Clinton aides, Republicans battle over Social Security, spending

WASHINGTON (AP) - White House instead to talk with Congress' officials and a Republican leader are at odds over how to start the search for a financial fix for Social Security as the giant baby boom generation begins retiring in the next century.

Budget director Franklin Raines and Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin-said Sunday that the Clinton administration want the problem addressed as

soon as possible. "Effectively, what that means is it has to be done in the next two years," Raines said on NBC's "Meet the Press." "Once you get into the presidential election, a season after that, we won't probably see any legislation.'

But do not wait for a proposed solution from President Clinton. He plans

Republican leaders on developing a bipartisan solution, Raines said.

We need a bipartisan agreement to move forward on this," Raines said. We can't do it by the president alone or Democrats can't do it alone. It has to be bipartisan.'

But House Majority Leader Dick Armey, R-Texas, said Clinton should

'The president needs to exert leadership on this," Armey said on CNN's "Late Edition." "He needs to go forward on it. And we're anxious to see him make a proposal."

Rep. Bill Archer, R-Texas, chairman of the tax-writing House Ways and Means Committee, suggested establishing a commission to study all retirement plans, including Social Security and private pensions.

Democrats and Republicans also sparred over the best way to handle a possible future surplus in the federal budget.

While GOP lawmakers called for tax cuts, most notably the marriage penalty, administration officials cautioned against steps that would raise the deficit.

Rubin said on CBS' "Face the Nation:" "If people propose tax cuts, I think it is very fair to ask them how they're going to pay for those tax cuts, with which specifics, and what effect those tax cuts are going to have on middle-income people and working

those tax cuts are going to have on the .. overriding objective of maintaining our fiscal discipline.'

Rubin said Clinton will offer modest tax breaks in his 1999 budget.

He said the plan includes a break to middle-income people for day care expenses and energy conservation costs. The tax cuts would be paid for by closing corporate tax loopholes and eliminating some subsidies, he said.

House Budget Committee Chairman John Kasich, R-Ohio, said he would oppose increasing federal spending above the limits provided for in last year's balanced-budget agreement.

"The idea that we ought to take any of this money and expand government

people, and what effect they think for anything, to have any additional spending beyond the budget agree-ment, would be a terrible mistake, and I intend to fight it," Kasich said.

At the same time, two Democratic senators, Paul Wellstone of Minnesota and John Kerry of Massachusetts. called for spending more money on education and other programs directed at young people.

We have to invest in the health and skills and intellect and character of our children, all of our children." Wellstone said on ABC's "This Week." "If we don't invest now, we pay the price later. High levels of high school dropout, high levels of illiteracy, substance abuse and crime - I mean, this is the best investment we can make.'

Nancy Raney, an employee at The Heritage Museum, is helping set up the Big Spring Art Association Challenge Grant exhibit.

The newest exhibit at the museum gives artists the opportunity to arrange and paint as they choose,

HERALD photo/Jonathan Garrett



Southern Mesa ag conference date nears

By CARLTON JOHNSON

Staff Writer

The 1997 cotton crop harvest is complete and now the focus for many producers has shifted to cotton production activities for this year.

That means the Southern Mesa Agricultural Conference in Lamesa in less than two weeks.

Dawson County Extension Agent John Farris said the conference, scheduled for 8 a.m. Monday, Jan. 19, is a direct result of producer requested educational programming and will focus on regulation and policies affecting Texas agricul-

The conference will also focus on the best management practices (BMPs) for cotton, grain sorghum and peanut produc-

The program is being sponsored by the Texas Agricultural

Service Extension (TAES) offices in Dawson, Howard, Scurry, Martin, Borden, Mitchell, Lynn, Garza and Midland, and will feature information on the latest production technology for crop production, insect control, and weed control of cotton, grain sorghum and

peanuts. according to Farris. Risk management and production outlooks will be discussed and top speakers from across the state will make presentations concerning current research production trials.

Howard County Agent David Kight said that despite the current price of cotton being at a less than desirable rate, cotton prices will not be a main focus at the conference.

"Cotton prices will be on the program during the annual Ag Expo later this spring," Kight said. "In conjunction with the ag expo, we will also have a cotton production meeting similar Southern Mesa the

Agricultural Conference."

The Jan. 19 conference is important for area producers because one of the topics is risk management, Kight said.

"Risk management will be discussed in a very broad sense,"

"The conference is also important because it allows area producers to come together and exchange ideas, specialists are allowed to come in and present an overview of specific topic areas and producers earn continuing education units," Kight

Conference speakers will include Mindy Shugart, Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA); Randy Bowman, Robert Lemon, Mark McFarland, Jackie Smith and Peter Dotray; TAES agents Farris and Tommy Doederlein; and Wayne Keeling with the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station.

Other topic areas on the conference agenda include cotton

cropping systems, cotton insect management and pesticide usage, cotton production management, present and new weed control, boll weevil management, fertilization and salinity, peanut production systems and laws and regulations.

Producers will have the opportunity to discuss their experiences with experts, specialists and other growers and will be able to visit commercial booths throughout the day.

Four and a half Continuing Education Units (CEUs) will be provided for private, commercial and non-commercial applifor attendance. Producers wanting their updated CEU information may contact TDA at (800)835-5832.

Registration is \$15 if paid before Jan. 15 and \$20 after Jan. 15. Registration fee includes technical sessions, door prize tickets, lunch, educational access to materials and

"We've had them go all the cooks around here."

Judging begins at 1 p.m. After samples of all the chili have been collected for the judges, the remaining entries will be available for tasting by all those

"We try to encourage cookers not to give out samples before then," Barnett said.

Judges are split into two groups - those who taste for the preliminary round and those who taste only finalist

"We have to do it that way," Barnett explained, "because once you've gone through that many cups of chili, your tastebuds are pretty well shot."

Competitors should provide their own cookers, equipment and all supplies.

"Some of their setups are pretty elaborate," Barnett said. "We'll see all kinds."

The cookoff is HOG's main fundraiser for the year. Although the group sponsors

Boss Hog

Slated for 9 a.m. Saturday, 9th annual cookoff serves as fundraiser for Harley group

By DEBBIE L. JENSEN

Features Editor

Chili lovers, fire up your tastebuds.

Saturday is the 9th annual Boss Hog Chili Cookoff, a fundraiser for the Harley Owners Group at the Harley Davidson Shop, 908 W. Third.

Barry Barnett of the group promises there will be plenty of different flavors at the event but no fish.

"We had a chili made with fish one time," Barnett said. "If it doesn't look like chili and smell like chili, nobody's required to eat it."

The competition begins with a cook's meeting at 9 a.m. Anyone can enter their favorite chilirecipe for a \$15 fee, as long as

"We loosely follow the Chili Appreciation Society International rules." said Barnett. That includes a stipulation against adding beans, he

"Anybody that uses beans, we won't throw them out, but we might hang 'em," Barnett said.

Otherwise, almost anything goes — even unusual meats like venison. The spicy flavor and "heat" of the chili will vary.

way from real mild to 'burn your tastebuds off," Barnett said. "We have some great chili

who have paid a \$5 entry fee.

entries.

Veteran chili cook offers tips to uninitiated By DEBBIE L. JENSEN

Features Editor

Chili cooks have their own secret recipes, but most do fol-low certain rules, according to a local veteran of the cookoff circuit.

"If you want to be a champion chili cooker," explained local CPA Max Green, 'you should start with a good, basic recipe."

Green said there are a few cooks who rely on their mem-ory and plenty of luck, but he advises would-be champions

Those that cook chili by the seat of their britches, their winning is extremely erratic and can't be counted on," he said.

For the basic recipe, Green recommends basic chili spices added to high-quality scrap meat, tomato sauce or paste but no beans, corn or whole tomatoes.

"The rule has been if you put some strange ingredients in there, ... you are going to lose," he said.

Most cookoffs, such as the Harley Owners Group's event planned Saturday, follow Chili Appreciation International rules.

"There are some rules you must follow, but it is possible to experiment'a little bit," he

other events, most of them are designated to benefit someone else, Barnett explained. "This is really the only thing

that we will keep the money

from, to use for our projects," he Entertainment is also a big draw: Local band Wild Texans will perform throughout the

afternoon. The main variable HOG members are watching as they prepare for the event, is the weather, Barnett said.

"Last year, the weather was terrible, and we still had about 10 cooks," he said. "We had a great time. But we hope for good weather this time around."

One person injured in two-vehicle crash on U.S. 87

By KATHY GILBERT

Staff Writer

One person was injured in a two-vehicle accident about five miles north of Big Spring on U.S. 87 this morning. Marcelino Nieto was taken to Scenic

Mountain Medical Center with a possible broken jaw and other injuries after the pickup in which he was riding collided with a 18-wheeler at about 9 a.m.

Despite a heavy fog that blanketed the area, neither driver blamed weather conditions for the accident.

Hector Gomez, the driver of the 18-wheeler, said he saw a pickup "inching up" from the median strip onto the southbound lanes of the highway. He then hit the brakes to avoid a collision, causing his truck to jackknife into the other vehicle.

Matt Massingill said he was parked in the turnaround when Gomez apparently "panicked," hit the brakes and jackknifed into

Traffic in the southbound lane of U.S. Highway 87 was halted from about 9-10 a.m. Units from the Department of Public Safety, Howard County Sheriff's Office and Big Spring Emergency Medical Service responded to the scene. Nieto was the only person transported from the scene by ambulance.

No further information on Nieto's condition was available at press time.







Thur:



Tonight, slight chance of showers. Lows mid 30s. Tuesday, partly cloudy and cooler. Highs 50-55. Tuesday night, fair. Lows in the 20s. Extended forecast, Wednesday, fair. High in the 50s. Thursday, partly cloudy. Lows around 30. Highs in the 50s. Friday, dry and cooler. Lows in the 20s.

Classified / 6-7 Comics / 8

Highs 45-50.

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Katherine Teresa Braun McNallen

Katherine Teresa Braun McNallen, 83, Big Spring, died on Sunday, Jan. 4, 1998, in a

local hospital. Rosary services were held at 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 1998, at Nalley-Pickle Welch Rosewood Chapel Service will be 2 p.m. Monday, Jan.

MCNALLEN

5, 1998, at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church with Rev. Jeremiah McCarthy, pastor, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

She was born on July 25, 1914, in Kansas City, Mo. to Henry A. and Katherine (Considine) Braun and married Albert J. McNallen, Jr. on June 10. 1936, in Kansas City, Mo. He preceded her in death on June 22, 1981. She was a loving wife and mother of Mary K. McNallen, who also preceded her in death. She came to Howard County

in 1946 and was a homemaker. She was a member of Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church and was a devout Catholic. Her love of all living things brought light and inspiration to those who knew

She is survived by: her brother, Walter T. Braun and his wife Barbara Braun of Kansas City, Mo.; a sister-in-law, Carolyn Braun of Kansas City, Mo.; nieces, nephews and numerous friends.

Pallbearers will be Dwight Fortson, Aubrey Weaver, Jr., Terry Vaughn, Norman Wright, Boosie Weaver, Bobby Dodson and Pat Hyer. Honorary pallbearers will be Dr. Harshad G. Shah and Wayne Davis.

The family suggests memorials to: The Boys Club; P.O. Box 1128; Big Spring.

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

Manuel Odis Wise

Manuel Odis Wise, 85 Odessa, passed away Friday afternoon at his home after a long illness.

Funeral service is 10 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 6, 1998, at Myers Smith Funeral Chapel with Rev. Randy Cotton and Alton Towery officiating

WISE Interment will

in Mount Olive follow Memorial Park. He was born on Oct. 11, 1912.

in Hunt County. He married Mildred Howell on July 26.

NATLEY-PICKLE & WELCH **Funeral Home**



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

Elmer L Belcher, 69, died Monday. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Manuel Odis Wise, 85, died Friday. Services will be 10:00 AM Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home Chapel, with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Edna Pope, 69, died Monday. Services are pending.

BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY:

MEDICAL CARE PLAZA

Elmer L. Belcher Service for Elmer L. Belcher,

69, Big Spring, is pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral He died Monday, Jan. 5, 1998,

in a Lubbock hospital.

1991, in Odessa. He had lived in

Odessa for the last eight years.

He was a Baptist and a member

of Masonic Lodge, Independent

Order of Odd Fellows, Disabled

American Veterans Lodge and

Veterans of Foreign Wars. He

was a veteran of World War II,

serving in the European

Theater. He was in the 110th

Infantry Company M of the

28th Division. He was wounded

during the Battle of the Bulge.

He was one of 14 survivors of a

company of 149 men. He was

retired from the Texas

He is survived by: his wife,

Mildred Wise of Odessa; three

sons and daughters-in-law,

Marvin and Margaret Wise of

Big Spring, Wiley and Martha

Wise of Abilene, and Dan and

Mardell Wise of Midland; two

daughters, Laverne Wise of Big

Spring, and Syble Wise of

Albuquerque, N.M.; an adopted

daughter, Lynn Hill and her

husband, John of Colorado

City; three step-sons, Kenneth

Smith of Colorado City, Keith

Smith of San Angelo, Ronnie

Smith and his wife Judy of San

Angelo; one sister, Jessie

Oliver of Odessa; 27 grandchil-

dren; 33 great-grandchildren;

Grandsons will serve as pall-

bearers: John Jannamon,

Ronnie Jannamon, Morgan

Wise, Jeff Wise, Jay Wise and

The family suggests memori-

als to the Masonic Home for

Children; c/o Staked Plains

Lodge 598, A.F. & A.M.; Box

The family will be at 2204

Service for Edna Pope, 69, Big

Spring, is pending with Myers

She died Monday, Jan. 5,

1998, at Midland Memorial

Service for Louise Harper

Standefer, 94, Stanton, was 10

a.m. today at the First United

Methodist Church, Stanton.

Burial followed in the

Resthaven Memorial Park in

Mrs. Standefer died Friday,

Jan. 2, 1998, at Country

Meadows Elder Care in

She was born on Dec. 18,

1903, in Houston and moved to

Martin County in 1936 and to

Stanton in 1951. She married

Clarence Grady Standefer on

Oct. 15, 1922, in Colorado City.

He preceded her in death on

Nov. 7, 1987. She was a member

of the First United Methodist

Church of Stanton, the Gospel

Singers Assoc., Senior Citizens

and Home Demonstration Club,

where she was a past president.

Clement Ray Standefer,

Stanton; three daughters,

Evelyn Maxine Minter, Lois

Vernell Hill, both of Amarillo,

and Jannie Ladell Linney.

Stanton, 11 grandchildren; 24

great-grandchildren; and seven

Arrangements under the

direction of Gilbreath Funeral

Service for Eva Lee Dixon, 94.

Clyde, will be 2 p.m. Tuesday,

Jan. 6, 1998, at the First Baptist

Church, Clyde, with Dr Jerry

Joplin and Rev. Riley Fugitt

officiating. Burial will be in the

Mrs. Dixon died Saturday,

She was born in Taylor

County near Bluff Creek on

March 19, 1903. She married

W.A. Dixon on July 28, 1927, in

Taylor County. They moved to

Clyde from Tye in 1947. She

owned and operated the Dixon

Help-Ur-Self Laundry in Clyde.

Mrs. Dixon was a cafeteria

supervisor for Clyde High

School for 10 years and was a

member of the First Baptist

Survivors include: a son,

William Leo Dixon, Clyde;

three sisters. Fannie Froman,

Nina Tarrant, both of Clyde,

and Cleo Young, Big Spring;

seven grandchildren; and 16

Arrangements under the

direction of Bailey Funeral

Monday-Friday 9 AM-8 PM

Saturday 9 AM-5 PM

CLOSED SUNDAY

Jan. 3, in the Clyde Nursing

great-great-grandchildren.

Eva Lee Dixon

Home, Stanton

Clyde Cemetery

Church of Clyde.

great-grandchildren.

Home, Clyde.

Survivors include: a son,

Paid obituary

1751; Big Spring; 79721.

& Smith Funeral Home.

Louise Harper

Standefer

Danny Wise.

Carl Street.

Hospital.

Stanton.

Edna Pope

and one great-great-grandchild.

Highway Department.

Continued from Page 1

An absolute must is keeping the grease to a minimum, Green

said. "If, when your chili is cooling. there is a great big slug of grease on top, your chances are

not good," he predicted. But even for those who know little about chili cooking, or plan only to taste the entries, Green said there is nothing like a good chili cookoff.

"It's a blast," he said. Boy missing, feared dead in flooding

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Waves of severe thunderstorms roared across a vast area of Texas, causing flash flooding that is believed to have claimed the life of an Irving boy and forced the closing of Interstate 35 between

Waco and Temple for several

hours. The severe thunderstorms moved across most of the eastern half of the state on Sunday. Most of the heavy rainfall had ended early today, but flash flooding remained in many

Texas Department of Transportation spokesman Bill Powers said Interstate 35 near Temple was closed for several hours and reopened about 2:15 a.m. today.

The I-35 closure was at Troy. about 30 miles southwest of Waco, at 10 p.m., backing up traffic for miles in both direc-

Six to eight feet of water built up at an underpass. Powers

Vehicles were detoured onto the access roads, but the problem was compounded because of heavy traffic caused by people returning from holiday trips.

U.S. 75 was closed in Ellis County, just south of Dallas, for a time during the night because of high water.

High water also forced the closing of U.S. 82 in Fannin County between Sherman and Bonham. Fannin County authorities reported several bridges were washed out in the county.

Large hail also pelted portions of Limestone and Freestone counties in Central

Water was reported to be two feet deep on Story Road in Irving during the night.

Rescue workers at Irving called off their search until daylight today for a 15-year-old boy who was swept away in a creek at Lively Park in the Dallas suburb.

Rescue workers managed to save the boy's companion, 13year-old Carlos Ramirez, who had to cling to a railroad crossing while a third boy, 13-yearold Kelly Honey rode his bicycle to a nearby police station for help.

The National Weather Service issued a tornado warning in the Stephenville area and flash flood warnings for much of North Texas because of the thunderstorms that roamed across the state on Sunday.

Widespread urban flooding took place Sunday. Five inches of rain was reported in the

Houston suburb of Pasadena. Some flooding was reported in southeast Harris County, northern Brazoria and Galveston counties Sunday evening.

There were reports of flooding in Friendswood, Pearland and South Houston, with feeder roads along the Beltway and Gulf Freeway under water.

Flood waters rose dramatically in portions of League City, and water approached homes near Coral Cove Court, an area near Kemah, the National Weather Service reported.

The thunderstorms were trig-

111 E Marcy 267-8283 Mon.-Sat. 10 am-6 pm

BIG SPRING ROUND THE TOWN

gered by unseasonably warm temperatures and an unstable atmosphere. The storms produced continuous lightning and flash flood-producing rainfall.

The thunderstorms produced heavy rainfall and some small hail in Collin County where street flooding was reported Sunday evening at McKinney.

BRIEFS

TWO PRESENTATIONS OF DRAMATIC events from American history with a Biblical perspective are planned Friday, 1:30 and 4 p.m. at First Baptist Church. Richard "Little Bear" Wheeler will be featured. He also plans a special event for teens and their parents Saturday at 10

This event is sponsored by Concerned Women for American of West Texas. Call Suzanne Haney at 263-7147 or Luann Stallings at 398-5506 for more information.

HERITAGE MUSEUM MUR-DER MYSTERY Night is planned Jan. 31 with a pregame reception beginning at 6:30 p.m. Hosts are needed for various murder mystery games to be played by teams of eight. Call 267-8255 for more informa-

HOG BOSS CHILI **COOKOFF** is planned Saturday at the Harley Davidson shop, beginning at 9 a.m. with a cooks meeting. Anyone is welcome to enter a chili entry for a

All you can eat of chili entries is \$5, and entertainment is planned by local band "Wild Texans' in the afternoon. For more information, call the Harley shop at 263-2322.

DANCING OFFERED at the Big Spring Family YMCA, Fridays from 11 a.m.-noon. This is a great way to get exercise and have fun at the same time. Call for more information, 267-8234.

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH will offer flu shots to those 18 and over every Wednesday of the winter months (October through February). The injections are available from 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 1-4:30 p.m. at 501 Birdwell For those on Medicare, there

is no co-payment, but the card must be presented at the time of the injection. For others, the fee is \$5.

SPRINGBOARD

IF YOU HAVE ANY CHANGES IN A SPRING-BOARD ITEM OR FOR MORE INFORMATION, CON-TACT GINA GARZA, 263-7331 ext. 238, BETWEEN 8:30 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 710 Scurry; or fax it to 264-7205. **TODAY**

•Big Spring Evening Lion's Club, 6:30 p.m., 1607 E. Third. Call Al Valdes, 263-6810.

•Project Freedom, Christian support group, 7 p.m. Call 263-5140 or 263-2241

•TOPS Clubs (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) 5:15 p.m. weigh in and 6:15 p.m. meeting, Best Home Health Care, 1710 E. Marcy Dr.

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

floor. •Gospel singing, 7 p.m., Kentwood Center, 2805 Lynn. Call 267-6764. Guest singers from Stanton, Midland and

Colorado City. ·Encourager's support group, for widows and widowers, 6 p.m., Santa Fe Sandwich Shop, Big Spring Mall. For more information call 398-5522 or 399-

TUESDAY ·Most Excellent Way, a chem-

100 Miles Free Delivery

PH. 267-6278

Mixed Drinks •Beverages **ALLAN'S**

267-6266

ical dependency support group, 7 p.m., Living Water Church, 1008 Birdwell Lane. Call 267-1424 after 5 p.m. or 263-3168 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

•Al-Anon, 8 to 9 p.m., 615 •Narcotics Anonymous, 6 to 7:30 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal

Church. Beginning line dance class will be taught at 9 a.m. at the Senior Citizens Center. Call 267-1628 for more information.

All ages welcome. Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. open meeting and 8 to 9 p.m. closed meeting at the VA Medical

Center on fourth floor. •VFW Post No. 2013, 7 p.m., VFW Hall. Cancer support group, 7 to 8

p.m., VA Medical Center room 213. Call Beverly Rice, 268-5077. Coahoma senior citizens luncheon, 11 a.m., Coahoma Community Center.

WEDNESDAY

•Downtown Lions Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room. Call Archie Kountz, 267-3821.

 Line dance classes, 1 p.m., Senior Citizens Center, following lunch. For more information call 398-5522 or 267-1628. All ages welcome.

MARKETS

March cotton 67.60 cents, up 49 points; Feb. crude 17.10, down 33points; Cash hogs steady at 50 cents higher at 35; cash steers steady at 65; Feb. lean hog futures 57.25, down 27 points; Feb. live cattle futures 64.62, down 32 points. courtesy: Delta Corporation.

Noon quotes provided by Edward D. Jones

Index 8002.16 Volume 189,726,550 ATT Amoco

85% -% 77% - 1% Atlantic Richfield **Atmos Energy** 27% - 1% 29 +% Calenergy Inc. 77% -% Chevron 2.40-2.44 Cifra 20% +% Cornell Correc. 20% +% De Beers Diagnostic Health 111/2 - 1/2 **DuPont** 611/4 +1/4 Excel Comm. 141 - 14 Exxon 61% nc Fina 64 -‰ 49% - 1% Halliburton 106% +% IBM 74% + 1%27% +% 4 nc 71% - % 38% + % 9% + 1/4 Phillips Petroleum 48% +% 11% nc

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364 +4

45% -%

41 % + %

41% +%

38½ -½

39 1/4 + 1/4

15.65-16.60

26.09-27.68

28.37-30.10

20.02-21.24

19.48-20.67

283.10-283.60

8.50%

5.85- 5.88

53 -%

Rural/Metro Sears Southwestern Bell 72% - 2% Sun Texaco Texas Instruments 49% + 1%

Texas Utils. Co Unocal Corp Wal-Mart Amcap Euro Pacific

New Economy **New Perspective Prime Rate** Gold Silver

POLICE

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 2 p.m. Saturday and 8 a.m. Monday:

•GEORGE GONZALES, 33, was arrested for disorderly conduct (abusive language). •STEVEN OBRIEN, 36, was

arrested on a county warrant. •HERBERT BELCHER, 44. was arrested for driving while intoxicated.

•KEVIN KLLASSEN, 37, was arrested for driving while intoxicated. RICHARD DELACRUZ, 32,

was arrested for public intoxication. •GUADALUPE LEDEZMA.

46, was arrested on local war-

NOW OPEN MEL'S BAR

Complete Bar Available

504 Gregg Street

 DAVID HALIBURTON, 26. was arrested for public intoxi-

 MILLARD CHILDRESS, 46, was arrested for public intoxication. ·DOMESTIC

DISTUR-BANCE in the 1900 block of Johnson; and the 1400 block of •CRIMINAL MISCHIEF in

the 2400 block of Alabama; 1300

block of Scurry; 3600 block of Connally; 1200 block of Frazier; and the 400 block of Ryan. •DISTURBANCE/FIGHT in the 1300 block of Mesquite; 400 block of Aylesford; 1700 block of E. 3rd; and the 400 block of

Johnson. •THEFT in the 2300 block of Wasson; and the 400 block of

•BURGLARY OF A VEHI-CLE in the 3300 block of E.

 UNAUTHORIZED USE OF A VEHICLE in the 3000 block of Auburn.

FIRE/EMS

Following is a summary of Big Spring Department/EMS reports: Friday

6:39 a.m. — 1700 block Lancaster, medical call, patient transferred to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

9:04 a.m. — 400 block Main, trauma call, patient transferred to SMMC. 10:11 a.m. — 1700 block

Lancaster, medical call, patient

transferred to SMMC. 1:24 p.m. — 1100 block Goliad, medical call, service refused.

2:22 p.m. — 2700 block Gregg, traffic accident, two patients transferred to SMMC. 4:20 p.m. — 2600 block Gregg,

traffic accident, two patients transferred to SMMC. Saturday 4:10 p.m. - 1900 block North

Monticello, medical call, patient transferred to Scenic Mountain Medical Center. 4:56 p.m. — 2200 block North 87, traffic accident, two perients

transferred to SMMC. 5:55 p.m. - 600 block I-20,medical call, patient transferred to VA Medical Center. 11:53 a.m. — 500 block Sgt. Paredez, grass fire.

Sunday 10:40 a.m. — 2500 block Larry, medical call, patient

transferred to SMMC. 3:46 p.m. — 1100 block Lamesa Hwy., medical call, patient transferred to SMMC.

 $7:10 \, p.m. - 2300 \, block$ Wasson, medical call, patient transferred to Stanton hospital. 8:03 p.m. — 3500 block E. I-20, medical call, patient transferred to SMMC.

RECORDS

Sunday's high 68 Sunday's low 40 Average high 53 Average low 26 Record high 79 in 1956 Record low 0 in 1947 Precip. Sunday 0.00 Month to date 0.00 Month's normal 0.03 Year to date 0.00 Normal for the year 0.03 **Statistics not available







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Fossett's fourth attempt to circle globe ends on edge of Black on the edge of the Black Sea early

today, stymied by low winds, low fuel and equipment problems that left him

shivering in his cockpit. After flying about a third of the way

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on his trip, Fossett decided to end the attempt and land after crossing the Black Sea, his control team said. He landed at 5:27 a.m. CST about 50 miles north of Krasnodar, Russia, according to Vitaly Andreyev, of Russia's civil aviation authority in Moscow.

Officials in the area told Andreyev that the landing was smooth. Joe Ritchie in the balloonist's control center here said a Russian official had told the center staff that Fossett was modities trader, took off from St. Louis

fourth attempt to pilot a balloon non- "It's just a really really difficult task stop around the world came to an end- to accomplish;" mission control director Alan Blount said. "We're getting cockpit and directional controls, chief

> Asked about the possibility someone else will beat him to the record, Blount said: "If they do, it's great. More power to them, but they'll encounter the same sort of obstacles."

Two other balloonists were gearing up make their own try this week. Pilot Dick Rutan of Mojave, Calif., veteran of the first nonstop airplane flight around the world, and co-pilot Dave Melton of Espanola, N.M., plan to take off early Tuesday from Albuquerque,

Fossett, a 53-year-old Chicago com-

on Wednesday. He began running into allowing Fossett to climb or maintain trouble Saturda when equipment failures caused problems with heat in the engineer Tim Gole said. Fossett also was running low on fuel.

The heater failure, which normally keeps the 6-by-4-foot gondola's temperature at between 45 and 50 degrees, left the cockpit at about 24 degrees around Fossett's feet.

"We know that he's cold, we know that he's uncomfortable and he's ready to end this one," Blount said earlier this morning.

More bad news came with the malfunction of one of the two propane burners that are fired whenever the air craft must be heated for extra lift, and 21/2 hours. Those records were set

crawl through the bubble top of his gondola to fire them manually, allowing more cold air inside.

A significant problem was the inability to get the balloon into the fast-moving subtropical jet stream farther south, Cole said.

Fossett decided to cut short his Blount said. Despite the problems, Fossett had been upbeat in his communications, team members said

Fossett still had hoped he might break his own record of traveling 10,361 miles in a balloon, or his own hot-air portion of his helium and hot-precord for longest duration, six days

in January 1997, when he was forced to land in a mustard field in India because he ran out of fuel.

Where he landed today, though, he had broken neither record. The landing site is about 7,300 miles from St. Louis, and his flight lasted about 41/2

In addition to the attempt in January 1997, Fossett previously tried to fly attempt Sunday evening St. Louis; around the world in January 1996, but time, while crossing the Black Sea, was forced to land in Canada. In 1995, Fossett had become the first person to fly solo across the Pacific in a balloon. Ground control said that he didn't announce it at the time, but he had really hoped to continue around the world that time, making this week's effort his fourth attempt.

Maine prepares for controversial 'death with dignity' proposal

Karen Cox tenderly watches over her sleeping husband at home. She strokes his head. bald from radiation, and whispers lovingly, hoping he understands despite the three tumors ravaging his brain.

Alan Cox, a 49-year-old analyst for the state Department of Labor, felt dizzy Oct. 20. Two weeks later, he lapsed into a coma. He has regained consciousness and feels no pain, his wife says, but his left side is paralyzed and he can't converse. Alerthess fades in and

Standing by the side of his bed, Cox, 43, a city worker in Augusta, doesn't know if she'll ever get her Alan back. One thing she is certain of, however, is that she would never help her husband of two years end his life.

"It's not my call to end his suffering," she says. "I'm experiencing the loss of my husband, but this is his life and I don't know why he's suffering, I don't know why he has to go through this. It's not up to me to determine to end his suffering because I don't want to suf- Oregon's law.

She calls his experience la spiritual journey.

A widow in York County feels differently. Her husband, a self-made millionaire and voracious reader in his late 70s, shot himself 10 years ago after a long battle with severe asthma capped by late blind-

It would have been better "if he could just have been given something to have let him go to sleep and been put out of his misery, rather than to have my daughter go into the room with me and find that gun in his right hand and his head drooped over on his right shoulder and blood coming out of his mouth," says the woman, who asked not to be identified.

These are the polar ends of the emotional, gut-wrenching debate in Maine and across the country about assisted suicide, or "physician aid in dying" as

supporters call it. This month, Legislature takes up a bill that would legalize it under certain conditions. The bill's sponsor, Democratic Rep. Joseph Brooks, is a Roman Catholic who expects the Church will

Maine lawmakers have considered the issue three times before, most recently in 1995. when the bill made it out of committee for the first time but was soundly defeated on the floor.

According to the National Conference of Legislatures, 24 states introduced legislation concerning assisted suicide last' year. South Dakota and Virginia enacted laws that, prevent authorities from physicians liable for prescribing or administering medication to relieve pain even if the dosage hastens death.

Only Oregon allows terminally ill patients to request a prescription for medication to commit suicide. Before a prescription may be written, two doctors must determine the patient is mentally competent. not depressed and has less than six months to live. Then the patient must wait 15 days between requesting the drugs and picking them up from a pharmacist.

Brooks' bill is similar to

Brooks and Fred Richardson. a former state legislator who has sponsored assisted suicide bills in the past, say the election of more liberals to Maine's Legislature and developments this year in Oregon and the U.S. Supreme Court have improved the odds of passage.

Over the summer, the high court said terminally ill people have no constitutional right to assisted suicide, but it did nothing to bar states from legalizing it.

In November, Oregon voters soundly rejected a ballot proposal to repeal their assisted suicide law.

Assisted suicide supporters have formed PRO-916, named after the number on Brooks' bill. The fledgling group has received \$10,000 from the rightto-die Hemlock Society USA and about \$15,000 from individuals, Richardson says.

Marc Mutty, spokesman for the Portland Roman Catholic Diocese, doesn't think the Legislature will approve assisted suicide.

Instead of helping people take their lives, society should be focusing on alleviating pain and improving care for the terminally ill, Mutty says.

New Bartlett council member proves to be a thorn in side of city on open records issue

in her new hometown of Bartlett stonewalled her when she asked for public information, she said, so Vyke Robbins ran for City Council - and

But little has changed, she said. Ms. Robbins, who was elected in May, says her open records requests are still mostly being ignored.

"Their general response is something to the effect of 'Yeah, yeah we'll get it to you.' But they never do anything," Robbins said. "There's always a reply verbally, but I never seem to get answers.'

Advocates of open records say the situation in Bartlett, a town of 1,648 about 50 miles northeast of Austin, underscores difficulties that Texans often face when requesting government docu-

Robbins said she first found herself at odds with Bartlett's government in October 1996, when she inquired about several rocking horses donated to Blue Santa, a charity sponsored by the local police department.

She said she had a tip that the gifts might not have been distributed, and she wanted to know where they were.

Before responding to her open records request, the city attorto the Texas attorney general's office for an opinion on whether the information was public.

After six months, Robbins was given information about the distribution of Blue Santa rocking horses in 1996, but was told no such records existed for the year before.

"Some people may not think that's horrific." Robbins said. "I thought it was."

Robbins then began looking into the city budget. She attended city council meetings and made more requests invoking

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DALLAS (AP) - City officials state public information laws. which he said is understaffed ernment," Franz said. "I believe Last April, a month before her and overworked.

election, Robbins submitted a request for information about Emergency Medical Services. The EMS director had been charging the city for overtime and Robbins said she wanted to review the personnel records of his department.

The city submitted the request to the attorney general for an opinion. Franz said the city was concerned about patient confidentiality.

State law permits public agencies to request an attorney general's opinion if there is a question over whether a record might legally be kept from public view, such as attorney-client matters or private personnel

But M.J. Nicchio of the Texas Daily Newspaper Association said some government agencies use the excuse of asking for an attorney general's opinion to delay release of public records.

"To use the attorney general's office to discourage or postpone requests goes against the principles of open records," he said.

Of the 48 open records requests Robbins has made since October 1996, she said she is still awaiting information on at least six.

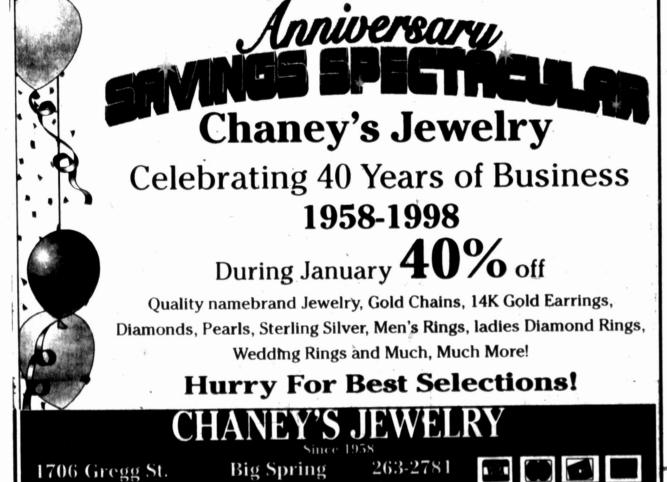
Bartlett Mayor Jimmy Franz, ad ney submitted Robbins' request said Robbins' requests ide Mid ing those she has needesas a member of the City Council, are causing a problem for the town,

"We've never had that many almost shut down City Hall because we are having to deal with the requests instead of the normal functionings of city gov-

in open records, and I believe in open government. I don't want requests before, and it has to take that away from the people, but when it's being abused we need to have a way to deal with it.'







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

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Copy/Layout Editor

OTHER VIEWS

Sending Oklahoma City bombing conspirator Terry Nichols to prison for the rest of his life is a wholly satisfying punishment for his role in America's worst act of domestic terrorism.

The jury was obviously torn about how to deal with Nichols' involvement in a crime that claimed 168 lives and injured more than 500.

Prosecutors had evidence that bound him to the plot and tied him to financing and construction of the truck bomb, but not to the final acts that led to its detonation outside the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building.

Jurors apparently separated Nichols' role in the conspiracy from the murderous decision to ignite the fuse. They are empowered to make distinctions that terrorists and bombs do not.

In their own twisted thinking, Nichols and his partner, convicted murderer Terry McVeigh, were avenging the 1993 federal raids on the Branch Davidian compound in Waco, Texas. They never gave the benefit of the doubt to 19 children in a day-care center or pensioners visiting the Social Security offices.

Nichols does not need to be sentenced to death to end his life. Remove him from the society he turned his back on in the first delusional moments of conspiracy. Let the quiet, contemplative man described by defense attorneys stew in the corrosive bile of his own self pity. ...

> THE SEATTLE TIMES Seattle, Wash.

Television has been a popular venue for the advertising of nostrums since the days of the 9-inch screen.

But more and more manufacturers are using television to advertise prescription drugs. Most of the commercials suggest customers ask their physicians for specific drugs.

Pharmaceutical companies have discovered the approach is more direct than advertising in obscure medical journals seen only by medical professionals...

Physicians are complaining that patients are demanding prescriptions for many of the advertised drugs. Traditionally, physicians have suggested the proper treatment.

Pushy patients are berating physicians who won't respond to their demands. Physicians who have reservations about certain drugs are having difficulty in appeasing their patients....

Physicians have a right to be wary. They've been burned.

During the diet-drug rage, they too readily wrote millions of prescriptions for drugs based on public demand. The result in thousands of cases were combinations that proved dangerous to the health of the

The smart consumer is the one who listens to his physician over his television screen.

THE HAWK EYE Burlington, Iowa

Out of calamity comes opportunity

Nowhere is that maxim more apparent right now than in the two Koreas, where economic collapse in the democratic South may, paradoxically, provide a

key to improved relations with the communist North. Financial turmoil in the South and the accompanying victory of President-elect Kim Dae Jung provide a window of opportunity for peace that may be wider than at any recent time.

Kim, as the first outsider to break the grip of South Korea's ruling party, presents a new face and a new approach that gives North Korean leaders a face-saving means of getting serious at the bargaining table.

Officials in Pyongyang can point to this transition in the South and say that their antagonists have changed while they've remained constant. No longer bound by rhetoric aimed at the current government, they can negotiate more freely to re-enter the community of nations.

But equally as significant as a change in leadership in the South is the change in South Korea's economic fortunes. The need for a \$57 billion bailout package and maybe more — from the International Monetary Fund and a downgrading of Seoul's credit rating to "junk bond" status has left the proud South humiliated. ...

THE BUFFALO NEWS Buffalo, N.Y.

Death row mercy shouldn't be based on sex

Scripps Howard News Service

Much as many of us might wish we could get beyond sexual stereotypes and get on with it, a death row case from Texas forces us to realize that gender differentiation, if not discrimination, is still quite alive and well in America. This fascinating test of one's gender bias or lack thereof comes to us in the case of one Karla Faye Tucker.

Tucker's February 3d execution date is scheduled as state retribution for one of the most blood-curdling murders in Houston history. She readily admits that during a druginduced high she helped a boyfriend murder two sleeping people. She's even on record as describing in horrid detail how she experienced a surge of sexual pleasure while driving a pick-ax through a sleeping woman's throat.

The odd thing is that some of her most prominent supporters admit that were she a man,

they would not be making very public appeals for her clemency. It is simply due to her tender gender that her case is drawing national attention. Pat Robertson, founder of the Christian Coalition and now a national televangelist - and ordinarily no opponent of the death penalty, has appealed to Texas Gov. George Bush to spare Tucker's life. Similarly, the sister of one of the victims. a juror in her case and former prosecutors say she should be spared the punishment that Texas levied on 37 men in 1997. with nary a peep of protest.

What makes the outcry in support of Tucker extraordinarily ironic is that the number of women prisoners in the United States is skyrocketing, and to hear them tell it, abuses of them are skyrocketing as well. Yet their plights receive neither the sympathy nor the attention given to Tucker. The National Women's Law Center reports that women represent the fastest growing prison pop-

The LIBERAL LINE

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ulation. Between 1980 and 1993 the growth rate for female prisoners was 313 percent, compared with 182 percent for

The National Prison Project tells us that prison guards routinely sexually assault female prisoners. A lawsuit filed against Washington, D.C. in 1994 by women prisoners claimed guards forced sick prisoners to perform oral sex on them. A Georgia case filed by women prisoners said dozens of women prisoners, some as young as 16, were raped by guards, maintenance workers and a prison chaplain. It even alleged some women prisoners conceived during these rapes and were coerced by prison staff to have abor-

If one is to break ranks with a general lack of sympathy for prisoners and give Tucker special consideration on account of gender, logical consistency calls for the same mercifulness for other women prisoners.

And yet that is nowhere apparent.

But special treatment on account of gender is not appropriate in Tucker's case, nor in any other. Because the unfortunate corollary to special treatment is mistreatment. If women can be spared the horrors that men face, they can be spared the difficulty of, say, driving an 18-wheeler crosscountry overnight. Isn't that, too, something so taxing that only a man can endure it?

No, if we as a nation support the death penalty (and poll after poll shows we do by an overwhelming margin) then Tucker will have to take it like a man, or set an example for what taking it like a woman is to mean for the many who will surely follow her.

(Bonnie Erbe, host of the PBS program "To the Contrary," writes this column weekly for Scripps Howard News Service. Her E-mail address is 102404,3317@CompuServe.com.)

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White House office winning friends in nation

By EILEEN SHANAHAN

Governing Magazine

Randy Johnson, president of the National Association of Counties, has a two-word description of the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, and it might seem amazing, especially since the chairman of the Hennepin County, Minn., commissioners is a Republican.

"They're splendid," says Johnson. "They've gone out of their way to seek county views on a variety of issues. They give us access to the administration. It's a night-and-day difference from a year ago. Then, we didn't even get our calls returned, let alone get in the

Inevitably, there is some dissent from his view, but among city and county officials it approaches unanimity. Among governors, and the people who work for them, the sentiments are more mixed, but still predominantly favorable

That would be good news at any time, but right now it is especially valuable to have attentive and effective people in the White House intergovernmental office (not to mention the corresponding offices, many of them recently created or expanded, in some 30 federal agencies).

They are urgently needed, because one of the consequences of devolution, it turns out, is an ever-longer, more important and more complex

array of issues that can pit almost every possible combinaother.

The unfavorable comments about White House "intergov" people of yesteryear primarily refer to those who served in the first Clinton administration. Mickey Ibarra, who took over

as Clinton's director of intergovernmental affairs just this past June, concedes that "the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs is responsible, first of all, for building support for the president's policy initiatives.' But he, and Lynn Cutler, his deputy for city and county affairs, have coupled that priority with plenty of consultation and action on behalf of those whom Ibarra calls "our partners in government.'

Johnson, for example, cites the group of federal officials representing 14 different agencies that Ibarra and Cutler brought to NACo's most recent national convention, setting them up in a room where any county officeholder could come and talk through problems.

Debby Kilmer, director of Florida's Washington office, says when she can't get a timely answer from Health Care Financing Administration staff about whether something's permissible under Medicaid, "the White House will set up a meeting with more reasonable people." It doesn't mean Florida always gets what it wants, but it does get a decision.

All the top people in today's intergov office bring strong tion of federal, state and local backgrounds to the job. Ibarra, into politics and advocacy and working with officialdom at various levels with the National **Education Association. Cutler** was a county official in Iowa. Fred DuVal, the office's point man for state officials, has been one himself, under former Gov. Bruce Babbitt in Arizona.

All that being said, what really lies ahead for state and local governments and their new found friends in the White House? Battles royal, at every

Some fights will be familiar, such as who gets how much highway money and under what rationale, a problem complicated by new concepts surrounding transportation policy. Other struggles over money are new. For instance, local governments foresee a clash with the states to keep from being left out when the feds distribute the new block grant for health care for poor children.

But that's not all. An entirely different set of issues is suddenly emerging - most championed by conservative Republicans in the House and some by the administration. It's the very opposite of devolution: a drive to transfer to the federal government a wide array of powers traditionally exercised by state or local governments, or shared with the feds. Among the various proposals:

End local regulation of power

companies; require state and local governments to permit cellular telephone companies to build their towers anywhere they need to in order to reach every potential user; end state court jurisdiction over lawsuits involving the securities industry; and, most important, get state courts out of "takings" disputes over rights to the use of land.

The administration may well oppose most of these, certainly the "takings" legislation. But there are signs of administration support for a measure that would prohibit state or local taxation of Internet services.

Potentially even more contentious is an idea that has come out of the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development: To make housing more affordable for low-income families, limit the ability of local governments to impose building codes on prefabricated housing. Meanwhile, some knowledge-

able folks are predicting that the biggest intergovernmental fight of 1998 will come over which governments get how much of the financial settlement of state lawsuits against the tobacco industry Governments at every level claim that the health problems related to smoking have cost them big money Sounds like an issue made to

order for a rejuvenated White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs.

Distributed by Scripps Howard

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or leave voice mail

Elway's dominance continues in Broncos' 14-10 win over Chiefs

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — John Elway and Marty Schottenheimer each have their demons to conquer — like getting Super Bowl rings.

But when it comes to the Elway-Schottenheimer rivalry, it's no contest. The Denver Broncos and their quarterback have held the upper hand over Schottenheimer, no matter where he has coached.

And so it was Sunday - Denver 14, Kansas City 10 — with the Broncos moving on to Pittsburgh for next Sunday's AFC championship game.

"I think Marty's record in the regular-season speaks for itself," said Elway, a sometime off-season golfing partner of the Kansas City coach.

Yes, but these are the playoffs, where Schottenheimer is 5-11 after Sunday's - the second time in three seasons that his team has lost its first game at home as the AFC's top seed. As in 1996, when it was Indianapolis that won 10-7, Kansas City had been unbeaten at home in the regular sea-

Technically, it was Elway again the quarterback who authored "The Drive" that tied the 1986 AFC championship game against Schottenheimer's Cleveland Browns and beat those Browns again the following year.

He drove the Broncos into position for Terrell Davis' 1-yard run for the goahead touchdown 2 minutes, 28 seconds into the fourth quarter. That marked the 44th time in his 15-year

career that he's authored a game-saving drive in the final period.

But Elway wasn't even on the field when the game was won, putting Denver (14-4) one game away from becoming the fourth wild-card team to make it to the Super Bowl and compensating for its first-game elimination last season.

It was the Denver defense that won the game — Darrien Cordon knocking away an Elvis Grbac pass thrown into double coverage on a fourth down from the Broncos 20 with 12 seconds left.

It was a drive that took just under four minutes while Kansas City had trouble managing the clock. The Chiefs took their last timeout just nine seconds after the 2-minute warning when it could have saved it for later. And

Kansas City took more than 20 seconds to get off the last play.

'With all the crowd noise, I couldn't hear the play that was called in from the bench," said Grbac, who was 24-of-37 for 260 yards in his first full game since breaking his collarbone Nov. 3. "I take the blame."

This was classic tough playoff football - taking place in Kansas City because the Chiefs (13-4) had turned around the AFC race with a 24-22 victory over Denver Nov. 16 on Pete Stoyanovich's 54-yard field goal on the final play of the game.

Sunday's game had its mistakes. After a cautious first two quarters, the Chiefs finally appeared to score on Stoyanovich's 34-yard field goal.

But Greg Manusky was called for

holding and Stoyanovich, pushed back 10 yards, missed from 44 yards. Then Elway drove the Broncos 65 yards and went ahead 7-0 on the first 1-yard run by Davis, who gained 101 yards on 25

The Broncos missed another chance to score in the final minute of the half

when Elway was sacked and fumbled. After Kansas City cut Denver's lead to 7-3 on a 20-yarder by Stoyanovich. the Broncos blew a big chance.

Davis went 41 yards to the Kansas City 11, but had to rest the ribs he bruised last week in the wild-card win over Jacksonville. Two plays later, Derek Loville, fumbled the ball away.

That allowed the Chiefs to take their only lead — on a 12-yard TD pass from Grbac to Tony Gonzalez.

Lady Hawks, Hawks post Arizona wins

HERALD Staff Report

Howard College's Hawks and Lady Hawks, both playing in the Phoenix area, chalked up wins Saturday — the Lady Hawks taking a 71-41 win over South Mountain College, while the Hawks turned a second-half rally into a 90-85 win over Phoenix College's Bears.

Fresh off an upset of No. 3ranked Central Arizona in the opening night of the Scottsdale Classic, the No. 4 Lady Hawks had no trouble in putting South Mountain away early

Paced by Karlita Washington's 14 points, Howard jumped out to a 34-18 halftime lead and then slammed shut any comeback hopes South Mountain might have entertained behind the scoring of Shawnta Johnson, Ricka McKee and Jennifer Vinum.

Johnson scored 16 of her team-high 20 points in the second half, McKee added eight of her 11 on the night during that span and Vinum contributed six of her 10 points.

Washington finished the night with 16

South Mountain tried to counter the Lady Hawk onslaught behind Daveda Taylor, who scored 16 of her 23 game-high points in the second

The Lady Hawks, now 15-0 on the year, close out the classic tonight facing Community College's women.

Playing their first game since returning from the holiday break, the Hawks found themselves on the short end of a 48-42 halftime score at Phoenix, despite the 16-point production

of Alex Denson. In the final 20 minutes of play, however, the Hawks' defense turned stingy and Denson, who finished the night with a game-high 30 points, got scoring help from Clifton Cook and Joe Robinson.

Cook scored all of his 18 points in the second half and Robinson came up with eight of his 12 points in posting the win.

The Hawks, now 8-9 on the season, will attempt to reach the .500 mark tonight when they take on Glendale Community College.



session Sunday at Blankenship Field. The Warriors are one of eight teams taking part in the Pan American Football League's inaugural season. They will play an eight-game schedule in hopes of qualifying for the league's playoffs. The Warrlors' next workout session is set for 10 a.m. Saturday

Tennessee's Lady Vols in familiar spot atop AP women's hoops poll

Lady Raiders Top 25 move up one spot to No. 5

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tennessee held its familiar place atop The Associated Press women's basketball poll today. A not-so-familiar face, Utah, gained a spot near the other end

of the Top 25. Unbeaten Utah made the poll for the first time in history, breaking in at No. 22, and Tulane returned to the rankings at 24th after a two-week absence. There were several other changes up and down the list, but Tennessee remained unanimous at No. 1 after decisively answering two more challenges.

Texas Tech was ranked No. 5. Playing for the first time in almost two weeks, the Lady Vols beat Arkansas by 30 and Connecticut by 15 and received all 38 first-place votes from a national media panel. That gave Tennessee (15-0) 950 total points 38 more than No. 2 Old

Dominion. Old Dominion (10-0) was sec

Press' women's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses and records

1.Tennessee (38)	15-0
2.0ld Dominion	10-0
3.Connecticut	12-1
4.Louisiana Tech	10-2
5.Texas Tech	8-2
6.Vanderbilt	11-1
7. Washington	10-0
8.North Carolina	11-2
9. Virginia	10-1
10. Arizona	8-2
11. Illinois	9-4
12. Florida	10-3
13. SW Missouri St.	11.0
14. Stanford	5-4
15. Wisconsin	10-3
16. Nebraska	12-3
17. N. Carolina St.	121
18. Auburn	11.1
19. W. Kentucky	11-3
20. Georgia	9-3
21. Fla. International	110
22. Utah	11-0
23. Purdue	8-4
24. Tulane	10-2
25. Duke	10-4

ond for the seventh straight week, the same span that Tennessee has been unanimous. Tennessee, winner of the last two NCAA championships, has

been No. 1 all season. Connecticut (12-1) remained third with 850 points despite the loss to Tennessee, its first during the regular season in 53 games. Louisiana Tech (10-2)

By JIM LITKE

AP Sports Writer

stayed at No. 4 with 842 points. Texas Tech climbed two

places to fifth and was followed Vanderbilt, Washington, North Carolina, Virginia and Arizona. North Carolina fell three places after losing its ACC opener to Clemson. Big Ten victories over

Wisconsin and Michigan State and a 40-point thrashing of Colorado sent Illinois from 13th to 11th. Then it was Florida, Southwest Missouri State and Stanford, followed Wisconsin, Nebraska, North Auburn Carolina State, Western Kentucky and Georgia

The final five were Florida International, Utah, Purdue, Tulane and Duke.

Utah (11-0), off to its best start ever, missed a spot in the Top 25 by only five points last week. Voters made room for the Utes and Tulane (9-2) today by dropping Colorado and Arkansas.

Colorado (6-4), which had been 21st, lost to unranked UC-Santa Barbara in addition to Illinois and fell from the Top 25 for the first time this season. Arkansas (10-3) edged Missouri by a point before getting drubbed by Tennessee

Utah finally gained a spot in the poll after seven NCAA tour-

Pack's returning to NFC title game with 21-7 victory

GREEN BAY, Wis. - The Green Bay Packers know they'll have to play like Super Bowl champions next weekend to have a chance to become Super Bowl champions again. What they displayed in their first playoff effort simply won't be good enough.

The Packers were ragged for most of their 21-7 victory over the Buccaneers on Sunday. Luckily for Green Bay, the playoff novices from Tampa Bay were in a charitable mood.

"I think we struggled today," Green Bay receiver Antonio Freeman said. "But we did enough to win the ballgame. There is a lot of room for improvement."

That improvement must come rapidly: the Packers play at San Francisco next Sunday for the NFC championship. The 49ers aren't likely to be as generous.

"They're a great team and it will be the toughest game we've played all year," Brett Favre

"I think this game will be the game between the two best teams in the NFL." added Reggie White.

"I get excited for big games," said Dorsey Levens. "I want to play well and not be a liability. Hopefully, the guys can depend on you and you won't be one of those who blows a game."

Green Bay (14-3) easily could have blown this one. In their first meaningful game in nearly a month, the Packers' rust showed early. Their tackling was sloppy, they dropped a halfdozen passes, lost a fumble and Favre was intercepted twice.

Luckily, they were at home, where they've never lost in the playoffs and have won 27 straight overall. The Bucs also haven't won a game with the temperature below 42 degrees at kickoff; it was 29 at gametime Sunday.

Tampa Bay seemed to have stage fright, particularly on special teams. The Bucs had a field goal attempt blocked, another

another error when backup snapper Dave Moore's snap was too high for holder Steve Walsh to handle.

Trent Dilfer went 11-for-36 for 200 yards and was intercepted twice. The previously potent running game behind Offensive Rookie of the Year Warrick Dunn and fullback Mike Alstott stumbled.

"When you're playing a great team, you need to make great plays," Dilfer said. "We came up a bit short. We're not in the upper echelon yet, but we're close.

The Packers are there, as are the 49ers. Levens, who rushed for a team playoff record 112 yards and a clinching 2-yard touchdown, can't wait for the trip to San Francisco.

"That's the kind of game you live for," Levens said.

Levens, who gained 1,435 yards this season after being promoted to first string when Edgar Bennett was injured in training camp, had 88 yards in the second half. He made nearly all the key plays for Green Bay on offense after being held to 98 yards in two regular-season wins over the Bucs.

"It was a challenge," Levens said. "Are they going to do it again? Or are we going to step it up and prove we can run the

On defense and special teams the Pack got a more balanced effort. Robert Brooks, returning punts for the first time in three years, broke free for 28 yards to set up one of Ryan Longwell's two field goals. Freeman had a 90-yard kickoff runback negated by a penalty.

Generally, the Bucs weren't outclassed.

For instance, Tampa Bay tackle Warren Sapp was the best defensive player all day. He had seven tackles and three sacks, forced two fumbles and recovered one.

But he also kept up a running conversation with Favre that might have taken away from his concentration.

Sutton, Peres and Carter top list of Hall candidates

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Don Sutton's pitch for the Hall of Fame is simple — more than 300 wins, more than 3,500 strikeouts. "I do believe I've earned it," he said.

While the former Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher thinks those numbers are good enough for Cooperstown, he'll find out today whether they are enough to convince the Baseball Writers Association of America voters.

Sutton, however, is not planning any victory parties. "I don't have any champagne ready," he said. "I am disappointed not to already be there, and I'm not expecting it this

Tony Perez, Jim Rice and Ron Santo are among the 26 candi dates. Gary Carter, Bert Blyleven and Jack Clark lead the list of nine players on the ballot for the first time. Sutton is hoping to match the feat of Phil Niekro, elected to the

Hall last January on his fifth try. The longtime Atlanta knuckleballer was 318-274 lifetime with a 3.35 ERA and 3,342 strikeouts. Sutton was 324-256 with a 3.26 ERA

and 3,574 strikeouts. This is Sutton's fifth time on the ballot - he came within nine votes of making it last year — and it might be his best chance for a while.

Next year, a dazzling crop of candidates will be eligible for the first time. Nolan Ryan, George Brett and Robin Yount appear to be shoo-ins, and Carlton Fisk and Dale Murphy also figure to get

Sutton's supporters say he was an excellent pitcher for a prolonged period. His critics claim his 23 seasons just make him a testament to longevity.

When people say the singular charm of college football is precisely that it allows for a split national championship, this is what comes to mind: Unhappy fans in two towns instead of one all screaming, "We're

No such chants were reported over the weekend in either Ann Arbor, Mich., or Lincoln, Neb., though clearly that was the prevailing sentiment on both campuses. Members of Michigan's football team

paraded The Associated Press' trophy around Crisler Arena to rousing cheers Saturday night. But it was like grateful relatives cheering a contestant on "The Price is Right" for winning a refrigerator, even though what everybody really wanted was the new car.

More telling was coach Lloyd Carr mentioning to the local newspaper that it was "a disappointment" so many of his lodge brothers changed their vote at the last minute in the USA Today/ESPN coaches poll.

Or safety Marcus Ray grumbling about the last-minute lobbying campaign Nebraska's players mounted the second the Orange Bowl was over. Apparently, given the way the Cornhuskers ran up the score on Tennessee, he expected them to be tired "Nobody." Ray said "owes

Nebraska anything."

If it's any consolation, Cornhuskers coach Tom Osborne didn't get wild and crazy celebrating his half of the national championship, either. Having been award ed a full share just three years ago at the expense of Penn State, he knew enough to collect the hardware and lock it up in a trophy case back at school before somebody tried to take it back. In what could become a postscript to his career, Osborne simply asked, "Who knows why people vote the way they do?'

There will be no definitive answer, and in the case of the coaches' poll no one to put the question to. The 62 coaches who make up the panel work anonymously. If you want to speculate, the most damn

ing piece of evidence offered by Nebraska's supporters was the 0-6 record that Michigan's beaten foes compiled in bowl games. Any Michigan comeback would note that

Nebraska needed bad officiating and a miracle play in overtime against Missouri to avoid a defeat that would have made the matter moot months ago. It has been noted elsewhere that some of the Cornhuskers eye-popping numbers were padded at the expense of teams like Akron (2-9) and lows

This point-counterpoint business could go on and on, which wouldn't upset some of the powers-that-be in the game at this

What can national champions cry: 'We're No. 1/2?'

There will be conversations about a playoff system, too, and the end result won't be any more productive. At least not for the next couple of years. This past season culminated in 20 bowl games, paying about \$100 million.

Estimates that a playoff could generate twice that much, minimum, and perhaps even three times, got the college presidents all excited at the NCAA's annual convention last January. A report was commissioned and Wyoming president Terry Roark, whose school was left out of the bowl picture the season before despite a 10-2, asked the President's Commission to develop a playoff system with or without the cooperation of "presently vested bowl interests."

But like plenty of the presidents' past forays into the murky waters of college athletics, the movement ran out of steam. The "presently vested bowl interests" went back to work on forging yet one more alliance that would promise one more time to find a way to match No. 1 and No. 2 in a bowl game every year.

That bunch now controls all the teams and enough of the bowls to do that. It still, however, will have to rely on the polls in any number of scenarios. And imagine the chants if it comes down to a half-dozen unbeaten or once-beaten teams.

"We're No. 1/3?"

Editor,

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR TUESDAY, JAN. 6:

ative, charming and dynamic this year. You envision a better life for yourself. Make your dreams realities, rather than putting desires on the back burner. You might be forced to take a strong hand with a family member. Be especially careful regarding real estate investments. If you are single, a relationship of a special nature is likely. Be sure to take off your rose-colored glasses and view this person clearly. If attached, you might not see some of your mutual concerns, but you will be more romantic than ever before. LIBRA bolsters your image.

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

You easily get discouraged dealing with partners. There's inspired, and leads you in new are about to make a dream come true. Tonight: Out and about.****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Be more in touch with your energy levels. You have pushed way beyond your true capacity. Focus on work, what you want and how much you can do. An efficiency expert helps you streamline, eliminate red tape and maximize potential.

You are creative, imaginative and dynamic. You need to place terms on another's demands. A friend asks more than you can give. A partner shares insight and advice. You cannot question how much others care for you. Tonight: Go along with

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You come from a strong basis on a personal matter. You clearly realize your limitations. Defer to another, make requests and think through what is key for you. Discussions are important and make for unusual sense of empathy. Tonight: Do things for yourself.***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

You are pressured by mes-Realize it is you who is deciding to feel pressured. Take time with a co-worker to brainstorm about what could be. Make an appointment for a checkup. Don't take your health for granted. Tonight: At a favorite

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Be concerned with a partner's change of stance. He feels the need to rein in the budget, as well as emotions, which could be depressing. But you know

how to warm up a loved one. Use your talents to take off some of the pressure. Tonight: Your treat.**

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Your personality might grate on another and push him away. Be clear with this person about your views. He has been hard on you. Build on your dreams and needs. Don't hesitate anymore. Make yourself No. 1. Tonight: A smile goes a long way.****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Slow down, and take stock. Reorganize, and eliminate superfluous things in your life. You need to take better care of yourself. Keep your opinions to yourself for now. You might very well change your opinion

once you hear more information. Tonight: Vanish.** SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec

A love one makes demands. Before agreeing, pull back and think. What is important are the implications. Think along that line when making a decision. A financial situation enhances your position. Be careful that funds don't slip through your hands. Tonight: With friends.****

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan.

You are in the limelight. Others look to you for answers. ideas and inspirations. A family member continues to be contrary, making you wonder why you put up with the attitude. Now is as good a time as any to put your foot down. Tonight: Make a "must" appearance.***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Reach out for those who are at a distance. You need feedback. Your intuition is strong; follow through on a gut feeling. Some might actually find you spooky! You wonder if someone is intentionally pushing your buttons. Perhaps you should ask! Tonight: Inside your head.****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) A friend comes through for you, and you are ecstatic. But find out if there are any conditions! You don't want any surprises around the corner. Be careful with finances; don't count on funds before they arrive. A little caution goes a long way. Tonight: With a

favorite person.**** For America's best extended recorded Jacqueline Bigar, call (900) 740-7444, 99 cents per minute. Also featured are The Spoken Tarot and The Runes, which answer your yes-or-no questions. Callers must be 18 or older. A service of InterMedia Inc.. Jenkintown, Pa.

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at http://www.coolpage.com/bigar.

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Grandma thinks teachers could lighten girl's load

DEAR ABBY: My granddaughter, at the age of 14, is seeing a chiropractor because back

problems caused by the back pack she carries to school five days week. Н е

teachers require her have

three-ring binder for

Columnist each class, no exceptions. Abby, this school has no lockers, and each child is expected to carry the pack home each night and return it to school the next day

Abigail

Van Buren

Twenty pounds and up is too much for an adult to carry, let alone a growing child. A newspaper article said children in France are fighting the same problem and that it has become a national disgrace. What are teachers thinking of?

As yet, I haven't seen a backpack with wheels, so I may have to get my granddaughter a luggage cart to save her back. Any comments? -- AN OUT-RAGED GRANDPARENT IN BOULDER, COLO.

DEAR OUTRAGED GRAND-PARENT: Backpacks distribute weight more evenly than the old book bags we carried in school, but I agree that 20 pounds is a heavy weight.

Many college students, who have even larger books, often strap their books and documents onto portable luggage carriers for easy transport. At age 14, your granddaughter may not want to be different from her friends who still use backpacks, but wheels would ease the strain on her back.

DEAR ABBY: It is unfortunate that "Dumbfounded in Foxboro, N.C." was suspected of shoplifting, detained and questioned. It is even more unfortunate that he felt humiliated and will no longer shop in that store again. The security officer acted dis-

creetly bv "Dumbfounded" to follow her. When she realized her mistake, she apologized. Why didn't "Dumbfounded" think, "At least I know this store is trying to hold people accountable and not permit shoplifters to get away with theft (which causes retail prices to rise)"?

Abby, the security officer made a mistake for which she apologized. An apology should be sufficient.

The world would be a much kinder and gentler place if we treated each other with understanding and forgiveness, not retaliation .- KATHY IN WASH **INGTON**

DEAR KATHY: I agree, and since this is the beginning of the new year, I'm sure the security officer who made the mistake would be relieved to know that she has been

01998 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

TAKE TIME OUT FOR YOURSELF READ

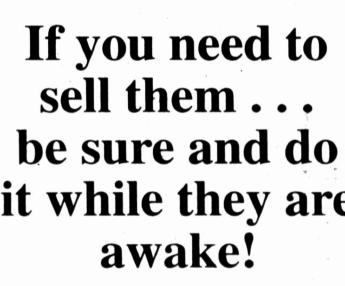
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JAN. 5

MONDAY

		KMID (2)	KPEJ (3)	KERA (5)	FAM (6)	KOSA (7)	WFAA (B)	KWES (1)	WTBS (11)	UNI (13)	DISN (10	NASH (15)	TMC (10)	SHOW 20	HBO -(22)	KMLM24	ALE (25)	DISC (26)	TNT (28)	FSN (29)	ESPN (30)	AMC 31	BET 33
-		Midland	Odessa	Dellas		Odessa	Outles	Mideed	Atlanta	Spanish	Premium	Restorite	Prentien	Premium	Premium	Odeses	New York	- Discovery	Atlanta	Sports	Sports	Classics	Black Ent.
6	:PM :30	News (CC) Fortune		Science Guy Creatures	Waltons		News (CC) Fortune	News Seinfeld (CC)	Andy Griffith Andy Griffith	Esmeralda	Movie: Flight of the Naviga-	Dukes of Hazzard	(:10) Movie: No Mercy	57	Storyteller	John Hagee Today	Law & Order (CC)	Gimme Shelter	Babylon 5 (CC)	FOX Sports NHL Hackey:	College	Movie: Stars and Stripes	Planet Groove
		Funniest Home Videos	Melrose Place (CC)	Nova (CC)	Rescue 911 (CC)	Raymond		Suddenly Fired Up (CC)		Maria Isabel	tor (CC) Honey, I Blew		(CC)	Movie: Thunderheart		Light of the Southwest	Biography	Wild Discovery	WCW Nitro	Dallas Stars at New	Basketball	Forever (CC) Movie:	grand Marian
	:PM :30	50/50 (CC)	Ally McBeal (CC)	Masterpiece Theatre (CC)	Diagnosis Murder (CC)	George & Leo Style		Caroline Naked Truth	Return	Alguna Vez	Up the Kid (CC)	Prime Time Country (CC)	Poison by: The New	(cc) "	. ^	(A)	Poirot	Titanic-Begins	* 1	Jersey Devils	College		Hit List
9	:PM :30	Practice (CC)	Earth: Final Conflict	::	Hawaii Five-0 (CC)	Brooklyn South (CC)	Practice (CC)	Dateline (CC)	(:20) Movie:	Cristina: Edi- cion Especial		Monday Night	Seduction	Movie: Denise Calls	Firestorm: 1st Movie: Drive	News Something	Sherlock Holmes	Firehouse- Streets	WCW Nitro (CC)	College	Basketball: Texas at		Comicview
10	:PM :30		Home Imp. Mad Abo. You	News-Lehrer	700 Club	News (:35) Late	News (CC) Nightline	News Tonight Show	Child's Play		Walt Disney Presents	Dallas	The Pompatus of	Up (:35) Mavie:	(CC)	Good Today Joseph Good		Justice Files	3.6	Basketball: California at	Missouri Spertscenter	the Sky	BET Tonight
11	:PM :30	Nightline (:36) Keenen	Vibe ,.	Nova (CC)	Bonanza-Lost		Ent. Tonight Politically Inc.	(CC) (:32) Late	Wild! I ife Adventures	Al Ritmo de la Noche	Zorro (CC) Mickey Mouse	Dukes of Hazzard	Love (:20) Movie:	Last Man Standing	(:15) Movie: North Star		Biography	Wild Discovery	Movie: The Killer Elite	Oregon State Sports News			227 (CC) Midnight Love
-12	:AM :30	Ivory Wayans Politically Inc.	Martin (CC) In the Heat of	Nova (CC)	Paid Program Paid Program	Late Late Show	La Vida Ent. Tonight	Night (CC) Gayle King	(12:05) TOPX	Club America	Movie: Blackbeard's	Prime Time Country (CC)	Mortal Thoughts	(12:15) Movie: The	(CC) (:45) Movie:	Light of the Southwest	Poirot ,	Titanic-Begins	::	FOX Sports News	Christian at New Mexico	Forever (CC)	

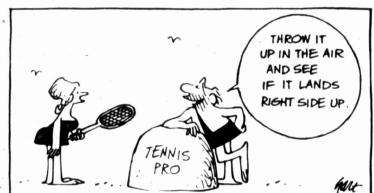
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B.C.





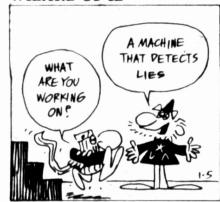
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HI AND LOIS





GASOLINE ALLEY



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BEETLE BAILY





BLONDIE





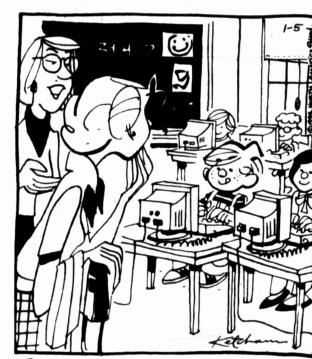


FAMILY CIRCUS

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I got the whole puzzle in its tray. Now all I hafta do is smooth it out."



*DENNIS IS VERY GOOD WITH COMPUTERS. SO FAR HE'S TAKEN THREE OF THEM APART.

THIS DATE **IN HISTORY**

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

fifth day of 1998. There are 360 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Jan. 5, 1896, an Austrian newspaper (Wiener Presse) reported the discovery by German physicist Wilhelm Roentgen of a type of radiation

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that came to be known as "Xrays.'

On this date:

In 1589, Catherine de Medici of France died at age 69. In 1781, a British naval expe-

dition led by Benedict Arnold burned Richmond, Va. In 1895, French Capt, Alfred

Dreyfus, convicted of treason, was publicly stripped of his rank. (He was ultimately vindicated.) In 1925, Nellie T. Ross suc-

ceeded her late husband as governor of Wyoming, becoming the first female governor in U.S. history. In 1933, the 30th president of

the United States, Calvin Coolidge, died in Northampton, Mass., at age 60.

In 1943, educator and scientist George Washington Carver died

in Tuskegee, Ala., at age 81. In 1949, in his State of the Union address, President

Truman labeled his administration the "Fair Deal." In 1970, Joseph A. Yablonski,

an unsuccessful candidate for the presidency of the United Mine Workers, was found murdered with his wife and daughter at their Clarksville, Pa., home.

In 1972, President Nixon ordered development of the space shuttle.

In 1994, former House speaker Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill died in Boston at age 81.

Ten years ago: The U.N. Security Council voted unanimously to ask Israel not to deport Palestinians from the occupied territories in the first council vote against Israel since 1981. Basketball star "Pistol" Pete Maravich died of a heart attack during a pickup game in Pasadena, Calif., at age 40.

Five years ago: The state of Washington executed Westley Allan Dodd, an admitted child sex killer, in America's first legal hanging since 1965. A Liberian-registered tanker ran aground in Scotland's Shetland Islands, spilling more than 24 million gallons of light crude

One year ago: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat held a secret, predawn summit, but fell short of agreement on the issues delaying an Israeli troop withdrawal from Hebron.

Today's Birthdays:

Records founder Sam Phillips is 75. Former Vice President Walter F. Mondale is 70. Actor Robert Duvall is 67. Raisa Gorbachev is 66. Football Hallof-Fame coach Chuck Noll is 66. Singer Johnny Adams is 66. King Juan Carlos of Spain is 60. Talk show host Charlie Rose is 56. Actress-director Diane Keaton is 52. Actor Ted Lange is

Today is Monday, Jan. 5, the THE Daily Crossword

ACROSS Memorable periods 5 Painter Hals

10 Nervous putter's malady 14 Holes in golf

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Jamaica 18 Pharmacist 20 Chapel Hill sch.

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By Eugene R. Puffenberger

Reston, VA

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5 Brouhaha

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12 Prune

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19 Burning coal

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