 263-5140 or 263-2241.
- Al-A-Teen, 7:30 p.m., 615 Settles.

Saturday Morning
EXTENDED HOURS CLINIC
9 A.M. to 12 NOON
Located on the 2nd Floor of The Clinic
NO APPOINTMENTS NECESSARY
Non-emergency medical service

MALONE and HOGAN CLINIC
1501 W. 11th Place
267-6361

Give A CONCEALED Handgun Class Gift Certificate For Christmas
Call 264-0625

Best

Continued from page 1A

The closeness and affection we have for each other is something that I truly respect. From as far back as I can remember, the Salazar family has always gotten together, even those that have moved away are always with us on Christmas Day by phone.

Some of my most cherished memories are of having a chimney made out of cardboard, (it was a 60s thing). I never could figure out how Santa was going to come down the chimney, but both my mom and dad always assured me that he had his ways of getting in and out of houses, and he always did manage.

I remember one Christmas, Mama Ruth made all the girls dresses out of the same material, but of different patterns. It made for great pictures for that "famous photo album," that to this day I have not seen. My cousins and I, one year performed the Christmas Story.

We used bed sheets for Joseph, Mary and shepherds. One of us got a new baby doll that we used for Baby Jesus. I read from the Bible and we all sang Christmas carols.

A tradition that has been done in our family for a long time, and is still done to this day, is that either one of my uncles or my dad would go out the back door and around front, knock really hard on the door, yell "HO! HO! HO! MERRY CHRISTMAS!!" and would leave a large bag of gifts for everyone. When I was young all of us kids would yell or some would even cry, now that I am older it is so much fun to see the younger kids faces as they experience this tradition.

There can be good gifts and bad gifts, but memories will always stay with you, especially when shared with the people you love. I know my memories will always be with me. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

OBITUARIES

Fred Hassman

Funeral services for Fred "Corky" Hassman, Midkiff, were 9 a.m. today at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints in Midland with Bishop Gary Hoose officiating. Burial will be Saturday, Dec. 23, 1995, in the Mountain View Cemetery in Deming, N.M.

Mr. Hassman died Tuesday, Dec. 19, at his residence.

He was born on Oct. 6, 1951, in Long Beach, Calif. He was reared in Deming, N.M., where he graduated from high school. He met Jeannie Gross in Deming, and they were married on Aug. 24, 1974. They moved to Midland in 1984 from Corona,

N.M. He was employed by Western Gas Resources. Mr. Hassman was active in Boy Scouts, serving in the past as scoutmaster. He was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints.

He is survived by his wife: Jeannie Gross Hassman, Midkiff; two sons: Jim Hassman and Eli Hassman, both of Midkiff; and seven daughters: Kay Hassman, Deming, N.M., Cory Hassman, Jolea Hassman, Calli Hassman, Ashley Hassman, Carrie Hassman, and Kelsey Hassman, all of Midkiff.

Arrangements under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home, Midland.

Ethel Coleman

Services for Ethel Coleman, 84, Big Spring, are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

She died Thursday, Dec. 21, 1995, in a local hospital.

MYERS & SMITH
FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL
24th & Johnson 267-8288

Nalley-Pickle & Welch
Funeral Home and Rosewood Chapel
906 GREGG
267-6331

Julian Bernard Fisher, 72, died Tuesday, December 19, 1995. Services will be 1:30 PM Tuesday, December 26, 1995 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

Ethel Coleman, 84, died today. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

BIG SPRING HERALD CLASSIFIED GETS RESULTS 263-7331

FIELD OF POINSETTIAS



Herald photo by Tim Appel

Terri Johansen waters the remaining poinsettias at Johansen Nursery Tuesday afternoon. Because of the holiday season, the local business has already shipped out 6,000 of the Christmas plants.

MARKETS

March cotton futures 81.75 cents a pound, up 70 points; Feb. crude oil 19.03, up 6 points; cash hog steady at \$1 lower at 45.50 cents even; slaughter steers steady at 66 cents even; Feb. live hog futures 47.50, down 5 points; Dec. live cattle futures 66.75, down 32 points. Courtesy: Delta Commodities

Non-commodity
Index 5098.69
Volume 127,006,210

ATT	64 1/2
Amoco	71 1/2
Atlantic Richfield	109 1/2
Atmos	22 1/2
Boston Chicken	31 1/2
Cabot	49 1/2
Chevron	51 1/2
Chrysler	54 1/2
Coca-Cola	75 1/2
De Beers	80 1/2
DuPont	68 1/2

Exxon	80 1/2
Fina Inc.	51 1/2
Ford Motors	29 1/2
Halliburton	49 1/2
IBM	45 1/2
JO Penney	90 1/2
Laser Indus LTD	9 1/2
Mesa Ltd. Prt	3 1/2
Mobile	110 1/2
NUV	9 1/2
Pepsi Cola	55 1/2
Phillips Petroleum	33 1/2
Rural/Metro	22 1/2
Sears	39 1/2
Southwestern Bell	57 1/2
Sun	26 1/2
Texasco	77 1/2
Texas Instruments	49 1/2
Texas Utilities	40 1/2
Unocal Corp.	29 1/2
Wal-Mart	22 1/2
Amcap	13.38-14.20
Euro Pacific	22.69-24.07
I.C.A.	21.29-22.56

New Economy	15.88-16.85
New Perspective	16.10-17.08
Van Kampen	14.85-15.59
Prime Rate	8.50%
Gold	387.40-387.90
Silver	5.10-5.13

Big Spring Herald
ISSN 0746-0811

Published afternoons Monday through Friday, and Sunday mornings.
by the month HOME DELIVERY
Evenings and Sunday, \$8.85 monthly;
\$95.42 yearly (includes 10% discount for yearly).

MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS
\$12.50 monthly Howard & Martin Counties, \$13.25 elsewhere.

The Herald is a member of the Associated Press, Audit Bureau of Circulation, American Newspaper Association and West Texas Press.

POSTMASTER: Send change of address to: Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79720.

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American Airlines jet crash in Colombia kills 164 people

CALLI, Colombia (AP) — An American Airlines jetliner carrying 164 people from Miami crashed in the Andes Mountains on its final approach to the southwestern Colombian city of Cali. Rescuers who reached the scene today said there were no survivors.

The cause of the crash, which happened Wednesday evening in an active rebel area, was not known.

"The plane was destroyed, and according to our people at the site, there are no survivors," said Alvaro Cala, director of Colombia's Civil Aviation authority. A local military battalion also reached the scene today and reported that everyone aboard had died.

American Airlines, in a statement from its Fort Worth, Texas, headquarters, said everyone on board apparently was killed.

The airline said the plane was carrying 156 passengers — including four infants — and eight crew members. The army said 152 people were on board. It did not explain the discrepancy. "The plane plunged into a hill and was reduced to little pieces," said a statement from a local military post in Buga, a town 40 miles north of Cali.

A farmer who walked for three hours to the site Wednesday night described a picture of devastation.

"I saw only pieces where the plane crashed and clothing

hanging from the trees. There were no bodies left at all," Pedro Rosano told RCN Radio. "The largest piece of plane remaining was only two meters (two yards) long."

Flight 965 lost radio contact Wednesday evening while flying over Buga. Police said they received telephone calls from people in the area reporting an explosion.

"We saw when the plane crashed against a mountain and then a huge fireball erupted," witness Carlos Buitrago told Radio Caracol. He said skies were clear.

The arrival of rescue officials at the crash site 185 miles southwest of Bogota was delayed by darkness and the mountainous

terrain.

A police spokesman in Buga, Ricardo Canizales, described the region as a "hot zone," or base of operations for leftist guerrillas. He said authorities did not travel to the site overnight because of the danger.

At daybreak, rescuers headed to the scene by helicopter and on foot.

Most of the passengers were reportedly Colombians traveling to see their families for the holidays. Cali is home to 2 million people and the Cali drug cartel, which supplies most of the world's cocaine.

American Airlines said in a statement today that the airline would not release a list of pas-

sengers until the next of kin were notified. It did not know how long that would take.

The Boeing 757-200 is a twin-engine, medium- to long-range jetliner that can carry up to 239 passengers. First flown in 1982, it has a range of 3,200 miles.

In Seattle, Boeing spokesman Bill Curry said this was the first crash involving a 757, which has had an "unblemished record. All of our thoughts are with families and friends of the passengers now."

He said the company was sending a team including an investigator, a pilot and an aircraft structure expert from Seattle today.

Today is the seventh anniversary of the explosion of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland. A terrorist bomb was blamed.

In January, an airliner crashed near the Colombian coastal city of Cartagena, killing 52 people. One 9-year-old girl survived. The cause is still unclear.

In November 1989, a bomb exploded on a Colombian airliner flying from Bogota to Cali, killing 107 people. Drug traffickers from the Medellin cartel were blamed.

Last month, the Federal Aviation Administration downgraded Colombia's civil aviation authority rating from "acceptable" to "conditional."

Israel pulls out of Bethlehem

BETHLEHEM, West Bank (AP) — In a prelude to withdrawal, Israeli soldiers climbed on top of the Manger Square police station before dawn today and removed the Star of David banner that had flown over Bethlehem for 28 years.

Palestinians, huddled around a bonfire in the square below, clapped and whistled when the Israeli flag came down.

The troops' withdrawal would come later in the day, making Bethlehem the sixth West Bank town to come under Palestinian rule as part of the Israel-PLO autonomy agreement.

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat is to visit Bethlehem for the first time on Sunday, Christmas Eve, and deliver a speech from the roof of the Church of the Nativity.

Manger Square was already festooned today with hundreds of Palestinian flags, pictures of Arafat and chains of lights.

Some evangelical Christians have complained that Arafat was exploiting Christmas for political gains ahead of the Jan. 20 Palestinian general elections.

But visitors to Bethlehem said there was genuine cheer in the air today, compared to the subdued Christmas observances during the 1987-1993 uprising against occupation.

"In the last two years, we felt Christmas here was very sad," said Margaret Hannom, a United Methodist Church official from Danvers, Mass., who works in Jerusalem.

You almost had the sense like it was in Jesus' time — a military occupation," Mrs. Hannom said, referring to Christmases past. "The Romans were here then. All that changed probably was the uniform and the type of weapon: an Uzi instead of a sword."

The joy contrasted with the sorrow of some Jews, who feel Israel must not hand over the town linked to Jewish history as the birthplace of King David.



An Israeli border police officer stands on top of his jeep as he folds the Israeli flag from the Bethlehem police station Thursday.

Peace Corps volunteers threatened, ordered to leave Manila

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Peace Corps officials have ordered volunteers working in the northern Cordillera region back to Manila following reports of threats against them.

Joel Wallach and Gale Metcalf, co-directors of the Peace Corps in the Philippines, said in a memorandum that they had received information from "highly credible sources which caused us to be concerned for the safety and security" of the volunteers in the Cordillera.

A copy of the memorandum was obtained today by The Associated Press.

Wallach and Metcalf said they immediately ordered the volunteers in the northern mountain city of Baguio, 125 miles north

of the capital, and in Ifugao province to return to Manila.

"We did not make this decision lightly," they said. "However, nothing is more important to us than volunteer safety and security."

The memorandum did not specify the threat. A volunteer, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said he was one of at least eight from the region who were ordered to return to Manila.

He said U.S. Embassy Peace Corps officials were "very vague" about where the threats came from.

He noted the order to leave followed a series of raids on marijuana plantations in the region. Communist rebels operate in

the area and they are supported by some of the marijuana planters, who are poor mountain peasants.

In June 1990, Peace Corps volunteer Timothy Swanson of Cheyenne, Wyo., was kidnapped by Communist rebels on central Negros Island, about one week before the U.S. Embassy recalled all the volunteers and sent them home because intelligence reports indicated rebels might try to kill or kidnap them.

The rebels claimed the Peace Corps program supported the government's counterinsurgency campaign. Swanson was released unharmed in August after 11 1/2 months in captivity.

Old faces but new mission as U.S.-led NATO troops take over

MRKONJIC GRAD, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) — Many of the foreign soldiers here aren't new to Bosnia. But their mission as NATO troops is fresh — police the peace instead of often watching, hands tied, as people are slaughtered.

Here and elsewhere, some of the soldiers who will be serving under NATO are former U.N. peacekeepers. They switched helmets Wednesday — from the U.N.'s baby blue to NATO's green and brown — as the U.N. peacekeeping mission wound down and NATO's began.

They soon embarked on no-nonsense actions meant to show that they won't be pushed around, as U.N. peacekeepers frequently were.

"This is more like it. This is what we're used to," said Staff Sgt. Ken Saxon as he ordered a huge bulldozer to plow over a Bosnian Croat barrier at the Black Dog checkpoint near this northern Bosnian town.

U.N. forces in Bosnia, numbering 24,000 at their peak, were at best able to help deliver humanitarian aid to the besieged and needy. At worst, they were harassed, shot at, taken hostage and accused of failing to protect Bosnian civilians from nearly four years of war that left 200,000 dead and 2 million homeless.

But unlike the lightly armed U.N. peacekeepers, NATO soldiers now setting up in Bosnia have a clear mandate, heavy weapons and a peace plan signed by all sides.

Their goal is to enforce a U.S.-brokered peace plan signed in Paris on Dec. 14 that essentially splits the country into a Serb republic and a Muslim-Croat

federation. The mission aims to keep the combatants separated by heavily patrolled zones, while the country tries to rebuild.

Operation Joint Endeavor, the largest Western military operation in Europe since World War II, will be charged with forcing peace on a nation sharply divided along ethnic, nationalist and religious lines.

NATO troops "have the authority to take whatever action" is necessary, said Adm. Leighton Smith, the American commander of the 60,000-strong force, underlining a key difference between his army and the U.N. peacekeeping force preceding it.

Smith came to Sarajevo to take part in Wednesday's formal transfer of power at the city's battered, sand-bagged and fog-shrouded airport.

"Gentlemen, it's time. Let's get on with it," Smith said.

Even as he formally launched the mission, NATO units were already deep in territory still torn by the hatreds of almost four years of war.

By afternoon, the road between Sarajevo and Kiseljak, 20 miles to the west, was cleared of the Muslim, Croat and Serb checkpoints that made free passage impossible for much of the war. NATO control posts replaced them.

A Serb post that had controlled access to the Sarajevo airport was bulldozed by French NATO forces. French tanks patrolled the road.

At the Black Dog checkpoint, 20 miles south of the Serb stronghold of Banja Luka and a front line just two months ago for warring Croats and Serbs,

British soldiers swiftly set up mortars and anti-tank equipment.

"It's very important for this to work, to demonstrate our military capacity," said Maj. Chris Claridge, commander of the unit. "There is definitely a psychological change to our operation of the last three to four months."

On the Serb side, the troops set up an anti-tank missile with infrared night sights. Some of the Serbs watching appeared unimpressed.

"Hmmm, we're quicker than that after four years of war," said Capt. Boban Zelkovic, a Bosnian Serb officer.

At the same time, he said, he had no doubt that NATO was up to its task.

"If this whole deployment thing can work, it could bring peace," he said.

Another Serb officer, Lt. Vito Brnic, said he believed the peace plan could work but that one year — the maximum set by President Clinton for the presence of the 20,000 U.S. troops in the mission — was too short.

"So much blood has flown in these parts that it will be difficult to resolve everything in just one year," he said.

Although people in Serb-held sections in Sarajevo oppose the Dayton, Ohio, plan because it forces them to submit to rule by Croats and Muslims, Serbs in and around Banja Luka, who get to keep territories they now hold, are generally receptive.

In Serb-held Krupa, about 15 miles south of Banja Luka, Mira Vucic and her daughter waved from a balcony as the British drove by on Warriors — heavily armed fighting vehicles.

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EDITORIAL

Quote of the Day

"Freedom is not a passive right. It is an active responsibility."

Teresa Day, high school student, 1994

Chamber banquet near; Marj Carpenter to speak

Right around the corner is the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce's annual banquet. It is a night of revelations and good speakers. Last year, State Comptroller John Sharp spoke, and this year it will be Marj Carpenter.

Carpenter was recently elected moderator of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the first moderator in several years to be female or a layperson. She previously worked as mission interpreter and news director for the PCUSA, and spent many years as a reporter for West Texas newspapers, including the Herald. She was voted Big Spring Citizen of the Year in 1978. Carpenter is known for her sharp wit and way with words. She's an excellent choice to speak at any banquet any-

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

where in the country, but particularly for this major event in her hometown. Her duties as the Presbyterian Church's moderator keeps her away from Big Spring so frequently, we are doubly fortunate she has been able to find room in her schedule to be the Chamber's guest speaker.

The banquet is scheduled for Friday, Jan. 5, at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Tickets are available at the chamber.

Get your ticket now to hear Carpenter speak and find out who the men and women of the year will be.



Government offices a danger to civil rights

There was good news and bad news for Mieczyslaw Sokalski when he went downtown Chicago to visit a federal government office one recent day.

The good news was that those government offices were not shut down because of the Washington budget fight.

The bad news was that Sokalski would have been better off without the good news.

Sokalski, 39, of suburban Arlington Heights, went downtown to act as an interpreter for a Polish friend who had business at the offices of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service.

When they got there, people already were standing in line outside the building, waiting to be admitted when there was room inside.

Because it is such a slow process, some people became impatient and tried to sneak ahead of others.

"There was only one security officer, I could see that he couldn't keep track of all those people," Sokalski said.

So when a woman came charging up and pushed through those who were waiting, Sokalski grabbed her coat and said: "Can't you get in line like everybody else? We're all waiting."

The woman angrily pulled her coat away, Sokalski said, flashed an ID card, and said that she worked there.

Then she went inside and talked to the security guard and other employees while gesturing at Sokalski.

A few minutes later, someone came out and asked Sokalski to come in.

"I thought she wanted to talk

to me or ask me to apologize. I was ready to do that, even though she should have showed her ID card before she pushed ahead of everybody.

"But when I got inside, I found out that she was bringing charges and they were arresting me for assaulting her. They said I made a hole in her coat.

"That was not true. I didn't make a hole. If there was a hole in her coat, it was there before I touched it.

"The federal officers handcuffed me. They were very nice. One of them said: 'What's the matter with these people?'"

"And they told me I would probably be let out in about three hours."

Sokalski was allowed to phone his wife, a nurse at a suburban hospital. He explained the situation and said he might be late for dinner.

Then the Chicago police came and took him away.

"I asked why this was happening," said Sokalski, a mental-health worker at a hospital. "One of them said: 'You can't touch those people. What if you had a knife?'"

"That didn't make sense. I didn't have a knife."

At the police lockup, Sokalski was searched and his belt, shoe laces and personal belongings were taken.

"When I tried to ask them what was happening, they pointed at a sign that said something like: 'Don't talk, don't ask us anything, we didn't bring you here, we don't know.'"

He was put in a cell with another man. "He had been in jail before so he was helpful. He told me that I was entitled to make a phone call, so I asked a policeman. About two hours later, they let me call my wife. She had thought I'd be on my way home by then."

Not nearly. The hours passed. "All kinds of people were brought in for worse things than I did. Then they were taken away. But I was kept there all day and all night."

"My wife had to call my job

and tell them I would miss work because I was in jail. They thought she was making a joke.

"My wife called a friend who is a lawyer and he called the police station and they told him that I had been released.

"Then they said they were still waiting for my fingerprints to be checked.

"By then I was in a cell with a drug dealer."

Thirty-six hours after he grabbed the federal employee's coat, he was taken from his cell, his belongings were returned, and after \$100 bond was posted by his wife, he was released.

By then, Sokalski was more than a bit indignant. None of this would have happened if the woman had shown her ID and said she was a government employee, instead of shoving past people. It's called common courtesy.

So Sokalski made up his mind to seek justice when he went to court. He would challenge the woman to explain why she hadn't shown her ID when she shoved through the line, and he would call for an examination of the hole that he allegedly made in her coat.

When his court date came, he stepped before the judge, ready to do battle.

But the woman wasn't there. Nobody from the federal government was.

The judge looked at the paperwork, shook his head, and said: "Have a nice day. Goodbye."

We called the immigration offices to ask why the woman didn't show up in court after causing Sokalski to spend 36 hours in jail.

After spending more than an hour bouncing from one recorded voice to another, and winding up being switched to someone in New York, who switched us back to a recorded message in Chicago, we got an INS spokesman who said: "Why didn't she go to court?" The spokesman said, "I don't know."

Hey, Newt, don't budge one inch.



Mike Royko
Columnist

Enforcement of state trucking laws important with NAFTA

By CARLTON JOHNSON
Staff Writer

The future of Texas highways rests on the risks and economic growth opportunities created by the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Texas' highest law enforcement officials says when it comes to trucks and what they carry, turnabout is fair play.

Mexican truckers gained complete access to Texas highways on Dec. 18 in the latest step toward full implementation of the North American Free Trade Agreement.

The NAFTA treaty stipulates 18-wheel cargo trucks from Mexico will have complete access to Texas roadways. The thought of this scares some state officials because Mexican trucks carry more than just televisions, stereos and computers. They carry corrosives, chemicals, explosives, jet fuel, poisons, toxic waste, pesticides and illegal drugs.

Attorney General Dan Morales said the state must be prepared to enforce state laws. Those laws will include enforcing weight limits and safety requirement to minimize the chances of highway tragedies.

Morales added the ultimate solution to the safety problem is a superhighway system for trucks only.

Mexican trucks will be allowed to carry loads from the border Texas/Mexico border to as far as Texarkana or Texoma and may return through any border state.

Morales said, "Because of NAFTA, our state has been presented with an historic opportunity for expanded trade and economic growth.

"Yet, that same opportunity carries with it significant risks. Mexico allows its trucks to

carry significantly more weight than is allowed on trucks registered in the U.S., and has lower safety standards for its trucks and drivers."

He added just one accident between an overweight, unsafe Mexican truck and a Texas school bus or Boy Scout van could escalate into an international incident.

"The bottom line is that weight limits of Mexican trucks must be lowered and their safety standards must be raised when they enter Texas," Morales said.

Morales has offered four proposals to help solve the problem.

He suggests a "one-stop shopping facility," in which trucks crossing the border would be stopped only once to be inspected from everything from driver's licenses, registration, weight, narcotics, hazardous waste and insurance.

A procedure like this would require joint cooperation between U.S. government agencies such as customs and immigration.

The second proposal is for Texas to commit the resources to build and staff state facilities to perform these types of inspections.

The third proposal is to ask the NAFTA Land Transportation Standards Subcommittee to harmonize standards by bringing weight limits on Mexican trucks down and their safety requirements up.

Morales' final recommendation is that Texas begin development of a NAFTA superhighway system for trucks only.

"Nations cannot compete or even participate in this emerging global economy without an adequate infrastructure of roads, highways and bridges,"

he said.

He added the state clearly can't triple-deck its interstate highways, so other viable alternatives have to be developed, such as a series of managed corridors for trucks only.

The Texas Department of Public Safety stops and inspects approximately 150 trucks a day. But there are about 5,000 truck crossings per day along the 1,200 mile Texas/Mexico border. The DPS finds less than 5 percent of the Mexican trucks crossing the border have adequate brakes, shocks, tires, wheels and other equipment necessary to operate the vehicle safely.

Morales said it takes 9,600 cars traveling on a road to do the same damage as one 80,000-pound truck.

Morales pointed out the reason weight controls are needed on Mexican trucks. A 23 percent increase in the weight of a truck results in a 100 percent increase in wear and tear on a highway.

Texas truckers are allowed to carry 80,000 pounds. A typical Mexican truck carries more than 100,000 pounds, with some carrying as much as 170,000 pounds.

It costs Texas taxpayers \$350,000 for every mile of highway repaired.

With NAFTA, Morales said, Texas is laying very important groundwork for its economic future.

Morales' office has asked President Clinton to issue an Executive Order that would allow Texas law enforcement entities access to all border-crossing facilities, so they can work with U.S. Customs officials to keep unsafe Mexican trucks off Texas highways.

Morales said this is a necessary step that must be taken.

Driving

Continued from page 1A

- Have a designated driver - this person should be the one who agrees not to drink at all. Don't think you are capable of driving after drinking only one or two beers. Alcohol impairs driving. Your license can be revoked for up to 60 days if you are charged with DWI or if you refuse to take an intoxilyzer test.
- Carry emergency equipment such as a flashlight, jumper cables, blankets and water. Check the spare tire to make sure it has air and the lug nuts are not rusted.
- Check the car's fluid levels,

Band

Continued from page 1A

including antifreeze and oil. Make sure tires are in good shape and have enough air.

- If you have car trouble and have a cellular phone, use it to call the DPS hotline at 1-800-525-5555. Put emergency lights on, stay in your car and if a person stops to render aid, ask them to call authorities. Do not get in a car with strangers.
- Call 911 to report traffic accidents, erratic drivers or other types of emergencies. Please give the dispatcher as much information about your location as possible including mile marker numbers or cross streets.

Trucks

Continued from page 1A

increasingly deadly unless more steps are taken to make sure Mexican trucks meet Texas standards.

The U.S. government has allotted more money so additional Department of Public Safety Troopers can be added in the next two years to enforce truck safety laws.

Sherri Deatherage Green, a DPS spokeswoman, said 109 troopers over the next two years will be phased into the license and weight division of the agency to enforce truck safety laws. Of those, 85 will focus on the increased truck traffic anticipated as a result of NAFTA; 70 will be stationed near the border, Ms. Green said.

"The new troopers will help us quite a bit," said Sgt. Mauricio Cantu, of the DPS license and weight division. "The Mexican trucking companies have known they will have to meet our standards since 1989. So it's

Payback

Continued from page 1A

not like NAFTA and Department of Transportation regulations just jumped up and said, 'Here we are.'"

Locally, Jim Cawthron with Rip Griffin Truck Travel Center said the center sees a few Mexican trucks, but for the most part NAFTA has increased the center's Canadian truck traffic.

John Birdwell of Birdwell Trucking said his understanding of the NAFTA agreement is Mexican trucks will follow the same guidelines as American trucks or they will be sent back across the border or made to repair what's wrong before they continue.

"I think in the long run the NAFTA agreement will be good for trucking here. I've been in trucking most of my life and I think competition is good anywhere," Birdwell said.

The down side to the agreement are those who have already lost loved ones in accidents caused by unsafe vehicles

being on the road. Opponents say there are enough trucks on Texas highways already.

"If the state becomes a NAFTA superhighway corridor, Texans can look forward to an epidemic of deadly truck crashes, loss of loved ones and the deterioration of our roads," Karen Clancy said. She was seriously injured in a crash involving an American truck driver two years ago that killed her husband and father-in-law.

"I don't want other families to suffer what I and my family have suffered," she said.

Ms. Clancy spoke on behalf of Citizens for Reliable and Safe Highways (CRASH), which joined consumer groups and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters in calling for President Clinton to delay the Dec. 18 start date and in urging Gov. George W. Bush to hold public hearings on the matter.

with the Republican plan. The secretary wants to see some of the money diverted in high-crop-price years toward crop insurance, conservation and rural water and sewer projects.

"This is a complicated thing to do," he acknowledged.

In another politically popular move, Glickman said he will appoint a commission as early as next month to investigate monopoly control of the meat-packing industry and its impact on farm prices. He also wants to look at concentration in the grain and rail industries.

WHERE TO WRITE

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Scientists have found that a dinosaur's eggs like a modern bird's inherit from dinosaur.

The nine-fingered ostrich with arms, died in the desert some 10 million years ago engulfed in a fire.

The dinosaur said dinosaurs inherit from dinosaurs.

Scientists dinosaurs by he said. And ingly beautiful.

"It's just imagination in this crust."

Jack Horner ontology at Rockies in said he cons two best spe fossils ever reveals behu.

"We've had and all sort had never dence of the eggs," Horner

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Associated Press photo

Scientists have discovered a spectacular fossil of a 9-foot-long ostrich-like dinosaur squatting over a nest filled with eggs. This photo shows an adult Oviraptor in nesting position on approximately 20 eggs. Five of the eggs are at right.

New evidence showing dinosaurs nested on eggs

NEW YORK (AP) — Scientists have found the fossil remains of a dinosaur sitting on a nest of eggs like a mother hen, a spectacular discovery that suggest birds inherited this behavior from dinosaurs.

The nine-foot-long creature, which resembled a wingless ostrich with a long tail and arms, died in Mongolia's Gobi Desert some 70 million to 80 million years ago. It may have been engulfed in a giant sandstorm.

The discovery is astonishing, said dinosaur expert David Weishampel of the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

Scientists didn't know that dinosaurs brooded their nests, he said. And the fossil is "amazingly beautiful," he said.

"It's just there. Without any imagination at all you can imagine this critter sitting on a nest."

Jack Horner, curator of paleontology at the Museum of the Rockies in Bozeman, Mont., said he considered it "one of the two best specimens of dinosaur fossils ever found" because it reveals behavior.

"We've had nests and babies and all sorts of things, but we had never had the direct evidence of the parent with the eggs," Horner said. "By far this

is the strongest evidence of some kind of parental attention."

The find is reported in today's issue of the journal Nature by researchers at the American Museum of Natural History in New York, George Washington University in Washington, D.C., and the Mongolian Academy of Sciences in Ulaan Baatar, Mongolia.

The dinosaur is called an oviraptor. Mark Norell of the museum, lead author on the paper, said it's no surprise to him that oviraptors brooded because they were so closely related to birds.

Paul Sereno, an associate professor of paleontology at the University of Chicago, said that before the fossil was found scientists could only guess that oviraptor brooded.

"Here we have a smoking gun," Sereno said.

Although birds had appeared by the time the oviraptor died, the finding provides the strongest evidence yet that birds inherited brooding from dinosaurs, Norell said.

That's because birds and oviraptors evolved from a common dinosaur ancestor, Norell said. And since the brooding behavior is found in oviraptors and the birds, it was probably present in that common ancestor,

he said.

Just when that ancestor lived is not known, but it came before the first known bird, Archaeopteryx, which lived some 140 million years ago, Norell said.

The scientists found the oviraptor fossil in 1993 and realized immediately that it was important, Norell said. The dinosaur and the nest were removed in a single 400-pound block of sandstone to show how they were found, because "otherwise people wouldn't believe us," Norell said.

The oviraptor is "in the exact same position as if you looked at a chicken sitting on a nest," Norell said.

He and colleagues uncovered 15 oviraptor eggs in the nest and concluded that it probably contains about 22, a typical number. The eggs are neatly laid out in a circle, with the thinner ends pointing to the outside.

It's not known whether the recovered oviraptor is male or female, Norell said. The skeleton includes most of the torso and both arms and legs.

Scientists also don't know whether the creature was keeping the eggs warm as birds do, or whether it was shading them or protecting them instead, Norell said.

Dipping showing to be more dangerous than smoking

WASHINGTON (AP) — Dipping snuff can be more dangerous than smoking a pack of cigarettes a day, according to a study published today.

An analysis of the five leading U.S. brands of moist snuff finds that a snuff dipper can be exposed to up to twice as much of a strong carcinogen as a 20

cigarette-a-day smoker.

Twenty cigarettes deliver about 16.2 micrograms of carcinogenic nitrosamines, while "a snuff dipper who consumes an average of 10 grams of snuff per day is exposed to 24 to 46 micrograms of the strong carcinogenic TSNA (tobacco-specific N-nitrosamines)," the

study said.

The study, by researchers at the American Health Foundation in Valhalla, N.Y., conducted a chemical analysis of moist snuff and found of the five best-selling brands, the most popular have the highest content of nicotine and of cancer-causing chemicals.

Old song, new singers: Exercise is good for you

WASHINGTON (AP) — OK, couch potato. It's time to get up and move it!

That's the advice from a panel of experts selected by the National Institutes of Health to evaluate the importance of daily exercise. A report was issued Wednesday, and folks, you ought to be ashamed.

About half of all Americans, the report said, have settled into a soft and flabby lifestyle with little or no exercise. Ever. And this is causing more heart attacks, strokes and other diseases.

The solution is 30 minutes a day of moderately vigorous exercise — just enough to charge up the heart, speed up the breathing and trim down the middle.

"The lack of physical fitness and the burden of cardiovascular disease rests most heavily on the least active," said the report. "Physical inactivity is also associated with other adverse health effects including osteoporosis, diabetes and some cancers."

"Americans need to move more," said Dr. Russell V. Luepker, chairman of the experts panel and a professor at the School of Public Health, University of Minnesota. "Physical activity is a natural part of our evolution. Somehow, we have

engineered our way out of that."

Automation, elevators, motorized transportation and labor-saving devices like TV remote controls have helped Americans slip into a sedentary lifestyle. As a result, many are dying prematurely from flabby hearts, high blood pressure, obesity, diabetes and clogged arteries.

"We recommend that all people in the United States increase their physical activity to a level appropriate to their capacities, needs and interests," said the report. "We recommend that all children and adults set a long-term goal to accumulate at least 30 minutes or more of moderate-intensity physical activity on most ... days of the week."

Luepker said 30 minutes daily is the ideal goal and that the exercise does not have to be all at one time. He said three 10-minute exercise sessions were enough to achieve a healthful benefit.

The committee recommended that sedentary people start slowly and build up to moderately intense exercise by adding a few minutes each day.

"Examples of moderate activity include brisk walking, cycling, swimming, home repair and yard work," the report said.

"Virtually everybody has

something beneficial to gain from exercise," said Dr. Brian R. Duling, a panel member and a professor at the University of Virginia Medical Center. "For people, children and the elderly, regular exercise can improve the functioning of the elderly and keep them active and alive for a longer period."

Continued lack of exercise, said Dr. Reginald L. Washington of the Rocky Mountain Pediatric Cardiology Center in Denver, is a risk factor for heart attack that ranks with smoking, excessive cholesterol and high blood pressure.

"We want to get the average citizen moving," said Washington. "If we can do that, the risk of heart disease will diminish even more."

Included in the report was a recommendation that doctors encourage regular exercise to their patients and monitor their progress.

The NIH will distribute the 13-member panel's report to doctors and other health care providers. The NIH issues consensus reports to help establish a recommended standard of care for patients.

Second breast cancer gene isolated; should aid research

NEW YORK (AP) — Scientists have captured a second major gene that causes a high inherited risk of breast cancer, a finding that may help researchers find clues for treatment and prevention.

In families with a strong history of breast cancer, women who inherit a defective version of the gene run about an 80 percent lifetime risk of the disease.

The gene is called BRCA2, and the new work follows the identification of BRCA1 just last year.

Together, the genes account for perhaps 90 percent of breast cancers from inherited susceptibility, with BRCA2 responsible for maybe 40 percent.

Last year, scientists narrowed the search for BRCA2 to a small area of chromosome 13. In today's issue of the journal Nature, an international research team says it has captured part of BRCA2 itself.

And on Wednesday, Myriad Genetics Inc. of Salt Lake City announced that its scientists

had recovered the entire BRCA2 gene. The company plans to use it in combination with BRCA1 to develop a test for predisposition to hereditary breast cancer, the announcement said.

Only about 5 percent to 10 percent of breast cancer cases are thought to come from inheriting a faulty gene. The cause of the vast majority of breast cancers is not known, although scientists are investigating possible hormonal and other triggers.

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Club raises funeral money for slain track star

ODESSA (AP) — Teachers at Permian High School pitched in to buy a new suit for star sprinter Todaryl Culver.

And the Permian Basin Track Club raised \$1,800 for the concrete vault for the athlete's burial Friday.

"I said there's no way I'm going to let him have a pauper's funeral, a county funeral," said Regina Woods, co-founder of the track club, which bought the vault.

"We went the whole nine yards," Ms. Woods said. "We put him away in a way we felt he deserved."

Authorities say Betty Culver fired the single shot that killed her 18-year-old son. She says it was an accident that occurred

during an argument over house cleaning.

Ms. Culver, 38, was charged with murder and remains in jail on \$25,000 bond.

"I accidentally shot my son," Ms. Culver told The Odessa American in today's edition. "I tried to shoot past him and it hit him. I was trying to scare him."

Adela Vasquez, supervisor for student assistant services with the Fctor County Independent School District, said the incident has left officials numb.

"Here we are trying to involve the parents in supporting their child, and to see a situation like this is devastating to all of us in education," she said.

Culver died shortly after 5 p.m. Saturday at his home of a

gunshot wound to the back. A small-caliber handgun was found at the scene, police said.

Authorities believe the mother and son were arguing over his needing a ride, District Attorney John W. Smith said.

"We become jaded when we deal with so many homicides," Smith said Wednesday. "And then you get a case like this that jumps up and really invades your mind, and you say why in the world would this thing happen?"

"He had ambition and ability, and to have him snuffed out in a situation like this is just almost too much to handle."

Ms. Culver told the newspaper that she became frightened of her son during an argument

Saturday and that she fired a gun at him because he had been violent toward her in the past. She would not elaborate.

Culver said neither drugs nor alcohol were a factor in the incident, although she said she had been drinking the day of the shooting.

"We was arguing," Ms. Culver said. "We was arguing about the house not being cleaned and that led to other things.... It was an accidental shooting."

She also said she doesn't know who the gun belongs to and that she found it in her son's room.

School officials and coaches joined the mourning this week for Culver, who maintained a B average, worked at a Blockbuster Video store and already

had bought and wrapped his Christmas gifts.

Coaches said Culver had caught the eye of college track scouts.

Counselors at Permian High held an assembly Monday to cope with the grief. They passed out handkerchiefs and allowed students to eulogize their friend.

Assistant Principal Buddy Hale led a prayer for Culver.

"He knew poverty, he lived poverty," Hale said. "And he happened to be somebody climbing out of that."

"It is heart-wrenching, very painful," said Margaret Carpenter, a counselor at the school. "Most students went back to class with heavy hearts."



TODARYL CULVER

Weather blamed for rate hike request

AUSTIN (AP) — Insurance companies say Texas' volatile weather has created a need for higher average homeowners' insurance rates.

Jerry Johns, president of the Southwestern Insurance Information Service, says the industry's rate hike request can be described in three words.

"Weather, weather, weather." "The threat of potentially violent weather has been demonstrated by hail storms in Dallas and Fort Worth in excess of \$1 billion and a similar hail disaster in Austin, costing \$125 million," Johns said.

Insurers and consumer advocates argued Wednesday before administrative law judges over where the benchmark, or average, homeowners' insurance rate should be set.

Insurance groups are seeking increases ranging from 1.7 percent to 7.4 percent. However, the Office of Public Insurance Counsel, a state agency that argues issues on behalf of consumers, recommended an overall 3.5 percent reduction in benchmark rates.

The judges hearing the annual rate review didn't immediately make a decision but ultimately will make a recommendation to Insurance Commissioner Elton Bomer. Any change he approves in the benchmark rates could take effect next year.

The benchmark varies between the state's 23 insurance rating territories. In each area, insurers can charge from 30 percent below to 30 percent above the state-set rate.

Under insurance group proposals, renters' benchmark rates would be as much as 20.4 percent lower, while homeowners' average rates would see increases of as much as 8.3 percent.

Noting that any change to benchmark rates does not automatically mean changes for individual policyholders, insurers say they need a slightly higher benchmark to protect themselves from growing claims.

But consumer groups said insurers already collect enough.

The Office of Public Insurance Counsel's recommendation would include a 1.5 percent drop for homeowners' rates and a 26.4 percent cut for average renters' rates.

During the meeting, a consumer group new to Texas staged a protest because it was prohibited from speaking or asking questions.

IN THE FACE



Bobby Mayfield, 11, gets hit by a snowball thrown by Hope Clark, 11, as Eugene White, 11, looks on after school at Oscar Heger Intermediate School in Canyon.

Thief steals toys meant for foster children

KINGSVILLE (AP) — Police in this South Texas city are trying to find the Grinch who stole toys that had been donated for some 40 foster children.

They didn't have to go too far to investigate the case. The toys were taken from a box just inside the Kingsville Police Department's front door.

Police Chief Felipe Garza said a receptionist sits behind a glass window in the lobby on weekdays, but the lobby is unattended at night and on weekends.

"We get a couple hundred people in and out of here every day," Garza said. "We don't have many officers going in

there. It's not something you notice right away."

Officers had secured the toys in an evidence room at the end of each weekday, but they did not secure the weekend donations, Garza said.

The toys were meant for children served by the Upper Valley Foster Parents Association.

"It's kind of sad to think that someone would walk in and steal them," said Viola Perez, secretary of the foster parents association. "They had notices up there that they were for foster children and someone still took them. That's pretty sad."

The chief said he had received some calls from local citizens

who complained about the toy drive, saying that the foster parents association serves children outside Kingsville. But he said that all but about four of the children live in the city.

The children served by the association range in age from 6 months to 16 years old, but Ms. Perez said most are from 6 to 12 years old.

"I appreciate the police department doing this," Ms. Perez said. "Some of these children come to us without shoes on their feet. These kids are really appreciative of anything they can get."

Ms. Perez has started looking for help from other sources.

Radioactive accord approved between Texas, Maine, Vermont

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House gave its consent Wednesday to an agreement among the states of Texas, Maine and Vermont on the disposal of low-level radioactive waste.

The agreement, already approved by the legislatures and governors of the three states, allows Maine and Vermont to ship low-level radioactive waste to a disposal plant in West Texas.

Under a 1980 law, states are

responsible for the disposal of low-level radioactive waste and may enter into compacts with other states on handling those materials.

The Texas-Vermont-Maine compact has the support of the administration but has been opposed by some Texas lawmakers.

Rep. John Bryant, D-Texas, expressed concern that the disposal facility in Hudspeth Coun-

ty was only 14 miles from the Mexican border and in an area that has been hit by serious earthquakes. He also questioned a deal where radioactive materials will have to be transported over thousands of miles.

The measure failed to get enough votes when it was brought to the House floor once before in September. This time it passed by voice vote. The Senate still must consider the legislation.

Motion for new trial filed in Saldivar case

HOUSTON (AP) — The convicted killer of Tejano singer Selena is asking a judge for a new trial, contending that his original documents were altered after one judge was replaced.

The hearing was scheduled today in Houston because the motion alleges prosecutive conduct and because Selena's defense team wants the appeal eventually to be heard by an appellate court in Harris County.

State District Judge Mike Westergren of Corpus Christi, who heard the original trial on a change of venue, will preside.

Ms. Saldivar filed the seven-page request last month in Nueces County District Court, but it in Corpus Christi.

one of the jurors during the three-week trial in Houston — Jose Estimbo — actually knew a member of the singer's family, a fact he denied during jury selection.

Estimbo maintains he does not know the Quintanillas.

Ms. Saldivar's attorney, Doug Tinker, also alleges:

Testimony of a former Days Inn employee, Shawna Vela, was improperly influenced by news media accounts.

Former Days Inn employee Maria Norma Martinez's criminal record was not revealed during trial, suggesting that she may not have been a credible witness.

The motion claims Ms. Saldivar was denied a chance for a fair trial.

Teen chases to spend holidays in jail

VICTORIA (AP) — A teen-ager who refused to take a Christmas trip to Mexico with his family will spend the holidays in jail instead.

The 14-year-old boy, on probation for burglary, insisted his parents go to Mexico without him, Victoria County Court-at-Law Judge Laura Weiser said Wednesday.

The family lives in Bloomington, about 10 miles south of Victoria. The boy's mother contacted the Juvenile Services Department in Victoria.

His probation officer warned him three times he would be placed in detention if he refused to accompany his family, but he refused to change his stance, the judge said.

Nueces County penalized for not paying up for Saldivar trial

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — Nueces County has been assessed a 1 percent penalty for failing to pay promptly the \$90,230 that Harris County claims in trial expenses for the woman convicted of killing Tejano singer Selena.

Yolanda Saldivar, 27, was found guilty of first-degree murder for shooting Tejano music star Selena once in the back March 31 at a Corpus Christi motel.

Harris County Auditor Tommy Tompkins said Wednesday that Nueces County has been penalized \$900 for not pay-

ing promptly. He said additional penalties will follow each month the debt is outstanding.

"We intend to pursue this like any other receivable," Tompkins told the Corpus Christi Caller-Times. "There is a speedy payment statute that says if a bill is not paid within

30 days, (the county) can assess a fee that is 1 percent (of the bill) a month. We have not received a payment from Nueces County."

Nueces County Judge Richard Borchard described the bill, dated Nov. 16, as "shocking."

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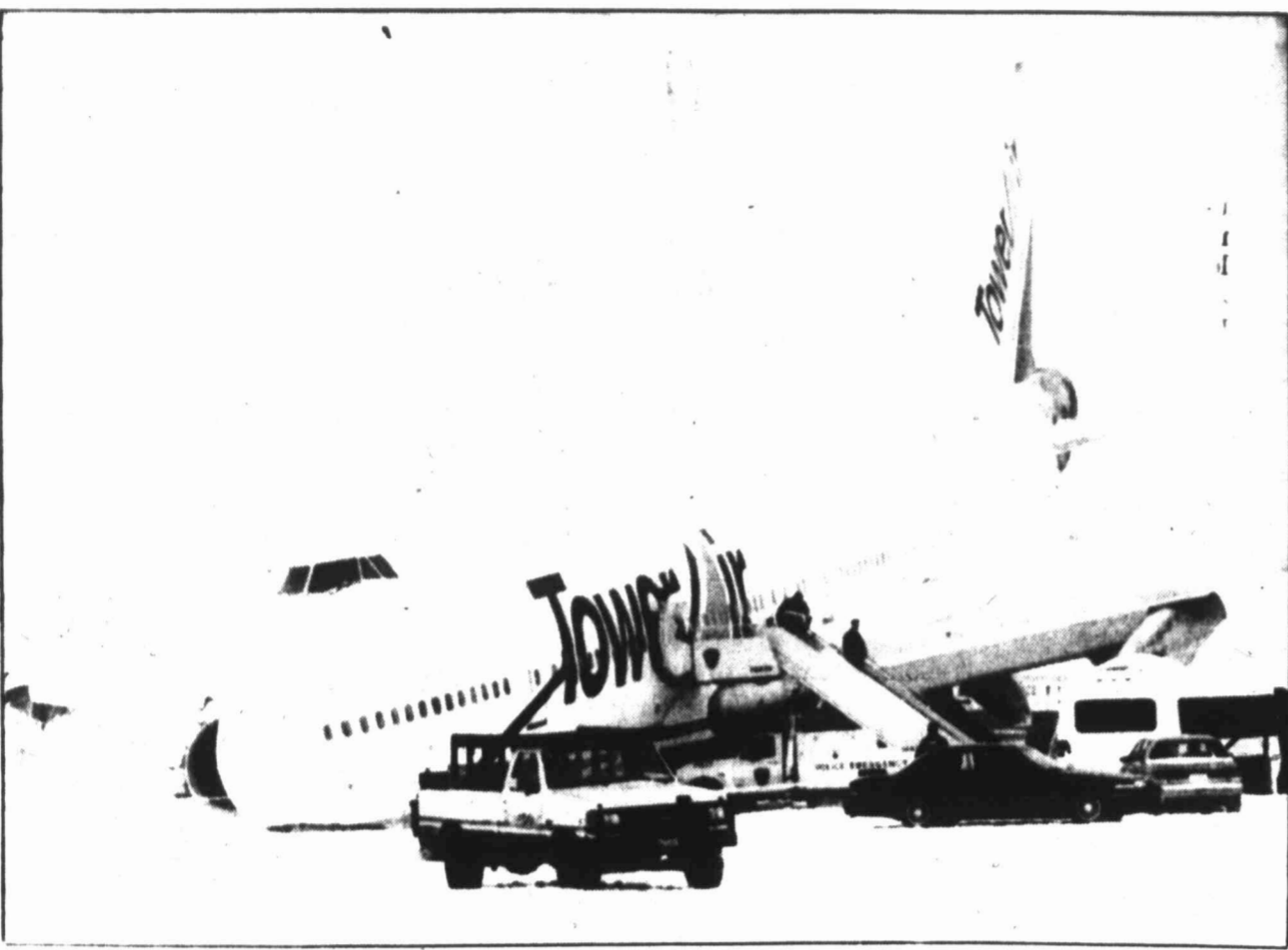
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Emergency and service vehicles surround a grounded Tower Air 747, which skidded on a snow-covered runway as it aborted takeoff from JFK International Airport in New York Wednesday. The crash injured 28 people.

Jet slips on ice; 28 injured

NEW YORK (AP) — Edy Solomon braced himself as the jet on which he was a passenger skidded off an icy runway and struck a concrete tower. "I said, 'We are going to die,'" said Solomon, one of 452 passengers aboard the Miami-bound Tower Air Flight 41, which aborted takeoff from Kennedy Airport Wednesday. "It felt like the plane was vibrating a little" as it rolled down the runway, said Solomon, who was going to Florida for his daughter's wedding. "Then it veered to the left, and everything collapsed."

The Boeing 747's nose gear and right wing gear then gave way as the plane hit terrain softened by two days of snow, said National Transportation Safety Board investigator Chuck Leonard. He said it was too soon to cite a cause, but Tower Air Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Morris Nachtoml said a sheet of ice on the runway forced the pilot to abort the takeoff. Officials at the Port Authority, which operates the airport, disputed that charge. "Other planes were coming in and out without any problems," said authority spokeswoman Gwen Williams. The airport was fully operational when the accident occurred, with visibility at 1 mile.

The crash was under investigation by the Federal Aviation Administration and NTSB.

Weather claims seven lives in three states

Stranded travelers slept in airport lounges waiting for new flights Wednesday after a snowstorm across the eastern half of the United States tied up highways and air travel and threatened to put a dent in Christmas sales. "I really need a shower," said Michelle Piskovich, who spent an uncomfortable night at New Jersey's Newark International Airport. "The seats are actually OK," Vladimir Krasnopolsky said after trying to nap while waiting at Boston's Logan Airport for a flight home to Philadelphia. "Once in a while your arm goes numb or your leg goes numb and you become paralyzed, but that's OK." Hundreds of flights were canceled Tuesday and Wednesday because of the combination of two storms that iced a region stretching from the Plains to New England. Passengers had to vie for the scant empty seats available during the pre-holiday travel rush. Seven deaths were blamed on the weather in Maine, Connecticut and Pennsylvania. In the Lancaster, County town of

Ephrata, 7-year-old Jacob Mullenax was killed Tuesday when his sled ran into the path of an oncoming car, said police Chief Dale Stahl. In Newark, N.J., University Hospital reported a 25 percent rise in admissions. "There has been an increase in the number of patients brought to the emergency room for cold weather exposure and injuries" from car accidents and snow shoveling, said hospital spokesman Rogers Ramsey. Schools were closed across the Ohio Valley and the Northeast, and businesses opened late because of the slippery roads. Utility crews worked to restore electrical service. Some 10,000 homes and business were without power in Indiana, down from 65,000 on Tuesday, and some people might not have lights and heat until Friday. Up to 2 feet of snow fell in northwestern Pennsylvania, with a foot in Ohio and New Jersey. Massachusetts got 10 inches and southern Maine 6 inches. Near the other end of the storm track, Missouri got up to 10 inches.

The Associated Press

Murder-suicide claims four lives

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Karen Swope called police Wednesday and pleaded with them to come pick up her 3-year-old daughter. She said her boyfriend had just killed two people and was going to kill her. Before police could respond, her boyfriend, Hao Ha, killed Swope and then fatally shot himself, police said. Ha held a "fascination" for Swope and wanted an exclusive relationship, but she was seeing others, Capt. Robert Oldani said. "This morning he apparently couldn't take it anymore," Oldani said. Oldani said Swope and two other women, all in their 20s, were found lying side by side on a bedroom floor in their apartment. Police found Swope's daughter crying, but unharmed, in another bedroom. Police believe the girl saw much of what had happened. She has been turned over to her father.

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Phone call restarts budget talks

WASHINGTON (AP) — The on-again, off-again budget talks between the Clinton administration and Republican lawmakers were on again today as 260,000 furloughed federal workers stayed off the job for a sixth day. After the White House angrily canceled a top-level negotiating meeting Wednesday, presidential chief of staff Leon Panetta, Senate Budget Committee Chairman Pete Domenici, R-N.M., and House Budget Committee Chairman John Kasich, R-Ohio, scheduled planned a breakfast meeting at the Capitol today.

They hoped to arrange for President Clinton, Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole and House Speaker Newt Gingrich to meet face-to-face later in the day.

Such a meeting didn't happen Wednesday as hoped. "Obviously some problems have developed" a somber Panetta said after he met with Gingrich and failed to find common ground.

House Republicans were balking at reopening nine partially shut-down Cabinet agencies while discussions proceeded on reaching a seven-year balanced-budget agreement by New

Year's Day. At a rally-like caucus, they shouted approval of a resolution calling for the government to reopen when Congress received a budget eliminating deficits by 2002 using Congressional Budget Office economic assumptions, which require deeper spending cuts than White House forecasts.

The administration responded by scuttling the GOP budget meeting with Clinton, who charged angrily that "the tail will keep wagging the dog" until moderate Republicans rein in "extreme members" of their caucus.

"These Republicans want to force the government to stay closed until I accept their deep and harmful cuts in Medicare and Medicaid, in education, in the environment, and agree to raise taxes on the hardest pressed working families," Clinton said at a news conference. "I won't yield to these threats ... not today or tomorrow, not ever."

But less than an hour later, he had talked to Dole, R-Kan., and Gingrich, R-Ga., in a telephone conference call and the Republican leaders were describing the

day's turmoil as a minor hitch. "There's going to be a little bump in the road, now and then," Dole said. "We're making progress and continue to make progress."

With the president's call, Republicans agreed to ease some of the hardships imposed by the partial government shut down, the second in a little more than a month.

The House voted 411-1 late Wednesday for a stopgap bill authorizing the government to issue benefit checks to 3.3 million veterans and survivors. Senate Republican and Democratic leaders hoped to take it up today. Aides said Clinton would sign it.

Also, Dole and Gingrich signed a letter promising that furloughed employees would be paid after the shutdown ends. Gingrich had suggested earlier this week that they might not.

But he said Wednesday, "We want to make sure they know we're committed to them not being punished ... just because they're caught in the middle of a very difficult negotiation."

Still in limbo are 13 million recipients of Aid to Families with Dependent Children.

Welfare overhaul heads toward a vote

WASHINGTON (AP) — A massive overhaul of the nation's welfare system, designed to get more people to work and give states more control, is moving toward final votes in the House and Senate.

The GOP-led House, which made welfare reform a part of its "Contract with America," was preparing to take action today.

The compromise bill faces a tougher path in the Senate where critics worry it cuts spending too much — something that also could prompt a Clinton veto.

The sweeping legislation would replace the 60-year-old federal Aid to Families with Dependent Children program with block grants to states; trim food stamp benefits; and curb aid to immigrants, disabled children, drug addicts and alcoholics. It also would include an experimental change in the federal school lunch program instead of turning it totally into a state-run program financed with federal block grants.

The bill would save an estimated \$58 billion over seven years, House Ways and Means Chairman Bill Archer, R-Texas, said Wednesday after the blended version of the House and Senate bills emerged from a conference committee.

"This bill achieves long overdue welfare reform by stressing work, personal responsibility and the return of power and flexibility to the states," said Archer, whose committee wrote much of the bill.

Details of compromise bill weren't expected until later today, but four moderate Republican senators who had been watching its progress closely raised concerns that could hurt its chances in the Senate.

Saying they were "dismayed at the significant changes made to the Senate bill in conference," the four senators outlined specific objections in a letter to Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole.

The committee cut \$14 billion

more out of the various welfare programs over seven years than the Senate bill did, said Republican Sens. Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania, William Cohen of Maine, John Chafee of Rhode Island and Olympia Snowe of Maine.

That added cut includes \$4.1 billion from children's Supplemental Security Income, \$2.7 billion from child welfare and foster care programs, \$5.8 billion from programs for immigrants and \$1.4 billion from mandatory child care spending, they said.

The moderates said they also opposed several policy changes made by the conference committee, including:


—Severing the linkage between AFDC and foster care eligibility and Medicaid. They said that action would virtually eliminate health care protection for millions of women and children.

—Creating a system for deciding which children would be eligible for Supplemental Security Income that would make "arbitrary distinctions between disabled children."

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Got an item?

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

Greenwood's Otho named to 3A all-state team

DALLAS (AP) — Sealy, the defending Class 3A champion that will try keeping its crown this weekend, placed three players on The Associated Press Sports Editors' all-state team released Wednesday.

Greenwood senior Casey Otho, who intercepted nine passes and returned two for touchdowns this season, was named to the first team defense as a defensive back.

The only other team with multiple first-teamers was Cuero, which lost 17-14 to Sealy in the semifinals last weekend but had five players chosen.

Sealy, which has won 31 straight games, was represented by linebacker Steve

Newsome, offensive lineman Ryan Eckelberg and running back Chris Tate.

Thanks in part to Eckelberg's blocking, Tate turned 173 carries into 1,486 yards and 25 touchdowns during the regular season. That success earned Tate offensive player of the year honors.



Tate, 5-foot-9 and 180 pounds, started at fullback the last two seasons when the

featured runner was Fred Smith. Tate also backed up Smith at tailback, so he often got the ball once Sealy took a big lead.

With Smith gone this season, it was Tate's time to shine. He responded by blowing away expectations, doing so well that Sealy coach T.J. Mills said Tate became even better than Smith.

"He just knows the position so well and does so many things," Mills said. "Fred made some yards when it was impossible, but Fred wasn't the blocker Chris is and he turned the ball over more than Chris does."

"Chris is very aware. He really works at things to get better

every day."

One thing he didn't need much time to figure out was to run behind Eckelberg.

Eckelberg was a starter last year, but as a junior he followed the leadership of several seniors alongside him. This year, he became a leader.

"Ryan has improved tremendously. He's just been unbelievable," Mills said. "He's won so many battles — you can't imagine. He'll have his blocking assignment on the middle linebacker or nose guard, then he hustles and he's downfield blocking in front of Tate."

Newsome, a 6-2, 200-pound senior, had 90 tackles and five fumble recoveries for a defense

that allowed 134.4 yards per game. He was an honorable mention selection last year.

On Friday night, Sealy's all-state trio will challenge Commerce (13-1-1) for the 3A title.

Commerce was represented on the all-state team by Joe Reynolds, a defensive back who had six interceptions this season and 16 in his career.

The only member of last year's first-team to make it back this season was Rusk's Byron Johnson. He also was named 3A's most outstanding defender.

Johnson, a 6-1, 190-pound linebacker, had 113 unassisted tack-

les, seven sacks and 30 tackles behind the line. He had three interceptions and three fumble recoveries, and he scored on two of those fumble returns and once more on an interception return.

It shouldn't be too surprising that Cuero was all over the first-team. The Gobblers, who finished the regular season tied with Commerce at No. 4, had four first-teamers last year.

This year's selections include offensive linemen Matt Anderson and Cedric Robinson (a monster at 6-8, 335) and quarterback Clint Finley, who played only seven games because of injury.

Novacek: Cowboys need to go full out in finale vs. Cardinals

IRVING, Texas (AP) — The way Jay Novacek sees it, there's plenty of time for healing his body. Healing the Dallas Cowboys is much more important.

Add Novacek to the roll call of Cowboys who'd rather play all out Monday night against the Arizona Cardinals no matter what is on the line as opposed to resting up for the postseason.

"Personally, I think I'll be feeling pretty good physically after about six months off in the offseason," Novacek said Wednesday. "A week is not going to matter a whole lot. The momentum is much more important."

Dallas will know the importance of Monday night's game long before kickoff.

The Cowboys would be in a must-win situation if:

- a) Philadelphia beats Chicago on Sunday, or
- b) Philadelphia loses and San Francisco falls to Atlanta.

Situation "a" means the Cowboys need a victory to seal the NFC East title and a first-round bye. The "b" scenario means a Dallas victory would give the Cowboys homefield advantage throughout the play-

offs. But should the Eagles lose and 49ers win, then Dallas' finale is moot to the standings.

Yet, the Cowboys say there's something more important on the line: building for the play-

It's not that easy, though, as coach Barry Switzer could be forced into another of those fourth-and-1 type decisions.

The conservative approach would be to rest his top players to avoid new injuries or the chance of aggravating old ones (and there are plenty of those). The aggressive attitude would be to dance with who brings ya to make sure everyone will be in synch in January.

Dallas definitely has been a bit out of whack lately. Although 11-4, the Cowboys barely ended a two-game losing streak Sunday as they needed a last-second field goal to beat the New York Giants.

Safety Darren Woodson has come up with a solution to make everyone happy.

"I'd like to see it like this: we get up real fast on them, we play well and get guys like Troy, Emmitt, Michael and Deion out of the game. Then everybody else can rest up,

too," said Woodson, one of the many other walking wounded also needing time to rest.

Woodson figures it should take only one or two quarters to get things clicking again.

"We can build momentum (that quickly) as long as those guys have that good feeling when they come out of the game," he said.

The Cowboys are so banged up now they could hardly practice Wednesday. Smith, Woodson, Novacek, Tony Tolbert, Brock Marion and Russell Maryland were held out of drills.

"We got to get a lot of people well," Switzer said.

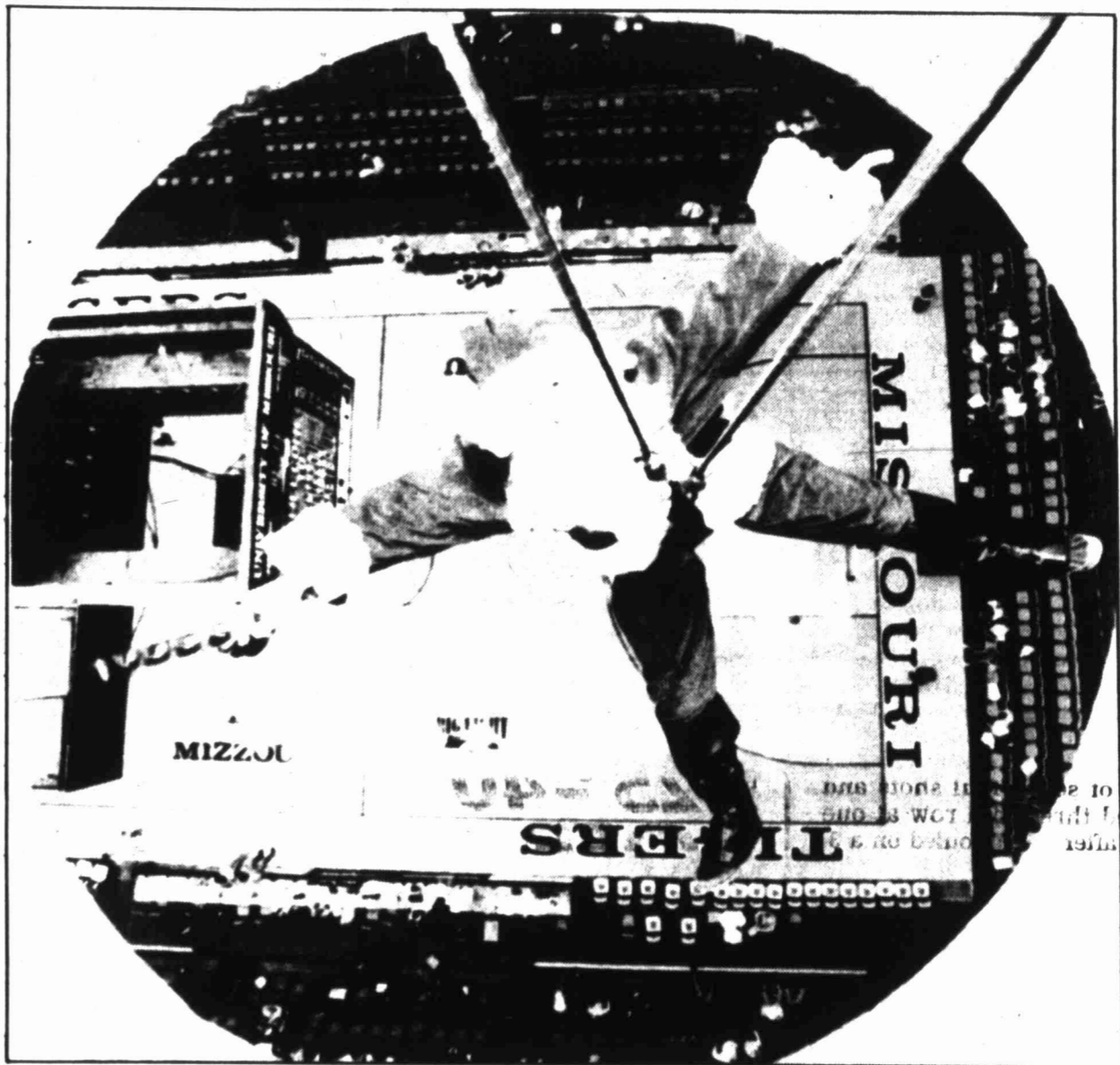
Switzer refused to speculate about the luxury of resting players vs. the importance of momentum.

"Do you have a little crystal ball we can look at to solve that?" he said. "We've just got to prepare to win the football game."

"I hate these scenarios that it doesn't mean anything. Philly is probably going to win. That's the way we've got to approach it."

"We're not going to get any help so we've got to take care of our own business."

DON'T LOOK DOWN



Santa Claus descends 10 stories into the Hearnes Center in Columbia, Mo. Tuesday before the University of Missouri women's basketball game.

Astros solidly infield by taking Expos' Berry

HOUSTON (AP) — Sean Berry is glad this week for what Craig Biggio did last week.

Berry became the Houston Astros new third baseman Wednesday, complementing Biggio at second base and Jeff Bagwell at first.

"We'll be one of the best infields, especially on the right side," Berry said. "Hopefully I'll be able to help the left side out and take some of the weight off of those two guys' shoulders," he said.

Biggio re-signed with the Astros last Thursday, agreeing to a \$22.36 million, four-year contract after considering offers from Colorado, St. Louis and San Diego.

That was the Astros' first objective. Their second was to find a third baseman.

"This is one of the last big pieces to our puzzle," general manager Gerry Hunsicker said after announcing that right-handed reliever Dave Veres and minor league catcher Raul Chavez would be sent to Montreal in exchange for Berry.

"Sean was the one that we had targeted all along as our first choice," Hunsicker said.

Berry, 29, started last season as the Expos No. 1 third baseman but finished the year sharing the position with Shane Andrews, expected to be Montreal's starter next season.

Berry joined the Expos in 1992 following a trade from Kansas City and hit a career-best .318 last season with 14 homers and 55 RBIs.

Please see **ASTROS**, page 9A

Top teams roll in Wednesday college games

A 360-degree dunk on a fast break is highlight-reel material at most schools on most nights.

It wasn't for Georgetown on Wednesday night in a blowout victory over Morgan State.

Jerry Nichols of the No. 6 Hoyas got yanked from the 104-60 victory at Landover, Md., when he hotdogged his dunk late in the game. On John Thompson's team, such antics are to be reserved for better competition.

"I don't think he was trying to humiliate them, but I told him I felt it humiliated them," Thompson said. "To come down and do a 360 when you're up on somebody by 40 points, to me that's worse than taunting."

In other games involving ranked teams, No. 9 Cincinnati beat No. 19 California 77-70, No. 10 Iowa crushed Western Illinois 93-41, No. 11 North Carolina got past Pitt 66-49, No. 14 Illinois beat No. 15 Missouri

96-85 in overtime, No. 20 Duke defeated Western Carolina 107-67 and No. 25 Louisville topped Murray State 81-72.

Georgetown (9-1), finishing up its annual preholiday run against weak opposition, got another outstanding performance from point guard Allen Iverson.

Iverson hit back-to-back 3-pointers, then dished off three fast-break assists in a 15-0 run as Georgetown broke the game open. The sophomore finished with 20 points, seven assists, nine rebounds and six steals in 27 minutes.

"I think it's really important for Allen to be playing the point-guard position. Allen's making the decisions and getting the timing down that you need to have in relation to playing the No. 1 spot, which is going to be very important to him not only here, (but) as far as his career. He's got to orga-

nize defenses, he's got to organize offenses," Thompson said.

Morgan State (1-6), which had no starter taller than 6-foot-5, committed 32 turnovers and was outrebounded 60-30.

No. 9 Cincinnati 77, No. 24 California 70

At Oakland, Damon Flint had 20 points and Darnell Burton added 17 as Cincinnati (7-0) remained unbeaten. Cincinnati was trailing 62-57 after a 3-point by Cal's Randy Duck, but the Golden Bears (4-1) were outscored 20-8 over the final 6:23 and missed three of five free throws in the last 1:25.

No. 10 Iowa 93, Western Illinois 41

At Iowa City, Jess Settles and Russ Millard scored 15 points each and the Hawkeyes made 10 of their 13 long-range shots in the second half.

"They can shoot it," Western Illinois coach Jim Kerwin said. "I knew they were awfully good

from 3-point range. The first half we did a pretty good job, but in the second half we just left them open."

Iowa (9-1) won its seventh straight game and dominated the Leathernecks (3-4) despite sloppy play from both teams. Western Illinois had 27 turnovers and Iowa had 20, and the two teams combined for 38 personal fouls.

No. 11 North Carolina 66, Pittsburgh 49

At Pittsburgh, Antawn Jamison scored 17 points to lead a balanced attack as North Carolina (8-1) won its sixth consecutive game heading into the holiday break.

Shammond Williams scored 13, Dante Calabria 11 and Jeff McInnis 10. Jamison was 7-for-8 from the field and reached double figures in points for the eighth consecutive game.

Please see **TOP**, page 9A

BOTTOM of the ORDER

SHOT OF THE DAY



Flipped out Denver Nuggets mascot "Rocky" does a back flip off the scorer's table Wednesday night in Denver.

TEXAS

Mom kills track star son

ODESSA (AP) — Teachers at Permian High School pitched in to buy a new suit for star sprinter Today Culver.

And the Permian Basin Track Club raised \$1,800 for the concrete vault for the athlete's burial Friday.

Authorities say Betty Culver fired the single shot that killed her 18-year-old son. She says it was an accident that occurred during an argument over house cleaning.

Ms. Culver, 38, was charged with murder and remains in jail on \$25,000 bond.

"I accidentally shot my son," Ms. Culver told The Odessa American in today's editions. "I tried to shoot past him and it hit him. I was trying to scare him."

NATION/WORLD

NFC honors Rice

NEW YORK (AP) — San Francisco's Jerry Rice, whose 289 yards against Minnesota were the fifth-highest receiving total in NFL history, is the NFC offensive player of the week.

Rice also set a career high in catches with 14, including touchdown receptions of 8, 46 and 31 yards in the 49ers' 37-30 victory Monday night.

Search on for new OU coach

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Oklahoma regents accepted Howard Schnellenberger's resignation and delegated athletic director Donnie Duncan to head the search committee for his replacement.

Duncan said he expected to have a new coach in place "sometime during the first week in January."

ON THE AIR

Basketball

College
Utah at Wake Forest, 6:30 p.m., ESPN (ch. 30).

Boxing

Heavyweights
Danell Nicholson vs. Darren Hayden, 8:30 p.m., ESPN.

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New owner's deeper pockets paying off for Stars

IRVING, Texas (AP) — A little over a week after getting a new owner, the Dallas Stars have a new, high-priced, high-scoring center.

It's no coincidence. The trade that brought Joe Nieuwendyk and his \$1.8 million salary from Calgary to Dallas late Tuesday may not have been done under the ownership of debt-ridden Norm

Green. But new owner Thomas Hicks has promised to be a little looser with his bucks if it means more success on the ice because he knows that eventually will mean more profit for him.

Getting Nieuwendyk should help the Stars charge a stagnant offense. Dallas' 82 goals are the least in the Western

Conference and third-worst in the NHL. Although the Stars have given up the third-fewest goals in the conference, they're still 10-13-6. A victory Sunday ended a six-game losing skid.

"The last couple of weeks, we haven't won a lot of games, but we played well. We just didn't have enough offense to get the job done," Stars coach and general manager Bob Gainey said

Wednesday. "I think adding a player like Nieuwendyk gives us more promise. He's a player who may be able to help us make up that difference."

Gainey was especially pleased he didn't have to rip up his rotation to acquire a player of Nieuwendyk's caliber. To Calgary, Dallas sent center Corey Millen, who played just 13 of 29 games, and top 1995

draft pick Jarome Iginla. Nieuwendyk was available because he was in a contract dispute with the Flames. His season-long holdout played a major role in last month's firing of Doug Risebrough as Calgary's general manager.

Dallas avoided any such problems by immediately signing Nieuwendyk to a five-year contract.

"He was willing to make a strong commitment toward the team and the team has made a strong commitment toward him," Gainey said. "I think you'll find he's going to be a good player and person for our team."

Nieuwendyk, 29, had 21 goals and 29 assists in 46 games for the Flames last season.

Astros

Continued from page 8A

"We all felt that acquiring an everyday third baseman and one of this quality — someone that is still young and will be under our control for the next three years to add some continuity to our nucleus — was the overriding factor in evaluating the tradeoff," Hunsicker said.

But he acknowledged Veres would leave a gap in the Astros' bullpen. The 29-year-old led National League relievers in innings pitched in 1995, going 5-1 with a 2.26 ERA and one save in 103 1-3 innings. His 72 appearances were second in the NL behind Colorado's Curtis Leskanic.

Veres figures to be a set-up man for closer Mel Rojas.

While Berry thrived offensively, his erratic play in the field frequently exasperated Montreal manager Felipe Alou.

Chavez, 22, who is rated as an excellent defensive catcher, hit .287 with four homers and 25 RBIs in 58 games with Class AA Jackson in 1995. He hit .262 in 32 games at Class AAA Tucson.

Top

Continued from page 8A

The game was a homecoming for Calabria, a senior guard from nearby Beaver Falls, Pa. He had a game-high nine assists, but also showed some jitters. A 79.3 percent free throw shooter, he made just three of seven foul shots and missed three in a row at one point after being fouled on a 3-point attempt.

No. 14 Illinois 96, Missouri 85

Jerry Hester hit two 3-pointers in overtime and Kiwane Garris scored 23 points as the Fighting Illini (8-0) outlasted the Tigers (7-2).

Kelly Thames scored a career-high 25 points for Missouri, which stumbled against its first ranked opponent. The neutral site game drew a crowd of 21,901, the largest ever to watch a basketball game in Missouri.

No. 20 Duke 107, Western Carolina 67

At Durham, Jeff Capel scored 27 points and Greg Newton hit all nine of his shots in adding 22 points.

Duke (7-2) used an 18-4 run at the end of the first half to turn a one-point game into a 49-34 halftime lead. Capel had a 3-pointer and consecutive dunks to key a 16-0 run in the second half that turned the game into a rout.

No. 25 Louisville 81, Murray State 72

At Louisville, the Cardinals (7-3) overcame a 36-point performance by Murray's Marcus Brown, who hit 14 of 29 shots and grabbed nine rebounds.

"I knew he had talent," coach Denny Crum said. "He's one of the better players in the nation."

Drexler doubtful for Portland; may miss two weeks

HOUSTON (AP) — Clyde Drexler likely will sit out during Thursday night's game against Portland and the Houston Rockets guard may be out for two weeks with a bruised shin, the team said Wednesday.

Drexler was injured Tuesday night when he collided with Charles Barkley. His playing status is listed as day-to-day.

The incident occurred in the second period of Houston's 103-96 win over Phoenix. Drexler was on a fast break when he took a pass and ran full speed into Barkley. The Suns forward was called for a foul.

The injury was being treated with ice.

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Do you have a good story idea for the *life!* section? Call 263-7331, Ext. 112.

'Animal visions' inspire man's series of Bible-based books

By JANET AUSBURY
Features Editor

Children's books based on the Bible are not new. When viewed through the eyes of animals, however, even the most familiar Biblical tales and figures can take on a fresh perspective.

Bill Scott, a member of Living Water Ministries, realized the potential for such stories six years ago when he and his family lived in San Diego. A portion of that untapped market lived right under his own roof.

"I got tired of my kids bringing home negative stuff to read," he said. "I told my wife I'd write something for them." His initial inspiration became "The Colt Who Had Never Been Ridden," illustrated by Suzanne Boggs (Winston-Derek Publishing; \$8.95).

Scott will sign copies of the book from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday at Cornerstone Christian Resource Center, 1909 Gregg St. The book is available

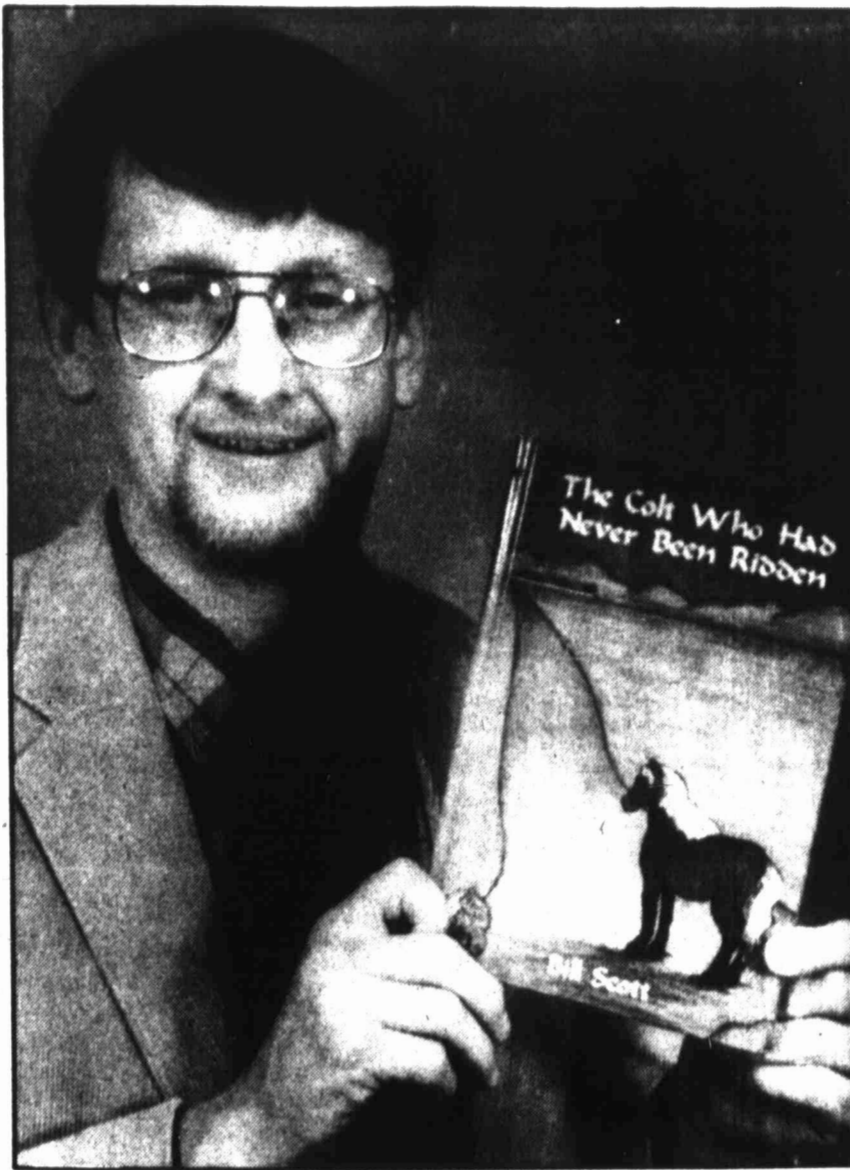
not only at Cornerstone, but will also be distributed at Waldenbooks.

"Winston-Derek is going to distribute it first in Big Spring, then go regional, then national," Scott explained. Managers at Wal-Mart, where Scott works part-time, are checking into whether they may be able to carry the book as well.

The 53-page book focuses on a colt named Wafts (an acronym for "Waiting for the Savior") isolated and made fun of because he does not carry loads and is not ridden like the other colts. Wafts discovers he's special - he is being saved for Jesus to ride upon.

Writing this book inspired Scott to write a series of similar books. Titled "Animal Visions," the 27 books include such tales as Daniel and the lion's den and Jonah and the whale. The stories have clever titles - David and Goliath's is called "The Defiant Giant Meets the King with a Sling."

Please see BOOKS, page 3B



Bill Scott poses with his book, "The Colt Who Had Never Been Ridden." He will sign copies of the book from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday at Cornerstone Christian Resource Center.

Check movie listings for the hottest games

By MITCHELL DIGGS
Scripps Howard News Service

This season, some of the hottest games are literally flying right off the screens in movie theaters.

Battleship and Candyland, both used in the hit "Toy Story," are enjoying a new surge in popularity at toy stores. And Jumanji, adapted from the popular children's book and movie of the same name, has turned out to be an instant hit for Milton Bradley.

"Jumanji is doing very well," said Pauline O'Keeffe, spokeswoman for Kay-Bee Toy Stores, which has stores in all 50 states. "As soon as it came in, we sold out of it, so we're waiting to get more."

The demand for these games reflects a renewed demand for games of all types this holiday season.

"This happens to be a very big year for games across the board," said Mark Morris, spokesman for Milton Bradley. "What happens when nobody has a hot, phenomenal toy is that interest shifts back to basic play things - i.e.,

boardgames. And that's what's happening this year, particularly with the more classic types of games."

The best selling children's games this season include Chicken Limbo, Lucky Duck, Dream Phone and Mister Bucket, Ms. O'Keeffe said. Many of those games are old favorites, but several new games - such as TriBond, Channel Surfing, Atmosfear and Jumanji - are drawing heavy interest this year.

TriBond, created by game inventor Tim Walsh and a couple of college friends, asks players to name what three different items have in common. It combines elements from board and parlor games and is easy to master.

"It's a thinking game, and people like to be challenged, and they like that sense of satisfaction when they answer correctly," Walsh said. "But they don't want to be embarrassed, so that's a fine line. TriBond is easy enough for people so they get some answers and they're not embarrassed."

Please see GAMES, page 3B

Get couch-potato children interested in being active

By JOHN STAED
Scripps Howard News Service

Stephanie Nadalin takes her 18-month-old son Christian to a fitness workout once a week. The idea, she says, is to introduce him early to fitness.

"I'm a couch potato and I didn't want him to be like that," says Nadalin. "I want him to be interested in fitness."

Too bad the rest of the country doesn't have that attitude.

Television, working parents, video games and inactivity are developing a nation of out-of-shape children, experts say.

"Millions of kids are overweight, are inactive and don't meet the minimum standards for the President's Fitness

Council," say Ivan Piola, owner of The Little Gym, a fitness center for kids in Birmingham, Ala.

Piola cited figures from the National Association for Sport and Physical Education, which found that 40 percent of children ages 5 to 8 are obese, inactive or have high blood pressure or cholesterol levels. Another study found that fewer than half of American school children get enough exercise to develop healthy hearts and lungs.

In his book, "Kid Fitness," Dr. Kenneth Cooper, the father of aerobics, says children don't get sound guidance on fitness from parents.

"Millions of our children - the majority of them in middle-

and upper-middle-class homes - face the prospect of serious diseases and shortened life spans because of sedentary living and poor nutrition," Cooper, a physician, writes.

emphasized through non-competitive activities for children 3 months old to 12 years. Classes include karate, gymnastics, aerobics and other activities, he says.

up and they get the cardiovascular workout they need, Piola says.

Another way to involve children is to get them to participate in sports, especially those that children will enjoy over a lifetime, says Gary Akers, a physical education specialist with the Alabama Department of Education.

"They need something to motivate them when they are on their own," Akers says.

"We don't have enough movement incorporated into the lives of children these days," Akers says, adding that children sit in school most of the day, go home and watch TV, play video games or park themselves on the couch.

Parents, most of whom are

working, come home tired. Few want to push the kids out the door for a brisk walk, Akers says. The problem is that risk factors for health problems later in life - obesity and elevated cholesterol - are now showing up among third- and fourth-graders, the earliest ever.

"We are just becoming more sedentary," he says.

It's not necessarily eating too much junk that is the problem, says one educator. National studies show that in the past 10 years, the number of calories people eat and the number of fat calories consumed have declined, says Gary Hunter, a professor of exercise physiology at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

We don't have enough movement incorporated into the lives of children these days.

Gary Akers

Research conducted at Cooper's Institute for Aerobics Research estimates that "30 to 35 percent of school-age children are at risk for heart or circulatory disease and for premature death as adults." At Piola's gym, fitness is

"Our goal is to get them fit without them realizing they are getting fit," Piola says.

Children are kept moving in classes rather than waiting for their turn to perform an exercise or gymnastic move. That way, their heart rates are kept

PANCHO CLAUS?

'Tis the season for ethnic version of holiday hero

By KELLEY SHANNON
Associated Press Writer

SAN ANTONIO (AP) - Santa Claus may be a holiday hero to many children, but in the barrio of San Antonio 'tis the season for Pancho Claus.

With his red suit and black boots, Pancho Claus looks a bit like jolly old St. Nick. But he dons a fancy red poncho, a big red sombrero and a black beard - the Santa tradition with an ethnic twist.

"They call me the Mexican Santa Claus," explained Frank Perales, who has portrayed Pancho Claus for nine years.

The American G.I. Forum, a Hispanic veterans rights group, sponsors Pancho Claus. He visits schools, housing projects and special gatherings to spread holiday cheer and warn boys and girls to be good.

"Stay in school, do good work, say no to drugs, say no to gangs," Pancho Claus tells the youngsters. "Feliz Navidad a todos en San Antonio," he belows in Spanish, wishing a happy Christmas to all in San Antonio.

The wide-eyed children giggle in delight.

Pancho Claus tells the children he is Santa Claus' cousin from the South Pole. Instead of cookies and hot chocolate, families leave him treats like tamales and enchiladas when he delivers gifts.

Instead of tiny reindeer, Pancho Claus says he has little burros with names like Juanito, Manuelito, Pablito and Chuy.

The lines get big laughs. At Steele Elementary School, where the marquee in front reads "Welcome Pancho

Claus," an outgoing first-grader named Christina raised her hand and told Perales, "I like your thingy," pointing to his poncho decorated with sequined Christmas trees and wreaths.

Miguel, a fifth-grader, summed up what he likes about Pancho Claus: "He's Spanish."

Perales said the estimated 5,000 children he'll visit in December - mostly on the city's predominantly Hispanic west and south sides - identify with his character more so than with a department store Santa. Perales and most of the children have culture in common, and Pancho Claus is unique.

"The thing that's amazing is I am more popular than Santa Claus. I am only one, and there are so many Santa Clauses," he said. Please see PANCHO, page 3B



Pancho Claus, played by American G.I. Forum member Frank Perales, waves to the crowd as he enters the cafeteria at Carvajal Elementary School in San Antonio. He gave candy and listened to Christmas wishes from the students.

SLICE OF LIFE



Kitty's safe
Firefighter Scott Pierce checks a kitten he rescued from a smoky house fire Monday in Racine, Wis. At least two people were reportedly treated for smoke inhalation.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Coahoma shows spirit in decorations, food drive

Coahoma High School's Student Council, led by Mary Rowell, once again is participating in the annual canned food drive for the Salvation Army. The slogan this year is "Give Me Five." Each student and each faculty member was to donate at least five cans. The average count over the past few years is approximately 1,000 cans donated. The council also sponsored its annual Christmas door decorating contest. Each class was to decorate its door with a Christmas theme and be judged on originality and work. Unique themes included Garfield and Odie, a Coahoma Bulldog encouraging people to give cans to the food drive and a decorated tumbleweed with lights. The doors were judged by a panel of judges Dec. 7.

The results from the main hall:
Honorable Mention - Mr. Conley's Class
Third Place - Coach Cox's Class
Second Place - Coach Dickenson's Class
First Place - Coach Richter's Class
The results from the north hall:
Honorable Mention - Mrs. Rogers's Class
Third Place - Mrs. Conley's Class
Second Place - Mrs. Wegman's Class
First Place - Ms. Tompkins's Class

The results of the south wing:
Honorable Mention - Coach Nichols's Class
Third Place - Mrs. Justiss's Middle Door
Second Place - Mrs. Pittman's Journalism Class
First Place - Mrs. Coleman's Class
And the grand champion door for the 1995 Christmas season: Mrs. Justiss's Door that has the angel and lights.
The judges also recognized Mrs. Donna Mansfield's door by awarding the "Spirit of Christmas" Award.

THE LAST WORD

No one who has had a unique experience with prayer has a right to withhold it from others.
—Soong Mei-Ling

Doubtless liberty of speech, which is a British privilege, extends no further than to speak truth; otherwise we pretend to reckon the liberty of lying to be a privilege of an Englishman.
—Daniel Defoe

No one wants anarchy in the name of religion, but do we really want more and more government regulation of religion? Pretty soon we'll have to practice our faith in the closet.
—Marj Carpenter

READ ALL ABOUT IT

Test your reading comprehension by reading the story below and answering the questions that follow.

KARACHI, Pakistan (AP) — He swam for more than 20 hours. He slept, floating on a life preserver made from his pants. He thought about his family and how he never got to say goodbye. And he prayed.

With bags under his eyes and a sunburnt face, Lance Cpl. Zachary Mayo recounted Thursday how, after a strong wind knocked him off the aircraft carrier USS America, he floated alone for 36 hours in the Arabian Sea until his rescue.

"I never expected I would be off the ship," the 20-year-old Marine told reporters here. "I prayed to God every minute I was in the water. That helped me to keep going."

The aviation maintenance crewman from Osburn, Idaho, had insomnia early Saturday so he stepped outside for a breath of fresh air and a peek at the stars. A strong wind and a jolt from a swinging door knocked him overboard; his shouts weren't heard on the empty deck above.

The Navy gave him up for lost after a lengthy search, and Mayo bobbed helplessly for a day and a half in the ocean until Pakistani fishermen picked him up and took him to their village.

Mayo enlisted in the Marines in 1993 and, after boot camp, attended school to become an aircraft hydraulics mechanic. He was assigned to the Marine Tactical Electronics Warfare Squadron Three, a group of EA-6B radar jamming planes based in Cherry Point, N.C.

Neatly shaved and wearing civilian clothes, Mayo fidgeted nervously during a press conference at the U.S. Consulate. He briefly described his thoughts as he floated alone at sea. "What came to mind were all the things I've never done before," he said. "I thought that I would never be able to say goodbye to my parents and to my friends."

Mayo said he swam for "20 hours, maybe 30." Overcome by exhaustion, he put his Marine training to use by tying his pants in a knot and inflating them as a life preserver.

The Pakistani fisherman who found him took him to Gwadar, their remote village close to the Iranian border on the Arabian Sea coast. As soon as he could find someone who spoke English, he called his parents. He said village residents welcomed him as a celebrity.

"I'd like to thank everybody for taking care of me and feeding me and taking care of my needs," Mayo said.

Use the information from the story to answer the following true and false questions:

- Zachary Mayo, a United States Marine, was rescued after swimming for more than 20 hours in the Persian Gulf.
- Lance Corporal Mayo joined the Marines in 1993 and was trained to take care of airplanes.
- Mayo had insomnia (difficulty sleeping) because there was no fresh air in his room.
- A strong wind knocked the 20-year-old Marine off the deck of the aircraft carrier USS America.
- When the Ohio crewman fell overboard, he was too scared to call for help.
- At first, Mayo's shipmates did not realize that he was missing.
- To stay afloat, the U.S. Marine inflated (filled with air) his life jacket and tied it around his waist.

Answer Key: 1)F 2)T 3)F 4)T 5)F 6)T 7)F

Distributed by the Associated Press

Especially for kids and their families The Mini Page

By BETTY DEBNAM

Santa's Lead Deer on Tour Where in the World Is Rudolph?

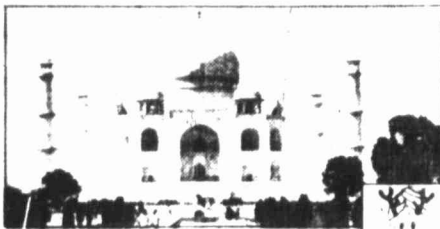
Santa needs your help! To make certain Rudolph will know his way around, Santa sent him on a worldwide tour. Rudolph has been sending back pictures of some places he has been and a little bit about each one. But he forgot to tell Santa what country he was in.

Can you match the picture with the country?

- India
- England
- France
- Egypt
- Greece
- Australia



Can you find the country on the map?



1) The Taj Mahal (TAHJ muh-HAHJ) is a beautiful marble tomb.



2) Avers Rock is in the middle of a continent that is also a country.



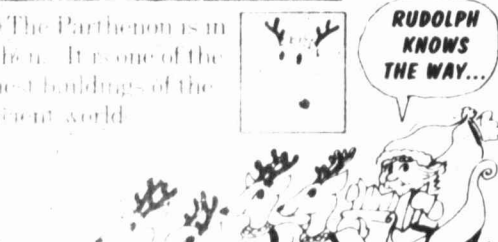
3) The Pyramids were built as tombs. Inside were mummies and gold and precious objects.



4) The Parthenon is in Athens. It is one of the finest buildings of the ancient world.



5) The Eiffel Tower was built for the 1889 World's Fair.



6) Big Ben is the name of the bell in this clock tower in London.

PETER PENGUIN'S PUZZLE LE-DO

Fit the names of the parts of a reindeer into the puzzle.

ACROSS: 1. eye, 2. nose, 3. ear, 4. tail, 5. antler, 6. hoof

DOWN: 1. eye, 2. nose, 3. ear, 4. tail, 5. antler, 6. hoof

MIGHTY FUNNY'S Mimi Jokes

COULD I SHARE YOUR SLED WITH YOU?
SURE! YOU USE IT UPHILL, AND I'LL USE IT DOWNHILL!

Q: What is Santa's ethnic background?
A: North Polish!

Q: Why was Santa's little helper depressed?
A: He had low-elf esteem!

The Mini Page Book of States

Learn the facts about the United States of America!

- State Birds
- State Flowers
- Industries
- Crops
- State Trees
- State Capitals
- Geographical & Historical Facts

Rookie Cookie's Recipe Jolly Gingerbread

You'll need:

- 1 cup bread flour
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 cup salt
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1/2 cup baking soda
- 1/2 cup molasses
- 1/2 cup ginger
- 1/2 cup boiling water
- 1/2 cup cinnamon
- 1/2 cup butter or margarine, softened

What to do:

- Combine first five ingredients in a large bowl. Mix well.
- In a medium bowl, combine butter or margarine and brown sugar. Mix until smooth and creamy.
- Add egg and molasses to creamy mixture. Mix well.
- Pour creamy mixture and boiling water into flour mixture. Mix well.
- Roll dough into a greased square cake pan.
- Bake in a preheated 350-degree oven for 15 minutes.

Where in the U.S. Is Rudolph?

Rudolph sent back these pictures, but did not name the famous landmarks or the states where they are. Can you help Santa figure them out?

Match the numbers on the photos with the landmarks and their states below.

- The Statue of Liberty, New York
- Epcot Center, Florida
- Mount Rushmore, South Dakota
- Golden Gate Bridge, California
- Gateway Arch, Missouri
- The White House, Washington, D.C.
- Grand Canyon, Arizona
- Astrodome, Texas
- Old Faithful, Wyoming

RUDOLPH TRY N FIND

Names of places Rudolph might see are hidden in the back below. Write the names in the boxes. Some are hidden backward. See if you can find PYRAMIDS, PARTHENON, GREECE, ENGLAND, INDIA, TAJ MAHAL, AUSTRALIA, PARADISE, ANYER, RUSHMORE, GEYSER, STATUE OF LIBERTY, WASHINGTON, BRIDGE, EGYPT, GOLDEN GATE.

ARE YOU GOING ANYWHERE FOR CHRISTMAS?

Mini Spy ...

Mini Spy and Bassett Brown are getting Christmas decorations and a tree. See if you can find:

- dolphin
- cat
- three fish
- letter F
- word MINI
- seahorse
- number 3
- frog
- elephant head
- banana
- letter E
- swan
- snake

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Fina Oil & Chemical
First National Bank
Marie Hall
Fiberflex
Big Spring Board of Realtors

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Pancho

Continued from page 1B

said.
Perales, 66, said children always show respect.
"Do you know, never once, never once in all these years that I have been doing this has anyone been obnoxious, rude and I have gone to some real bad places," he said. "That's how much they think about Pancho Claus."
The American G.I. Forum, of which Perales is state vice commander, created the Pancho Claus character 15 years ago. It's part of a holiday program that also distributes food baskets and gifts to needy families.
"We get the families that nobody gets," Perales said.

"Down in the barrio there are thousands and thousands of them who need the help. Some of those children don't even know what Christmas is. They know what it is, but they never expect one."
One of Perales' most gratifying moments was when he visited a very ill 3-year-old who had seen Pancho Claus on television and wanted to meet him.
"I made that kid light up when he saw me there in my costume," Perales said. "I could see it in his face."
Clearly, Perales enjoys his holiday character.
"I feel good when I can make a few kids happy," he said.

Games

Continued on page 3B

"Even for people who totally hate trivia, there's a part of the game called 'the challenge,' where two teams are pitted against each other and they're racing for the answer. At that point, it turns into a yelling game, and that's appealing to kids and people who don't even like trivia. It's kind of an equalizer, and it bridges the gap."
The game came out on a limited basis in 1989, but manufacturer Patch Products Inc. started advertising the game nationally only a few months ago. Since then, TriBond has become the third best-selling game in the United States, trailing only Jenga and Taboo.
The company's new game, Blurt, already is in the Top 20. It asks players to identify items by their dictionary definition.
Channel Surfing challenges players to find 12 different items in television shows airing at the moment, all before the timer goes off. After getting the list of items, players grab the television remote and start looking.
The game, from Milton Bradley, is designed as a party game for any number of players. Team play is encouraged, with teams playing three rounds apiece to see who can collect the most points.
Atmosfear is a role-playing game from Mattel that uses a video cassette as a timer. Players struggle for domination in a world called The Other Side.
In addition to playing against each other, they also must contend with the Gatekeeper, a powerful character who appears on the videotape and commands players to do his will.
The game board also is made of six pieces, which can be assembled in any combination

players desire, producing more than 5,000 playing combinations.
Atmosfear, introduced in August, is targeted at males ages 12 and up, said Arete Passas, spokeswoman for Mattel.
"What's unique about this is the strategy aspect of it, as well as the Gatekeeper concept, which introduces luck into the game," she said. "It's very difficult to find good games for young men. They're so driven by video games and CD-ROMs that it's hard to excite them."
"This is kind of a cross between board games and videogames, so it's a whole new game-playing experience."
Jumanji surprised many observers by becoming a hit before the film version, which opened Friday, was released. The game has the same jungle adventure plot as the book and film, Milton Bradley's Morris said.
"Real rhinos charging through your living room are not included," he joked. "Other than that, it's a lot like the movie."
The magical messages of the film version are replaced by a red film decoder in the center of the board. After rolling, players place a card with a hidden message in the decoder to receive instructions.
Like many manufacturers, Milton Bradley expects to sell as many of its popular games as it can get into stores by Christmas.
But that means some customers may have to purchase alternates to the games they really want, Morris said.
"If you haven't bought some games by now — say, LuckyDucks or Chicken Limbo — then you probably won't be able to find it until January," he said.

Books

Continued from page 1B

Winston-Derek Publishing is considering a contract with Scott for the "Animal Visions" series. "As soon as the first book sells out, they'll start working on the next," Scott said. All the stories have been written and are in the hands of the publishing company, awaiting illustrations.
Scott quit his job at Big Spring State Hospital to write the books. Not everyone he knew was supportive, but he shrugged off criticism.
"The only person I needed agreement from was my wife," he said. "I did it, and now it's going to pay off."
Although Winston-Derek is not a vanity press, Scott's contract with them called for him

to foot half the bill for printing the first edition. His costs came to about \$10,000. The company is already considering a second edition, "and no more money will come out of my pocket," he said.
He credits the individuals and businesses who provided support, prayers and assistance for helping make his dream a reality.
"There's no way this would have happened without these people," he said.
"The Colt" encountered delays because of artwork and computer problems. It was originally scheduled for release in May 1994; now its release is a welcome Christmas gift for Scott, his family and friends.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR DEC. 22

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Be more in sync with demands from a boss. Handle a change responsibly. Examine what you expect from others. You need to be more supportive of a partner. A boss lets you know how much he appreciates you. Tonight: You're in the limelight.****
TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Long-distance communications are highlighted. You hear good news, and you have reason for celebration. You are bonding with someone. Detach and get into the holiday spirit. Romance is a possibility for those of you who are free. Tonight: Let your spirit soar.****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Closeness marks the next few days. Express your feelings and make time for cuddling and caring. You are in the mood for the holiday season. Spread the good will and spend some time with a friend who isn't as cheerful as you. Tonight: Enjoy a romantic night for two.****

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You are in the spirit of Christmas. Make time for friends and loved ones. You might want to get together with friends and co-workers to celebrate the next few days. Make the most of the joyful mood in the office. A gift or card means more than you think. Tonight: Say yes.****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Stay late at work or make time at lunch to share some holiday cheer with co-workers. A flirtation that might be building could have greater implications than you think. A thoughtful request needs to be honored. Go with the moment and caring. Tonight: Tend to last-minute details.****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) The child and romantic in you emerge. You see life with renewed interest and caring. If you are single, surprises could happen. If attached, the day has a special sentimental quality. Make time for the quality activities in life. Tonight: Be naughty and nice.****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Mellow out with family, handle last-minute details and get into the swing of the holiday. You need to stay in touch with a loved one. If you are single, you are likely to make a new attachment. If attached, romance builds between the two of you. Tonight: Wrap presents.****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Communications are exciting and full of convivial sharing. Make plenty time for a loving chat with someone you really care about; this is as important to him or her as a gift would

be. Express yourself lovingly. There is much cheer and celebration. Tonight: Reach out for another.****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Use your magic. Your self-confidence and delight about the upcoming weekend is apparent to all — as long as you have completed your last-minute shopping. If you haven't, do it now, yet make time for a friendly visit or glass of eggnog with a pal. Tonight: Be out and about.****

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Much that is going is exciting, and you couldn't be more revved up about the holiday than you are. Review your decisions about gifts and plans. Your instincts are right on; trust them because you are even more "on" than you usually are. Tonight: Be your magnetic self.****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You might withdraw into your cocoon to think about a friendship. You might need to revamp your opinion about what is going on with a key relationship. Realize your limits, what you can and cannot do. Your magnetism will draw someone to you. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Focus on friendship and realizing what is important to you. You can make a long-term wish a reality. If you are single, someone you meet in the next few weeks could be emotionally unavailable. However, this could be exciting. Tonight: Go where the party is.****

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR ERI, DEC. 22, 1995: This could be one of the most exciting years ever in your life. New beginnings are possible, your creativity peaks, and you draw in what you want. Be careful, because what you wish for is likely to happen. January 1996 is special for you, though there could be a tendency to feel and experience life to an extreme. If you are single, romance knocks on your door. It is pick-and-choose time! If attached, your relationship needs your attention, as you could tend to be too one-sided. Lavish attention on a partner. CAPRICORN is a soul mate.

THE STARS SHOW THE KIND OF DAY YOU'LL HAVE: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult.
For America's best extended horoscope, recorded daily by Jacqueline Bigar, call (900) 000-0000, 99 cents per minute. Also featured are The Spoken Tarot and The Runes, which answer your yes-or-no questions. Callers must be 18 or older. A service of InterMedia Inc., Jenkintown, Pa.

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Bride shuns wedding excess by riding away from it all

DEAR ABBY: Over the years, I have noticed a great many letters about weddings in your column. I have attended dozens of weddings and was maid of honor for each of my older sisters.

My parents set aside a generous sum of money for each of my sisters' weddings. In both cases, the pre-wedding months were a trying time for my mother, baffling for my father, and just plain unpleasant for everyone else in the house. It rained on the garden wedding, and it was hot at the indoor wedding.
Now it's my turn. When I announced I was getting married, Mom paled and Dad groaned and said, "I'll give you an extra \$500 to elope."
This was music to my ears because I had already decided I didn't want the muck, fuss and expense of a fancy wedding. We plan to be married by a justice of the peace and take a three-week bicycle trip for our honeymoon. We're thrilled with the extra money and my parents are relieved.
Can you believe my sisters think we are being hateful about the whole thing? My middle sister said, "I didn't get any money," and my oldest sister thinks it is dishonorable to marry without an elaborate ceremony.



Abigail Van Buren
Columnist

My fiancé, my dad and I laugh off their comments, but my mom is hurt. Abby, what do you think? — **WEDDING-FREE BRIDE-TO-BE**
DEAR WEDDING-FREE: Follow your heart. Your sisters had the kind of wedding they wanted, and your mom should support you in your choice of a simple ceremony — regardless of what your sisters think.
Please accept my best wishes for a long and fulfilling marriage.

DEAR ABBY: I would like to respond to those who were disturbed by the outcome of the Simpson trial: Many people say they are upset with "the system" now and have lost faith in it. Many of those who complain are the very ones who routinely dodge jury duty — and therefore have no firsthand knowledge of how the system works.
In most cases, the defendants do get a fair trial. I know, because I perform my jury duty. So, if you have a complaint, take yours to the jury box. — **BEEN IN THE JURY BOX IN L.A.**

DEAR BEEN THERE: You are correct. If any system is going to work, it is because all citizens do their part. I don't know if it's happening nationwide, but in Los Angeles there is an official crackdown on citizens who ignore their obligation to perform jury duty.
DEAR READERS: May I share my favorite cartoon by Harley Schwadron in The Wall Street Journal?
Engraved on a tombstone:
R.J. Harwell
Born 1914
Gave up smoking 1959
Gave up booze 1973

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10# Stingy Sticks	45. ⁰⁰	22. ⁰⁰
12# Burn-Out	33. ⁰⁰	16. ⁰⁰
12# Burn-Out 35	43. ⁰⁰	21. ⁰⁰
1 qt. Back-Up Algicide	14. ⁰⁰	7. ⁰⁰
1 qt. Polysheen	7. ⁰⁰	3. ⁰⁰

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 - 1995 Lincoln Town Car Signature Series - Portofino Blue clearcoat, blue leather fully equipped, all power, 13,000 miles. **Sale Price \$26,995**
 - 1995 Lincoln Town Car Executive Series - Performance white clearcoat, maroon leather, fully equipped, all power, only 9,500 miles. **Sale Price \$25,995**
 - 1995 Ford Crown Victoria LX - Vibrant white clearcoat, maroon cloth, 4.6 V-8 all power, 17,000 miles. **Sale Price \$17,995**
 - 1995 Ford 15 Passenger Van XLT - White w/cloth, 351 V-8, dual air, all power, only 9,900 miles. **Sale Price \$20,995**
 - 1995 Ford Windstar GL - Light evergreen frost, cloth, dual air, all power, 18,000 miles. **Sale Price \$17,995**
 - 1995 Ford Windstar GL - Dark blue metallic, cloth, dual air, all power, 13,000 miles. **Sale Price \$17,995**
 - 1995 Ford Thunderbird LX - Silver frost, blue cloth, V-8, moonroof, all power, 11,000 miles. **Sale Price \$15,995**
 - 1995 Mercury Cougar XR7 - Electric red clearcoat, gray leather cloth, V-8, all power, 16,000 miles. **Sale Price \$16,995**
 - 1995 Ford Mustang LX - White w/gray cloth, V-6, automatic, all power, rear spoiler, win dow tint, 19,000 miles. **Sale Price \$15,995**
 - 1995 Ford Mustang LX - Laser red w/gray cloth, V-6, automatic, all power, 15,000 miles. **Sale Price \$15,995**
 - 1995 Mercury Sable GS - Vibrant white/tan cloth, 3.8 V-6, anti-lock brakes, all power, 16,000 miles. **Sale Price \$14,995**
 - 1995 Mercury Sable GS - Champagne clearcoat, tan cloth, 3.8 V-6, anti-lock brakes, all power, 19,000 miles. **Sale Price \$14,995**
 - 1995 Ford Taurus GL - Light evergreen metallic, cloth, 3.8 V-6, anti-lock brakes, all power, 15,000 miles. **Sale Price \$14,995**
 - 1995 Ford Taurus GL - Silver metallic, cloth, 3.0 V-6, anti-lock brakes, all power, 11,000 miles. **Sale Price \$14,995**
 - 1995 Mercury Mystique GS - Coral mist/cloth, all power, 19,000 miles. **Sale Price \$12,995**
 - 1995 Ford Contour GL - Champagne/cloth, all power, 11,000 miles. **Sale Price \$12,995**
 - 1995 Ford Escort LX 4-DR - Sunrise red, cloth, fully equipped, 13,000 miles. **Sale Price \$10,995**
 - 1995 Ford Escort LX 2-DR - White, cloth, fully equipped, 19,000 miles. **Sale Price \$9,995**
 - 1995 Mercury Tracer 4-DR - Tucson bronze, cloth, fully equipped, 14,000 miles. **Sale Price \$10,995**
 - 1995 Ford Aspire 4-DR - Red w/cloth, automatic, air, 9,000 miles. **Sale Price \$8,995**
- We Must Clear Out All 1994 Program Units!!!**
- 1994 Ford Aerostar XLT - Silver turtone, cloth, dual air, all power, 10,000 miles. **Sale Price \$14,995**
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 - 1994 Ford Probe SE - Silver w/window tint, automatic, air, all power. **Sale Price \$10,995**
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INDEX

Table with categories: Vehicles, Announcements, Bus. Opportunities, Employment, Farmers Col., Miscellaneous, Real Estate.

DEADLINES

Table with categories: Sunday - Friday 12 Noon, For Next Day Publication, Too Late, For Same Day Publication, Sunday Too Late, 5:00 pm Friday.

CLASSIFIED RATES

Table with categories: 1-15 WORDS, 1-3 DAYS, 4 DAYS, 5 DAYS, 6 DAYS, 2 WEEKS, 1 MONTH.

CANCELLATIONS

ADS MAY BE CANCELLED UNTIL 12 NOON THE DAY PRIOR TO THE NEXT PUBLICATION DAY

HOW TO WRITE A CLASSIFIED AD

Start your ad with the item for sale, service you are offering, or job title of the person you're looking for. Be descriptive. The detail information is what sells the item to the reader.

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TOO LATES Too Late To Classify 001 THE BIG SPRING HERALD APPRECIATES YOUR BUSINESS

Too Late To Classify 001 FOR RENT: 1506 East 17th, Available January 1. \$350/monthly, \$350./deposit.

Instruction 060 ACT Truck Driving School 1-800-282-8658 273 CR 287, Merkel, TX 79536

EMPLOYMENT Help Wanted 085 GILL'S FRIED CHICKEN is now hiring for day and evening shifts.

Help Wanted 085 GILL'S FRIED CHICKEN is now hiring for day and evening shifts. Must be able to work weekends.

FARMERS COLUMN Farm Equipment 150 40HP FARMALL 504 Diesel Tractor with 8 pieces of equipment.

Horses 230 BIG SPRING HORSE SADDLE AND TACK AUCTION Saturday, December 23rd, 1:00pm.

MISCELLANEOUS Appliances 299 RENT-TO-OWN REBUILT APPLIANCES Easy terms, guaranteed, delivery and connect.

Auctions 325 SPRING CITY AUCTION-Robert Pruitt Auctioneer, TXS-079-007759. Call 263-1831/263-0914.

Jobs Wanted 090 Bill's small engine repair. Can work on about anything. For service and for dependable service on small engine.

Blind Box Replies When replying to a blind box number listed in an advertisement, address your reply to: (this is an example)

LABORS Need 4 people to unload trucks at Chuck Homyer's Truckload Sale. See sales manager at Howard County Fairgrounds at fair barn.

ANNOUNCEMENTS ADOPTION Bless This House! Athletic young couple yearning to be full-time mom and devoted dad.

PLACEMENT SERVICE PLACE YOUR GARAGE SALE AD AND RECEIVE A GARAGE SALE KIT FREE 263-7331

If You Have a Business or Offer a Service

The CLASSIFIED SERVICE DIRECTORY Is For You!! 263-7331

Here are some helpful tips and information that will help you when placing your ad. After your ad has been published the first day we suggest you check the ad for mistakes and if errors have been made we will gladly correct the ad and run it again for you at no additional charge.

ATTENTION CLASSIFIED CUSTOMERS IF YOU NEED TO CANCEL OR MAKE CHANGES IN YOUR AD, PLEASE CALL BY 8:00 AM THE DAY THE CHANGE IS TO OCCUR.

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ALICE B. HAYNES Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Testamentary for the Estate of ALICE B. HAYNES were issued on 11-21-95 in Cause No. 12,079 pending in the County Court of Howard County, Texas, to TIMOTHY H. HAYNES.

VEHICLES Autos for Sale 016 1985 FORD LTD. Very clean, good car. \$1800. Days, 267-1488. Nights, 264-1302.

Motorcycles 024 1991 KAWASAKI NINJA 500CC Motorcycle. Excellent condition. 4000 miles. \$2000. Call (days) 267-3984, (nights) 263-4640.

Pickups 027 1983 CHEVROLET S-10 Pick-up, V-6, automatic, air, long bed with bedliner, \$1750, 263-7501.

FOR SALE: 1994 Chevrolet 1/2 ton 6.5 turbo diesel, 410 gears. Call 267-5737.

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For More Information on how to place your ad in the **Classified Service Directory**
263-7331

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Dogs, Pets, Etc 375

PERSIAN KITTENS CPA registered champion lines, born 11-16-95. Males, \$150 and Females, \$200. Call Grace's Cattery, 267-4128.

Lost- Pets 394

LOST CAT. Black & gray stripes, 4 white feet. Last seen close to college. 267-5626.

Miscellaneous 395

ADVERTISING WORKS WITH BIG TYPE YOU JUST PROVED IT!

Arachnid Electronic Dart Machines for Sale. 2 years old in excellent condition. \$600 each firm. Call 264-7236. Make an excellent Christmas gift.

FOR SALE: Used doors, screen doors, storm doors; bathtub, toilet; bathroom wall heater \$20; central heat LP \$150.00; Kerosene heater \$60.00; drafting table \$150.00. 267-2296.

FOR SALE: White 18 cubic foot Kenmore refrigerator with ice maker. Two tier glass table. One chest buffet. All in excellent condition. Call 267-9959/

WEDDINGS, PARTIES, ETC.

CREATIVE CELEBRATIONS

Get the date you want by booking early for '96. Custom cake decorating, table decor, silk flowers. Brass and white arches, abras and other decorations. Call now for appointment!
Billye and Tolbert Grisham
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TELEPHONE JACKS installed for \$32.50
Business and Residential Sales and Service
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Want To Buy 503

WANTED TO BUY good used trampoline. Call 263-4645.

REAL ESTATE

Buildings For Sale 506

14X32 GARAGE/SHOP. Save 35%. Financing and delivery available. 563-3108. After 3:00, 550-5225.

Houses for Sale 513

3-2 BRICK, KENTWOOD area. Remodeled, including new A/C. \$42,500. Call 267-7884.

HAVE HORSES?

Brick 3/2/2, central heat/air, fireplace, shop, barn with two outside stalls, windmill and irrigated orchard on 3 fenced acres in the Coahoma ISD. Call 267-4848 for appointment.

HOMES FOR SALE

Why pay rent, when you can make payments on a home, that are less than renting. No credit needed. Kerr Management, 263-8869.

HOUSES WANTED

We buy houses! Any condition! All Cash! 1 day service! 806-794-5964.

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\$999.00 TOTAL MOVE-IN COST on this NEW HOMES by KEY HOMES, INC., at 708 FOREST, in COAHOMA. Sales price includes home, fence and huge lot (100'x149'). ALSO INCLUDED are NEW STREET PAVING, CURBS AND GUTTERS!!! Open House Saturday & Sunday 1:30-5:30. Call Now!! 1-915-520-9848.

NEW HOME FOR SALE or lease 1850 sq. ft., financing arranged. Reduced price. By Contractor. 4005 Vicky. 263-4548.

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Non-qualifying assumable in Kentwood. 3/2/2, fireplace and dining. \$13,500 equity, balance approximately \$63,000. 10.5 interest, payment \$681.00. Drive by 2716 Central Drive and call for appointment. 1-915-520-9848.

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday & Sunday, 1:00-5:00.

Houses for Sale 513

RENT-TO-OWN-HOMES
4 bedroom, 2 bath. \$325. 15 years; 2 bedroom. \$220.; 1 bedroom. \$180. 264-0510.

REPOSSESSED 3 bedroom, 1 bath home located at 2109 Warren St. asking \$23,500. We want it sold, so make me an offer. Financing available. Contact Preston Ramsey, National Metropolitan Mortgage Co. 1-800-541-0828. ext. 550.

WAS 27, NOW 16 HOME SITES

LEFT in Coronado Hills!!! Very competitive pricing! Don't be fooled by others misleading ads. Know your true bottom loan & payment up front.
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Mobile Homes 517

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1-800-725-0881

WE BUY USED MOBILE HOMES.

Call Bill in Midland
1-800-842-2123

RENTALS

Business Buildings 520

FOR RENT: Small building or car lot. \$10 E. 4th. Call Western Auto Parts. 263-5000.

GOING INTO BUSINESS or need a better location for your office, gift shop, antique shop, etc? Quaint other home now available for lease. Great location! Must see! Call 263-1533.

Furnished Apts. 521

\$99. Move In Plus Deposit. Nice 1,2,3 bedrooms. Electric, water paid. HUD accepted. Some furnished. Limited offer. 263-7811.

Furnished Apts. 521

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ONE-TWO bedroom apartments, houses, or mobile home. Mature adults only, no pets. 263-6944-263-2341.

ALL BILLS PAID
Section 8 Available
Rent based on income
NORTHCREST VILLAGE
1002 N. MAIN 267-5191
BXO

Furnished Apts. 521

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CARPORTS • SWIMMING POOL
MOST UTILITIES PAID
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DISCOUNT TO SENIOR CITIZENS
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24HR ON PREMISE MANAGER

KENTWOOD APARTMENTS
1904 EAST 25TH STREET
267-5444 263-5000

Furnished Houses 522

FURNISHED SMALL 1 bedroom house, carpeted and drapes. Prefer mature single adult. NO PETS!! Inquire at 804 Andree

Office Space 525

Prime office or retail space available at 406 FM 700. Call 267-8310.

Unfurnished Apts. 532

ONE BEDROOM. upstairs apartment. Recently inside remodeled. \$200/monthly. \$150/deposit. You pay bills. Call 267-2296.

TWIN TOWERS APARTMENTS
Under New Management
Newly Remodeled 1-2 Bedrooms

MOVE-IN SPECIAL
\$50 Off First Month
3304 W. Hwy 80
264-0787

Unfurnished Houses 533

2 & 3 BEDROOM brick homes. Central heat, fence, carpet. \$285. & up. Also, remodeled cottage. \$235. No pets. Accepted credit required. C/21- McDonald Realty. 263-7616.

2 & 3 BEDROOM recalls. Central heat, carpet, \$285. Nicel No pets. Credit report required. C/21- McDonald Realty. 263-7616.

2 BEDROOM 2 BATH, washer/dryer, stove, refrigerator, central heat/air. In Midway Road area. \$350/\$150 deposit. Call 267-3114 or 393-5585, after 1:00pm.

2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH. 304 E. 5th. NO PETS! 267-3841 or 556-4022.

3 BEDROOM 1 BATH, available Jan. 1. 2610 Carlton. New carpet and \$375 month. Appointment only. 267-2209 or 1-800-543-2141.

4-BEDROOM, 2-BATH, Newly remodeled. Ready To Go! 1803 Lincoln. 3-Bedroom, 2-bath, built in rage cook top, fenced yard. 3703 Connally. Phone 263-3266.

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MEN, WOMEN & CHILDREN

Child Care 610
Experienced

THURSDAY

DEC. 21

Table with 33 columns representing different TV channels and their programming for Thursday, Dec 21. Columns include KMYD, KPEJ, KERA, FAM, KOSA, WFAA, KWES, WTBS, UNI, DISN, NASH, TMC, SHOW, HBO, KMLM, A&E, DISC, TNT, HSE, ESPN, AMC, BET.

HI AND LOIS



SNUFFY SMITH



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

Today is Thursday, Dec. 21, the 355th day of 1995. There are ten days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Dec. 21, 1898, scientists Pierre and Marie Curie discovered radium.

On this date: In 1620, Pilgrims aboard the Mayflower went ashore for the first time at what is now Plymouth, Mass.

In 1891, basketball is believed to have been played for the first time, at Springfield College in Massachusetts.

In 1913, the first crossword puzzle was published, in the Sunday supplement of the New York World.

In 1914, the first feature-length silent film comedy, "Lillian's Punctured Romance," was released.

In 1942, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled all states had to recognize divorces granted in Nevada.

In 1945, 50 years ago, Gen. George S. Patton died of injuries he suffered in a car accident in Heidelberg, Germany.

In 1968, Apollo 8 was launched from Cape Kennedy on its way to man's first orbit of the moon.

In 1971, the U.N. Security Council chose Kurt Waldheim to be Secretary-General of the world body, succeeding U Thant.

In 1988, 270 people were killed when a terrorist bomb exploded aboard a Pam Am Boeing 747 over Lockerbie, Scotland, sending wreckage crashing to the ground.

Ten years ago: South African dissident Winnie Mandela was forcibly removed by police from her Soweto home and arrested a day later for defying government restrictions.

Five years ago: British Prime Minister John Major met with President Bush at Camp David, Maryland; afterward, the two leaders expressed their unity on the Persian Gulf crisis. In Iraq, hundreds of thousands participated in an evacuation drill to test war readiness.

One year ago: A firebomb exploded on a crowded New York City subway train, injuring 48 people, including a man suspected of carrying the device.

Today's Birthdays: Former Austrian president and former U.N. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim is 77. Ventriloquist Paul Winchell is 73. Actor Ed Nelson is 67. Talk show host Phil Donahue is 60. Conductor Jane Fonda is 58. Conductor Michael Tilson Thomas is 51. Tennis star Chris Evert is 51. Olympic track star Florence Griffith-Joyner is 36.

Thought for Today: "It is not necessary to understand things in order to argue about them." - Pierre Augustin Caron de Beaumarchais, French author and dramatist (1732-1799).

The Associated Press

Big Spring Herald Classified Gets Results 263-7331

RITZ 401 S. Main 263-7400 Adult 4:00-10:00 Child 2:00-10:00

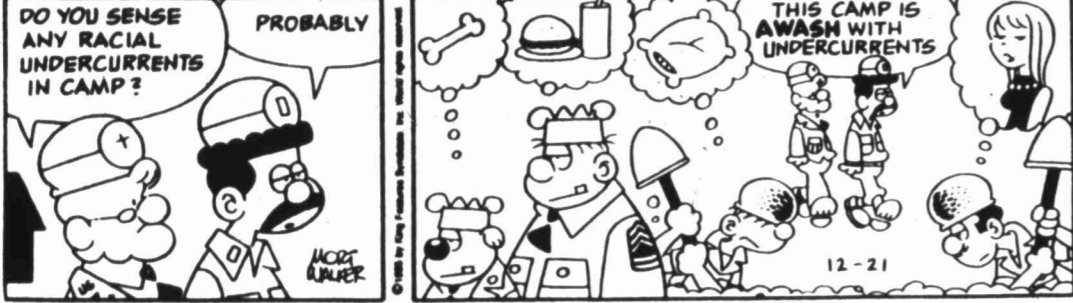
CALVIN AND HOBBES



WIZARD OF ID



BEEBLE BAILY



HAGAR



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues and solution time: 22 mins. Clues include: 1 Flavor enhancer, 4 Yes, to fortune?, 5 Canis lupus, 41 Aesopian lesson, 9 Hockey's Nilsson, 43 Dawn, 47 Cartesian conclusion, 48 Not in civvies, 51 That girl, 52 Antitoxins, 14 Postal, 53 Foe of the Moor, 15 Creed word, 54 Cow's chaw, 17 Bandy of C&W, 55 Get wind of, 18 Consigned to Hades, 16 King, 19 Imperial, 21 Tater, 22 Youngest son, 24 Gulf War, 1 Taur, 23 Fills with, 27 Marcia, 2 Ligurian, 22 Youngest son, 30 Sea feeder, 3 Wheels of, 24 Prank, 43 Pacific island, 44 Gen., 45 - Park, N.Y., 46 Commotions, 49 Maiden name intro, 50 Nest-egg acct.

PEANUTS



B.C.



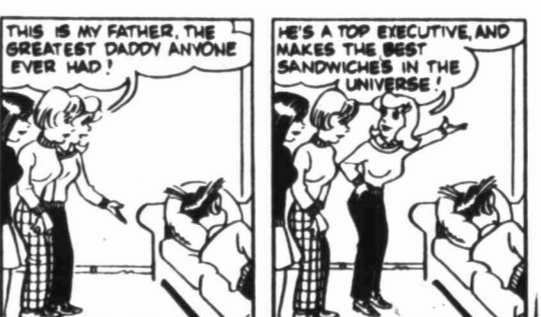
GASOLINE ALLEY



DENNIS THE MENACE



BLONDIE



GEECH



GEECH



GEECH



CINEMARK THEATRES

Cinemark Theatres Movies 4 263-2479 Toy Story (G) 5:00-7:00-9:00 ACE Ventura: When Nat. (PG-13) 4:05-7:20-9:30 Money Train (R) 4:30-7:30-9:50 Golden Eye (PG-13) 4:20-7:10-9:40

FAMILY CIRCUS

Family Circus comic strip panel 12-21. A character says 'I'D BET THAT'S A PRETTY SAFE BET'"/>

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-454-8873

1-800-454-8873 199c per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only) A King Features service, NYC.

12-28 CRYPTOQUIP

T M E X M Z X Q R M O T O R M S O M T J X M E M T I F U I U B S G T ' R G Q X J J B L :

EMQZU LUSU JFOQR. Yesterday's Cryptquip are YOUNG FARMERS PERMITTED TO RIDE UPON PROTRACTORS?

Today's Cryptquip clue: E equals M

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

The Cryptquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

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Big Spring Herald (915) 263-7331 Fax #915-264-7205. Reflecting a proud community. Published Daily, Sunday through Friday. Office Hours Monday thru Friday 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Family Circus comic strip panel 12-21. A character says 'I'D BET THAT'S A PRETTY SAFE BET'"/>

"I bet gold, frankincense and myrrh, I'll bet Mary wished they brought diapers."