TWA explosion, elections, Olympic bombing are top news stories of 1996

NEW YORK (AP) - Fire ignites the nighttime sky. Death darkens the Olympics. Rumors, theories and tears

And the year ends with haunting questions about two of the biggest mysteries of 1996: the explosion of a Parisbound TWA jet over Long Island, and the bombing at Atlanta's Centennial Park during the summer Olympic

Games. The TWA explosion was the biggest story of the year, according to the annual Associated Press poll of newspaper editors and broadcast news directors; the Olympic bombing placed third, after the elections.

The arrest of Unabomber suspect the hostage siege at the Japanese Theodore Kaczynski, the ValuJet crash in the Florida Everglades, the overhaul of the nation's welfare system, the Olympic Games, the shutdown of the government, the booming economy and the wrath of last winter's great blizzard filled out the list.

For the first time in years, no international stories secured a spot, perhaps because there was such a wealth of national news from which to choose. This is the AP's 60th survey; last year's top story was the Oklahoma City bombing.

The voting ended Dec. 16, so some late-breaking stories — for example,

embassy in Lima, Peru — were not considered.

The top 10 are as follows:

1. TWA EXPLOSION. The sad, lingering saga of TWA's Flight 800 was overwhelmingly voted the year's top story. The jet mysteriously exploded moments after taking off from John F. Kennedy International Airport on July 17, killing all 230 people on board.

The images were heart-wrenching; Sixteen members of a high school French Club from Montoursville, Pa., wiped out on their first trip to France; Charred bodies and fuselage scattered over the Atlantic, dredged up with sickening slowness over the next several months; 15 empty coffins for the bodies that couldn't be found.

Ritualistic press conferences and memorial services did little to ease the pain. The emotions of grieving families were further battered by the everchanging theories: a bomb, a missile, static electricity in the fuel tank. Still no answers.

'We just have to wait till the pain stops and we can smile again," says Carol Olsen of Macon, Ga., who lost her 20-year-old daughter, Becky.

2. U.S. ELECTION. Bill Clinton sailed into a second term after an expensive — and many said uninspir- See TOP 10, Page 2A

ing - presidential campaign. From the start, the Democratic president's lead in the polls was luxurious. He easily if only temporarily — deflected questions about ethics, Asian money and

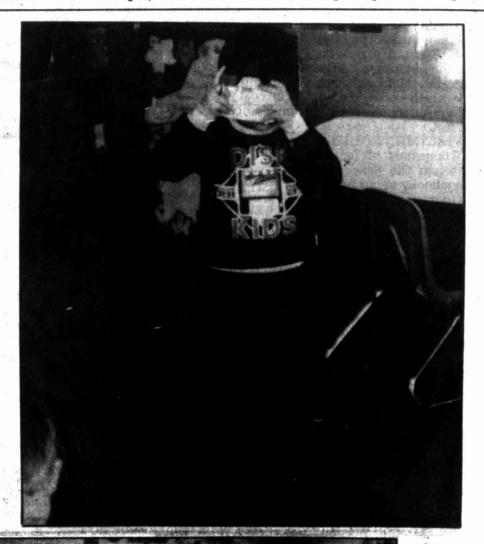
Republican challenger Bob Dole fumbled and stumbled and berated the media for his problems, including his inability to sell a 15 percent tax cut.

Presidential politics aside, the Republicans held onto Congress and re-elected Newt Gingrich speaker.

3. OLYMPIC BOMB. He was hailed as a hero, hounded as a suspect, and

AFTER CHRISTMAS PLAY

Nicole Juares (left) and Erinda Rios play ball together after not seeing each other over the Christmas holidays while Adam Morales tries out his new camera. The youngsters were all at the West Side Day Care Center.





Carson named to succeed JP Shankles

By CARLTON JOHNSON Staff Writer

Marilyn Carson, longtime secretary to Peace Justice Bill Shankles, was named to fill the remaining two years on Shankles' term after announced his retirement.

Corson was one of seven persons who expressed interest in the position and were interviewed by Howard County commissioners.

Commissioners met in regular session this morning to discuss and take action of several issues, including officially accepting Shankles' resignation and approving a janitorial contract for several county

Last Friday, commissioners met in special session to interview the list of candidates interested in filling Shankles unexpired Precinct 1, Place 2 position. Shankles resignation becomes effective Jan. 1.

Those interviewed to fill Shankles position included Howard Carson; County Sheriff's deputy Bennie Green; Municipal Court Judge Gary Tabor: probation officer Gilbert Cisneros; Ron Hensley, chief financial officer with a local company; Assistant District Attorney William Dupree; Blaz Bailon, a local cafe owner and manager; and David Hernandez, a local social worker.

After conducting interviews of the candidates, commissioners announced Carson would fill out the remaining two years of Shankles position and if she

desires to retain the position will have to officially run for the office in May 1998.

Carson will be required to attend a certification school the week of Jan. 12, according to Howard County Judge Ben Lockhart.

Shankles, after serving as Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1, Place 2 for 10 1/2- years decided earlier this month to retire.

In announcing his retirement, he said he was doing so because of health reasons and on the advice of his doctors.

In regards to the janitorial issue, commissioners Sonny Choate and Jerry Kilgore presented a proposal to the court that they said would better structure the janitorial services of the courthouse, courthouse annex, library and the new library building on Main Street.

Choate and Kilgore have looked at three or four options in the past and have taken the last month to explore all of those options.

The county's current janitorial needs include the cleaning and maintenance of the four buildings, but previous service has not been considered accept-

able by the county. "We had contracted out for janitorial service," Kilgore said, but the work was unsatisfactory so we terminated the contract. All we have now is parttime help in maintaining the four buildings."

Kilgore added, "We're trying to consolidate our service and determine what's best for the county in the way of janitorial service."

Mail service cut to Republic of Texas neighbors

FORT DAVIS (AP) - Postal officials have cut off mail delivery to a remote community near this historic West Texas town that has become a haven to the leader of a secessionist group and his armed guards.

Richard McLaren, 43, the selfstyled ambassador and consul general of the Republic of Texas, is wanted on a civil contempt order after he failed to heed a Pecos federal judge's summons. He has said he would use force, if necessary, to resist the summons.

Mike Pearson, the Fort Davis postmaster, said he could only confirm that mail service was "temporarily disrupted" and referred all inquiries to supervisors in El Paso.

But McLaren's neighbors say Pearson told them that they won't get any mail that until McLaren's situation is settled.

"They don't feel the mail carrier is safe up there," Jeff Davis County Sheriff Harvey Adams told the El Paso Times. McLaren is being protected

around the clock by the republic's militia-backed defense forces. He has said he will not surrender to federal marshals.

Republic members believe Texas was unlawfully annexed by Congress in 1845. They do not acknowledge state or federal laws and claim Texas is a "free sovereign nation." Consequently, McLaren says

the court order has no validity. Some republic members contend that McLaren is no longer associated with or representative of the organization.

U.S. District Judge Lucius D. **Bunton III summoned McLaren** to his Pecos courtroom to answer questions in a long-running legal dispute over land titles with Stewart Guaranty Title Co.

Joe Rowe, president of the Davis Mountains Property Owners' Association, said residents normally do not agree with McLaren's politics, nor are they pleased to have his armed bodyguards patrolling his property. But they also don't like not getting their mail, he said.

Big Spring Cable

making lineup changes Big Spring Cable TV will be making several changes in its cable offerings, effective Jan. 1,

Beginning that day, Big Spring Cable will drop Entertainment (E!) Television and add Nickelodeon's TV Land channel.

TV Land, which to 24-hour channel broadcasting old comdeies such as Sgt. Bilko and others, will be on cable channel

To accomodate that move, KMLM will move to channel 19

Chris Christopher files notice of appeal, spending holidays in Rhode Island jail

HERALD Staff Report

"Chris" Charles Christopher, 51, the Big Spring businessman sentenced to 10 years in federal prison for his part in the largest theft in Rhode Island history, remains in custody at the Wyatt Detention Center in Central Falls, R.I., in lieu of \$500,000 bail set by Judge Frances Boyles. "To date we are not aware of

any attempt by him to make

bail," explained Tom Connell, spokesman for the U.S. Attorney's office in Providence,

Christopher received concurrent 120-month sentences following his July 1995 conviction on 11 counts of wire fraud and 10 counts of interstate transfer of stolen goods, which resulted from his part in defrauding American Universal Insurance Co. of Providence, R.I., and **Benefits** Diamond Insurance Co. of Arizona.

He faced a possible 155 years

in prison and \$60 million in fines.

In the meantime, a notice of appeal has been filed in his

The appeal, filed by Terrance G. Reed of the Washington, D.C. law firm of Reed & Hostage, filed the notice with the First Circuit Court of Appeal. The appeal pertains to all rulings, including, but not limited to denial of a motion for a new trial, order for restitution and all other orders.

NDEX omics.

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Lows V Today: Mostly sunny. Highs 65-70. Tonight, fair with lows 35-40.

Friday: Mostly sunny. Highs around 70 Friday night; fai. With Jaws around

Extended outlook: Highs Saturday through Monday ranging from 65 to 70. Lows range from mid-30s to low 40s.



HELPING OUT

J.B. Cloud, right, with

KBST Radio, presents a \$600 check to Salvation **Army Roy Tolcher for** use in the Angel Tree project. Radio station employees auctioned off donated artist-related items from Nashville to raise money for the project.

ness. Prayer service will be 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 27, at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral service will be 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 28, Myers & Smith Chapel with Rev. Soccoro

Rios, pastor of

VILLAREAL

Templo Belen Assembly of God, officiating. Paula was born on Feb. 6, 1947, in Midland. She married Maurice Villareal on April 5, 1962, in Big Spring. She had been a lifetime resident of Big Spring. She was a homemaker and a member of the Pentecostal church.

Survivors are her husband: Maurice Villareal, Big Spring; one daughter: Sylvia Villareal. Big Spring; three sons: Morris Villareal, Michael Villareal and Rey Chavarria, all of Big Spring; her mother: Sara Chavarria, Big Spring; four sisters: Yolanda Villareal, Odessa, Rosa Pineda, Olga Chavarria, both of Big Spring, and Melinda Cano, Forest City, Ark.; three brothers: Albert Chavarria, Rey Chavarria, both of Big Spring, and Lalo Chavarria, San Antonio; three grandchildren: Brittany Villareal, Michael John Villareal and Gabrielle Villareal; and numerous nieces

and nephews. She was preceded in death by her father, Eulalio Chavarria and a brother, David Chavarria. Arrangements under the direction of Myers & Smith Funeral Home & Chapel.

(Paid obituary)

:Dayton M. Miller

Service for Dayton M. Miller. 88, Big Spring, will be 10 a.m. Friday, Dec. 27, 1996, in the Birdwell Lane Church of Christ with Doyle Maynard, Church of Christ minister, officiating. Interment will follow in Trinity Memorial Park.

Mr. Miller died Tuesday, Dec. 24, in a local hospital.

He was born on Oct. 12, 1908, in Mason County. He came to Big Spring in 1930. Mr. Miller worked as a painter for 60 years before retiring. He was a member of the Birdwell Lane Church of Christ.

Survivors aree two sisters: Gladys Lepard and Ila Mae Madden, both of Big Spring; and several nieces and nephews.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Ralph W. Caton

Service for Ralph W. Caton, Senior District Judge (Ret.), will be 2 p.m. Monday, Dec. 30, 1996, in the St. John's Episcopal Church in New Braunfels.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Paula Villareal, 49, died Wednesday. Prayer service 7 PM Friday, Chapel, Funeral Service 2 PM Saturday Myers Smith Chapel with Interment at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

NALLEY-PICKLE & WELCH Funeral Home Trinity Memorial Park



and Crematory 906 Gregg St. (915) 267-6331

Dayton M. Miller, 88, died Tuesday. Services will be 10:00 AM Friday at Bridwell Lane Church of Christ. interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The Herald is a m

Burial will be in the Oakwood Cemetery in Waco. Judge Caton died Saturday.

Dec. 21. He was born on Aug. 1, 1925. He attended public schools in Waco, graduating from Waco High School in 1942. After a year at John Tarleton College, he enlisted in the United States Navy, serving until March 1946. After World War II, he attended Hardin-Simmons University, graduating in 1949. He moved to Stanton, established a law practice, was appointed City Attorney, then Justice of the Peace and in 1952 won his race for County Attorney of Martin County. In early 1959, he became a law partner with Walton Morrison in Big Spring. In the fall of 1959, he was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Judge Charlie Sullivan by Governor Price Daniel. On Jan. 1, 1960, he was sworn in as

Big Spring. Survivors are his wife: Mary Holdar Caton; one daughter: Ann Gill; a son: Carl Caton; and

District Judge of the 118th

Judicial District of the State of

Texas, comprising of three

counties of Martin, Howard and

Glasscock. He retired from the

bench on Dec. 31, 1979, but con-

tinued judicial work as a Senior

Judge. He was also a member of

St. Mary's Episcopal Church,

four grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Big Spring, Hospice New Braunfels or the charity of one's choice.

Arrangements under the direction of Oak Hills Funeral Home, San Antonio.

TOP 10

Continued from Page 1A

finally cleared by the FBI. Richard Jewell said he was "just doing his job" when he spotted a suspicious satchel in Centennial Olympic Park and notified police. The July 27 explosion killed Alice Hawthorne of Albany, Ga., and injured more than 100 others; it stained the already besieged games, and further diminished Americans' sense of security.

It also changed Jewell's life forever. For nearly three months, every detail of the 33 year-old security guard's was aired in the press, until the FBI announced he was not a suspect.

The bomber has yet to be found.

4. UNABOMBER ARREST. A hermit professor, living in a tiny, isolated cabin in Montana, was fingered by his brother, who recognized similarities between Theodore Kaczynski's writings and those of the technology-obsessed "unabomber." Kaczynski's arrest on April 3 apparently ended an 18-year search for the elusive bomber, whose lethal packages killed three people and injured or maimed 23 others. Kaczynski, a former assistant professor of mathematics at the University of California at Berkeley, pleaded innocent.

5. EVERGLADES CRASH. "We're on fire. We're on fire," a voice cried from the cabin. moments before ValuJet Flight 592 plunged into the Everglades on May 11, killing all 110 people aboard. Recovery proved gruesome and grueling. Divers wore special protective suits as they searched in waist-high swamp muck and razor-sharp sawgrass, while sharpshooters tried to protect them from alligators. The fire that caused the crash was eventually blamed on improperly boxed oxygen canisters and the quirky little airline with the happy face logo and the super cheap rates was grounded for 15 weeks. One result: a continuing investigation into the safety record of discount airlines and the ability of the Federal Aviation Administration to monitor

them. 6. WELFARE ENDS. After acknowledging that the new law "seriously flawed," was President Clinton signed it anyway, ending welfare as we know

At its heart, the legislation dismantled Aid to Families



With Dependent Children, a 6decade-old program that guaranteed the nation's needy a federal safety net. Now they must rely on their states for help. The law comes with strict new rules, including a lifetime limit of five years, stringent work requirements, and cuts in food stamps and aid to immigrants and disabled children. Supporters said the new law would get people on their feet, but criticism came from many quarters: from states that said they couldn't meet the deadlines, from social workers who said the new system will plunge more people into poverty, from three top federal officials who resigned in protest.

"I think a lot of people will start starving," said Shawn Cornett, a 22-year-old welfare recipient in Kentucky.

7. CENTENNIAL GAMES. A bomb explodes, buses break down, and a feisty little gymnast flips on an injured ankle and wins the nation's heart. The 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta will be remembered for the bombing, for rampant commercialism, for transportation problems and "warm and fuzzy" television images designed to appeal to women. And for sports heroes: Muhammad Ali lighting the flame, Kerri Strug being carried to the podium to collect her gold medal, Carl Lewis winning his ninth gold medal, Michael Johnson triumphing on gold-shod feet.

8. GOVERNMENT SHUTS DOWN. Thousands of federal workers began the year with partial paychecks or no pay at all, while tourists at the Capitol could view only the outside of darkened museums and monuments. Republicans blamed Clinton for the partial government shutdown — the second in as many months — because he vetoed several spending bills that would have financed federal agencies for the year. **Democrats blamed Republicans** for insisting on unacceptable spending cuts. The stop-and-go government chugged on until April, ending with a \$159 billion budget compromise for which

both parties claimed victory. 9. THE BOOM CONTINUES. The stock market soared, the deficit was down and unemployment neared a seven-year low. The economy is undoubtedly healthy — too healthy, some think. Witness the nervous reaction to Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan's December speech cautioning against "irrational exuberance" in financial markets, which sent stock markets tumbling from Tokyo to New York. But soon, they resumed their upward climb.

10. BIG BLIZZARD. A monster storm paralyzed the Northeast and Midwest, breaking all kinds of records and capping a never-ending winter. The Jan. 8 blizzard, which dumped 20.1 inches on New York City, grounded cars, buses, trains, planes and just about anything else that moved. At least 50 deaths were blamed on the blizzard. Nine months later a bumper crop of births was blamed on the same thing. "We'd played every board game we had. There was nothing else to do," said Amy Lauriat of New York, who delivered her socalled "blizzard baby" in late September.

TAKE TIME OUT FOR YOURSELF READ THE BIG SPRING HERALD

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Big Spring THE RUN

IN BRIEF

BIG SPRING HIGH SCHOOL students involved in **Distributive Education Clubs of** American (DECA) are currently selling a Big Spring Steer card for \$10 offering discounts at various merchants. The

owner of the card can use it once a day for a full year to receive such discounts as buy one food item, get one free, discounts on oil changes and dry cleaning, free second set of prints and buy one bowling game and get one free.

For more information and to purchase a card, contact DECA Sponsor Lee Lowery at the high school at 264-3641, extension

THE TEXAS **DEPARTMENT OF Health** administers flu shots Monday through Thursday from 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 1-3:30 p.m. They moved back to their regular location at College Park Shopping Center, 501 Birdwell. The cost is \$5 and TDH will file on Medicare, if necessary. Call 263-9775 for more information.

AN ALICE HAYNES SCHOLARSHIP Fund has been established at Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, 79720, Attn: Cheri Sparks, President.

The Alice B. Haynes Dental Hygiene Scholarship will be awarded each year at Howard College to a deserving dental hygiene student, in honor of Dr. Haynes.

THE INTERNAL REVENUE **SERVICE** will be training volunteers interested in assisting with the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program next year. The program will be at First Presbyterian Church, Eighth and Runnels, and the volunteer training is scheduled for Monday through Friday, Jan. 13-17, 1997, Volunteers will begin assisting with the preparation of income tax returns for individuals in February. For more information, call Dorothy Kennemur at 398-5522.

DON'T THROW YOUR CHRISTMAS cards away! Rainbow Girls are recycling cards to St. Jude's Ranch for Children as a service project. They will pick up the cards anytime. Call 264-9455. They are also collecting pantyhose and canceled stamps still attached to envelopes.

THE RSVP VOLUNTEERS AT Malone & Hogan Clinic will be doing free blood pressure checks from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and from 2 to 4 p.m.

550

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MOTOROLA

TEXAS LOTTERY LOTTO: 2, 10, 19, 20, 29, 30

 Good Shepherd Fellowship Church, 610 Abrams, has services 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

SPRINGBOARD

·Spring Tabernacle Church, 1209 Wright, has free food for area needy, 10 a.m. to noon.

 Big Spring Senior Citizens Center art classed, 9:30 to 11:30

a.m., 55 and older. ·Support Group Depression, 7 p.m., Dora Roberts Rehab Center, Third and Lancaster.

•Al-Anon, 8 to 9 p.m., Scenic Mountain Medical Center small cafeteria. Alcoholics Anonymous, noon

to 1 p.m. open meeting, 615 Settles. 8 to 9 p.m. closed meeting at Scenic Mountain Medical Center cafeteria.

•Masonic Lodge #598, 7:30 p.m., 219 Main. ·Alzheimer's Association sup-

port group, 7 p.m., Comanche Trail Nursing Center. FRIDAY

 Spring City Senior Citizens country/western dance, 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. Music by CW & Co. Area seniors invited.

 Good Shepherd Fellowship Church, 610 Abrams, 7 p.m. Bible study.

Alcoholics Anonymous, 615

Settles, noon to 1 p.m. open meeting and 8 to 9 p.m. Big Book Study. SATURDAY

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

 Alcoholics Anonymous sobriety yearly birthdays, open birthday night, covered dish, 7 p.m. and birthday meeting 8 p.m., 615 Settles.

SUNDAY Good Shepherd Fellowship Church, 610 Abrams, has services at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

 Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, 11 a.m. closed meeting and 7 p,m, open meeting.

 Big Spring Evening Lion's Crub, 6:30 p.m., 1607 E. 1 Call Jan Noyes, 267-5811. Project Freedom, Christian

support group, 7 p.m. Call 263-5140 or 263-2241. •TOPS Clubs (Take Off

Pounds Sensibly) 5:30 to 6 p.m. weigh in and 6 p.m. meeting, Carriage Inn, 501 W. 17th. Call 263-1340 or 263-8633. Alcoholics Anonymous, 615

Settles, noon to 1 p.m. open meeting and 8 to 9 p.m. at the VA Medical Center on fourth floor. TUESDAY

•Comanche Lake Duplicate, 1 p.m., Dora Roberts Civic Center.

•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. open meeting and 8 to 9 p.m. closed meeting at the VA Medical Center on fourth floor.

POLICE

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity for the period ending at 8 a.m. today:

PICK 3: 4, 2, 8

·MARY ANN WILLIAMS, 22, of Odessa, was arrested on local warrants.

·JOE JOHNSON, 25, no known address, was arrested for disorderly conduct.

•STEVEN URIBE, 21, of 1210 Marijo, was arrested on local

•PEDRO CHAVANNIA, 26, of 1210 Marijo, was arrested on local warrants. ·MICHAEL **ANGELO** DELEON, 31, of 612 Linda, was

arrested on a violation of probation warrant from the Midland County Sheriff's Office. •PAUL F. LITTY, 25, of 13

Ridgelea, was arrested on local warrants.

DOMESTIC DISTUR-BANCE in the 3900 block of Hamilton; and the 1400 block of

•THEFT in the 900 block of Willia; and the 1100 block of N.

·BURGLARY OF A HABI-TATION in the 1700 block of W.

·BURGLARY OF A HABI-TATION in the 4200 block of •THEFT OF GAS in the 100

block of Lamesa. •THEFT OF GAS in the 2500 block of Wasson.

 ASSAULT in the 4200 block of Muir.

·DISTURBANCE/FIGHT in the 3300 block of W. Hwy. 80.

·DISTURBANCE/FIGHT in the 2600 block of Allendale. ·UNAUTHORIZED USE OF A VEHICLE in the 1600 block of E. Marcy.

·CRIMINAL MISCHIEF in the 500 block of Scott; 1500 block of Kentucky Way; 700 block of Craigmont; and the 1500 block of Tucson.

IN BRIEF

THE 1996-97 SANDS PTO cook books are in. "Cooking Country Style" contains 1,284 recipes from appetizers to main dishes and desserts. The cook book is dedicated to the students of Sands CISD and all proceeds from the book will be used to provide scholarships for the students.

In Big Spring, contact Connie Zant at Elrod's or Dorothy Ringner at Jiffy Car Wash for the cook books. You may call Sands School, Zelda Bilbo 353-4314, Sharon Hambrick 353-4744 or Alison Foster at 353-4574 for a copy of the cook book. The cook books are also at McCall's and Ford Pharmacy in Lamesa.



Thursday los

BIG SPRIN

AUSTIN half of the i

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En

Most Texas prisoners indigent, others wealthy

half of the inmates in the Texas state prison system are considered indigent, with less than \$5 in their accounts on any given day in the "prison bank," state prison officials say.

But on a recent day, two prisoners each had more than \$50,000 in their accounts, and 26 had more than \$10,000, the Houston Chronicle reported

That's a hefty balance for someone whose purchases often is limited to food, toilet items, stationery and the like from the commissary.

In all, there's about \$7 million in cash in the prison bank — an average of about \$52 in the 135,220 non-interest bearing accounts, Texas Department of Criminal Justice records show.

On death row, 12 inmates each have more than \$1,000 in their accounts, with the wealthiest condemned killer amassing \$8,470.

Prison spokesman Glen Castlebury said a prisoner once exceeded the \$99,999 limit that prison rules place on inmate trust accounts.

None of the longtime administrators can recall when or how that fortune was amassed. Castlebury said. Privacy rules prohibit the disclosure of indi-

AUSTIN (AP) - More than vidual inmates' bank balances. Convicts do not get paid for the prison jobs they hold, although some earn funds through the sale of crafts they

make in prison. Officials say some inmates deposit funds sent in by family and friends, some collect divorce or other financial settlements and some earn funds through the sales of crafts they make in prison "piddling shops."

Bruce Thaler, warden at the Ellis Unit in Huntsville, where death row is housed, said a lot of the money for condemned killers comes from overseas.

Savvy condemned killers know that "overseas thinking is quite a bit more liberal than ours in the United States, especially as far as capital punishment goes," Thaler said, and thus they often search for pen pals overseas who are more apt to send money for their causes.

In 1993, for example, a French woman who had befriended condemned prisoner Samuel Christopher Hawkins begrudgingly confirmed that she had given Hawkins \$15,000 - some of it her own money and the rest collected from fellow countrymen who also oppose capital punishment.

"Some of the correspondence

that they send out is, from a con's aspect, astonishing," Thaler added. "They can manage to build a person's confidence, talk about their cause, they'll discuss so many different things about why they need this money to fight their case. to help pay for their lawyer, to buy typewriters, or the amount of postage they need sending

things out. It's amazing." Under prison rules, all incoming and outgoing mail is monitored, except that to and from lawyers and reporters.

"Anything that is direct solicitation where (prisoners) just blatantly come out and say, 'I need you to send me \$100, \$50, what have you' we don't allow that to go out," the warden said.

But convicts being cons, Thaler said, they learn to "sugar coat" their pleas to try to get around the mail censors, complaining about conditions, poor food, lack of money to fight their sentences, and the like. But the underlying message is there: Send money.

Money in prison means power - the same as it does on the outside.

"It doesn't take as much, naturally, in prison for you to be somebody or to look at it as a means of control," Thaler said. Some inmates share their

wealth with those less fortunate; others use it for gambling or control leverage, Thaler said.

When a felon doesn't have the cash in the bank to shop from the company store, he often must turn to fellow convicts operating stores out of their

A cash-poor prisoner who needs a tube of toothpaste might have to agree to pay back the seller with two tubes of toothpaste when his money comes in.

Thaler said he tries to monitor prison bank accounts, and when they get too large, Thaler encourages inmates to set up savings accounts in regular "free world"banks.

That's because the prison bank pays no interest on the funds, Castlebury said. Inmates' funds are invested in certificates of deposit and treasury notes, he said, but the interest off those investments goes to offset the cost of operating the 15-employee prison bank in Huntsville.

Any interest earned above expenses goes to the inmate recreation fund, which is used to purchase televisions and other recreational items used by all prisoners, Castlebury

Store Hours: We Accept Food 9-6:30 Stamps & Mon.-Sat. **Discount** The Lone Star Card 915-264-9107 Foods 403 Runnels, Big Spring, Tx. READY TO EAT SALAD CHICKEN OR TUNA......5-LB. TUB 88 HUDSON CUT UP FRYERS..... POPCORN ICE CREAM OT. 3/100 REUSABLE PLASTIC SERVING TRAYS... SYSCO FROZEN POTATOES......5-LB. CUTS **PURE GROUND** BEEF.......5-LB. TUBE (576-LB.) FLEISHMANS MARGARINE SQUEEZE. **BAR-S BOLOGNA** HOLIDAY RICE A RONI ORIGINAL 43-0Z. 2/98¢ DIXIE KID PLATES......20-CT: PKG. 79 PEPE BETTY CROCKER CAKE MIX OR FROSTING. SMART ICE POPS......10-CT. PKG. 3/100

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Facelift of 145-year-old state cemetery near completion

AUSTIN (AP) — Restoration Legislature is in session, said torical perspective and pride to will be completed in January of the 145-year-old Texas State Cemetery, the final resting spot of many of Texas' legends, including 11 governors and Stephen F. Austin, the so-called Father of Texas.

The \$4.7 million facelift was initiated two years ago after lt. Gov. Bob Bullock complained about the deterioration of the 18-acre site on a hill in east

The cemetery dates to 1851. when Gen. Edward Burleson, vice president of the Republic of Texas, was buried there.

"It's basically going to be like it was - with a few enhancements," said Harry Bradley, superintendent of the project for the Texas General Services Commission.

A rededication ceremony is

Kevin Kennedy, spokesman for the commission.

Faced with crumbling gravestones, decaying roads and overgrown trees, Bullock spurred state agencies in 1994 to develop a master plan to restore dignity to the peaceful graveyard, which some have dubbed "the Arlington Cemetery of Texas.'

The project is the work of the General Services Commission, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and the Texas Historical Commission. Work has been funded in part by a federal grant obtained by the Department Transportation.

David Lake of San Antonio's LakeFlato Architects said the master plan for the renovation

the pastoral setting.

"It is a compilation of vignettes of the Hill Country and the state," Lake said. "It's getting there. It's better than I envisioned it."

Construction is under way on a visitors' center that will include an interpretative section so visitors can learn who is buried at the cemetery and the person's significance in state history.

In a plaza adjacent to the visitors' center, a huge Texas flag waves atop a 150-foot-high flag pole, which Bradley said is the tallest flag pole in Travis County. It can be seen from the Capitol and Interstate 35.

Across the cemetery in the southern sector lie the 31 stones that make up the Plaza de los has focused on refurbishing the Recuerdos (Plaza of Memories) planned for March when the cemetery to incorporate a his- to commemorate important

Texans not buried at the ceme-

Nestled amid native Texas grasses, the stones signify 31 state Senate districts.

The names of famous Texans will be chiseled on the stone tablets, made of weathered marble that was quarried in San Saba. A fountain is being built, and benches to be stationed in the plaza will give visitors a quiet place to reflect.

A lookout hill and lakes are being created on the northern portion of the cemetery as some of the older sections are being restored, including more than 2,000 Confederate headstones.

The memorial to Confederate Gen. Albert Sydney Johnston, adorned by a life-size statue sculpted by Elisabet Ney, has been refurbished, and new planters surround the monument, transper out vailegi.

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DITORIAL

Quote of the Day

"Failures are usually the most conceited of men."

-Peter Drucker

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OTHER VIEWS

Gingrich should resign as Speaker

ne problem with conservatives, someone once said, is that they shoot their wounded Apparently, no more. With House Speaker Newt Gingrich oozing political blood from a self-inflicted ethics wound, GOP House leaders have rushed to his side like a squad of medics. Their ministrations have not been lost on the rank-and-file: Gingrich's No. 2, Dick Armey, now professes "absolute" certainty that all 227 House Republicans will vote to re-elect the speaker on Jan. 7. Auld lang syne lives.

Alas, loyalty may be eclipsing wisdom here. Certainly, Gingrich is the Paine and Washington of the Republican Revolution — both its intellectual and tactical leader. Without him, House Republicans would still be a minority of glorified pundits rather than the makers of policy; the Contract With America a laughingstock, not a politically pivotal document all of whose planks Gingrich faithfully guided to floor votes. It would be swinish of Republicans to casually throw over one so central to their fortunes.

However, it looks very much like Gingrich's utility as

speaker has played out.

Already one of America's least-loved politicians, the Georgian now has been forced by the report of an Ethics Committee panel to admit that he shamed the House by making misstatements to ethics investigators. The speaker (ital)may(endital) have allowed political and charitable funds to impermissibly mix in a college course he taught, too.

Fortunately for Gingrich's hopes of staying in Congress, these findings are finely drawn. The subcommittee did not characterize the misstatements as assaulted, battered, touched lies, and tax experts debate whether he broke the tax code by boosting his history lectures with PAC money. High corruption this evidently isn't. But it still hobbles Gingrich's effectiveness.

Even if unintentional, Gingrich's bre ches have now put real blood in the water. The dorsal fins of Minority Whip David Bonior and other Newt-hungry Democrats will circle the speaker evermore. This surely will dis-

tract him from the business of governing.

Gingrich should yield the speakership, both because self-demotion is meet self-punishment for unworthy behavior and because his abdication would help advance the GOP agenda. Mere Congressman Gingrich could remain the power behind the throne - which under his continued occupancy could come to resemble an electric chair.

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Should men be protected from same sex harassment?

By BONNIE ERBE

Scripps Howard News Service

The U.S. Supreme Court, in a little-noticed move last week, began the process of delivering what could be one of its most important decisions of the decade. It is whether men have a right to sue under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act when they are sexually threatened or harassed on the job - by other

This keenly significant question arose in a case filed by a Louisiana oil worker. Joseph Oncale worked as a roustabout assigned to an offshore oil rig with Sundowner Offshore Services in 1991. In a lawsuit filed against Sundowner and several of its employees, Oncale recounts the smarmy facts as follows;

He says he was sexually and threatened with rape by his direct supervisor and a second supervisor. A third coworker also stands accused of assisting Oncale's supervisor in one of the alleged attacks.

Oncale claims he reported the situation to his employer's highest-ranking representative

on the job site two times, but got no response. Oncale then quit, according to court papers, because he feared the harassment would escalate to rape.

The Supreme Court has asked the Clinton Administration for its opinion on whether Oncale's claim can be brought under Title VII before the Justices decide whether to hear the case. Anything but a resounding 'yes" from the Justice Department is a slap in the face to America's men.

Title VII was passed in 1964, following the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and largely as a tribute by Congress to his work in the field of civil rights. Its main purpose was to protect African-Americans from discrimination on the job.

Since that time, many ethnic minorities and women have used this law as a sword in the fight against race and sex discrimination and harassment. But as a point of fact, Congress only threw in protection for women, almost as a joke, at the last minute as the bill was being debated on the Senate floor. Women's rights were not as much of a concern in the

early '60s as were racial rights. The women's movement would enter full swing a decade later.

But what is clear is that Congress meant to protect all targets of discrimination on the job when it passed the civil rights laws. The federal district courts have split on this issue, meaning that men in certain parts of the country have the right to sue under Title VII and men in other parts do not. Only a Supreme Court ruling or another act of Congress (which is highly unlikely) can produce uniformity on a national scale.

America is thin-skinned right now on the issue of legal protections for certain classes of persons. Sex and race discrimination are still undeniably rampant (if you have any doubt, ask black Texaco employees or female auto work. Joseph Oncale the right to sue ers in Normal, Ill.). But in trying to create opportunities forgroups who faced wholesale discrimination decades ago and remnants of it now, there are many instances where white men have been denied their

If we are to bring the two sides together, we must make it plain that our laws were

meant to give the disenfranchised legal weapons with which to fight injustice and unfairness. Allowing white men who are targets of sexual harassment on the job to use Title VII as protection is a perfect example.

The only possible objection to widening Title VII's scope is that the "plain language" of the law refers only to women and minorities. But courts routinely reinterpret old laws to encompass situations the original authors never anticipated. Case in point: the Second Amendment to the Constitution has been reinterpreted so far out of whack by the gun lobby as to be completely unrecogniz-

If the Supreme Court wants to bring men, women and minorities together, it will give under Title VII. If it does not. it lays claim to widening the gap that affirmative action unintentionally created. (Bonnie Erbe is host of the

PBS program "To the Contrary" and legal affairs correspondent for the Mutual/NBC Radio networks. She writes this column weekly for Scripps Howard News Service.)

Ebonics' will brand, further isolate black

By LEONARD LARSEN

Scripps Howard News Service

WASHINGTON - A sad new episode of self-inflicted injury to black Americans, this a pretense that children will be helped by schoolroom use of "black English" as a second language, has been launched by officials in Oakland, Calif., who would consign kids in their care to futures of humiliation and failure.

Typical of race-conscious bureaucrats, members of the Oakland School Board made the necessary boast they'd be helping black youngsters to promising futures in Englishspeaking America by teaching them in "black English," a combination of slang dialect and jive talk that's been dressed up as "ebonics," a pseudo-scholarly marriage of the words "ebony" and "phon-

Not only claiming that an unwritten and rarely-spoken 'language" that has no literature and defies translation or broad use in communication will aid black children in competition with other Englishspeaking Americans of all races, the Oakland bureaucrats also said they'd use "ebonics" to apply for federal money to support "bilingual" education.

That cynical acknowledgment of the grab for more public money by the Oakland School Board suggests that what's really going on is just another bureaucratic attempt to mask cheap politics with high-sounding purpose, this one built around imaginary benefits flowing from "black English."

In fact, the Oakland School Board members will lead children in their care to disastrous futures while demeaning them and their parents, all the time knowing that whatever "ebonics" describes isn't a separate language but a dialect of limited use and certainly not used by all — or even most — black people and black schoolchildren in Oakland or anywhere

It's as if a deep South dialect and word usage were to be regarded as a separate language, or the speech patterns of residents of New England or Brooklyn or of Kansas City or Southern California or the Appalachian states were also languages — the same as "black English" - that are needed as official bridges into the English language.

And it's as if children of all those areas and usage of speech should not be taught in acceptable English but should be schooled for some indefinite time in a "language" of slang and dialect and then turned out to compete for jobs, places in higher education and any share of success in an Englishspeaking society where communication is the first requirement from the start of the race to its finish.

Certainly there's enormous variety of speech in the English language in a marvelously diverse American culture, accents and even words that can be peculiar to a region or a state or even a locality, sometimes so pronounced that a person's hometown and upbringing can be immediately identified in brief conversa-

But those accents and dialects heard everywhere in the nation aren't foreign languages; they're all spoken in English, however difficult to an untuned ear, including, of course, the language and dialects sometimes heard in America's black communities.

Use of foreign languages as a teaching tool — a real bridge to help bring immigrant children into an English-speaking classroom environment has proved to be somewhat successful. At least, it's said to be a success when administrators, teachers, children and parents understand that the objective is

to move children into a command of English as the language of their new country and the language they must know to survive and succeed in mainstream America.

The problem — the tragedy — of the "black English" program in Oakland is the prospect that "black English" would be transformed by its sponsors to something beyond dialect, that it would be seen as more than a transition into English that places its users in mainstream society, but mainstream American society itself.

Very quickly, in the manipulation of race and racism, this required use of "black English" to teach black children could become recognized by some few race-driven officials - like the Oakland School Board — as a language that black people and others in America should learn and accommodate, and to refuse would be racism.

It must be a measure of the anger and frustration of some black Americans that they would use "ebonics" to brand and further isolate themselves and their children and claim it as a solution to the problems of racism in an imperfect society. (Leonard E. Larsen writes

commentaries twice weekly for Scripps Howard News Service.)

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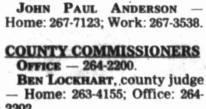
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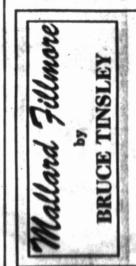
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Explosion rocks Japanese ambassador's home; sick hostage released

ambassador's house where leftist guerrillas holding more than pound startled police, who took

LIMA, Peru (AP) - An explo- 100 hostages are said to have cover behind trees and against cation that anyone was injured. sion today shook the Japanese mined the roof and grounds. The 1:43 a.m. blast at the com-

walls with their guns ready. But there was no movement within

Israelis, Palestinians closer to deal on removal of troops from West Bank

and Palestinian negotiators closed in today on a deal to pull Israeli troops out of the West Bank town of Hebron, and both sides said they expect an agreement can be finalized next

U.S. Mideast envoy Dennis who returned to Washington after meetings here on Wednesday, said he too believes a deal will be signed soon after he returns to the region Monday.

"I hope and expect that we will conclude an agreement shortly thereafter," he said.

Israeli and Palestinian negotiators said several areas remained under discussion, but were optimistic about the prospects for a deal on Hebron.

David Bar-Illan, the top policy adviser to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, said an agreement was expected "probably next week." Chief Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erakat said he expected an agreement within days.

Israel and the Palestinians have been trying to reach agreement on an Israeli troop pullback in Hebron for three months. The momentum finally picked up this week when Ross visited the region and Netanyahu sat down for direct talks with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

As the deal nears completion, tensions in Hebron are rising. In recent days, it has been the scene of clashes involving Jewish settlers, Israeli troops

JERUSALEM (AP) - Israeli and Palestinian residents. A firebomb was thrown at a Jewish settler compound today; it caused no damage or injuries.

Pressure on Netanyahu, meanwhile, grew today when hard-line Cabinet ministers and legislators said they would vote against the emerging Hebron agreement.

But it is unlikely that the government would fall over the issue because Netanyahu can count on support from the dovish opposition led by former Prime Minister Shimon Peres, an architect of the Israel-Palestinian peace accords.

As part of the growing criticism of Netanyahu, a group of right-wing rabbis also reissued a religious ruling that soldiers must disobey orders to leave Hebron or withdraw from parts of the biblical Land of Israel that includes the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

A deal on Hebron — the last West Bank city under Israeli control - would be the first major development in the peace process since Netanyahu was

elected in May. An agreement had been held up, in part, because Arafat wanted written guarantees from Netanyahu that Israel would gradually withdraw troops from West Bank rural areas, as specified in the autonomy agreements signed by Netanyahu's predecessors.

According to some reports, Netanyahu was said to have given Arafat a date during their meeting Tuesday for the start of

the expanded withdrawal. But Bar-Illan said today that no date was set, and that setting one would be left up to the negotia-

Israel has told Palestinians that the expanded pullout could start within weeks, Bar-Illan said. Under previous agreements, it was to have begun in September and be completed in September 1997.

Meanwhile, in Hebron today, a firebomb was thrown at the Beit Hadassah settler enclave. Some 500 settlers live in the city of 130,000 Palestinians. Israeli troops detained about

20 Palestinians for questioning. and told Arab merchants near Beit Hadassah to close their

The attack came a day after Jewish settlers clashed with Israeli troops who blocked them from occupying three empty houses in Hebron.

The settlers claim their security will be at risk if the city is turned over to Palestinian con-

In a related development, a spokesman for Hebron's Islamic University, Nabil Abu Zneid, said he was assured by Israeli military commanders that studies could resume by the weekend. Israel's army shut the university in March following four suicide bombings by Islamic militants in Israel.

Students have been protesting peacefully almost daily outside the university gates, demanding to return to studies.

It was not known if the explosion was accidental, and police officers gave conflicting accounts about whether it occurred inside the house or on its grounds. A 10-foot wall surrounds the compound.

Released hostages have said the guerrillas told them the roof of the home and the area immediately around it is mined, and that the rebels carry backpacks with explosives rigged to detonate if they pull cords.

Immediately after the explosion, a Red Cross worker, looking worried, left the compound and walked hurriedly to a public telephone where he made a call. He made no comment to

The explosion was the first sign of activity since the Tupac Amaru rebels, who stormed the house during a Dec. 17 diplomatic party, released a sick hostage Wednesday afternoon. They are holding 104 other hostages, having released more than 430 since the crisis began.

Slumped in a wheelchair, 34year-old Japanese diplomat Kenji Hirata was helped by Red Cross workers and a Roman Catholic bishop who had entered the diplomatic compound earlier to celebrate Christmas Mass.

The rebels, who want the government to free hundreds of jailed comrades, have kept

useful in any bargaining process. They include two Peruvian Cabinet ministers, police generals and members of the Supreme Court as well as six ambassadors and dozens of Japanese businessmen.

The government has shut off water, electricity and telephone service to the diplomatic residence, which is surrounded night and day by heavily armed

Bishop Juan Luis Cipriani, an ally of Peru's president, spent six hours inside the Japanese ambassador's home Wednesday. There was speculation he was sent by President Alberto Fujimori despite the Peruvian leader's public refusal to negotiate for the release of the hostages.

Cipriani said nothing about his time inside the house, except that he would hold a news conference later today.

Fujimori publicly has ruled out talks, but some observers speculated Cipriani did more than hold a Mass for hostages.

"I think there are clear signs" that Cipriani's visit was part of a government negotiating strategy, said Javier Diez Canseco, a leftist congressman and former hostage. A Mass doesn't take six hours, he noted.

Ayacucho, is a conservative Tokyo. noted for his support of govern-

those people they consider most ment policies and criticism of opposition news media. He has taken strong public stands against violence.

Ayacucho was a target of violence in the 1980s and early 1990s by the Shining Path, the larger and more violent of Peru's two rebel groups. The Tupac Amaru has tried to distance itself from the group.

Police said Shining Path guerrillas killed six people, including five family members, in an attack Wednesday on the northern coast, police said.

Also Wednesday, the Peruvian government recalled its chief of mission in Montevideo, the Uruguayan capital.

A Lima newspaper cited government spokesmen as saying Peru was irritated by a Uruguayan court Tuesday that released two alleged Tupac Amaru guerrillas. Hours after the ruling, rebels in Lima freed Uruguayan Ambassador Bocalandro. Uruguay has denied that the move was a con-

Japanese Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto said today that he too was annoyed by the release of the rebels in Uruguay. "The inevitable result is that negotiations will be even more difficult" to free the Cipriani, bishop of the city of remaining hostages, he said in

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ODDS AND ENDS

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONGVIEW, Wash. — Lori Livermore is very lucky that her fellow motorists didn't notice or take seriously her personalized license plate. Livermore was driving westbound on Ocean

Beach Highway near this southwest Washington city Tuesday night when her truck skidded out f control, the Washington State Patrol said. While passing several cars in heavy rain, the

truck went off the road to the right, flipped over, landed in the roadway and burst into flames. Witnesses pulled Livermore from the wreck-

age, even though the license plate read "KISS She was treated for a broken leg, a broken

shoulder and burns. CARLSBAD, N.M. — Popping the question on

a boat does carry certain risks. But as one amorous young man showed, these obstacles can be overcome with dental floss.

Chris Deckert, 26, used floss to tie the wedding ring to himself so it wouldn't fall overboard before presenting it to his girlfriend, Kristin While cruising the Pecos River on a boat ride

sage suddenly came into view from a passing yard — "Kristin Marry Me." Rupp, 27, gasped and said "Wow." Then she

to see the Christmas lights, an illuminated mes-

quickly followed with a "Yes." As boat captain Jack White blew the horn on

the Pecos King pontoon, Rupp tried to whip out the ring. Instead, he whipped out some floss. After a bit of fumbling, all ended well with last

week's proposal, and the couple is now planning their nuptials.

SANTA CLARITA Californ Who says golf

clubs can't be used as billy clubs? has a think andfallos AngelesaCountyovSupervisora Mike Antonovich has his way, golfers may soon be chipping balls within walking distance of thousands of jail inmates at the Peter Pitchess Detention Center, considered one of the most violent in the county.

Antonovich has proposed a golf course, hotel and conference center on vacant land next to the facility, where last year 14 inmates escaped by removing pieces of the ceiling. Two were never

"This is a beautiful area and there are a lot of people who live near there on both sides of the county line who might use it," Antonovich said of the land, 30 miles north of Los Angeles.

But others said they might be more concerned about playing golf, holding business meetings and spending long weekends in the shadow of the sprawling jail, known for its racial brawls

and frequent inmate uprisings. "It might not be a place I'd like to spend a lot of time, but at least if you're golfing you'd have your 9-iron for protection," an unidentified deputy told the Los Angeles Times.

Family Medical Center of Big Spring and S. "Steve" Ahmed, M. D.

Dr. S. "Steve" Ahmed of Family Medical Center of Big Spring is a pediatric specialist. He worked four years in a rural health setting and completed a residency in pediatrics at Columbia Presbyterian, Columbia University, New York City. Dr. Ahmed is on the staff at Scenic Mountain Medical Center, and he and his wife, Lucy, and their children, Loveita and Schon, make their home in Big Spring. They are avid supporters of community and school projects.

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Dr. Ahmed with Kie Jones.

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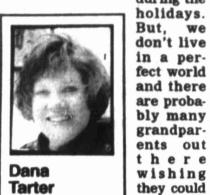
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Some tips on maintaining a positive relationship with your grandchildren

If we lived in a perfect world all families would be together during the



Tarter Extension Agent

joy of the season with grandchildren on Christmas. Following are some tips that will help you maintain a positive relationship with your grandchildren across the

about what they want to talk cial,

them on the telephone to talk story about what makes it spe-

·Telling them about your fam-

ending them your favorite recipe with a short handwritten story about what makes it special.

•Keep a journal or scrapbook ily like, values and favorite of letters and art pieces that they share with you.

 Sharing events of your past through storytelling.

share the affectionate Sharing thoughts and feelings with

> Helping them develop a skill (needlework, woodworking, cooking, writing, art).

. Writing letters or calling recipe with a short handwritten letters, pictures and other

activities.

 Sending love packages include: special small packs of stickers, notes, small trinkets or I.O.U.'s for future activities when you are together.

·Make a scrapbook about yourself-with notes from friends, pictures of past family gatherings.

This is where you can put all •Sending them your favorite of those old thank you notes,

things that you don't want to get rid of.

Then the next time you see your grandchildren present them with their own Grandparent's Scrapbook - then they can add their own mementos as time passes.

•Record stories from books or about yourself on cassette tapes and send to them.

·Make home videos - just include the things that you do everyday - tell corny jokes, perform magic tricks, sing songs just have fun.

·Listening to your grandchildren — sharing your time and your thoughts.

If you can't be with family today reach out - by phone or by mail and share a part of

Happy holidays.

PENNY DRIVE FOR SALVATION ARMY

Do you have a



Students in Mary Parks' Washington Elementary class recently raised \$100 in pennies for the Salvation Army's Angel Tree project. Pictured left to right are: Parks, Rocky Salazar and Major Roy Tolcher. The entire school had a penny drive for the Salvation Army and Mrs. Parks' class raised the most. TCA Cable TV of Big Spring reported their canned food drive netted enough food to help feed 1,000 families for Christmas. Many residents pitched in this holiday season to make sure the less fortunate had a good Christmas.

Scripps Howard News Service

Both Pillsbury's Hungry Jack

brand and Betty Crocker have

brought out instant garlic-fla-

vored mashed potatoes. Each

product, as far as instants go, is

fairly creamy, acceptable in a

pinch. Good sprinkled into

Kudos for Carnation, intro-

ducing packets of powder for

easy hot cocoa. The enticing

brand name is Double

Chocolate Meltdown. This is a

good instant cocoa mix. It

instantly dissolves in boiling

water from a tea kettle; it's

deep chocolate in color and fla-

vor, with no head of foam or

unsightly residue in the empty

cup. However, a simple home-

made mixture of cocoa, sugar

and milk, with a dash of salt

Another bravo is for the mak-

ers of Cream of Wheat, Nabisco

Inc., which has created Banana

Nut Bread Instant Multigrain

Hot Cereal. It's a blend of oats,

wheat, barley, real banana

chips and almond pieces with a

different texture from either

oatmeal or wheat. Eight single-

and vanilla, still tastes richer.

soups as a thickener, too.

Cooking in a bag in the microwave

Scripps Howard News Service

"What's the easiest way to cook two turkey thighs?"

It's been suggested an oven cooking bag and the microwave will do the trick.

No oven spattering, no stirring or basting, easy cleanup. The recipes are from home economists at Reynolds Wrap Kitchens.

OLD-FASHIONED CHICK-EN AND RICE

1 tablespoon flour

1 2/3 cups uncooked 5-minute

2 cans (10 3/4 ounces each) condensed cream of chicken

1 can (4 ounces) sliced mush-

removed

Paprika

1 medium onion, sliced

Shake flour in large (14-by-20inch) oven cooking bag; place shallow 2 1/2-quart microwave-safe casserole. Add rice, soup, mushrooms and pimento. Squeeze bag to blend ingredients.

Spread rice mixture in even layer. Sprinkle chicken with paprika; place on top of rice mixture, with meaty portions toward the outside. Place onion slices on top of chicken.

Close bag with nylon tie; cut 6 half-inch slits on top. Microwave on high 28 to 30 minutes, rotating dish once after 14 minutes if your microwave does not have a carousel.

Let stand in bag 5 minutes. Makes 3 servings

The pasta in this recipe for six is cooked conventionally. Everything else goes into the

1/2 teaspoon oregano leaves

2 small zucchini, sliced 1 small eggplant, peeled, cut

into 1/2-inch cubes 1 small onion, sliced

CHICKEN RATATOUILLE

4 skinless, boneless chicken breast halves, cut into 1 1/2inch cubes

1 can (4 ounces) sliced mushrooms, drained

1 package (8 ounces) capellini pasta, cooked, drained

Shake flour into large (14-by-20-inch) oven cooking bag, and place in shallow 2 1/2-quart microwave-safe casserole. Add pasta sauce and oregano

to bag. Squeeze bag to blend ingredients. Add remaining ingredients except pasta. Turn bag to coat ingredients with sauce. Arrange mixture in an even layer.

Close bag with nylon tie; cut 6 half-inch slits in neck of bag below tie. Microwave on high 16 to 18 minutes or until tender, using oven mitts to turn bag over and rearrange ingredients after 8 minutes.

Let stand in bag 2 minutes. Serve over pasta. Serves 6.

rooms, drained

1 tablespoon flour

1 jar (2 ounces) eliced planer

1 jar (26 ounces) tomato and to, drained

1 tablespoon flour

1 jar (26 ounces) tomato and turing more than 400 ways to Woodene Merriman is the

> To order, send your name and address and a check for \$10.07 (\$8.50 plus \$1.57 for postage and handling), payable to the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, to Zap It Cookbook, Box 476, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15230. Allow two weeks for delivery.

serve packets have a suggested retail price of \$3.29. IN THE

> A Betty Crocker bulletin says an egg-slicer gadget is also good for quickly and evenly slicing fresh mushrooms, cooked beets, small cooked potatoes, kiwifruit and those huge California strawberries

too hard to moosh.

The oil from pressing olives, nut oils, butter in moderation, these natural fats by Mother Nature are looking like they are among the least harmful to heart health, according to some nutrition studies. But if you're used to cooking with more processed fats and oils, you might need some insight into the nature of olive oil for cooking purposes. Pompeian Inc. is offering a

free cook booklet, "How to Change Your Oil, available by calling 800-638-1224. Free holiday recipes are

available from French's, including a sweet potato combo and green bean casserole.

For a copy, of "Recipe News You Can Use," send your name and address on a three by five index card to: French's French Fried Onions, P.O. Box 6853, Young America, MN 55558-6853.

Top selling music

By The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Weekly charts for the nation's best-selling recorded music as they appear in this week's issue of Billboard magazine. Reprinted with permis-TOP SINGLES

© 1996, Billboard-Soundscan Inc.-Broadcast Data Systems. 1."Un-Break My Heart," Toni Braxton 2."I Believe I Can Fly," R.

3."Don't Let Go (Love)," En

4."No Diggity," Blackstreet

featuring Dr. Dre 5."Nobody," Keith Sweat fea-

turing Athena Cage 6."Mouth," Merril Bainbridge 7."I Believe In You and Me,"

Whitney Houston 8."It's All Coming Back to Me

Now," Celine Dion 9."I'm Still In Love With

You." New Edition 10."I Finally Found Someone," Barbra Streisand & **Bryan Adams TOP ALBUMS**

• 1996, Billboard-Soundscan

1."Tragic Kingdom," No

Please see MUSIC, page A7

SUPPORT GROUPS

MONDAY •Al-A-Teen, 7:30 p.m., 615

•Turning Point A.A., 8-9 p.m.,

St. Mary's Episcopal Church. 10th and Goliad. Open to all substance abusers. •TOPS Club (Take off pound

sensibly), weigh-in 5:30 to 6 p.m., Carriage Inn, 501 W. 17th, meeting starts at 6 p.m. Call 263-1340 or 263-8633. •Project Freedom, Christian support group for survivors of

physical/emotional/sexual and/or spiritual abuse. Call 263-5140 or 263-2241 for dates/times of upcoming groups. Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon open meeting.

•Encouragers Support Group (formerly Widow/Widower support group) first and third Mondays each month. First Monday meetings are at a local

p.m. at First Presbyterian Church Seventh and Runnels (enter through north door). We have various activities, such as guest speakers, play games, have covered dish supper, visit or go out to eat. For more information call 398-5522 or 399-4369. TUESDAY

 Support for MS and Related Diseases, 6:30 p.m. second Tuesday of each month, Canterbury South. Public invited. Call Leslie, 267-1069.

·Al-Anon, 8 p.m., 615 Settles. Seniors' diabetic support group, 2 p.m., Canterbury South. Call 263-1265.

·Compassionate Friends support group for parents who have experienced death of a child. 7:30 p.m. first Tuesday in February, April, June, August, October and December in the Family Life Center Building. First Baptist Church, 705 West Marcy. Enter by southeast door. Call 267-2769.

·Diabetes support group, second Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m., Scenic Mountain Medical Center classroom.

 Cancer support group, first Tuesday of each month, 7-8 p.m., VA Medical Center room 213. Call Beverly Rice, 268-5077.

"Most Excellent Way," a chemical dependency support group, Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Living Water Church, 1008 Birdwell Lane. Call 267-1424 after 5 p.m. or 263-3168 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

 Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon open meeting and 8 p.m. closed meeting.

·Family Education and Support, sponsored by Howard County Mental Health Center, meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Corral, 611 E. Third, followed at 7 p.m. by the monthly meeting of the Big Spring Alliance for the Mentally III.

·Samaritan Counseling Center of West Texas will have Dr. Ronald Meyer, D.Min., LCDC, LMFT, specializing in individual and marriage counseling, Attention Deficit Disorder and chemical dependency, available for clients at the First Christian Church. Appointments for counseling services are made by calling 1-800-329-4144.

•Narcotics Anonymous, 6:30 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church.

WEDNESDAY

•Gamblers Anonymous, 7 p.m., St. Stephen's Catholic Church, room 1, 4601 Neeley, Midland. Call 263-8920.

•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon open meeting and 8 p.m. 12 and 12 study.

 Samaritan Counseling Center of West Texas will have Sharon Beam, who is a licensed professional counselor interim specializing in play therapy for children, adolescent counseling and women's issues, available for clients at the First Presbyterian Church, Runnels and Eighth St. Appointments for counseling services are made by calling 1-800-329-4144.

THURSDAY Salvation Army drug education program, sponsored by Permian Basin Regional Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, 7 p.m., Salvation Army

building, 308 Aylford. Alcoholics Anonymous, 615

Settles, noon open meeting. ·A.D.D.A.P.T. non-profit support and learning organization about attention deficit disorder, learning disorders and dyslexia. Meets second Thursday of

January, February, March, April and May, Cerebral Palsy building, 802 Ventura, Midland. •Grief Support related to the death of a loved one. Call Nurses Unlimited, Inc., at 264-

Support Group, Thursday of the month, Comanche Trail Nursing Center, 3200 Parkway, 7 p.m.

Support Group Depression meets every and Lancaster. FRIDAY

·Alzheimer's Association fourth

Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Rehab Center, Third •Turning Point A.A., 8-9:30

p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal

Church, 10th and Goliad. Open to all substance abusers. Alcoholics Anonymous, 615

Settles, noon open meeting and 8 p.m. Big Book Study.

SATURDAY

 Alzheimer's Association Support Group, second Saturday of the month. Carriage Inn Retirement Center, 501 W. 17th, 10 a.m.

September, October, November, Family support group for current and former patients and their families, 1 p.m. weekly, Reflections Unit of Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Call Beverly Grant, 263-0074.

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

·"So I Forget," Attention Deficit Disorder support group for individuals and couples, first Saturday of the month from 9 to 10:30 a.m., Samaritan Counseling Center of West Texas, Inc., Midland. Call the center at (915) 563-4144 or 1-800-329-4144. Cost is \$15.

SUNDAY

 Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, 11 a.m. closed meeting and 7 p.m. open meeting.

TIPS 'N' TRIVIA

Pizza trivia:

(NAPS) - Here's some trivia from a recent survey:

 Americans spent nearly two billion dollars on total frozen pizza sales in 1995. Nearly two-thirds of American households now consume

The average American household eats more than eight

Half of American households purchase frozen pizza each

Forty one percent of households that buy frozen pizzas will use two to three packages

. Twenty seven percent of American households that buy frozen pizza will use four or more packages in any given 30-day period.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

IRS volunteers needed

The Internal Revenue Service will be training volunteers interested in assisting with the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program next year. The program will be at First Presbyterian Church, Eighth and Runnels, and the volunteer training is scheduled for Monday through Friday, Jan. 13-17, 1997. Volunteers will begin assisting with the preparation of income tax returns for individuals in February. For more information, call Dorothy Kennemur at 398-5522.

Spelling bee books available

The Howard County Spelling Bee is set for March 3-7. 1997. Paiedela spelling bee books are now available at the Big Spring Herald. To order yours, contact Katy McAteer at 263-7331.

THE LAST WORD

ideas often flash across our minds more complete than we could make them after much

—La Rochefoucauld

We do not know a nation until we know its pleasures of life, just as we do not know a man until we know how he spends his leisure. -Lin Yutang

Men may be convinced, but they cannot be pleased against their will.

restaurant at 6 p.m. Third Monday meetings are at 5:30

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the article. U the story to h the meaning word. Then, of each word meaning. Us check your ar

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nique; 4) frag

anonymous;

-f) get; rec -g) made d ---h) namele --i) tight money. ---j) delicate

Answer key e)7; f)9; g)10; h **PART TWO** DOLLAR'S How much

worth in othe names of five and their cur below. Look section of you to find the exchange. Ma ing the wor each of the How often do Japan — ye

France - fr Mexico — p Italy - lira. Germany -Music

Continued from

Doubt

2."Falling Dion 3.""The 1 Soundtrack, 4."Razorb Bush 5."Space J 6."Romeo Soundtrack

7."Blue," L 8."Secrets, 9."The Mo Morissette COUNTRY 1."One Wa

Can)," Lean 2."Little B 3."The Fed lebs McEnt

READ ALL ABOUT IT

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

Museum Restores Moldy

JERUSALEM (AP) - When an Israeli man discovered that thousands of U.S. dollars he had hidden under his Jacuzzi had turned moldy, he knew he had a problem. The Israel Museum had the answer.

Using a special technique for restoring works of art, museum restorer Michael Magen separated the \$20,000 wad, museum spokeswoman Efrat Orbach

said Thursday. The money had been hidden under the man's leaky Jacuzzi for several years. When he went to retrieve it, he discovered that the bills were stuck together and beginning to rot.

Orbach said museum workers burst out laughing when the man showed up a few days ago, but then took pity on him.

Magen soaked the bills in a special bathtub filled with alcohol, put them through a drying system and separated them with a surgical scalpel.

While the bills were saved, they were too fragile to be used. The man, who asked to remain anonymous, will have to trade them in at the U.S. Federal Reserve Bank, the museum said.

The museum charged him only for the cost of the chemicals.

Saving Money

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Using the newspaper story, find the vocabulary words listed below, and circle them in the article. Use the context of the story to help you figure out the meaning of each vocabulary word. Then, write the number of each word next to its correct meaning. Use a dictionary to check your answers.

1) moldy; 2) scalpel; 3) technique; 4) fragile; 5) restoring; 6) anonymous; 7) leaky; 8) wad; 9) retrieve; 10) soaked.

-a) way of doing something.

inal condition. -d) small knife with a very

sharp blade. ---e) permitting liquids to

—f) get; recover.

—g) made completely wet.

---h) nameless; unidentified. --i) tight bundle of paper

---j) delicate; easily damaged.

Answer key: a)3; b)1; c)5; d)2; e)7; f)9; g)10; h)6; i)8; j)4.

PART TWO DOLLAR'S WORTH

How much is the U.S. dollar worth in other currencies? The names of five foreign countries and their currencies are listed below. Look in the business section of your local newspaper to find the current rate of exchange. Make a chart showing the worth of a dollar in each of the five currencies. How often do the rates change?

Japan — yen. France - franc. Mexico - peso. Italy — lira. Germany — deutsche mark.

Music

Continued from page A6

2."Falling Into You," Celine

Dion 3."'The Preacher's Wife'

Soundtrack, 4."Razorblade Suitcase,"

Bush 5."Space Jam' Soundtrack," 6."Romeo + Juliet,"

Soundtrack

7."Blue," Leann Rimes 8."Secrets," Toni Braxton

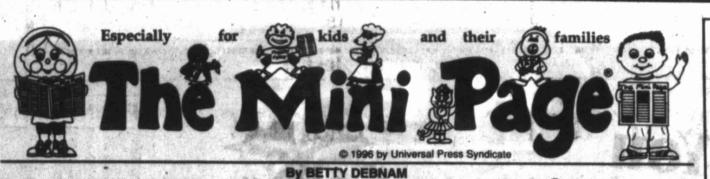
9."The Moment," Kenny G 10."Jagged Little Pill," Alanis

Morissette **COUNTRY SINGLES**

1."One Way Ticket (Because I

Can)," Leann Rimes 2."Little Bitty," Alan Jackson 3."The Fear of Being Alone," Reba McEntire





Start a Family Heirloom

Toys to Save for Your Kids



You'll need:

cotton cloth

dust cloth or brush

circulating air

in unbleached cotton

muslin or in old sheets.

2. Line a box with

unbleached cotton

muslin or an old

sheet.

· a cool, dry area with

1. Wrap toys in tissue,

fabric at least once a year.

Change the tissue or wash the

• tissues

a box

Did your parents or grandparents save some of their toys for you to enjoy? We might call them heirlooms or family treasures.

They would mean a lot to you because they belonged to someone you love who loved them.

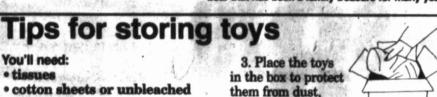
Have you ever stopped to think which of your present-day toys you would like to save for your children?

Maybe you and your parents might think about putting some of your toys away when you have outgrown them.

cotton sheets or unbleached



A grandchild enuggies next to a much-loved teddy bear that has been a family treasure for many years



4. Dust the toys off once a year with a soft brush or cloth. 5. Store toys in a

moisture or light.

cool, dry area, away from heat or dampness. Be sure the toy storage area is where air circulates.

Our thanks to Joan M. Young, Preservation Services, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

Teddy bears

You might want to save your teddy bear. These popular toys have a very interesting history.

One day, President Teddy Roosevelt went bear hunting. After a guide captured an exhausted bear, the president refused to shoot it because it was roped and cornered.

A newspaper artist drew a cartoon about it. A candy store owner in Brooklyn, N.Y., and his wife saw the cartoon and started making stuffed bears.

The store owner wrote the president and got his OK to use the name

The bears were a hit from the beginning, thanks to a president who saved a bear and inspired a toy.



The Washington Post in 1902. It was the beginning of the teddy

Help Alpha Mouse find the yo-yo.

MAZIE



What makes a good toy?

A good toy ...

• is one that you enjoy playing with, either alone or with others.



• is one that you play with, not one that operates by itself and

all you do is watch. is right for your age.

is not overpriced

because of high advertising costs.

Rookie Cookie's Recipe Christmas Quiche

You'll need:

4 eggs

• 1 cup milk

• 1/2 teaspoon salt

• 1/2 teaspoon pepper

grated.

 1/3 cup green pepper, like le

• 1/3 cup red pepper, chopped

What to do tion ser In a medium bowl, combine eggs, milk, salt and pepper.
 Beat until well-mixed.

2. Stir in remaining ingredients. Mix well.

3. Pour into 9-inch unbaked pie crust. 4. Bake in a preheated 350-degree oven for 45 minutes.



Words that remind us of collecting toys are hidden in the block below. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally. See if you can find: TOY, DOLL, BEAR, SAVE, HEIRLOOM, CHILDREN, BARBIE, TEDDY, COLLECT, VALUE, BUY, PLAY, BOX, CELEBRITY, PREMIUM, ACTION, MEMORIES, MINT. HEIRLOOMVDTOYBA



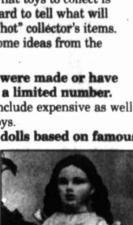
EVASJUDJNAIUNES

Mini Spy ...

Mini Spy and Dot are playing with some old-fashioned toys. See if you can find: sailboat heart • letter B



 letter A kite knife word MINI bird lips





 Toys that are produced for a limited time. Some of the toys

or so. There might be millions of them

around at a limited time, after which

Popular toys that have been

updated with new versions for

they are no longer available. Premiums

such as those toys found in cereal boxes

on sale only a week.

are also very collectible.

many years.

loving them.

to be adults,

they want to

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of a kind, are

Barble is the

s sold in more

t sold for \$3.

sell for as much

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oring as much as

\$500. However, a

Green Beret Joe

brought out in a limited number,

might be valued at \$2,500 in min

ater one, the

as \$5,000.

One of the

world's most

valuable.

bring back

When they get

Kids grow up

A Kid's Guide to Toy Collecting

Some of the toys you save might offered by fast-food become collector's restaurants might be

items and increase o in value through the years. really gain in value, the toys

What toys to collect?

must be in "mint," or excellent, condition. They should not be played with. It helps if they are in their original box or

wrapping. One toy expert suggests that if your family is thinking about collecting toys, they might buy two of a toy - one for you to play with

and one to put away. Knowing what toys to collect is tricky. It is hard to tell what will someday be "hot" collector's items. Here are some ideas from the

· Toys that were made or have survived in a limited number. This would include expensive as well

 Celebrity dolls based on famous people.

is based on

the time she

of Oz." It was





 Licensed toys. Sometimes toy makers get a license, or permission, to make toys based on TV shows, movies or books.



· Toys that are based on historical events. World War II play sets, complete with soldiers and with

the original figures, buildings and vehicles, are an example

 Toys that show excellent craftsmanship. In 1880, a German seamstress named **Margaret Steiff** stitched together an

elephant pincushion. These pincushions were very successful. They marked the beginning of the world's first stuffed toy company. A few years later

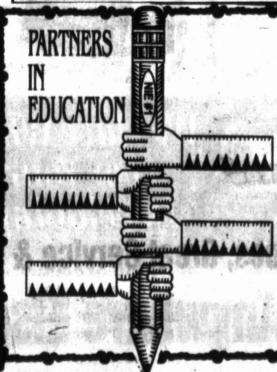
the company made "teddy bears" that became the rage. For more than 100 years, Steiff has made high-quality toys.



The Mini Page thanks Sheila Clark, The Isseum of the City of New York Toy istant, Doll Reader and To



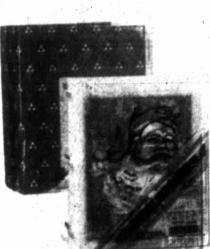
paper for advertises



Tomorrow's workforce is in today's classrooms.

The Mini Page Sponsored by: **Norwest Bank Dorothy Garrett** Scenic Mountain **Medical Center Fina Refinery**

ere Are You oing To Take



Christmas 4x6 **Photo Albums** For All Those Special Memories



Colorburst Single **Use Camera** 27-Exposure With Flash



Colorburst 35mm Color **Print Film** 24-Exposure 100 Or 200-Speed



Video Tape



Brass Plated Lacquer Coated

Picture Frames 4x6 Or 5x7-Inch

Limit-4 Total



Polaroid 600 High **Definition Single** Pack Film \$2.00 Off Coupon On Every Package

Prices Good December 26 Thru Saturday, December 31, 1996 At Your Neighborhood H-E-B Stores.

USETHESE COUPONS

SAVE MORE

Film. Order 3x5 Standard Double Prints Or 4x6 Texas Size Single Or Double Prints And Receive \$1.00 Off Our Every Day Low Price With This Coupon.

THAN OUR EVERY DAY

Limit one roll of film per coupon
Limit one coupon per customer
Coupon may not be mechanically reproduct doubled or combined with any other offer

Color Print Film. Order 3x5 Standard Double Prints Or 4x6 Texas Size Single Or Double Prints And Receive \$3.00 Off Our Every Day Low Price For Processing Two Rolls Of Film With This Coupon.



· Limit two rolls of film per coupor

Limit one coupon per customer
 Coupon may not be mechanically reproduced doubled or combined with any other offer

Negative. Order One 8x10 Reprint And Pay Only 99¢ With This Coupon.

Outlab Service only
 Limit one coupon per customer
 Coupon may not be mechanically repridoubled or combined with any other combined.

SAVINGS OFF OUR EVERY DAY LOW PRICE

Bring Any Three Rolls Of 35mm Or 110 Color Print Film. Order 3x5 Standard Double Prints Or 4x6 Texas Size Single Or Double Prints And Receive \$6.00 Off Our Every Day Low Price For Processing Three Rolls Of Film With This Coupon.

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Negative. Order Ten 3x5-Inch Reprint Of The Same Negative Pay Only \$1.00 With This Coupon. Out Lab Service FAVORITE PHOTOS

Outlab Service only
 Limit one coupon per custor
 Coupon may not be mechan doubled or combined with a

FOR ONLY

Bring Any 35mm Or 110 Color Print Negative. Order One 5x7-Inch Reprint For

99¢ And Get A Second Copy Of The Same Negative Absolutely Free With Your Purchase And This Coupon.

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 Limit one coupon per custor

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Duracell Size D And C Batteries 4-Pack \$4.62 Less Coupon -\$1.50

We Have What You Need For Your Holiday Developing At H-E-B!

Go Anywhere Else?



Batteries. 8-Pack \$5.47 Less Coupon -\$1.50 2231

Your Final Cost With



IRVING (AP) Cowboys got intagain despite a finished 24th o NFL.

The defense, third, carried the 10-6 record and division title. 'We took the

the way wide re Irvin explained lack of firepower The NFL statist Dallas was 18t ball and 20th pass On the defensi

was second aga **Mids** to do

HONOLULU (A put what he learn tary tactics a Academy to go Aloha Bowl.

Confuse the en quer. That's wha quarterback did bringing Navy ba victory over Cal Aloha Bowl. With the Mids

trailing by 10 points the fourth of Charlie Weathe from Navy's s attack led by quar McCoy to Fay's tional drop-back Fay made the

Although he scor downs on runs, go-ahead 10-yard 1:41 left di was hi set the stage for ti He guided the on drives of 80 a

pull out the vict trailed 38-28.

The biggest pl yard pass to C with the Middie and two minutes put the ball on the and set the sta game-winning TD The Middies co pleted five of eig

118 yards. 'It's nothing far of the triple st which has three

up in an I forma our basic plays o

Hansp

Everyone's been Tech running Hanspard — all whether he'll sta his final season o

The NFL becko And Hanspard long time in pra with the Lord, he he's waiting un Alamo Bowl bef the decision kn Tuesday. "Now is not th

what I'm goin

Havii

George wants to he's on a fast trac One season after the Heisman Tr George on We named The Ass NFL Offensive

Year. The Houston star is eager to his goals.

"I want some there with the players like E Barry Sanders, Brett Favre and George said,

In his first sea State, George gai on 335 carries, and scored eight Those num

George received from a nationy sports writers, e New England r Glenn, who had and Glenn were

leave voice mail

Cowboys survived an AWOL offense to reclaim NFC East

IRVING (AP) — The Dallas Cowboys got into the playoffs again despite an offense that finished 24th overall in the

The defense, which finished third, carried the Cowboys to a 10-6 record and the NFC East division title.

'We took the year off," was the way wide receiver Michael Irvin explained the Cowboys' lack of firepower.

The NFL statistics don't lie. Dallas was 18th rushing the ball and 20th passing it.

On the defensive side, Dallas

and 10th against the rush.
The Cowboys managed to post a 10-6 record and win their fifth consecutive NFC East title

despite the offensive problems that were obvious from the Training camp was disjointed and unproductive because of

"We never got a chance to get the repetitions we needed going into the season," said quarterback Troy Aikman.

scrimmages and trips.

Then came the NFL hammer on Irvin, who was suspended for five games in which the was second against the pass Cowboys limped along with a 2COWBOYS' SEASON IN REVIEW

3 record. Then there was tight end Jay Novacek's bad back. Novacek was missing in action and that meant Aikman had no hookup with his No. 1 and No. 2 receivers from last year.

"Most people know what Jay means to this offense," Aikman

It wouldn't have been so bad if Eric Bjornson had been healthy. Drafted as a Novacek replacement, this former quarterback and wide receiver out Kevin Williams, broke a bone

of Washington has tremendous talent but is prone to injury.

Even when Bjornson played, it often was at half-speed. In one game, Bjornson tried to play with not one but two sprained ankles.

"Eric has a lot of talent, but he's been injured so much we couldn't get on the same page,' said Aikman, who had 12 touchdown passes and 13 interceptions in the regular season.

Then another wide receiver,

Deion Sanders never materialized as a big offensive threat.

catching only 36 passes for 474 yards and a lone touchdown. During the stretch run, coach Barry Switzer began using him more and more on defense as it became clear that was the only way the Cowboys were going to

Meanwhile, the Cowboys offensive line played injured all

"We never had a chance to get into good pounding shape," Newton. "But maybe we can get stance-abuse policy.

in his foot and missed a month. things coordinated for the play offs."

Dallas plays the Minnesota Vikings in the first round of the playoffs on Saturday.

Placekicker Chris Boniol was all the offense Dallas had in some games.

But the defense under coordinator Dave Campo couldn't be budged, even though end Charles Haley missed most of the season with a bad back and Leon Lett was suspended the last three games and the playsaid offensive guard Nate offs for violating the NFL's sub-

Midshipmen rally to down Cal in Aloha shootout

HONOLULU (AP) — Ben Fay put what he learned about military tactics at the Naval Academy to good use in the Aloha Bowl.

Confuse the enemy and conquer. That's what the backup quarterback did Wednesday, bringing Navy back for a 42-38 victory over California in the Aloha Bowl.

With the Midshipmen (9-3) trailing by 10 points heading into the fourth quarter, coach Charlie Weatherbie switched from Navy's spread option attack led by quarterback Chris played their hearts out," he McCoy to Fay's more conventional drop-back passing.

Fay made the move pay off. Although he scored two touchdowns on runs, including the came at us with the weird

on drives of 80 and 84 yards to pull out the victory after they trailed 38-28.

The biggest play was a 52yard pass to Cory Schemm with the Middies down 38-35 and two minutes left. The play put the ball on the California 15 and set the stage for Fay's game-winning TD.

The Middies co-captain completed five of eight passes for

'It's nothing fancy," Fay said of the triple stack offense, which has three receivers lined up in an I formation. "We run our basic plays off it. It's a dif-

"If we confuse them a little, that's good. That's what we wanted to do.

Weatherbie said the team needed a spark.

"We were bogged down. Ben's been in that situation before, so it wasn't anything new to him," the coach said. "There were many ups and downs, but we picked ourselves by the bootstraps and found a way."

California coach Steve Mariucci was prophetic. "The kids on both sides

said. "But like I've been telling you all week, it would come down to who had the ball last. "In the fourth quarter, they

go-ahead 10-yard scamper with offense, and they made a couple 1:41 left of the his passing that if his plays off it and got a couset the stage for the wild finish. ple of scores."

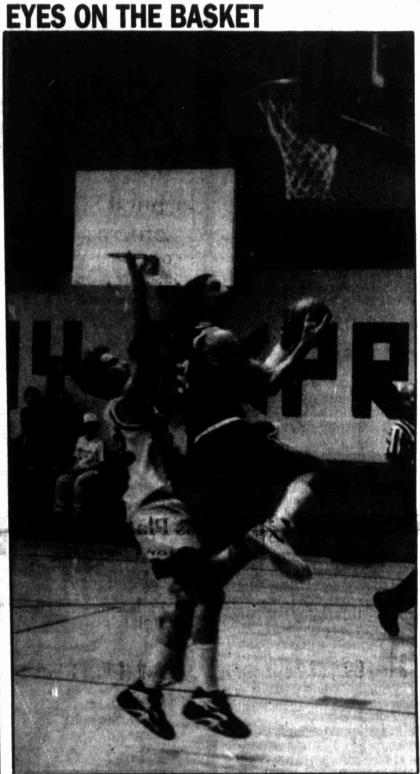
He guided the Midshipmen It appeared the Bears (6-6)

were in control with a 10-point "People needed to step up,"

Mariucci said. "We needed to do that and we didn't do that." The high-scoring game was a contrast in halves.

The two teams combined for 63 points in the first half, with California holding a 35-28 lead. But the Bears managed only three more points after half-

The Midshipmen had 646 yards in total offense, including 395 passing. Schemm caught five passes for 194 yards.



Forsan post player Josh Love (52) attempts a layup during the Buffaloes' game with Sands last Friday in Ackerly.

Hanspard mum for now on decision about future

Everyone's been asking Texas Tech running back Byron Hanspard — all season long whether he'll stay around for his final season of eligibility.

The NFL beckons, after all. And Hanspard says after a long time in prayer and talk with the Lord, he's decided. But he's waiting until after the Alamo Bowl before he makes the decision known, he said the Doak Walker award, pre-Tuesday.

"Now is not the time to say what I'm going to do. But back.

SAN ANTONIO (AP) - everyone will be surprised," Hanspard said.

> Texas Tech (7-4) plays Iowa (8-3) in the Alamo Bowl on Sunday night.

Hanspard, a licensed minister who preaches at a Lubbock church, became the sixth person in NCAA history to rush for 2,000 yards in a season when he totaled 2,084 yards this year. He was named winner of sented to the player judged the nation's best collegiate running

put me in the pros. But I'm leaving it to the Lord. He has revealed to me the things I have to accomplish and achieve. I'm going to treat this game just like any other. I'm going to go out there and be the best I can be."

Texas Tech coach Spike Dykes says he isn't sure what Hanspard will do.

"I haven't even asked him what he's going to do. To me, it sounds like he is going to go,

"A lot of people already have because if he wasn't going to go, he would already say so. It wouldn't be a distraction either way, but if he decides to stay, that's great," Dykes said.

> Hanspard is certain to be an early-round draft pick if he comes out this year, but could improve his position if he gains more weight and improves his strength.

Hanspard, 6 feet and 193 pounds, never redshirted, so he didn't have a year to work in the weight room.

Bulls continue domination of Detroit, 95-83

CHICAGO (AP) - No matter how impressive their record seems, the Detroit Pistons simply aren't good enough to seriously challenge Chicago. The Bulls know it, and Pistons coach Doug Collins admits it.

"You try to instill in your team the feeling that you can get this done. But the look in our eyes, I didn't think we believed that," Collins said Wednesday night after his team lost 95-83 to the defending NBA champions.

It was Chicago's 18th consecutive victory over the Pistons. The Bulls have won their two matchups this season by 30 points.

"I always compare it to a championship fight;" Collins said. "The first punch a guy gets in the nose, it's like, 'Do I want any part of this?' I felt like both times when we played the Bulls, we were tentative. The Bulls were in control. This

game was never in doubt.' Neither was the identity of the NBA's top team. Chicago is 25-3. Detroit (20-6) entered the game with the league's secondbest record, but left it tied with Utah for third-best.

And the Bulls think even that might be deceptive. They don't consider Detroit their main Eastern Conference challenger.

"This team has a good record. but we don't put too much emphasis on beating Detroit," said Michael Jordan, who had 23 points and 10 rebounds. "We haven't faced New York yet. We haven't faced Cleveland yet. And Miami beat us here. So we don't know where Detroit stacks up.'

Scottie Pippen knows only that Detroit doesn't stack up well with his Bulls, who have an eight-game winning streak.

"They feel like one day they're going to get over the hill, but it's great for us to keep them down," said Pippen, who had 27 points, eight rebounds and eight assists. "I like to keep that doubt in their minds. Right now, they don't have the weapons to overcome our

Besides, he said, "We have a lot of pride and don't want to embarrass ourselves on national TV and on Christmas.'

In the only other NBA game Wednesday, the Los Angeles Lakers whipped Phoenix 108-87.

In the late-1980s and early-90s, the Pistons stood between the Bulls and greatness. With Isiah Thomas, Bill Laimbeer, Rick Mahorn and Dennis Rodman, the Pistons used to regularly frustrate the Bulls.

But now, Chicago is in control, with four NBA titles in six years and 15 straight home

wins ever Detroit.
"We just want to maintain the dominance," Jordan said. Detroit was a nemesis to myself and Scottie early in our careers, and we have no trouble getting focused to play against them."

Rodman, now with the Bulls, had 22 rebounds, 11 points and seven assists as his current club outrebounded his former team 51-37 and had 30 secondchance points to the Pistons'

"You've got to come up with all the hustle plays, loose balls and rebounds. We didn't," said Grant Hill, who had 27 points in an entertaining battle with Pippen. "If we're to beat them, we're going to have to attack them.

The Pistons were undone by their offensive strong suit — 3point shooting. They came in at 45 percent, by far the league's best mark, but went only 3-for-18 Wednesday.

"We didn't want to leave their shooters open," Jordan said. "Scottie did a great job on Hill and gave us each an opportunity to stay with the men we were guarding."

After Detroit pulled to 83-74 with 8:25 to go, Pippen hit a 3pointer and Jordan converted a three-point play to make it a 15point game. The Bulls held double-digit leads the rest of the

Please see BULLS, page 2B

Having earned rookie award, George now aims to be the best

HOUSTON (AP) - Eddie George wants to be the best and he's on a fast track to get there.

One season after being named the Heisman Trophy winner, George on Wednesday was named The Associated Press NFL Offensive Rookie of the Year.

The Houston Oilers' young star is eager to chase more of his goals.

"I want someday to be up there with the best of them, players like Emmitt Smith. Barry Sanders, Michael Irvin, Brett Favre and all of them," George said.

In his first season out of Ohio State, George gained 1,368 yards on 335 carries, a 4.1 average; and scored eight touchdowns.

Those numbers earned George received 74 of 93 votes from a nationwide panel of sports writers, easily outpacing New England receiver Terry Glenn, who had eight. George and Glenn were teammates at

0.00

Ohio State.

Tampa Bay fullback Mike Alsott was third with six, followed by wide receiver-kick returner Eddie Kennison of St. Louis (three) and guard Jonathan Ogden of Baltimore (two).

"Honors like that are everything a kid sees now," George said. "The Heisman, Rookie of the Year, Super Bowl MVP, I think everyone shoots for those things, naturally."

George came from Ohio State with all the lofty expectations of being the Heisman Trophy winner and it was clear from the start that he would meet those expectations.

"It's highly unusual for a rookie to display the leadership qualities that Eddie has," coach Jeff Fisher said. "He believes that he can single-handedly win games for us. That's been a big thing about Eddie and I hope it rubs off on some of the other

NFL AWARDS

George became an instant he's more shifty.' starter with the Oilers and finished the season sixth in the NFL. His total also was fifthbest in team history.

George admits he exceeded his own expectations. "I didn't really think about

it," he said. "And I wouldn't say this has been a dream season. We're not in the playoffs and we're not unbeaten or any-

ing season. I've learned a lot. I've experienced a lot. I'm looking forward to learning a lot more next year." George had four 100-yard per-

"But it has been an interest-

formances during the year. "From the first day of practice it was obvious that he was going to be all that he should be," offensive coordinator Jerry Rhome said. "He's big and strong like a John Riggins, but

George's cool under pressure will extend into next season.

"I know the importance of consistency," he said. "I know in this league, one year you can rush for 1,300 yards and the next year you might get 200. I want to keep everything in the proper perspective. I just want to keep trying to get better. That's the only thing I focus

Arizona's Rice

top defensive rookie NEW YORK (AP) - The scouting reports on Simeon Rice said he had loads of natural talent. He simply didn't

always apply it. The reports were wrong. Rice went all-out in 1996, and it earned him the NFL Defensive Rookie of the Year award,

announced today by The his work ethic. Associated Press.

The Arizona Cardinals defensive end received 60 votes from a nationwide panel of sports writers. He easily beat Miami linebacker Zach Thomas, who had 16 votes.

"The most important thing I've learned is persistence, working to be a champion at this level," said Rice, who had 12) sacks, matching the NFL rookie record set by San Diego's Leslie O'Neal in 1986. "I knew how it felt to win four (prep) state titles and how it felt to go to a bowl game. But forever battling the monotony of pursuing something to be excellent at it, I think that's the biggest thing I learned."

The league quickly learned about Rice, an All-America linebacker at Illinois. His final season at Illinois was considered inferior to his previous the passer and get back to bal-year, and questions arose about ance after he gets off-balance."

Arizona wasn't scared off. "Any time you're picking third in the draft, there's some

pretty good football players that you have to consider, and certainly a lot of them were still on the board after we selected Simeon, so we thought he was pretty good or we wouldn't have taken him,' said Cardinals coach Vince Tobin, a defensive coordinator before he was hired in Arizona.

"The thing that we saw in the film was his ability to rush the passer. He's also developed into being able to play the run pretty well."

"In a lot of ways he plays like a rookie; he plays in spurts. He'll have a lot of good plays, and then some plays that aren't so good, but that goes with being a rookie. But he does have the unique ability to rush

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18 .250

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Golden State

L.A. Clippers

Monday's Games

Tuesday's Games

No games scheduled Vednesday's Games

Chicago 95, Detroit 83

Hamilton, Ontario, 11:30 a.m.

Orlando at Miami, 7 p.m.

Portland at Utah, 8 p.m.

Chicago at Atlanta, 6:30 p.m.

Indiana at Detroit, 6:30 p.m.

New York at Minnesota, 7 p.m.

Houston at Milwaukee, 7;30 p.m.

Golden State at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.

Vancouver at Sacramento, 9:30

Philadelphia at Denver, 8 p.m.

New York 82, Atlanta 76

Minnesota 107, Utah 98

Chicago 113, New Jersey 81

Denver 112, Phoenix 109, OT

Washington 106, Portland 84

L.A. Lakers 108, Phoenix 87

Sacramento 100, L.A. Clippers 88

New Jersey vs. Toronto at

Miami 90, San Antonio 79

raukee 81, Houston 76

14 14 .500

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19 .296

WESTERN CONFERENCE

SPORTS EXTRA

FOOTBALL

Bowl schedule

Thursday, Dec. 19 Las Vegas Bowl At Las Vegas Nevada 18, Ball State 15

Wednesday, Dec. 25 **Blue-Gray Classic** At Montgomery, Al Blue 44, Gray 34

Aloha Bowl

Navy 42, California 38 Friday, Dec. 27 Liberty Bowl

At Orlando, Fla. At Memphis, Tenn Houston (7-4) vs. Syracuse (8-3), 2 (9-2), noon (ABC) p.m. (ESPN) Carquest Bowl At Dallas

Miami (8-3) vs. Virginia (7-4), 6:30 p.m. (TBS) Copper Bowl At Tucson, Ariz

Utah (8-3) vs. Wisconsin (7-5), 8 p.m. (ESPN) Saturday, Dec. 28 **Peach Bowl**

At Atlanta Clemson (7-4) vs. LSU (9-2), 7 p.m. (ESPN)

At San Antonio lowa (8-3) vs. Texas Tech (7-4), 7 p.m. (ESPN)

Monday, Dec. 30 Holiday Bowl At San Diego

At El Paso, Texas

Sunday, Dec. 29

Washington (9-2) vs. Colorado (9-2), 7 p.m. (ESPN)

Howard (9-2) vs. Southern U. Sunday, Jan. 19 4), 11 a.m. (ESPN)

NFL playoffs

Wednesday, Jan. 1

Alabama (9-3) vs. Michigan (8-3),

Virginia (8-3), 11:30 a.m. (NBC)

State (9-2), 12:30 p.m. (CBS)

(10-1), 3:30 p.m. (ABC)

Fiesta Bowl

7 p.m. (CBS)

Sugar Bowl At New Orleans

1), 7 p.m. (ABC)

At Stanford, Calif.

Saturday, Jan. 18

Senior Bowl

East-West Shrine Classic

West vs. East, 3 p.m. (ESPN

North vs. South, 1:30 p.m. (TBS)

East vs. West, 3 p.m. (ESPN)

At Tempe Ariz

Northwestern (9-2) vs. Tenness

Arizona State (11-0) vs. Ohio State

Penn State (10-2) vs. Texas (8-4)

Florida State (11-0) vs. Florida (11-

At Tampa, Fla.

10 a.m. (ESPN)

At Jacksonville, Fla.

Gator Bowl

Citrus Bowl

Wild Cards Aubum (7-4) vs. Army (10-1), 2:30. p.m. (ESPN) Orange Bow At Miami (ABC) Nebraska (10-2) vs. Virginia Tech (10-1), 6 p.m. (CBS)

a.m. (NBC) p.m. (FOX) Divisional Playoffs

Saturday, Jan. 4 Minnesota at Green Bay, 11:30 a.m. (FOX)

Buffalo, Jacksonville. North Carolina (9-2) vs. West Indianapolis at Denver, 3 p.m. (NBC) Sunday, Jan. 5 Pittsburgh, Buffalo or Jacksonville at New England, 11:30 a.m. (NBC)

Dallas, San Francisco or Philadelphia at Carolina, 3 p.m. (FOX)

Sunday, Jan. 12 Brigham Young (13-1) vs. Kansas TBA Super Bowl Sunday, Jan. 26

BASKETBALL

At New Orleans

Pro Bowl

TBA, 6:18 p.m.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB	
Miami	20	7	.741	****	
New York	19	7	.731	1/2	
Washington	13	13	.500	6 1/2	
Orlando	10	13	.435	8	
Philadelphia	7	18	.280	12	
New Jersey	6	17	.261	12	
Boston	5	19	.208	13 1/2	
Central Divis	sion				
Chicago	25	3	.893	_	
Detroit	20	6	.769	4	
Cleveland	17	9	.654	7	
Atlanta	15	10	.600	8 1/2	
01 1 11				-	

Friday's Games Indiana at New Jersey, 6:30 p.m. Toronto at Washington, 6:30 p.m. Miami at Charlette, 6:30 p.m. Milwaukee at Cleveland, 6:30 p.m. Portland at L.A. Clippers, 9:30 p.m.

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Branch leads Blue past Gray

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) — Colorado State's Calvin Branch ran for 77 yards and two touchdowns Wednesday to lead Blue to a 44-34 victory in the Blue-Gray all-star game.

Branch, who left Iowa State to get out of the shadow of Troy Davis, was selected the Most Valuable Player on a Blue team that piled up 419 yards in offense and broke two touchdown plays of 60-plus yards.

The teams combined for 772 yards in total offense and set the record for most combined points in the 58th playing of the Christmas Day game, which drew some 200 NFL scouts. Gray leads the series 30-27-1.

The first big play was a 70yard touchdown pass from Fresno State's Jim Arellanes to Nathaniel Jacquet of San Diego State. It gave Blue a 7-0 lead in the first quarter and broke the record set in 1984, when Alabama running back Paul Carruth threw a 60-yard touchdown to Mississippi Valley State's Jerry Rice on a halfback

Though Bulls coach Phil

Jackson said it would be hard

* to judge the Pistons until they

'survive a western swing, he

Jordan, Pippen, Rodman and Toni Kukoc almost the entire

sure on them," Jackson said.

Lakers 108, Suns 87

showed respect by playing

We want to keep the pres-

Continued from page 1B

his Ducks teammate, tight end downs and two interceptions. Josh Wilcox, for a 63-yard touchdown pass to give Blue a 37-21 lead early in the fourth quarter.

Between those two plays, Branch ground out yardage through the middle of the Gray defense. Most of his carries were for modest gains. His touchdowns came from 2 and 5 yards out, the second giving Blue a 24-14 before the end of a sloppy first half that included five turnovers, a dropped snap on a punt and a missed field goal.

The teams improved in the second half and Gray quarterback Lance Funderburk took advantage of a Blue-Gray rule that allows the team losing by nine or more points to get the ball back after scoring in the last two minutes of the game.

The Valdosta State senior hit Georgia's Juan Daniels for touchdown passes of 13 and 14 yards in the last two minutes as Gray cut a 44-21 deficit to 44-34 at the end.

Funderburk finished 13-for-30 Oregon's Tony Graziani hit for 179 yards with two touch-

> Shaquille O'Neal had 26 points and 16 rebounds to lead

> the visiting Lakers to their

sixth straight victory over

Phoenix and their third this

Eddie Jones took up the slack

when O'Neal wasn't working

the baseline for turnaround

jumpers or driving for dunks.

Jones scored 12 of his 24 points

in an eight-minute stretch of

the third quarter. He also had

Both interceptions were by Missouri's Clayton Baker, the last coming on the Blue 10 yard line with 17 seconds left.

Tulane's Jerald Sowell won MVP honors for the Gray team. finishing with 53 yards rushing and four catches for 55 yards.

For the Baue, Arellanes went just 5-for-11 for 89 yards, but his touchdown throw to Jacquet was the prettiest play of the game.

The San Diego State receiver made a big-time catch, adjusting his route and jumping over his defender to snag the ball at the 30, then outrunning the Gray defense to the end zone.

Jacquet finished with two catches for 84 yards.

Notre Dame running back Robert Farmer, who was invited to the game after the Irish failed to make a bowl, broke a 20-yard run and finished with 32 yards on five carries.

Air Force quarterback Beau Morgan played most of the game at free safety. He also carried the ball once for a 17-yard

five steals to increase his NBA

Sam Cassell had 17 points for

the Suns, but his 3-of-8 shooting

typified the Suns' cold night.

Phoenix was 26-of-74 (35 per-

Rex Chapman and Danny

Manning scored 15 each for the

Suns, while Elden Campbell

had 13 points and 12 rebounds,

helping the Lakers to a 53-39

Billy Breathes **PHISH**



KORN

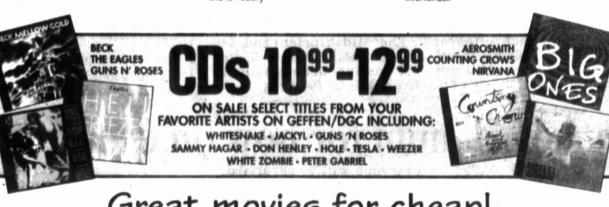


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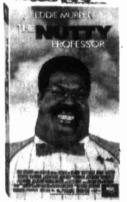
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Texas refs want girls off wrestling mat

ARLINGTON (AP) - Ashley King knew she might be in trouble when she took to the wrestling mat against the much-taller Marcos Venegas.

After two rounds of locks, throws and counters, Venegas used his experience and 3-inch height advantage to pin King and win the match.

Matches such as that one between boys and girls may cease soon in Texas. Girls are waging a legal duel against referees and those governing high school wrestling to allow them to remain on the mat compet-

ing against boys. The Texas Wrestling Officials Association recently decided to boycott co-ed matches, prompt-

ing a discrimination lawsuit. The state's only high school wrestling officiating association is so against girls wrestling that it disbanded a few weeks ago rather than face the prospect of refereeing girls

wrestling boys. "It's really about old-fashioned Texas tradition and sexism," said King, a 17-year-old Arlington High School junior. "The girls that wrestle are ready for guys to be rough and they'll be rough right back."

But former TWOA members say they can't be forced to officiate matches.

John Rizzuti, the association's former president said. "Hell will freeze over before I officiate girls being brutalized by guys.'

On Tuesday, the mothers of two girl wrestlers sued the referee association and the sports' governing agency, the Texas Wrestling Interscholastic Association.

The girls' attorney, Anthony Hume, said Wednesday the officials were included because he had no evidence the association had disbanded.

The American Civil Liberties Union said the case shows clear discrimination.

But wrestling association executive director Jim Giunta believes the lawsuit will be thrown out because the policy against mixed wrestling is consistent with policies in other

high school sports. "Wrestling is the only sport across the United States were we even think about having girls compete against guys,' Giunta said. "I don't care if it's tennis, swimming, track girls don't even golf against

cent).

The legal maneuvers mark an escalation in a controversy over a sport that now has 20 female participants statewide.

Girls have wrestled for several years in Texas, just as in about 20 other states, and typically are on a school's mostly male team. They wrestle boys or other girls in their weight class in matches established by the coaches at the start of a

Because the wrestling association does not recognize female wrestlers or their matches, referees until now either have ignored the matches or officiated without posting points for the team. The debate boiled over in September when members of the referees' association

began refusing to officiate. Rizzuti, a 10-year official,

cites safety reasons. "There's one guy I call the Punisher. If a girl fought him, I'd tell them to call an ambulance — she's going to the hospital," he said. "What in heaven's name are parents teaching these girls where they want to jump into the ring with

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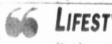
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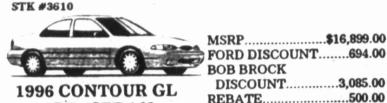
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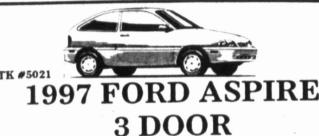
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\$10,995 1996 Ford Escort LX 2-DR. - Toreador red w/cloth, all power, 12,000 \$10,995

1996 Ford Escort LX 4-DR. - Oxford white w/cloth, all power, 14,000 **\$10,995** 1995 Ford Contour GL - Teal w/cloth, all power, 18,000 miles.

\$10,995 1995 Ford Escort LX 2-DR. - Oxford white w/cloth, all power, 18,000

\$9,995 $\star\star\star$ Car Trade-Ins $\star\star\star$

1996 Ford Aspire 2-DR. - White 5 speed, air, local one owner w/12,000 miles. **\$9,99**5

1996 Ford Taurus GL - Iris frost w/cloth, all power, one owner w/9,000

1996 Ford Contour GL - Willow frost w/cloth, all power, local one owner **\$13,995** w/13,000 miles. 1995 Lincoln Town Car Signature Series - Berry w/leather, local

one owner w/43,000 miles. 1995 Mercury Tracer 4-DR. - Teal, cloth, all power, local one owner

w/28,000 miles. 1994 Ford Mustang Convertible - Blue w/white top, gray cloth, V-6,

1994 Ford Thunderbird LX - White w/cloth, 4.6 V-8, all power, one owner w/51,000 miles. **\$**10,995

1993 Buick Regal 4-DR. - Charcoal w/cloth, V-6, all power, local one **\$7,995** owner w/41,000 miles.

1993 Nissan Maxima GXE - Pebble beige w/cloth, moonroof, cloth, local one owner w/34,000 miles. 1993 Ford Crown Victoria LX - Cranberry w/leather, all power, one

owner w/54,000 miles. **\$**11,995 1992 Ford Thunderbird Sport - White, V-8, all power, local one owner \$7.995 w/53,000 miles.

1992 Lincoln Town Car - Tan w/leather, all power, local one owner 1991 Mercury Grand Marquis LS 4-DR. - White w/cloth, all power,

local one owner w/65,000 miles. $\star\star\star$ Explorer & Mini Van Trade-Ins $\star\star\star$

1996 Ford Explorer XLT - Willow green w/cloth, all power, local one **\$**19,995 owner w/11,000 miles. 1996 Ford Explorer XLT 4X4 - Desert tan w/cloth, sport buckets, all

power, local one owner w/only 1,500 miles. 1993 Ford Explorer XLT - Maroon w/cloth, all power, local one owner \$12,995 w/60,000 miles.

1993 Ford Explorer XLT - Red w/cloth, all power, local one owner w/60,000 miles. 1995 Ford Windstar GL - Champagne w/cloth, all power, 2 seat beds,

1993 Mercury Villager GS - Champagne w/cloth, all power, local one owner w/64,000 miles.

* * * Truck Trade-Ins * * *

1996 Ford F150 S/C XLT - Red w/40/20/40 bench, 302 V-8, all power, one owner, 20,000 miles. 1995 Ford F150 SLE XLT - Tutone green, cloth, 302 V-8, locally owned, all power, 39,000 miles. 1995 Ford F150 Reg. Cab XL - Green, 6 cyl., 5 speed, air, local one

\$10.995 owner w/17,000 miles. 1994 Ford Ranger XLT - Champagne, 4 cyl, 5 speed, tilt, cruise, local one

owner w/19,000 miles. \$10,995 1988 Ford F150 S/C XLT - Tan w/cloth, V-8, all power, local owner.

\$15,995



local one owner w/34,000 miles.

V-8 er trim, c 199

BOB BROCK FORD

Silver 350 V-69K m

\$500 gift certificate at your favorite

store with purchase of this homel!!

USA Homes 4608 W. Wall, Midland

520-2177, 1-800-520-2177, Se habla

Mobile Homes

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\$14,995

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HERALD **26**, 1996

REPO REPO REPO...Fantastic opportunity on a 1994 16' X 80' Luxury LF READ Home. No payment until March 15, 1997 with approved credit. \$500 gift certificate at your favorite store with purchase of this home!! USA Homes 4608 W. Wall, Midland 520-2177,

> THROW AWAY YOUR PAINTBRUSH 1?! Maintenance free vinyl siding on the HUGE 28' X 64', 4 bedroom home never needs paint. As low as \$323 per month, 10% down, 8.5% APR, 360 mos. Buy down financing. USA HOMES, 4608 W. Wall, Midland, TX, 520-2177-, 1-800-520-2177. Se habia Espanol! With approved credit

1-800-520-2177, Se habia Espanol!

CALL MOBILE HOME CREDIT -1-800-725-0881

E-Z FINANCING ... \$202 per month, 10% down, 9% APR, 360 months, buy down financing, 1997 16' X 76' 3 bedroom 2 bath home. USA Homes 4608 W. Wall, Midland 520-2177, 1-800-520-2177, Se habia Espanol! With approved credit

KEEP YOUR CASH...Bring your title, bill of sale or other proof that you own your mobile home and we'll do the rest. Your family can be in a brand new home for the holidays. USA Homes 4608 W. Wall, Midland 520-2177, 1-800-520-2177, Se habla Espanol! With approved credit

1. 3 DOUBLEWIDE REPOS just purchased from bank at big \$avings. We will pass this \$avings on to you at NATION-WIDE HOUSING SYSTEM OF MIDLAND 800-456-8944 or 915-520-5850.

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3. \$198.36 per month for a new 3 bedroom 16 wide manufactured home, 180 months at 9.50. VAR. -A.P.R. with only \$999 down cash or trade. \$19,995 delivered and se within 100 mile radius of MIDLAND NATIONWIDE HOUSING SYSTEM 800-456-8944 or 915-520-5850

4. Zero down on a NEW Manufactured home of your choice if you own your land. We may be able to help you with your improvements. 800-456-8944 or 915-520-

5. Only \$500 down on a new Oakcreek 18 wide, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 11.25 A.P.R. for 300 months at \$499 per month with special financing and approved credit. NATION-WIDE HOUSING OF MIDLAND 800-456-8944 or 915-520-5856.

Lake Property

2 BEDROOM mobile home on deeded Colorado City lake lot. \$21,000. Owner Finance. Boosie Weaver Real Estate,

RENTALS

Business Buildings 520

FOR RENT; small building or car lot, 810 E. 4th. \$150/monthly, \$100/deposit. Call 263-5000.

RETAIL STORE for lease, approximately 3000 sq.ft. located at 119 E. 3rd. Call 263-6514. Owner/Broker.

521

Furnished Apts.

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

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

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TWIN TOWERS & WESTERN HILLS APARTMENTS

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FALL & WINTER SPECIAL. 1 Bedrooms \$200.00-\$225.00 ·2 Bedroom \$250.00-\$275.00 Refrigerated Air

Refrigerators and ranges furnished Water furnished Laundry room available Clean & Comfortable \$100.00 Deposit Required.

Call for details



SWIMMING POOL * CARPORTS * MOST UTILITIES PAID* SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNT* ON PREMISE MANAGER" I & 2-BEDROOMS & I OR 2 BATHS " UNFURNISHED

> **KENTWOOD APARTMENTS**

1904 EAST 25TH STREET 267-5444 263-5000

519 Unfurnished Apts. 532

NOW AVAILABLE... Largest, nicest two bedroom apartment in town, 1300 square feet, FREE gas heat and water, two car attached carport, washer-dryer connections, private patio, beautiful courtyard with pool and party room, furnished or unfurnished and "REMEM-BER ... YOU DESERVE THE BEST" Coronado Hills Apartments, 801 W. Marcy, 267-6500.

Unfurnished Houses

1108 AUSTIN. 2 bedroom, no bills, or appliances, \$220.00/month, \$100.00/deposit. Will consider rent to own. 267-7449.

1605 AVION. 2 bedroom, no bills or appliance. \$235.00/month, \$125.00/deposit. Will consider rent to own. 267-7449.

1 BEDROOM, 1 BATH, 1102 Sycamore. No pets. 267-3841, 556-4022. 2 BEDROOM, 1 BATH, 1102 Lancaster. 267-3841, 556-4022.

2 BEDROOM. 1 BATH, No Pets. 800 E. 15th. 267-3841, 556-4022.

2 bedroom duplex. 1512 Sycamore Stove, refrigerator. No deposit. \$350, moves you in. Bills paid. Call 264-6898 keep trying.

3 BEDROOM, 1% BATH, 2529 Gunter 267-3841, 556-4022.

3 BEDROOM, 11/2 BATH. 4221 Hamilton. 267-3841, 556-4022. BEAUTIFULLY quaint 2 bedroom, 1 bath, older home, central heat and air \$425/monthly, \$250/ deposit, 422 Dal-

las. Call 263-8742 or 264-9134 BRICKED 2 bedroom, 2 bath House \$350/rent, \$200/deposit. Non-smokers & no pets. Total kitchen appliances, good well, water, Knott Community, Sands ISD, 915-399-4274, 915-268-3044. ref.

CLEAN 2 BEDROOM, 1 bath, garage \$275.00/month, \$100.00/deposit. 1204 Lamar. 263-8202.

PONDEROSA APARTMENTS

*FURNISHED & UNFURNISHED *ALL UTILITIES PAID *COVERED PARKING *SWIMMING POOLS 1425 E. 6th St.....263-6319



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1996 DODGE INTREPID



•Auto • 2.5 liter engine • power windows . power locks. low miles P206 & P208

1996 DODGE STRATUS



•Auto •AC • Stereo •low miles•#P205

1996 DODGE NEON



 Auto • AC• stered •air bag • low miles P195

42K actual miles!

Silverado trim,

350 V-8, 2 ton 69K miles. Won't last!

\$9,922

1996 GRAND VOYAGER S.E.

•Auto •P/W & P/L •AC • low miles P212 #P214

& more!

MORE USED SPECIALS

1983 FORD CLUB WAGON XLT VAN

One owner, 351, V-8. This \$5488 is a beautiful vehicle

1994 CHEVY X-CAB PICKUP Silverado, 350 V-8, auto \$12,944 Won' Last

1995 CHEVY S-10 X-CAB LS 1992 CHEVY CAPRICE One owner with

Trim, A/C, \$10,986 stereo,sport wheels

\$7992 Don't miss it!

1992 FORD EXPLORER XLT

1990 PONTIAC 6000 L.E. Auto, A/C.

4 door, A/C, power windows & locks \$10,991 This is a steal!

1994 DODGE DAKOTA **CLUB CAB-SLT**

\$3988 Nice, nice car! 1996 JEEP CHEROKEE 4X4

SLT Trim V-8 \$11,995

Auto, A/C, stereo, \$16,997 won't last at this price! 1992 FORD F150 SUPERCAB

1996 DODGE DAKOTA 4x4 CLUB CAB V-8 engine, auto, SLT trim, only 16K miles!

XLT, 302 V-8, matching tool box & rack!!

1996 EAGLE VISION ESI

1992 CHEVY HALF-TON X CAB

Auto, A/C, window locks A steal!

\$14,922

\$9,966

Phone 264-6886

\$11,944

BIG SPRING CHRYSLER

FM 700 Miracle Mile

Big Spring, Texas

HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR RIDAY, DEC. 27:

Expect only the best. That is what you are likely to receive. Financially and emotionally, this is a positive year. Let a partnership burgeon. Be open to the rewards of this tie. Oneto-one relating plays a major role in how things unfold. Money could be a roller-coaster ride. Remember, what goes down must come up. You will profit in the long run. If you are single, a relationship could be very exciting. Be receptive. Showing vulnerability enhances your attractiveness. If attached, your relationship develops into new areas. Togetherness adds to your

and cherishes you. The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult.

inner strength. LEO desires

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You are ready for fun, and communicate that clearly. News from a distance affects plans. Consider options. Something very pleasant is heading your way. Opt for the unusual. Make an effort to identify with another. Tonight: Do what you love the most! *****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You need to settle down. Spend some downtime handling basics. If off-balance, recycle at home. Pay bills. Catch up on news with a vintage pal. Friendliness and positive vibes mark the day. Laughter surrounds New Year's resolutions. Tonight: Make it easy; order in.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You don't have to do much. Others seek you out, full of news and happiness. Your sense of humor comes out with key friends. Juggle plans. Popularity peaks. Why not throw a spontaneous party at your place? The moment is now. Tonight: Chat into the wee hours. ****

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You have been indulged by loved ones. Radiate that warm feeling. Others respond to this optimism and happiness. You might need to return a gift or deliver one that you couldn't before. Sharing and caring abound. You seem to be able to draw others out. Tonight: Zoom in on what you want. ****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You are becoming enamored with another. Recognize that this is mutual. A child plays a signifi-

Unfurnished Houses 533

CLEAN 3 bedroom, 2 bath, stove and refrigerator, central heat, new carpet 2506 Central. Call 263-3350.

FOR LEASE, 2620 Albrook. 3 bedroom, 1 bath. Available December 23rd. \$295. month, \$150. deposit. Call Home Real-tors, 915-263-1284. FOR LEASE, 2612 Albrook, Two bed-

room, one bath. \$275. month, \$150. de posit. Call Home Realtors NICE CLEAN 2 bedroom, 1 bath house,

good location, HUD approved, \$275/month, \$150/deposit. 267-1543. NICE CLEAN 3 bedroom, 2 bath house with carport. 2510 Carlton. \$575/month.

\$300/deposit. 267-1543. NICE CLEAN 3 bedroom house, 2 bath, AC, carport 2603 Lynn Kentwood. \$575/mo, \$300/deposit. 264-0850 or

SMALL 2 bedroom, newly remodeled mobile home, washer & dryer, stove, refrigerator and in the Midway area. Call 393-5585 anytime or after 2:00

Two bedroom, Two bath, carport, laundry room, fireplace. \$400/rent, \$200/deposit. Call 263-6932.

PUBLIC NOTICE The Howard County Auditor will accept sealed bids until 10:00 A.M. on January 9, 1997 for two (2) New

Specifications may be obtained in the Auditor's Office, Room 202, County Courthouse or by calling (915)

Bids will be presented to the Commissioners' Court at 10:00 A.M., on January 13, 1997 for their considera-

The Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Psyment will be made after delivery is completed and involces have been approved by the Commissioners' 1145 December 26, 1996

PUBLIC NOTICE REQUEST FOR BIDS ON TEXAS HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION

als for 10.800 km of re-Bound, safety improvements, acp and surface South Bound on US 87 from 11.265 km North of IH 20 (NFR) Bound on US 87 from 11.265 km North of IH 20 (NFFH) to 22.048 km North covered by NH 97(84) in Howard County, will be received at the Texas Department of Transportation, 200 East Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas, until 1:00 P.M., January 8, 1997, and then publicly opened and read. It is the bidder's responsibility to ensure that the sealed proposal arrives at the above location and is in the hands of the tetting official, by the specified deadline regardless of the method (chosen by the bidder for definer).

method chosen by the bidder for delivery.
This contract is subject to all appropriate Federal Issus including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1984. The exas Department of Transportation hereby notifies al idders that it will insure that bidders will not be dis-

in response to this invitation, and in occidential or an award. Plans an objection, including management wage rates as provided by Law, are available for inspection at the office of Dan Richardson, Area Engineer, Big Spring, Texas, and at the Texas Department of Transportation, Austin, Texas. Bidding proposals are to be requested from the Construction and Maintenance Division, 200 East Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas, 78704-1205. Plans are available through commercial printers in Austin, Texas, at the expense of the bidder. through commercial prin expense of the bidder. Usual right reserved 08-D-19 08-76-0068-08-043

cant role in what goes on. Bring thers together for a fun happening. Be open about your desires. You make decisions from the heart. Tonight:

Naughty, and so nice. ***** VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Make a decision and stick to it, even if another tries to entice you to alter it. Slow down, and do some thinking. Events have happened so quickly. Get together with a friend. Make plans to go where you can relax and not feel pressured. Tonight: Mellow is the word. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Your playful side comes out with friends and a loved one. Let off steam, and relax more. Meet with others. Get into a group event or holiday happening. Information comes your way, causing a major change in your thinking. Tonight: Go where your friends are. *****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Much is happening, quickly. You might need to take over or handle a personal matter. Responsibilities call that have financial ramifications. Be direct, and state your limits. Another expresses his caring. Be responsive to the message being delivered. Tonight: Go out and about. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) You might find your feelings changing. A loved one is intense and, on some level, overwhelming. Touch base with values. Be sure about long-term goals. Travel, maybe a day trip, is possible. Make

plans with a friend. Tonight: True confessions, yours or theirs! ****

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Be more in tune with your desires. Listen to someone's feedback. He understands partnership and financial involvement in a way that you don't. Discussions open doors. You find a different slant to a challenging issue that affects you. Tonight: Go for snuggling. *****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Defer to others. You get much more of what you want. You are popularity-plus, and have a good time hanging out. A friend's overture comes from the heart. Express what you want. You are heading in the right direction. Tonight: The party begins now. *****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Rearrange your day. Take care of more pleasant errands and chores. Creative energy is high. Handle personal matters. Reorganization may be needed in some areas of your life. A child or animal may require extra care. Tonight: Be a couch potato! ***

For America's best extended horoscope, recorded 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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Grandmother's advice sounds like criticism to mother's ears

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ion, which

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give me.

DEAR ABBY: I have read your column every day for a long time, and I need an honest and objec-



Abigail

Van Buren a year. We have Columnist beautiful 9-month-old daughter named 'Claire.' We are living with my parents until we can get on

Todd's mother, stepfather and grandparents all live close by. My problem: Between my mother and my mother-in-law, at least three times a week, I get comments of some sort on the way we are raising our daughter. I disagree with many of the techniques they used when they were raising children. What seems like advice or ideas to them seems like criticism to me. My mother especially is always saying I should be doing this or that.

been through it, they know what is best for our daughter. I love our daughter with all my heart and consider myself a good mother. Although Todd's mother and mine did very well raising us, now it's my turn to raise my daughter the way her

Both Mom and my mother-in-

law think because they have

father and I think is best. I love Mom and Todd's mother very much, and I have tried to talk to them about constantly giving me advice, but they get defensive and remind me they have been parents for more than 20 years. Both insist I should listen to them.

Abby, I know Claire better than anyone else, so shouldn't I know the best way to be a parent to her? —YOUNG MOTHER IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR YOUNG MOTHER: Yes. Now all you need is the courage of your convictions. Stick to your guns and don't be pressured by all the unsolicited advice you're getting. You need not apologize for doing things your way.

DEAR ABBY: I work in a small office, seven women and one man. The holiday tradition is the boss and his wife host a holiday dinner in their home for the staff. Last year was my first time to attend. I was taught from childhood

when you go to someone's home for a party, you bring the hostess a gift —which I did, along with a small giff for their only child. These gifts were not very expensive and our hosts seemed to be appreciative. The staff contributed to a joint gift for the boss.

Upon returning to the office the next work day, I was told by one of the longtime employ-"We don't buy gifts for the boss's wife and daughter." When you work in an environment of female employees, there can be a lot of back-stabbing, which I don't want to be a part of in any way. Now I don't know what to do about this this year. I would feel very awkward arriving empty handed, and yet I don't want it to look like I'm seeking brownie

points. Although I won't be comfortable with this decision, I won't take a gift this year, but what should I do next year? Help me if you can, please. — SHOULD ETIQUETTE PREVAIL?

DEAR SHOULD: It is gracious to give the hostess a gift, but in order to avoid conflict with your co-workers, you could send it a day or two after the party. (And though it's also thoughtful to send the child a gift, it's not necessary.)

DEAR ABBY: Several months ago you reprinted a letter from "Open for Suggestions" about a woman who was concerned about her daughter's classmate who came to school dirty. You advised she contact the teacher, who would then contact the

proper authorities. I know your heart was in the right place, but really Abby. does our first recourse need to be contacting the authorities? I have been a foster parent and know how frightening the authorities can be to a child

and a family. "Open to Suggestions" wanted to talk to the boy's mother. I think she was on the right track. She should have gotten to know the woman as a friend and then made suggestions about the boy's appearance. His parents may have only needed some friendly educating. And of course, if on her first visit it was obvious the child was neglected, after that she could have spoken to the teacher.

I grew up in a home that was filthy. I often wore the same clothes for days. We rarely washed the sheets, and I had no idea people ever washed floors or windows. But my parents fed and sheltered me. They helped me with schoolwork. marveled at my creations, held me when I cried, remembered my birthday, read me bedtime stories and so much more. The things I learned from them are more valuable than clean clothes. (Later, I learned housekeeping from my mother-in-

These days people don't take the time to know others. If our neighbors are noisy, we call the police. If nearby residents don't mow their lawns, we call city authorities. If a co-worker crosses us, we complain to the

I vote for talking out our dif-terences and calling in help as a last resort. I learned this from my dear parents, who both held master's degrees in the sciences from leading universities — and from you, Dear Abby. — A FAITHFUL FAN

• 1996 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEC. 26 THURSDAY FAM 6 KOSA 7 WFAA 8 KWES 9 WTBS 11 DISN (14) NASH (15) 22 KMLM24 TMC 16 SHOW 20 HBO A&E 25) DISC 26 TNT 28 FSN 29 ESPN 30 AMC 31 BET 33 KMID 2 KPEJ 3 KERA 5 UNI (13) Classics Black Ent. Odessa (5323317) Canadian Wild (CC) (13075065) vond 2000 In the Heat of Bowl Kickoff (827220) Never Can Tell (295794) Hit List 6 :PM News Wh. Fortune Science Guy News Wh. Fortune C. Sandiego Hazzard 467862 the Night tira (40602) (649404 Ent. Tonight Home Videos (456862) NHL Hockey Florida FOX Sports NBA Basket Bringing Up Baby 6050355 Life of Dotti Die Hard With (673355)JnReal (819317) 7 :PM Nat'l. Geo. on (CC) ob Larso Assignm Basketball (CC) ingle Guy Living Single (CC) (339862) (799688 Orlando Canaveral de Can't Buy Me Prime Time ball: Golde Panthers at (4828571) 8 :PM 783046) Mysteryl (CC) Heights (8345387) New York sody (CC) 1460930) Tampa-Bay :45) Movie Pasiones en-Badly Magic at (80355) Center :15) Movie (71677442) (8654355 vening Star Time Tra riors at Dal The Brave One 700 Club Honors RI(CC) Miami Heat lienvenidos Country Ne omicview (661607) 9 :PM Mysteries the Bible Lightning (131442) F/X: The 45) Movie: (43297)onlea (CC) Club Da 35) Movi Lord (670249) Celebratio (60591)Talk (711201) hea Full Frontal OX Sports (917959)(60919220) 10 :PM News Cheers News (76571 Slap Shot . Impacto leason to ate Show (6519256) loticiero Un lues Fai (138882) Movie: Rob yand 2000 Stooges onight Show Bringing Up In the Heat of 11 :30 Roseanne Nightline (41650626) (11085539 **FOX Sports** La Tocada Dukes of **NFL** Great Ent. Tonight Carson (6340591) Rap City (226978) (:35) Rolonda (998336)Movie: A Hazzard Fear of a Shock Video America's (12:15) Song Is Bon (4525317) Prime Time Country Black Hat 12 :AM Inside Edition Bible Lesson Paid Program Late Late (1501959) Jazz at New

HAGAR



port (356640) Paid Program



Al Derbez

BLONDIE







B.C.





FAMILY CIRCLE

12-26

© 1996 Bil Keane, I Dist by Cowles Syn

ACROSS

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26 Menu item

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"We lost the directions to our game, Daddy. Could you ask for them on the Internet?"

DENNIS THE MENACE



WAS GONNA GET YOU SOMETHING A LOT NICER, BUT MOM SAID YOU COULDN'T AFFORD IT."

GEECH







WIZARD OF ID









HI AND LOIS





SNUFFY SMITH





BEETLE BAILY





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THIS DATE **HISTORY**

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

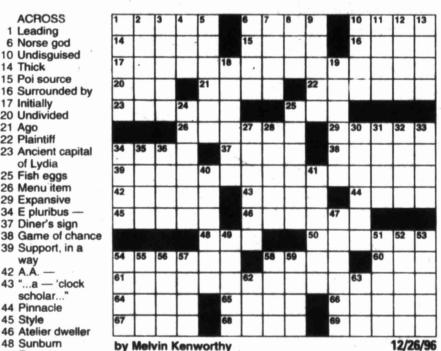
Today is Thursday, Dec. 26, the 361st day of 1996. There are five days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Dec. 26, 1944, in the World War II Battle of the Bulge, the embattled U.S. 101st Airborne Division, surrounded by German forces in Belgium, was of the 4th relieved by units Armored Division.

On this date:

In 1776, the British suffered a major defeat in the Battle of during Trenton

THE Daily Crossword



by Melvin Kenworthy 12 Puerto --

some people

24 Imps 25 Take umbrage

54 Theater item 13 River in Germany 58 Think 60 "... a man 18 Went without mouse?" 61 China, e.g. 19 Community of

64 Italian resort 65 First person 66 Student: Fr. 67 Uncloses, poetically

69 Made over **DOWN** 1 Goodbye, Pedro 2 Hair tint

3 Computer key 4 Bat wood of Texas' 6 Elevator man 7 Pub item

8 Govt. agcy 9 False 10 Romantic isle

35 Astronaut Armstrong 36 School letters

40 Stacked into one another 41 Slaved 47 Silly smile

49 Egypt's Sadat

52 Rome fountain

27 Wickerwork 28 Anesthetic 30 Spin 31 Near the ear AWHITECHRISTMAS 32 Particle 33 Ready to eat 34 Mil. branch

54 Normandy town 55 Computer item

REDE 12/26/9 58 Unit of weight

59 St. -- 's fire

62 Pindar work

Wednesday's Puzzle solved:

MYTWOFRONTTEETH

PACSBUTESBROLEO

DOOM

53 Paddled 57 Son of Aphrodite 63 Bullfight cheer 11 Amo, amas, -BIG

Reflecting A Proud Texas Community

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Revolutionary War.

In 1799, the late George Washington was eulogized by Col. Henry Lee as "first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen.'

In 1893, Chinese Tse-tung was born in Hunan province.

In 1931, the Pulitzer Prize-winning musical play "Of Thee I Sing" opened on Broadway.

In 1941, Winston Churchill became the first British prime minister to address a joint meeting of the U.S. Congress. In 1944, Tennessee Williams'

play "The Glass Menagerie" was first performed publicly, at the Civic Theatre in Chicago. In 1972, the 33rd president of the United States, Harry S. Truman, died in Kansas City,

Mo. In 1975, the Soviet Union inaugurated the world's first supersonic transport service with a flight of its Tupolev-144 airliner

from Moscow to Alma-Ata. In 1980, Iranian television footage was broadcast in the United States, showing a dozen of the American hostages sending messages to their families. In 1990, Nancy Cruzan, the

young woman in an irreversible vegetative state whose case led to a U.S. Supreme Court decision on the right to die, died at a Missouri hospital.

Ten years ago: The White House announced the creation of a special unit to coordinate the Reagan administration's responses and strategy in the Iran-Contra affair.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Richard Widmark is 82. Comedian, composer and author Steve Allen is 75. Comedian Alan King is 69.



