

# BIG SPRING HERALD

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

**SUNDAY**  
November 29, 1998

Today:



CLLOUDY  
TODAY 67°-69° TONIGHT 40°-45°

## HELPING OTHERS...

Each day through the holiday season, the Herald will publish locations where you might help others less fortunate, including Salvation Army Angel Trees, Salvation Army kettles.

If your organization has an established program to help others, and you would like to be included in this list, call Marsha Sturdivant at 263-7331, ext. 234.



### Angel Tree locations:

- Big Spring Mall
- Al's and Son B-B-Q
- Wal-Mart
- Big Spring Herald
- Cosco Credit Union
- Mel's Catch of the Day
- Scenic Mountain Medical Center

In addition, Beall's Department Store will give a 10 percent discount to all purchases of Angel Tree gifts.

### Salvation Army Kettles:

- Big Spring Post Office
- Wal-Mart
- Big Spring Mall

### Other efforts:

- H-E-B Food Stores Ring In A Miracle to benefit the Salvation Army. Tell your cashier what you want to give and either \$1 and \$2 added to your grocery total.
- Canned food drives at all Howard County schools through Dec. 11.
- TCA Cable of Big Spring will waive the cost installation for new customers who donate 10 cans of food for its food drive. 30.

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SANTA PREFERS LETTERS THAT ARE ILLUSTRATED.



26 shopping days 'til Christmas  
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Vol. 95, No. 33

To reach us, please call 263-7331. Office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call 263-7335 before 7 p.m. on weekdays and 11 a.m. on Sunday.

## Vandals target holiday light display

By T.E. JENKINS  
Staff Writer

Big Spring Police Department is currently investigating reports of vandalism and burglary that occurred at Comanche Trail Park some time Friday evening.

"They tore down a bunch of the lights that we had set up for the festival, as well as broke into the pro shop at the golf course," said Comanche Trail Festival of Lights Chairperson Pat Simmons Saturday afternoon, shortly after she discov-

ered the destroyed lights. "We just hate to see this after the inmates put so much time into putting up these lights."

According to Simmons, an unknown number of people entered the park sometime Friday evening with some type of axe or hatchet, going on a destructive spree throughout the festival's trail.

"We started putting up the lights for the festival about two weeks ago," said Simmons. "We put the PVC pipe arches up Wednesday, and the inmates that have been helping get the festival ready strung the lights.

"Someone came through here and broke the PVC arches with something heavy, like an axe or a hatchet. They also took a few pieces off of the bridge floor and rail.

"We had the police out here this morning investigating, and they said they think it was the same individuals that broke into the golf course's pro shop and got away with some cash and beer."

Simmons said the damage to the lights and lighting equipment is substantial, and that it

See VANDALS, Page 2A



Comanche Trail Festival of Lights Chairperson Pat Simmons examines vandalized light arches at Comanche Trail Park Saturday afternoon.

## All over, folks are preparing for the parade

By MARSHA STURDIVANT  
Staff Writer

The 12th annual Big Spring Herald Christmas Parade promises to add brightness to this holiday season, as 72 different organizations or individuals have indicated they will participate, and some of those entries will have more than one part.

Phillip Welch, with Cub Scout Pack 305, said the boys are excited about joining in the parade.

"We have five dens, with about 50 boys. We expect 40 or so will ride in the parade. They really get a kick out of it. The cub scouts like riding in the parade," Welch said.

Each of the boys will be wearing their scout uniform, and will be riding in a lighted trailer. This is the third or fourth year the cub scouts have entered the parade, he said.

Pauline Hillger, a troop leader with Girl Scout Troop 194, said one of the girls arrived at an idea that will create a smoky home for holidays.

"It will look like smoking camp fires, and the girls will be using sleeping bags to look like Christmas in the smoky mountains," Hillger said.

About 10 girls will participate in the float, and they will begin working on their entry this week, she said.

"We've entered every year for five or six years. The girls love



Donna Mensfield, foreground, Kasey Huckabee and Rhonda Simpson of Boy Scout troop 25 prepare their float for the Christmas parade on Saturday, Dec. 5.

### Parade entries Page 2A

it. They look forward to this every year," she said.

Fina Oil and Chemical have planned three entries for the parade, according to Steven Weber, plant manager.

The Fina Fire Truck will

carry some of the children of employees of the plant.

A model of a Catalytic Cracking Unit, or Cat Cracker, will also be driving in the parade. And a trailer carrying other children of employees will be entered as well.

Weber said about 30 to 40

children will participate. And each entry will be lighted.

The parade begins at 5 p.m. Saturday. The path of the parade is from the north service road on Gregg, down Gregg Street to Sixth Street,

See PARADE, Page 2A

## Vietnam Memorial group to serve as grand marshalls

By JOHN H. WALKER  
Managing Editor

Members of the Vietnam Memorial Committee, the group responsible for the planning and development of the Big Spring Vietnam Memorial, will serve as grand marshalls of the 12th annual Big Spring Herald Community Christmas Parade.

Less than a decade ago, members of the committee began planning what is now one of the top tourist attractions in West Texas.

"The grand marshal of the parade is a position of honor," explained Herald pub-

lisher Chuck Williams. "Over the years, we've recognized a number of people, including Joe Pickle, Dr. P.W. Malone and others who have made such a positive impact on our community."

"This year, we recognize the Vietnam Memorial Committee for the positive impact they have made on our community."

Memorial committee member Robin Drinkard said, "This is quite an honor ... one that we accept with all gratitude."

Williams said the committee, through their ability to enlist a broad base of community support, has developed "a memorial to the men and women who served their country in Southeast Asia that will last

long beyond our time and will say for all time that this community cares."

The Vietnam Memorial got under way with the presentation of "The Living Wall" almost a decade ago.

On Memorial Day 1991, the memorial itself was dedicated. Then, on Memorial Day, 1997 the committee dedicated the first major addition to the memorial — a UH-1 "Huey" helicopter that saw active duty in Vietnam.

On Memorial Day, 1998 the committee added its F-4EII "Phantom" jet, which also saw duty in Southeast Asia. Last month, the committee continued to expand the

See HONOR, Page 2A

## Tree sales go to help youth-oriented projects

By T.E. JENKINS  
Staff Writer

Members of the Big Spring Optimist Club are up to their necks in Christmas trees as part of a long time holiday fund-raising program.

"I've been helping with the Christmas tree sales ever since I joined the Big Spring Optimist Club in 1949," said Sidney Clark, secretary treasurer for the Big Spring chapter. "So it's been going on for quite some time now."

According to Clark, money raised from the sale of the trees will benefit a large number of youth activities in Big Spring, from Little League baseball to essay contests.

"We will sponsor a bunch of different youth oriented events in the coming year with the money we raise here," said Clark. "We help fund Youth Appreciation Week, oratorical and essay contests for the youth, sponsor three different Little League baseball teams, as well as sponsor various activities put on by the Big Spring High School tennis, softball,

and swim teams and band."

Clark said the lot will feature two different types of tree, including Noble and Plantation Douglas firs, grown in Salem, Ore.

"We have all different sizes of trees, from four foot to seven foot," said Clark. "The Plantation Douglas firs run from about \$20 to \$40, while the Noble firs go from about \$40 to \$60."

"We have a lot of different trees to choose from right now, and we will get a second shipment in around a week from now."

Big Spring High School swim team coach Harlan Smith said he expects business to be good this season.

"We don't even have all of the trees out yet, and we have customers on the lot," said Smith. "I've been involved with this for about 10 years now, and getting the trees out to show is the biggest thing in front of us now."

Smith said he expects there to be quite a few last-minute tree

See TREES, Page 2A



Maury Smith of the Optimist Club unwraps a Noble fir tree fresh from the Oregon mountains Friday morning. The trees can be seen at the corner of 10th and Gregg Street.

# Joy

## Abundant activities in store for all

By MARSHA STURDIVANT  
Staff Writer

The Big Spring community enjoys the holiday season, and many different activities are planned this Christmas season for a family enjoyment.

The season begins with a tribute to Dorothy Garrett at the Festival of Lights at Comanche Trail Park on Friday at 5:45 p.m.

There is no charge to view the lighted display of the spring and surrounding trails. Patrons are encouraged to enter the park from the northeast side off Highway 87 and to park at the vacant lot on the west side of Dora Roberts Community Center.

The Big Spring Herald Christmas Parade begins at 5 p.m. Saturday, and more than 60 entries are expected to provide Christmas cheer to those who pause to watch the parade.

Santa Claus will be featured in the Herald's final entry, and the parade, hailed as the largest parade between Dallas and Arizona, promises to offer a display that everyone, young and old, will enjoy.

Following the parade, First United Methodist Church will offer the 20th anniversary performance of the Living Christmas Tree. Shows are Saturday and Sunday, and tickets may be retrieved from the church.

A dress rehearsal is planned for 2 p.m. Saturday, and tickets are not needed.

Also, on the Courthouse Square, the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce will draw the winner of the Home For the Holidays merchant contest.

Three winners will be selected and participants need not be present to win.

The downtown lights will be glowing following the end of the parade, as well.

The First Church of the Nazarene will once again offer to the public its Drive Through Nativity through Dec. 10-13. This special event has become a holiday tradition for Big Spring.

A Christmas Tree Forest will be on display at the Heritage Museum Saturday through the Christmas holiday.

This is the tree decorating contest open to all community members and groups, hosted by the museum.

Santa Claus will be available for children at the Big Spring Mall every weekend until Christmas, and each day from Dec. 17 through Dec. 24.

The Christmas Decorating

See ACTIVITIES, Page 2A

OBITUARIES

Vernon L. Cuthbertson

Vernon L. Cuthbertson, 75, of Big Spring, died on Thursday, Nov. 26, 1998, at a local hospital. Services will be at 2 p.m. Monday, Nov. 30, 1998, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Rodney Tedford, minister of Birdwell Lane Church of Christ, officiating. Military Graveside Rites will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

He was born on Aug. 1, 1923 in Slayden, Tenn., and married Mary Dean Gill on Nov. 17, 1944 in Big Spring.

He was a member of Birdwell Lane Church of Christ. Mr. Cuthbertson served in the United States Army during World War II for three years and had been an assistant cook at the V.A. Medical Center for 12 years.

Survivors include his wife, Mary Dean Cuthbertson of Big Spring; two sons, Vernon L. Cuthbertson, Jr. and Jerry Dean Cuthbertson, both of Amarillo; a daughter and son-in-law, Glynn Marie and Gary Witt of Houma, La.; three sisters and brothers-in-law, Genel and John Weems of Slayden, Tenn., Lola and Bill Waggoner of Nashville, Tenn., and Lavelle and Paul Petronek of Irving; two brothers and one sister-in-law, C.B. and Ellen Cuthbertson and Curtis Cuthbertson of Vanter, Tenn.; two grandsons, two granddaughters and two great-granddaughters.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers and a granddaughter.

The family suggests memorials to the donor's favorite charity.

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

*Paid obituary*

ACTIVITIES

Continued from Page 1A

Contest will be judged Dec. 8, and lists of places to visit to see the spectacular displays will be available from the chamber of commerce.

Area churches are also having special events for the holidays, and community members are invited. Call the church of your choice for more information.

HONOR

Continued from Page 1A

memorial with the addition of an M-60A tank.

Plans for the memorial

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

Sallie Mae Lang, 76, died Thursday, November 26, 1998. Services will be 2:00 PM, Thursday, December 3, 1998, at Myers & Smith Chapel, with burial at Mount Olive. Viewing and visitation will be Tuesday and Wednesday.

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

Vernon Cuthbertson, 75, died Thursday. Services will be 2:00 PM Monday, November 30 1998 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

Margarita A. Ramirez, 78, died Thursday. Services are pending at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

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include the addition of artillery field pieces as well as the construction of an all-faiths chapel.

TREES

Continued from Page 1A

buyers, but advises against waiting to long to purchase a Christmas tree.

"We usually have a lot of last minute shoppers looking for trees," said Smith. "If you want to get a really nice tree, you need to get out and get it early. The really good-looking ones will go pretty quick, and the ones left at the last minute are usually a pretty poor quality."

"You definitely want to shop for your Christmas tree early," said Clark. "The ones we have left near the end of the season are normally what we call our throw-aways. If you shop early for your tree, you not only have a better chance of getting a nice tree, but you also have the chance to enjoy the tree for the full season."

The lot, which is located across the street from Nalley-Pickle and Welch Funeral Home, will be open from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. on Sundays.

PARADE

Continued from Page 1A

east on Sixth to Main Street. Then north on Main until the parade finishes at Second Street north of the Courthouse.

This year, candy will not be thrown from the entries, as a safety issue has been raised by organizers.

Since the parade is done mostly at night or in the dusk, children darting into the street retrieving candy might not be watching for parade vehicles.

Therefore, candy is not allowed this year.

VANDALS

Continued from Page 1A

will take their group a-while to catch up.

"This is going to cost quite a bit of money to fix," said Simmons. "We put out another 36 strands of lights this morning, but something like this makes you very leery of leaving them out where people can get to them."

"I don't know who would want to do something so terrible. The festival is for the entire community to enjoy. I just don't know why someone would try to wreck it for everyone."

Anyone with information on the vandalism to the festival lights or the Comanche Trail Golf Course Pro Shop should call the Big Spring Police Department at 264-2550.

Mother charged with child neglect after teen starves

JANESVILLE, Wis. (AP) — A woman was charged with child neglect Saturday in the death of her 15-year-old daughter, who weighed only 15 pounds and was covered with sores when taken to a hospital.

Karen Kuffer, 50, was released on a recognizance bond of \$10,000 following a brief hearing in the Rock County Jail.

Looking frightened and distraught, Kuffer answered Judge Edwin Dahlberg in a quiet, shaky voice. Midway through the hearing, she laid her head down on a table in front of her.

Kuffer's daughter, Kay, was pronounced dead on arrival Wednesday night at Mercy

Hospital. Authorities said she was 42 inches tall and weighed 15 pounds, 1 ounce. Her body was "simply all skin and bones," and was covered with sores, according to the criminal complaint.

Public defender Guy Taylor, Karen Kuffer's attorney, said the woman was extremely poor and spent the last 15 years of her life caring for her daughter and her mother.

He rejected any suggestion that she did not care for the girl, who had cerebral palsy. "If she was a callous, uncaring mother, they wouldn't have made it 15 years," Taylor said.

Karen Kuffer told authorities she decided to take her daughter to the hospital after the girl began to spit up some chicken noodle baby-food soup she was feeding her.

Police said they found no medications for the girl in the family's house. The girl's last known medical examination was in 1993, the complaint said.

In July 1993, Janesville police reported that they found Karen Kuffer, her mother and her daughter living out of motels, a van and a rental storage unit. Allegations of child neglect were found unsubstantiated at that time.

Eunice Kuffer, Kay's 74-year-old grandmother, said nurses used to visit the girl in the 1980s, but that ended when Karen Kuffer decided to stop taking her to doctors.

The grandmother said Saturday she thought Karen Kuffer took pretty good care of the girl. But Eunice Kuffer said that about a month ago her granddaughter began to lose weight and have trouble breathing, and it looked as though the girl wouldn't live to Christmas.

Eunice Kuffer said her daughter didn't take the girl to a doctor, thinking she would "hang on."

Dr. Benjamin Brooks, a professor of neurology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, said Saturday that cerebral palsy patients can lose a lot of weight because their muscles deteriorate from inactivity.

However, Brooks said he was appalled when he heard reports that Kay Kuffer weighed about 15 pounds.

BRIEFS

**THE AMERICAN BUSINESS WOMEN'S** Association is having its annual arts and craft show Dec. 5, in the Big Spring Mall.

The funds raised will go into a college fund for women. If you have questions, call P.J. Heckler at 267-8239.

**BIG SPRING STATE HOSPITAL** will sell surplus items Wednesday in the recycling building, west of Rip Griffin's. Viewing and bidding will be 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. The sale will be Wednesday at 2 p.m. Call 263-0618 for more information.

**THE COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE** forest will be hosted by the Heritage Museum this year. Participants are invited to set up their entries Dec. 1-4.

Trees can be decorated along any holiday theme - creativity is welcome. First prize for the best tree will be a tree of more than 40 Beanie Babies. Call Nancy at 267-8255 for details.

**MOTHER'S DAY OUT PROGRAM** at Baptist Temple is from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Mondays and the cost is \$8 per child.

If there is enough interest in this, there will be one on Wednesdays. Please call the church office at 267-8287 if you are interested.

A BIG SPRING AROUND THE TOWN

SUPPORT GROUPS

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

• NA 8 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1001 Gollad. Call 268-4189 (pager no.).

**MONDAY**  
• Al-A-Teen, 7:30 p.m., 615 Settles.

• TOPS Club (Take off pound sensibly), weigh-in 5 p.m. and meeting at 6 p.m., Birdwell Lane Church of Christ

• Project Freedom, Christian support group for survivors of physical/emotional/sexual and/or spiritual abuse. Call 263-5140 or 263-2241 for dates/times of upcoming groups.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon open meeting.

• Encouragers Support Group (formerly Widow/Widower support group) first and third Mondays each month. First Monday meetings are at a local restaurant at 6 p.m. Third Monday meetings are at 6 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church Seventh and Rannels (enter through north door). We have various activities, such as guest speakers, play games, have covered dish supper, visit or go out to eat. For more information call 398-5522 or 399-4369.

The Dec. 7 meeting will be at the Spanish Inn for dinner, and the Dec. 21 meeting will be a Christmas dinner. Bring a covered dish of salad, vegetables, desserts, etc. Also bring a gift not exceeding \$10 for a fun gift exchange.

• Alzheimer's support group, 7 p.m., Canterbury South, 1700 N. Lancaster, first Mondays of each month. Call Galyann Gamble at 263-1271. The topic for Nov. 2 will be on "Validation therapy, connecting with your loved one."

• Narcotics Anonymous, 6 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1001 Gollad. Call 268-4189 (pager no.).

• Alzheimer's support group, 6:30 p.m., Marcy House, 2301 Wasson. Call 268-9041.

• Association of Retarded Citizens of Howard County meet 7 p.m. the first Monday of each month at 806 E. Third Street, the HARC bingo building. Call 264-0674 for more information.

• Family Education and Support, sponsored by Howard County Mental Health Center, meets the last Monday of each month at 6 p.m. at 409 Rannels, Clyde Alsop Building. TXAMI meeting to follow. For more information call 263-0027 or 267-7220.

• The Big Spring Alliance for the Mentally Ill meets the fourth Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at 409 Rannels (formerly the TU building) For further information call Sondra at 267-7220.

**IF YOU HAVE A SUPPORT GROUP LISTING, PLEASE SUBMIT IT IN WRITING.**

HELPING OTHERS

• Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, 1009 Hearn, is collecting coats for state hospital patients for Christmas. Also, a food drive is under way. Call 267-4124 to donate.

• Sacred Heart Catholic Church collects baby gifts to be given to Birthright. Bring your new or hand made gift to the church, 508 N. Aylesford.

• First Baptist Church is collecting new toys and clothing for 78

TEXAS LOTTERY

PICK 3: 8, 4, 1

LOTTO: 9, 18, 26, 38, 42, 43

children in Big Spring who have a parent in prison. Bring your donation to the church on FM 700.

• St. Vincent de Paul Society is collecting donated cans of food to be distributed to the area needy through various social service agencies at the holidays. Bring two or more cans to any local movie theater and you will receive a free tub of popcorn. Donating the cans also qualifies you for a chance to win a prize from a local merchant.

POLICE

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

• ABEL MAGANA, 41, was arrested for assault.

• MICHAEL MENDOZA, 30, was arrested on local warrants.

• HOMER HINJOSA, 42, was arrested for driving while license invalid.

• ALBERT MARTINEZ, 20, was arrested on local warrants.

• THEFT in the 1700 block of W. Marcy, the corner of 18th and Gregg, the 4800 block of W. Hwy 80, the 906 block of Willia, the 400 block of Johnson, the 300 block of Owens, the corner of 3rd and Owens, and the 2300 block of Wasson.

• CRIMINAL MISCHIEF in the 500 block of Westover, the 1800 block of Scurry, the 300 block of N.E. 11th, the 700 block of Tulane, and the 1700 block of State.

• BURGLARY OF A HABITATION in the 1400 block of E. 6th.

• ASSAULT in the 3700 block of Hamilton.

• DRIVING WHILE LICENSE INVALID in the 1000 block of W. 19th.

• ATTEMPTED BURGLARY in the 1700 block of Wasson.

HERALD PARADE ENTRIES

- KWES -TV
- Harley Owners Group
- AG Service
- Cub Scout Pack 305
- Scenic Mountain Medical Center
- SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf
- Suez Shriners Fire Brigade
- Sam Froman Dirt Contractor Inc.
- The Dance Gallery
- Cub Scouts
- Church of the Harvest
- Fiesta Dodge
- LaCosta's Custom Pools and Spas
- Massage Connections
- Santa Fe Sandwiches
- Cavaliers-Gollad Middle School
- Sand Springs Boy Scout Troop 25
- Disabled American Veterans and Auxiliary
- Al's and Son Bar-B-Q
- Howard College Nighthawk Jazz Band
- Norwest Bank
- Cline Construction
- City of Big Spring
- Sacred Heart and Catholic Church
- Western Container Corp.
- Big Spring Veterans Administration Medical Center
- Boy Scouts Troop 501
- Big Spring Rod and Custom
- Lakeview Head Start
- Bauer Magnet Elementary School
- Rainbow Girls
- Big Spring Fire Department
- Big Spring Bass Club
- Parks Fuels and Convenience Store
- Hall Bennett Clinic
- Elbow Elementary
- Lee Hooper Family Float
- Templo Centro De Alabanza
- Templo Belen
- Crossroads Football League
- Texas Tech Ex-Students Association
- State National Bank
- College Heights Christian Church
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Later Day Saints
- Big Spring Bass Club
- Big Spring Humane Society
- Forsan Division I Pee-Wee Football
- Boy Scouts Pack 176 and Troop 7
- Marvin Boyd
- Robert Sizenbach
- Santa Fe Sandwiches
- Skateland/Butcher Block
- Girl Scout Troop 194
- Tranquility Professional Massage
- Hispanic Women for Progress
- Fina Oil and Chemical
- Coahoma Cheerleaders
- Howard County Fire Department
- American Business Women's Association
- B & M Roofing
- Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce
- Howard County Youth Horsemen Club
- Howard College Hawk
- Taco Bell
- Ray Valconia
- Comanche Flats
- Alberto's Crystal Cafe
- Vision Makers
- Big Spring Police Department Color Guard
- Grand Marshall
- Big Spring High School Band
- Rannels Junior High School Band

**The Living Christmas Tree**



**First United Methodist Church**  
December 5 & 6, 1998  
8:00 P.M. in the Sanctuary

Tickets Available in Church Office \* (Free) Limited Seating  
Nursery Available

**DUNLAPS Shop Locally!**  
We've Got Your Perfect Christmas Gift  
111 E. Marcy 267-8283  
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1601 W. 11th Place  
263-1211

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Our new house is full of Holiday Gift Ideas for everyone on your list...  
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**Shae's** Sterling Silver Jewelry and more more.  
Gifts & Nail Salon  
1811 Lancaster  
263-1154

# Killer's escape prompts security questions

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — For more than three hours, seven killers were on the loose, out of their cells and poised for escape on a prison roof.

Six of the death row inmates were foiled about 20 yards short of two razor-topped fences that separated them from complete freedom.

But automatic rifle bursts from two tower guards came too late to pin down Martin E. Gurule, who scaled both fences and escaped into the dark woods surrounding the unit.

It was the first time since 1934, when a member of Bonnie and Clyde Barrow's gang did it, that a condemned killer had broken out of a Texas prison. And it raised the question of how secure is secure at the state's death row.

Gurule, 29, killed the owner and a cook at a Corpus Christi restaurant during a robbery in 1992. He lost an appeal almost a year ago, but no execution date had been set.

Gurule's bold flight triggered a frenzied manhunt around the prison 80 miles north of Houston. Hundreds of armed officers, some on horseback and others following tracking dogs, scoured the perimeter.

Boats were used to navigate creeks and Trinity River tribu-

taries. Infrared sensors mounted on helicopters probed the underbrush for heat from the fugitive's body.

Meanwhile, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice struggled to explain how seven deadly felons could escape notice for at least three hours.

Gary Johnson, director of the department's institutional division, said an investigation was under way. "Anytime we have an escape something certainly has happened, but I don't know what has happened," he said.

Gurule and his six cohorts were all "work capable," meaning their good behavior had earned them the right to work on the unit.

About a third of the 454 inmates awaiting execution are work capable.

The seven inmates were supposed to have been escorted back to their cells after exercise. But they peeled back a recreation yard fence and climbed onto a rooftop, officials said.

As they waited for three hours to make their break, guards making rounds were fooled by bundles of bedclothes.

"The officers believed they were in their beds," Johnson said. "The officer believed that those were the inmates."

# Gurule's escape dredges up memories for victim's family

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — For years, Sofia Piperis couldn't believe that her father was actually dead - shot to death in a 1992 restaurant robbery.

Now she can't believe the man convicted in her father's death, Martin E. Gurule, escaped from Texas' death row.

"I'm just afraid he'll go out to look for someone else's family to destroy," said Ms. Piperis, now a 20-year-old college student.

Gurule was sentenced to death for shooting Minnie "Mike" Piperis on Oct. 12, 1992, during a robbery at U&I Restaurant, which Piperis co-owned with his brother, George. Gurule also was charged with killing restaurant worker Anthony Staton, but that case has not gone to trial.

Early Friday, Gurule cleared two razor-wire-topped perimeter fences and avoided bullets to escape from the Ellis I prison unit. The unit, which houses death row inmates, is about 15 miles north of Huntsville.

In Corpus Christi, the Piperis family is licking old wounds. "It hurts to have to go through this again," said George Piperis, who still runs the restaurant. "I expect the law to do its job."

Piperis said he thought prison authorities had dropped the ball in allowing Gurule's escape. "This is supposed to be the most secure place in the world and this happens. What message does that send to the public?" he told the Corpus Christi Caller Times.

Gurule's attorney, Ed Garza, said his client is smart enough to get away. "If anyone could find a way to do it, he could. He's very bright, and can be very gentle. He could win someone's trust and find a window of opportunity, lull someone into a false sense of security," Garza said. "He probably felt like he didn't have anything to lose, so you might as well go for it."

But Nueces County Chief Prosecutor Mark Skurka described Gurule as "a sneaky, wily man" who had tried to break out of a holding cell during his murder trial in 1993.

# Pact lets undocumented workers complain about low wages without fear

HOUSTON (AP) — Illegal aliens now can complain about poor wages without fear of deportation, according to an agreement this week between immigration officials and the U.S. Department of Labor.

The memorandum of understanding with the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service allows the labor department to investigate alleged violations of minimum wage, overtime and child labor laws, for example, without also questioning the legal status of employees.

Houston employment lawyer Gerald T. Holtzman said the agreement will encourage workers in low-wage industries like landscaping and food service to come forward.

One of the reason employers hire undocumented workers is because they know they can get away with paying them less, said Bernard E. Anderson, assistant secretary for the labor department's Employment Standards Administration in

Washington. The new understanding should reduce this incentive, he said.

The one exception to the new agreement is that it does not include investigations initiated by the Labor Department. In those investigations, which represent about 30 percent of the department's caseload, evidence of undocumented workers will continue to be forwarded to the INS.

Anderson said the agency conducts 25,000 investigations each year and roughly one-third reveal some immigration law violations.

But one immigrant activist said illegal aliens still will be too worried about deportation to go to authorities.

Even if an employee isn't getting the correct amount of overtime or not getting the federally mandated minimum wage, it's still a lot more money than he'd get in his homeland, said Nancy Liu, director of the Chinese Community Center in Houston.

# Last escape from Death Row involved Bonnie and Clyde gang

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — It's been 64 years since the last escape from death row in Texas, when a member of the notorious Bonnie and Clyde gang broke out — six months after an earlier escape.

According to prison historians, it occurred in mid-1934 at the Walls Unit in downtown Huntsville, so named for the tall, red brick walls that surround it.

One of the escapees was Raymond Hamilton. He'd been sprung from prison six months earlier when, in a hall of gunfire, Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow liberated him and four other prisoners from the nearby Eastham State Prison. He was serving a prison term of more than 200 years.

Two guards were shot to death during the Jan. 16, 1934 breakout, and the jailbreak triggered an all-out manhunt for Barrow and his paramour.

Hamilton, Barrow's cousin, rejoined the gang in Vernon, Texas, and helped hold up

a National Guard armory in Ranger, Texas.

In April, Hamilton robbed the First National Bank of Lewisville, but was captured by police, biographer Sid Underwood told the Wichita Falls Times Record News. Hamilton was convicted, sentenced to die and returned to Huntsville.

Before dawn on May 23, 1934, a posse composed of heavily armed police officers from Louisiana and Texas concealed themselves in bushes along the highway near Sailes, La.

The outlaws drove into the deadly ambush and were killed instantly. Two months later, Hamilton again became a fugitive.

During Sunday dinner on July 24, 1934, a convict named Charlie Frazier used a smuggled .45 caliber pistol to get the drop on a guard.

After locking the guard in a cell, Frazier freed two death row convicts. Joe

Palmer and Blackie Thompson — and hollered to others that if they wanted in on the escape, they should call out.

Raymond Hamilton and two other prisoners did so.

Guards opened fire. Hamilton, Palmer and Thompson made it over the wall.

One of the other inmates was killed and Frazier and another inmate were wounded and captured.

Whereas Bonnie and Clyde freed him in the first escape, Hamilton escaped this time by being in the right place at the right time.

"Charlie Frazier is the one who had the gun smuggled into prison. They couldn't have done it without that," said Mitch Roth, a history professor at Sam Houston State University.

Thompson was killed by police near Amarillo five months later. Hamilton and Palmer were recaptured and executed on May 10, 1935, prison records show.





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# Important things don't seem to matter to us

Unless you are an M.C. (member of Congress), you shouldn't waste any time worrying about who gets what leadership position. The outcome will have no real effect on the end product of Congress.



CHARLEY REESE

Some Americans seem to have made a religion out of politics and act as if secular salvation depended on the outcome of partisan and ideological skirmishes. Heck, folks, they are the ones who created the problems. They're not going to solve them.

Politics in America today is all about the four P's - position, power, perks and patronage. The majorities in both parties are not about to do anything that would jeopardize their position, power, perks

and patronage. Consequently, they will reform nothing, because true reform would involve repealing bad laws and defunding bad programs. Either of those would rile at least some of the special-interest groups permanently camped on the Potomac and far outnumbering the elected officials.

The fact that Beltway journalists get obsessed with the minutiae of inside-the-Beltway partisan warfare and maneuver doesn't mean the rest of us should. We have more important things to think about.

There are minorities in both parties actually concerned about good government as they see it - a few socialists on the Democratic side and a few libertarians on the Republican side. There's a populist or two. But the fat majorities in both parties are true converts to the Western religion of big government and social engineering.

So regardless of who's in or who's out, the general drift of government will continue along the same path. It would take a political revolution on the part of the voters to effect

change, and as I've said, it's more likely that I will climb Mount Everest. Whether or not one thinks they should be, the majority of Americans are content with their lot.

A recent letter to the editor sort of summed up American contentedness for me. A woman wrote that she didn't care if the entire National Basketball Association season were canceled because, as it turns out, the new fall shows on TV are so entertaining.

It doesn't seem to matter to most folks that American troops are bogged down in the Balkans indefinitely.

The attitude seems to be that they are volunteers doing what they get paid to do, so who cares.

It doesn't seem to matter that U.S. blundering and catering to China will probably force Japan to end its relationship with the United States and rearm.

It doesn't seem to matter that the United States is also driving Russia away from democratic reforms and at the same time alienating a key segment of the world.

It doesn't seem to matter that

the global money lenders of the world have so strangled many countries with debts that they are hopelessly mired in poverty.

It doesn't seem to matter that an average of 350,000 crimes per day are committed in these government schools.

It doesn't seem to matter that what's left of American culture is so decadent it would bring a blush to the cheeks of Nero.

It doesn't seem to matter that an adulterous sociopath who is a national security risk is occupying the White House.

It doesn't seem to matter that much of what passes for higher education is a joke and that the politically correct police are busy snuffing out what remains of academic freedom on many campuses.

But, after all, the new TV shows are entertaining and there's still college football, hockey and the National Football League. And explosion and fornication films continue to roll out of Hollywood. Indeed the cup of America runneth over.

Charley Reese's e-mail address is OSOREESE@aol.com.

## 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.

Charles C. Williams, Publisher; John H. Walker, Managing Editor; John A. Moseley, Sports Editor; Bill McClellan, News Editor

### OUR VIEWS

## Happy holidays and happy time shopping at home

As anyone who battled the traffic in the stores on Friday is well aware, the Christmas shopping season is in full swing. We'd remind you to give your local merchants the first shot at your Christmas shopping. While the megastores out of town sometimes offer a different variety, there are several things they don't do.

First, they don't employ your friends, neighbors and family. Second, they pay no taxes in Big Spring or Howard County. Third, just because they're bigger doesn't mean their prices are better.

Another question to ask is just how much is your time worth? An hour each way ... plus shopping time ... plus wear and tear on your vehicle? It all adds up and eats away any imagined savings you might have thought you were reaping.

Check our local merchants before you make the decision to hit the road ... just about every retailer in town is running a holiday shopping special, while the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce and more than 300 retailers are conducting the "Home for the Holidays" contest, where you can win \$2,000 worth of gifts and prizes or Chamber Bucks.

There are any number of reasons to shop at home this holiday season and we've tried to offer you a few. We would encourage you to check the price and selection in Big Spring before you hit the road ... you might find you have a few extra dollars to spend on that extra special person.

Happy holidays ... and happy shopping at home!

### OTHER VIEWS

#### TO THE EDITOR:

As usual, the Democrats have a double standard - one for themselves and one for Republicans.

On Sept. 1, the then press person for President Clinton, Mike McCurry, said, "That the President's conduct does not rise to the level of an impeachable offense should now be clear to everyone." This was the day that America saw the president on video lying through his teeth to a federal grand jury.

Let's go back a few years to the impeachment of President Nixon and see what was said. The late "saint" of the Democratic party, Barbara Jordan of Texas, had this to say, "Those are impeachable who behave amiss or betray their public trust. President Nixon has engaged in a series of public statements and actions designed to thwart the lawful investigation by government prosecutors. Moreover, the President has made public announcements and assertions bearing on the Watergate case which the evidence will show he knew to be false."

### LETTER POLICIES

The Big Spring Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Please:
• Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
• Sign your letter. Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered for publication.
• Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
• We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
• We do not acknowledge receipt of letters.
• Letters from our circulation area receive preference.
• Send to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721.

### HOW TO CONTACT US

- In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:
• In person at 710 Scumy St.
• By telephone at 253-7331
• By fax at 254-7205
• By e-mail at either bsherald@xroad.sbx.com or jwalker@xroadstx.com.
• By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721
• Our normal hours of operation are from 7:30 a.m. until 5 p.m.
• Our offices are closed on weekends and holidays.

### BRACKINS



## The choice before Congress should be clear

By JEFFREY HART

King Features Syndicate

The two hours and 15 minutes of testimony by Kenneth Starr on amounted to a clarifying experience and made the choice before Congress awfully clear.

In dramatic terms, it was almost ideal. In one way, Starr could not lose.

He has been demonized so profoundly during the last nine months that many people might have expected to see on their screen a man drooling through pointed teeth, a man obsessed with sex, a fanatic.

So effective was the vilification directed from the White House toward Mr. Starr that in public opinion polls, his approval ratings sank toward single-digit figures, while, at the same time, President Clinton's rose as if at the other end of a seesaw.

However, Mr. Starr pulled the whole mess together in a way that made it intelligible - which is important, since the general public pays only intermittent attention and tends to reach

careless judgments.

The atmosphere in the hearing room was not that of "The Larry King Show" or Geraldo Rivera's show. The likes of James Carville were not declaring war on the independent counsel.

Behind Chairman Henry Hyde one could see a portrait of former Rep. Peter Rodino, who had presided over the Judiciary Committee that amassed the case against President Nixon some 25 years ago. Mr. Starr, appropriately enough, was something like the opposite of Mr. Clinton in terms of personality.

He could be eloquent, but he did not try to charm. His delivery was even, logical and dependent upon a careful exposition of fact.

Mr. Starr is a man who can speak with utter conviction of the "temple of law," of the "sanctity of the legal process" and of "equal justice under law."

He pointed out that his investigation has gone into five matters and achieved 14 convictions, that more indictments are

coming, but that he has declined to indict in several cases. He noted that, on appeal, he has won all but one case.

The main body of his presentation amounted to a careful, factual and persuasive case against the president as a lawbreaker - a perjurer, a witness coacher, an obstructor of legitimate legal procedure. He painted Clinton as a man who lives among lies.

What emerged was a fabric of lies coming out of the White House not only designed to cover up the president's behavior with Lewinsky but also to deny, through deception, Paula Jones "the right to orderly disposition of her claims" as mandated by the Supreme Court.

Mr. Starr made the point that "lying under oath" is not a fib about sex, not a convenient social lie, but a threat to the integrity of our judicial system and a violation of the president's oath of office.

It was clear that Mr. Starr, a distinguished lawyer who has served as solicitor general and as an appellate judge, and who was on President Bush's short

list for the Supreme Court, is outraged over Clinton's contempt for the law.

So, after months of "spin" coming from the White House, Mr. Starr has made his case clear.

What will be the response of Congress and the nation? The public seems to think that lying about sex is all right. But will it think, or continue to think, that lying under oath in a judicial process is no big deal? Will it dawn on America that testimony in the witness chair is serious business, and that people today are serving plenty of time for lying under oath?

Will the public continue to think, as apparently it still does, that Clinton's affair with Lewinsky is a private matter?

Apart from the case of the rather weird Bill Clinton, there is the matter of lowering standards.

Are we really willing to lower the standards of behavior for the president so that they reach the depths plumbed by Clinton?

Mr. Starr delivered, quite effectively, the case against all of that.

Advertisement for Bruce Tinsley's 'Mallard Fillmore' featuring a cartoon of a man with a sign that says 'choice' and text about 'Liberal Mexican' and 'something LIBERALS OFFER regarding whether Johnny deserves a DECENT EDUCATION... BUT SUPPORT REGARDING whether he DESERVES to BE BORN.'

# Two die as passenger bus sails over side of 50-foot-high bridge

SEATTLE (AP) — Passengers on Saturday described the surreal terror of their double-length bus flying over the side of a 50-foot-high bridge and plunging into an apartment house after the driver had been shot.

As the bus carrying at least 35 people fell, passenger Laethan Wene thought to himself, "My God, it's going to be like an airplane crash."

The driver, who was shot in the arm or shoulder, was thrown free and killed as the bus smashed into the two-story apartment house Friday afternoon. People below watched in horror as the 60-foot bus' twin sections rained down at them.

*"My God, it's going to be like an airplane crash."*

—Laethan Wene, passenger

No one on the ground was hurt, but 19 passengers remained hospitalized Saturday, one in critical condition. One passenger died Saturday.

Police refused to confirm published reports that the gunman shot himself in the head after shooting the driver, but a male passenger was found dead with a gunshot wound to the head.

Investigators couldn't confirm he was the gunman, police spokeswoman

Christie-Lynn Bonner said. All they could conclude so far was that a single gunman was involved and that he was either the dead passenger or one of the injured.

The bus driver was identified as Mark F. McLaughlin, 44, of Lynnwood. Wene, 24, who thought he heard two shots, "popping noises," before the bus lost control. As the bus veered through the bridge guardrail, Wene knew things looked bad.

"I was looking out the door and stuff, and I thought, 'My God, it's going to be like an airplane crash,'" he said.

When the bus hit the ground, Wene realized he was unhurt and scrambled

out the rear door.

"I just ran," Wene said. "I ran all the way to Safeway. I was a little shook up. I just didn't want to be around all that."

He later was treated for minor injuries at a hospital and released.

Seconds before the accident, an open-air bus loaded with tourists had driven by the apartment house yard where the hinged Metro bus' two 30-foot sections landed together.

"This is a busy, urban neighborhood," said Judy Jurji, who was getting mail from her porch when the bus fell across the street. "It's just a miracle that more people were not hurt."

The attack came without warning, said Rick Walsh, director of King County's Metro Transit division. Survivors said it came from a passenger sitting across the aisle from the driver in the seat directly behind the front door.

"There was no previous conversation," Walsh said. "No tension was apparent, and ... he pulled out a gun and shot the driver."

Lacy Olsen, 13, who was headed downtown on the bus to get her eyebrow pierced, was sitting not far away. "I saw two flashes and heard a loud pop-pop," Olsen said. "I saw the bus driver and his blood."

## Gross-out toys headline Connecticut man's annual compilation of 'warped' playthings

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — The doll "Crush Me Phil" foams at the mouth and begs to be kicked. His toy cousin, "Typhoid Mary" comes with shackles and a straitjacket.

Both made the annual list of top 10 "warped" playthings, compiled by the Rev. Christopher L. Rose.

"What does a toy like that teach a child?" asked Rose, the rector of Grace Episcopal Church. "Manufacturers have responsibility for things they put on the shelf."

The "worst offender was" "Macho Man Randy Savage," a plush wrestler doll that taunts "Is that all you got?" or "Hey, you're bashin' in my gut!" when it is hit in the chest or its limbs are twisted, Rose said.

Steven Spielberg was singled

out for criticism. His DreamWorks company puts out some toys that scream and vibrate when pummeled, with names like "Taunt Me Igor" and "Gastro Intestinal Igor" and "Bad Gas Baby Human." The company's "Dr. Vic's Electron Chair" includes a figure that can be zapped in an electric chair.

Rose, who began criticizing toys when he started shopping for his son, Matthew, said that while parents bear some responsibility for the toys they buy their children, manufacturers should also be held accountable.

Rose's "warped" list included several toys by Todd McFarlane, the creator of the Spawn comic books. The minister called McFarlane "one of

the most irresponsible toymakers out there" — and pointed to "The Grave-Yard" which lets kids play with a crypt and the corpse that comes with it.

Female action figures also made the list. Gywnn, an exotic dancer aimed at children age 8 and older, has a revealing costume that includes a bra that snaps off easily, revealing anatomically correct breasts.

Rose also bemoaned the return of an old nemesis: realistic toy guns. One made by Tootsie Toy and sold by Wal-Mart is a toy shotgun that works like a pump-action rifle, makes a loud noise and smokes when fired.

"You could hold up a store with this gun," Rose told The Hartford Courant in today's editions.

## Trapped driver pulled from burning truck

BROOKVILLE, Ohio (AP) — A good Samaritan trucker rescued a colleague trapped in a tractor-trailer that was engulfed in flames by smashing through a sunroof and pulling the driver out.

The unknown hero didn't stick around. He was back in his truck and heading east before anyone found out who he was, witnesses said.

"He's your Lone Ranger," said Bret Andrysiak, one of two other truckers who had strug-

gled unsuccessfully to free Cory Swanson from the wreckage of his cab. "He came in and took off."

The accident happened Friday about 6:20 a.m. on Interstate 70 near Brookville, about 13 miles northwest of Dayton.

Swanson, 23, was hauling turkeys for Grand Island Express to Columbus, said trooper Brian Aller of the State Highway Patrol in Dayton.

Andrysiak, 36, was hauling electronics and furniture to

Bolingbrook, Ill., when he saw Swanson's eastbound truck veer off the highway and toward the median strip. Swanson later told him the truck drifted after he'd reached down to pick something up.

As the truck hit the guardrail, it rolled over and the guardrail's support posts ripped open the truck's fuel lines and oil pan. About 15 minutes later, the truck's refrigeration unit exploded and the cab went up in flames, Andrysiak said.

## Team hoping to circle the earth

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — No fewer than five teams of adventurers are hoping that they'll be the ones to put the last great aviation milestone in the record books — a nonstop, around-the-world balloon trek.

Teams are testing their equipment and studying weather patterns for the perfect launch window, expected in the next few weeks.

"There's a pretty good chance that one of these teams is going to make it this year," said Tom Hamilton, editor and publisher of Balloon Life, a Seattle-based hot-air ballooning magazine.

All three pilots on the Spirit of Peace, launching from Albuquerque's North Valley, say they're ready once the weather is. "November and December looks good, but it could happen any time between now and February," said pilot-in-command Jacques Soukup.

For now, they are making final adjustments on the 8-foot-

wide, 18-foot-long capsule that hangs below the 19-story balloon. Last week, their engineers pressurized the carbon fiber craft and ran it through a systems check.

Once they get weather clearance, they'll inflate their balloon with a helium- and hot-air mixture, and they'll be off to an altitude of 30,000 feet. If successful, the trip should take just over two weeks.

"This is really one amazing piece of machinery, a proven craft," said Ted Moore, capsule manager. "If anybody makes it around the world it should be us."

Other launches are spread across the globe, with the only other U.S.-launched attempt coming from Kevin Uliassi's solo effort from the Chicago area.

Chicago millionaire Steve Fossett is scheduled to make another attempt from the Swiss Alps — this time joining forces

with archrival Richard Branson, the flamboyant tycoon whose Virgin company name adorns everything from record stores and clothing to an airline. Fossett's last attempt ended in August in a dramatic landing in the Coral Sea, 500 miles off Australia's east coast. He'd traveled two-thirds of the Earth's circumference before a severe storm ruptured his balloon.

A Monday launch is scheduled for the Re/Max team from Alice Springs, Australia sometime next month.

Taking a different approach, the group will float at 130,000 feet, near the outer edge of the earth's atmosphere, to avoid weather problems and political obstacles from the countries below.

## Hospital limits birth announcements 'for safety'

MESA, Ariz. (AP) — Desert Samaritan Hospital will no longer give birth information to newspapers, saying its decision has to do with protecting the infants and their parents from "stranger danger."

Spokeswoman Susan Gordon said Friday the hospital wanted to be consistent with the safety precautions included in a book of tips compiled by the hospital and given to new parents.

The book advises against pub-

lishing births in the paper, telling large numbers of people about the new arrival or posting signs and banners at home.

Though the hospital, home to more than 6,000 births a year, has had no reported crimes or safety issues stemming from published birth announcements, "our policy is our way of assisting (parents) in keeping their baby safe," said Anne Surra, admissions supervisor. The police saw no need for the

Mesa hospital's concern. "Birth announcements have been in newspapers for hundreds of years. I wouldn't think it would make much difference," said Sgt. Earle Lloyd, a Mesa police spokesman.

Other area hospitals, such as Good Samaritan Medical Center in Phoenix, have discontinued publishing birth announcements, but spokesman Bill Byron said the reason was more for logistics than safety.

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4. Fill out the information below and turn in to the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

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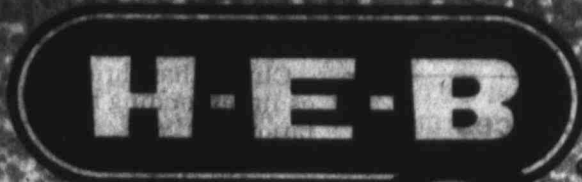


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Our Tasty Finger Sandwich Party Tray Has A Wonderful Selection Of Chicken Salad, Pimento Cheese, Sliced Boiled Ham With Swiss Cheese, And Sliced Turkey Breast With American Cheese - All On White Or Wheat Bread, Serves 20-25

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Pinot Noir Or White Zinfandel

**\$6<sup>87</sup>** Ea.

**Vendange Wine**  
1.5 L Btl.  
Cabernet Sauvignon, Malbec, Chardonnay, Merlot Or Pinot Noir

**\$7<sup>49</sup>** Ea.

**Louis Jadot Wine**  
750 ml Btl.,  
Beaujolais Or Beaujolais Village

**\$5<sup>99</sup>** Ea.

**Turning Leaf Wine**  
750 ml Btl.  
Cabernet Sauvignon, Fumé Blanc, Chardonnay, Johannisberg Reisling, Merlot Or Pinot Grigio



## Large Shrimp Platter With Cocktail Sauce

Great For Holiday Appetizers

**\$17<sup>99</sup>** Ea.

Double Shrimp Platter, \$24.99 Ea.



**\$5<sup>99</sup>** Ea.

**Georges Dubouef Wine**  
750 ml Btl.  
Beaujolais Villages

**\$3<sup>99</sup>** Ea.

**Ernest & Julio Gallo Wine**  
750 ml Btl.  
Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Chardonnay Or Fumé Blanc

**\$18<sup>49</sup>** Ea.

**Kendall Jackson Grand Reserve Chardonnay**  
750 ml Btl.

**\$7<sup>79</sup>** Ea.

**Rosemount Diamond Wine**  
750 ml Btl.  
Cabernet Sauvignon, Pinot Noir Or Chardonnay

**\$6<sup>49</sup>** Ea.

**Llano Estacado Signature Wine**  
750 ml Btl.  
Red, White, Sauvignon Blanc, Muscat Canelli, Johannisberg Reisling Or Gewurztraminer



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Includes 36 Mini Assorted Gourmet Cookies

**\$14<sup>99</sup>** Ea.



**\$7<sup>37</sup>** Ea.

**Fetzer Wine**  
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**\$4<sup>87</sup>** Ea.

**Livingston Cellars Wine**  
1.5 L Btl.  
Blush, Burgundy, Chablis, Chardonnay, Chenin Blanc, French Colombard, Pink Chablis, Red Rose, Rhine, Ruby Cabernet, White Zinfandel, Merlot Or White Grenache

**\$4<sup>97</sup>** Ea.

**Almaden Wine**  
1.5 L Btl.  
Blush Chablis, Burgundy, Cabernet Sauvignon, Chablis, Chardonnay, Light Blush, Light Chablis, White Zinfandel Or Rhine

**\$6<sup>87</sup>** Ea.

**Concha y Toro Wine**  
1.5 L Btl.  
Cabernet Merlot, Chardonnay, Sauvignon, Merlot Malbec Or Sauvignon Blanc Semillon

**\$4<sup>59</sup>** Ea.

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750 ml Btl.  
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Serves 4-5

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# Clinton must decide whether to mount defense in televised hearing

WASHINGTON (AP) — After denying legal wrongdoing in written testimony to the House Judiciary Committee, President Clinton must decide whether to mount a defense in a televised hearing.

Clinton has an invitation to appear personally, send his legal representatives and call witnesses to back his version of the Monica Lewinsky affair. Committee Chairman Henry Hyde, R-Ill., set the appearance for Dec. 8 or shortly thereafter, but the president has not responded.

Hyde also set that week for deliberations on articles of impeachment, with the full House possibly convening the week of Dec. 14.

In anticipation of that debate, a senior Republican committee

official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Friday the staff already is starting to draft impeachment articles charging Clinton with perjury, obstruction of justice and abuse of power. But he said the scenario could change if the president presents exculpatory evidence.

In his written responses Friday, Clinton acknowledged once again that he misled his family, his staff, his friends and the American public. But in several responses to 81 questions submitted by Hyde three weeks ago, Clinton said his testimony was "not false and misleading." At the same time, he failed to recall many of the significant events in his relationship with Ms. Lewinsky, a former White House intern.

"The committee will now

## Clinton's choices

- Wage a vigorous fight that would include defense witnesses.

- Have his lawyers argue the case without witnesses.

- Decline to appear

carefully review those responses," Hyde said.

Many of the questions asked the president to "admit or deny" specific events or conversations. He usually was not as direct in his answers, and in at least 17 instances said he did not recall or his recollection was uncertain.

Clinton has three basic choices in responding to Hyde's invitation:

- Wage a vigorous fight that would include defense witnesses.

- Have his lawyers argue the case without witnesses.

- Decline to appear, knowing that a number of Republicans said they would not back impeachment on the House floor, and that polls show most Americans do not support Clinton's removal from office.

Clinton preceded his responses with a personal statement, asking for a "speedy and fair resolution" to the matter, which he said "long ago ceased to be primarily a legal or political issue and became instead a painful personal one."

"I never told (Oval Office sec-

retary) Betty Currie to take possession of gifts I had given Ms. Lewinsky," the president said in response to one of the main allegations. He also insisted, "I did not tell Ms. Lewinsky to lie, and I did not tell anybody to lie about my relationship with Ms. Lewinsky."

Clinton's lawyer, David Kendall, wrote Hyde separately, emphasizing "the president did not commit or suborn perjury, tamper with witnesses, obstruct justice or abuse power."

Clinton was only vaguely able to remember important conversations with Ms. Lewinsky as they tried to conceal their relationship; discussions with friend Vernon Jordan on finding the former intern a job; and his talks with Mrs. Currie.

But the president insisted he

told the truth in the Paula Jones sexual harassment case in January and in grand jury testimony in August. "That testimony was not false and misleading," he said.

Providing one new piece of information, Clinton acknowledged that political consultant Dick Morris volunteered to conduct a poll after news of the Lewinsky matter burst into public view last January.

"What I recall is that he said the public was most concerned about obstruction of justice or subornation of perjury," Clinton testified. But he said he did not recall a comment Morris attributed to him: "Well, we just have to win then."

Reaction from Judiciary Committee members reflected their political affiliations.

# National Archives technicians snip personal talk from Nixon tapes

WASHINGTON (AP) — For two decades, President Nixon's White House tapes have been preserved and protected in a cold storage vault at the National Archives. Now, technicians are slicing them up with a razor blade.

Not that they want to. A judge ordered the archives to cut out personal, private and some political conversations from the 3,280 hours of conversations the public still hasn't heard.

Nixon discusses his daughter Tricia's Rose Garden wedding. Snip. Nixon plans a political campaign trip. Snip. Family members talk about their health, or one another. Snip.

Snip. All together, 820 hours of tape are being cut — about a fourth of the total volume.

"After all these years of protecting the tapes, it was really a traumatic moment to actually begin cutting them," says Sharon Fawcett, deputy assistant archivist for presidential libraries.

It's delicate, tedious work that will cost \$600,000 and take at least six years.

"This tape has the consistency of thick Saran Wrap," says Dick McNeill, supervisory audio visual specialist for the Nixon presidential materials project. "Your audio cassette is

twice the thickness of what we're dealing with."

McNeill and three white-gloved technicians work in a secure, windowless room on the ground floor of the archives. They listen, cut and splice for three or four hours at a time — that's about as long as anyone can keep at it. Some days, they hear a Nixon tirade or National Security Adviser Henry Kissinger's low-toned drones on foreign policy. Other days, they get an earful of someone vacuuming the Oval Office.

There are no transcripts, only conversation logs cued with the first and last words of talk to edit out. A stopwatch and calcu-

lator are used to fast forward the tape on reel-to-reel recorders like those used in the Nixon White House in the early 1970s.

The tape experts mark the beginning and end of each edit with a special archival pen. Then they slide the tape off the machine, thread it into a splicing block and cut it with a razor

blade.

"You have to hold it firmly and make a really fast, firm cut," Ms. Fawcett says.

Nixon secretly tape recorded conversations for 2 years.

In the Oval Office, five microphones were installed in the president's desk and two in wall lamps by the fireplace. They were stowed under the table in

the Cabinet Room, at the Camp David presidential retreat and in Nixon's hideaway office at the Old Executive Office Building. Recorders also were wired to various phones, including one in the Lincoln Sitting Room, where Nixon liked to make calls in the evening and listen to classical music.

# Students, families are getting education through use of personal laptop computers

HIWASSEE, Ga. (AP) — Every middle school pupil carries a laptop computer to class here, and educators are finding that their cyberliteracy is rubbing off on parents in a community where 37 percent of the adults dropped out of high school.

When their children aren't using the computers to do homework and write book reports, the parents are learning to type, use spreadsheets and surf the Internet to discover the world beyond the Appalachians.

"It is an awesome task to overcome a historical inertia of this magnitude, in that high school dropouts tend to beget high school dropouts," said Stephen Smith, Towns County Middle School principal.

"In an attempt to combat this vicious cycle of illiteracy, it is imperative to introduce a program in which students and their parents are able to participate."

In northern Georgia's Towns County, all 270 middle school students were given the StudyPro computers, manufactured by Samsung for NetSchools Corp., at the begin-

ning of the school year and have been using them in every class.

The technology was paid for by a \$320,000 grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission.

The commission provides money for economic development and infrastructure improvements in 13 Appalachian states. An additional \$80,000 came from local donors.

And it's that local interest that has really gotten the project going, Smith said.

Before the computers could be handed out, parents and students had to attend computer camps.

Only one parent failed to make it to the two-day seminar.

While Smith said the parents were "very supportive," some pupils said their parents were a little too supportive.

"My dad uses it way too often," 13-year-old Jake Hollingshed said.

"He made these forms for his job on it and had me take it to school and print it off for him," Hollingshed remarked.

When Chris Ledford, 13, brought home his laptop, it

became the family's first computer.

"I'd never used the Internet before he brought this home," said Dennis Ledford, Chris' father.

"It's easy to get hooked on. I look at it for hours sometimes. I have a body shop and I can look at parts on it."

Some problems remain, however.

Pupils sometimes forget to bring the computers to class, most of them don't know how to type, and some teachers remain uncertain how to incorporate computer use into their lessons.

In western Georgia's Meriwether County, 400 middle school pupils use computers in the classroom this year, and Jill Harman, the school system's technology director, hopes to send the computers home with children next year.

"One of the tangible goals is that if these start going home, the families will see how easy they are to use," she said.

"If there's enough interest from people wanting to take the GED, we could put the software on there so the families could use them to prepare for it," Harman added.

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# Private study shows weather causes record \$89 billion damage

WASHINGTON (AP) — Storms, floods, droughts and fires have caused a record \$89 billion in economic losses this year worldwide, more than was lost from weather-related disasters in all of the 1980s, according to a private study.

The report, released Friday by the Worldwatch Institute, an environmental research group, blamed human meddling for some of the disasters.

"More and more, there's a human fingerprint in natural disasters, in that we're making them more frequent and more intense and we're also ... making them more destructive," said Seth Dunn, research asso-

ciate and climate change expert at the institute.

Preliminary estimates by the Worldwatch Institute and Munich Re of Frankfurt, Germany, the world's largest reinsurance firm, put total losses from weather-related disasters for the first 11 months of the year 48 percent higher than the previous one-year record of more than \$60 billion in 1996.

This year's damage also was far ahead of the \$55 billion in losses for the entire decade of the 1980s. Even when adjusted for inflation, the 1980s losses, at \$82.7 billion, still fall short of the first 11 months of this year.

In addition to the material

losses, the disasters have killed an estimated 82,000 people and displaced 300 million — more than the population of the United States — according to the report.

A combination of deforestation and climate change caused this year's most severe disasters, among them Hurricane Mitch, the flooding of China's Yangtze River and Bangladesh's most extensive flood of the century, according to the report.

When hillsides are left bare, rainfall will rush across the land or into rivers without being slowed by trees and allowed to be absorbed by the soil or evaporate into the atmos-

phere. This leads to floods and landslides that are strong enough to wipe out roads, farms and fisheries far downstream, Dunn said.

"In a sense, we're turning up the faucets ... and throwing away the sponges, like the forests and the wetlands," he said.

Another element that has contributed to this year's losses is the growing population pressures that have led many people to settle on vulnerable flood plains and hillsides, the report said.

The most severe 1998 disasters listed in the report include Hurricane Mitch. The deadliest

Atlantic storm in 200 years has caused more than 10,000 deaths in Honduras, Nicaragua, Guatemala and El Salvador. Damage has been estimated at \$4 billion in Honduras and \$1 billion in Nicaragua.

Mitch hit an ecologically vulnerable region. Central American nations have experienced some of the highest rates of deforestation in the world, losing some 2 percent to 4 percent of their remaining forest cover each year, the study said.

The costliest disaster of 1998, according to the report, was the flooding of the Yangtze River in the summer. It killed more than 3,000 people, dislocated about

230 million people and caused \$30 billion in losses.

While heavy summer rains are common in southern and central China, the Yangtze Basin has lost 85 percent of its forest cover to logging and agriculture in recent decades, wetlands have been drained, and the river heavily dammed.

Bangladesh suffered its most extensive flood of the century last summer. Two-thirds of the low-lying country located at the mouth of the Ganges and Brahmaputra rivers was flooded for months, 30 million people were left temporarily homeless, and 10,000 miles of roads were heavily damaged.

## Drug legalization at issue in new Swiss vote

GENEVA (AP) — Last year, the traditionally cautious Swiss achieved a world first when they approved state distribution of heroin to hard core addicts. But a bid to legalize all drugs is likely to be too much to swallow.

The electorate votes today on a proposal to insert a clause into the constitution that "the consumption, cultivation or possession of drugs, and their acquisition for personal use, is not punishable."

The government opposes the plan, fearing it would turn the orderly Alpine nation into a haven for drug tourists and traffickers. Church groups, police chiefs, social workers, doctors and other professionals working

with addicts are also against it. Its backers — a loose left-wing coalition that gathered the necessary 100,000 signatures to force a referendum — claim it would kill the street market in drugs by lowering prices.

"Only prohibition has made a huge business of a substance (hard drugs) which has little value in itself," they say.

Stefan Wunderlin, a member of the organizing committee, concedes that the proposal will likely be rejected because of objections to legalizing hard drugs.

But he says a strong showing for the proposal would send a signal that "legalization of cannabis could be approved today."

Switzerland has an estimated 30,000 hard drug addicts, one of Europe's highest rates. In contrast to many other countries, the death toll is falling — from a peak of 399 in 1994 to 241 last year.

An experiment with government-authorized distribution of heroin to long-term addicts began in 1994 and led to a huge drop in crime.

In a referendum last year, the Swiss voted for the experiment to be made permanent — and this was approved by parliament last month.

Even though the government policy has won praise at home and abroad, it still hasn't stamped out trafficking, which flourishes around Geneva's rail-

way station and in other cities.

Seizures of hard drugs have continued in the run-up to today's vote. Last month, police seized more than 5.8 tons of cannabis with a street value as high as \$21.7 million, their biggest-ever seizure of the drug.

Twenty foreigners were arrested, including a German suspected of running the operation. Cannabis legalization activists claimed the sweep was politically motivated.

Ruth Dreifuss, the minister responsible for drug policy, calls the legalization proposal "naive." She defends the current policy of helping hardened addicts and trying to get tough with dealers as "honest and pragmatic."

## OPEC chief calls for a cutback of up to 1.5 million barrels a day

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — OPEC member states should reduce their combined oil production by as much as 1.5 million barrels a day in order to boost prices, the cartel's new president said in remarks published Saturday.

"Everybody knows there is a huge surplus in oil markets and, in order to reach a balance in this market, we should withdraw one million to 1.5 million barrels a day," Youcef Yousfi told the leading Arabic newspaper, Al-Hayat. "This reduction should take place as soon as possible," he added.

Oil prices have fallen steadily since last year and hit historic lows in London and New York last week.

"This is not acceptable and is not in the interest of our countries' economies," Yousfi told the London-based paper.

Speaking in Vienna, Austria, where the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries elected him as its president on Thursday, Yousfi said the state of the market demanded immediate action.

Yousfi, who is Algeria's oil minister, said his country believed that OPEC heads of states should hold a summit to decide on a long-term strategy.

## Congo cease-fire reached at African summit

PARIS (AP) — The countries at war in Congo agreed Saturday to a cease-fire to help end the fighting between rebels and forces loyal to Congo's president. French President Jacques Chirac said.

Chirac told reporters at the end of a summit of African leaders in Paris that Uganda, Rwanda and Congo "had reached a consensus to stop this war."

He did not say whether the rebels had been consulted or what their position now would be.

The cease-fire agreement brokered by U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan was to be signed sometime in December before a meeting of the Organization of African Unity on December 17-18, Chirac said.

"The secretary general has achieved an agreement for the reaffirmation of the commitment to put an end to this absurd and painful war," Chirac said.

Congolese President Laurent Kabila came to power in May 1997 after toppling longtime dictator Mobutu Sese Seko. He promised reform and democracy, but many critics say his regime's 18 months in power have instead brought repressive policies and a growing intolerance of criticism.

Disaffected members of his armed forces banded together with ethnic Tutsi insurgents earlier this year and launched a rebellion, accusing the president of corruption, nepotism and tribalism.

Until the summit, Kabila had spurred attempts to arrange talks with rebels or neighboring countries involved in the 4-month-old conflict that has raised fears of an all-out regional war.

Namibia, Zimbabwe and

Angola are supporting Kabila against the rebels, who have the backing of Rwanda and Uganda.

Kabila had demanded that Rwanda and Uganda end their support for the insurgents and leave Congo before talks could begin.

Both countries claim they have legitimate security interests in Congo and say they will stay as long as Congo remains a threat.

Annan broke the deadlock during a two-hour meeting including Kabila and the leaders of Uganda and Rwanda.

The leaders of Zimbabwe and Burkina Faso also took part.

Chirac said the meeting had been held in a tense but not hostile environment. The talks focused working out some framework for peace negotiations between the warring parties.

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# Exxon-Mobil would be No. 1 oil company, but won't squeeze pump prices

NEW YORK (AP) — If Exxon and Mobil merge to form the world's biggest oil company, don't expect higher prices at the pump.

Even a combination of the nation's two biggest oil and gas companies wouldn't have the power to reverse slumping prices caused by a worldwide oil glut.

But while drivers may not be affected, an Exxon-Mobil marriage could leave as many as 20,000 employees out of work as the companies seek to slash costs, according to one analyst.

Exxon Corp. and Mobil Corp. announced Friday that they are in merger talks, confirming reports that surfaced this week. At a price near Mobil's current value of \$67 billion, it would be the richest merger ever.

A combined Exxon-Mobil would vault past Royal Dutch-Shell Group of Cos. as the world's biggest energy company, with 47,000 gas stations and operations in more than 100

countries. It also would surpass General Motors Corp. as the largest U.S. company of any kind, with combined revenue of \$208 billion last year.

"The last thing either party would have considered is the effect on the consumer, but as it happens it's pretty benign," said Alan Marshall, an energy analyst with Robert Fleming Securities in London.

Oil prices are hovering near 12-year lows, hammered by a plentiful global supply and an Asian economic crisis that has crippled demand from that region.

The Energy Department predicts that prices will remain depressed well into the next decade.

Even as the industry's biggest player, a combined Exxon-Mobil would only account for 4 percent of world oil production capacity, according to George Gaspar, an analyst with Robert W. Baird & Co. in Milwaukee.

In their short joint statement, Mobil and Exxon said they could not guarantee a deal would be reached and declined further comment. The talks are driven by a desire to boost profits by reducing expenses in a time of slumping oil markets.

Analysts predict thousands of layoffs from the companies' overlapping operations. Marshall projected cuts of up to 20,000 — about 16 percent of the companies' combined work force.

Most of the cuts would come in the United States, followed by Asia, he said.

The merger would intensify consolidation in the energy industry that has quickened since British Petroleum announced its surprising \$49 billion takeover of Amoco Corp. in August.

Oil stocks jumped Friday on confirmation of the Exxon-Mobil talks and anticipation of even more deals.

Mobil stock rose \$7.62, or by

nearly 10 percent, to close Friday at \$85 a share as the second most actively traded issue on the New York Stock Exchange. Exxon shares climbed \$1.88, or by more than 2 percent, to \$74.37 on the NYSE, the fourth most active.

Chevron Corp., Texaco Inc., Unocal Corp. and Atlantic Richfield Co. are among the major players likely to find merger partners, said Gaspar. Exxon, based in Irving, Texas, ranks only behind Royal Dutch-Shell among the world's oil companies.

Mobil, based in Fairfax, Va., is the second-largest U.S. oil and gas group after Exxon and the fourth-largest in the world.

The companies are children of Standard Oil Trust, John D. Rockefeller's oil monopoly that was broken up by the government in 1911.

Exxon is the former Standard Oil of New Jersey, while Mobil was once Standard Oil of New York.

### PROFILE: Exxon Corp.

Chief Executive Officer: Lee R. Raymond  
Headquarters: Irving, Texas  
Sales (1997): \$137.2 billion  
Profit (1997): \$8.5 billion  
Number of service stations: 32,000  
Number of Employees (1997): 80,000

### PROFILE: Mobil Corp.

Chief Executive Officer: Lucio A. Noto  
Headquarters: Fairfax, Va.  
Sales (1997): \$65.9 billion  
Profit (1997): \$3.3 billion  
Number of service stations: 15,000  
Number of Employees (1997): 42,700

But a reunion of the two does not necessarily pose significant antitrust concerns, said Robert A. Burka, a partner at Washington office law firm Foley & Lardner and a former official in the Federal Trade

Commission's bureau of competition.

"The merged entity will have nothing like the market power or the ability to injure consumers that its predecessor did," Burka said.

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# SPORTS

## BIG SPRING HERALD

Do you have an interesting item or story idea for sports? Call John Moseley, 263-7331, Ext. 233.

Page 11A  
Sunday, Nov. 29, 1998

### IN BRIEF

#### Quarterback Club states final meeting of season

The Big Spring Quarterback Club will hold its last meeting of the season at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Big Spring High School Athletic Training Complex.

Final arrangements for the 1998 Football Banquet will be made and the club's officers for 1999 will be elected.

#### BSHS football banquet scheduled for Dec. 7

The Big Spring Quarterback Club's 1998 Football Banquet has been scheduled for 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 7, in the Big Spring High School cafeteria.

Jerry Larned from the Texas High School Coaches Hall of Fame will be guest speaker for the event.

Tickets for the banquet, priced at \$10 each, are available from members of the booster club.

#### Steer Baseball Boosters schedule first meeting

The 1999 Big Spring Baseball Boosters Club will hold an organizational meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8, at the Big Spring High School Athletic Training Complex.

Anyone interested in supporting Big Spring High School baseball teams is encouraged to attend.

#### Softball umpires needed for high school schedule

Fastpitch umpires are currently needed to work softball games throughout West Texas, according to officials with the Permian Basin chapter of the Southwest Softball Umpires Association.

For more information, call Mack Gipson at 520-5961.

#### YMCA youth basketball program being revamped

Registration for YMCA youth basketball is currently under way.

The program is being expanded to include seventh- and eighth-graders.

Youngsters whose families are not YMCA members will have to purchase basic program memberships for \$15 to participate, but scholarships are available for children from low income families. For more information, call the YMCA at 267-8234.

#### YMCA swim team adding a beginners program

The Big Spring YMCA is currently adding beginners to its swim team.

Practice sessions will be from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

To participate, youngsters 6 years of age and older must be able to swim a length of the pool independently in both the crawl and backstroke.

### ON THE AIR

#### TODAY: COLLEGE BASKETBALL

6 p.m. — Georgia at Texas, FXS, Ch. 29.

#### FOOTBALL

Noon — Arizona Cardinals at Kansas City Chiefs or Atlanta Falcons at St. Louis Rams, FOX, Ch. 3.

Noon — Indianapolis Colts at Baltimore Ravens or Jacksonville Jaguars at Cincinnati Bengals, CBS, Ch. 7.

3 p.m. — Philadelphia Eagles at Green Bay Packers, FOX, Ch. 3.

7 p.m. — Denver Broncos at San Diego Chargers, ESPN, Ch. 30.

#### GOLF

12:30 p.m. — Gillette Tour Challenge Championship, ABC, Ch. 2 and Ch. 8.

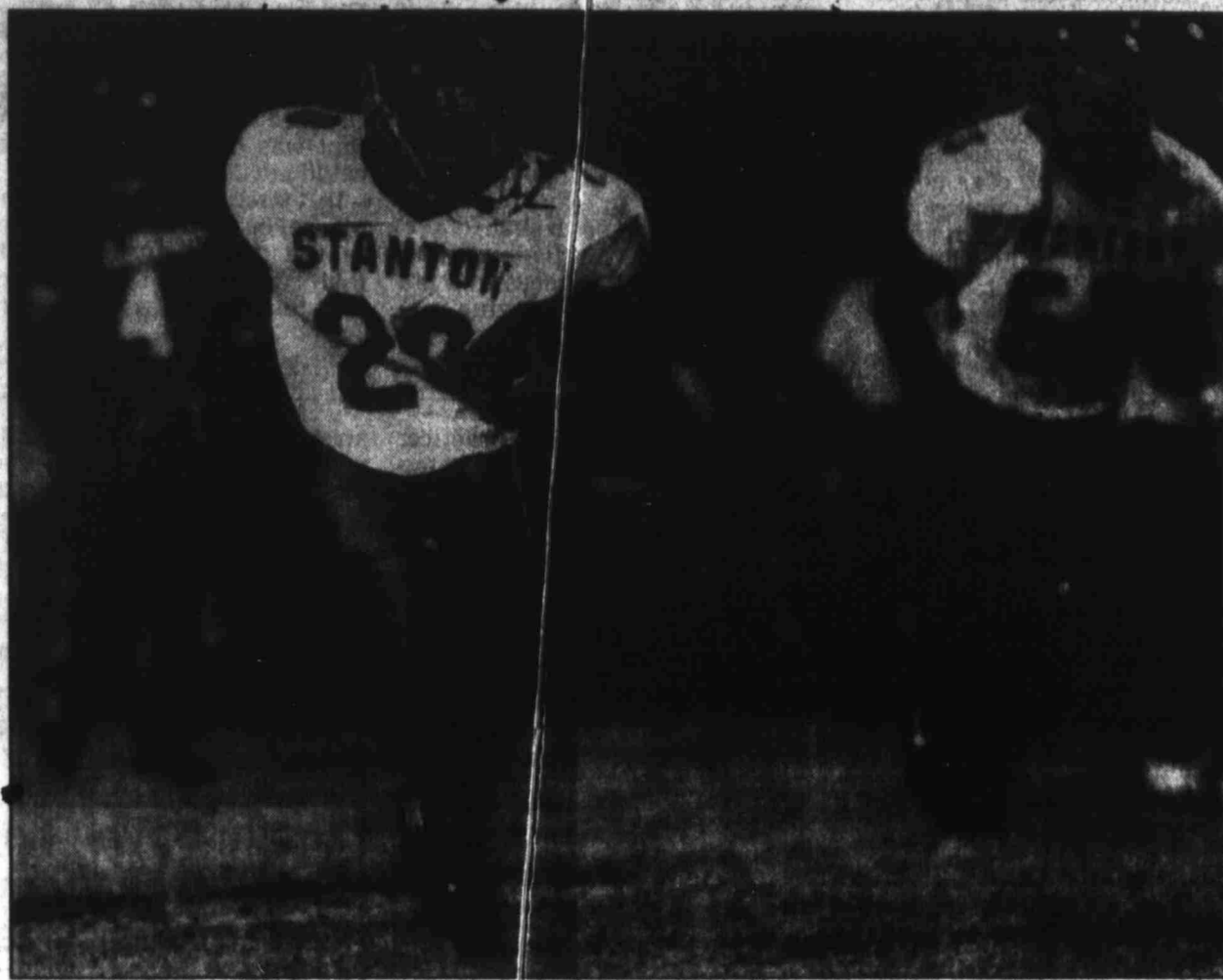
2:30 p.m. — PGA Skins Game, final day, ABC, Ch. 2 and Ch. 8.

#### TENNIS

2 p.m. — ATP Kremlin Cup, final, FXS, Ch. 29.

2 p.m. — ATP World Championship, final, ESPN, Ch. 30.

## Defense key in Stanton's 35-7 win over Albany



Stanton running back Adrian Hernandez (20) breaks into the open on a 27-yard gain to the Albany 1-yard line, setting up a Buffaloes score in Friday's 35-7 Class 2A, Division II regional semifinal win. The Buffs advance to the state quarterfinals where they'll face Spearman at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Lowry Stadium in Lubbock.

### Advance to face Spearman in quarterfinals showdown

By STEVE REAGAN  
Herald Correspondent

**SWEETWATER** — Three games deep into the Class 2A football playoffs, one thing has become clear: Either you get to the Stanton Buffaloes early, or you don't get to them at all.

For the third week in a row, a strong first quarter set the table for what followed, and the Buffs (12-1) rolled to a 35-7 victory over Albany (12-1) in a Class 2A, Division II regional semifinal Friday at the Mustang Bowl.

The defending state champions scored the first two times they touched the ball, then basically turned things over to the defense, which simply refused to allow Albany to get back into the game.

"I was kind of hard-headed," Stanton head coach Mark Cotton said. "I was determined that we'd run the ball, so that's what we did, and we let the defense set the tempo."

Stanton's defense, which had been impressive enough in two previous playoff victories, put in its best performance of the postseason Friday night, limiting the Lions' high-powered offense to only 80 total yards.

The Buffs were particularly effective in shutting down Albany's passing attack.

Quarterback Tony Wheeler, who entered the game with more than 1,800 passing yards this season, found the going miserable against Stanton's defense. Wheeler completed only 9 of 22 passes for 69 yards, was intercepted twice, and was sacked three times for 23 yards in losses.

"They're probably the best team we've played so far. They're pretty solid," Stanton linebacker Jody Louder said of Albany. "Their quarterback had almost 1,900 yards passing this year, so we knew we'd have to stop it up."

Two plays in particular by Stanton's defense helped seal the victory.

Big play number one came early in the third quarter, after the Lions had taken advantage of a Jeremy Hull fumble to score a touchdown and cut Stanton's lead to 19-7.

"We've been in tough situations before. We knew we had to come back, forget about what happened, and go about our

See **BUFFS**, page 12A

## Hawks sweep through Classic

By JOHN A. MOSELEY  
Sports Editor

Howard College's Hawks found no "Eleast from the East" to contend with in Murray State (Okla.) College's Aggies or Jacksonville College's Jaguars during the Howard College Thanksgiving Classic on Friday and Saturday.

The same could be said for New Mexico Junior College's Thunderbirds, who in some measure "got well" from the 1-9 malaise they carried into their two week-end games.

Howard improved to 6-2 on the season with an 81-43 romp over the Jaguars in the classic's finale Saturday night, as Greg Lewis and Larry Allaway paced the Hawks with 15 points each.

NMJC got 16 points from Kenny Tate in taking a 64-49 win over Murray State in the evening's first game.

The Thunderbirds' win improved their record to 3-9 the Western Junior College Athletic Conference (WJCA) Classic set for the coming weekend at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

For all intents and purposes, the Hawks took Saturday's win at the free throw line, hitting on 32 of 37 opportunities at the charity stripe. In addition to Lewis and Allaway, Lamont Roberts finished in double figures with 11 points on the evening.

Howard jumped out to a 37-24 halftime lead and poured on the coals in the final 20 minutes of play.

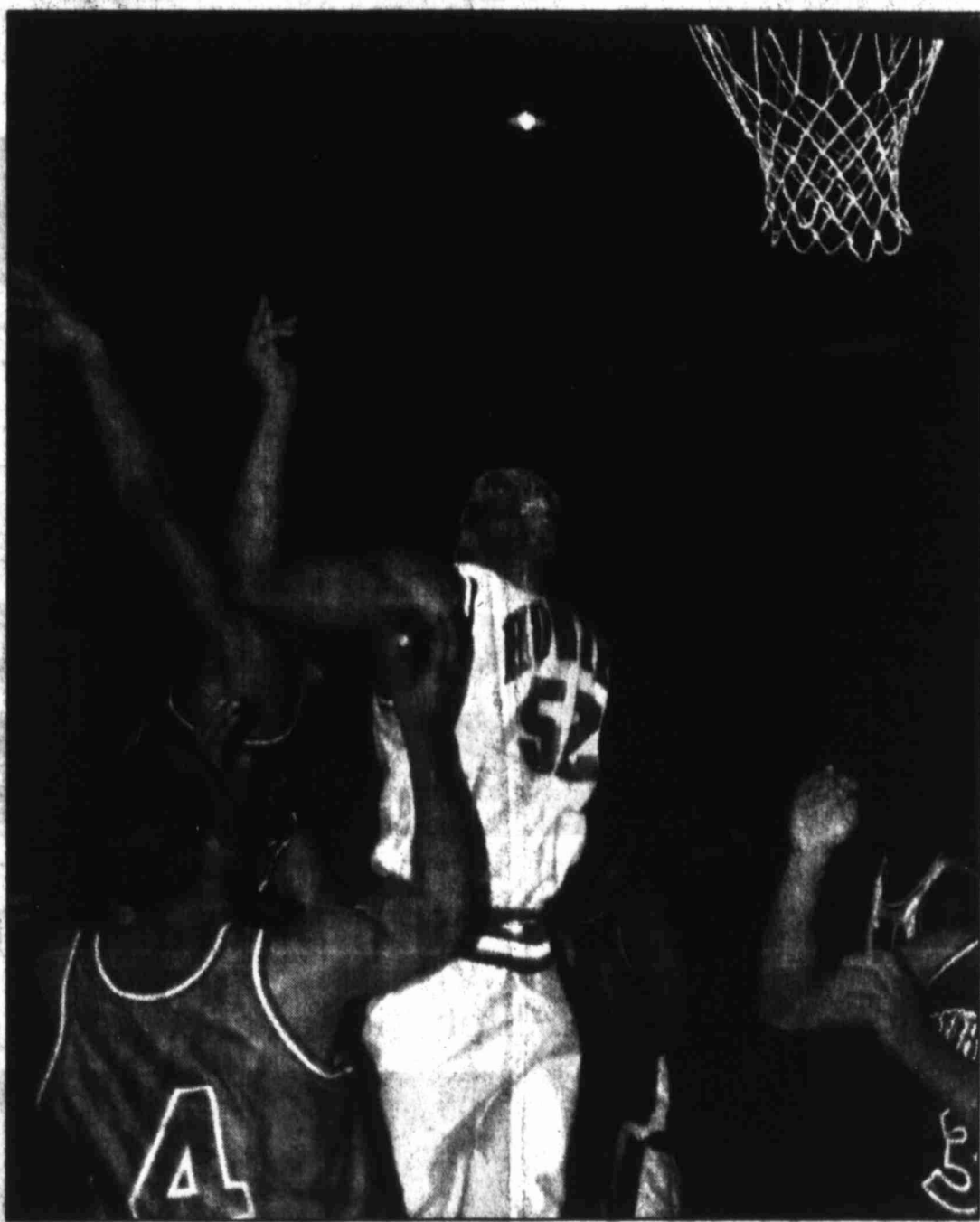
The Hawks opened the classic with an 89-54 win over Murray State behind a balanced scoring attack provided by Lewis, Roberts, Donald Caesar and Myron Brown.

Simply put, the Aggies were never really in the game after the first two minutes of play. The only lead they enjoyed came when forward Chris Kelley hit the game's first goal on a layup just 24 seconds the game.

The Hawks retaliated with a string of 12 unanswered points, eight of them coming from Caesar.

Murray refused to die in the first half, however, as the Aggies continually kept the Hawks from padding their lead to much more than 10 points, and actually outscored Howard during the final 10 minutes of the half 17-11.

Swingman Jason Bush did most of the damage for Murray, scoring nine of his team-topping 15 points in the first half.



Howard College's Myron Brown (52) draws a hard foul from Murray (Okla.) State's Jontue Austin-Ezell (4) and Jason Bush (14) during the Hawks' 89-54 win in their home opener Friday at the Howard College Thanksgiving Classic.

Teammate Olufemi Abiodun added 14 for the Aggies.

Abiodun swiped an inbounds pass and hit a short jumper from the lane with 14 seconds left before intermission to trim the

Hawks' lead to just seven 34-27.

But the Hawks retaliated by returning from the lockerroom and opening the sec-

See **HAWKS**, page 12A

## Steers bounce Merkel

By JOHN A. MOSELEY  
Sports Editor

Turnabout is fair play.

At least that's the way Big Spring's Steers saw things Saturday night as they took a 62-48 non-district basketball win over Merkel's Badgers.

The Steers, who'd opened their season with a 62-39 loss at Merkel, were a completely different team than the Badgers had seen two weeks ago.

"That was our first game and we still had a lot of football in us ... we were hacking, grabbing and charging," Steers head coach Jimmy Avery said following the win that evened Big Spring's record to 2-2 on the season.

"It's not that we didn't make mistakes ... it's just that I never mention mistakes to our kids," he added. "What I want them to do is work hard and they did that tonight. As a result, we're improving every day."

Big Spring trailed just once in the entire game, when Badgers guard Brian Walsh hit a 3-point jumper for a 7-6 edge with 4:51 remaining in the first period.

The Steers countered with back-to-back buckets from post Chauncey Ford and swingman Andy Hall to make it 10-7.

The fundamentally sound Badgers kept making things difficult, three times tying the game — once on a 3-pointer by Adam Stafford just before the end of the first period and again midway through the second period at 18-all.

Big Spring rattled off six quick unanswered points, post See **STEERS**, page 12A

## Coyotes romp to 52-6 quarterfinal win

By JEREMY COWEN  
Herald Correspondent

**FLOYDADA** — Opposing football coaches better start putting together a new game plan when facing Borden County.

Teams have tried to take advantage of the Coyotes' lack of size, with a power rushing attack this season. And Groom attempted to do the same in the two squads' state quarterfinal matchup Saturday at Wester Field in Floydada.

But Groom found out the hard way it is easier said than done, just as Wellman-Union and Grandfalls-Royalty have during this postseason, falling 52-6 to the defending state champions.

"We knew we had to stop their run," said Borden County linebacker

Fernando Baeza. "Everybody has said we've had trouble stopping the run this season. We just wanted to come out and show that we could stop the run against them."

Groom had lived by its rushing attack this season, gaining 2,448 ground yards behind running backs Wade Ritter, Dean Fields and Daniel Treadwell. The Tigers hoped to do the same against a Borden County defense that sported no players bigger than 180 pounds, with most hovering in the 135- to 165-pound range.

But Groom met up with a brick wall on Saturday. The Tigers mustered only seven rushing yards in the game and were held to minus-16 yards on the ground in the first half that saw Borden County build a 20-0 lead.

"(Borden County's) defense played

superb," Groom head coach Larry Reid said. "They never let us get going. They kept putting us in situations we weren't comfortable in."

The Coyotes' defense even pitched in with points in the first half. Defensive end Ed Rodriguez picked up a fumble and returned it 15 yards for Borden County's third touchdown of the half.

That, combined with a touchdown run from Ryan Grant and a 13-yard scoring pass from Colt McCook to Rodriguez gave Borden County its 20-point halftime advantage.

Borden County (12-1) continued its relentless beating of the Tigers in the second half, scoring on its first four possessions to knock out Groom (12-1) with the 45-point rule.

Colt McCook accounted for two touch-

downs in the half, one passing and one running, while Baeza also had three second-half scores — on runs of 1 and 25 yards and on a 55-yard reception.

But it was the Coyote defense that was the star on Saturday. It gave up only 58 yards offense and didn't allow a single first down in the second half. The only Groom highlight was a 70-yard kickoff return by Ritter in the third quarter.

"We just got tired of everybody telling us how weak we are in run defense," Borden County head coach Bobby Avery said. "I'd say now that it's an old, stale game plan to run against us. It worked earlier in the year for some folks ... that's where we WERE weak."

"But we see it every stinking week and we've had a lot of time in practice to get better at it."

SCHOOLBOY PLAYOFFS

**CLASS 5A**  
**DIVISION I**  
**Region I**  
Quartfinals  
Duncanville (10-3), beat Odessa Permian 24-14  
**Region II**  
Palo (8-4) vs. Houston Jersey Village (10-2), late Saturday, Texas Stadium, Irving  
**Region III**  
Alef Elsik (8-4) vs. Aldine Eisenhower (9-3), late Saturday, Astrodome, Houston  
**Region IV**  
Converse Judson (13-0) beat Edinburg 54-13  
**DIVISION II**  
**Region I**  
Midland Lee (12-1) beat Copperas Cove 43-17  
South Grand Prairie (9-4) beat Amarillo 38-20  
**Region II**  
Lufkin (9-3) vs. Georgetown (7-4), late Saturday, Bowers Stadium, Huntsville  
Richardson Lake Highlands (8-5) beat Austin Westlake 24-23  
**Region III**  
Katy (11-1) vs. Pasadena Doble (12-0), late Saturday, Astrodome, Houston  
Houston Washington (8-3) vs. Clear Brook (11-1), late Saturday, Astrodome, Houston  
**Region IV**  
SA MacArthur (8-4) vs. Rio Grande City (7-5), late Saturday, Alamodome, San Antonio  
SA Madison (11-2) beat McAllen Row 28-25  
**CLASS 4A**  
**DIVISION I**  
**Region I**  
Plainview (11-2) beat WF Rider 35-28  
**Region II**  
Grapovine (9-4) beat Greenville 34-31, 3 OTs  
**Region III**  
Bay City (11-1) beat Nederland 34-28  
**Region IV**  
Alice (11-2) beat Belton 16-14  
**DIVISION II**  
**Region I**  
Stephenville (12-1) beat Pampa 42-0  
WF Hirsch (8-5) beat Borger 29-28  
**Region II**  
Southlake Carroll (12-1) beat Sherman 42-35  
Highland Park (11-2) beat Colleyville Heritage 28-16  
**Region III**  
La Marque (11-0) beat Dayton 20-14  
Silsbee (9-4) beat El Campo 28-7  
**Region IV**  
Smithson Valley (10-2) beat Schertz Clemens 19-14  
New Braunfels Canyon (9-3) vs. Edcouch-Elsa (9-2), late Saturday, Alamodome, San Antonio  
**CLASS 3A**  
**DIVISION I**  
**Region I**  
Monahans (6-6) vs. Breckenridge (12-0), late Saturday, Jones Stadium, Lubbock  
**Region II**  
Aledo (11-1) beat Texarkana Liberty-Eylau 27-10  
**Region III**  
Giddings (10-3) beat Harlin-Jefferson 35-20  
**Region IV**  
Cuero (10-3) beat Raymondville 31-7  
**DIVISION II**  
**Region I**  
Childress (11-2) beat Colorado City 56-14  
Crane (13-0) beat Iowa Park 16-7  
**Region II**  
Daingerfield (12-0) beat Commerce 33-26  
Royse City (12-1) beat Tatum 39-32  
**Region III**  
Rockdale (10-2) vs. Newton (10-1), late Saturday, Huntsville, Bowers Stadium  
Mason (8-4) beat Crockett 7-6  
**Region IV**  
Sweeny (10-2) beat CC West Oso 31-16  
Aransas Pass (11-2) beat Vanderbilt Industrial 21-14  
**CLASS 2A**  
**Region I**  
Canadian (12-1) beat Sonora 42-7  
**Region II**  
Boyd (11-1) vs. Omaha Paul Hewitt (9-3), late Saturday, Homer B. Johnson Stadium, Garland  
**Region III**  
Mart (13-0) beat Hughes Springs 51-23  
**Region IV**  
Brookshire-Royal (11-1) beat Comfort 28-8  
**DIVISION II**  
**Region I**  
Spearman (13-0) beat Seagraves 27-21, 3 OTs  
Stanton (12-1) beat Albany 35-7  
**Region II**  
Celina (11-2) beat Grand Saline 27-9  
Italy (12-1) beat Jacksboro 31-7  
**Region III**  
Elysian Fields (10-3) beat Crawford 24-0  
Troup (10-3) beat Franklin 17-14  
**Region IV**  
Ganado (11-2) beat Poth 14-7  
Goldthwaite (11-2) beat Banquete 34-13  
**CLASS A**  
**Region I**  
Wheeler (10-2) beat Sudan 28-27, 2 OTs  
O'Donnell (11-1) beat Gruver 41-14  
**Region II**  
Aspermont (13-0) beat Rockspings 28-6  
Abernath (11-1) beat Paducah 24-0  
**Region III**  
Tenaha (13-0) beat Era 47-24  
Detroit (11-1) beat Dawson 54-23  
**Region IV**  
Iola (12-0) beat Charlotte 40-8  
Bartlett (12-1) beat Falls City 22-19  
**SIX-MAN**  
**Region I**  
Gail Borden County (12-1) beat Groom 52-6  
**Region II**  
Balmorhea (8-3) beat Samnorwood 52-24  
**Region III**  
Trinidad (13-0) beat Gordon 66-20  
**Region IV**  
Strawn (13-0) beat Panther Creek 62-16

HAWKS

Continued from page 11A

ond half with another spurt of 12 unanswered points, boosting their lead to 46-29 and never looking back.

It was the Hawks' second-half showing that put a smile on head coach Tommy Collins' face.

"We played with a little intensity in the second half ... must have save it up, because we sure didn't have any in the first half," Collins said following the lopsided win.

Collins admitted he, like most other basketball coaches at this stage of the season, isn't happy with the improvement his team has shown to date.

"The coach at (University of) Pittsburgh is probably the only coach in the country who's happy with where his team is right now," Collins said. "We're certainly now where I'd like us to be ... we aren't even where I'd expected us to be. We've got a long way to go."

**HOWARD 89, Murray St. 54**  
MURRAY ST. — Horatio Pottier 1 0 0-1 2, Jontue Austin-Ezell 1 2 1-2 9, Chris Kelley 1 0 0-2 2, Eric Hanlon 0 0 0-0 0, Jason Bush 6 0 3-4 15, J.J. Talley 4 0 0-2 8, Olufermi Abiodun 2 2 4-4 14, Jobe Weichbrodt 2 0 0-0 4, John Lewis 0 0 0-0 0, Taron Abram 0 0 0-0 0, Totals 17 4 8-15 54.  
**HOWARD** — Derrick Franklin 1 0 2-2 4, Justin Rhodes 0 2 0-0 6, Valerian Owens 0 0 0-0 0, Lamont Roberts 2 3 0-0 13, Larry Alloway 2 0 5-5 9, Don Peace 4 0 0-0 8, Greg Lewis 6 0 2-5 14, Darryl Martin 3 0 1-2 7, Donald Caesar 5 0 3-5 13, Myron Brown 5 0 2-4 12.

Eric Shorts 0 0 3-4 3, Totals 28 5 18-27 89.  
**Halftime Score:** Howard 34, Murray St. 27.  
**Three-point goals:** Murray St. 4 (Austin-Ezell 2, Abiodun 2); Howard 5 (Rhodes 3, Roberts 3).  
**Total Fouls:** Murray St. 20, Howard 16.  
**Technical Fouls:** Murray St. bench. **Foisted Out:** Talley; Lewis.

NMJC 69, Jacksonville 50

New Mexico Junior College's Thunderbirds entered the classic with a 1-9 record, but seemed to get on track with a 69-50 win over Jacksonville College's Jaguars.

NMJC jumped out to an early lead behind the scoring of posts Rafi Stevens, who finished the night with a game-high 27 points, and Tate.

Tate would finish the night with 12 points, as would guard Brian Russell.

It was in the second half that Russell and Stevens did most of their damage, Russell scoring eight points in the final 10 minutes of play, while Stevens had 18 in the second half.

Jacksonville never managed to pull to within more seven point, even with a sustained rally early in the first half.

Robert Allen paced the Jaguars with 12 points, while the only other Jacksonville player to notch double figures was post Allen Brown, who had 11.

STEERS

Continued from page 11A

Casey Cowley hitting a pair of medium-range jumpers and point guard Chello Williams popping from the key, and the Steers were never headed on their stampede to the win.

A string of nine unanswered points midway through the third quarter made it a 34-34 game, but a 6-2 run by the Steers down the final two minutes of the period gave Big Spring a 40-36 edge going into the final eight minutes of play.

The Badgers had one more run to make after Big Spring had opened the fourth quarter with a string of six points.

Stafford sandwiched a layup and a 3-pointer around a pair of free throws by teammate Santos Gonzales to trim the Steers' lead to just three, 43-45, with 4:31 to play.

But Williams hit a pair of free throws before he and Bandy Rollins countered with a pair of 3-pointers of their own, to make it a 54-45 lead.

The Badgers would not hit a field goal in the final 4 1/2 minutes of play, as Big Spring continually denied its opponent anything close to what could be considered an open shot.

As a result, the Badgers were forced to take chances in a bid to trap the ball — playing into

Williams' and Hall's hands. Williams paced the Steers in scoring with 15 points, leading a quartet of Big Spring players that finished the night in double figures.

Hall and Chauncey Ford finished with 12 points each, while Cowley added 10 as all but two players on the Big Spring roster contributed to the victory.

Stafford and Gonzales both finished with nine points, but that was the best the Badgers could muster.

In junior varsity action, Merkel broke open a tight game in the final eight minutes to take a 46-37 win. Clarence Wilkins paced Big Spring with

13 points, while Arthur Belvin had eight.

The Steers return to action Tuesday, traveling to Greenwood. The varsity game is slated for a 7:30 p.m. start.

**Big Spring 42, Merkel 46**  
MERKEL — Rusty Holmes 2 0 1-2 5, Brian Walsh 1 1 0-0 5, Landry Meeks 4 0-0-0 8, Adam Stafford 1 2 1-3 9, Chad McClellan 1 0 1-1 3, Santos Gonzales 2 0 5-8 9, Chad Gohlke 0 0 1-2 1, Kasey Toliver 2 0 4-4 8, Totals 13 3 13-20 48.  
**Big Spring 42, Merkel 46**  
Colby Ford 2 0 0-0 4, Jacob Bavin 1 0 0-2 2, Andy Hall 5 0 2-2 12, Bandy Rollins 0 1 2-3 5, Lance Brock 1 0 0-0 2, Casey Cowley 5 0 0-1 10, Blair Nutting 0 0 0-0 0, Chauncey Ford 6 0 0-0 12, Totals 23 2 10-15 62.

**Score by Quarters:**  
Merkel 14 5 17 12-48  
Big Spring 14 14 12 22-62  
**Three-point goals:** Merkel 3 (Walsh, Stafford 2); Big Spring 2 (Williams, Rollins). **Total Fouls:** Merkel 15, Big Spring 15. **Foisted Out:** Ch. Ford, Technical Fouls: None.

BUFFS

Continued from page 11A

business," defensive end Chad Smith said.

The Buffs' ensuing drive stalled, but a Kyle Herm punt pinned Albany on its 1-yard-line. On the next play, Albany running back Brian Barteo was tackled in the end zone for a safety, giving the Buffs a 19-7 lead and turning the momentum back in Stanton's favor.

The final big defensive play proved to be the proverbial dagger in the heart, as far as Albany was concerned. Midway through the final quarter, with the score 28-7 in Stanton's favor, defensive back Maurice Martinez intercepted a Wheeler pass and returned it to the Lions' 1-yard-line.

On the next play, Herm found tight end Chad Smith alone in the end zone for the victory clincher.

Herm, who holds the Class 2A career touchdown passing record, found the going tough himself, throwing for only 55 yards, but was more than content to let his defensive teammates get the credit.

"(Our defense) is kind of overlooked," Herm said. "But that's

what we push hard in practice. We know that as long as the other team doesn't score, they're not going to win."

With Stanton's air game stalled, the offensive emphasis shifted to the running attack, and the Buffs responded with a workman-like 191 total yards divided among eight rushers.

The Buffs' quest for a second

straight state championship resumes next Friday when they face Spearman, a surprise 28-27 winner over Seagraves, in a quarterfinal game at Lubbock's Lowry Field. Game time is 7:30 p.m.

Smith, for one, knows there's still plenty of work to be done

before Stanton begins making plans for a second victory parade.

"We made some mistakes (Friday) that need to be corrected in practice," he said. "We just have to keep striving for that perfect game. We didn't play it tonight."

Albany	Team stats	Stanton
9	First downs	20
11	rushing yds.	191
69	passing yds.	55
9/22/2	Comp/Att/Int	8/13/0
7-32	punts-avg.	3-31
0-0	fum.-lost	2-1
2-15	pen.-yds.	0-0
Albany	0 0 7 0- 7	
Stanton	13 6 2 14- 35	
<b>Scoring plays</b>		
<b>First Quarter:</b>		
S - Jody Louder 1 run (Will Harris kick), 8:53.		
S - Adrian Hernandez 1 run (kick failed), 1:49.		
<b>Second Quarter:</b>		
S - Kyle Herm 4 run (kick failed), 3:38.		
<b>Third Quarter:</b>		
A - Tony Wheeler 1 run (Rob Harris kick), 8:17.		
S - Safety (Brian Barteo tackled in end zone), 5:41.		
<b>Fourth Quarter:</b>		
S - Jeremy Hull 22 run (W. Harris kick), 8:58.		
S - Herm 1 pass to Chad Smith (W. Harris kick), 7:53.		

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 <b>Richard Orbon, MD</b> Orthopedics Saturday Football Clinics 263-2990	 <b>Anna Rosinska, MD</b> Internal Medicine Dermatology 264-1500	 <b>Micheal Stephens, MD</b> Family Practice Pediatrics & Women's Health Care 264-1100	 <b>Guido Toscano, MD</b> Internal Medicine Adult Medicine 264-1400

cut out for future reference

SPORTS EXTRA

TRANSACTIONS

**Football**  
National Football League  
PHILADELPHIA EAGLES—Signed RB James Bostic from the practice roster.  
Released FS Mike Roach.  
**HOCKEY**  
National Hockey League  
NEW YORK RANGERS—Traded LW Bill Berg and a 1999 second-round draft pick to Ottawa for D Stan Neckar.  
TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING—Announced the retirement of G John Duffin, who will remain with the team as an assistant coach.

NHL

**Friday's Games**  
Boston 5, Montreal 1  
Philadelphia 4, Toronto 3  
San Jose 4, St. Louis 2  
Florida 2, Tampa Bay 1  
N.Y. Rangers 2, Pittsburgh 2, tie  
Detroit 7, Vancouver 1  
Nashville 3, Anaheim 1  
Dallas 4, Washington 0  
Edmonton 3, Calgary 2  
**Saturday's Games**  
Carolina at N.Y. Islanders  
Ottawa at Toronto (n)  
Pittsburgh at Montreal (n)  
Buffalo at Chicago (n)  
Washington at St. Louis (n)  
New Jersey at Colorado (n)  
Chicago at Calgary (n)  
Phoenix at Los Angeles (n)  
**Today's Games**  
Nashville at N.Y. Rangers, 12:30 p.m.  
San Jose at Detroit, 2 p.m.  
Anaheim at Carolina, 4 p.m.  
Vancouver at Philadelphia, 5 p.m.  
Buffalo at Tampa Bay, 6:05 p.m.  
Chicago at Edmonton, 7 p.m.

All-Big 12 Team

The All-Big 12 Conference football team, as selected by the league coaches and released on Friday:  
**FIRST TEAM OFFENSE**  
Tight End: Derrick Taylor, Texas, 6-2, 235, Sr., New Orleans, La.  
Offensive Line: Ryan Young, Kansas State, 6-6, 330, Sr., St. Louis, Mo.; Rob Riti, Missouri, 6-3, 285, Jr., Florissant, Mo.; Craig Heimburger, Missouri, 6-3, 313, Sr., Belleville, Ill.; Josh Henke, Nebraska, 6-3, 290, Sr., Mustang, Okla.; Jay Humphrey, Texas, 6-7, 300, Sr., Richardson, Texas.  
Wide Receiver: Darnell McDonald, Kansas State, 6-3, 200, Sr., College Park, Md.; Wade McFarley, Texas, 6-9, 180, Sr., San Antonio.  
Quarterback: Michael Bishop, Kansas State, 6-1, 205, Sr., Willis, Texas.  
Running Back: Devin West, Missouri, 6-2, 225, Sr., Midland, Mo.; Ricky Williams, Texas, 6-0, 225, Sr., San Diego, Calif.  
Placekicker: Martin Gramatica, Kansas State, 5-9, 175, Sr., Buena Vista, Ala., Argentina.  
Punt Returner: David Allen (also RB), Kansas State, 5-9, 185, So., Liberty, Mo.  
**FIRST TEAM DEFENSE**  
End/Outside Linebacker: Darren Howard, Kansas State, 6-4, 285, Jr., St. Petersburg, Fla.; Montae Reagor, Texas Tech, 6-2, 270, Sr., Waxahachie, Texas.  
Interior Line: Justin Wyatt, Missouri, 6-4, 275, Sr., Hermann, Mo.; Kelly Gregg, Oklahoma, 6-0, 286, Sr., Edmond, Okla.; Taurus Rucker, Texas Tech, 6-0, 255, Jr., Denton, Texas.  
Linebacker: Jeff Kelly, Kansas State, 6-0, 250, Sr., LaGrange, Texas; Dat Nguyen, Texas A&M, 5-11, 221, Sr., Rockport, Texas.  
Defensive Back: Ralph Brown, Nebraska, 5-9, 180, Jr., Hacienda Heights, Calif.; Lamar Chapman, Kansas State, 5-10, 180, Jr., Liberal, Kan.; Jarrod Cooper, Kansas State, 6-1, 205, Sr., Pampa, Texas; Harold Piersay, Missouri, 6-3, 202, Sr., Kansas City, Kan.  
Punter: Shane Lachter, Texas A&M, 6-2, 220, Jr., East Bernard, Texas.  
Kick Returner: Ben Kelly (also DB), Colorado, 5-10, 185, So., Cleveland, Ohio.  
**SECOND TEAM OFFENSE**  
Tight End: Sheldon Jackson, Nebraska, 6-4, 245, Sr., Diamond Bar, Calif.  
Offensive Line: Derrick Fletcher, Baylor, 6-6, 344, Sr., Adine, Texas; Jeremy Offutt, Oklahoma State, 6-5,

NEWS STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

Team	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
Buffalo	7	4	0	.636	247	217
Miami	7	4	0	.636	201	158
N.Y. Jets	7	4	0	.636	267	178
New England	6	8	0	.454	237	215
Indianapolis	2	9	0	.182	177	298
Cincinnati	8	3	0	.727	277	230
Pittsburgh	7	5	0	.583	224	218
Tennessee	8	5	0	.615	242	217
Baltimore	4	7	0	.364	167	216
Cincinnati	2	9	0	.182	180	287
West	11	0	0	1.000	370	180
Oakland	7	4	0	.636	190	215
San Diego	5	6	0	.455	185	216
Seattle	5	6	0	.455	235	192
Kansas City	4	7	0	.364	204	226

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Team	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
Dallas	8	4	0	.667	325	217
Arizona	6	8	0	.454	227	274
N.Y. Giants	7	0	0	.875	189	222
Philadelphia	2	9	0	.182	92	253
Washington	2	9	0	.182	211	318
Central	11	1	0	.917	394	220
Minnesota	7	4	0	.636	290	224
Detroit	5	7	0	.417	244	263
Tampa Bay	4	7	0	.364	152	233
Chicago	3	8	0	.273	180	244
West	9	2	0	.818	304	208
Atlanta	8	3	0	.727	323	237
San Francisco	5	6	0	.455	206	235
New Orleans	3	8	0	.273	197	264
St. Louis	2	9	0	.182	215	274
Carolina	2	9	0	.182	215	274

clinched playoff berth

**Thursday's Games**  
Detroit 19, Pittsburgh 16, OT  
Minnesota 46, Dallas 36  
**Sunday's Games**  
Arizona at Kansas City, 12:01 p.m.  
Atlanta at St. Louis, 12:01 p.m.  
Carolina at New York Jets, 12:01 p.m.  
Indianapolis at Baltimore, 12:01 p.m.  
Jacksonville at Cincinnati, 12:01 p.m.  
Tampa Bay at Chicago, 12:01 p.m.  
Tennessee at Seattle, 3:05 p.m.  
Buffalo at New England, 3:05 p.m.  
New Orleans at Miami, 3:15 p.m.  
Philadelphia at Green Bay, 3:15 p.m.  
Washington at Oakland, 3:15 p.m.  
Denver at San Diego, 7:20 p.m.  
**Monday's Games**  
New York Giants at San Francisco, 7:20 p.m.  
**Thursday, Dec. 3**  
St. Louis at Philadelphia, 7:20 p.m.  
**Sunday, Dec. 6**  
Buffalo at Cincinnati, 12:01 p.m.  
Dallas at New Orleans, 12:01 p.m.  
Detroit at Jacksonville, 12:01 p.m.  
Indianapolis at Atlanta, 12:01 p.m.  
New England at Pittsburgh, 12:01 p.m.  
San Diego at Washington, 12:01 p.m.  
San Francisco at Carolina, 12:01 p.m.  
Seattle at New York Jets, 12:01 p.m.  
New York Giants at Arizona, 3:05 p.m.  
Kansas City at Denver, 3:15 p.m.  
Miami at Oakland, 3:15 p.m.  
Baltimore at Tennessee, 3:15 p.m.  
Chicago at Minnesota, 7:20 p.m.  
**Monday, Dec. 7**  
Green Bay at Tampa Bay, 7:20 p.m.

THIRD TEAM DEFENSE

Linebacker: Fred Jones, Colorado, 6-3, 245, Jr., San Diego, Calif.; Aaron Humphrey, Texas, 6-3, 255, Jr., Lubbock, Texas.  
Interior Line: James Read, Iowa State, 6-0, 265, Sr., Saginaw, Mich.; Jeff Merritt, Missouri, 6-5, 290, Jr., Chillicothe, Mo.; Kyle Kozumek, Texas Tech, 6-5, 290, So., Caldwell, Texas.  
Linebacker: Barry Odum, Missouri, 6-0, 218, Jr., Ada, Okla.; Warrick Holman, Texas A&M, 6-1, 220, Sr., Alief, Texas.  
Defensive Back: Michael Allen, Kansas, 5-10, 200, Sr., St. Louis, Mo.; Ricky Thompson, Oklahoma State, 6-1, 180, Sr., Hubbard, Texas; Darvin Brown, Texas Tech, 6-11, 170, Sr., Tyler, Texas; Rich Coody, Texas A&M, 6-1, 210, Sr., Dallas, Texas.  
Punter: Bill Lufner, Nebraska, 5-11, 200, Sr., Norfolk, Neb.  
Kick Returner: Shevin Wiggins, Nebraska, 5-11, 200, Sr., Palmto, Fla.  
Punt Returner: Jerral Jackson, 5-8, 187, Jr., Houston, Texas.

ABL

**Friday's Games**  
Nashville 60, New England 52  
Chicago 65, Columbus 61  
Seattle 106, San Jose 97, 2OT  
San Jose 6, San Jose 97, 2OT  
Chicago at New England (n)  
Nashville at Philadelphia (n)  
San Jose at Colorado (n)  
Seattle at Portland (n)  
**Thursday, Dec. 3**  
Colorado at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

WNPHL

**Friday's Games**  
Odesse 4, Alexandria 3  
San Jose at New Mexico, 6:30  
San Angelo 4, El Paso 2  
Fort Worth 3, Monroe 2  
Shreveport 4, Corpus Christi 1  
Central Texas 6, Tulepe 2  
Arkansas 4, Abilene 2  
Lake Charles 4, Austin 1  
**Saturday's Games**  
Tulepe at Alexandria (n)  
Abilene at Monroe (n)  
El Paso at San Angelo (n)  
Corpus Christi at Waco (n)  
Amarillo at New Mexico (n)  
Central Texas at Shreveport  
Odesse at Arkansas (n)  
Fort Worth at Lake Charles (n)  
**Today's Games**  
Lake Charles at Waco  
Abilene at Alexandria  
New Mexico at San Angelo  
Amarillo at El Paso  
Austin at Fort Worth

BASKETBALL TOP 25

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses and records through Nov. 22:

Rank	Team	Record
1	Duke (41)	30-0
2	Cornell (17)	20-0
3	Stanford (12)	20-0
4	Kentucky (1)	20-0
5	Maryland	30-0
6	Kentucky	40-0
7	Michigan St.	21-0
8	Kansas	30-0
9	North Carolina	30-0
10	UCLA	10-0
11	Arizona	10-0
12	Oklahoma St.	10-0
13	Xavier	20-0
14	Penn State	30-0
15	Cincinnati	40-0
16	Washington	10-1
17	Indiana	10-1
18	Utah	10-1
19	Syracuse	20-0
20	New Mexico	20-0
21	Arizona	40-0
22	Oklahoma	20-0
23	St. John's	20-0
24	Marquette	30-0
25	Tennessee	30-0

Others receiving votes: Texas Christian 94, Massachusetts 66, Nevada 50, Minnesota 43, Georgia 38, Villanova 34, Florida 22, Miami 20, George Washington 19, Utah St. 16, Georgia Tech 13, Wake Forest 13, N. Carolina St. 8, Oklahoma 8, UNLV 7, Valparaiso 7, Southern Cal 5, Auburn 4, DePaul 4, Ohio St. 4, Tulsa 4, Ala-Birmingham 3, Col. of Charleston 3, Rhode Island 3, Fla. International 2, N. Arizona 2, Gonzaga 1, Penn St. 1, Pepperdine 1.

It should be big day for the Fluties

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bill Flutie will be looking for a big win when the Buffalo Bills play the New England Patriots today.

The 11-year-old boy will compete as one of five regional finalists in the 10- to 11-year-old division of the NFL Punt, Pass and Kick Championship, then watch as Uncle Doug tries to lead the visiting Bills over the Patriots.

The game at Foxboro, Mass., will be a homecoming for Doug Flutie, who grew up in Natick, Mass., also young Bill's hometown. The Bills quarterback won the Heisman Trophy at Boston College and played for the Patriots for three seasons before spending eight years in the Canadian Football League.

Flutie's play upon his return to the NFL this year is the major reason the Bills (7-4) are tied for first in the AFC East with Miami and the New York Jets. Flutie also is 10-0 at Foxboro Stadium, where he played five games with Boston College and five with the Patriots.

The Bills, who beat the Patriots 13-10 on Nov. 15, also count on the AFC's No. 2 rushing attack (138.5 yards), led by Antowain Smith, who has run for 788 yards and five touchdowns.

In other NFL games today, Denver plays at San Diego, New Orleans at Miami, Carolina at the New York Jets, Tennessee at Seattle, Arizona at Kansas City, Atlanta at St. Louis, Indianapolis at Baltimore, Jacksonville at Cincinnati, Tampa Bay at Chicago, Philadelphia at Green Bay and Washington at Oakland. The New York Giants play at San Francisco on Monday night.

**Broncos at Chargers**  
John Elway and Terrell Davis, the league's top-rated passer and leading rusher, will face the NFL's top-ranked defense (255.7) as the Broncos look to go 12-0 with their 17th straight win, including the last postseason. Quarterback Craig Whelihan has won his last two starts for the Chargers (5-6).

**Saints at Dolphins**  
The Dolphins (7-4) are looking to rebound from their loss to

NFL ROUNDUP

Quarterback Jon Kitna will try to go 2-0 as a starter for the Seahawks (5-6) as a replacement for Warren Moon. The Oilers (6-5) have the AFC's second-leading rusher in Eddie George. Cardinals at Chiefs

The Cardinals (6-5) might be what the Chiefs (4-7) need to stop a six-game losing streak. In their last 17 games against NFC teams, the AFC Chiefs have won 15.

**Falcons at Rams**  
Led by quarterback Chris Chandler and running back Jamal Anderson (10 touchdowns), the Falcons (9-2) are having their best season ever, but Chandler is listed as doubtful because of ankle and knee problems. Chandler's backup is 44-year-old Steve DeBerg.

**Panthers at Jets**  
Vinny Testaverde will be looking to go 8-1 as the starting quarterback for the Jets (7-4). Keyshawn Johnson has caught 53 passes for 755 yards and eight touchdowns for New York. Rocket Ismail has caught 53 passes for 748 yards and six touchdowns for the Panthers.

**Oilers at Seahawks**  
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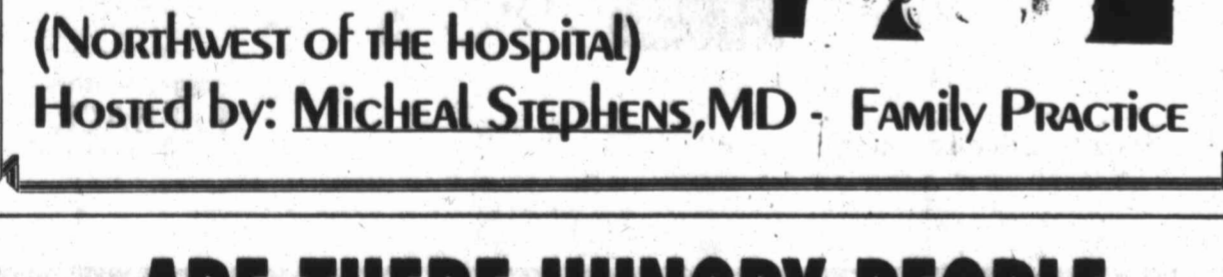
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## Williams becomes top Div. I rusher in Longhorns' win

AUSTIN (AP) — As the field opened up before him, Ricky Williams smiled. The record was his.

The Texas star became the leading rusher in Division I-A history Friday in the Longhorns' 26-24 victory over No. 6 Texas A&M.

Williams' dazzling 60-yard run in the first quarter smashed the 22-year-old record held by 1976 Heisman Trophy winner Tony Dorsett.

"It was vintage Ricky," Texas center Russell Gaskamp said. "What a great way to break the record."

Williams, the favorite to win the Heisman Trophy, finished with 259 yards on 44 carries, giving him a career total of 6,279 yards. Dorsett rushed for 6,082 at Pittsburgh from 1973-76.

Williams' run at the record overshadowed the normal rivalry hype leading up to the game. Even Texas A&M players said they hoped Williams would break the record as long as they could win the game.

He broke the record in dramatic fashion.

After gaining 52 yards on 13 carries, he took a handoff from Major Applewhite on first-and-10 from the Texas 40, broke a tackle by linebacker Warrick Holdman and ran down the left sideline.

He got help near the goal line when receiver Wane McGarity blocked Texas A&M's Brandon Jennings out of bounds. Williams carried defensive back Jason Webster into the end zone.

The touchdown gave Texas a 10-0 lead with 1:45 left in the quarter.

"I had a smile after I broke that one tackle. I knew I had broken the record," Williams said.

It was the longest scoring play against Texas A&M this season and the 10th scoring run of 50 yards or more in Williams' career.

"I knew he was a great back," Texas A&M quarterback Randy McCown said. "I saw him run through some of our best tacklers."

Applewhite said he paid as much attention to the record as the score early in the game.

"I kept looking back (on handoffs) to see if that was going to be the play," Applewhite said.

"I thought we relaxed some," Texas coach Mack Brown said after Williams had set the mark. "But I wasn't going to

give the record back. I wasn't going to say 'Ricky, lose 60 yards so we can start all over again.'"

Williams could have just as easily been a goat.

Texas A&M crawled back into the game thanks largely to Williams' two fumbles that set up Aggie touchdowns. Williams' second fumble in Texas territory set up a touchdown that pulled the Aggies within six at 23-17 in the fourth quarter.

But Williams got the ball again on Texas' final drive, after Texas A&M had taken a 24-23 lead. He gained 7 yards and a first down before running out of bounds to set up Kris Stockton's game-winning 24-yard field goal.

"Ricky just shrugs off mistakes," Applewhite said.

After the game, Texas fans chanted "Heisman" and a two-minute video chronicling Williams' years at Texas played on the stadium TV screen.

Texas officials presented the game ball and Williams' jersey to Dorsett and two other Heisman winners — John David Crow of Texas A&M and Earl Campbell of Texas. The jersey and the ball will be taken to the National Football Foundation in South Bend, Ind.

"It's special to me that those guys were on the sideline to watch me play," Williams said. "Hopefully I can be considered one of the best."

Dorsett, who was on the sidelines, congratulated Williams after the record-breaking run. Williams was mobbed by his teammates on the sideline as he pumped his fist into the air. "I just congratulated him," Dorsett said. "We just embraced. I feel almost like this is my child, being able to witness something like this. This is history."

Williams finished the season with a school-record 2,124 yards, the fifth-highest single-season mark in NCAA Division I-A history. He broke his school record of 1,893 set last season.

Williams' bettered Dorsett's mark on the 981st carry of his career, 93 fewer than Dorsett.

Friday's game was Williams' last chance at the record because bowl games do not count as part of career stats.

Williams owns 16 NCAA records, including career touchdowns (75) and points (452).

## Record setter tops coaches' All-Big 12 team

DALLAS (AP) — University of Texas runningback Ricky Williams headlines the third annual All-Big 12 Conference team, as selected by the league's coaches and released Friday.

Williams, the returning 1997 offensive player of the year, broke Tony Dorsett's career rushing mark of 6,082 yards with a 44-carry, 259-yard rushing day Friday against Texas A&M.

That gives him 6,279 yards. He broke more than 30 Texas records and 20 NCAA game, season or career marks after deciding to return for his senior season at Texas.

Quarterback on the first team offense is Michael Bishop of Kansas State, who led the Wildcats to an 11-0 record going into the conference title game against Texas A&M.

Bishop, one of nine Kansas State players on the coaches' all-conference team, is the nation's seventh-most-efficient passer with 145-of-267 attempts for 2,503 yards, 21 touchdowns, 54.3 percent completion rate, and just three interceptions. He's also Williams' primary rival for the Heisman Trophy.

Paired with Williams in the starting backfield is Missouri senior Devin West.

The wide receivers are Darnell McDonald of Kansas State and Wane McGarity of Texas. The tight end is Derek Lewis of Texas.

### COACHES ALL-BIG 12 TEAM

#### FIRST TEAM OFFENSE

Tight End: Derek Lewis, Texas, 6-2, 235, Sr., New Orleans, La.  
Offensive Line: Ryan Young, Kansas State, 6-6, 330, Sr., St. Louis, Mo.; Rob Riti, Missouri, 6-3, 285, Jr., Florissant, Mo.; Craig Heimburger, Missouri, 6-3, 313, Sr., Belleville, Ill.; Josh Hesekew, Nebraska, 6-3, 290, Sr., Mustang, Okla.; Jay Humphrey, Texas, 6-7, 300, Sr., Richardson, Texas  
Wide Receiver: Darnell McDonald, Kansas State, 6-3, 200, Sr., College Park, Md.; Wane McGarity, Texas, 5-9, 180, Sr., San Antonio.  
Quarterback: Michael Bishop, Kansas State, 6-1, 205, Sr., Willis, Texas  
Running Back: Devin West, Missouri, 6-2, 225, Sr., Moberly, Mo.; Ricky Williams, Texas, 6-0, 225, Sr., San Diego, Calif.

#### PIECEKICKER

Martin Gramatica, Kansas State, 5-9, 175, Sr., Buenos Aires, Argentina

#### PUNTER

David Allen (also RB), Kansas State, 5-9, 185, So., Liberty, Mo.

#### FIRST TEAM DEFENSE

End/Outside Linebacker: Darren Howard, Kansas State, 6-4, 265, Jr., St. Petersburg, Fla.; Monte Reagor, Texas Tech, 6-2, 270, Sr., Waxahachie, Texas  
Interior Line: Justin Wyatt, Missouri, 6-4, 275, Sr., Hermann, Mo.; Kelly Gregg, Oklahoma, 6-0, 288, Sr., Edmond, Okla.; Taurus Rucker, Texas Tech, 6-0, 255, Jr., Denison, Texas

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Defensive Back: Ralph Brown, Nebraska, 5-9, 180, Jr., Hacienda Heights, Calif.; Lamar Chapman, Kansas State, 6-0, 180, Jr., Liberal, Kan.; Jarrod Cooper, Kansas State, 6-1, 205, So., Pearland, Texas; Harold Piersey, Missouri, 6-2, 202, Sr., Kansas City, Kan.

Punter: Shane Lechler, Texas A&M, 6-2, 220, Jr., East Bernard, Texas  
Kick Returner: Ben Kelly (also DB), Colorado, 5-10, 185, So., Cleveland, Ohio

McDonald had 69 catches for 952 yards in his first 11 games prior to the Dr Pepper Big 12 Conference Championship bout. McGarity also enjoyed a stellar senior season, catching 58 passes for 1,087 yards, tops in the Big 12.

The offensive line is comprised of Ryan Young of Kansas State, Rob Riti and Craig Heimburger of Missouri, Josh Hesekew of Nebraska and Jay Humphrey of Texas.

Missouri's Harold Piersey,

who has four interceptions, leads a defensive backfield with true all-star credentials.

Kansas State starters Lamar Chapman and Jarrod Cooper combined to lead the Jayhawks' pass defense to the No. 7 spot in NCAA pass efficiency defense with a Big 12-best 15 pass interceptions through games of Nov. 27.

Nebraska's Ralph Brown, a repeat member of the Coaches All-Big 12 first unit, was a key cog in the Huskers' defensive

schemes throughout '98.

On the defensive interior line are Justin Wyatt of Missouri, Kelly Gregg of Oklahoma and Taurus Rucker of Texas Tech.

Defensive ends are Darren Howard of Kansas State and Monte Reagor of Texas Tech. Linebackers are Dat Nguyen of Texas A&M and Jeff Kelly of Kansas State. Defensive backs are Ralph Brown of Nebraska, Lamar Chapman and Jarrod Cooper of Kansas State and Harold Piersey of Missouri.

Specialty members of the all-league team include four of the nation's finest.

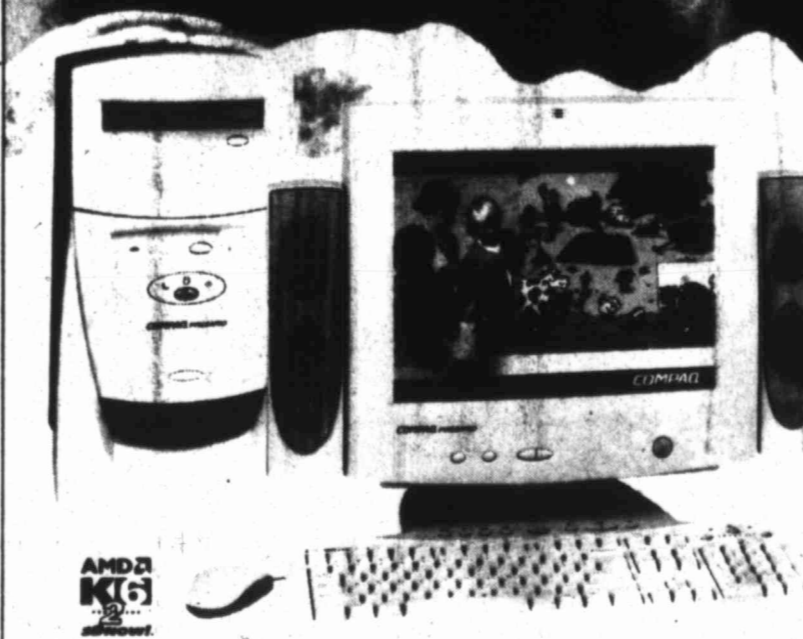
Martin Gramatica of Kansas State, winner of the 1997 Lou Groza National Collegiate Place-Kicker Award, set every KSU career kicking and scoring mark and is second in conference scoring behind Texas' Williams with 120 points, an average of 10.9 points per game.

Colorado's standout kick return man and starting defensive back Ben Kelly entered his final game with 20 kickoff returns for 474 yards and a 23.7 average along with nine punt returns for 225 yards, a 25-yard norm, and two touchdowns.

Fellow returner David Allen of Kansas State has a Big 12-record four punt returns for touchdowns (five in his career) while running back 32 punts for 713 yards and 22.3 yards per try to lead the nation.



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# Alive with the spirit

## First Methodist's annual 'gift to the community' celebrates 20 years of Christmas in song

They tell stories of precarious walks up narrow steps in complete darkness. Singing with people from many local church choirs, they say, is a rare and enlightening experience. They talk about rehearsing for a solid month, and memorizing key passages of music in case spotlights will be shining on their faces, blinding them.

Bringing Christmas to the community, they say, gives them back an even larger dose of the holiday spirit.

And the veterans of the 20-year-old Living Christmas Tree at First United Methodist Church say they love every minute of it.

"It's like the song, 'Climbing up the Mountain Children,'" said Margaret Christopher, a veteran of the 20 years of performances.

Christopher would not miss a performance, and hasn't ever missed a rehearsal of the church's annual 'gift to the community.'

"It's a spiritual thing," she said, "once you get it all together. It's marvelous. It's been a marvelous experience."

Describing herself as "short," Christopher said she is one of several performers who must stand on a box. She climbs in complete darkness to her spot on the wooden "tree" that frames the 90-plus singers.

"You better know what you are doing so you don't stumble."

Joyce Bradley, another veteran, was in the church choir when FUMC's music minister at the time, Charles Parham, came up with the idea of a Living Christmas Tree.

"We had heard of these," she said. "But it was hard to picture. I guess we were probably the first in this area to have one."

The 20 years of performing, Bradley said, "have flown by."

"It's always a wonderful experience."

Placed near the top of the tree, Bradley said she climbs "very carefully."

"Those steps are small and quite narrow," she said.

But the singers who do brave the climb, the rehearsal schedule and the often challenging music, have a lot of fans. The "Living Christmas Tree" is so popular that its free tickets usually disappear within a couple of days.

This year, the tickets are available starting Monday morning at the church office, 400 Scurry. The shows are set for Saturday, Dec. 5 and Sunday, Dec. 6 at 8 p.m. There is also a dress rehearsal on Saturday at 2 p.m. that requires no tickets.

The popular event is considered a holiday tradition for many local families. Performers, and the current co-director of music for FUMC, John Ross, said "Tree" is a blessing to all involved.

"I feel real privileged to do it," said Ross, who

shares the church's music ministry with his wife, Denise. She plays organ during "Tree."

"What's interesting about it that we get a lot of people together from different backgrounds, different denominations," John Ross said. "It's more a personal thing for the people who do it. I think they enjoy being part of something like this. I do."

Under the Ross' direction, "Tree" participation does not require an audition. "I feel like the people who come, that God leads them here," Ross said. "If they are here, they feel they can handle (the music)."

For non-singers, there are plenty of other jobs, including stage crew, meal preparation for rehearsals, and tree assembly, which is taking place today at 2 p.m. at the church.

As a team, John and Denise Ross are the fifth music ministers to take on the project. After Parham, who originated it, came John Wilson, then Gil Oxendine, followed by Randy Stevens.

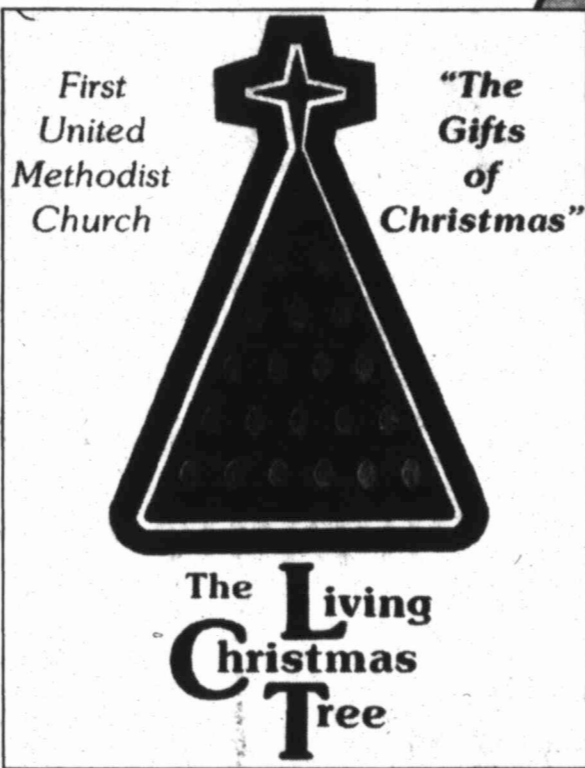
Each change, and almost every year, has brought something different to the production.

Even the tree itself has changed over the years. Early photographs show a smaller frame with about 55 singers. In some productions, there has been drama with narration. Some years, as this year, a children's choir performs for part of the evening.

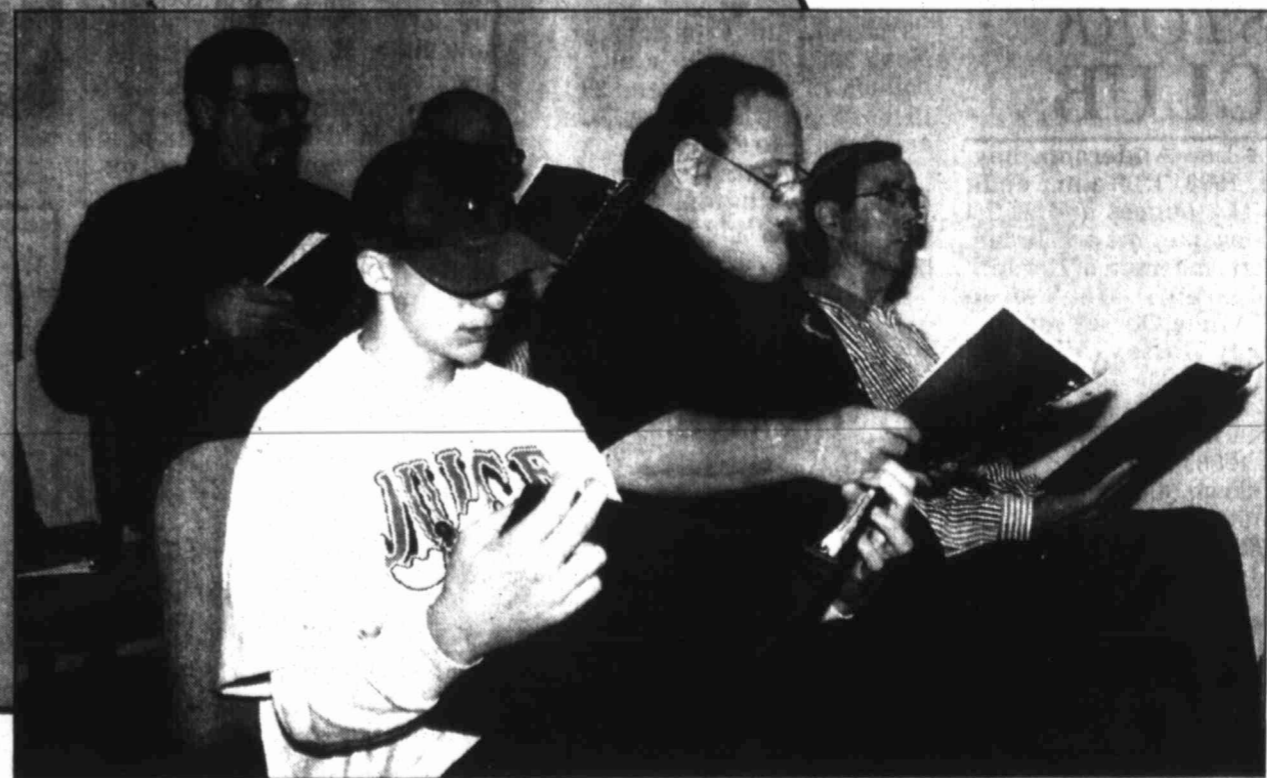
But this year's highlight is a commissioned piece that was finished especially for the Tree's 20th year. Composer K. Lee Scott wrote a piece of music just for FUMC, "The Incarnation." The first movement has been performed for several years, but this will be the first time the complete piece has ever been heard.

"It's completely new music, so that's really unique," said Ross. He described Scott's composition as a Christmas piece that takes things from the Bible and the writings of the founder of the Methodist Church.

See SPIRIT, Page 2B



Above, left, is a program from 1982's Living Christmas Tree. At left is a program from 1992. Below, left, is one from the 1986 production. Below, some of the singers from this year's event practice recently.



## For first-time grandparents, what's in a name anyway?

We've been playing the name game at my house lately.

No, we haven't put off naming my newborn daughter until two months later. In fact, her name was waiting for her when she arrived.

Its Hannah's grandparents who need names.

That's why I walk around muttering to myself, "Na-na, Nanny, Gramps, Grandy, Grampa, Groomy, Groomy?"

What will she call my parents and stepparents?

My husband's parents are no problem, since Hannah joins nine other grandchildren who have already established Helen and D.J. Jensen as sensibly

Grandma Helen and Grandpa D.J.

But my family, by its very makeup, does not lend itself to sensibility. Hannah is the first grandchild for my parents, who have both remarried. By rights, that should give her the privilege and honor of naming them for all those that will follow. Although, at the rate my brothers and I are going, there probably won't be many, if any, following.

In fact, 1998 will be a long-remembered year for our family. My older brother's wife had a baby in mid-October — the second grandchild for our parents.

And true to annoying "older brother" habit, my brother immediately christened our mother

"Me Ma" and our father, "Granddaddy" for his daughter, Zoe. Beating me to the punch because I procrastinated, waiting for just the right name. He wasn't being original. Me Ma was my mother's mother.



DEBBIE L. JENSEN

And Granddaddy is what we all call my father's father. I almost don't feel right about recycling their names.

In a way, they just don't fit.

Me Ma wore a hairnet, raised chickens and made quilts. My mother just got back from a protest march at the School of the Americas, a military training compound, in Georgia.

Me Ma enjoyed having garage sales at her house in Jewett. My mother and stepfather just bought a hot tub for their house in Santa Fe and plan a January trip to Hawaii.

How am I going to explain this to Hannah?

Granddaddy taught us to fish,

and when we caught something, he cleaned it for us, baiting our hooks so we could get right back out there. My dad takes time off from his job as an English professor to teach writing to senior citizens. He and my stepmother are planning to collaborate on another book.

I guess what I'm saying is that using these names seems to imply that my parents will be like my grandparents. And it simply can't be true.

My mother will never tell her that "little girls sit in a corner and sew a fine seam." My father doesn't even have an old Jeep sitting out behind his house so

she can learn to drive.

For one thing, times have changed. Hannah probably will never learn to can vegetables, but she will e-mail Me Ma and Granddaddy.

As I become a parent, and my parents become grandparents, I guess we will all find out who we are all over again — who we are to Hannah and Zoe.

And I'm sure Hannah will have plenty of good memories about my parents and stepparents, her grandparents.

I'm just not sure what I'll say in a couple of years when my mother asks to take her along to a demonstration for human rights. Would Me Ma do that?

# WEDDINGS

## Fowler-Rutledge

Ronda Fowler and Zane Rutledge, both of San Francisco, Calif., were united in marriage on Oct. 21, 1998, at John Muir Woods in Northern California with Ann Martel, Presbyterian minister, officiating.

She is the daughter of Kirby Brown and Sharon Sneed, both of Big Spring, and the granddaughter of Geneva Starr of Big Spring.

He is the son of Tom and Pat Rutledge of Big Spring, and the grandson of Agnes Rutledge and Ella Moore, both of Big Spring.

She wore a floor length ivory gown with a bodice accented by a floral lace overlay.

She carried a bouquet of calla lilies, English ivy and maiden-hair fern.

Witness for the wedding was Kirby L. Brown II, brother of the bride.

A wedding celebration was held on Nov. 28, 1998, at the Big Spring Country Club.

The wedding cake was a three tiered Italian creme cake with miniature roses topped with a blown glass double heart and turtle doves accented with ivory elf roses.

The groom's cake was a red velvet cake with chocolate icing and a basket weave design.

The bride is a 1984 graduate of Coahoma High School and a 1989 graduate of Angelo State



MR. AND MRS. ZANE RUTLEDGE

University with a master's degree in Counseling Psychology. She is employed by The American Indian Child Resource Center as an executive director.

The groom is a 1986 graduate of Big Spring High School and a 1990 graduate of the University of Texas with a bachelor's degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering. He is employed by Western Images as a visual effects supervisor.

Following a wedding trip to Big Sur, Calif., the couple will make their home in the San Francisco Bay area.

## New market in matchmaking: Russian women

NEWPORT BEACH, Calif. (AP) — On the matchmaker's video, a young Russian woman saunters across a bridge in historic St. Petersburg. She wears a clinging T-shirt, skintight pedal pushers and stiletto heels.

"I really like big cities such as New York or Los Angeles," she tells the camera, in heavily accented English. "So I would be very glad to see you."

Her goal is a ticket out of Russia's eroding economy and forbidding future.

For at least 20 years, Filipinas have dominated the international mail-order bride business. But since 1991, when the Soviet Union's fall unleashed capitalism and unrest, Russian women have become the industry's fastest-growing commodity.

Men pay up to \$10,000 to travel to Moscow and St. Petersburg to meet women they have picked from catalogues and videos. More than 65 U.S. companies advertise such services on the Internet. They even offer to send flowers to prospective brides, and to put men in touch with women via e-mail.

In the United States and Russia, these businesses are unmonitored. Reports of white slavery, domestic violence and the 1995 case of a Seattle husband who shot to death his pregnant mail-order bride have prompted legislators and women's groups to demand industry rules.

In 1996, Congress asked the Immigration and Naturalization Service to draft regulations forcing agencies to inform women about marriage

fraud, legal residency and domestic violence. The INS also was asked to document immigration fraud and physical abuse involving mail-order brides.

"We asked the INS to give us a report on an issue that's enormously important and they've dragged their feet," said attorney Jon Leibowitz, whose boss, Sen. Herbert Kohl, D-Wis., helped carry the legislation.

INS spokeswoman Elaine Komis said officials have been slowed by uncooperative mail-order bride clients. "We got nothing that was very helpful in the way of how to improve the situation or what could be done in the way of regulations," she said.

No one knows the number of American-Russian marriages sparked by matchmaking services. The INS doesn't keep records on how couples meet. Its legal responsibility is to determine whether marriages between foreigners and U.S. citizens are legitimate.

Americans often obtain so-called fiance visas for their intended mates. The document allows an immigrant to live and work in the U.S. for two years. After that, if the foreigner is still married and living in America, he or she gets permanent residency.

In 1991, there were 17 fiance visas issued to Russian women. In 1997, there were 1,012.

A social worker with Atlanta's Refugee Family Violence Project said she received several phone calls from battered mail-order brides after writing an article about domestic violence in a tiny, Russian-language newspaper.

The women didn't know their rights under U.S. law, said the social worker, who said she has been threatened by clients' husbands and asked that her name be withheld. None of her clients wanted to be interviewed, she said.

The St. Petersburg-based Svetlana Agency says it is a legitimate international matchmaking service. Two months ago, it opened a satellite office in opulent Newport Beach, about 60 miles south of Los Angeles.

Svetlana Novikova, 29, began her human brokerage house four years ago. Her company is one of the most expensive.

Men are charged a \$2,500 membership fee which allows them to see videos and photographs. A trip to St. Petersburg, where men can meet as many as 10 women a day can cost another \$2,500.

Like many of her colleagues, Novikova says she doesn't keep track of her clients' marriages or divorces. She says she doesn't know how many clients she has.

"We provide our services to very serious people who want a very serious relationship," she said.

Newport Beach salesman Aldo Almodovar, 28, traveled to St. Petersburg this month on one of her package tours.

"I'm just basically going to have a good time," he said. "I've never been to Russia before and the girls are gorgeous."

Paul and Galina Finkelman of Huntington Beach, Calif., were married four months ago. They met last December in Moscow, where she had graduated med-

ical school and he had come looking for a wife.

Both were clients of Russian-American Matchmakers, a Virginia-based service started by an American who found his own wife through a mail-order bride service.

Finkelman, 41, said he had tired of American women who "seem interested in only one thing — how big is your bank account." Mrs. Finkelman, 27, said she was weary of alcoholism. "The problem with Russian men is that they drink vodka," she said. "It's not good, you know."

He proposed on their third date. She knew some English. He knew no Russian. "Language is not a problem. I understand her," said Finkelman, who is studying to become a computer programmer.

"Look, I know it's kind of weird. Life is a crapshoot. You just have to be in that space where you're ready to make that commitment," he said.

In 1996 Mark Ampsper met a Moscow doctor 14 years his junior through a matchmaking service, proposed to her a week later, and married her last year.

Although he found a wife, the 44-year-old technology writer didn't like the service he used. So he started his own.

Since opening last year, Russian-American Matchmakers has signed 60 male clients, each paying \$1,500 in membership fees. The agency lists about 350 women and claims seven marriages.

Most agencies charge women a small fee of about \$20.

## SPIRIT

Continued from Page 1B

There will also be traditional carols, and moments that recall past "Tree" performances.

The choir, which fills the decorated wooden "tree" frame, will once again be accompanied by a full orchestra.

Also for the 20th anniversary, special soloist will be Beverly Beil Newsom of Lubbock, daughter of Big Spring's Charles and Joan Beil.

"The Living Christmas Tree" is dedicated this year to the memory of Dorothy Garrett, who was devoted to the annual event and supported it each year.

"There are many supporters, many of them are anonymous," Ross said. "But without them, this just wouldn't be."

In all there are literally hundreds of people involved in

many aspects of "The Living Christmas Tree," from singers and musicians to assemblers, decorators and those working behind the scenes during each show.

"An effort like this takes that many people," Ross said.

For the performers like Christopher, who have come back year after year, "Tree" is its own reward.

"Once it starts, you just go forward and start singing to the glory and honor of God," said Christopher, who celebrates her birthday Dec. 15, about a week after finishing the production each year.

"This just moves me right from the Christmas Tree, to my birthday, to the birthday of the savior," she said. "It keeps me happy."

## China faces epidemic of smoking deaths

LONDON (AP) — China is experiencing an epidemic of smoking-related deaths that will kill a third of its young men if current smoking patterns continue, a new study says.

The study, published in this week's issue of the British Medical Journal, is the first to examine smoking trends in a developing nation and involved 1.25 million Chinese, making it the world's largest investigation of smoking deaths.

The survey found that not only was the rate of deaths from smoking higher than expected, but that the types of diseases caused by smoking also varied widely from the West.

If current smoking patterns persist in China — where two-thirds of the men become smokers before the age of 25 — tobacco will kill about 100 million of the 300 million males now under 30, according to the researchers.

Surprisingly, smoking was found to be decreasing among Chinese women, having dropped from 10 percent before 1950 to 1 percent today, say the researchers, affiliated with England's Oxford University, Cornell University in the

United States, and the Chinese Academies of Preventive Medicine and of Medical Sciences.

China now logs the highest number of deaths from smoking of any country, having recently overtaken the United States.

And the trends seem to be mirroring what occurred in the West years ago as smoking spread across the globe, with deaths increasing several decades after the main rise in smoking.

"If we don't have action right now, we will suffer after 20 or 30 years. Then it's too late. So we have to let all of society know these results," said one researcher, Wang Kean, presi-

dent of the Beijing-based Chinese Academy of Preventive Medicine.

Smoking already is causing about 750,000 deaths a year in China, and that will rise to 3 million people a year by the middle of the next century, when the young smokers of today reach middle and old age, the study said.

Worldwide, cigarettes will cause about 4 million deaths a year by 2000, split between rich and poor countries, it said.

If current smoking trends persist, the total will be 10 million deaths a year by 2030, with 70 percent of them coming from developing nations, said Dr. Alan Lopez, chief of the World Health Organization's Division

of Epidemiology and Burden of Disease, writing in a separate editorial published in the same journal.

"The hazards are already substantial and they cannot be limited to China," Lopez said.

While the Chinese make up 20 percent of the world's population, they smoke 20 percent of the world's cigarettes, said Richard Peto, who heads the research team from Oxford.

Chinese adults severely underestimate smoking risks, he said.

"The truth is that ... as two out of every three young men in China smoke, tobacco will eventually kill about a third of all the young men in China."

## STORK CLUB

Taylor Lee Anderson, boy, Nov. 18, 1998, 1:11 a.m., eight pounds 14.6 ounces and 20 3/4 inches long; parents are Jimmy and Cristi Anderson of Kermit. Grandparents are Sharon Olivas, Wilma Dorsey and the late Grady Dorsey, all of Big Spring.

Victoria Elaine Roemer, girl, Nov. 7, 1998, 6:47 a.m., seven pounds seven ounces and 19 3/4 inches long; parents are John and Kristian Roemer.

Grandparents are the late Johnny and Marianne Roemer of Big Spring, Dennis and Elaine Black of Waxahachie, and Sharon Horton of Big Spring.

Dharma Jo Campos, girl, Nov. 23, 1998, 8:19 a.m., six pounds 12 1/2 ounces and 20 1/4 inches long; parents are Danny and Connie Jo Campos.

Grandparents are Ted and Marilyn Covington, and Gene and Vera Quigley, all of Big Spring.

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# ANNIVERSARIES

## Roman



**BOBBY AND MERLE ROMAN, THEN AND NOW.**

Bobby and Merle Roman celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Nov. 21, 1998 with a dinner party at Venezias in Midland hosted by their children, Alan and Cathy Roman, and David and Sharon Marcum, and grandchildren. Following the dinner, a reception was held in the home of David and Sharon Marcum, where the Romans were presented with a special scrapbook.

Both Bobby and Merle were born and raised in Howard County. They met and started dating when Merle was in school.

They were married on Nov. 23, 1948, in the First Baptist

Church of Knott. Mr. and Mrs. Roman have lived in the Knott community, Coahoma and for the past 23 years in Big Spring.

He worked at Clyde McMahon Concrete for 36 years, retiring in April of 1990. They are active members of East Fourth Street Baptist Church.

They enjoy fishing, traveling, and visiting with family and friends.

This was their comment about their 50 years of marriage, "We attribute our happiness to our faith in God, our love and respect for each other, and our love for our children, grandchildren, family and many friends."

# ON THE MENU

## SENIOR CITIZEN CENTER

**MONDAY**- Fish, macaroni/cheese, broccoli, coleslaw, milk/rolls, fruit.

**TUESDAY**- Chicken, rice, green beans, salad, milk/rolls, cake.

**WEDNESDAY**- Smothered steak, potatoes, broccoli, pea salad, milk/rolls, fruit.

**THURSDAY**- Hamburgers, baked beans, lettuce/tomatoes, carrot/raisin salad, milk/buns, cobbler.

**FRIDAY**- Turkey & dressing, sweet potatoes, peas, & carrots, salad, milk/rolls, fruit.

## FORSAN SCHOOLS

**MONDAY**- Pizza, corn, salad, fruit, milk.

**TUESDAY**- Chili cheese fries, ranch style beans, salad, cookies, fruit, milk.

**WEDNESDAY**- Hot dogs, french fries, salad, pork & beans, cookies and creme, milk.

**THURSDAY**- Ravioli and cheese, green beans, salad and crackers, peanut butter cookies, fruit, milk.

**FRIDAY**- Chicken nuggets and gravy, whipped potatoes, eng-

lish peas, hot rolls, jello and fruit, milk.

## BIG SPRING SCHOOLS

**MONDAY**- Corndog (char-broiled meatballs), potato rounds, sliced peacher, pineapple tidbits, milk.

**TUESDAY**- Chicken strips (steak sandwich), mashed potatoes, corn on cob, applesauce, hot roll, milk.

**WEDNESDAY**- Tamales w/chili (chef salad), refried beans w/cheese, spanish rice, apple, milk.

**THURSDAY**- Pizza (meatloaf), grapes, apricot crisp, vegetable stick, milk.

**FRIDAY**- Hamburger (stromboli), salad, french fries, pork & beans, cherry bar, milk.

## STANTON SCHOOLS

**MONDAY**- Pepperoni pizza or baked potato/bread stix, green beans, veggie stix/dressing, fruit cup, milk, fruit drink.

**TUESDAY**- Country steak or chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes/gravy, tossed salad, peach cup, hot roll, milk, fruit drink.

**WEDNESDAY**- Beef tacos or hot tamales, pinto beans, lettuce/tomato salad, pineapple, cornbread, milk, fruit drink.

**THURSDAY**- Baked chicken or beef tips, steamed rice/gravy, peas & carrots, cobbler, french bread, milk, fruit

drink.

**FRIDAY**- Hot pocket or chicken & dumpling, green beans, veggie sticks, fresh fruit, cornbread, milk, fruit drink.

## COAHOMA SCHOOLS

**MONDAY**- Pizza, fries, fresh fruit, milk.

**TUESDAY**- Tacos (burritos), pinto beans, salad, fruit, milk.

**WEDNESDAY**- Chicken tenders, gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, rolls, jello w/fruit, milk.

**THURSDAY**- Cheeseburger peckets (corn dogs), carrots, fries, fruit cup, milk.

**FRIDAY**- Hamburgers, fries, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, fresh fruit, milk.

## LANDS SCHOOLS

**MONDAY**- Hamburgers, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, french fries, wackey cake, milk.

**TUESDAY**- Steak fingers w/gravy, sliced potatoes, black-eyed peas, hot rolls, fruit, milk.

**WEDNESDAY**- Beef & cheese

enchiladas, pinto beans, salad, cornbread, fruit, milk.

**THURSDAY**- Fried chicken w/ gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans jello, hot rolls, milk.

**FRIDAY**- Spaghetti w/meat sauce, corn, salad, pudding, milk.

## ELBOW SCHOOL

(Menus were not available for Monday and Tuesday)

**WEDNESDAY**- Sub sandwich, chips, carrots and celery sticks, grapes, milk.

**THURSDAY**- Green enchiladas, salad, pineapple salad, crackers and milk.

**FRIDAY**- Hot dog and chili, french fries, salad, fruit and milk.

**Photos submitted for Sunday life! must be picked up within 30 days.**

# IN THE MILITARY

Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Paul Talamantez, a 1993 graduate of Big Spring High School, recently participated with more than 15,000 Sailors, Marines, Airmen and Coastguardsmen in a pre-deployment exercise in the Eastern Pacific Ocean while assigned to the aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson, homeported in Bremerton, Wash.

Steven Kincheloe recently enlisted in the United States Navy for guaranteed training as an electrician's mate.

The son of Rhonda and Jonie Kincheloe, he is a 1998 graduate of Big Spring High School.

Charles Rodriguez recently enlisted in the United States Navy for guaranteed training as a fireman.

The son of Marlene and Eliza Rodriguez, he is a 1998 graduate of Big Spring High School.

John Galaviz recently enlisted in the United States Navy for guaranteed training as a machinist mate.

The son of Mary Galaviz and Joe Ledesma, he will be a 1999 graduate of Big Spring High School.

Jeffery Rodriguez recently enlisted in the United States Navy for guaranteed training in advance electronics computers.

The son of Marlene and Eliza Rodriguez, he is a 1998 graduate of Big Spring High School.

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Pictured: "Q" - Male Lab mix, cream, 1 year old, medium hair, neutered.

Special Note: All dogs and cats presently available for adoption at the shelter have received their vaccinations, including rabies.

"Rambo" - Male Lab mix, black with white on chest, 1

year old, neutered.

"Dude" - Male Border Collie, black and white, 1 1/2 years old, neutered.

"Bosco" - Male Collie and Shepherd mix, red/black/sable, neutered.

"Big Mama" - Female Husky cross, black with cream markings, spayed.

"Sweetie" - Female Spaniel mix, red with white spots.

"Spots" - Female Lab mix, black with white spots.

"Red" - Female Pit mix, red, spayed.

"Sandy" - Female Lab mix, golden colored, spayed.

"Pepper" - Male Pit mix, 3 legs, brown, neutered.

These, plus many more dogs and cats are awaiting adoption.

Adoption fees for dogs are just \$50 and cats are \$40. This includes spaying or neutering, vaccinations, wormings and rabies shots. Also covers feline leukemia tests for cats. All pets come with a two-week trial period.

*... Sunday announcements such as Weddings and Engagements must be submitted on our forms. Forms are available at the office, 710 Scurry. We do not charge for these announcements, and we do not print information in addition to what is on the form.*

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# Keeping their day jobs Aspiring musicians make creative employees, bosses say

DALLAS (AP) — On weekends, he is one-half of the Terror Couple, dressed in black velvet and howling to a sultry beat.

Monday through Friday, he's mild-mannered Tim Sanders, diligently e-mailing customers at his keyboard at an Internet company called broadcast.com.

It's one of a small but significant number of employers in Dallas taking a chance on the ultimate dreamers: aspiring rock musicians. The firms are finding that the creativity and drive these artists put into their music also play out in more buttoned-down professions.

The musicians, in turn, are discovering dividends in their work far beyond the steady income.

"When I was younger, I was screwing my life up because I thought being a musician was a calling — that's an old mentality," says Sanders, now in his 30s. "That's why you flipped burgers. You sacrificed your whole life. You thought that was what you were supposed to do, and doing anything else was selling out."

For the past year, he's found a way to incorporate his creative side into his work selling broadcasting services on the Web.

"I integrate my music into my job on a daily basis," he says. "My boss will say to cus-

tomers, 'Did you know that he's in a band with his wife called Terror Couple? I can be dealing with a 60-year-old executive and they know I'm a musician. It establishes credibility: 'You're a musician, you're creative. Can you figure out a way to explain that program?'"

That's the upside: The downside is that he's basically lost all leisure time.

"In the old days, if I had a slacker job, I was a musician every night," he says. "I don't get the good performance opportunities, the Thursday nights at Club Clearview. When you have a job that's mentally challenging, you have to partition your life. So Monday through Friday, I'm broadcast.com, and all of Saturday and Sunday are about music."

Broadcast.com is an unusual company, he says, because it not only tolerates musicians, it encourages them.

"A boss usually says, 'I wish you'd give up that music thing, it's distracting,' and musicians usually have to hide the fact," he says. "But my band did a live Web broadcast here and the first person that asked me how it went was (company president) Mark Cuban."

In recent years, Dallas has built a lively local-music scene with such success stories as the platinum-selling Toadies — inspiring others to form their

own bands. Deep Ellum's thriving club zone gives them plenty of stages on which to perform.

But not everyone gets to play, and even fewer — maybe a half-dozen bands — make a full-time living at it. This situation creates a peculiar population of job hunters.

The most common occupation for musicians is waiting tables at restaurants in Deep Ellum or on Greenville Avenue. Eat at Deep Sushi, Cafe Brazil, Terilli's and especially the Dixie House in Lakewood and your waiter will likely be a local "rock star" from bands such as Trailer Park, Static or the Grand Street Cryers.

It's a networking thing, says Dixie House manager Donna Bishop. One musician finds a good, flexible situation and tells another. It creates a sense of camaraderie in the workplace, with musicians occasionally covering one another's shifts. It even spawns new musical collaborations.

Crystal Clear Sound, a Dallas recording studio and CD manufacturer, frequently hires musicians to stuff discs into jewel cases — menial work, perhaps, but the situation and the hours are flexible. Besides, says spokeswoman Teresa Hale, musicians seem to take special care about handling discs.

"They know they're fragile, and what they're supposed to look like going onto the

shelves," she says. "We joke that the band members that work in our warehouse are really here making records."

But it's the unexpected business, such as PoGo's Wine & Spirits, that can exploit a musician's creativity — even if recommending the '96 Chateau Margaux over the '97 may seem beyond the purvey of a typical guitar player. Owner Harris Polakoff's staff includes Neal Caldwell, singer-keyboardist for the Enablers, Chris Savage of the Buck Pets and guitarist John Paul.

Not every musician whom Polakoff has hired has been a model employee. He recalls one who left for lunch — and never came back. Another hired to make deliveries would disappear for hours.

"There's always a balance between the good things and the bad things," he says.

"But a lot of them are real characters. I don't know if I could group all musicians in the same category, but the ones we've hired have been really good people."

As Polakoff describes his attitude about tardiness — "after being late 25 times, it's a problem," he says — it becomes clear that he's a tolerant employer who overlooks the little things in exchange for the benefits of being around creative people.

He is himself a bit of a frustrated musician.

## NEWCOMERS

New residents of Big Spring welcomed recently by Joy Fortenberry and the Newcomer Greeting Service:

Eric and Nikki Brooks and sons, Tyler and Michel, Amarillo. He is the youth pastor of the First Assembly of God Church.

John A. and Michele Grima, Clarkston, Mich. He is employed by Golden Sky Systems.

James W. and Sandra Huston, Memphis, Tenn. He is an internal medicine doctor at Malone & Hogan Clinic.

John and Joanne Rink and daughters Jessica and Jillian, San Juan, N.M. He is the manager for K-Bob's.

Mikel Friedland, Irvine, Calif. He works for Crossroads Communications.

Louis and Martha Salazar and son Louis Jr., Oceanside, Calif. He is employed by Cornell Corrections.

David and Tonya Herrera and daughter Savannah, Snyder. He does home improvement work.

## WHO'S WHO

Chelsae A.D. Turner, daughter of Dwight and Rose Turner of Big Spring, was selected to participate in the "Distinguished Youth of Texas Scholarship and Recognition Program," held on Dallas at the Adam's Mark Hotel on Nov. 27-29. The program is designed to recognize girls who rank high academically and are leaders in their schools and communities.



TURNER

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# Buzz is good for delightful 'A Bug's Life'

### Associated Press

So you've seen "Antz" and now there's "A Bug's Life." Does it make any sense to see another computer-animated movie about ants?

Absolutely. Fact is, these are two quite different movies, and each is delightful in its own way.

The main characters in "A Bug's Life" are drawn like shiny, bright-colored toys rather than the more textured creatures of "Antz," and maybe that's a tip-off. Clearly, "A Bug's Life" is far more a kid's movie at heart. You won't find the knowing, Woody Allen-like verbal humor of "Antz." But you will see more action per minute, and some of it is riveting.

Even grown-ups will snap to attention when a cute, brightly colored insect terrorizes our new insect friends. The scene drew gasps at a recent screening.

And a closing chase, where the tiny characters speed through a saturation bombing of raindrops and ultimately return to that killer bird, is simply thrilling.

"A Bug's Life" tells the story of an ant colony that's invaded annually by a gang of grasshoppers, who demand a major share of the harvest. One of the ants, Flik (voice of Dave Foley,

who stars in TV's "NewsRadio"), accidentally disposes of the offering just before the grasshoppers show up. It's up to him to save his colony. None of the grown-up ants has any faith in him, certainly not the lovely Princess Atta (voice of Julia Louis-Dreyfus from TV's "Seinfeld").

Flik ventures out and recruits what he thinks is a band of warriors, which is actually a third-rate troupe of performers from a flea circus. Together with the ant colony, they drive off the grasshoppers, thanks largely to Flik's cleverness and bravery. Of course, he ends up with Atta.

The animation is superb, as one would expect from the folks who created "Toy Story." Not only is it technically impressive — just watch that tree in the opening sequence, with each leaf shimmering in the breeze — but it's clever. When the overbearing leader of the grasshoppers paces among the trembling ants, two sets of hands are clasped behind his back. When Flik ventures into the great outside world, he wanders into a collection of food boxes that's instantly recognizable as an ant-sized Times Square.

Curiously, just as in "Antz," the villain gets the most interesting face. It's just fun to

watch Hopper (voice of Kevin Spacey) be evil.

Grown-ups might find the story sagging a bit before they get swept up in the closing scenes. But for them, there's a treat at the closing credits: a series of supposed "outtakes" in which the insects act all too human. It's some of the best stuff in the movie.

"A Bug's Life," rated G, comes from Walt Disney Pictures and Pixar Animation Studios. It is produced by Darla K. Anderson and Kevin Reher, directed by John Lasseter and co-directed by Andrew Stanton, with screenplay by Stanton, Donald McEnergy and Bob Shaw.

# Nesting site reveals dinosaur embryo bones

NEW YORK (AP) — Scientists have struck gold in the badlands of Argentina: a vast dinosaur nesting site that provided the first unequivocal embryo bones from a class of large dinosaurs and the first definite fossil skin from any dinosaur embryo.

The square-mile site in Patagonia contains thousands of eggs. Its surface is littered with dark-gray fossil fragments of round, rough-textured, six-inch eggs.

"You see eggshells everywhere," said Luis Chiappe of the American Museum of Natural History in New York,

co-leader of the expedition that found the site last November. He and other scientists report the discovery in Thursday's issue of the journal Nature.

The embryo remains appeared inside fragments of eggshell. The discoveries should shed light on the early development of sauropods, a class of plant-eaters with long necks and tails, small heads and four massive legs. The class included some of the biggest animals ever to walk the Earth.

The eggs were laid some 70 million to 90 million years ago, by titanosaurs.

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# This plot not always sharp

"Sharp Edges." Jayne Ann Krentz. Pocket Books, Simon & Schuster, Inc., New York, New York. September 1998. 386 pages. \$7.50.

Cyrus Chandler, a private investigator with a penchant for doing things in a successful but unorthodox manner, is hired to find the Hades Cup, a piece of rare and beautiful glassware. Coincidentally, Cyrus meets the director of a prominent and popular glass museum, Eugenia Swift.

At this time Eugenia is preparing to take up temporary residence in the home of a recently deceased art collector so she can catalog his vast collection.

Seeing a great opportunity to learn the whereabouts of various valuable glass art objects and who might be interested in obtaining such items, Cyrus manipulates the situations so he shares the house with Eugenia.

As Eugenia becomes more familiar with the collection, questions arise about the life

of the dead collector, the validity of various artists' works, and the questionable social activities that occurred in the house.

Along with these problems, murders occur, local artists disappear, and Eugenia's life is threatened. In his unique manner, Cyrus protects Eugenia's physical safety and assists her in finding solutions to the many mysteries that arise in this complicated situation.

Surprising to both Eugenia and Cyrus, a feeling of trust develops between them. While the blossoming romance might be a surprise to the characters, it would be astonishing to the reader if the relationship had not evolved.

"Sharp Edge's" characters are developed well, and are consistent throughout the story. However, within the plot there seems to be a lack of momentum, and at times the action lags.

Jayne Ann Krentz constructs a fair story line, but most situations have solutions that are alluded to, thereby laying groundwork and expectation for developments to unfold as vaguely predicted. While Krentz furnishes endings to all conflicts within the story, the wind-ups are so neatly packaged that they almost need a bow.

Krentz is a prolific, and respected author.

She writes futuristic novels using the name Jayne Castle, and historical romances as Amanda Quick. Considering the various genres, there is a strong possibility of one type of her stories appealing to a reader's whim.

RATING: (\*\*) two out of four—Tolerable pastime.



PAT WILLIAMS

# Jesse James may be a black sheep, but he's in demand by several families

BLEVINS (AP) — Some folks still want Jesse James dead or alive.

The smart money's on dead. But when he died and where he's buried are questions that haven't been laid to rest.

In a twist that would please conspiracy theorists everywhere, Texas now has two sets of families in two different towns claiming the notorious James manufactured his death, took an alias and lived to a ripe old age in their midst.

The latest to take on the James legend is Betty Dorsett Duke of Liberty Hill, about 30 miles northwest of Austin, who says the outlaw was her great-grandfather, better known and buried as J.L. Courtney.

In conjunction with her new book on the subject, Ms. Duke planned a memorial service and Confederate honor guard on Wednesday at her great-grandfather's grave. She asked relatives to turn out in period costumes, but none did.

Some dissenting family members showed up, saying they don't know why Ms. Duke would dishonor their relative by saying he was James.

"Frankly, I'm so disgusted I could cry right now," said H.C. Shelton of Junction City, Ark., a grandson of James Courtney. Shelton said he has documentation that his grandfather served in the Union Army, settled peacefully in Texas and

received a pension for his wartime service.

"I don't know why Betty came up with this," Shelton said. "I don't even want to talk to her."

Ms. Duke's story contradicts that of the Dalton family, whose members long have claimed James changed his name to J. Frank Dalton and settled in Granbury, near Fort Worth.

Then there is the long line of folks who claimed to be the famed gunman himself. In sideshows across the country in the 1920s and 1930s, there was a whole succession of James pretenders.

James was one of the most notorious criminals of the Old West. He and his gang of former Confederate soldiers ripped off banks and trains, and 19th-century America read about their exploits as they were sensationalized in dime novels and news stories.

In 1882 at the age of 34, James reportedly was shot in the back of the head by a member of his own gang. Historians said he was buried on the family homestead near Kearney, Mo., and then later moved to the James' burial plot.

But just as the bogeyman doesn't die, neither have the legends about James.

So 124 years later, modern science stepped in. A team of crime-lab specialists conducted

an extensive study and concluded that the remains in the Missouri grave marked "Jesse W. James" do belong to the outlaw.

Also, DNA evidence taken from the gravesite was compared to two descendants of James' sister Susan and found in 1996 to almost match exactly.

Still, Ms. Duke has an explanation. She contends the DNA could match because the person occupying the grave is Jesse James' cousin Wood Hite. She alleges another man, Robert Ford, conspired with James and killed Hite to throw people off the outlaw's trail.

So far at the two museums devoted to James in Missouri, there hasn't been much response to the new allegations.

"Oh a lot of people come in and think they're related some how," said museum worker Lucinda Teaford. "We don't usually believe it. The ones who are, know they are."

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BIG SPRING HERALD

# Taking them to the mat

## Troopers find new program helps kids kick drugs

WOODWARD, Okla. (AP) — Oklahoma Highway Patrol troopers are leading children kicking and screaming away from drugs. The troopers are kicking, and the kids are screaming for more.

Mike Fike of Woodward, a trooper for 10 years and a martial arts practitioner for more than 20, takes northwest Oklahoma students to the mat when it comes to the use of drugs, alcohol and tobacco. Fike solicits help from fellow trooper and martial artist Jeff Dean of Woodward.

"We try to do some pretty spectacular things while we try to make the point they can do it, too," Fike said. "If they abuse their bodies with drugs, alcohol and tobacco, it makes it a lot harder."

Their key is karate, Fike said. Fike holds a fifth-degree black belt in Okinawan Go Ju Ryu. Dean has been a trooper for 14 years and in martial arts for 18 years. He is a Go Ju Ryu first-degree black belt and has a third-degree black belt in Jujitsu.

Fike and Dean, with the patrol's Troop I district, take their program to area schools, sometimes with the help of students from karate classes they teach in Woodward two evenings a week.

The troopers, who've done more than 50 programs since 1992, recently demonstrated martial arts skills for 1,200 Woodward students in kindergarten through fourth grade.

Kids weren't the only ones who learned about martial arts at the Red Ribbon Week drug awareness assembly, said Petra Sullender, principal of two Woodward elementary schools. "I learned a lot," she said. "That takes a lot of skill and a lot of concentration."

It also takes good physical conditioning that can be difficult to achieve by people who abuse drugs, use tobacco or drink alcohol, Fike tells his young audiences. He illustrates his point with plenty of broken boards and flying feet.

"We talk about drugs and how they harm the body," the trooper said. Youngsters are quick to pick up the message. After demonstrating some karate moves, Fike turned to Dean during their Woodward appearance and suggested they "go drink a beer" to relax.

"Twelve hundred kids screamed, 'No!'" Fike said.

Trooper Allan Nixon of Shattuck has called on Fike and Dean to take their martial arts message to students in Harper, Ellis and Beaver counties, where Nixon is the patrol's Drug Abuse Resistance Education officer. They've also addressed youngsters at a Scout camp in neighboring Troop J's district. The karate program is a public relations tool as well as a positive health message, Nixon said.

"They see we're not the bogeyman," he said. "The rapport with us now means a lot when they get older. Somewhere down the line everyone has to deal with law enforcement. We want them to understand we're there to help."

A one-hour karate demonstra-

tion won't turn every child away from drugs, Fike said, but each one reached is worth the effort. Troopers believe they're laying a good foundation with their program and law enforcement's DARE classes.

"These kids are going to have a better chance with the training and knowledge they're getting," Dean said.

The program outlines the traditions and history of Go Ju Ryu. Fike mentions meditation and discipline. The terms have made a few parents uncomfortable and prompted comments about teaching religion.

That's not the case, Fike said. "Meditation is relaxation," he said. "Discipline can be something as simple as making your bed in the morning."

The messages Dean and Fike take to area children are the same messages they promote at home. Both men's youngsters are karate students. Fike's 13-year-old twins, Chris and Jeff, and other students help at programs.

The troopers also get assistance from other martial arts enthusiasts including a state pardon and parole officer.

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If you want a mouth-watering burger, try the zesty new Bacon Cheeseburger, Jalapeño Cheeseburger, or the Chili Cheeseburger. Got a burger craving that just any old hamburger won't fix? Head to your nearest Dairy Queen® store for our new gourmet style cheeseburgers!

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# END OF GAME NOTICE

Two of the Texas Lottery's instant games will close on December 31, 1998: Hog Mania and Fat Cat. You have until June 29, 1999, to redeem any winning tickets. You can win up to \$1,000 playing Hog Mania and up to \$5,000 playing Fat Cat. You can claim prizes of up to \$599 at any Texas Lottery retailer. Prizes of \$600 or more are redeemable at one of the 24 Texas Lottery claim centers or by mail. Questions? Just call the Texas Lottery Customer Service Line at 1-800-37-LOTTO (1-800-375-6886).

### San Angelo-based Town & Country Stores exploring possibility of selling chain

By T.E. JENKINS  
Staff Writer

As business mergers and acquisitions have recently seemed to be falling from the heavens, the San Angelo-based Town & Country Convenience Store chain is exploring its options, including the possible sale of the company.

"We have retained an investment banking firm out of Memphis, Tenn., to look at our options," said company president and founder Steve Stephens. "We are just going to let them help us explore the possibilities that are currently available in today's financial market."

Stephens said his company has retained the Morgan Keegan investment firm to help "feel out" the current market, and decide what is best for everyone involved.

"We want to do what is best for our employees, as well as our stockholders," said Stephens. "Most of the time in

situations like this, the best actions are usually no actions, but we want to get a better look at what is going in the business market."

The Town & Country chain of convenience stores has locations all over West Texas and New Mexico, including Big Spring, Coahoma, and Stanton.

Stephens said there is nothing really new about what his company is currently doing, as they have examined their options in the same manner several times over the last three

decades. "We started this company 33 years ago, and in reality this is nothing new," said Stephens. "We have done the same thing in the past to look at our current direction, and see what direction we should be headed in for the good of everyone involved."

"We have looked at going public with the report from Morgan Keegan, but in the end that may not be logical. There are a lot of things currently going on in the market, and we

just want to cast about a bit. It's kind of like running the flag up the flagpole just to see who salutes."

Stephens said his company will not only be looking at the option of selling the convenience store outfit, which currently operates 136 stores in Texas and New Mexico, but at the possibility of acquiring new stores and chains.

"We are currently in competition with Southwest Convenience (7/11) in Big Spring and Odessa, so we will

be looking at expanding, as well," said Stephens.

"You never know what a study like this will come up with. They may locate another chain of stores that is looking to sell, and buying that group may end up being the most beneficial course of action. Then again, as I said earlier, no action at all may be the best course. We will just have to wait and see."

Stephens said he expects the report to be ready in about 90 days.

Evergreen plants frequently suffer from lack of moisture during those winter dry periods that occur in West Texas. Adequate soil moisture provides the best protection you can give your lawn and plants against winter cold injury. Lawns need water during the winter in order to reduce damage that can show up in spring.



DAVID KIGHT

There is still time to plant pansies, if you have not already done so. If planted soon, they will be in bloom by Christmas or before and will continue to bloom for you through the winter and into spring.

Plant pansies in prepared, well drained beds in a sunny location. Try some of the solid colored pansies in masses, as well as the giant mixed colors.

Plant snapdragons, flowering kale and dianthus along with pansies for color now until spring. Plant transplants and not seed. Select short, stocky plants will good green color.

Place orders for seed this month so you will have them available when you are ready to plant. By ordering early, you will be more certain of getting the varieties you want.

It's time to divide perennial flowers like iris, salvia, canna chrysanthemums and day lilies. This not only improves the health of the plants, but allows you to expand your garden or share with friends.

Don't get in a hurry to prune woody plants. Late December through February is usually the best time to prune them. Remember, do not top trees! Severely pruning trees reduces the life of that tree and allows large entry points for diseases and insects.

Clean, repair and oil garden tools and equipment. A coat of linseed oil on wooden handles will help preserve the wood. Drain the gasoline from power tools and run the engine until the fuel in the carburetor is used.

Ok, all done...sit back and think snow!

(David Kight is Howard County Extension Agent-Agriculture. His office is located in the basement of the Howard County Courthouse. His telephone number is 264-2236.

### Hirschfeld Steel looks to add night shift

By T.E. JENKINS  
Staff Writer

Nearly two months after opening a fabrication site in Big Spring's McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark, officials from San Angelo-based Hirschfeld Steel Company, Inc., say they are enjoying a steady increase in productivity as well as company growth.

"We expect to be in growth-mode for the next six to eight months," said local manager Dan Hicks. "We are looking at starting a night shift some time after the beginning of the 1999 year, and projections show that we don't currently have enough man power to complete all of the orders we have next year."

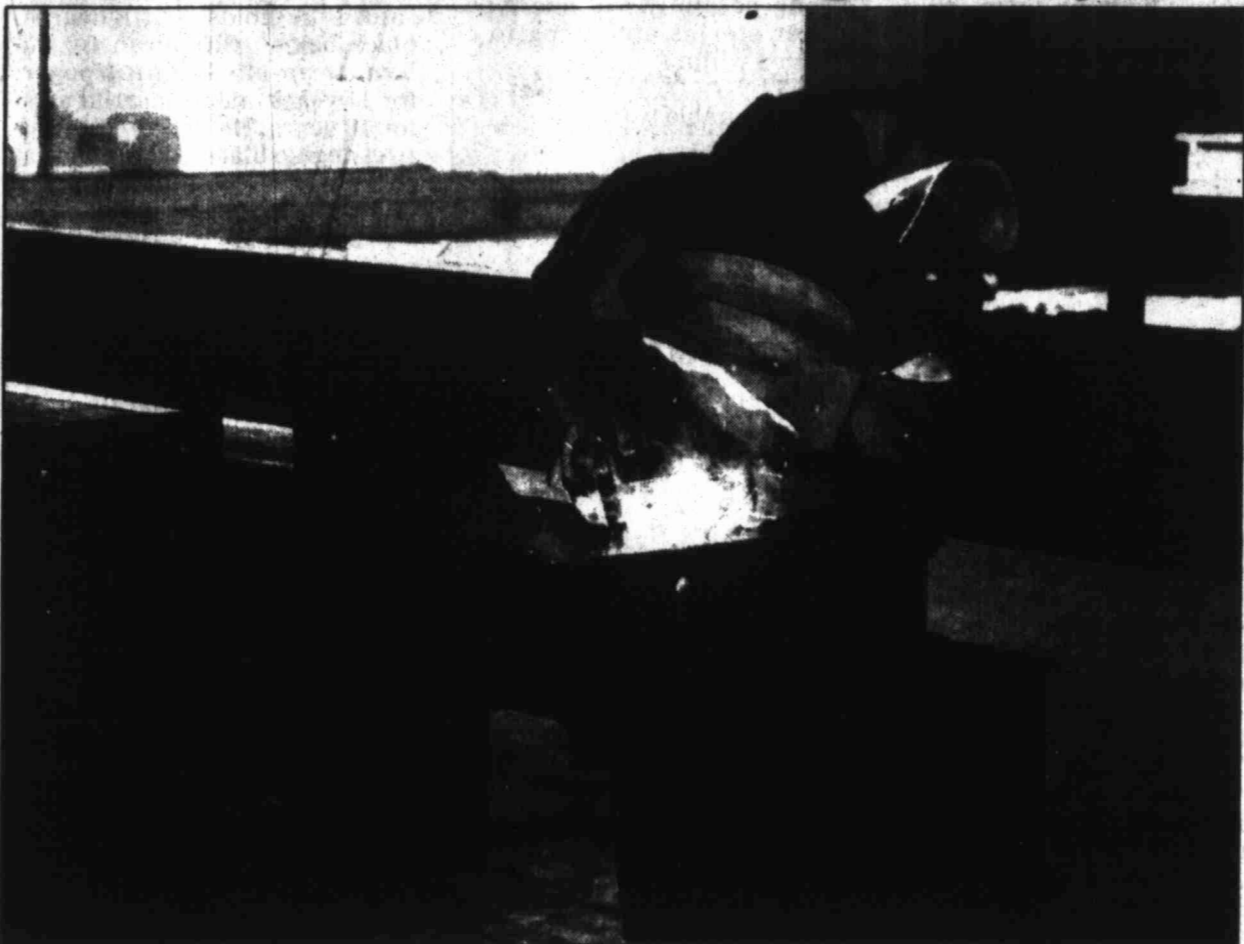
Hicks said the new Big Spring site has been extremely productive for the company, and expects the operations to grow soon.

"We are currently working with Moore Development to find a larger building to work out of," said Hicks. "The airpark site has worked well for us, but once we get rail service we will begin working on much larger pieces of steel. We expect to find a building about three to four times the size of the one we are using now."

"We are having really good success here in Big Spring. The workforce here has been wonderful, and we have been able to hire a lot of hard workers with really good work ethics. When we decide to start the night shift here, we will be hiring about another 15 to 20 employees."

Hicks said the Hirschfeld roster is currently at 23, with a reported 10,000 man-hours already on the books.

"We have gotten our productivity up to the point where we like it, but we aren't stopping



Robbie Feeler, a welder for Hirschfeld Steel's new Big Spring location, prepares steel rack beams headed for a Port Comfort plastics company. Hirschfeld supplies steel to builders all over the world, including recent orders to Moscow, Russia.

there," said Hicks. "We are on a program that calls for continual improvement, and we will continue to look at different ways to raise productivity. It's a really positive way to operate."

Hicks said the key to Hirschfeld coming to Big Spring lies with Moore Development, which assisted the company.

"Moore Development was definitely the key to our operation coming here," said Hicks. "They were with us at every turn, helping us with the logistics of starting a site here in Big Spring. Kent Sharp, the executive director, has really been instrumental in the dealings, and has been a huge help even after we began produc-

tion. "One of the most pleasant surprises about coming to Big Spring has definitely been the workforce. They were ready to start work, and had the training we needed. We are still getting applications from good quality employees."

Hicks said the steel shop is currently working to fill orders in the local market, as well as all over the world.

"Right now, the majority of what we are working on is a pipe rack for a plastics company in Port Comfort," said Hicks. "We also have several large projects on the books, including steel for the Queensboro Bridge in New York, the new sports and convention center in Anaheim,

Calif., and the new ball park that is supposed to be going up at Union Station in Houston."

"We produced the steel that was used in the new bomb and fire-proof embassy building in Moscow, and have several other orders coming up for international projects."

According to Hicks, Hirschfeld Steel currently maintains four yards in San Angelo, as well as sites in Abilene, Midland, Odessa, and Lynchburg, Tenn.

"Our Lynchburg yard supplies a lot of the steel that is used along the East-Coast right now, but we don't stop there," said Hicks. "We are definitely an international supplier, which really helps when the local economy is at a low."

### PUC: Deregulation allowed Southwestern Bell to earn \$31 per line in excess of 'reasonable profit'

AUSTIN (AP) — The Legislature's 1995 telephone deregulation is proving profitable for Southwestern Bell, the state's largest phone company.

Southwestern Bell earned \$288 million last year in what state regulators call "overearnings" according to a Public Utility Commission study.

That means Southwestern Bell, which has 77 percent of the state's 12 million phone lines, earned \$31 per phone line in excess of what would be a reasonable profit a year under traditional regulation.

If telephone deregulation had not been approved, Bell's earnings may have prompted the PUC to consider a rate cut, the state's official consumer advocate said. There's "no doubt at all" that Southwestern Bell would be facing a rate cut by the PUC, said Suzi Ray McClellan, director of the Office of Public Utility Counsel. The overearnings are not illegal or sub-

ject to state review. Under the 1995 law, Southwestern Bell capped its local rates until Sept. 1, 1999. In exchange, its profits are no longer regulated by the PUC.

While Southwestern Bell has capped local rates, there are exceptions in the law that allow it to increase monthly bills in other ways.

Earlier this year, the company added a surcharge of 26 cents a month for expanding calling areas and a 10-cent increase in pay-phone charges. The PUC also is considering a \$29.9 million proposal to allow Southwestern Bell to put numerous cities and towns into a higher rate classification.

The \$288 million in "overearnings" prompted criticism from some consumer advocates.

"The 1995 law's only working for Southwestern Bell, not customers," said Janee Briesemeister, a policy analyst with Consumers Union. Southwestern Bell has spent a lot on its

Texas service, including investing \$1.8 billion in new construction," said David Cole, president of Southwestern Bell-Texas.

Consumers "don't care about a company's earnings; they care about the cost, which has been kept low; and they care about quality, which is the best in the world," he said.

The PUC staff is "still dwelling on yesterday, mired in regulatory quicksand while a competitive market becomes more and more competitive," Cole said.

McClellan said there isn't much new competition. Consumers "still don't have a choice — it's plain and simple," she said.

According to the PUC staff study, Southwestern Bell earned 12.5 percent on \$5.67 billion in invested capital, or about \$709 million. If Southwestern Bell were still regulated, the staff study indicated a reasonable return would have been about 9.2 percent, or \$521 million — a difference of about \$187 million.

### Pecans

#### Texas producers try to recover from disasters

SEGUIN (AP) — At Pape's Pecan Co., growers arrive anxious to sell their harvest. Workers load big red mesh bags of nuts onto delivery trucks. Shoppers browse through a gift store stocked with sweets.

It's as busy as it usually is before Thanksgiving.

But owner Kenneth Pape and his employees have worked extra hard to ensure a good supply of pecans after the summer's punishing drought and October's destructive flooding.

"We were harvesting my orchard when the flood hit," said Pape, a third-generation grower who lost equipment and pecans to fast-rising water in Seguin.

Other producers endured similar damage.

"There was significant loss from the flooding," said Cindy Loggins Wise, executive vice president of the Texas Pecan Growers Association, a Bryan-based industry group.

The worst losses occurred near the Guadalupe River around Seguin and Cuero, Ms. Wise said, though she noted pecan orchards were damaged in the San Antonio and Colorado river basins. Major pecan-producing areas around El Paso and San Saba weren't affected by the floods.

Fortunately for consumers, there should be plenty of pecans for holiday candies, cakes and pies, producers say.

Nuts remaining from the large 1997 harvest in Texas have been in cold storage, and some distributors buy from out of state and Mexico to supplement their supplies.

Retail prices may be slightly higher, Pape said.

A pound of shelled pecan meat in a retail store typically cost customers \$4.50 to \$5 last year. That price likely will range from \$5 to \$6 this year, according to Pape.

At the famous Collin Street Bakery in Corsicana, where 800 seasonal workers are busy making 80,000 pounds of the bakery's mail-order fruitcake each day, vice president John Crawford doesn't anticipate any impact on the pecans for his product from the South Texas flooding.

"We're looking at normal supply," said Crawford, noting the bakery can buy pecans from 18 southeastern states that produce the nut. "I'm sorry about what happened to the people (in the flood region)."

Pecans are alternate-bearing trees, meaning they produce large numbers of nuts every other year.

In an average year about 60 million pounds of pecans are harvested in Texas, the second-largest pecan-producing state behind Georgia. Texas harvest-

See PECANS, Page 7B



Staff members at Corden Employees FOU have completed 32 hours of Member Service Training, according to president/CEO Cary Anderson.

Staff members earning certificates included (pictured left, standing) Emma Douglas, Tammy Westbrook, Faye Boydston, Marie Daniels and Jennifer Lewis.

Shown seated are Margaret Darling, Betty Huff, Kelle Kinman.

Two other employees not pictured, Tamara Barber and Rosemary Hernandez, also completed the training.

### IN THE NEWS

Big Spring native ESTELA DIAZ VALENZUELA has been promoted to lieutenant in the DPS driver's license division.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Pío Quinto Diaz, she was the first female member of the DPS in West Texas and will be stationed in El Paso.

She and her husband, Jesse, have two children — Jessica and Jesse, Jr.

Big Spring native and lifelong resident BRENDA LAWSON has joined the staff at Reeder Realtors.

A two-year veteran of the real estate profes-

sion, Lawson and her husband, Doyle, have two grown children — Steve and Theresa.

Lawson said she enjoyed taking college computer courses and has worked to use her computer to benefit her customers.

TIFFANY WHEAT and DEIDRA HIRT of Glasscock County were first place winners in the District VI 4H Food Show in Fort Stockton Nov. 14.

Big Spring Sunday, Nov. 29, 1998  
PUBLIC  
Justice of the Peace  
China Long  
Precinct 2, P.O.  
Bad Checks/V  
The addresses  
known address  
list remain until  
paid. If any prob  
please contact  
at 264-2226.  
Crawford, Rand  
Big Spring  
Jacobs, Gus  
Coahoma  
Massey, Regina  
Coahoma  
Seely, Joseph  
Big Spring  
Talamantez, B  
Golder, Odessa  
Tatro, Laura, I  
202 11th Street,  
Taylor, Wesley  
Big Spring  
Thornton, Jean  
Big Spring  
Tipton, Monte  
Coleman  
Torres, Adam  
Hickory, Sweetwa  
Tovar, Rachel  
(SWCID), Big Spr  
Trevino, Jesse  
Garden City  
Trevino, Joe L.,  
City  
Trevino, Julia,  
Spring  
Turner, Patti  
Desoto, big Spring  
Turney, Monica  
Lamesa  
Weems, Wayne,  
Spring  
Wilkins, Brya  
Cherokee, Big Spr  
Howard County  
Marriage License  
Elias Gambroa  
Donna Kay Blicks,  
Deeds:  
Warranty deeds:  
Grantor: Ricky D  
Lain  
Grantee: Anad  
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Filed: Nov. 10, 1  
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A dry summer  
pecans in Georg  
harvest is expect  
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PUBLIC RECORDS

Justices of the Peace

China Long

Preempt 1, Place 1

Bad Checks/Warrants Issued:  
The addresses listed are the last known addresses. Names on this list remain until all fines have been paid. If any problems with this list, please contact China Long's office at 264-2226.

Crawford, Randall, P.O. Box 1929, Big Spring  
Jacobs, Gus Wayne, Box 5, Coahoma  
Massey, Regina, HC 71, Box 139, Coahoma  
Seely, Joseph I., 3601 Gail Road, Big Spring  
Talamantez, Barbara, 1208 N. Golder, Odessa  
Tatro, Laura, P.O. Box 1118 or 202 11th Street, Sterling City  
Taylor, Wesley, 1911 Runnels, Big Spring  
Thomton, Jeanette, 803 E. 20th, Big Spring  
Tipton, Monte, HC 75, Box 85, Coleman  
Torres, Adam Mauricio, 1205 Hickory, Sweetwater  
Tovar, Rachel L., 3200 Ave. C. (SWCID), Big Spring  
Trevino, Jesse, P.O. Box 271, Garden City  
Trevino, Joe L., Box 285, Garden City  
Trevino, Julia, 418 Dallas, Big Spring  
Turner, Patti Pendgraf, 5500 Desoto, Big Spring  
Turney, Monica, 1002 S. Third, Lamesa  
Weems, Wayne, 2613 Hunter, Big Spring  
Wilkins, Bryan M., 3002 Cherokee, Big Spring

grantor: Cecilia Renae (Welch) Garner

grantee: Winona Welch  
property: all my interest in and to the east 1/2 of lot 3, blk. 1, Reynolds Addition of Coahoma  
filed: Nov. 12, 1998

grantor: Curtis Randy Welch, Connie Royyn (Welch) Reid, Cheri Rayne (Welch) Rainey  
grantee: Winona Welch  
property: all my interest in and to the east 1/2 of lot 3, blk. 1, Reynolds Addition of Coahoma  
filed: Nov. 12, 1998

grantor: Dorothy Darlene Stalling  
grantee: Kenneth Michael Stallings  
property: lot 8, blk. 5, Mittel Acres  
filed: Nov. 12, 1998

grantor: Norma Ruth Calverly Roche and Mildred Hardy Cunningham  
grantee: Hardy Farm Partnership  
property: lot 3 and the east 30' of lot 4, blk. 2, West Cliff Addition  
filed: Nov. 12, 1998

grantor: Tri-City Beverage Inc.  
grantee: Chuck Rosenbaum  
property: all of lot 4 and 5, blk. 1, Morningside Addition  
filed: Nov. 12, 1998

grantor: Wade Choate  
grantee: Okla W. Thornton Jr. and Nancy A. Thornton  
property: a 5.0 acre tract of land, more or less, out of the northwest 1/4 of section 17, blk. 31  
filed: Nov. 12, 1998

grantor: Secretary of Veterans Affairs  
grantee: Harold and Ann Neagle  
property: all of lot 4, blk. 4, Suburban Heights Addition out of section 13, blk. 33  
filed: Nov. 16, 1998

grantor: Charles A. Hood  
grantee: Ruth Nieman and/or Gary Nieman  
property: a tract of land out of and part of the southeast 1/4 of section 41, blk. 32  
filed: Nov. 16, 1998

grantor: Marietta Harkins  
grantee: Marcellous Weaver  
property: lot 19, blk. 3, Kentwood Addition  
filed: Nov. 16, 1998

grantor: Ross W. and Peggy L. Westbrook  
grantee: Dana W. Cooley  
property: a 226.948 tract of land out of section 27, blk. 30  
filed: Nov. 17, 1998

grantor: Valley Bank of Commerce  
grantee: Clyde McMahon, Jr. and Beverly McMahon  
property: all of that part of section no. 17, blk. 32,  
filed: Nov. 18, 1998

grantor: Olga Charo  
grantee: Leslie Lloyd  
property: lot 1, blk. 7, Earles Addition  
filed: Nov. 17, 1998

grantor: James Leslie Lloyd  
grantee: Tomas O. Granado Jr.  
property: all of lot 2, blk. 2, Highland Addition  
filed: Nov. 19, 1998

grantor: J.B. Reagan Jr. and Janice Canion Reagan  
grantee: Larry Joe Reagan and Amy Louise Reagan  
property: .987 acres in section 5, blk. 32  
filed: Nov. 19, 1998

grantor: Salvador F. Sanchez, Jr. and Betty Lou Sanchez  
grantee: Rosita Rangel Roberts  
property: lot 8 and 9, blk. 3, Lakeview Addition  
filed: Nov. 19, 1998

property: lot 1, blk. 2, Wasson Place Addition  
filed: Nov. 20, 1998

grantor: Raul and Griselda E. Ramirez  
grantee: A.E. Kelley  
property: lot 10, blk. 14, Cole & Strayhorn Addition  
filed: Nov. 20, 1998

grantor: Kelley Howard  
grantee: Terry Howard  
property: 1/2 interest in all of lots 5-6, blk. 22, Subdivision B of Fairview Heights Addition  
filed: Nov. 20, 1998

grantor: Mellon Mortgage Company  
grantee: HUD  
property: all of lot 9, blk. 3, Marshall Fields Estates  
filed: Nov. 20, 1998

grantor: Chevelle K. Franco  
grantee: Herbert L. Callejo  
property: a tract of land out of tract No. 35, Wm. B. Currie Subdivision of section 42, blk. 32  
filed: Nov. 20, 1998

grantor: Verba Verdell Graves  
grantee: Terry Carter and Jana Carter  
property: one acre tract of land in section 33, blk. 32  
filed: Nov. 20, 1998

Warranty deeds with vendor's lien:  
grantor: Chuck Rosenbaum  
grantee: Christopher Gammons  
property: the east 1/2 of a 1.0 acre tract of land, more or less, out of the southeast 1/4 of section 14, blk. 33

grantor: Barbara Tarpley aka Barbara Meyer, and Mike Tarpley  
grantee: Misty D. Carter  
property: lot 10, blk. 5, Kentwood Addition Unit No. 1  
filed: Nov. 10, 1998

grantor: Chuck Rosenbaum  
grantee: Robert Greene  
property: all of lot 4 and 5, blk. 1, Morningside Addition  
filed: Nov. 12, 1998

grantor: Debra Norsworthy  
grantee: Jerry Michael Jones and Sherry Ann Jones  
property: all of lot 9, blk. 21, College Park Estates  
filed: Nov. 12, 1998

grantor: Terry Mitchell  
grantee: Glen R. and Frances E. Overton  
property: parcels of land out of and part of section 28, blk. 32  
filed: Nov. 12, 1998

grantor: Hardy Farm Partnership  
grantee: Charlotte Smith  
property: lot 3 and the east 30' of lot 4, blk. 2, West Cliff Addition  
filed: Nov. 13, 1998

grantor: Ross W. and Peggy L. Westbrook  
grantee: Dana W. Cooley  
property: 1058.997 acres of land out of section 37 and 38, blk. 30  
filed: Nov. 17, 1998

grantor: Ross W. and Peggy L. Westbrook  
grantee: Dana W. Cooley  
property: 273.503 acre tract of land out of section 25, blk. 30  
filed: Nov. 17, 1998

property: all of lot 10, blk. 3, Amended Piner Heights  
filed: Nov. 17, 1998

grantor: A.E. Companies, Inc.  
grantee: Kenmark Properties, Inc.  
property: a 1.63 acre tract of land out of lots 1-2, blk. 1, Boothe Subdivision  
filed: Nov. 18, 1998

grantor: Michael Sieler  
grantee: David Covarrubias  
property: all of lot 9, blk. 3, Settles Addition  
filed: Nov. 20, 1998

Quit claim deed:  
grantor: Julie Ferguson  
grantee: Don Ferguson  
property: all of lot 9, blk. 7, Highland South Addition No. 6  
filed: Nov. 9, 1998

118th District Court:  
Filings:

Family:  
Mary Jean Berry vs. Anthony Arista  
Ester Lopez Tobar vs. Antonio Tobar

Stephanie G. Anderson vs. Johnathan Reed  
Virginia Ann Longoria vs. Jermaine Maurice Evans  
Sandy Castillo vs. Fred Castillo  
DyAnn Davis vs. C.D. Calvert

Divorce:  
Elizabeth Shoup vs. Wesley J. Shoup  
Guy Newell vs. Peggy Newell  
Brenda Guzman vs. Tom Guzman, Jr.  
Beverly Ann Covarrubias vs. Alfredo Covarrubias

Howard County Clerk's Office:

Marriage Licenses:

Elias Gamba, Jr., 51, and Donna Kay Bilcks, 39

Deeds:

Warranty deeds:

Grantor: Ricky D. and Rhonda G. Lain

Grantee: Anadarko Petroleum Corp.

Property: the surface estate only of the north 1/2 of section 20, blk. 30

Filed: Nov. 10, 1998

PECANS

Continued from Page 6B  
ed 90 million pounds in a bumper crop last year.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture had forecast 40 million pounds this year in Texas. Total figures aren't available, but the harvest may be only about 35 million pounds, Ms. Wise said.

Before the flooding in South Texas, weeks of dry, 100-degree weather took a toll on pecans.

"We have seen some very strange quality problems this year that people are attributing to the stress on the trees," Ms. Wise said.

Some pecans contracted a shuck disease causing husks surrounding the nuts to open not fill out well.

Some pecans experienced "pre-germination," or sprouting while on the trees.

A dry summer also affected pecans in Georgia, where the harvest is expected to be 60 million pounds, a 45 percent reduc-

tion from last year. Nuts that are being harvested are of lower quality, said Tom Crocker, an Extension Service horticulturist with the University of Georgia.

"The nuts just didn't mature like we thought they would," Crocker said. "We'd hoped the rain from Hurricane Earl would help fill out the nuts. But it ended up just knocking a lot of them off the trees and even tearing off limbs."

In Texas, October floodwaters swept away bags of pecans and deposited several inches of silt in some orchards. A number of producers lost harvest equipment. Others are afraid to harvest because of possible contamination by flood debris, Ms. Wise said.

One producer in Cuero returned to an orchard to find that 20 head of dead cattle had floated in from someone else's property, Ms. Wise said.

"I just heard all kinds of horror stories," she said. "It was really devastating to folks."

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Friday, Dec. 4 • 1pm - 9pm  
Saturday, Dec. 5 • 10am - 9pm  
Sunday, Dec. 6 • 10am - 5pm

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3 Full Days Shopping  
Living History  
Children's Area  
Scheduled Events

NOV 29 1998

# Herald Classifieds

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1997 LUMINA \$6500  
1996 ACHEVA \$3750  
1994 NISSAN P.U. \$3750  
1994 SKYLARK \$3350  
1984 19' TRAVEL TRAILER \$2250

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915 263-9800

**AUTO FOR SALE**

1995 Geo Prism, GD Playerchanger, 4-door automatic, excellent condition \$5,500; also 1986 Ford Bronco II 4x4, automatic \$2500. 267-5885

Clean 88 Lincoln Town Car, signature S, white w/dark blue interior & leather seats. Call 263-5228.

1998 FORD ESCORT 1.9 IN STOCK \$1,000 REBATE OR 0.9% APR FINANCING

**BOB BROCK FORD**  
200 W. Hill

**AUTO FOR SALE**

1991 Lincoln Town car, 4/door, loaded. 112K, \$3800. O/B/O. Call after 5 pm. 267-2107.

1994 Chrysler New Yorker. Fully Loaded! Good condition. Call 394-4918 leave message.

www.JWANTACAR.com  
"The easy way to buy or sell any vehicle"

**JEeps**

Jeeps \$100-\$500. Police impounds. All makes available. 1800-522-2730 ext. A108.

Did you miss your Herald?  
Call 263-7336 & ask for Circulation.

**Home for Sale**

Suzuki 250, dirt blue, runs good, needs new front tire. \$300 OBO. 393-5312 lv. message.

**PICKUPS**

1996 Chevrolet 3/4 ton, 350 4 speed, long wide bed. See at PERCO or call 267-9523 after 6:00 pm. \$2,000 OBO.

1979 Chevy Pickup short wide bed, 350 eng. overdrive 4x4 & wheels, fair condition. \$2500 OBO. 263-2361 after 6:00 pm.

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**START DATING TONIGHT!**  
Have Fun Playing The Texas Dating Game  
1-800-Romance  
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Computer Users Needed. Work own hours. \$20k-\$75k/yr. 1-800-348-7185 x 976. www.stmp-inc.com

Domino's Pizza Manager Trainee's needed. Apply in person at 2222 Gregg.

Don's Tire & Truck Service: Now hiring truck & tractor tire men. Experience only - good pay + overtime. Must have a clean driving record with valid Driver Lic. Apply at S. Service rd. I-20.

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\$1,000 SIGN ON BONUS!  
•Quality Home Time  
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**LONG JOHN SILVERS**  
Day and Evening Shifts Available. Must be energetic. Apply in person, 2403 S. Gregg. No phone calls please.

Midland Reporter Telegram has an immediate opening for a carrier in the Big Spring area. Call 267-4762 or 267-7052.

Mitchell County Hospital, Colorado City, Texas is accepting applications for a Certified Nurse Aide for the 11pm to 7 am shift. Also needed is a LVN for the 3-11 shift. Contact JoAnn Market, R.N., D.O.N., at (915) 728-3431, ext. 206 or 232.

Dick Ware Medical Unit is accepting applications for a correctional LVN for the 11-7 shift. Please call Darlene LeMaster, R.N. at (915) 728-2162, ext. 4265.

Mountain View Lodge is now interviewing for position of Director of Nurses. Long Term Care experience in Medicare/Medicaid facility preferred. Excellent salary and benefits. Apply in person at 2009 Virginia.

Need CNA's, LVN for skilled unit at the Big Spring Care Center. Ask for Donna. 263-7633.

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**APN Operative clinic seeks Family Nurse Practitioner to join private practice. Excellent opportunity to break new ground as independent provider. Provide patient centered primary health care that includes teaching and preventive services. Experience in pediatrics desired. Competitive salary and health benefits package. Opportunity for incentive bonuses based on productivity and patient satisfaction. Send resume to APN Search, P.O. Box 893, Odessa, Texas 79760. 915-337-2273.**

Barber Glass & Mirror Full-time help needed. Experience preferred but not necessary. Company benefits include Health insurance, paid vacation / holidays, Salary DOE. Apply in person to: 1408 E. 4th after the holidays.

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West Texas Centers For MHR has opening for Maintenance Mechanic. Responsible for maintaining and repairing HCS/ICF homes. May also monitor and assist with high school graduation or GED + 1 year's experience in building maintenance and repair. Salary \$582 paid biweekly (\$15,132 annually). E. O. E. Applications may be obtained at 409 Furness or by calling Jobline 800-687-2769.

**WORK FROM HOME**  
My children come to the office everyday!  
Eam \$500 - \$1500 PT/MO  
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CALL TOLL FREE 800-680-0583

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We offer an excellent benefit package: \$500 Sign-on bonus, competitive wage package, 401k with company contribution, retention bonus, Health/Dental/Life insurance, and uniforms.

**REQUIREMENTS ARE:**  
23 years old with 2 years semi driving experience of completion of an accredited truck driver school, CDL with haz-mat and tanker endorsements, pass, DOT and company requirements. We will help train you for a successful future in the tank truck industry.

Apply in person at **STEELE TANK LINES, INC.**, 1200 ST. Hwy 178, Phone @915/263-7656.

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Town & Country Food Store, Full & Part time position open in Coahoma, Big Spring & Stanton. Able to work all shifts. Apply at 1101 Lamesa Hwy. EOE., Drug test required.

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Needs individuals for phone sales. No calling necessary. 8:30am - 5:30pm & Saturdays. 268-1800.

**TRUST DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS**  
San Angelo Bank seeks candidates for Officer Level Supervision of Trust Operations for mid-size trust department. Four years plus experience preferred in areas of Securities Custody, Trust Accounting & Reconciliations. Submit resume to: Personnel Dept., PO Box 3186, San Angelo Texas 76902. EOE/AA.

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Additional benefits in 90 days or less  
\$23 per hr. /  
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Topsoil, fill sand, Driveway Caliche. 915/263-4619. Leave message.

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More than 18 years of experience. For Tree Trimming and removal. Call Lupe 915-267-8317

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Dynamic, progressive, growing health care team is in need of Registered Nurses and Licensed Vocational Nurse to work in our 85 bed Hospital in Andrews, Texas. Permian General Hospital is accepting applications for Registered Nurses (ACLS preferred) and a Licensed Vocational Nurse in the following areas:

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Please call to hear a complete list of job openings and request an application.

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Scenic Mountain Medical Center is currently seeking a creative person to manage a Seniors Program within the hospital. Applicants with marketing experience are preferred. Must be professional and have the ability to interface with the active elderly. Also, applicants must have the ability to oversee details and plan events. To apply, please mail or fax your resume, or come by to pick up an application.

**Scenic Mountain Medical Center**  
1601 West Eleventh Place  
Big Spring, Texas 79720  
Fax: (915) 263-0151  
Phone: (915) 268-4833

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Sole - Sole - Sole  
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collectibles, furniture,  
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Take on small payments.  
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**HOWARD CO., 5**  
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Very Nice 3 bedroom, 2  
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**THE Daily Crossword** Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

TMS Puzzles@aol.com

ACROSS  
1 Magnate's  
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7 Benchmark  
15 Lodging for  
troops  
16 Bullfighter  
17 Start of a  
Ralph Waldo  
Emerson quote  
19 Vietnamese  
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20 Prune a tree  
21 Lost one's  
balance on ice  
22 Suffix for  
approximations  
23 Broke suddenly  
27 Tent stake  
28 Dolly in  
Barcelona  
30 Interstice  
31 Otto's realm  
32 Marshal Wyatt  
33 Greco-Roman  
musicians  
35 Late-night bite  
37 Diner patron  
41 Borealis and  
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47 Stand up  
48 HST follower  
51 Wards off  
52 Tenement  
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54 Formal  
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56 Before; pref.  
57 Police and  
broadcast  
alerts; abbr.  
59 Oriental  
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8 Rocky crag  
9 Exist  
10 Fisherman's  
tool  
11 Morse dashes  
12 Betty Conden  
and Green  
13 More in the  
pink  
14 Deepen a  
harbor  
18 Journal  
24 Food from taro  
25 Goller Ernie  
26 Dinner and a  
movie, e.g.  
29 Source for a  
pet; abbr.  
34 Abraham's wife  
36 Well or  
Vonnegut  
38 Heavy drinkers  
39 Alienate  
40 Felt indignation  
42 Early Olds  
43 Anthesis;  
abbr.

44 Repositions  
pictures  
45 Texas mission  
46 Landed  
properties  
48 Desk  
compartment  
49 Novelist  
Dumaurier  
50 Represent in  
relief  
55 Ignominy  
58 Synagogue  
62 Biblical lion  
63 Singer Dameon  
64 Wind dir.  
65 Sportscaster  
Bernan

Friday's Puzzle Solved

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BOOR FRACAS  
CHINOS OBIE  
RANON ACRE WOLF  
ENKINDLEAFERVOR  
WOES ESSE LEASE  
SIDE BOSS TINET

By Matthew Higgins 11/28/98  
Concord, NH

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To N. Access Rd. (At La Quinta Inn-Rogers Ford) Continue W.  
Approx. 3/10 Mile To Midland Rd. Then N. to Brookdale  
Then W. to Auction Site.

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**AUCTIONEER: GRADY W. MORRIS TXs - 6785**

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Saturday, December 5, 1998  
10:00 a.m.  
Hermleigh, Texas

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Shuttle Battery Powered Handicap Scooter • Oxygen Machine  
Dimmer Tool • Toro Blower Vacuum • Honda 600 Watt Generator  
Rods of Electrical Wire • Pipe Wrenches • Creeper • Electric Chain Saw  
Mikasa 1/2 Drill • 5 hp Sears Air Compressor • Workmate with Skid Saw  
Axes with Wrench • Hoop Work Bench • Saws • Country Saws  
4000 Generator • 8 hp Briggs Motor • 5 Gal Electric Hot Water Heater  
Small Pop Up Trailer • Wheelbarrow • Air Hose • Golf Clubs • Lancers  
Ration Books • Russell Bronze Buffalo with Horns & Rides  
Tereco De Cast Truck #13 • Antique Wood Desk • Oak Rolling Chair  
Red Houses • Stamps • Lenses • Recliner • Queen Bed  
King Custom Made Headboard with Mirrors, Drawers & Drawers  
Clocks • Pictures • Kerstone Lamp • Hot Pot Water & Dryer  
Handicap Gas Hanger • Otton Color TV • Glass Top Tables  
Leather Chair with Ottoman • Tappan Microwave • Fish Cooker  
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**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2 - 10:00 A.M.**  
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Bottom Harrel Switch Plov, 12 Ft. JD 340 Offset Plov, Reversible Baker  
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HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR SUNDAY, NOV. 29:

Your creativity emerges as never before this year, as you infuse your imagination into every area of your life. Enjoy the flexibility and challenging adventures that result. Day-to-day life becomes far more exciting and dynamic. You welcome every day as new and different. Your willingness to express yourself makes you more attractive and accessible to others. If you are single, romantic liaisons play a big role in your year. Choose carefully, and you could end up with Mr. or Ms. Right. If attached, the two of you enrich your bond in your unique style. ARIES is a great playmate.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Your personality melts barriers. Laugh at the unexpected, and roll with what is happening. News from a distance is positive. Think about a trip in the near future. Someone appreciates your caring. Walk in someone's shoes before making a judgment. Tonight: It is your call.\*\*\*

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Take a back seat. Think through decisions. A parent or someone you put on a pedestal could provoke interesting reactions. When you use your instincts, good communication results. A partner gives you key feedback, think through a decision. Tonight: Call it an early night.\*\*\*

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Allow a friend to play a major role in your plans. Your sense of humor allows more fun and celebration. You could easily shake your head at surprising news. Someone's perspective just might not be yours. Popularity presents many different invitations. Tonight: Go for what you want.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) HHH Maintain a high profile.

A partner has surprising feedback that presents another option. Don't count on the financial figures being accurate; take responsibility. Pull back, and pace yourself with diet and errands. Avoid extremes. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.\*\*\*

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Reach out for others, to make plans. Experiment; try something you haven't done before. Your openness enhances a partnership. Enjoy yourself with lots of friends. Embrace the unexpected. A relationship could be brewing if single. If attached, caring kindles. Tonight: Be entertained.\*\*\*

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Close relating makes a relationship sizzle. You love what is going on, and feel closer to someone than you have in awhile. A new hobby could surprise you; you are more interested than you originally thought. Take time to relax; home life has many rewards. Tonight: A quiet talk.\*\*\*

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) You are unusually active and draw others to you. A loved one demonstrates his caring nature. Swap jokes, catch up on news and break bread with a special friend. You might not often have time together. Make some! Another perspective comes as a result. Tonight: Get into the social whirl.\*\*\*

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Pace yourself. You could be doing too much, and are entering a busy season. Recognize and enforce limits. Don't let pressure get to you; rather, lighten up and relax. Take a brisk walk, go to the gym or exercise stress away. Swap jokes and let yourself laugh. Tonight: Easy does it.\*\*\*

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) You easily make inroads with others. A loved one or potential suitor only sees you in the best light. The caring comes forth. The unexpected occurs with people in your daily life.

Express your acceptance of their quirks. Commit only to fun activities. Tonight: Carry on.\*\*\*

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Anchor in, and handle family matters. Others appreciate your extra effort. Opt to spend funds in an unexpected way. Loosen up about plans; allow greater freedom to those you care about. Buy a card for a special friend or loved one. Tonight: Make a favorite dinner.\*\*\*

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Reach out for others; you naturally put them at ease. Somehow, you do the frivolous or unexpected. You give others a greater sense of enjoyment. Friends want to get together and catch up on Thanksgiving happenings. You enjoy yourself with all. Tonight: Find the fun.\*\*\*

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Begin holiday errands. Perhaps you're ready to don

your Santa suit or work some overtime. Let others share what they want. You are surprised at how easy this can all be. Someone wants you with him. Make that appearance. Tonight: Remember how much you have to offer.\*\*\*

BORN TODAY Talk-show host Howie Mandel (1955), musician Chuck Mangione (1940), actor Andrew McCarthy (1962)

For America's best extended horoscope, recorded by 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.cool-page.com/bigar. ©1998 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

Practical gifts for seniors are better than more stuff

DEAR ABBY: I foolishly tossed out your column on what to give seniors for Christmas, thinking I knew what to give my parents.



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

However, this summer I married a man several years older than myself, and now I could use some suggestions about what I can buy for my elderly in-laws. This is my first Christmas in the family, and I want to be sure to give them something they can use and enjoy. Help! --MELISSA IN MINGO JUNCTION, OHIO

Should I confront him about it? I have thought sex was a dead issue for my entire married life, and this really distresses me. -- CAROL IN SMALL-TOWN, MO.

DEAR CAROL: You have good reason to be distressed. Although you thought sex was a dead issue for your entire married life, it appears there has been a resurrection. Your husband owes you an explanation.

DEAR ABBY: Since those of us over the age of 60 are referred to as "senior citizens," that must mean that people in their 40s and 50s are "junior citizens." And if that's the case, it would follow that those in their 30s are sophomore citizens and adults in their 20s are freshman citizens.

If this is true, we would have a new age grouping system that eliminates "elderly" from our vocabulary. For those who ask what comes after "senior," the answer is, "Graduation, of course. We don't die. We graduate." -- GEORGE TIPPEN, SENIOR CITIZEN

DEAR GEORGE: That makes sense to me. And our post-graduate education depends upon the course we take here on Earth.

DEAR ABBY: My 18-year-old son can't -- or won't -- get himself out of bed in the morning for work. He relies on my wife or me to get him up. He has an alarm clock, but he turns it off and goes right back to sleep.

Two nights ago, I told him I would no longer be responsible for getting him out of bed in the morning; it was time for him to assume responsibility for himself. He countered with the accusation that if he lost his job because he was late, it would be my fault for not waking him.

Abby, I would feel bad if he lost his job, but I can't see that it would be my fault. Should I continue to be his human alarm clock or let the chips fall where they may? Is it wrong to make a young adult face the music for his actions (or lack of them, in this case)? -- DAD, THE MORNING ROOSTER

DEAR DAD: No, it's not wrong to make your son face the consequences of his actions. He's an adult now, and it's time for him to get up on his own. Anyone can do it if he's properly motivated, and you won't always be around to pry him out of bed. You gave your son an important wake-up call: It's time for him to rise and shine on his own.

DEAR ABBY: My girlfriend and I are very much in love and we live together. I would like to propose to her; however, she has made it very clear that she does not want an engagement ring.

Abby, I would like to give her something as an engagement gift. Any ideas? -- TIM IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

DEAR TIM: You are asking the wrong person. Ask your girlfriend what she would like to have as an engagement gift, and take her with you to select it.

Everybody has a problem. What's yours? Get it off your chest by writing to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, Calif. 90069. For a personal reply, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

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701 E. 15th. 2 bedroom, 2 baths, 2 garages. \$350/mo. \$175. dep. 264-9522. Carpeted 2 bedroom, 1 bath Cottage. Fenced yard, ceiling fans, \$225. Optional covered parking. References. No Pets, please! McDonald Realty, 611 Furness, 263-7616.

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BEAUTIFUL GARDEN COURTYARD \*Swimming Pool \*Private Patios \*Carports \*Appliances \*Most Utilities Paid \*Senior Citizens Discount \*1 & 2 Bedroom Unfurnished PARKHILL TERRACE APARTMENTS 800 W. Marcy Drive 263-5555 263-5000

Move In Special \$199 Total Move In Special With 6 Mo. Lease Efficiency \$299 1 Bedroom 660 sq. ft. 744 sq. ft. 8319-8329/mo. 2 Bedroom 1 Bath 900 sq. ft. 8359/mo. 2 Bedroom 2 Bath 1000 sq. ft. 8379/mo. 2 Bedroom 2 Bath 1070 sq. ft. 8419/mo. BARCELONA APARTMENT HOMES Hrs. Mon.-Fri. 8:30-5:30 pm Sat. 10-4 pm 538 WESTOVER ROAD 263-1252

2/1 Apartments. Move In Special. From \$275-\$400 plus electric. Furnished or unfurnished. 263-7621 \$99 MOVE IN plus deposit. 1,2,3 bdr. Partially fur. 263-7811 a.m. 393-5240 evenings. EN. \$210. - 1 bdr. \$235 2 bdr. \$275 \$99 Deposit On site Mgr & Maint. Central H/A Open Weekends 915-267-4217 LOVELY NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLEX Swimming Pool Carports, Most Utilities Paid, Senior Citizen Discounts, 1 & 2 Bedrooms & 1 or 2 Baths Unfurnished KENTWOOD APARTMENTS 1904 East 25th Street 267-5444 263-5000

TOO LATES STEVE'S WELDING SERVICE Welding in shop or on location, will weld almost anything. Call 267-4977. Help Wanted: Prefer woman to work, run parts store and answer phone, Pickup and deliver. Call 267-4977. 2,600 sq. ft. brick house. St Lawrence area. 3 bdr, 3-1/2 bath, 2 car garage, w/ 3 car carport, central heat/air. \$650, mo., \$500 security deposit. 915-997-2496. 3 Family Garage Sale: 100 Jefferson. Sunday, 1pm-7 pm. 19" TVs, 50 gallon fish tank, 83 Honda Accord needs work, clothing, odds & ends, baby swing, Christmas crafts, misc.

TOO LATES Do you have a service to offer? Place your ad in the Herald Classified Professional Service Directory Call 263-7331 Today! Need Money... We can HELP!!! Call Herald SUPER CLASSIFIEDS 263-7331 MORE CALLS... MORE BUYERS... MORE CASH!!! It Pays to Advertise in the Big Spring Herald!

FOR SALE BY OWNER: 4 bd., 2 bath. Den w/fireplace, livingroom, CH/A, new carpet allowance. Make Offer! 1302 Birdwell. 263-2568. PUBLIC NOTICE The Forsan Independent School District will accept bids for one 1999 model 84-passenger rear engine activity bus. Specifications may be obtained from the Administration Office. Sealed bids will be accepted until 3:00 p.m. on December 14, 1998, at which time they will be opened in the Superintendent's Office and examined. Bid envelopes shall be clearly marked "bus bid". The bids will then be presented to the Board of Trustees for action at the regular board meeting on December 14, 1998. Questions should be directed to George White, Forsan ISD, PO Drawer A, Forsan, Texas 79733. The Forsan ISD reserves the right to reject any and all bids. #1211 November 22 & 29, 1998

PUBLIC NOTICE REQUEST FOR BIDS ON TEXAS HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION Sealed proposals for 295,634 km of seal coat on IH 20, US 87, SH 70, FM 611, FM 818, FM 1785, FM 820, FM 1065, SH 206, FM 1229, FM 2855, FM 481, FM 1250, FM 2592 and FM 2763 covered by CPM 5-5-90, CPM 5-6-90, CPM 5-7-46, CPM 6-1-82, CPM 53-7-34, CPM 263-4-23, CPM 318-5-21, CPM 983-1-10, CPM 983-2-16, CPM 1134-1-12, CPM 1156-4-9, CPM 1155-5-10, CPM 1156-1-13, CPM 1251-1-8, CPM 3161-3-23, CPM 1362-2-22, CPM 1527-4-3, CPM 1653-1-7, CPM 1653-3-5, CPM 1653-4-6, CPM 1981-1-12, CPM 1981-2-5, CPM 6597-1-4 and CPM 3311-1-4. Howard, Mitchell, Scurry, Fisher, and Borden Counties, will be received at the Texas Department of Transportation, 200 E. Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas, until 1:00 P.M. December 8, 1998, and then publicly opened and read. It is the bidder's responsibility to ensure that the sealed proposal arrives at the above location and is in the hands of the letting official, by the specified deadline regardless of the method chosen by the bidder for delivery. Plans and specifications, including minimum wage rates as provided by Law, are available for inspection at the office of Brian Crawford, Area Engineer, Abilene, Texas, and at the Texas Department of Transportation, Austin, Texas. Bidding proposals are to be received from the Construction and Maintenance Division, 200 East Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas 78704-1205. Plans are available through commercial printers in Austin, Texas, at the expense of the bidder. The Texas Department of Transportation hereby notifies all bidders that it will insure that bidders will not be discriminated against on the ground of race, color, sex or national origin, in having full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation, and in consideration for an award. Usual rights reserved 8-D-122938 8-76-0005-09-090, etc. 2117 November 22 & 29, 1998

TOSS THOSE BILLS AWAY (AND ADD TO YOUR HOUSEHOLD INCOME.) Become a Big Spring Herald Carrier and earn extra money. For a few hours a day, you could cover your grocery bill, make your insurance payment or open up a savings account. Excellent part-time earning for students, housewives, retiree's, or children (12 or older). Contact: The Big Spring Herald Circulation Department at 710 Scurry

HILLSIDE PROPERTIES Rent or Purchase Owner Financing 2 & 3 Bedrooms MOVE IN SPECIAL Recreational Area Basketball & Volleyball Pool 263-3461