

BIG SPRING HERALD

Reflecting A Proud Community

FRIDAY
January 31, 1997

50 cents

Tonight's banquet highlight of year for Chamber

By CARLTON JOHNSON
Staff Writer

The highlight of the year for the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce begins tonight at 6:30 at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum — the annual banquet.

Tonight's banquet will also serve as a preview of things to come in 1997 for the chamber.

Last minute reservations are par for the course, according to Chamber Executive Vice President Linda Walker, because most people usually wait until the last minute to purchase their tickets, but more than 400 tickets

have been reserved for people planning to attend.

"We usually have 500 people or so attend the banquet," Walker said.

Social hour begins at 6:30 and the meal and banquet program will begin at 7 p.m.

One of the traditions of the banquet will also be a part of tonight's activities — the announcement of Big Spring's Man and Woman of the Year for 1996.

The Man and Woman of the Year Committee has made its selections and the choices for Big Spring's Man and Woman of the Year will remain a secret until tonight.

Last year's award recipients were

Toots Mansfield and Margaret Lloyd.

Special guests of the banquet will include District 70 State Rep. David Counts and District 28 State Sen. Robert Duncan. Congressman Charles Stenholm, who was in Coahoma earlier today for a town hall meeting, is also expected to attend the banquet.

Master of Ceremonies for the banquet will be new chamber board member Terry McDaniel and guest speaker for the banquet will be former state senator and current Texas Tech Chancellor John T. Montford.

Montford's return to Big Spring will be a bit different than in years past because he doesn't arrive as the area's

state senator.

During his 14-year tenure in the Senate, Montford became recognized as one of the state's most knowledgeable leaders in the fields of constitutional revision, water legislation, reform of the civil justice system and in both secondary and higher education.

As a legislator, Montford wrote and passed 520 bills and joint resolutions, which were signed into law by four different governors.

Montford served as chairman of the Senate Finance Committee and as chairman of the Senate State Affairs Committee. He was a member of the Senate Education Committee, Senate

Natural Resources Committee, and the Sub-Committee on Water, and was elected president pro tem for the 73rd Texas Legislature.

Montford is also a nationally recognized figure, having served on the Committee of Fiscal Affairs and Oversight and the Low-Level Radioactive Waste Working Group for the National Conference of State Legislatures and the Fiscal Affairs and Governmental Operations Committee for the Southern Legislative Conference.

He currently serves as a member of the National Advisory Council of the Texas Heart Institute.

Police treat death as possible homicide

By CHRYS GOFF
Staff Writer

Big Spring police are treating the Thursday death of a Big Spring man as a possible homicide.

A relative discovered Shelton Castle, 40, of 3307 Drexel Ave., dead in his home early Thursday afternoon.

A cause of death has not yet been determined.

"The only information we have at this time is that it is a questionable death," Sgt. Victor Brake said. "We treat it as a homicide until otherwise informed."

A neighbor, who declined to be identified, said she was shocked at Castle's death.

"It's been real quite, no violence, but his car wasn't here. That's what is so strange about it," she said. "It's just been really bizarre."

"The mother had come by to check on him and found his body," she added. "My husband thought he heard noises last night, but nothing serious."

Castle was an Olin Mills photographer, and traveled throughout Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico.

Justice of the Peace China Long ordered an autopsy and



HERALD photo/Kelle Jones

Law enforcement officials stand in front of Shelton Castle's home Thursday afternoon investigating his death as a possible homicide. Castle's mother discovered his body in the house. She told officers she had seen him the night before.

expects the results today. She will then make a determination.

Howard County Sheriff's Deputy Bennie Green, also a neighbor, said he had recently talked with Castle. "We went to high school together in

Ackerly, but I didn't know him too well. He called me two weeks ago and asked me to watch his house for him while he was gone on a trip, and I haven't seen him since."

Police were concerned about the Castle's car, which was not

at his house during the initial investigation, but Brake said the vehicle was discovered this morning. A friend borrowed it.

Castle, divorced, had two sons from an earlier marriage. Police would not release any other information.

1996 property tax deadline is today, penalties to follow

By CARLTON JOHNSON
Staff Writer

People who have not thought about their 1996 property taxes have just a few hours to get their payments in or postmarked by midnight before a late payment penalty is added.

Today, Jan. 31, is the traditional final day to pay property taxes for the previous year without incurring penalties and interest.

Residents not having property tax payments postmarked by midnight face having to pay the balance of their 1996 property taxes as well as penalties and interest of 7 percent.

Howard County Tax Assessor/Collector Kathy Sayles said her office will accept any payments that are postmarked by midnight.

Penalties and interest increase at the first of each month until July 1, at which time residents will be assessed an 18 percent late payment penalty plus an additional 15 percent penalty for legal fees for an attorney having to file the delinquency on the county's tax rolls.

Unpaid property taxes carry an additional 9 percent penalty on March 1; an 11 percent penalty if not paid by April 1; a 13 percent penalty if not paid by May 1 and a 15 percent penalty if not paid by June 1.

Several residents in the past have entered into Tax Payment

Agreements with the county, but according to the Howard County Tax Office a Tax Payment Agreement will not excuse late penalties and interest.

"People who have not received their property tax statements should contact my office at 264-2232 or stop by as soon as possible," Sayles said.

Total delinquent tax figures don't become available until after July 1.

In the past Howard County has seen an increase in the amount of taxes it has been able to collect before they become delinquent, but Sayles said there is still \$2,612,984 in delinquent amounts owed by residents to Howard County entities dating back 20 years ending in 1995.

Those delinquencies include city of Big Spring, \$480,964; Howard County, \$490,446; Howard College, \$270,930; city of Forsan, \$6,259; city of Coahoma, \$38,133; Forsan Independent School District (FISD), \$242,608; Big Spring Independent School District (BSISD), \$904,867; and the Coahoma Independent School District (CISD), \$178,777.

According to Sayles, property tax statements are mailed out usually in the first week of October, but this time her office was not able to get them out until the middle of October.

As of Dec. 31, the outstanding

Please see TAXES, page 2A

Stenholm praising IRS for reversing previous plans

HERALD Staff Report

Congressman Charles Stenholm, who recently praised the IRS for reversing its position on deferred payment contracts for farmers, has announced his sponsorship of a Medicare reform bill and announced he will co-chair the new National Commission on Retirement Policy sponsored by the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

The IRS announced that for the 1996 tax year, it would not

require farmers to report income from deferred payment contracts for purposes of computing the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT).

"The original IRS decision subjecting deferred payment contracts to the AMT was a very bad one," Stenholm said. "You can't change the rules in mid-stream, and a retroactive ruling such as this would have had a devastating impact on farmers and ranchers."

Under deferred payment contracts, producers can sell their crops at market but defer the

actual time at which they receive payment for those crops. Taxes on those payments have been based on when the farmer received the deferred payment, not on the earlier sale of the crops.

According to Stenholm's office, farmers were caught off guard several months ago when the IRS indicated there would be a change in the rules for the filing of 1996 tax forms.

In December, Stenholm and 30 other members of Congress wrote a letter to President Bill Clinton protesting the IRS' ear-

lier decision on the treatment of deferred payment contracts.

Tuesday, IRS Commissioner Margaret Richardson announced farmers could complete their 1996 returns just as they had done in the past.

"Obviously this is a great relief for America's farmers," Stenholm said. "But even though this issue has been put to rest for 1996, I hope to see Congress fix the problem permanently."

Stenholm and several mem-

Please see BILLS, page 2A

Chamber banquet, town hall meeting, start of baseball on tap

HERALD Staff Report

Looking for something to do this weekend? Here's your ticket to weekend activities in and around Big Spring.

This feature is published each Friday and will include a variety of activities. It is limited to activities of a general nature, community fund-raisers, community functions, free performances, etc. It is not available to commercial ventures.

To submit your activity, send it to "Weekend Ticket," Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431,

WEEKEND TICKET

Big Spring, 79721.

If you wish, you may fax your listing to 264-7205 or bring it by the Herald offices at 710 Scurry. No information will be taken over the phone.

• Spring City Senior Center dance, tonight, 7:30-10:30 p.m., Spring City Senior Center. Music will be provided by CW & Co. All senior citizens in the area are invited.

• Heritage Museum, today from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., 510 Scurry. For additional information, contact the museum at 267-8255.

• Town Hall Meeting, 4:30 p.m. today at First Bank of West Texas, North Interstate 20 Frontage Road, Coahoma. State Rep. David Counts and U.S. Rep. Charles Stenholm will dis-

cuss pertinent issues.

• Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce banquet. Social hour begins at 6:30 p.m. tonight with the banquet beginning at 7 p.m. at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Keynote speaker is Texas Tech Chancellor John T. Montford and the man and woman of the year will be announced.

• High school basketball, Wall at Coahoma, tonight at 6:30 and 8. Coahoma's boys lead Forsan by a game while Coahoma's girls trail Roscoe by a half-game

Please see TICKET, page 2A

'TV Land' debut in Big Spring postponed, if it gets here at all

By CARLTON JOHNSON
Staff Writer

Big Spring Cable subscribers set for the switch from "E! Entertainment Television" to Nickelodeon's "TV Land" today will have to wait a while longer.

And the change may not come at all.

The initial decision to change to TV Land came after contract negotiations between TCA Cable, parent company of Big

Spring Cable, and E! broke down.

But now, Big Spring Cable General Manager Archie Koutz said information he received Thursday indicated E! and TCA have reached a tentative agreement that would keep the network on the local system.

"Ownership has changed and Disney will now be involved with E!'s programming, mean-

Please see CABLE, page 2A

Fund-raising events scheduled to benefit young cancer patient

By CHRYS GOFF
Staff Writer

Christina Saucedo, a College Heights Elementary fourth grader, is in need of her community's help.

Diagnosed with a tumor in the upper part of her arm last month, she is undergoing chemotherapy now and is scheduled for surgery in Dallas.

Her parents, Jerry and Dolores Saucedo, desperately need the community's generosity and are hosting a fund raiser at St. Thomas Fellowship Hall this weekend. Breakfast plates, burritos, desserts, coffee and milk are going to be sold Saturday from 6-9 p.m. and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Proceeds from the fund raiser will be used to defray medical expenses.

Christina's classmates and teachers are also donating by buying hearts for 25 cents each and have bought more than 2,450 hearts. They will also be purchasing telegrams throughout Valentine's Day to give to other students, and the proceeds go to Saucedo's fund.

For more information, contact the Saucedos at 264-6157.



HERALD photo/Jonathan Garret

Christina Saucedo stands in front of the many hearts her classmates and teachers bought for her fund to help pay for her medical expenses. Christina was recently diagnosed with cancer.

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Vol. 93, No. 96

Call us at:
(915) 263-7331

TODAY'S WEATHER

▲ Highs
▼ Lows

Today: Mostly sunny. High in the upper 70s. Low around 40.

Saturday: Partly cloudy. High around 80. Low in the 40s.

Extended outlook: Sunday through Tuesday, partly cloudy. Lows each night will be in the 40s. Highs in the 70s Sunday and Monday. High Tuesday expected to be in the upper 50s to lower 60s.

OBITUARIES

Hugh Cochron

Funeral service for Hugh Cochron, 66, Odessa, formerly of Big Spring, will be 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 1, 1997, at Hubbard-Kelly Funeral Home Chapel in Odessa.

Mr. Cochron died Wednesday, Jan. 29, at Medical Center Hospital.

He was born on June 8, 1927, in Atlanta, Ga. He grew up in Big Spring graduating from Big Spring High School in 1946. He graduated from Texas Tech University in 1950.

He is survived by his wife: Tommie S. Cochron, Odessa; a daughter: Olivia McGowan, Sugarland; two sons: Staton Hugh Cochron and James Thomas Cochron, both of Odessa; four sisters: Edna McCoslin, Houston, Martha Kirby, Cedar Park, Pat Mittel, Simi Valley, Calif., and Julia Bird, Dallas; and three grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association or the charity of your choice.

Arrangements under the direction of Hubbard-Kelly Funeral Home, Odessa.

Mary Olive Smith

Service for Mary Olive Smith, 86, Snyder, will be 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 1, 1997, in the Elmwood Cemetery, Bowie.

Mrs. Smith died Wednesday, Jan. 29.

She was born on Feb. 17, 1910, in Bowie. She married R.R. Smith on Jan. 1, 1937, in Grandfield, Okla.

Survivors include one son: Bill Valentine, Snyder; and five grandchildren.

Arrangements under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home, Snyder.

NALLEY-PICKLE & WELCH Funeral Home Trinity Memorial Park and Crematory 906 Gregg St. (915) 267-6331

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

Lydia "Billie" Knappe, 100, died Wednesday. Graveside services 10:00 AM Friday at Trinity Memorial Park.

Adell Lott White, 57, died Wednesday. Funeral service 1 PM Saturday, Northside Baptist Church with burial at Mount Olive.

Shelton Castle, 40, died Thursday. Graveside services will be 11 AM Saturday, Feb. 1 at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Adell Lott White, 57, died Wednesday. Funeral service 1 PM Saturday, Northside Baptist Church with burial at Mount Olive.

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Big Spring Herald (915) 267-0811 USPS 0255-040 Daily except Saturday

LaVois d'Elegance Inc. 2105 S. Gregg St. We now have "The Nioxin System" which nourishes & encourages healthy new growth.

Adell Lott White

Funeral service for Adell Lott White, 57, Big Spring, will be 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 1, 1997, at the Northside Baptist Church with Rev. James Pollard officiating.

Interment will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

White died Wednesday, Jan. 29, in a local hospital following a long illness.

She was born on Feb. 12, 1939, in Kosse. She married Lonnie Lott in 1963. He preceded her in death in 1978. She then married John Henry White in 1984 in Big Spring.

She is survived by her husband: John Henry White, Sr., Brownfield; three daughters: Dorothy Williams, Denver City, Delayne Parnell and Marilyn White, both of Big Spring; two sons: Lonnie Lott, Big Spring, and John Henry White, Jr., Dallas; seven sisters: Katherine Keeling, Mexia, Mabel Davis, Mexia, Bobbie Jo Bell, Crockett, Ocie Wilson, Martha Dupree, Mary Felton and Betty Green, all of Lubbock; and 15 grandchildren.

Arrangements under the direction of Myers & Smith Funeral Home & Chapel.

Maria Ladesma

Service for Maria Ladesma, 67, Big Spring, is pending with Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

She died Friday, Jan. 31, 1997, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

Shelton Castle

Graveside service for Shelton Castle, 40, Big Spring, will be 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 1, 1997, at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Castle died Thursday, Jan. 30, at his home.

He was born on Aug. 23, 1956, in Big Spring. He had been a lifetime resident of Big Spring.

He was a member of the 14th & Main Church of Christ. He had been manager of Bearings, Inc. and had currently owned Worldwide Business and Promotional Services.

He is survived by his parents T.J. and Lou (Dell) Castle, Big Spring; two sons: Jeffery Castle and Jacob Castle, both of Big Spring; a grandmother: Margie Castle, Big Spring; and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

Arrangements under the direction of Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Ticket

Continued from page 1A

for the No. 2 spot in the play-offs.

Benefit fund-raiser Saturday and Sunday for Christina Saucedo, a College Heights Elementary fourth grader, diagnosed with a tumor in the upper part of her arm.

Breakfast plates, burritos, desserts, coffee and milk are going to be sold Saturday from 6-9 p.m. and Sunday from 8 a.m.

DUNLAP 111 E. Marcy 267-5200 Mon-Sat, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

LaVois d'Elegance Inc. 2105 S. Gregg St. We now have "The Nioxin System" which nourishes & encourages healthy new growth.

to 2 p.m. at St. Thomas Following Hall.

College baseball, 1 p.m. Saturday, Jack Barber Field, Howard College's Hawks open the season against Ranger.

Great Texas Soup Cook-off, Saturday from 5-7 p.m., Stanton Community Center.

Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, 8:00 to 1 p.m. open meeting and 8 to 9 p.m. Big Book Study.

Great Texas Soup Cook-off, 5-7 p.m., Stanton Community Center. Fund raiser for convent and monastery restoration project.

Arrests lead to several burglaries being solved

By KELLIE JONES Features Editor

Two Howard County residents have been charged with drug possession and authorities are in the process of charging one with burglary of a building.

Tommy Christian, 29, and Cecil Sherman, 31, were arrested by Howard County Sheriff's deputies Thursday when the officers went to serve a Mitchell County warrant on Christian.

According to Sheriff Bill Jennings, the two suspects attempted to evade arrest and the deputies went inside the home to handcuff the two men.

Jennings said, "The deputies found cocaine, smelled marijuana and noticed computers, stereo systems - a pick-up load of merchandise. The deputies asked who's it was and one of them said it was stolen."

Big Spring police detectives were then called to the sheriff's department to look at the stolen merchandise and discovered some of the items were stolen from city businesses.

Three county burglaries have now been solved.

The two men were charged with possession of a controlled substance. Sherman has since been released on bond but Christian has been transferred to Mitchell County on an outstanding district court warrant on a motion to proceed with adjudication of guilt.

Jennings added the two law enforcement departments were proceeding with burglary of a building charges as of press time.

Big Spring police detectives were then called to the sheriff's department to look at the stolen merchandise and discovered some of the items were stolen from city businesses.

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AROUND THE TOWN

Cable

Continued from page 1A

ing a change in the value of what the network does," Kountz said.

According to Kountz, Disney is now a 58 percent owner of E!.

The standpoint for negotiations with E! has changed and TCA is in the process of reviewing its options," Kountz said.

"Final word is forthcoming," Kountz added he could hear something about negotiations as soon as today.

If Big Spring Cable subscribers do end up with the TV Land network, a 24-hour network spinoff of Nick at Nite, they will be provided some of the top television dramas, sitcoms, variety shows and westerns from the past 40 years.

A switch to TV Land means the network would appear on cable channel 24, and KMEL, an independent station out of Odessa would move from channel 24 to channel 19, replacing E! Entertainment.

The channel will remain commercial-free until October if adopted by the Big Spring system, but will show vintage commercials and television-tribute vignettes that set the stage for its classic programming.

TV Land programming includes old favorites such as The Addams family, Cannon, The Ed Sullivan Show, Green Acres, Gunsmoke, Hill Street Blues, Mannix, The Sonny & Cher Comedy Hour, That Girl and dozens of other hit shows from the past 40 years.

The programming lineup would also include monthly blocks such as Wonders of TV Land, TV Cavalcade and TV Land Goes West, all filled with shows from the history of television.

Kountz has talked to managers of other TCA markets who say they like TV Land a great deal.

"TV Land is already on in some of our other markets and it has been very well received and the response has been highly favorable," Kountz said.

Taxes

Continued from page 1A

amount of 1996 property taxes due to the various county entities, included Howard County, \$4,013,205; city of Big Spring, \$1,752,813; city of Coahoma, \$49,624; city of Forsan, \$8,640; BSISD, \$8,137,654; CISD, \$1,468,475; FISA, \$2,273,108; and Howard College, \$1,787,185.

SPRINGBOARD

IF YOU HAVE ANY CHANGES IN A SPRINGBOARD ITEM OR FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT GINA GARZA, 263-7331 ext. 238; BETWEEN 8 A.M. AND 2 P.M. All Springboard items must be submitted in writing. Mail to: Springboard, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, Texas 79720; bring it by the office at 110 Scurry; or fax it to 264-7208.

TODAY

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

Texas Lottery

Area seniors invited.

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

Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, 8:00 to 1 p.m. open meeting and 8 to 9 p.m. Big Book Study.

SATURDAY

Great Texas Soup Cook-off, 5-7 p.m., Stanton Community Center. Fund raiser for convent and monastery restoration project.

Bake sale auction at 6:30 p.m.

Arrests lead to several burglaries being solved

By KELLIE JONES Features Editor

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POLICE

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 8 a.m. Thursday and 8 a.m. Friday:

ADOLFO E. BOTELO JR., 28, of 1504 Oriole, was arrested for public intoxication, no insurance and no driver's license.

JOHNNY CANTU, 24, of 1603 Lincoln, was arrested for criminal trespass.

NICK LOYA, 17, of 1503 Lincoln #A, was arrested for criminal trespass.

FEDERIC LAMAR McALISTER, 20, of 1907 S. Monticello, was arrested on local warrants, possession of marijuana under two ounces, evading arrest or detention and possession of drug paraphernalia.

HENRY ERNEST, 54, of 703 Wyoming, was arrested for possession of marijuana under two ounces.

MARY THREATS, 46, of 511 Gollad, was arrested for possession of marijuana.

JASON THREATS, 19, of 511 Douglas, was arrested for evading arrest or detention and possession of marijuana under two ounces.

BRIAN KEITH HAMMONDS, 34, of 301 E. 19th, was arrested for public intoxication.

DISTURBANCE/FIGHT in the 600 block of E. 13th.

THEFT in the 900 block of Willia.

DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE in the 400 block of Martin Luther King Boulevard; 800 block of W. 10th; and the 500 block of State.

BURGLARY OF A HABITATION in the 1300 block of Colby.

BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE in the 2100 block of Scurry; and the 3200 block of Wilcox.

ASSAULT in the 2200 block of Auburn.

DEBIT CARD ABUSE in the 700 block of E. Marcy.

SHERIFF

The Howard County Sheriff's Department reported the following activity between 8 a.m. Thursday and 8 a.m. Friday:

JERRY MCGREGOR RUSHIN, 25, of 605 Steakly, was arrested for possession of marijuana under two ounces.

BILLY DEWAYNE THREATS, 25, of Clovis, N.M., was arrested for possession of marijuana under two ounces.

RONNEY DALE WINDSOR, 36, of Blackwell, was found guilty of aggravated robbery in district court, sentenced to 20 years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice and fined \$5,000.

CAROLYN SUE HALE, 29, of HC Box 60B, was arrested for revocation of probation for driving while intoxicated, and released on a \$1,000 bond.

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Three dead, seven others injured in wall collapse at shopping mall

HOUSTON (AP) — Robert Delaney was making his regular walk through Northline Mall when he heard someone say a rock had fallen through the ceiling. Then everything started collapsing around him.

"You couldn't see nothing but dust.... It was just dust, dust, dust," Delaney, 67, a retired utility worker, said Thursday after he managed to escape the torrent of concrete as a wall along a mall walkway collapsed.

Officials have found the bodies of three victims and had earlier feared that as many as six people were missing and possibly killed. Seven were injured.

Assistant Fire Chief H.G. Torres said early today it is doubtful that any other victims will be found.

He said five of the six people first believed to be missing have been accounted and authorities are hopeful that the sixth person simply hasn't contacted relatives.

"We have moved all of the large pieces of concrete. We have removed all the beams. In the process, we have discovered three bodies. We have not discovered any more."

The Harris County Medical

Examiner's Office early today identified three of the victims whose bodies have been found.

They were Ledia Edwards, 69, Emma Curtis, 63 and Thelma Loraine Jolly, 63, all of Houston.

"I was about two feet from the last beam that fell in," said Delaney, who was among a couple dozen elderly "mall walkers" who use the indoor shopping area about five miles north of downtown for early morning exercise.

Other survivors told of hearing screams for help, of diving through plate glass windows to escape or just being lucky when a 150-foot section of the 30-foot-high wall being torn down to make room for a Magic Johnson theater complex collapsed about 9 a.m.

Heavy cranes were brought in to lift fallen concrete roof supports and chunks of debris while rescuers used police tracking dogs and fiber optic devices to hunt for bodies or possible survivors.

"That's always a possibility," Fire Chief Eddie Corral said of someone surviving, perhaps in an air pocket in the fallen tons of concrete and steel. "A lot of

miraculous things happen."

The hunt was slowed by the danger that moving any of the fallen debris could cause another collapse.

Six of the injured were "mall walkers," most of them in their 60s and 70s. Also hurt was a firefighter who suffered a twisted ankle. The only person requiring an overnight hospital stay was a 67-year-old woman who underwent surgery for a broken ankle.

No cause was immediately determined.

"What we're trying to do first of all is very carefully remove any debris to get to any bodies," said Houston public works director Jimmie Schindewolf.

"Then we will try to analyze the situation."

Demolition crews working at Northline's south end were removing the last sections of an old Joske's department store when a wall common to the old store and mall caved in.

"I looked once behind my shoulder and it looked like waves coming down," said Elizabeth Lingold, one of the six mall walkers taken to area hospitals. "We were not lucky, we were blessed."

Former Lottery director wants job back

AUSTIN (AP) — Former Texas Lottery director Nora Linares wants her job back.

Linares was fired Jan. 7 after nearly two months of questions about a contract between a long-time friend and the lottery's main contractor.

Linares said she knew nothing about the five-month, \$30,000 contract between friend Mike Moeller and GTECH Corp. until she was asked about it by a newspaper reporter in November.

Other questions also arose at the end of her tenure, including the whereabouts or state of numerous investigation files about lottery- and bingo-related complaints and her friendship with a lobbyist for another lottery contractor.

No allegations of wrongdoing were ever directly leveled against Linares, but the three-member Texas Lottery

Commission said she had been so damaged by the questions that she could no longer be effective as executive director.

Linares' attorneys said it was the questions raised by commission chairwoman Harriett Miers that hurt Linares. They said the questions inferred that Linares misused her position and could no longer be trusted.

Before being fired, Linares sued the commission for interfering with her day-to-day work and for ordering her not to speak to the media without commission approval.

In an amended lawsuit filed Thursday in a state court in Austin, Linares said her firing, the alleged gag order and many of the commission's actions were "illegal" and "politically motivated."

Linares is a Democrat first hired by Comptroller John Sharp.

Miers is a Republican appointed by Gov. George W. Bush. The two other commissioners are Democrats, one appointed by former Gov. Ann Richards, the other by Bush.

The commission oversees the agency, which is run by the executive director who answers to the board.

"Never in her five years as executive director did she receive anything but the respect and admiration of her peers, employers, the public and legislative oversight committees," the lawsuit says of Linares. "There existed no reason whatsoever for the commission to terminate Ms. Linares."

Linares was an at-will employee, meaning she could be fired for no reason.

But Buck Wood, one of Linares' attorneys, has said Miers and the commission fired her for political reasons.

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EDITORIAL

Quots of the Day

"People who throw kisses are hopelessly lazy."
-Bob Hope

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

Charles C. Williams
Publisher

John H. Walker
Managing Editor

John A. Moseley
News Editor

Kelle Jones
Features Editor

OUR VIEWS

We salute:

Each Friday, the Herald salutes individuals and groups from our community and area who have been recognized for special achievements or accomplishments.

We recognize these special people for working to help make our region a better place to live, work and play.

This week we salute:

• Members of the **BIG SPRING LADY STEERS**, who won their sixth consecutive District 4-4A basketball title this week. Members of **COACH RON TAYLOR'S** squad include **KRISSI McWHERTER, KESHA LOTT, BRANDI PURCELL, MAGGIE HADDAD, TRACI BELLINGHAUSEN, KIM ROBERTSON, KARA HUGHES, MELISA MARTINEZ** and **NADIA COLE**.

• Members of the **HOWARD COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**, for their efforts last Friday in spending more than 14 hours fighting the grass and rubbish fire east of town.

• **SLATE BROYLES**, Big Spring High School sophomore, who was named "Swimmer of the Year" at the District 4 Swim Meet in Fort Stockton.

• The **HOWARD COLLEGE LADY HAWKS**, who have advanced to the No. 16 position in the most recent National Junior College Athletic Association basketball poll.

• Howard County 4-H Club members **CLAYTON** and **VANCE SMITH**, on their recent success in the Sand Hills Quarter Horse Show and Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo.

CLAYTON, 9, won the Youth Reining competition at Sand Hills while 13-year-old **VANCE** swept the Rookie Reining competition and dominated the 13-and-Under Youth Division at Fort Worth.

Is there an individual or organization in our community that you feel should be saluted? If so, please send us their name and why you think they should be recognized. We must have your name and telephone number and you must provide it in writing.

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PAT DRABBA - Home: 263-7809
Work: (College Heights Elementary) 264-4115
STEPHANIE BORTON - Home: 266-0306, Work: (VA Medical Center) 263-7861
CHUCK CAWTHON - Home: 263-7490, Work: (Chuck's Surplus) 263-1142
TOM GIBBS - Home: 263-3887
JIMMY CAMPBELL - Home: 267-

7895, Work: (Big Spring PCD) 263-8204
JOHN PAUL ANDERSON, mayor pro tem - Home: 267-7122, Work: 267-3538

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OFFICE - 264-2200
BEN LOCKHART county judge - Home: 263-4155, Office: 264-2282
EMMA BROWN - Home: 267-3648
JERRY KILGORE - 263-9724, Work: (Jett's Barber) 267-5471
BILL COOKER - Home: 263-2586
SONNY CROATE - Home: 267-1866



Universe expands as yolks line up for Happy Meals

It's almost enough to make one an inveterate hater of beauty pageants. Well, maybe not the pageants themselves, but some of the folks that run them and virtually all of those who publicize them.



John A. Moseley
News Editor

Seems that Miss Universe Alicia Machado was forced into the gym Tuesday, trying to control her weight or risk losing her crown.

Of course, the television networks and even the writers lining stations on The Associated Press wire offered "cute" leads saying she'd embarked on a fitness program to "keep her expanding dimensions before the Big Binge turns her career into a black hole."

Since winning the crown in May, the 20-year-old Venezuelan has clearly added a little padding to her well-rounded curves, but she didn't look bad.

I know, because I saw the televised accounts. And I know what is bad...all I have to do is check out my rotund physique in any full length mirror.

Machado was somewhat matter-of-fact in explaining her weight gain. "I was in other countries with other foods."

Now, with the support of Donald Trump, who co-owns the Miss Universe pageant with CBS, she's shedding the pounds for all the world to see.

There is a silver lining to this tale that's sure to warm any fat man's heart.

While the weight might have threatened her crown, it didn't hurt her name recognition.

"Famous publicity! Before I had 15 pounds more, nobody knows. Now I am Miss Universe and everybody knows," she said as 50 photographers crowded around her in a tiny gym, she lifted a 10-pound weight, skipped rope and pedaled a bike - all while laughing, smiling and waving.

Her new trainer, Edward Jackowitz, won't say what her weight is now or what it was at its worst. He said the 5-foot-7 beauty weighed 119 pounds when she won. He said that she's already lost seven pounds, with 15 to go.

"She likes to eat - like all of us," Trump said. "And there was a huge amount of pressure when she won the contest."

Was she really in danger of losing the crown?

To Trump's credit, he seems doubtful. "There were people in the pageant industry who thought there should be a termination," he said. "The weight was unacceptable to a lot of people. It was not unacceptable to me."

Of course, Kellogg has stopped featuring Machado on Special K boxes but said it had nothing to do with her weight. "Our contract with her expired," spokesman Anthony

Hebron said. "It was a very successful campaign."

"If I had eaten Kellogg," Miss Machado said, "I would be OK. But I ate other things."

So what, I never liked that Special K breakfast anyway.

Speaking of the munchies... Until recently, there was an McDonald's restaurant employee in Monroe, Conn., that had an enterprising idea for increasing demand for Big Macs and the like.

Marijuana was apparently a secret menu item at the McDonald's drive-through window where police say a worker sold the drug in Happy Meals.

Mence Powell, 19, was arrested at his home after police said he sold undercover officers a burger, fries, soda and a side order of marijuana on five occasions.

"I don't know how he could think that he could do this and continue to get away with it," Capt. Daniel Wall said.

Powell would arrange the deal beforehand and have customers pick up their orders from the window, police said. He now faces nine felony charges.

Mayor McCheese could not be reached for comment.

Traffic officers in Atlanta had a stickier situation on their hands Tuesday morning when an egg truck overturned during the rush hour.

We're left to assume there were a great many motorists anything but sunny side up. If that pun didn't bother you, try this lead:

A Country Charm Egg Distributors truck went over-not-so-easy on Interstate 285, sending hundreds of cartons of eggs tumbling onto the highway.

Thousands of eggs broke on the pavement, closing down half the highway and clogging traffic for hours.

"It was three lanes of scrambled eggs," said John Spink, a photographer with The Atlanta Journal-Constitution. "A real eggbeater."

Bdub, Bdub, Bdub... That's all, yolks.

Talk about offending folks' sensibilities... A Tulsa, Okla., radio station got its listeners' attention with a Groundhog Day promotion. It also angered quite a few of them.

The phones at KHFT-FM were flooded Wednesday morning after disc jockey Andy Barber said the station planned to drop "Grady the Groundhog" 200 feet from a hot air balloon.

If Grady survives, Barber told his listeners, then spring will be on the way. If not, then winter will stick around.

The station received so many calls, they started playing some of them on the air.

However, the station says it will go ahead with its plan Sunday.

What do you want to bet that what's dropped will be a package of sausage?

That is, after all, ground hog.

(John A. Moseley is news editor of the Herald. His column appears on Fridays.)

Bill Clinton making excuses instead of apologizing to American voters

Of all the perplexing statements President Clinton has made in the past few days, one of the oddest was his defensive statement that MOST of the money raised for his campaign was legitimate.



Ann McFeaters
Washington Watch

That's like telling the IRS "Well, most of the deductions I took were legitimate, and I declared most of my income, so just ignore the few mistakes I made."

Clinton's problem is that he's dueling with images of fat cats in the Lincoln bedroom, private coffee klatches with commercial potentates from abroad and receptions with drug dealers.

But instead of begging the voters for forgiveness and promising he'll never do it again, he said that having coffee with people who give lots and lots and lots of money is good for him because he keeps up on what their concerns are. (He said this just five hours before he got in his limousine for a two-block trip to a \$1 million fund-raiser with Democratic business leaders.) He tried hard to get the best

face on the legitimate questions about questionable checks.

"Way, way over 90 percent of all the people who gave money and way over 90 percent of all the money that was raised, is clearly consistent with the law in both parties, as far as I know... So there is no pattern and practice here of trying to push our system over the brink into corruption."

No, the pattern and practice seems to be trying to stay just short of the line because straying over it means people go to jail.

Twenty five years after Watergate, which was about abuse of power, campaign money laundering and cover-ups, it is absurd that the White House would permit the Comptroller of the Currency to be invited to a political event with the bigwigs of the banks he regulates. Clinton now agrees that was a mistake.

Granted, the president needs to stay informed. He needs to talk regularly, as Harry Truman did, with people from as many walks of life as he can. But it defies credibility to say, as Clinton does, that giving special access to people who contribute \$100,000 or \$150,000 or \$200,000 to the political party in a given year does not encourage high expectations.

Clinton keeps talking only about the growth of cynicism in the political process in this country but the campaign

finance irregularities in his campaign certainly help contribute to it. And his defense that everybody else does it so he has to do it, too, is disingenuous when he can't run for president again.

It's not a great beginning for the second term.

That, of course, brings to mind the memorable passage from his inaugural address: "Surely they (voters) did not do this (elect a Democratic president and a Republican-controlled Congress) to advance the politics of petty bickering and extreme partisanship they plainly deplore. No, they call all of us instead to be repairers of the breach and to move on with America's mission. America demands and deserves big things from us, and nothing big ever came from being small."

One wonders why on earth

alarm bells didn't go off when his aides (and he himself) came to talk about nothing big coming from something small.

Perhaps they were thinking about campaign contributions and government. No big policy changes come from small contributions.

At any rate, the Senate's only movie star and ex-Watergate counsel, Sen. Fred Thompson, R-Tenn., says he'll be fair and bipartisan as he heads the committee probing the campaign finance scandals of the last election. He says he'll need \$6.5 million of the taxpayers' money to do this. Also, 25 FBI agents have been assigned to the money trail. (This all should be paid for by assessing half to the Republican Party and half to the Democratic Party.)

Clinton, who has promised Gore that he will work tirelessly to make sure he's the next

president, is not happy that Thompson, who will be subpoenaing all kinds of administration documents, is himself likely to be running for president. (Running the country for real, not just in the movies, would look good on Thompson's resume.)

All this, as the O.J. Simpson trials disappear in the midst, will make for lots of newspaper stories - the titanic struggle between the Hill and the White House, the clash between good

(campaign finance reform) and bad (the status quo) and that burning question: Can the Clinton-Gore marriage be saved? Oh, yes, and is there a smoking gun? Without smoking guns there would be no political scandals.

Fasten your seat belts. It's going to be a bumpy second term.

(Ann McFeaters covers the White House and politics for Scripps Howard News Service.)

Mallard Fillmore
by BRUCE TINSLEY

MALLARD'S MAILING:
Mallard Fillmore
4500 Taylor
Vice, Fairfax
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New York, N.Y. 10017

Dear Mr. Clinton, Clinton, please, when are you going to start showing some respect for the office of the Presidency?
Sincerely, Tinsley

Dear Inspector,
Just as soon as the President does.
Sincerely, Mallard

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FBI whistle-blower alleges government made threats in Oklahoma bomb case

WASHINGTON (AP) — The FBI agent who claims the bureau's lab mishandled evidence from the Oklahoma City bombing was threatened with government discipline for answers he gave the defense in the case, his lawyer alleges in a complaint to the Justice Department.

The two government lawyers named in the complaining letter denied in interviews Thursday that they were trying to intimidate the lab whistle-blower, scientist-agent Frederic Whitehurst.

The allegations by Whitehurst, once the FBI's top explosives residue expert, that the lab mishandled evidence touched off an internal investigation of the world-renowned facility that could affect a dozen or more criminal cases.

Whitehurst may be called as a witness by defense attorney Stephen Jones to challenge government evidence against Timothy McVeigh in the April 1995 bombing.

The complaint by Whitehurst's attorney, Stephen Kohn, is being reviewed in Deputy Attorney General Jamie Gorelick's office, a Justice official said Thursday.

The Associated Press obtained a copy of the document, which was delivered to Attorney General Janet Reno on Monday.

Earlier Thursday, Gorelick told a news conference the Justice Department inspector general who investigated Whitehurst's complaints found "a serious set of problems" in "a limited number of units within the lab and a limited number of ... cases."

For more than a year during the investigation, the government has redone flawed evidence tests, alerted defense attorneys to past errors and taken other steps to insure fair trials, but Gorelick said it was too soon to tell if the problems will harm any prosecutions.

Although the FBI had asserted the problems will not compromise "any past, present or future prosecutions," Gorelick said, "Until the courts have a chance to examine each and every allegation as it applies to each and every case, we won't be able to make blanket statements."

Among a dozen or so cases that might be affected are the upcoming Oklahoma City bombing trials, a bank robbery trial under way in Ohio and the first convictions for the World Trade Center bombing.

One FBI lab supervisory agent, Dave Williams, who oversaw collection of explosive evidence at Oklahoma City, has been withdrawn as an expert witness in McVeigh's trial. Other evidence had to be reworked for the Ohio trial, they have said.

Kohn alleged that Joseph Hartzler, chief prosecutor in the Oklahoma City case, and James Maddock, deputy FBI general counsel, threatened Whitehurst during a three-day deposition by defense attorneys in December.

Kohn wrote that Hartzler pulled Kohn aside to say he "should be concerned about potential administrative action that could be taken against FW (Whitehurst) due to some of his testimony which was exaggerated or wrong."

Religious persecution is worldwide problem

WASHINGTON (AP) — Religious persecution has become a leading human rights concern worldwide, the State Department reported in a country-by-country assessment of people's living conditions.

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright pledged Thursday to combat such prejudice. "These are plagues that, from ancient times, have fomented war and deep-seated resentment," she said.

"Whatever your culture, whatever your creed, the right to worship is basic," Albright said in releasing an annual human rights report on dozens of nations. "Broadening the recognition of that right and placing the spotlight on its denial will be a priority of our human rights policy."

Albright, who last week replaced Warren Christopher, said she plans to address the issue at the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Religious Freedom during its initial meeting, possibly by the end of February.

Last year in China, the report said, repression increased of all religious groups, including Christians, Muslims and Buddhists.

In China, the state-sponsored church is the Chinese Patriotic Association, which the communist government considers to be a Catholic church. China, however, has no ties with the Vatican and forbids all allegiance to the papacy. China does officially recognize some religions, but they must report to a government agency whose mission is to promote atheism.

Elsewhere in the world, the report said, "Christians are subject to difficulties ranging from interference to outright persecution in many countries, including Iraq, Pakistan, and the Sudan. In Cuba, persecution continues, despite the easing of

some of the harsher measures. "The government of Iran continued its repressive practices against members of the Baha'i faith," the report added. "In Vietnam, both Buddhists and Christians suffer from government restrictions."

In Saudi Arabia, non-Muslims are prohibited from public worship. Elsewhere in the Middle East, anti-Semitic materials regularly appear in government-controlled media, the State Department said.

John Shattuck, assistant secretary of state for human rights, said Saudi policies are impinging on the ability not only of the local citizens but also of U.S. military personnel to practice Christian religions.

"I think the human rights reports indicate the difficulties of — in fact, almost impossibilities of — the exercise of freedom of religion," said Shattuck, who noted U.S. officials have complained to the Saudi government.

In Germany, religious persecution has become a problem, too, with businesses whose owners or executives are Scientologists facing possible government-approved discrimination and boycotts, the State Department said.

The German government contends the church is a money-making organization with some traits of organized crime, and as such represents a threat to democracy. In newspaper advertisements and other media,

Scientologists have denounced government moves to keep them from public jobs as reminiscent of the persecution of Jews in Germany's Nazi era.

The State Department report does not address why persecution has increased, but notes religious groups "are playing increasingly significant roles" in resolving conflicts and pressing for human and civil rights.

Overall, the report found deplorable human rights conditions in China.

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Economy grew 2.5 percent in 1996, jumps 4.7 percent in fourth quarter

WASHINGTON (AP) — The economy accelerated 2.5 percent last year, fueled by a sizzling 4.7 percent growth rate in the final three months from demand by American consumers and foreign customers for U.S. goods.

The increase in the gross domestic product topped the 2 percent advance in 1995, which had been the slowest since a 1 percent drop in 1991, when the last recession ended. The GDP figures were announced today by the Commerce Department.

A surprisingly strong 4.7 percent annual rate of growth in the October-December quarter helped drive last year's expansion, and matched the 4.7 percent pace from April through June. The previous high was a 4.9 percent rate in the second quarter of 1994.

Analysts had expected a fourth-quarter rate of just 3.8 percent.

The fourth-quarter surge was paced by large increases in consumer spending and exports. Consumer spending accounts for about two-thirds of the nation's economic activity.

The GDP is the total output of goods and services within the United States. It had grown at a 2.1 percent rate in the third quarter, little more than the 2 percent pace in the first three months of the year.

Many analysts predict the economy will brake itself early this year. The sharp growth at year's end raised concerns over whether Federal Reserve policy makers will feel compelled to raise interest rates in an anti-inflation move when they meet next week.

A measure of inflation in the GDP report showed prices paid by U.S. residents rose 2.1 percent last year, including a 2.5 percent annual rate during the final three months, up from 1.9 percent from July through September.

Economic growth of 2 percent to 2.5 percent is considered ideal, since it is believed to permit the economy to safely absorb new entrants into the labor market. Economists say faster growth could trigger price and wage pressures.

Fed Chairman Alan

Greenspan told Congress last week the central bank is concerned that an economy growing too fast could produce tighter job markets that in turn could trigger demands for higher wages.

So far, he said, job insecurity has eased wage pressures. But he warned, "At some point in the future, the tradeoff of subdued wage growth for job security has to come to an end."

The 4.7 percent fourth-quarter GDP growth reflected an annualized 3.4 percent surge in consumer spending, matching the second-quarter pace. Spending had inched up at an anemic 0.5 percent rate during the third quarter, the weakest performance in nearly five years.

Exports shot up at a 25.5 percent rate after falling 0.9 percent in the third quarter. At the same time, import growth slowed to a 4.7 percent rate from its 9.3 percent July-September pace.

The trade performance added \$36.7 billion to the fourth-quarter GDP after subtracting \$22.7 billion during the third quarter.

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IN THE BIG SPRING MALL. Sale prices effective thru Sunday, Feb. 2nd

The first woman to become a president of a nation in the Western Hemisphere was Isabel Peron of Argentina in 1974.

Ice tea is the most popular form of the beverage in the United States.

Do you have a good story idea for the life? section? Call 283-7331, Ext. 336.

No need to fear, volunteer income tax assistance is here

By CHRYS GOFF
Staff Writer

Are you worried about how you are going to do your income tax return this year? If you're a senior citizen, low income, non-English speaking, or handicapped Howard County resident, don't be.

Volunteers with the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program will assist you in the preparation of your 1996 income tax returns. Each volunteer is a trained professional and has taken a course the IRS instructs and they are up to date on all the new laws.

The VITA program was started by the Internal Revenue Service more than 20 years ago in order to assist the public who can't afford a professional. Dorothy Kennemur, a volunteer that has been involved in this program from the beginning (more than 15 years) said, "I thoroughly enjoy the whole thing, and so many people don't know anything about the IRS so it feels good to help someone."

She just loves the look on people's faces when they say, "do you really like doing this?" and then she chuckled and said, "It

is very gratifying." Kennemur also added that although there is only going to be four volunteers this year, including herself, Leo Drakeley, Jean Tidwell and O'Dell Cox, they are prepared for anyone that attends.

Ithoroughly enjoy the whole thing, and so many people don't know anything about the IRS so it feels good to help someone.

The free service is available every Monday, at the First Presbyterian Church on Eighth and Rummels, from 9 a.m. until noon, ending April 14.

The only thing they require you to bring is your tax package the IRS mails you and a copy of your 1996 income tax return.

More than 300 people receive this complementary service each year with such exemptions as earned income credit, child care credit and elderly credit. Senior citizens who sell their home are allowed a one-time only exemption of up to \$125,000 on their income tax.

What about the other majority of the public that does not fall into this category? Well, if you are single with no dependents, you can file your return over the telephone. The IRS should be sending out worksheets and information to those who filed their returns as singles in 1996.

If you are entitled to this service, you should file your claims under the 1040EZ form only, and have just wages reported on their W-2 forms.

You shouldn't have more than five W-2s to use this service or received any unemployment compensation in 1996.

The package includes a worksheet for you to fill out and a touch-tone telephone will be needed. The voice-activated service requires you to give your name, address, social security number and filing status.

Those entitled to a refund should receive it within 21 days from when the call was made.

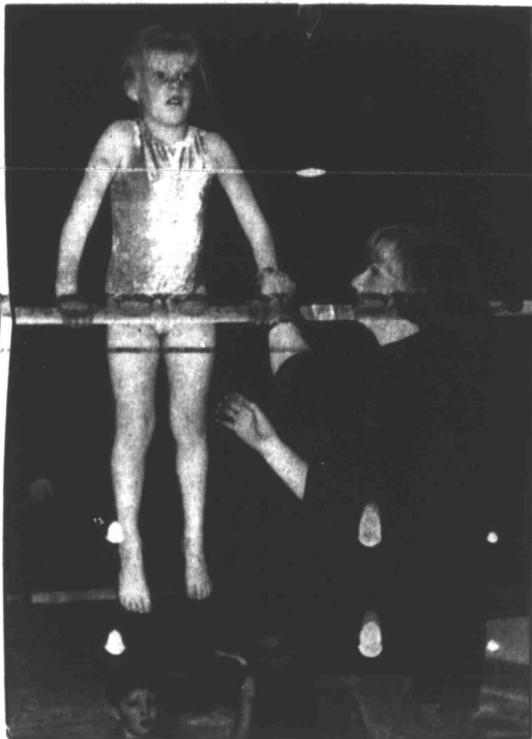
If you use this service you will not be required to mail your return, although it is very important to keep your worksheet, W-2 forms and the confirmation number the IRS will

give you for your records. If you would like to make an appointment for the free service, call the First Presbyterian Church at 283-4211, or Kennemur at 288-6522.



Volunteers will assist residents with their income tax returns as seen in this file photo. The free service is available Mondays at the First Presbyterian Church from 9 a.m. to noon beginning Feb. 3 and ending April 14, the day before the tax deadline.

YOUNG GYMNAST



Kelly Sage (left) receives some assistance from Vicki Stewart during gymnastics practice at the YMCA.

Low hormone levels may encourage weight gain

NEW YORK (AP) — Bolstering hopes of one day developing a new obesity drug, scientists have uncovered the first direct evidence that people with low levels of the hormone leptin may be prone to weight gain.

A study reported in the February issue of the journal Nature Medicine found that people who gained an average of 50 pounds over three years

had started out with lower leptin levels than did people who didn't put on any weight.

While the study doesn't prove low leptin levels lead to weight gain, it strongly suggests that, said one of the researchers, Eric Ravussin, a visiting scientist at the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases.

Please see HORMONE, page A7

No sympathy here for working white males

Scripps Howard News Service

Q: I'm sick of hearing white men bellyache about the loss of their 100 percent affirmative action as did your reader, "Peter from Philadelphia." Obviously, it's much easier on the white male ego to say that "the company was forced to promote a minority or woman" than to acknowledge he didn't cut the mustard. Women work twice as hard to get half as far as white males and that's why white male mediocrity isn't rewarded any more!

Prior to 1964, white men had only to compete against themselves; now, however, they must compete against women and minorities. Despite this increased competition, statistics prove that white males still earn more and are promoted to higher positions than their female counterparts. Author

John Fernandez, who wrote "The Diversity Advantage," says corporations are not honest with employees about real opportunities for advancement and rather than tell white men they lack the potential for promotion, they allow them to believe they are discriminated against in favor of minorities. In 1997 one simply cannot be a white male and expect automatic promotions. That's what diversity training classes should teach! — Janet M. Collins, Fort Wayne, Ind.

A: Bravo! I agree with much of what you say. But I have a feeling your comments will cause a blizzard of letters from white males complaining of specific instances in which they or someone they know was passed over by a less-skilled woman or minority.

Q: I think my mom's new schedule at the local dry clean-

er's store has sent her over the edge. Management assigned her last week to the late after-

WORK

noon/early-evening shift, which means she's not at home when I return from school. I knew she was uneasy that I'm home alone, but I didn't realize how worried she was until I discovered that she was secretly taping every call I made when I came in after my last class. I was furious and asked her how come she was invading my privacy in this way. She didn't even look apologetic and said, "I had caught you in several lies, so I wanted to make sure that you weren't going with the wrong friends and being exposed to drugs." What a bummer! What can I do? — Spied Upon in Princeton, N.J.

A: You're a minor, living under Mom's roof. Right? So you'd better discuss the issue with your mother, ask what you have done to deserve her distrust (I have a hunch that you know) and negotiate an agreement that is satisfactory to both of you. If she objects to certain of your friends, promise to call them when she's home, providing she disconnects the tape recorder. I think a different type of communication is needed between the two of you. Remember, she probably feels guilty working those late hours, forcing you to be a latch-key kid.

Q: I'm a pizza delivery man who usually loves his job. What I hate is the way I'm treated by some customers. Let me list for you just a few of the dozens of things they do that make me

Please see WORK, page A7

CLUB NEWS

The Mighty Oaks Senior Citizens Club

The Mighty Oaks Senior Citizens Club of East Fourth Street Church met Tuesday, Jan. 21, for the monthly meeting and covered dish luncheon in the fellowship hall.

Welcome of guests were given to Jim and Janie Pope and Emily Pike.

A brief history of the Mighty Oaks Club was given via Gertrude McCann. Jim Pope entertained with special singing and the music was composed by him.

Jim Pope is pastor of the New Beginnings Church here in Big Spring, plus he is talented in playing the guitar, singing and composing music. Jim hopes to record the composed music in the future.

There was a brief business

and a nominating committee was appointed to obtain new club officers for 1997.

The nominating committee appointed were Lenora Willingham, Jay Fortenberry and Collis Bennett. The new officers will be voted on at the next meeting on Feb. 18.

The club members sick, homebound, out for surgery or lost loved ones were remembered with get well or sympathy cards.

The club members celebrating birthdays for December and January were recognized.

Mary Jane Club

Members of Coahoma's Mary Jane Club observed their annual Night on the Town last Thursday. The group of 14 members and guests Donna Merrick, Shelly Phinney, and Willie Spears traveled to Midland where they had dinner at La Bodega. Following the meal, they went to the historic Yucca Theatre in downtown Midland for Midland Community Theatre's production of *Forever Plaid*, a musical

comedy featuring songs from the 1950's and the early '60's. The production was fast-paced and highly entertaining and was enjoyed by all in attendance. The group gave special thanks to J. nie Phinney for planning the evening's outing.

The next meeting will be on Feb. 13 at the Potton House with Jo Evans and Pat Nash as cohostesses.

City F.C.E. Club

Jowill Etchison, president of the City Family and Community Education Club, conducted the Friday, Jan. 24 meeting at 2 p.m. in the home of Frances Mason.

Members named gifts they most remembered and the answers reflects memories of depression days and wartime meets. Two members remembered requests for wash tubs. Other answers included items such as: toothbrush holder, fingernail file, a China plate imprinted with a calendar, and one gift, a watch necklace was a highly prized possession.

Irene Friebe, Frances Zant,

and Jowill Etchison were elected as delegates from the club to council for the Midland F.A. CE District meeting on April 11.

Jowill Etchison gave a program entitled Little Known Facts and Figures.

Jami Burns will be hostess Feb. 14 at 2 p.m.

This organization is open to all members of our community.

United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women of North Birdwell Lane United Methodist Church celebrated United Methodist Women's Sunday Jan. 26.

Those participating in the worship service were Sue Born, reading of the Scripture; Betty Teague, offertory and receiving prayers; Jacque Mauch, call to worship and special music; Madeline Boadle, joys, concerns and pastoral prayer.

Rev. Wanda Hill, pastor of Birdwell United Methodist Church and Coahoma United

Please see CLUB, page A7

SLICE OF

TIPS 'N' TRIVIA

Eliminate the fizzle, step up the sizzle:

(NAPS) - Some tips for rekindling the romance.

DO

- Get in the mood - Think back to beginning of relationship and the things that made it special then focus on ways to recreate them.
- Say those magic words - If you haven't said or heard "I love you" enough lately, here's your chance to work magic with those three simple words.
- Use the "do not disturb sign" - You may not be able to get away for a weekend, but you can still lovingly communicate, rather than vegetate! Turn your attention to each other and hide the remote control.
- Leave your worries behind and go away to a hotel if possible.

DON'T

- Bring your job home with you - Time is a precious commodity, don't consume your romantic get-away with workweek activities. Steer clear of the computer and fax machine. Let the answering machine handle your calls!
- Hop out of bed too soon - If you can't remember the last time you had breakfast in bed, it's time to wake up and smell the coffee. Staying cozy under the covers in the morning sets the tone for a romance-filled weekend.



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Tech Prep conference

The Permian Basin Tech Prep/School-to-Work Partnership will host a regional conference Monday and Tuesday at the Radisson Hotel in Odessa, 6200 E. University Drive.

The conference will address issues concerning the transition of students from the classroom to the workplace.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Monday. The conference will include breakout sessions, lunch and a tour of Ector County ISD Career Center on Monday, and will continue Tuesday with breakout sessions, culminating with a nationally well-known educational keynote speaker. Please call 686-6492 for more information.

THE LAST WORD

The two greatest tyrants on earth: chance and time. Herder

A social system that cannot be changed cannot be maintained. Holbrook Jackson

The best way to cheer yourself up is to try to cheer somebody else up. Mark Twain

There is no excellent beauty that has not some strangeness in the proportion. Frances Bacon

PHYSICIAN OF THE MONTH



Dr. Robbie Cooksey, left, is being given a certificate for a dinner for two by Carol Peterson, director of the Health Management Department at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Dr. Cooksey was recognized as the Physician of the Month for December for the completion of his medical records, which facilitate the efficient processing of patient care.

Tarantula fancier's hobby makes his friends' skin crawl

By The ASSOCIATED PRESS

EVERMAN (AP) — "Did you hear that?" Martin Zeider asked. "She hissed. She didn't like that."

Zeider, a bachelor who shares his bedroom with nine tarantulas, was trying to coax a Peruvian pink-toe spider out of an aquarium. Nine covered glass containers sit at the sides of his bed, each containing a tarantula.

"The danger adds to their appeal," Zeider conceded. "You're living on the edge. But I sleep soundly. I've never had one get loose on me."

Co-workers, Zeider said, jokingly call him spooky because he collects horror films, nearly 1,000 at last count, and tarantulas, which have a poisonous bite but are relatively harmless to people.

The 39-year-old firefighter at Scenic Mountain Medical Center in Big Spring, Texas, who happens to like exotic pets.

"The hobby does have its downside.

"My love life has suffered immensely," he said. "Not many women want to get near them."

Hormone

Continued from page A8

The finding supports the tantalizing idea that giving leptin might help some fat people slim down. Ravussin said some 10 percent of overweight people might be leptin-deficient.

Leptin made headlines in 1995 when scientists reported that it could melt weight off mice. It is made by fat cells and appears to tell the brain how much fat an animal is carrying.

The mouse brain is thought to have a leptin thermostat. If it senses a lot of fat, it tells the animal to eat less and be more active. If there's too little leptin, it signals the mouse to put on weight.

People have leptin in their blood too, but it's not clear whether it affects their weight. Studies of injecting leptin into people have already begun.

Scientists launched the new study after noticing that some people have less leptin than would be expected from their degree of fatness.

Ravussin and colleagues turned to records from a long-running study of Pima Indians, who are prone to obesity. The

researchers identified 19 men and women who had gained at least about seven pounds a year and 17 whose weight had been stable.

Then the researchers retrieved frozen samples of blood the Indians had given about three years before, and measured the levels of leptin they had at that time. On average, the weight-gainers started out with about one-third less leptin than the others.

The results are intriguing, said John P. Foreyt of the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, who has also studied leptin in people. But with so few participants, the study will have to be done again with larger numbers, and with people other than Pima Indians, he said.

If further studies show similar findings, doctors may one day be able to identify children with low leptin levels and give them the hormone to help them keep from getting fat, he said.

Foreyt said leptin isn't the only influence over a person's weight, nor would low levels necessarily mean a person will get fat. "All of us are in control of our behavior," he said.

The tarantulas will give a warning, both in body move-

ment and sound, before attacking, he said.

The trick, said Robert Breene III, editor of the American Tarantula Society's Forum magazine, is recognizing the signs.

"It's something you can't teach," he said in a call from New Mexico. "I haven't been able to describe it successfully in writing."

But tarantula ownership is up, Breene said. Some 100,000 are imported every year despite a ban on two species in Florida, he said, adding that no one has estimated domestic breeding.

Zeider said a problem with collecting tarantulas is that, like the famous potato-chip commercial, you can't stop with just one.

"There's too many attractive ones," he said. "You get addicted. There's always another one in the market you want."

Books for kids: Learning for fun

Scripts Howard News Service

Here are some great new books to help kids learn as they play:

BABIES AND TODDLERS: Recent research indicates that infants enjoy seeing simple black and white images. To take advantage of this finding, try two new books by author/artist Robert Zimmerman, known professionally as "Zimm." Titled "Ba Ba Ha Ha" and "Oooh Oooh Moo" (HarperFestival, \$4.95 each), the books feature a very basic "text" consisting mainly of a bunch of funny sounds. The images aren't much more detailed. But parents eager to play with their infants will find inspiration in these books, which may even spark a smile in the youngest readers. (Ages birth-1 year)

FRESCHOOLERS:

Author/artist Sian Tucker has combined bright illustrations with a lift-the-flap format to create a sparkling new counting book, "1,2,3 Count With Me" (Little Simon, \$12.95). Preschoolers can learn to count to 20 as they turn the pages and lift the strategically placed flaps. Tucker's illustrations are colorful and childlike, and his rhyming text helps kids remember how to count. (Ages 3-5)

Dorling Kindersley publishers have taken a question many parents dread and created a book to answer it with photos and easy-to-digest text. In "Where Do Babies Come From?" (\$9.95), author Angela Royston provides a number of answers, exploring the creation of plants and animals as well as people. In particular, Royston's text gives a straightforward explanation of how human babies are created without going into all the details. Young children will be especially interested in the photos of baby animals, human babies, and human parents. (Ages 3-6)

Work

Continued from page A8
consider sticking my head in a pizza oven. They give garbled directions to their house when the order is phoned in, then grumble when you're lost and arrive 10 minutes late. Or, as soon as they've called in the order, they jump in the shower, leaving no one to answer the door. You're heading back to the car when a wet head leans out an upstairs window and yells, "Where ya going?" Or, worst of all, mom and pop send their seven-year-old to the door without so much as a nickel tip on the little guy. And, yes, pizza delivery drivers do expect

tips. Even more important, put on that porch light, so we don't break a leg delivering your pizza. — Mr. Pepperoni, Kansas City, Mo.

A: Thanks for the hot advice. It's something all pizza lovers need!

Dr. Paula Bern, author of "How to Work for a Woman Boss", has taught executive seminars at Carnegie-Mellon University's Graduate School of Urban and Public Affairs. Questions may be mailed to Dr. Bern in care of Scripps Howard News Service at 1090 Vermont Ave., NW, Suite 1000; Washington DC 20005.

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(Northwest of the hospital)
Big Spring, TX 79720
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Scenic Mountain Medical Center

is pleased to announce

Mara DeLaVega, M.D.

has joined our medical staff



Dr. DeLaVega is Board Certified in Family Practice and is practicing full-time in Big Spring.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9-5	9-5	*1-7	9-5	9-5	*9-12

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HOWARD COUNTY DEVOTIONAL PAGE

CHURCH NEWS

Church news is due by Wednesday at noon for Friday publication.

First United Methodist Church

"Jesus: A Man Without Honor in His Own Country" (Luke 4: 16-30) will be Dr. Ed Williamson's message Sunday, Feb. 2, at the First United Methodist Church. The message will be about how Jesus dealt with rejection and loneliness. Join us in church at 8:30 and 10:50 a.m. We are on the internet now with a "home page" at <http://www.xroadstx.com/users/fumc/index.htm>, and we think you will like it.

Coming soon: on March 23, at 7 p.m., we will present "The Last Supper: A Living Picture," a drama about Jesus and his Disciples. We serve a Holy and Awesome God who calls us to become outstanding persons serving the world for Christ. Now is a great time to get started in a class of friendly learning Christians—people just like you!

The First United Methodist Church has several friendly Sunday School classes for adults, youth, and children. If you or your family members or a friend would profit from wholesome friendship and learning the good life God offers to us, come and be with one of our classes next Sunday. We're not "clannish." Just show up and we'll gladly assist you in finding a friendly group for you or your family members. The First United Methodist Church is located at 400 Scurry and all visitors and new residents of Big Spring are welcome.

The United Methodist Men will have their monthly meeting Feb. 8 at 8 a.m. in the Garrett Hall. Joe Pickle, local historian and author, is the guest speaker. Everyone is welcome to come, eat breakfast and enjoy good company.

Iglesia Bautista La Fe

The young adults of Iglesia Bautista La Fe is having a garage sale in the fellowship hall of the church, 408 State Street, to help raise money for a trip to Congress in Corpus Christi in March. The hours are from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday.

First Assembly of God

Pastor Stephen and the congregation of the First Assembly of God would like to invite you to attend a series of special service at the church, Fourth and Lancaster, on Sunday, Feb. 2 through Wednesday, Feb. 5, 7 p.m.



GEMME FAMILY

Their special guests will be the Gemme Family from Longmont, Colo. The Gemme Family travels full-time throughout the United States ministering in word and music.

In the musical portion of the service, you will hear the Gemmes sing together as Ray plays the guitar, his wife Carmel plays keyboards, daughter Stephany, 14, plays the bass, son R.J., 12, plays drums, and daughter Jacqueline, nine, plays rhythm instruments.

The children are also involved in a puppet ministry which you will see during each service. In the preaching portion of the service, Ray will share a timely message from the Bible which will challenge and encourage you. The Gemme Family has spent more than 19 years in ministry both evangelizing and pastoring churches in California and Colorado. Ray has a Masters degree in Theology from Pacific Coast Bible College in Sacramento, Calif.

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Facts About The BIBLE

BY JOHN LEHTI

BENEVOLENCE TO THE STRANGER

THERE WERE CERTAIN CUSTOMS REGARDING STRANGERS AMONG THE HEBREWS THAT WERE CONSIDERED UNWRITTEN LAWS IN REGARD TO THEIR SAFETY AND WELL BEING. A MAN IN A STRANGE TOWN, NEEDING LODGING FOR THE NIGHT, WOULD BY CUSTOM, SEAT HIMSELF ON THE GROUND OF THE MARKETPLACE OR THE MAIN THROUGHFARE AND WAIT FOR ONE OF THE NATIVES TO ISSUE AN INVITATION TO STAY THE NIGHT. THIS WAS INVARIABLY DONE SO THAT THE STRANGER WOULD NOT BECOME PREY FOR THIEVES. AN ILLUSTRATION OF THIS IS TO BE FOUND IN GEN. 24, WHERE ABRAHAM'S STEWARD IS SENT TO FIND A BRIDE FOR ABRAHAM'S SON, ISAAC, AND IS GREETED BY LABAN WHO EXCLAIMS, "COME IN THOU BLESSED OF THE LORD, WHEREFOR STANDEST THOU WITHOUT? FOR I HAVE PREPARED THE HOUSE, AND ROOM FOR THE CAMELS."

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JEHOVAH WITNESS

- KINGDOM HALL JEHOVAH
WITNESS
509 Dorley

LUTHERAN

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METHODIST
911 North Lancaster
- COAHOMA UNITED METHODIST
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Prime Time does overtime: Sanders returns to Reds, baseball

CINCINNATI (AP) — Deion Sanders admitted he didn't miss baseball. He also mentioned how much he wanted to help the Dallas Cowboys get to the Super Bowl again.

So why was he in the Cincinnati Reds' offices Thursday, announcing that he was going to resume dividing his time between two overlapping sports?

"In my life, this is a chapter I'm not willing to close at this time," Sanders said after agreeing to an unusual one-year contract with the Reds. "That's why I've reopened it."

"I'm looking for a World Series. I'm looking for that great year without injury that I'm sure I can have, that my ability calls for."

Sanders is looking to pick up the split identity that he left

behind a year ago, when he gave up his cherished two-sport persona to become a two-way starter for the Cowboys.

Sanders took a year off from baseball so he could go to Dallas' training camp and learn how to be a receiver as well as one of the NFL's best cornerbacks.

He didn't exactly love football training camp: "I like the (baseball) camp where you can go fishing every day." And it's clear he missed being around his friends on the Reds, guys like Lenny Harris and Barry Larkin, who called regularly and urged him to return.

"I didn't really miss the game," Sanders said. "I missed the camaraderie, being there on an every-day basis with friends. I missed a lot about the game, but I didn't miss the game

itself."

So on Thursday, even though his vision is still blurry from a football injury and his swing is rusty from a year of neglect, Sanders came back to baseball.

The unique contract will reunite him with his friends and give him another chance to prove he's more than just an average baseball player with above-average speed. It also could put him in the predicament of having to pick one team over the other as the summer winds down.

Sanders went back to baseball with the approval of Cowboys owner Jerry Jones. Although Jones accepts the cornerback's absence from training camp, he expects him back once the regular season begins.

"Deion has made his intentions clear to us that he plans

on being with our team for all 16 games next season," Jones said. "Deion and the Reds also have a clear understanding of when his baseball season can come to an end, based upon Cincinnati's position in the standings in September."

It's not that clear. Reds general manager Jim Bowden said Sanders contractually will be free to leave when the Reds are eliminated from the pennant race. He might be allowed to go before that.

"We're going to let him play football if we're out of it," Bowden said. "We'll do this in the spirit that's right."

If Cincinnati is in contention, Bowden expects Sanders to hit leadoff and play center field. The gray area is what will happen if the team is somewhere

in the middle, as it was most of last season.

In that case, Sanders said he will make the final decision. He left open the possibility of leaving the Reds to play for Dallas over a weekend, then returning — the same sort of arrangement he had with the Atlanta Braves and Falcons in the early 1990s.

"I will accommodate both teams without hurting either one," Sanders said.

The back-to-baseball decision probably means his role in the Cowboys' offense will be scaled back — there will be no training camp to practice running routes and get in sync with Troy Aikman.

Even if Jones wanted Sanders in training camp, there was no way to force the issue financially. Sanders' contract with the

Cowboys says he gets paid his full salary if he plays in eight regular-season games, according to a source who spoke on condition he not be identified.

"This does not come as a surprise at all," Jones said. "Deion kept us up to date on his desire to play baseball throughout his negotiation process. We are understanding of his wishes to accept challenges as a professional athlete, and we were always aware of his desire to be a two-sport athlete."

For now, Sanders' challenge is to get over the head injury that required surgery after the playoffs and will leave him with blurred vision for another month or so. Then, he'll have to pick up where he left off a year and a half ago — trying to become a good leadoff hitter.

Costner, Woods big hit at Pebble Beach

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. (AP) — The Pebble Beach Pro-Am never had a celebrity pairing like this. Tiger Woods and Kevin Costner made the 8:40 tee time on Thursday feel like the last group on the last day of the U.S. Open.

Playing before a wildly enthusiastic crowd jammed a dozen deep around every tee and green and serenaded by the constant whir of cameras, the young star of the tour and the leading man of "Tin Cup" combined to shoot an 8-under-par 64 — four back in the team competition.

In the pro tournament, Woods shot a 70 at Spyglass Hills and trailed Jesper Parnevik and David Duval by five strokes. Parnevik shot a 70 and Par on at Poppy Hills, probably the easiest of the three courses with its five par-5 holes.

British Open champion Tom Lehman and Brian Henninger were a stroke back after they both shot a 66 at Poppy Hills, along with Billy Andrade, who shot a 66 at Spyglass. Masters winner Nick Faldo had a 67 at Spyglass, as did Phil Mickelson, and was in a knot of players with that score.

But this day at the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am belonged to Woods and Costner.

"I was down on Poppy and I could hear the crowd at Spyglass," Lehman said. "And that's like, what, five miles

away? It was like, oh, Costner made another 3-foot putt."

From the moment the announcer on the first tee said: "From Hollywood, California, please welcome Kevin Costner" until the final putt was holed more than six hours later, the entire day had the feeling of a movie.

"Be really careful, I'm serious," Costner warned the gallery crowding in on his right as he prepared to hit his second shot on No. 4. "I think I can get it there but it may slide on me."

Few shots went astray for Costner on the front nine. The 16th hole, a par 3, was a one-point made four pars in a row, netting three birdies for his team.

Costner was relaxed, joking with the galleries, kissing a baby coming off one green, tossing golf balls to the crowd and stopping to pose for a picture.

Good golf will relax you like that.

"I'm hitting it better than I was three days ago," Costner said as he walked to the fourth green. "You pick up a lot playing with these guys."

Costner crushed his drive on

Please see WOODS, page 2B

TWO'S A CROWD



Big Spring's Chad Warren (32) fires a shot under heavy pressure from a Port Stockton defender earlier this season. The Steers take on Pecos at 7:30 p.m. tonight in Pecos.

Capers, Coughlin again molding teams on the fly

HONOLULU (AP) — Since the NFL all-stars have a very brief time together before they play the Pro Bowl, Dom Capers and Tom Coughlin appear to be ideally suited to coach the two teams.

After all, Capers needed just two years to turn the expansion Carolina Panthers into a Super Bowl contender, and Coughlin did the same with the Jacksonville Jaguars.

The opposing coaches have had a considerably shorter period to meld a winning team this week.

Both Capers' NFC all-stars and Coughlin's AFC squad worked out for the first time Tuesday, so the teams will have had a total of only five short — two hours or less — practices by Richard (Time Sunday at Aloha Stadium).

"We're obviously limited with what we can do," Capers said. "The main thing we try to do is just get everybody on the same page, terminology-wise. The defense is different, of course, because the rules for the Pro Bowl restrict what you can do, don't allow blitzing for instance."

Both he and Coughlin were enjoying their first time as Pro Bowl coaches.

"It's great to be here representing the Jaguars, and to be here rubbing elbows with all these great players," Coughlin said.

Drawing the duty of coaching the Pro Bowl squads is a trib-

ute to how far Capers and Coughlin took their teams in such short spans. The coaches for the all-star game, both the head coaches and their staffs, annually are from the teams that lost in the conference championship games.

So both Capers' Panthers, who won the NFC West title, and Coughlin's Jaguars, a wildcard team in the playoffs, came within just one win of playing in the Super Bowl.

"We're very proud of what we accomplished," Capers said. "We firmly believe we can get to the Super Bowl with hard work and dedication."

Some critics around the league, including fired St. Louis Rams coach Rich Brooks, claimed that the two 1995 expansion franchises got an unfair advantage in the draft and in the fact that they started from scratch with the salary cap.

Capers, however, said that at least 30 players on the Panthers roster this season could have been signed by any other team in the league. "Guys who were waived by other teams, guys who were out on the streets," he said.

Said Coughlin: "We did draft high the last two years, but some of the players we have were available to every other

Please see COACHES, page 2B

Malone gets hot down the stretch, carries Utah to win over Atlanta

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

When time is running out and the game is on the line, Karl Malone gets selfish.

"I have some conscience, but not down the stretch," Malone admitted. "My teammates told me to shoot, and I took their advice."

Ten of Malone's 32 points came in the final 6:30 Thursday night, lifting the Utah Jazz over the Atlanta Hawks, 102-96.

Atlanta's Steve Smith was a match for Malone — the Hawks, however, couldn't match the Jazz.

Smith scored 14 of his career-high 41 points in the fourth quarter of Atlanta's second loss in 16 games. Thirteen of those points came in an 18-9 run that gave the Hawks their only lead of the second half — 91-90 with 6:38 to play.

Then came Malone time.

"We have a lot of plays we run down the stretch, and I don't mind taking them, I really don't," said Malone, who also grabbed 15 rebounds.

In other NBA games Thursday, it was Chicago over Sacramento 111-93, the Los Angeles Clippers over Vancouver 100-94, Denver over Houston 113-109, Minnesota over Dallas 92-82 and New Jersey over Phoenix 113-101.

After Atlanta went ahead, Malone scored Utah's next 10 points, giving the Jazz a 100-96 lead with 1:10 to play. Smith hit one free throw before John

scored 20 of his 28 points in the second half and grabbed 11 rebounds to lead the Clippers to their third win in four games. The loss was the seventh straight and 12th in 13 games for Vancouver, which is 0-4 since general manager Stu Jackson replaced the fired Brian Winters as head coach last week.

"It seemed like we were just fortunate that the clock ran out when it did," Vaughn said after the Clippers saw a 21-point third-period lead shrink to 98-94. "It was kind of a bittersweet win."

Bryant Reeves led Vancouver with 25 points and 12 rebounds. Nuggets 113, Rockets 109.

Ricky Pierce scored 25 points and visiting Denver spoiled Hakeem Olajuwon's second straight 40-plus point game. Olajuwon, who had 41 points Saturday against the Utah Jazz, got 46 points and 10 rebounds against the Nuggets.

While Pierce led Denver with 11-of-18 shooting, LaPhonso Ellis scored nine of his 23 points in the fourth quarter and Dale Ellis finished with 20 points, including back-to-back shots that put Denver ahead for good at 109-105 with 3:56 to play.

Timberwolves 92, Mavericks 82.

At Dallas, reserve Sam Mitchell scored 21 points and Terry Porter had five points during a decisive run to open

Please see NBA, page 2B

LOCAL BRIEFS

Hawks second in poll
The Howard College baseball team has been picked to finish second in the Western Junior College Athletic Conference this season, according to a pre-season conference poll.

Odeesa College is picked to win the conference, followed by Howard, New Mexico Junior College, El Paso Community College and Frank Phillips College.

The Hawks begin the 1997 at home Saturday against Ranger Junior College. Game time is 1 p.m.

Stallings second at meet
Stanton High School graduate Jeremy Stallings, now running for the University of Florida, finished second in the one-mile run at the University Center Hotel International Indoor Track and Field meet Saturday in Gainesville, Fla.

Stallings' time was 4 minutes, 14 seconds. His next meet will be the ACC-SEC Challenge meet Sunday at the University of Florida.

Sidewinders in action
The Big Spring YMCA Sidewinders gymnastics group recently competed in two meets.

The Sidewinders hosted the Carol Hillenburg Invitational Jan. 18. Amanda Wagner won first all around in Level 8 (age 8-9) competition, while Lara Newman won all-around honors in the Level 9 (age 10-11) division.

In Level 9 Juniors, Mikelle Farris won first all-around, and Jana Duncan was third all-

around in Level 9 Seniors. Stephanie Stewart won first all-around in Level 10 Seniors, while Brooke Lawrence finished second and Tami John third in the same division. Casey McKim won first all-around honors in the Level 10 Seniors division.

The Sidewinders attended the Richardson Snowman Classic Invitational Jan. 25, and Duncan placed second on beam, first on floor and second in all-around in Level 9 Seniors.

In Open division competition, Farris placed first on beam and Lawrence finished first on bars, floor and all-around in the 9-12 age category; Stewart placed second on bars and tied for first on floor exercise in the 13-14 age category; John finished seventh on vault in the same division.

In the 17 and up age group, McKim finished first on vault and third on bars.

The Sidewinders return to action Saturday at the Odeesa Permian Invitational at Permian Field House.

Golled splits with C-City
The Golled girls' basketball teams had split results in recent action against Colorado City.

In the "B" game, Golled took a 16-4 victory. Tracy Padilla had 7 points and 5 rebounds, Kimberly Jumper had 7 rebounds and Taylor Kennedy had 6 carsoms.

Colorado City came back in the "A" game to take a 24-15 victory. Latrisha Rollins and Paige King led Golled with 4 and 3 points, respectively. King also had 6 rebounds, while

Chelsea Churchwell had 7 rebounds.

Golled returns to action Monday at home against Sweetwater. Game time is 6 p.m.

Howard duo lead WJACC
Kyna Cosby and La'Tonya Kindle of the Howard College Lady Hawks currently are the top two scorers in the Western Junior College Athletic Conference, according to statistics released by the league.

Cosby leads the conference with a per-game average of 18.7 points, while Kindle is second with an average of 17.8 points a game.

The Lady Hawks average 88 points a game on offense, tops in the WJACC.

Both Howard teams are in action Monday when they host Frank Phillips College at Garrett Coliseum. Game times are 6 p.m. for the women and 8 p.m. for the men.

Hale column returns to Herald
Beginning Sunday, the Herald will run a weekly outdoors column by local outdoor enthusiast Boyce Hale.

Hale, who wrote an outdoors column for the Herald in the late 1980s, has been an avid fisherman and hunter for the past 60 years.

For the past 25 years, Hale has been a certified hunter safety instructor for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. He currently holds a rating of master instructor, and is area chief for seven West Texas counties, including Howard, and schedules hunter safety classes several times a year.

Raiders tab ex-Redskins' assistant Bugel for head coaching slot

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Joe Bugel remembers walking off the field with his defeated Washington Redskins following the 1994 Super Bowl and wondering what it felt like to be part of the winning Raiders team.

Now he's responsible for trying to get the Oakland Raiders back to the NFL championship game for the first time since then.

Bugel, who spent the past two seasons as the Raiders' assis-

tant head coach for offense, was elevated to the head coaching job Thursday.

"I suffered for 13 years waiting for this head coaching job," he said, thinking back to the Super Bowl in which the Los Angeles Raiders defeated Washington 38-9. "I wanted to be part of the silver and black."

Bugel was an assistant coach with Washington in 1981-89, during which time the Redskins won two Super Bowls. In 1990-93, he was 20-44 at

Phoenix in his only previous head coaching job.

"This, to me, is the ultimate thing in my professional life," said Bugel, who was considered for the Raiders' top job in 1995, but lost out to Mike White. "It means a great deal to me to be a Raider."

Minutes after finally getting the position, Bugel carried out perhaps the most essential task that accompanies the job — lavishing praise on team owner Al Davis.

"I love Al Davis. This love affair has been going on for 30 years," said Bugel, who referred to Davis as "the coach."

Even Davis, who coached the Raiders in 1963-65, seemed taken aback by the show of emotion from Bugel.

"I didn't say there's a love affair," Davis responded. "I hired Joe because he proved over the past two years total loyalty. It's no love affair, I'm just telling you what the facts

are." The other candidates who interviewed for the job were Raiders special teams coach Rusty Tillman and Philadelphia Eagles offensive coordinator Jon Gruden. Bugel said he hopes Tillman stays with the Raiders.

Davis said he initially was inclined to hire someone outside the organization, and interviewed Gruden with that in mind. But he said many players expressed their support

for Bugel.

"There was overwhelming support from our players, and I was shocked by it, relative to the hiring of Joe Bugel," Davis said. "There were visits to my office by players I hadn't seen in a year."

Bugel said he was grateful for the support, and promised he would treat his players accordingly.

"I'm not ashamed to tell our current players I love them and I respect them," Bugel said.

COACHES

Continued from page 1B

team in the league. I don't think anybody would have benefited if these two teams weren't competitive."

Both coaches have made some adjustments during Pro Bowl week, when players don't particularly want long practices cutting into their beach and golf time.

Capers, an extremely structured coach who plans every minute of every practice, tried to take a more "hang-loose" approach for the week, which is supposed to be a reward for the players.

"I had to realize that it's more relaxed this week than it would be for a game back in Charlotte," he said, smiling. "We want to get them ready, but we don't want to take up any more of their time than necessary."

NBA

Continued from page 1A

the fourth quarter as Minnesota extended its winning streak against the Mavericks to six games.

Chris Gatling returned from a one-game club suspension with a 29-point, 18-rebound game for the Mavericks, who have dropped eight of 10 games. Nets 113, Suns 101

Kendall Gill scored 32 points as New Jersey snapped a three-game losing streak and a five-game slide at home.

Khalid Reeves hit a team record-tying six 3-pointers in adding a season-high 25 points as the Nets placed all five starters in double figures just two nights after scoring only 62 points against Cleveland.

Kevin Johnson had 26 points and 12 assists and Wesley Person 20 points for Phoenix, which lost its fifth straight.

WOODS

Continued from page 1B

No. 9 and whooped "Go baby" as it split the fairway. "My best score is 81," he said. "I guess that's the wrong thought to have right now."

He was right. While not posting a final score — amateurs pick up on some holes — he sliced his first drive badly on No. 10 and made few pars on the back nine and would not have broken 80.

While Costner was playing well and enjoying the atmosphere, Woods was not at his best and at times was distracted by the constant movement in the gallery and the click of cameras. This is the only PGA Tour event where spectators are allowed to have cameras on the course during competition.

Several times he backed off shots and after both of his three-putt greens on the front nine Woods slammed his putter on the ground.

Steve Stricker, who shot a 72, and former "Today" host Bryant Gumbel played with Woods and Costner and constantly had to deal with fans and some of the more than three dozen professional photographers moving while they were hitting.

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Job opening for ASSOCIATE CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST responsible for providing psychological services such as behavior management, screening and assessment, and counseling individuals residing in rural communities. Requires a masters degree with four to six years of experience with individuals who have a coexisting mental health and mental retardation diagnoses, experience in developing a range of behavior therapy programs, familiarity with psychoactive medications. Will office in Sweetwater, Texas. Monthly salary \$2816 to \$3009 (DOE&Q). Apply: West Texas State Operated Community Services, 501 Birdwell Lane, Suite 28-A, Big Spring, TX 79720
Tobacco & Drug Free Workplace
(915) 263-9762 or 263-9731
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BAR MAID NEEDED: Honest & dependable. Must be 21 yrs. old or older. For more info, call 264-6602.

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TDMHMR- MENTAL RETARDATION AIDE
Provides training and supervision for people with mental retardation as they learn work and social skills. Certified Nurse Aide not required, but helpful. Will office in Big Spring, Texas.
West Texas State Operated Community Services
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MENTAL RETARDATION AIDE OR TRAINER. Provides training and supervision for people with mental retardation. Numerous positions available. Will office in Big Spring, Texas. Certified Nurse Aides urge to apply. Human Resource Services, West Texas State Operated Community Services, 501 Birdwell Lane, Suite 28-A, Big Spring, TX 79720. Tobacco & Drug Free Workplace. (915)263-9762 or 9731.

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Methodist Malone & Hogan Clinic has immediate opening in our maintenance department. Candidate must have a valid Texas drivers license with dependable transportation. This position requires experience in minor carpentry, painting, electrical, and plumbing repair. Experience with heating and air conditioning repair is helpful but not necessary. Salary is commensurate to experience and a full benefit package is available. Only qualified applicants need to apply to the Personnel Office of Methodist Malone & Hogan Clinic, 1501 W. 11th Place, Big Spring, Texas 79720 or fax resume to 915-264-7019.

REGIS needs 3 stylists. Commission, guaranteed salary, paid vacation. See Sandra Johnson, Big Spring Mall, 263-1111.

NEED Roustabout or Floor Hand: Big Spring Area: Experience preferred. Send Resume to PO BOX 644, Porsan TX, 79733

PART - TIME SECRETARY: Computer skills & Clerical work Experience. Apply at TRICO INDUSTRIES 3406 Bat PM 700, 267-7172.

REGIS needs 3 stylists. Commission, guaranteed salary, paid vacation. See Sandra Johnson, Big Spring Mall, 263-1111.

Manager Trainee wanted. Must be able to work nights & weekends. Some experience needed. Apply in person ONLY! Gill's Fried Chicken 1101 Gregg St.

NEED Roustabout or Floor Hand: Big Spring Area: Experience preferred. Send Resume to PO BOX 644, Porsan TX, 79733

PART - TIME SECRETARY: Computer skills & Clerical work Experience. Apply at TRICO INDUSTRIES 3406 Bat PM 700, 267-7172.

Major carrier has immediate openings at its Big Spring Terminal for experienced truck drivers. CX offers sign on bonus- \$200.00, monthly safety bonus-up to 9% of monthly reverse, group health insurance, retirement plan, paid vacation, paid company holidays, home meal rights. CX requirements: 20 yrs. old, 2 yrs. verifiable road experience, CDL-Class A License, good driving record, must pass DOT physical & drug screen. Applicants can apply at 1-26 & Midway Pk. Big Spring or call 1-800-726-4445.

Pool Company, in industry leader in oil field services, has immediate openings in the Big Spring area for experienced Crew Chiefs, Derrick Workers, and Crew Workers. Crew chiefs must have experience operating a rig and a current CDL driver's license. Pool offers excellent wages and benefits package including medical/dental insurance, paid vacation, holiday premium, 401-K, credit union, and retirement. Qualified applicants should apply at:
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GARAGE SALE: 1906 ALABAMA, SAT 2/1/97. 8am-7 Furniture, TV, Waterbed mattress, Cloths and lots of misc.

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Invierta su income tax en una casa usada de 3 recamaras y dos banos con una inmensidad de gabinetes y cajones. Solo 5% de enganche y \$196 por mes, 120 meses, 11.25% apr var pregunte por Dimas Avalos. Homes of America Odessa, TX. 1-915-363-0881 1-800-725-0881

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1614 E. 17TH, 3BR, 2BTH, C/H/A. Dishwasher, Carport, Storage room. Fenced yard, NO PETS! NO EXCEPTIONS! References, & 1 year lease. \$25/month. 425/dep. 263-6004 or 267-1000.

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Pool • Sauna
538 WESTOVER ROAD
263-1252

1 br Apt. Newly Remodeled, 250' month. 100' deposit. Gas & Water paid. ALSO 2 br, 2 1/2 bath mobile home 1407-A Mesquite. 275' month. 150' deposit. 267-5667.

Small 2br Apt. Stove & Icebox, C/H/A, Gas & Water paid. 263-7769.

3 bd, 1 bt, garage, fenced yard, unfurnished. \$250/mo. \$100/dep. 267-5386.

1710 ALABAMA: Clean 3 bedroom, central heat and air. Call 263-3350.

FOR RENT: 2-bedroom, appliances. \$250.00. 264-6898 keep trying.

CLEAN 2 bedroom, 1 bath. New carpet, central heat/air. \$425/mo., \$250/dep. No pets! 422 Dallas. 263-8942 or 264-9134.

1605 E. 5th 3 bds, Cnd air/heat, 450/mo + dep. Available Feb. 16. 263-5519.

1614 E. 17TH, 3BR, 2BTH, C/H/A. Dishwasher, Carport, Storage room. Fenced yard, NO PETS! NO EXCEPTIONS! References, & 1 year lease. \$25/month. 425/dep. 263-6004 or 267-1000.

2 bedroom, 1 bath, 105 E. 17th. Call 267-3841 or 556-4022.

House For Rent: 2br, Den, LVR, 1bth, 1206 Lancaster \$50/month. 268-9289.

2 bedroom, 1 bath, 1102 Lancaster.

3 bedrooms, garage, \$415.00. 3 bedrooms, den, fireplace, \$430. No pets. 267-2070.

1 BEDROOM, 1 BATH, 1102 Sycamore. No Pets. 267-3841, 556-4022.

3/2; 3/1; 4/2; 2/1. Needs a little work. Owner financed. 267-3905.

'83 LINCOLN TOWN CAR. Maroon, runs good. Call 267-9817 after 6pm.

CITY CLOSE, COUNTRY QUIET on E. 25th. Drastic price reduction on this lovely 3-2-2 with sunny dining room, private patio, nice workshop. Call Marjorie Dodson, Broker, South Mountain Agency, 263-8419, or home, 267-7760.

Estate Sale: 603 E. 14th. EVERYTHING GOES!!! SAT. ONLY 8AM-7

FOUND: Miniature Dachshund in the Kentwood area. Call after 6pm. 263-5231

FREE KITTENS. Call 267-7762.

Free Kittens! Call 267-7762.

Garage sale: 1800 Wesson 1/2 price items, ceiling fans, Queen size head board, headache rack & misc. Sat. Feb. 1st 8am-7, Sun 1pm-7. Mon. 8am-7

INSIDE SALE. 2301 Scurry. Saturday 9-7. Bedsprads, boots, phones, miscellaneous.

P/T Janitorial work 20hr/weekly, stable & dependable. 1-888-370-9903.

RN'S LVN'S CRTT'S RRT'S Scenic Mountain Medical Center, 153 bed JCAHO accredited acute care hospital. Immediate openings for Registered Nursing Personnel, Licensed Nursing Personnel, Certified Respiratory Therapy Tech's. Registered Respiratory Tech's to accommodate opening of new transitional care unit.

Positions available on various shifts. Requires ability to work at a fast pace. Excellent interpersonal skills a must. May require some overtime.

We offer a competitive salary and comprehensive benefits package, including 401 (K) retirement.

Please submit resume to: Personnel Scenic Mountain Medical Center 1601 W. 11th Place Big Spring, Texas 79720 or Fax to (915) 263-6454

Applications may be picked up at the switchboard between the hours of 7:00am & 9:00pm and returned to the switchboard during the same hours. No phone calls please. BOE.

VICTORIA MARKET PLACE 406 E. FM 700 263-0102. Needing help in all areas of restaurant.

YARD SALE: Sat.-Sun. 9:00-7 1007 Sycamore. Tires, yard tools, clothing, lots of misc.

People just like you read The Big Spring Herald Classifieds.

Happy 4th Birthday! Timothy Love Mom & Marisol

IF YOU REQUEST A HEARING ON THIS APPLICATION, YOU MUST FILE OUT, SIGN AND MAIL OR DELIVER TO THE AUSTIN OFFICE OF THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS THE ENCLOSED NOTICE OF INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST. A COPY OF THE INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST MUST ALSO BE MAILED OR DELIVERED ON THE SAME DATE TO APPLICANT AT THE ADDRESS SHOWN BELOW. THE INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE RAILROAD COMMISSION'S AUSTIN OFFICE BY JANUARY 17, 1997. IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN SUCH TIME, THE REQUESTED PERMIT WILL BE GRANTED ADMINISTRATIVELY, TO BE EFFECTIVE THE DAY FOLLOWING THE TERMINATION OF SUCH THREE-WEEK PERIOD.

1180 January 16, 17, 24 & 31, 1997

NOTICE
The Commission's Court of Hearing on this application will be held on Friday, February 14, 1997, at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission's Conference Room, 500 North Congress Street, Austin, Texas. For a County Court Clerk's Transcript, call the County Clerk's Office at (512) 475-2777.

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HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR SATURDAY, FEB. 1:

This year will be extraordinary. Your dreams give you insight into what could become tangible. Use these ideas to change your reality into more of what you want. You have many reasons to aim for the top! What you desire can happen with hard work and endurance. If you are single, romance could be extremely personal to you. You will want a lot of private time with a new love interest. If attached, passion proves to be a major theme. Plan on special time with your significant other. SAGITTARIUS is a good friend.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
You sense an illusory quality to your interactions with those in charge. Instead of worrying about it, go with the euphoria. Center discussions around what you would like your life to be, rather than the grind. A partner is supportive. Tonight: Take your bows. *****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
You want to do something special today, like traveling, visiting a friend or getting together with others for a fun winter sport. Getting away will give you perspective and renewed energy. Open up to the possibilities. Tonight: Choose whatever looks different. *****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
A partner's suggestion strikes you as airheaded. In fact, it may be. But extract what is good from the advice. Don't reject it in its entirety. You need to reorganize. In doing so, you find much could open up that is positive. Tonight: Go out with friends. *****

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
Your imagination dances well

with another's ideas and dreams. Together, you feel you can conquer worlds and make changes you thought impossible. Remember this mood when you feel unable to call your own shots. Tonight: Count on being very tired! *****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 23)
You feel euphoric in this positive atmosphere. Family members want to be with you. Work through your feelings about an important purchase; it could involve your residence or the quality of your family life. Beauty could be a consideration. Tonight: Entertain at home. *****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 23)
Imagination and creativity help you make points that others can understand. Listen to another, and incorporate both of your ideas. Elation occurs because you are in accord with someone. Discussions flow; you have a sense of connection.

Tonight: Go where the music is. *****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
You build a better sense of well-being. Elements mix, to bring added security and greater happiness. You know your desires and direction. Someone touches you on a deep level. Discuss your feelings; realize opportunities. Tonight: Enjoy an easy night at home. *****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
Take the initiative in conversations. You seem to have a strong intuitive feeling about what is needed. Follow through on instincts; you might be more accurate than you are aware. You help ease the pressure. Let good feelings flow. Tonight: Strike up the band! *****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
You play with some wild ideas. Choose to walk a conser-

vative path, to take care of your financial structure. Be honest with yourself about the ups and downs. You perceive a situation much differently than it is. Tonight: Come out of your cocoon. *****

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
Focus on what is important in a friendship. Do not downplay long-term desires. Though you feel everything is OK, it isn't really. Make the most of the morning hours, when you are likely to get what you want. One-to-one relating is emphasized. Tonight: Snuggle away. *****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
You are on top of responsibilities. Visit with a parent early in the day, and complete your chores. You will enjoy yourself in the afternoon, when you can relax. Friends seek you out. You have a ball wherever you are. The more, the merrier.

Tonight: It's a party night! *****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Take off before another snags you. You need time away, to reflect. The more you consider alternatives, the more you will like what a friend offers you. Be willing to take a risk. The only restriction on you is self-imposed. Get rid of mental filters. Tonight: Out is the only way! *****

BORN TODAY
Singer Don Everly (1937), singer Rick James (1962), actor Terry Jones (1942)
For America's best extended horoscope, recorded by Jacqueline Bigar, call (800) 600-0000, 99 cents per minute. Also featured are The Spoken Word 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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Buckeyes bounce Indiana

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A win over Indiana is special for Ohio State anytime. This one, though, had extra meaning for the Buckeyes.
Ohio State, playing with its second leading scorer sidelined with heart problems and amid speculation about coach Randy Ayers' future, stopped a four-game losing streak Thursday night with a 73-67 victory over the No. 17 Hoosiers at Columbus.

Damon Stringer scored 18 points, including four free throws in the final 21 seconds, as Ohio State — coming off a 31-point loss to Northwestern — ended a four-game losing skid against the Hoosiers (17-5 overall, 4-4 Big Ten).

Neshaun Coleman added 15 points, Shaun Stonerock 14, Otis Winston 11 and Jason Singleton 10 for Ohio State, which was missing starting center Jermaine Tate.

Tate, the team's second-leading scorer at 14.1 points a game, is undergoing tests after complaining of heart palpitations.

Following the win, Ayers' emotions were tempered by concern for his player's condition.

"It's still going to be a tough week until we get Jermaine's situation resolved," Ayers said.

Elsewhere in the AP Top 25, it was No. 4 Utah 74, Texas-El Paso 51; No. 7 Clemson 70, Georgia Tech 57; No. 9 Louisville 81, No. 8 Cincinnati 70; No. 10 Arizona 87, Washington State 73; No. 21 Tulsa 69, Southern Methodist 49; and No. 24 Marquette 71, South Florida 36.

Indiana coach Bobby Knight praised the Buckeyes' effort.

"Ohio State had a challenge to play without the kid who has played well for them and we had a challenge to rise to the occasion," Knight said. "We didn't, and that was the story of the game."

Neil Reed scored 19 points, A.J. Guyton had 14 — 11 in the first half — and Charlie Miller 11 for Indiana (17-5, 4-4).

Ohio State used an 8-0 run midway through the second half to open a 54-47 lead.

Indiana, 0-4 in Big Ten games when trailing at halftime, closed within three points twice in the final minute, but each time Stringer followed by hitting free throws.

"It was gut-check time," Stringer said. "We know the effort we have to give for 40 minutes."

Finch to resign at Memphis
Memphis basketball coach Larry Finch, under fire for low attendance despite averaging 20 victories a season, will resign at the end of the season.

The announcement, made Thursday night by Finch and the university, came after several days of reports that the university was negotiating to buy out the final three years on Finch's contract.

"Right now this is an emotional time for me, and any statement I make will be forthcoming," Finch, 45, said following a 69-54 win over Southern Mississippi. No. 4 Utah 74, Texas-El Paso 51

Keith Van Horn, plagued with foul trouble and held without a point in the first half, keyed a second-half run to lead the Utes (15-2, 7-0 Western Athletic Conference) at El Paso.

Van Horn scored 11 of his 13 points in a decisive 15-2 run that gave the Utes a 24-point advantage with less than five minutes remaining.

Michael Doleac led the Utes with 15 points, and Drew Hansen added 14.

UTEP fell to 8-9, 2-6. No. 7 Clemson 70, Georgia Tech 57

At Clemson, S.C., Terrell McIntyre scored 14 of his 17 points in the second half as the Tigers snapped their two-game ACC losing streak.

Greg Buckner scored 17 points and Merl Code 14 for Clemson (17-3, 6-2 ACC).

Donations create uncharitable thoughts

DEAR ABBY: Is there a kind and tactful way to tell a distant relative to stop making donations to his favorite charities in our names? He's a very nice man and we know he means well. Obviously, he has the right to donate to any organization he wants, but he should do it in his own name — not ours.



Abigail Van Buren
Columnist

People who perform this act of kindness may not realize the uneasy position in which they place "fake donors." We feel hypocritical for the beneficiaries thinking we did the good deed, when the money didn't come from us.

Another undesirable side effect of vicarious giving is the glut of requests and junk mail that hound us for months (or years) after the donation. We have our own preferred charities and do not wish to receive requests from organizations we do not support, however worthwhile they may be.

On one occasion when a family member died, a self-appointed philanthropist made a very generous donation to his favorite charity in memory of the deceased, and indicated it came from us. Abby, you can imagine our embarrassment and discomfort when his widow thanked us heartily for our generous gift.

Perhaps a comment in your column to people who give this

kind of gift, suggesting that they first ask the donors if they would like to have their names on a donation, would help to curb this practice. Some people may not want to be identified with a particular organization. And I'm sure even fewer will want the junk mail that follows.

Thank you for any suggestions you and your readers might offer. — NO NAME OR LOCATION, PLEASE

DEAR NO NAME: Tell your relative that you are being inundated with pleas from charities to which he has donated in your name. Stress that you would prefer that he make donations to charities which YOU support. (That should put a stop to it!) Also, advise the charities that are soliciting you that you want your name removed from their donor lists.

The reason that many people make charitable donations as "gifts" is that such donations are tax-deductible for the giver who has written the check.

DEAR ABBY: This has been bothering me for quite a while. Either I am being too sensitive, or my relatives are totally insensitive. I'll let you decide.

My husband and I recently adopted a child, and so far none of my relatives have acknowledged the child's arrival. However, a few years ago when we had our first child, gifts were brought and cards were sent. I know that the second, third and fourth children of other family members have been acknowledged, so it's not that this is our second child and nothing should be done. It's not that I am looking for gifts, but a card would have been nice. Do they feel that just

because this child is adopted or older that it isn't necessary to do anything? Maybe someday they'll realize the hurt they caused by their failure to acknowledge this child's arrival.

Meanwhile, my mother-in-law buys gifts for all of her sister's, brother's and in-law's many grandchildren. Abby, is this what should be expected when you adopt a child? — HEARTBROKEN

DEAR HEARTBROKEN: Did you send announcements that were ignored? When the adoption was official, did you have a small family gathering to introduce your relatives to the newest member of the family? If you did and this blessed event was ignored, then your relatives are ignorant of the social graces and do not realize that the arrival of a child — by birth or adoption — is an occasion to be acknowledged and celebrated, and shame on them.

DEAR ABBY: Your column reaches so many people and is so effective, I have a request I would like to get out to people.

As I visit in a local nursing home, I see a tremendous need for help. So many of the people are lonely for someone to share with.

They love to tell you about their past, and many never get to go outside because the nurses and aides are too busy to take them out for a walk. Each time I take my friend out in the fresh air and sunshine, I can see a difference in her. I live in a warm climate and can do this often.

Even if people just visit and listen to the residents for a while, the people love the attention. Often there are organized activities the director needs help with, if people are reluctant to visit on a one-to-one basis at first.

If any of your readers are looking for a way to cheer up someone else and feel better in return, I suggest they look for ways to help others. Maybe a nursing home is not their answer, but many people need help in various ways.

My plea to your readers: Look for a way you can be of service to another. You will be blessed. — MABLE'S FRIEND IN FLORIDA

DEAR MABLE'S FRIEND: For years I have pointed out the many rewards of volunteerism. I know from personal experience the satisfaction that is derived from reaching out to others, and I recommend it to those with time on their hands and charity in their hearts.

DEAR ABBY: Recently you printed a letter from a hospital volunteer who asked that mail for patients be addressed with their legal (first, middle and last) names, not nicknames.

Perhaps this hint will also help your readers when they address cards to people who are hospitalized: Instead of your

SPORTS & More Sports

WHERE TO WRITE

IN AUSTIN:
GEORGE W. BUSH, Governor, State Capitol, Austin, 78701. Phone: Toll free 1-800-552-9800, 512-463-2000 or fax at 512-463-1849.
BOB BULLOCK, Lt. Governor, State Capitol, Austin, 78701. Phone: 512-463-0001 or fax at 512-463-0326.
JAMES E. "PETE" LANEY, Speaker of the House, State Capitol, Austin. Phone: 806-839-2478 or 512-463-3000 or fax at 512-463-0675.
JOHN T. MONTFORD, Senator, 28th District, P.O. Box 1709, Lubbock, 79408. Phone: 287-7535, 806-744-5555, 512-463-0128 or fax at 806-762-4217.

lifel Sunday deadlines

All Sunday items (weddings, anniversaries, engagements, birth announcements, Who's Who, military) are due to the Herald office by Wednesday at noon. Wedding, engagement and birth announcement forms are available in the editorial department. Pictures are to be picked up no later than 30 days after publication or they will be discarded.

Sweet Sentiments

This Valentine's Day, we're proud to share some love-ly expressions from our readers to their spouses, mothers, and significant others.

YOUR GREETING HERE \$12.50

YOUR GREETING HERE \$9.50

YOUR GREETING HERE \$9.50

Publish your Valentine's greeting to the one you love!

It's simple! Just write your greeting to the one you love and bring or send it to the classified department of the Big Spring Herald. All greetings must be received by 12 NOON February 11th. All greetings must be prepaid. Cash, check or credit cards accepted.

Call 263-7331 for additional information.

RED WINGS!

THE BEST SOFT TOED WORK BOOTS AROUND!

412 ANDREWS HWY. MIDLAND-682 2651

REPAIRING MADE IN U.S.A.

Seismic Mountain Medical Center
1601 W. 11th Place
263-1211

FRIDAY

JAN. 31

Table with 24 columns (KMO, KPEJ, KERA, etc.) and 12 rows of program listings including titles like 'News', 'Simpsons', 'Wash. Week', etc.

HAGAR



BLONDIE



B.C.



FAMILY CIRCLE



DENNIS THE MENACE



GEECH



Very good, Dolly. Is this a freehand drawing? Yes. Nobody ever pays me.

You know what, Mrs. Mitchell? Dennis called me a tattletale!

WIZARD OF ID



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Friday, Jan. 31, the 31st day of 1997. There are 334 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Jan. 31, 1958, the United States entered the Space Age with its first successful launch of a satellite into orbit, Explorer 1. On this date: In 1606, Guy Fawkes, convicted for his part in the "Gunpowder Plot" against the English Parliament and King James I, was executed. In 1797, composer Franz Schubert was born in Vienna, Austria. In 1865, Gen. Robert E. Lee was named general-in-chief of all the Confederate armies. In 1917, Germany served notice that it was beginning a policy of unrestricted submarine warfare. In 1944, during World War II, U.S. forces began invading Kwajalein Atoll and other parts of the Japanese-held Marshall Islands. In 1945, Private Eddie Slovik became the only U.S. soldier since the Civil War to be executed for desertion. He was shot by an American firing squad in France. In 1949, the first TV daytime soap opera, "These Are My Children," was broadcast from the NBC station in Chicago.

James I, was executed. In 1797, composer Franz Schubert was born in Vienna, Austria. In 1865, Gen. Robert E. Lee was named general-in-chief of all the Confederate armies. In 1917, Germany served notice that it was beginning a policy of unrestricted submarine warfare. In 1944, during World War II, U.S. forces began invading Kwajalein Atoll and other parts of the Japanese-held Marshall Islands. In 1945, Private Eddie Slovik became the only U.S. soldier since the Civil War to be executed for desertion. He was shot by an American firing squad in France. In 1949, the first TV daytime soap opera, "These Are My Children," was broadcast from the NBC station in Chicago.

THE Daily Crossword

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words.

HI AND LOIS



GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILY



Thursday's Puzzle solved: A word search puzzle with words like BAWL, DANCE, GAPE, etc.

Big Spring Herald advertisement with contact information and staff list.

RITZ advertisement for movies like 'First Strike' and 'Scream'.

CINEMA I advertisement for movies like 'Star Wars' and 'Metro'.

THE EVENING STAR and THE PREACHER'S WIFE advertisement.