

BIG SPRING HERALD

WEDNESDAY

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50 cents

Reflecting A Proud Community

Howard College to increase tuition for out-of-state students

By KATHY GILBERT
Staff Writer

Fees will increase for out-of-state and foreign students in the Fall 1998 semester. Howard College officials announced at their regular meeting Monday.

The board voted to approve fee increases they say are necessary to keep out of state and foreign students fees high enough relative to Texas and Howard County residents to be fair to all concerned.

A steady rise in tuition for out-of-district students (Texas residents who do not reside in Howard County) threatened to

eclipse the rates for out of state and foreign students, Vice President of Institutional Development Linda Conway said.

"In about 1994 the tuition for out-of-district students began to increase by one dollar per credit hour," Conway explained. "It went up one dollar each year to make it not quite so painful."

The board approved a nine dollar per credit unit tuition increase for out of state and foreign students, from \$18 to \$27.

"Howard College is going to lose," student Bill Vaughn of Ohio said. "The quality of education is going to suffer, along

with the students. It's not their fault. It seems like when enrollment's down it's tough."

"We'll have no sports," Big Spring student Rebecca Feaster said. "Most of the athletes are recruited from outside the area. And we'll lose money at the games."

Full scholarship student Ian Owens Lansing, Mich. said he would be unaffected by the tuition increase. "My school's always been paid for. But for other students who are struggling to pay, the increase might hurt more."

Vaughn explained that he decided to become a Howard

County resident last year so he wouldn't have to pay the increased tuition. He had been told about the upcoming tuition rise some time ago, he said.

"All you hear about is board meetings and budget cuts," Vaughn said. "If they want to increase out-of-state tuition, increase the quality of education."

Howard approved the tuition increase at its first regularly scheduled board meeting so that "we could get the word out," Conway said. "Students are applying for financial aid right now."

Fees for non-resident students

carrying a full-time load of 12 units will increase from \$416 in Spring 1998 to \$524 in Fall 1998. For the same course load, out-of-district tuition will change from \$322 to \$334 while in-district tuition will remain at \$216, Conway said.

All students will be required to pay \$194 in fees in addition to tuition. Fees for Big Spring campus students will remain the same. San Angelo students will bear the cost of an extra \$40 for building use fees in the Fall, official said.

"The San Angelo students pay an extra building use fee because there is no brick-and-

mortar funding for that campus so the cost goes back to the students," Conway explained.

The board reworked transcript and graduation fees to reduce paperwork and encourage students to attend graduation. The \$10 graduation fee has been eliminated. Beginning in Fall 1998 students will pay a flat \$10 graduation fee when they register. After paying the fee, transcript requests will be free for ever. Howard official said, and graduation attendance will be free.

Howard will reap big benefits in reduced paperwork, Conway said.

Blackshear announces for third term during city council meeting

By CARLTON JOHNSON
Staff Writer

Mayor Tim Blackshear made his candidacy for a third term in office official at Tuesday's city council meeting, saying he would like continue the successes Big Spring has made in his first two terms.

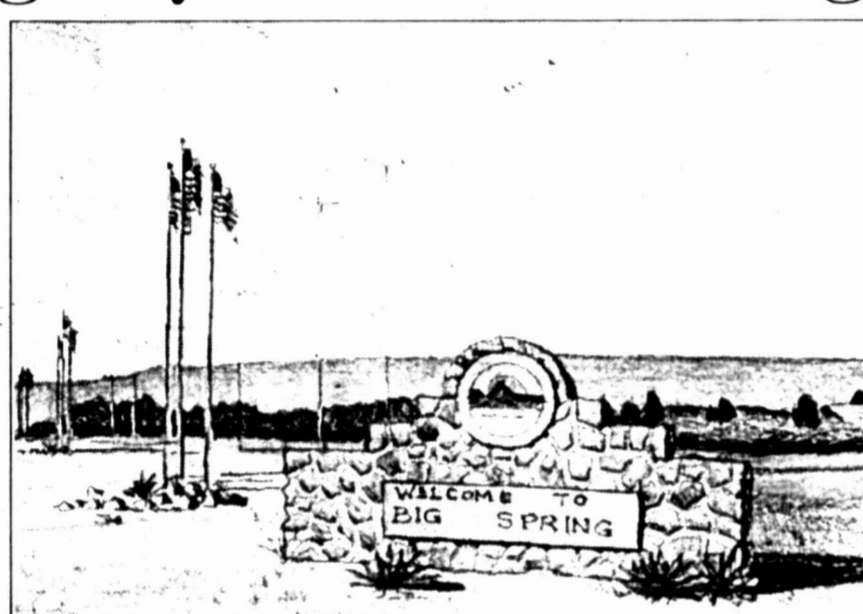
Other issues on Tuesday's meeting agenda included an update on the College Heights Waterline Replacement project by Grant Administrator Leigh Corson and a long range plan project update by Planning Coordinator Tara Kersh.

The total cost of the waterline project was \$357,675.90, which included construction contract costs of \$250,759.80 and the cost of material provided by the city.

"The only unexpected thing with the project was a large amount of rock excavation," Corson said. "We had to scale back the project."

Water distribution in the College Heights area was upgraded by installing 2,30 linear feet of 12 inch PVC pipe; 8,291 linear feet of eight-inch PVC pipe; 1,669 linear feet of six-inch PVC pipe; 1,032 linear feet of four-inch PVC pipe; and 110 linear feet of two-inch PVC pipe.

Kersh told council members that the big project for 1998, fol-



An artist's conception of proposed entry ways to Big Spring. The markers, to be constructed of native stone like the Big Spring observation deck, would be located on east and west Interstate 20 and north and south U.S. Highway 87.

lowing last year's downtown beautification project, is to develop gateways to the city.

The gateways will include rock signs (similar to the rock used to rebuild the historic spring last year) welcoming people to Big Spring and sets of three flags (the American flag, Texas flag and a flag carrying the city's logo).

"We picked this project because this is immediately visible and the public is very supportive of this type of project,"

Kersh said. "The gateway project is designed so that at 70 miles per hour the gateway effect lasts for seven seconds."

The gateways will be placed at city entrances and exits on U.S. Hwy 87 North and South and at Interstate 20 East and West.

City Manager Gary Fuqua told council members that this would be an excellent opportunity to take advantage of the rock work done by the city's Wilderness Camp inmates.



Progress continues on SWCID addition as Southwest Masonry workers Bobby Willis and Hermelio Bital (center) construct the outer wall.

Jury levies 7 1/2-year sentence

By KATHY GILBERT
Staff Writer

After two hours of deliberation a 118th District Court of Howard County jury sentenced Caitano "Tano" Chavarria to seven 1/2 years in jail and a \$10,000 fine.

Chavarria, who was found guilty Monday of possession of cocaine in the amount of one to four grams, remains in the Howard County jail.

"I feel the jury wanted to send a message that it was time this man faced up to his actions and paid the price," District Attorney Hardy Wilkerson said.

Wilkerson's closing statements in the guilt phase of the trial asked the jury to make a decision based on who they felt was telling the truth - the police or the defendant. "Once you decide who's truthful, the rest falls into place," he said.

Chavarria had served three prior sentences on drug charges. He was found guilty of a felony charge of possession of

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Preparations finalized for Chamber banquet

By CARLTON JOHNSON
Staff Writer

The annual banquet of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce is only 48 hours away and tickets need to be purchased, according to Chamber Programming Coordinator Debbye Valverde.

Everything is in place for Friday's banquet, according to Vice President for Public Affairs Lanelle Witt.

The banquet will also feature the naming of Big Spring's man and woman of the year for 1997.

The annual banquet is one of the first major events for the chamber's new board members and officers and is scheduled for 7 p.m.

The reception set for 6:30 p.m. prior to the banquet is to help welcome new Moore Development For Big Spring Inc. Executive Director Kent Sharp.

Sharp is a native of Perryton.

He and his wife have two children.

Before being named to replace former Executive Director Danette Toone, Sharp held similar positions for four years in Stamford and two years in Shamrock.

The banquet will be at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, and longtime Dallas Cowboys personality Ray Stone will be the guest speaker.

Chamber Program Coordinator Debbye Valverde said tickets for the banquet are \$12.50 in advance.

"People are encouraged to pick up their tickets in advance," Valverde said. "It makes things go much smoother."

"Tickets sales are a bit slow, but we expect in the neighborhood of 425 people to attend the banquet," Valverde added. "All people need to do to get their tickets is come by the chamber office."

See CHAMBER, page 2A



From left, Irene Maxwell, Lockie Schooling and Thelma Roberts enjoy an afternoon game of dominoes at the Big Spring Senior Center.

WEATHER

Tonight:



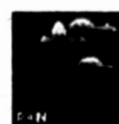
Thurs:



Fri:



Sat:



Tonight, fair. Lows mid 30s to lower 40s. Thursday, mostly sunny. Highs mid 60s to lower 70s. Thursday night, fair. Lows upper 30s to mid 40s. Extended forecast, Friday, partly cloudy. Highs near 70 to the mid 70s. Saturday, a chance of rain or thunderstorms.

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Vietnam Memorial Committee debuts web site

By JOHN H. WALKER
Managing Editor

Persons wanting to know more about the Big Spring Vietnam Memorial now have that opportunity without having to locate a member of the Vietnam Memorial Committee (VMC).

That's because the VMC now has its own web site — www.futurehost.com/vmc.

"We thought it would be a way to make people aware of the memorial, of what we're

doing and our plans," said committee member Charlie Lewis.

The web site has been on the Internet for less than two weeks, according to a site visitor register associated with the site.

Visitors to the Big Spring Vietnam Memorial home page can learn about the memorial itself, its history and future plans for the site.

In addition, the site carries a number of photographs of the memorial, the Huey and the F-4.

Lewis said the committee is

still working to raise money to effect the mounting of its F-4E Phantom jet on a static display by Memorial Day. The jet will join the UH-1 Huey helicopter mounted last May and dedicated on Memorial Day.

Lewis said the committee currently has about \$4,000 that has been pledged, but not delivered, and needs to have money available to pay for materials and services that are not being donated.

Two local companies will play a major role in the preparation of the jet for painting and the

painting of the warbird itself.

Spencer Coating will begin stripping the plane next Tuesday, utilizing a mixture of baking soda and water, so that the plane will be ready for Freecom to paint.

"Spencer will use the baking soda mixture because it won't pit the metal," explained VMC member Jerry Graves. "They will take the plane down to the base metal before turning it over to Freecom."

When Freecom gets hold of

See WEB, page 2A

Republicans ready to contrast their plan to Clinton's

WASHINGTON (AP) — Politely looking past White House turmoil, Republicans are eager to contrast their own election-year plan for tax cuts with President Clinton's call for more spending to buttress a "smaller government but a stronger nation."

"Big government or families? More taxes or more freedom?" is the choice confronting the country, Senate Majority leader Trent Lott countered Tuesday night in a high-tech GOP response to Clinton's prime time State of the Union address. Republican proposals — to improve education, day care opportunities and crack down further on crime — are "shaped by our commitment to family, to faith and to freedom," the

Mississippi Republican added. While they clashed freely over priorities, Clinton and most Republicans found common ground in avoiding mention of the crisis.

Clinton has denied charges that he had sex with a former White House intern and tried to cover it up, and never mentioned the subject as he stood before a House chamber packed with lawmakers, Supreme Court Justices, Cabinet officials and guests.

Lott touched on the explosive subject only in passing, when he warned Iraqi President Saddam Hussein that "despite any current controversy" the GOP-controlled Congress will "vigorously support the president" in defending American

interests. As is customary, the pageantry of a State of the Union address marked the kickoff of a yearlong struggle between the parties.

Clinton and Vice President Al Gore arranged to fly to the nation's heartland today to push their proposals for expanding Medicare, safeguarding Social Security and using an increase in the price of cigarettes to help expand child care, educational opportunities and other programs.

For their part, congressional Republicans scheduled their first hearing of the year on a top priority — legislation to tame the Internal Revenue Service.

Political reaction to the president's remarks fell along pre-

dictable lines. Democrats, heartened by the forceful denials Clinton uttered Monday about the Monica Lewinsky affair, applauded his proposals.

"There is tremendous unity in the Democratic party" around Clinton's agenda, said House Democratic leader Dick Gephardt of Missouri, "making HMOs work for patients, expanding child care to working families and striving to make college as universal as high school."

House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., credited Clinton with a "good, workmanlike speech," but took sharp issue with one presidential statement. "One thing I emphatically disagreed with was his

statement that the greatest health threat to our young people is tobacco. The greatest threat to our young people is crack cocaine and heroin."

Gingrich said in a brief interview lawmakers will pass tobacco legislation this year, but was vague on what it would contain. He was emphatic, though, in saying Republicans would oppose Clinton's attempts to take any additional revenue and spend it on federal programs.

The competition inherent on State of the Union night was clear.

Republicans led the applause when Gingrich's wife, Marianne, walked to her seat in the gallery overlooking the chamber. Democrats did likewise a few moments later when

first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton made her way to her seat across the way.

Her husband drew bipartisan applause when he renewed his pledge to submit a balanced budget for the fiscal year that begins Oct. 1. "If we hold fast to fiscal discipline we may balance the budget this year," he added.

Plunging into the debate over the use of future surpluses, he said, "I have a simple, four-word answer: save Social Security first."

Clinton's agenda for the congressional election year also includes a minimum wage increase of unspecified size, protections for patients enrolled in HMOs and self-financed eligibility for Medicare for those 55 and older.

Governor targets social promotion in program

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. George W. Bush says he will ask the next Texas Legislature to spend \$203.1 million on early elementary school programs that ensure students have skills they need before promotion to the next grade.

Bush went before a conference of school administrators Tuesday to sell his plan to end social promotion — advancing students from one grade to the next without the necessary academic skills.

His plan would link advancement to students passing the Texas Assessment of Academic

Skills at key points in their school careers. It would begin with third graders taking the TAAS in 2003.

"The message to our schools is this: Do what it takes to teach our children to read," Bush said.

Bush said the funding is focused on the earliest grades so students can be helped "before it is too late."

Proposals include teacher academies that educators would get a stipend to attend; intervention programs such as extended-year programs; and giving students more than one

chance to pass the TAAS.

The proposals focus primarily on kindergarten through third grade.

The \$203.1 million cost is from summer 1999 through 2001. In addition, the governor is proposing \$18 million more to expand a program that offers teachers intensive training in upper-level math, science and other subjects.

Democratic gubernatorial hopeful Garry Mauro's campaign contended that in materials handed out to the administrators, the Republican governor backed off his proposal to

require third-graders to pass the TAAS reading test before being promoted to fourth grade.

Mauro has criticized Bush's plan to link student promotion to the TAAS and has predicted Bush would back off of it. Mauro has said he also is against social promotion, but believes ending it should not be linked to a state-mandated test.

The material questioned by Mauro's campaign said Bush's plan "will require students who do not pass the reading portion of the TAAS in third grade to receive appropriate instruction to advance."

Prisoners adjusting to smoke-free incarceration

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Cigarettes used to buy everything behind bars, from toilet paper and toothbrushes to drugs and sex.

So what happens when the prison currency becomes contraband, when the Marlboro Man gets pushed aside for Little Debbie? Fast trading — and desperation.

"We had a Christmas tree in the hallway that they had to take down because someone tried to smoke it," said Dennis Carter, an inmate in Philadelphia, where prisons banned smoking Jan. 1. "You got people going crazy because they can't smoke."

Fellow inmates have smoked grass, dirt, orange rinds or apple peels wrapped in toilet paper. At \$2.20 per box, tea bags also are popular smoking substitutes.

Those who have cigarettes can trade them for Little Debbie snack cakes that go for \$1.19 at prison commissaries, or for Twizzlers licorice (59 cents) and blueberry muffin rolls (\$1.79).

"I refuse to pay five boxes of cakes for a cigarette," said Carter, a 38-year-old rape and robbery convict who smoked Newports for 15 years.

While inmates call smoking bans cruel and unusual, wardens say prisoners are getting

healthier and jails are becoming cleaner. Smuggling? It's still going on, but prisoners are bringing in forbidden smokes instead of marijuana and cocaine.

America's prison population had best get used to this.

Lock-ups from California to Massachusetts have gradually gone smokeless in the 1990s, helped by lawsuits from non-smoking inmates. Most new prisons open smoke-free.

Better health is the goal, wardens insist.

"In the modern-day jails, our windows don't open, and you have an air-changing system," said Calvin Lightfoot, warden of

Pittsburgh's Allegheny County Correctional Facility. "Per square foot, you have more people living than in any other place."

"This sounds like nothing, but you couldn't even wear your clothes in your home because you reeked," he said.

In Bucks County, a Dec. 1 ban came only after a union filed a grievance claiming foul air caused workers' headaches and sinus problems.

The county cleaned its ventilation system and found nothing other than "the problem of 500 people smoking in a jail 24 hours a day," said Warden J. Allen Nesbitt.

Zamora's lawyers aim at confession

FORT WORTH (AP) — A confession allegedly made by a former Naval cadet on trial for the slaying of a romantic rival is under fire from defense attorneys.

They are expected today to contest use of the confession and other key prosecution evidence in the trial of Diane Zamora.

A seven-man, five-woman jury was seated Tuesday after a selection process that took nearly two weeks.

State District Judge Joe Drago said, now that the jury is in place, he would rule on attorneys' pretrial motions concerning evidence.

"There will be some debate between the attorneys, but I expect this part will be wrapped up by the end of the week," Drago said.

The defense wants to suppress the alleged confession, evidence taken from the college dorm rooms of both Ms. Zamora and another student accused in the murder and information taken from their personal computers.

Opening statements are expected to begin Monday in Ms. Zamora, who is accused along with her then-fiance

David Graham of killing Adrienne Jones in December 1995.

Prosecutors claim jealousy prompted the crime after Ms. Jones and Graham had a fling while the three were in high school.

Ms. Zamora was a freshman at the Naval Academy and Graham was in his first year at the Air Force Academy when they were charged in September 1996.

According to statements from both former cadets, they lured Miss Jones to a secluded road, Ms. Zamora hit the girl with a dumbbell weight, then Graham shot her in the head when she tried to flee.

If convicted, Ms. Zamora could get a life sentence. Prosecutors have opted not to seek the death penalty. Graham will be tried separately.

Now that the jury is picked, Drago said attorneys can begin making motions regarding what evidence will be allowed in the case. He'll rule on the motions Wednesday through Friday.

All phases of jury selection went much quicker than expected.



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EDITORIAL

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."
—FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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OUR VIEWS

Chamber banquet highlights efforts, sets goals for '98

This Friday night marks the ceremonial close of business for 1997 and the start of activities for 1998 as the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce holds its annual banquet at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

We note the word "ceremonial," because the leadership actually changed hands a few weeks back when Ray Kennedy assumed the president's position following Curt Mullins' year at the leadership helm.

In addition, the chamber will recognize its man and woman of the year — a recognition well-deserved by the many who have been so designated over the years.

Over the course of the year, we know the chamber staff gets many calls from people who ask the question, "What does the chamber do for me?"

Well, just to name a few things off the top of our head, it was the chamber that got with the city following the devastating hail storm of May 10, 1995 to ensure that out-of-town roofers and contractors had to be properly permitted, insured and bonded.

Not only did that protect local roofing companies, but it also protected local citizens against being ripped off.

Over the years, the transportation committee of the chamber has worked with the Texas Department of Transportation to ensure that the community and county's interests are known when decisions are made concerning highway and bridge improvements.

The chamber also works with retail segment of our community by sponsoring retail-related seminars, events to expand the public's knowledge of goods and services available within the community and business-after-hours events.

Additionally, the chamber helps with the community's quality of life by providing funding to the Symphony, to funding the Trail of Lights and the Big Spring Lights Festival.

The chamber also works with state and national elected officials to help ensure our voice is heard in both Austin and Washington.

What does the chamber do for you?

It works 365 days a year — and on Friday night, it is time for the community to gather and recognize your efforts of the chamber as well as the naming of the man and woman of the year.

We hope to see you there at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

When my son beats in school buses, is the law for us all to wear seat belts in the car? We drive at well as on our street. If we don't wear seat belts, have we been "killed" but didn't die? The most safer drivers that are not necessary for our car to wear seat belts just because they are on the road. When I am working or getting it changed, and I hope other parents will agree with me, we pay for all these seat belts. Taxes. The more of you that pay for it, the less we pay for it. We don't put our hard earned money towards our kids' safety. We should be able to choose to wear seat belts or not.

CAROLYNNE MENEZES
Big Spring

time to complain about poor service and make sure that all our friends know about the problem. I want to take a few minutes to tell a pleasant story. I bought a new Ford Windstar from Bob Brock a couple of years ago. During the holidays, we began to experience problems with it. After two major breakdowns, the second requiring a new motor, I contacted Bob Brock and explained the problem I was having. Although the warranty had expired, Mr. Brock agreed the problems should not have occurred and agreed to replace the motor. I want to publicly thank you Bob Brock and let Big Spring know that we do have a local dealership that will stand behind its product and its customers.

TO THE EDITOR:

Many times we take the

JOHN BURSON
Big Spring

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Women are president's strength and weakness

By BONNIE ERBE
Scripps Howard

Much has been said and written these last few days about the president's troubles. Precious little has been said or written about how women (as distinct from men) are reacting to the news of his alleged affair with a White House intern.

This is, in the words of Lewis Carroll, curiouser and curiouser, as women are not only the base of the president's electoral support (they voted for him over former Senate Republican leader Bob Dole last year by a 10-point margin) but they are also at the heart of this, shall we say, affair.

The public, overall, is reacting less drastically than "Official Washington" or "Media Washington." The former is shaken only to the point where, according to a CNN/Time poll, the president's "favorable" ratings of 60 percent last week fell this past week to 50 percent. The latter is acting like Armageddon is approaching.

But perhaps the most interesting numbers to come from this poll are in response to the question, "Do you care about this matter?" to which the public replied "no" 59 percent of the time and "yes" only 36 percent of the time.

Equally interesting, however, and much less highly-publicized, is the split in opinion between how men and women view his travails. When asked by Rasmussen Research, only 42 percent of women in the Charlotte, N.C., area said they believe the president had an affair with intern Monica Lewinsky, while 55 percent of men said they did. And asked whether the president told Ms. Lewinsky she should lie about

their relationship, 51 percent of men said "yes" while only 37 percent of women answered in the affirmative.

Why this seismic gender split? Perhaps the genders' answers are so different because men can identify with the president's situation more personally due to their own realm of experience than women can with theirs. A survey some years back showed that 75 percent of American men admitted to having extramarital affairs, compared with only 50 percent of women.

That survey always seemed to pose more questions than it answered, because the question came immediately to mind, with whom are the additional 25 percent of men having affairs, if not with women? Are men just being more honest? Are they bragging? Or are women being more discreet?

In attempting to explain the split between men's and women's opinions on the latest

allegations, I believe it's because women are more trusting and less likely to rush to judgment. But once women feel sure they have been wronged, well, we all know the saying about "Hell hath no fury ..."

Perhaps another factor in women's hesitancy to desert the president is that more of them voted for him than did men, and those women do not want to admit that they made the wrong choice.

As one who admires much of what the president has done on the legislative and programmatic front, it is crushing to witness him besieged by this most devastating of accusations. But even his supporters have to realize that at some point his continued tenure in office is more damaging to the causes he supports than would be his departure.

Impeachment is not the answer, because it's highly dubious he did anything to violate federal law.

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Impeachment is not the answer, because it's highly dubious he did anything to violate federal law.

Garters are her business

As a child, Eloise Brown was around ladies who did lots of sewing.

"My grandma Wood was a talented quilt maker. My grandma Smith did all sorts of handwork like silk thread embroidery. She won ribbons at the state fair in Dallas when she was in her 90's. She had six daughters and they could handle a needle real well," says Eloise, who lives in Winters.

Eloise learned how to sew from her mother and took homemaking classes in school. Later, she made clothes for her children.

"I made a wedding dress for one because she told me I had always made all her other clothes, so she wanted me to do her wedding dress."

In 1957, Eloise made a blue garter for a neighbor girl who was getting married. Her mother had made a few, so Eloise decided she would make some, too.

"A blue garter is tradition for the bride," says Eloise. "They have blue ribbon, but they have white lace. They're actually a blue and white garter, but they're called a blue garter. And they have a tiny, miniature rice bag tied in with blue ribbon. The ribbon is baby blue shade."

She has continued to make garters for 40 years.

"After I got started, it just kinda has stayed around. All the garters are made identical as far as design, but they do have many different kinds of lace."

Eloise keeps a notebook with names of girls who have received garters from her.

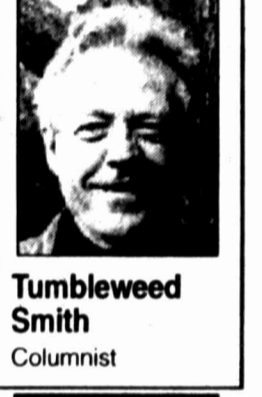
"I started a real like in the early seventies and I have more than 300 names on my list."

Eloise doesn't charge for the garters unless she does one for someone she doesn't know who asks her to make one. Then she charges just for the material.

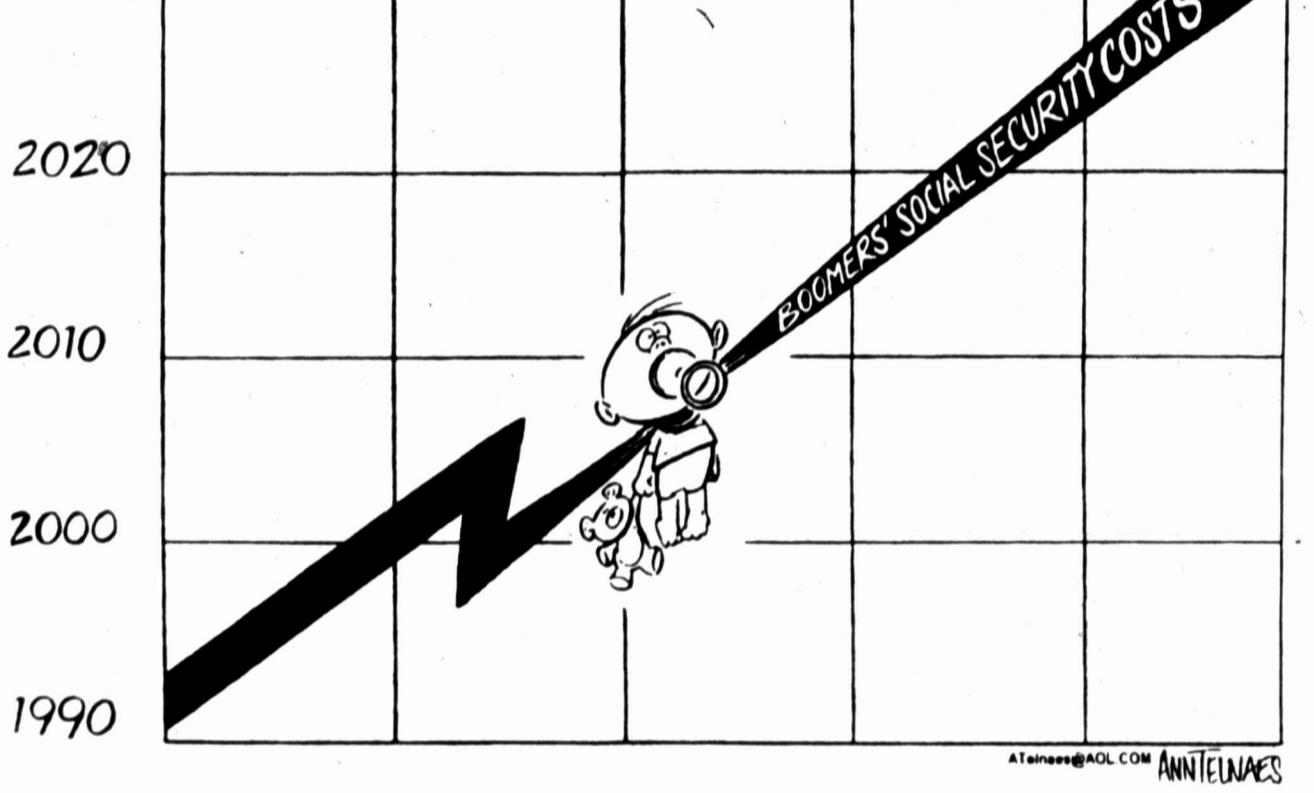
"Most of them have been for brides I called and asked if they would like to have one of my garters. I don't keep them on hand, I make them for each bride."

She'll spend the better part of an hour making a garter. The brides appreciate the garters, which become keepsakes.

"It's something you can't buy. I have looked at some in the stores and there's none to compare to mine."



Tumbleweed Smith
Columnist



Where will Clinton scandal leave us?

WASHINGTON — I listened to President Clinton Monday, his eyes tearing and his voice breaking a little, as he declared emphatically and angrily that he never had sexual relations with Monica Lewinsky, and never asked anybody to lie about it.

I concluded that Bill Clinton is the worst liar ever to occupy the presidency — or he is the victim of the worst smear and media assassination in U.S. history.

Clinton made his denial in the face of transcripts in which former White House intern Lewinsky describes and wails about a sexual relationship with the president.

I consider the fact that Monica was a scorned 24-year-old complaining to a scorned older woman, Linda R. Tripp, who was setting Monica up for a secret taping.

But I still conclude that either Clinton had a very improper sexual affair with Lewinsky, or she is a mentally ill fantasizer.

We must note that Clinton made Monday's ringing denial in the face of media reports that special prosecutor

Kenneth Starr may have one of Monica's dresses with Clinton's semen on it — which she has kept unwashed as a sort of trophy.

He made it in the face of reports that Starr supposedly has the name of a Secret Service agent, or a White House employee, who saw the president and Lewinsky in a compromising posture.

Clinton made this angry denial without knowing whether the FBI has the telephone answering machine tapes on which he allegedly left messages for Monica at her apartment, possibly including some of the "phone sex" in which she says they engaged.

If the soiled dress or any other incriminating evidence exists, Mr. Clinton will be exposed shockingly as a man who not only behaved immorally, but perjured himself in denying it and then abused his wife, his cabinet members and his top aides in asking them to make fools of themselves by defending him before the American people.

I find it hard to believe that Clinton would risk so much if he knows that he is lying.

But there is so much that is beyond belief about Clinton's relationships with women.

If Mr. Clinton is caught lying, his presidency will die quickly.

But I disagree with those who say that the presidency as an institution or the nation

will be damaged gravely.

Vice President Al Gore is absolutely capable of looking after this nation's affairs both at home and abroad.

The Clinton initiatives in areas of education, day care and healthcare will go forward, even if he resigns or is impeached because the need is so great and the majority of Americans want new federal roles in those fields.

So many reliable people are involved in the decision to bomb Iraq that no one should fear that Mr. Clinton will start a war in hopes that it will erase the concerns of Americans about his personal misbehavior.

Wherever this scandal takes us, we will survive.

But the weeks just ahead seem sure to be very difficult for all of us, especially the Clintons.

What Monica Lewinsky chooses to say to a grand jury appears to be the critical factor.

She has to admit to lying in either her conversations with Tripp or her affidavit declaring that she never had a sexual relationship with Clinton.

"That woman," as Clinton called her, can help the president greatly, or she can destroy him if she does all of Starr's bidding.

We still have weeks of agonizing suspense to endure.

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Carl Rowan
Syndicated Columnist

Mallard Fillmore
by
BRUCE TINSLEY



Slice of Life!

Shepherd of my soul
He is the Shepherd of my soul,
my heart rejoices to behold
His graciousness, His power, His might,
covering darkness with His Light.
He takes me from the depths of sin,
and oh! my heart feels free again.
He is the Shepherd of my life,
He leads me with much care,
to graze in greener pastures,
surrendering to Him there...
all my failures, doubts and tears,
all my heartaches, and my fears.
He is my Shepherd, and I feel
His mighty wonder...oh, so much,
and sleeping candles come to life,
burning brightly at His touch,
as to my innert Bethlehem,
I journey...giving praise to Him.
By: Dorothy McCauley

Grandparents
My grandfather has supported me through thick and thin, in and out,
Do you know what I'm talking about?

He was born in the Southwest,
so he's always been put to the test,
He's always calling me a pest.
I can't understand what he did;
At seventeen he wore green,
That was his biggest dream.
In the Air Force he blew off steam
about his wife's death,
ever since then he said
he would never smoke again.
I don't remember much about G-mom;
But, if it was not for my G-pa and G-mom,
They wouldn't have my mom.
If they didn't have her,
Where would I be?
By: Jonathan Jackson

A Circle of Angels
Dad was a scenic artist and 72 years old when he fell sick. The family had been praying for him, but nothing seemed to happen.
I was 37 years old and going to Bible school. I read in the Bible that God would do any-

thing if we would only believe and ask Him. Being young and like a child in the Lord, I took God at His Word. So, I wondered why God didn't heal Dad.
We took turns sitting up with him and when it was Mother's turn, I went along. As I saw Dad laying there helpless, I couldn't understand it. I thought as a child and was discouraged because God was not doing what He said He would. I didn't want to serve a God that didn't keep His Word. I had a lot to learn.
I told Dad we were going to pray for him. He reminded me we had all already been praying for him. I said, "This time, we are really going to pray." Mother stood at the foot of the bed and prayed. Then I stood up straight, held my Bible up to heaven and said, "God, if your Word is true, prove it now."
Dad jumped out of bed as if he had been stuck with a long hat pin. He made it to the chair in front of the kitchen stove, said he was freezing, and opened the oven door. We cov-

ered Dad with quilts and he slept for two hours. We thought he was dead. Mother suggested we wake him and when I shook him, he woke up. He looked around as if he was in a new place and said he had never felt so tired in all his life. He got back in bed and stayed there three days.
When Dad woke up, he said he had seen a vision. "Heaven opened up in a great big circle, and angels were flying back and forth. I saw colors I had never seen before and when I get up I'm going to paint the angels. But, I can never match the colors I saw." Dad was up and painting in three days, and God add 12 more years to his life; and my faith in God for healing was strengthened.
By: Sig Rogers

"The House Where I Grew Up"
Across the field
I see a house
The house where
I grew up.
And all the nails
There in that house

I know my fingers touched.
Board by board
my daddy tore
the Elbow school
house up.
And one by one
the nails fell down
two little girls
'picked up.'

He took the nails
and boards that fell
and put them in
his truck.
then built the house
that was our home
the house where
I grew up.
And the nails he drove
into the house

still hold that
old house up.
I'm growing old
and this I know
the hand of God
I'll touch.
But I'd like to go
just one more time
in that old
pickup truck.

Down sandy road
and cotton rows
and one more time
just touch.
The house that I
grew up in
it has my
'daddy's touch.'

Benice Reed Jones

Scenic Mountain Medical Center
1601 w. 11th Place
263-1211

DUNLAPS
111 E. Marcy 267-8283
Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

SUPPORT

Continued from page 5A.
at 6:30 p.m. at 409 Runnels (formerly the TU building) For further information call Sondra at 267-7220

- Samaritan Counseling Center of West Texas** will have Dr. Ronald Meyer, D.Min., LCDC, LMFT, specializing in individual and marriage counseling, Attention Deficit Disorder and chemical dependency, available for clients at the First Christian Church. Appointments for counseling services are made by calling 1-800-329-4144.
- Narcotics Anonymous**, 6:30 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church.
- WEDNESDAY**
 - Gamblers Anonymous**, 7 p.m., St. Stephen's Catholic Church, room 1, 4601 Neeley, Midland. Call 263-8920.
 - Alcoholics Anonymous**, 615 Settles, noon open meeting and 8 p.m. 12 and 12 study.
 - Samaritan Counseling Center of West Texas** will have Sharon Beam, who is a licensed professional counselor interim specializing in play therapy for children, adolescent counseling and women's issues, available

- for clients at the First Presbyterian Church, Runnels and Eighth St. Appointments for counseling services are made by calling 1-800-329-4144.
- THURSDAY**
 - Alcoholics Anonymous**, 615 Settles, noon open meeting.
 - A D.D.A.P.T.** non-profit support and learning organization about attention deficit disorder, learning disorders and dyslexia. Meets second Thursday of September, October, November, January, February, March, April and May, Cerebral Palsy building, 802 Ventura, Midland.
 - Grief Support** related to the death of a loved one. Call Nurses Unlimited, Inc., at 264-6523.
 - Alzheimer's Association Support Group**, fourth Thursday of the month, Comanche Trail Nursing Center, 3200 Parkway, 7 p.m.
 - Narcotic Anonymous**, 8 p.m. St. Mary's Episcopal Church.
 - FRIDAY**
 - Turning Point A.A.**, 8-9:30 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 10th and Goliad. Open to all substance abusers.
 - Alcoholics Anonymous**, 615 Settles, noon open meeting and 8 p.m. Big Book Study.

SATURDAY
•Alzheimer's Association Support Group, second Saturday of the month, Carriage Inn Retirement Center, 501 W. 17th, 10 a.m.
•Family support group for current and former patients and their families, 1 p.m. weekly, Reflections Unit of Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Call Beverly Grant, 263-0074.
•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon, 8 p.m., 10 p.m. open meetings, 615 Settles.
•"So I Forget," Attention Deficit Disorder support group for individuals and couples, first Saturday of the month from 9 to 10:30 a.m., Samaritan Counseling Center of West

center at (915) 563-4144 or 1-800-329-4144. Cost is \$15.
•West Texans Living with Chronic Fatigue & Immune Dysfunction Syndrome/Fibromyalgia, 1-3 p.m., on different Saturdays of the month, HealthSouth facility at Hwy. 191 and Loop 250, Midland. Call Joann Carney, (915) 686-7977, or Marsha Brunet, (915) 337-4829 to get the correct meeting date.
SUNDAY
•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, 7 p.m. open meeting.

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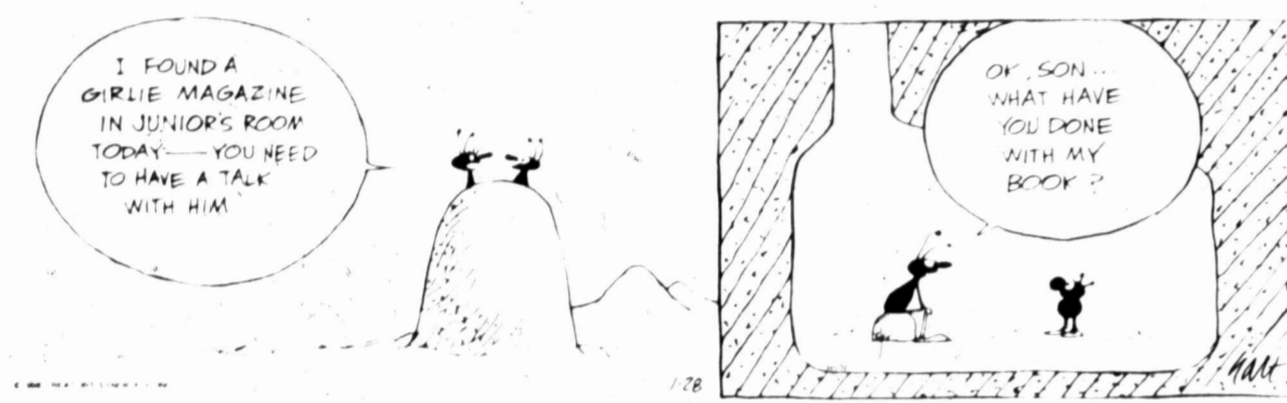
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WEDNESDAY JAN. 28. Channel guide table with columns for station, time, and program. Includes stations like KMID, KPEJ, KERA, FAM, KOSA, WFAA, KWES, WTBS, UNI, DISN, NASH, TMC, SHOW, HBO, KMLM, A&E, DISC, TNT, FSN, ESPN, AMC, and BET.

HAGAR



B.C.



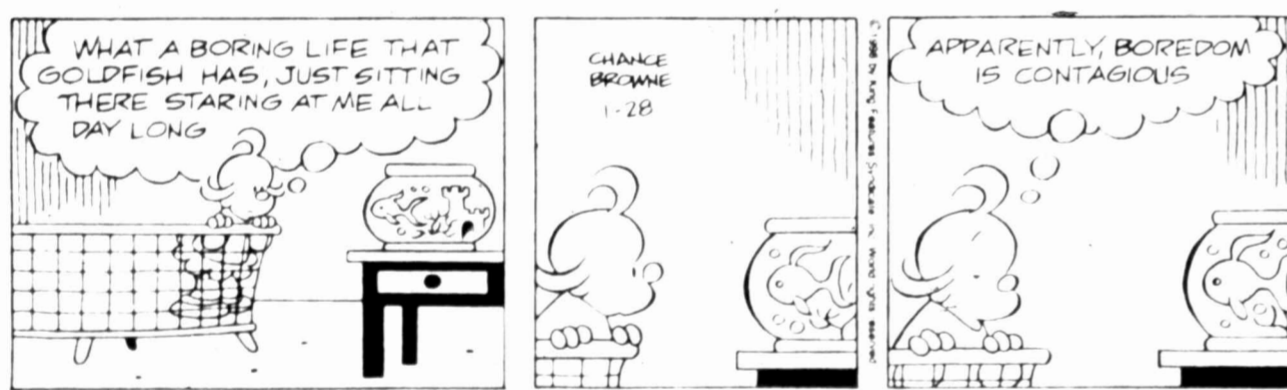
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WIZARD OF ID



HI AND LOIS



GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



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THIS DATE IN HISTORY

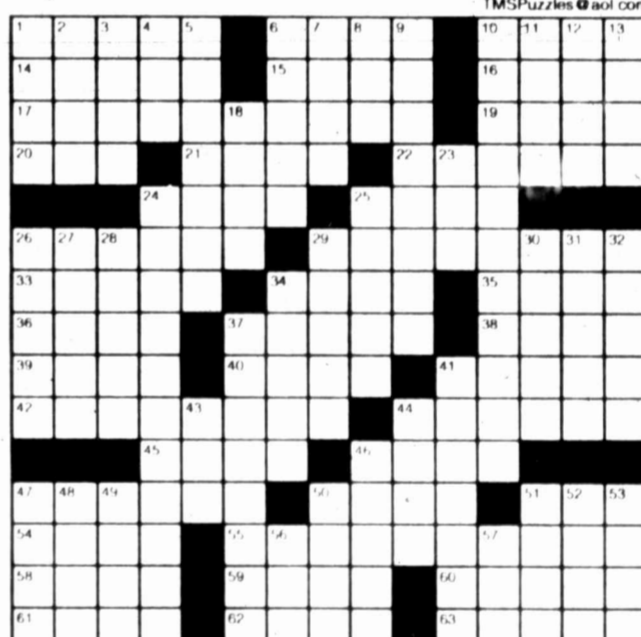
The ASSOCIATED PRESS Today is Wednesday, Jan. 28.

the 28th day of 1998. There are 337 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Jan. 28, 1986, the space shuttle Challenger exploded 73 seconds after liftoff from Cape Canaveral, killing all seven crew members.

On this date: In 1547, England's King Henry VIII died; he was succeeded by his 9-year-old son, Edward VI. In 1596, English navigator Sir Francis Drake died off the coast of Panama, he was buried at sea.

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

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By C.F. Murray La Jolla, CA

Tuesday's Puzzle solved



- DOWN 1 vu 2 Plenty 3 Appropriate 4 Shoshone Indian 5 Hottest planet 43 "Star Wars" pilot Solo 44 "She's Got a Way" singer 46 Lap dogs, for short 47 Former Russian ruler 48 Car 49 Aware of 50 Can. cops 51 Essence 52 In the past 53 Ring decisions, in brief 56 Chill 57 Entertainer Zadora

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Today's Birthdays: Musician-composer Acker Bilk is 69. Author Susan Sontag is 65. Actor Nicholas Pryor is 63. Actor Alan Alda is 62. Actress-singer Barbi Benton is 48. Rock musician Dave Sharp (The Alarm) is 39. Rock singer Sam Phillips is 36. Country musician Greg Cook (Ricochet) is 33. Singer Sarah McLachlan is 30. Rapper Rakim is 30. DJ Muggs (Cypress Hill) is 30. Singer Nick Carter (Backstreet Boys) is 18.