

BIG SPRING HERALD

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TUESDAY
December 15, 1998

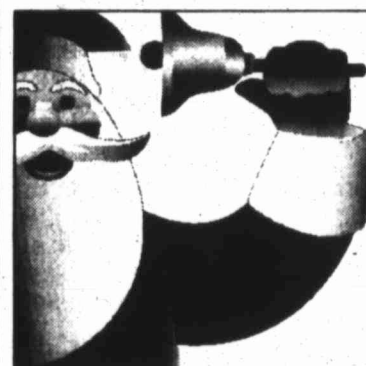
Tonight:



TONIGHT 34°-37°
WEDNESDAY 64°-67°

HELPING OTHERS...

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



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 or \$2 will be added to your grocery total.
- TCA Cable of Big Spring will waive the cost installation for new customers who donate 10 cans of food for its food drive.
- 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.
- Norwest Bank has a Christmas tree decorated with ornaments that represent 26 Howard County children who are currently clients of the Children's Protective Services. Visit the bank to adopt one of these children.
- St. Vincent de Paul Society is collecting cans of food to be distributed to the area needy. Bring two or more cans to the Ritz, the Star or Cinema Four movie theaters and you will receive a free tub of popcorn. Donating the cans also qualifies you for a chance to win a prize.

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MISTLETOE IS OVERRATED.



10 shopping days 'til Christmas
Sponsored by
BARCELONA APARTMENTS

Vol. 96, No. 47

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.

Oklahoma! coming to high school auditorium this weekend

By **MARSHA STURDIVANT**
Staff Writer

Combining singing, dancing and acting, a cast and crew of nearly 40 Big Spring High School theater and choir students present *Oklahoma!* Dec. 18-19 at the high school auditorium.

Performances are set for Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. A special matinee performance is planned for 2 p.m. Saturday. Tickets are \$2 for students and seniors, and \$5 for adults.

"We chose *Oklahoma!* because it is a well known musical and it hasn't been done at the high school in 20 years. We chose this because we thought the community would enjoy it," said BSHS choir director and *Oklahoma!* co-director Linda Lindell.

OKLAHOMA!

When: Friday, 7 p.m.
Saturday, 2 & 7 p.m.
Where: High school auditorium
Tickets: \$2 student, \$5 adult

And co-director Pat Barrera, theater teacher at the high school, said the play was chosen because of its light, upbeat message.

"The theme is lighter and more fun. We felt this was more appropriate for this time of year. I would definitely say this is a family show," Barrera said.

Persuading high school students to perform in a musical was a challenging

task, but worth the effort, Barrera said. "It really wasn't that hard, but in this day and age, a musical isn't even considered a real movie. They couldn't understand why you would burst out in song at a certain point," Barrera said.

Now the students look at their performances as more fun than being an obstacle, she said.

The teachers wanted this year's musical to be completely different from "Fame" which was the 1997 musical, she said.

And Lindell said the audience will recognize some of the songs.

"Some of the songs are still famous today, such as "Oh What A Beautiful Morning" and "Surrey With Fringe On Top" and "We're In Love," Lindell said.

Choir and drama students have

enjoyed acting in a play set in this era. Costumes, as well as social and political debates of the time period, enriched their understanding of the past, as well as added to their enjoyment, Lindell said.

"They have had a lot of fun going back to the time when *Oklahoma!* became a state. And they learned that farmers and cow men who fought on the ranges really needed to be friends," Lindell said, taking a quote from one of the songs in the play.

Barrera said *Oklahoma!* is the typical boy meets girls love story, with the usual complications.

"We have a villain, and there is a murder, but it's light. There are also wed-

See **PLAY**, Page 2

CPS kids won't be forgotten

By **DEBBIE L. JENSEN**
Features Editor

Community members made sure the Salvation Army's "angels" will have a merry Christmas, but there are still children in need.

Child Protective Services, for the second year, has a tree for kids in its care. Like the Angel Trees, the tree is hung with ornaments representing children.

"Right now, it's not looking good," said Rosie Gransberry, of CPS Midland office, which covers the Big Spring area. Child Protective Services works with troubled families, in extreme cases removing children from their homes for safety reasons.

Thirty children from the Big Spring area are represented on the "Giving Tree" located inside the Norwest Bank office. Three ornaments were placed on the tree for each child, naming such items as coats, toys, shoes and clothing.

"Sometimes these families don't have anything," Gransberry said. In other cases, the kids are in foster care, and their foster families cannot afford to buy them gifts.

"Some of them might end up just getting one or two items," she said. "We want to do more for them if we can."

Coahoma schoolchildren, as they did last year, got together to purchase some of the items. But still about 30 ornaments were on the tree over the weekend, Gransberry said.

"It's not looking that good," she said. "I'm really surprised. Last year, the tree did a lot better."

Tonya Hernandez, who works at the Social Security office, said her co-workers had noticed the problem Friday.



Billie Procter, an employee of Norwest Bank, arranges the remaining ornaments on the Giving Tree at the bank. The tree is decorated with ornaments representing the needs of children in Child Protective Services' care.

They pooled their money and chose several ornaments from the Giving Tree.

"There's just still a lot there."

Hernandez said. "I hope some other people will help out."

See **GIVING**, Page 2

Commissioners put nursing contract, fire truck on hold for now

By **BILL McCLELLAN**
News Editor

Howard County commissioners on Monday tabled requests to consider a nursing contract for juvenile detention and go out for bids on a new fire truck but gave permission to replace some vehicles for the sheriff's department.

Irene Dominguez, county indigent health care director, and Margy Bradberry, chief juvenile probation officer, met with commissioners to discuss how recent cancellation of a contract

with Nurses Unlimited has affected their departments.

The firm had previously contracted to attend to county jail inmates, juvenile detainees and to perform audits for indigent health care. The \$750 a month contract was terminated through the sheriff's department, in order to save funds. Instead, the sheriff's office is now using emergency medical technicians (EMTs), who deal directly with a physician.

Questions arose Monday as to whether the EMTs, which are county employees, can handle

the audits.

"In my mind, if you do that, you have the county auditing the county," Dominguez told commissioners. "It has to be an outside audit. It does need to be someone not employed by the county."

Bradberry's concern was liability to the county if a medical problem arises under an EMT's care.

"If they are on the county payroll, that doesn't lessen the liability one iota. If they are an outside employee at least part of the liability is on someone else,"

said Bradberry. "But whoever you decide, that's who we will work with."

She suggested commissioners consider writing up some specifications and go out for bid on someone who could provide both the medical care and perform the audits.

County Judge Ben Lockhart recommended that the issues be tabled until more information can be obtained. In the meantime, Dominguez was authorized to hire someone to handle the audits at \$20 an hour.

Also tabled was the fire

department's request to go out for bids.

After discussion, commissioners decided to wait for bills to come in on another fire truck that is being refurbished before considering the request. The new truck, with phone system, has been estimated at \$42,000 to \$45,000.

Lockhart told commissioners that the county's sharing of administrative expenses for the Region F Water Planning Group will be \$5,936. Colorado River

See **COUNTY**, Page 2

Runnels helps to 'Dress An Angel'

By **MARSHA STURDIVANT**
Staff Writer

Runnels Junior High School students display Christmas greetings as well as a generous holiday spirit with their Dress An Angel project.

And in a week, the students have managed to raise more than \$80 with their efforts.

"Our goal is to raise \$100. These next two days will be our big push," said Vicki Broadrick, student council sponsor at Runnels. "We've been collecting money for clothes and or toys for a needy child in our community."

Students and teachers have been selling colored,

paper angels to classes for 25 cents each.

"The students purchase paper angels for 25 cents each, as a donation. They fill out their paper angel and we hang it on the tree," Broadrick said.

Students may buy as many angels as they wish, she said. This student council project, has been conducted for many holiday seasons in the past, she said.

"We've had some buy as many as 10, 15, or 20 angels," she said.

Once the project concludes on Wednesday, a needy child will be selected, and toys and clothes will be purchased and presented for Christmas, she said.

The child is generally chosen from a referral. Either someone who knows a child in need, or the student council will contact a local community center or day care to select a child recipient, she said.

"It has to be a young child," Broadrick said.

Josh Barnett, a student council member, said this year the recipient will be two families selected by Westside Day Care Center director Melinda Hernandez.

"She will buy clothes and whatever else the money we raised will buy," Barnett said.

Priscilla Cortez said she has

See **ANGEL**, Page 2



Courtney Brock, back left, Josh Barnett, Priscilla Cortez, Lacey Phillips, Jessica Moorhead and Taylor Leathan of Runnels Junior High School student council are raising money by selling colored paper angels for their Dress An Angel project.

OBITUARIES

Gilberto Ortiz Gonzales, Sr.

Rosary for Gilberto Ortiz Gonzales, Sr., 63, Big Spring, was 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14, 1998, at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral service was 2 p.m. today at Immaculate Conception of Mary Church with Rev. Chris Coleman, pastor, officiating. Burial followed in Trinity Memorial Park.



GONZALES

Mr. Gonzales died Sunday, Dec. 13, at Methodist Hospital in Lubbock following a long illness.

He was born on Dec. 22, 1934, in Coahoma. He had lived in Coahoma until 1982 when he moved to Big Spring. He married Maria Elena Lopez on Dec. 13, 1959, in Big Spring. Mr. Gonzales was a member of the Catholic church. He had been employed by Kasch Brothers Construction and Price Construction and Shell Oil Company.

Survivors include: his wife, Maria Elena Gonzales of Big Spring; two sons, Gilberto Gonzales, Jr. and George Gonzales, Sr., both of Big Spring; seven daughters, Ortelicia Soliz, Della Gonzales, Linda Gonzales, Connie Rivera, Mary Ann Jimenez, Angie Gonzales and Ester Gonzales, all of Big Spring; three brothers, Natividad Gonzales of Odessa, George Gonzales and Fermin Gonzales, both of Coahoma; three sisters, Martha Arispe of Sand Springs, Mary Rodriguez of Big Spring, and Pascuala Ruiz of Coahoma; and 27 grandchildren.

Arrangements under the direction of Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Pearl F. Jewett

Service for Pearl F. Jewett, 95, Big Spring, is pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

She died Tuesday, Dec. 15, 1998, at her residence.

MARKETS

March cotton 61.55 cents, down 59 points; Jan. crude 11.40, up 11 points; Cash hogs steady at 14; cash steers steady at 58 even; Feb. lean hog futures 28.55, down 152 points; Feb. live cattle futures 58.40, down 72 points.

courtesy: Delta Corporation.
Noon quotes provided by Edward D. Jones & Co.
Index 8725.46
Volume 238,536,570

ATT	69% + 1/2
Amoco	55% + 1/2
Atlantic Richfield	64% + 1/2
Atmos Energy	29% + 1/2
Calenergy Inc.	32% + 1/2
Chevron	83% - 2 1/2

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL
24th & Johnson 267-8288
Gilberto Ortiz Gonzales, 63, died Sunday. Services are 2:00 PM today at Immaculate Heart of Mary. Burial will follow in Trinity Memorial Park.

NALLEY-PICKLE & WELCH Funeral Home
Trinity Memorial Park and Crematory
906 Gregg St. (915) 267-6331
Pearl F. Jewett, 95, died Tuesday. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Big Spring Herald
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Cifra	11 1/2 to 12 1/2
Coca Cola	65 + 1 1/2
Compaq Computer	4 1/2 + 1/2
Cornell Correc.	18% - 1/2
DuPont	53% - 1/2
Exxon	74% - 1/2
Halliburton	31% - 1/2
IBM	163% + 1/2
Intel Corp	114% + 2 1/2
Mobil	88% - 1/2
NUV	6% nc
Palex Inc.	8 - 1/2
Pepsi Cola	37% + 9/16
Petrofina	45% + 1/2
Phillips Petroleum	41% + 1/2
SBC Com.	48% + 1/2
Sears	41% + 1/2
Texaco	55% + 1/2
Texas Instruments	80 + 1 1/2
Texas Utils. Co	46% - 1/2
Unocal Corp	30% - 1/2
Wal-Mart	75% + 1/2
Prime Rate	7.75%
Gold	292.70-293.20
Silver	4.87-4.89

PLAY

Continued from Page 1

things in the play," Barrera said. A series of delays pushed the production from its original November date into December. Students have been rehearsing since October's end, she said.

No pass no play became a problem for one or two cast members, and now the cast features the talents of Howard College theater instructor Clay Grizzle.

"The students have really gained a great experience working with Mr. Grizzle," Barrera said.

Others in the cast include high school students George Williams as Curly, Laura Davis as Laurey, Sterling McIntosh as Will Parker and Rachel Ray as Ado Annie Carn.

GIVING

Continued from Page 1

The Giving Tree will be taken down Friday. Gifts for the children can be returned by Dec. 23 to either the Norwest office, or the Child Protective Services Big Spring office, 501 Birdwell. Gransberry said she was still hopeful the tree's ornaments would disappear in its last week at the bank.

"I think people will come around," she said. "I really do."

COUNTY

Continued from Page 1

Municipal Water District will pick up \$4,000 of that, leaving the county's portion at \$1,936.

In other business, the court gave Sheriff Bill Jennings permission to purchase four to five new or used vehicles. Some \$75,000 has been budgeted for the purchase. Four of the department's current vehicles have more than 100,000 miles on them.

Commissioners also looked at preliminary architectural plans for the old library, which will be renovated to contain the district court and offices for the district attorney and district clerk. Cost estimate for the project is \$500,000, said Phil Furquerson, construction administrator.

ANGEL

Continued from Page 1

enjoyed the Dress and Angel program.

"We learn how to help out within our community in student council," Cortez said.

A student council dance, scheduled for Dec. 11, was canceled because of the snow storm.

"We announced during the day that the dance was canceled," said Lacey Phillips.

The dance has been rescheduled for this week, Broadrick said.

LIFE! DEADLINES
DUE TO THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY NEXT WEEK, DEADLINES FOR ALL MATERIAL SUBMITTED TO THE LIFE! SECTION WILL BE TUESDAY AT NOON. THIS INCLUDES ALL SUNDAY ITEMS, CHURCH AND CLUB NEWS, AND ANY OTHER SUBMITTED ITEMS.

BRIEFS

JOYAS LIRICAS, A GROUP dedicated to providing amateur and professional singers opportunities to perform and excel in their art, as well as encourage the public's interest in music, will present a program today at Canterbury South.

The group will perform Spanish and American songs at 6:30 p.m. and the public is invited. There is no admission fee.

Participants are Gabriel and Margarita Durand-Hollis, Guido and Nina Toscano, and Billie Miles, who provides guitar accompaniment.

SUPPORT FOR GULF WAR veterans is available through Odessa Desert Shield, Desert Storm Association, Inc.

"We will be setting up some meetings, sharing information, things like that," said Rhonda Simon, a Colorado City resident who serves as area representative of the support group. "There have been some new bills passed and we want to get veterans educated on those and get them going back to the Veterans Administration."

Anyone interested in becoming a part of the support group can call Simon at 915 728-2746 or email her at ezresort@bitstreet.com or call group president Vic Sylvester at 915 368 4667.

The group also has a website at www.odssa.com

SPRING TABERNACLE CHURCH, 1209 Wright, has free food for the area needy from 10 a.m. to noon every Thursday.

THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT of Health will be giving flu shots every Wednesday throughout the winter (October-February) to those 18 years or older. The cost is \$5 for those not on Medicaid. The hours will be from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 4 p.m. Call 263-9775 for more information.

SUPPORT GROUPS

TUESDAY

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

•Al-Anon, 8 p.m., 615 Settles.

•Seniors' diabetic support group, 2 p.m., Canterbury South. Call 263-1265.

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

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

•"Most Excellent Way," an addiction support group, 3610 Dixon, call 264-9900.

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

•Family Education and Support, sponsored by Howard County Mental Health Center, meets the second Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at 319 Runnels. For more information call Shannon Nabors at 263-0027.

•The Big Spring Alliance for the Mentally Ill meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at 409 Runnels (formerly the TU building) For further information call Sondra at 267-7220

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

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

WEDNESDAY
•Gamblers Anonymous, 7 p.m., St. Stephen's Catholic Church, room 1, 4601 Neeley, Midland. Call 263-8920.
•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon open meeting and 8 p.m. 12 and 12 study.
•Narcotic Anonymous, 8 p.m. St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Call 268-4189 (pager no.) Step study.

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

A BIG SPRING AROUND THE TOWN

Jumping pig pulled from lottery ads

DALLAS (AP) — Connie the pig has taken her last leap for the Texas Lottery.

Amid complaints from the public, lottery commission officials have pulled a television commercial that showed a pig bungee-jumping from a bridge.

Thirteen people have complained by telephone or mail since the commercial began airing Dec. 2 in 24 markets.

"We were going to end it this week anyway," lottery spokeswoman Leticia Vasquez told The Dallas Morning News. "So we decided to just pull it early."

Although a live pig is featured in the commercials, the animal seen jumping from the bridge is computer animated. The spot was designed to promote the lottery's newest online game, Texas Million, which some people have complained is too complicated.

The ad's message: The game is so simple that a pig can play.

The commercial was created by GSD&M, an Austin advertising agency.

Buyers dreaming of a green holiday tree

CHICAGO (AP) — Unseasonably warm weather from the Midwest to the East Coast is turning dreams of a white Christmas brown.

Wreaths and garlands around Chicago are drying up. Christmas trees are drooping needles galore, and greenery retailers are woefully singing, "Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow!"

"The weather's not doing any good, that's for sure," said Perry Hafeman, whose Balsam fir trees were suffering in his Chicago lot.

Since Thanksgiving there's been little or no precipitation in much of the Northeast and Midwest. Temperatures have climbed all the way to the 70s in some spots of Illinois — 30 degrees above normal.

On Monday the thermometer approached 50, still well above normal, and was expected to remain higher than usual at least for the early part of the week.

In the East it was the same. Some seasonable cold weather did arrive Monday, but it was expected to give way to balmy temperatures Tuesday.

"I've been doing this for 38 years and this is absolutely the most unusual I've seen," said Howard Sechler of the 4 Seasons Garden Center in Breinigsville, Pa. A recent 75-degree day toasted the tips of the Douglas firs at his eastern Pennsylvania center, he said.

"It's just something that Mother Nature has been doing to us," Sechler lamented.

In Chicago's State Street downtown shopping district, workers were busy replacing shriveled evergreen boughs decorating sidewalk planters.

Along North Wells Street, where Victorian-style architecture and black iron lampposts exude a Dickensian holiday aura, pine garlands wrapped around the poles looked as if they'd been there since the Fourth of July.

"There's a slight tinge to them," acknowledged David Dattalo, owner of The Fudge Pot candy store.

But not everyone was complaining. "Let 'em turn brown! I'm just enjoying the weather," said Phillip Everett, manager of a coffee shop across the street.

A cut Christmas tree should last about four weeks, said Raymond Guries, a forestry professor at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. But

TEXAS LOTTERY PICK 3: 5,8,0
CASH 5:8,9,15,29,39

many trees were cut well before Thanksgiving, and this year's unseasonably warm weather has given them plenty of time to dry out, he said.

Chicagoans Scott and Traci Fries found that out the hard way.

They bought a green-looking tree at a lot, but when they unbound it at home "the whole inside of the tree was like brown and dead," said Mrs. Fries, 25, an office manager. Her thoroughly distraught husband pulled off the dead parts, but fears the tree won't last until Christmas.

In years like these, Guries recommends cutting one's own tree. The National Christmas Association, a St. Louis-based trade group for cut-your-own farms, says 40 percent of its members report sales are up this year.

One piece of advice for buyers: Find out whether sellers have been naughty or nice to their trees.

Proper watering is the key to tree survival. While Mother Nature usually lets Northern retailers off the hook by providing a cool, moist climate, the sellers may have to take a few pointers from Texas or Florida, where trees are shaded with cloth and routinely watered.

Cruise ship evacuated safely after striking reef

PHILIPSBURG, St. Maarten (AP) — More than 2,500 people safely evacuated a Caribbean cruise ship this morning after the vessel struck a reef, began taking on water and was purposely beached on St. Maarten, the U.S. Coast Guard said.

Fishermen and boat owners helped ferry passengers off the 74,000-ton Monarch of the Seas, owned by Royal Caribbean International.

"It was quite a drama this morning, but no one was hurt and everyone is safe," said Nicolaas Martina, who witnessed the rescue from the Holland House Beach Hotel overlooking Great Bay in St. Maarten, the Dutch half of the island. The northern side is the French territory of St. Martin.

The 6-year-old ship ran aground near the harbor pier before dawn.

St. Maarten authorities reported that the vessel had just left St. Maarten when it hit the reef and began taking on water in its forward compartments, said U.S. Coast Guard Petty Officer Alberto Torres.

The ship's captain decided to beach the vessel on a sandy bottom off Great Bay, Torres said by telephone from San Juan, Puerto Rico. None of the more than 2,500 people on board were injured.

A U.S. Coast Guard helicopter crew planned to survey the area today to determine whether there was any threat of pollution from the ship.

Martina said government officials found hotels for the stranded tourists and were trying to book flights for them to leave the island, which is 150 miles east of Puerto Rico. The Monarch picks up passengers in San Juan and cruises the Caribbean during the current high-season.

New Jersey teenager gets apology from MTV

HAMILTON, N.J. (AP) — A teenage boy who won a nationwide contest to interview a rap group on MTV says the cable channel aired a segment that

was horribly out of tune.

The 24-hour music network has apologized to Bradley Jenkins, and agreed to redo a segment that the family claims portrays them as destitute and unhappy.

"When you look at the tape, it looks like my life is really bad and my family is really broken," the boy told The Times of Trenton in Monday's editions. "It was supposed to be a really positive experience for me and it turned out to be really horrible."

Jenkins was chosen to interview the hip-hop group A Tribe Called Quest. The network booted down 20 hours of film into a 12-minute segment that showed a down-and-out family and a teen lifted from despair by the group's positive message.

Bradley's father, Walter Jenkins, said he and his wife were so upset by the segment that they missed several days of work. They said worried relatives from as far away as Oklahoma started calling the family to ask if anything was wrong.

"I can't put into words how totally disappointing this thing is," Walter Jenkins said. "How could they do that? Maybe they've got this one editor with a tabloid mentality or something."

MTV producers and editors called the family last week to apologize. They also re-edited the segment to remove the embarrassing parts.

"We want to make people happy," MTV spokeswoman Marnie Malter said. "We want this experience to be wonderful for everyone. We think it's a terrific episode that presents Brad in a positive light."

SHERIFF

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity between 8 a.m. Monday and 8 a.m. Tuesday:

•CECIL DEWAYNE MCAFEE, 20, was arrested for escape while arrested/confined felony.

•JONATHAN NEAL MORTON, 20, was arrested for escape while arrested/confined felony.

•OMAR SOTO GONZALES, 36, was arrested for driving while intoxicated, third or more offense.

•FRANCISCO RAMIREZ, 23, was arrested for driving while intoxicated.

•JULIA TREVINO, 52, was arrested for issuance of a bad check.

POLICE

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

•RICARDO URANGO, 39, was arrested for driving while license invalid.

•THEFT in the 1100 block of N. Lamesa, and the 300 block of Gregg.

•CRIMINAL TRESPASS WARNING in the 500 block of Westover, and the 300 block of Gregg.

•FORGERY in the 400 block of E. 4th.

•CRIMINAL MISCHIEF in the 2600 block of Albrook.

•BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE in the 700 block of N. Scurry.

RECORDS

Monday's high 64
Monday's low 32
Average high 55
Average low 28
Record high 82 in 1995
Record low 13 in 1985
Precip. Monday 0.00
Month to date 0.54
Month's normal 0.34
Year to date 13.18
Normal for the year 17.89

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Big Spring, Texas

Tennessee construction worker rescued after being buried in trench

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. (AP) — A construction worker buried alive in a sewer ditch for more than 15 hours was pulled to safety this morning after a grueling overnight rescue.

As rescuers cheered, Darby Wayne Patrick was wrapped in blankets inside a basket stretcher and lifted by crane from the collapsed 15-foot trench that officials feared would kill him.

He had spent four hours completely buried, his moans the only sign to the first crews on the scene that he had survived.

His face was then cleared of dirt, but more than 10 hours would pass before he could be completely freed without

risking another cave-in.

"If this man wasn't spiritual before, he probably will be now," said Dennis Curry of the Hamilton County Cave and Rescue Team, who spent eight hours in the trench with Patrick.

"When I saw him it was pretty grim. He only had part of his head and one arm out."

Patrick, 26, was airlifted to Erlanger Medical Center in Chattanooga at 5 a.m. He was listed in critical condition and required surgery, Erlanger spokesman Todd Womack said. He gave no detail on his injuries but did say Patrick was alert.

It was not clear how he had survived

the first few hours. Bill Tittle, of Hamilton County Emergency Services, said a bucket or pipe may have provided an air pocket.

Dr. David Wharton spent hours inside the trench keeping Patrick alert and giving him medicine.

"He was joking. We asked him, 'How are you doing?' and he asked us how we were doing," Wharton said. "He told someone, 'Just get my arms free and I'll dig myself out.'"

The accident occurred about 1:15 p.m. Monday as a crew was laying pipe along a highway.

The ground gave way, trapping Patrick on his side facing out toward

the road.

Firefighters immediately began to dig but stopped when there was another cave-in. Specialists in trench rescue were called in and the hours of work began.

Rescuers pumped oxygen and heat to Patrick while crews used an industrial vacuum hose to remove dirt from around his body. A bucket brigade helped take away the soil.

Workers dug even deeper — about 30 feet — to build what looked like a narrow mine shaft to shore up the walls that surrounded him.

Patrick's wife, brother and other relatives prayed with a minister and

awaited word of his condition in a building near the rescue site. An aunt in Kingsport, where the couple live, was caring for their 1-year-old son.

The final moments of the excavation were most critical. Wharton feared Patrick had suffered internal injuries that would kill him when the dirt was lifted away.

But he was conscious and alert when he was finally unearthed.

As the rescuers cheered, Patrick was rushed to an ambulance, then to the hospital's helicopter.

"Seeing him cross that barrier coming out, that's the highlight," said rescuer Sonny Hayes.

Grim White House faces pro-impeachment trend; outcome in doubt

WASHINGTON (AP) — A pro-impeachment trend has Clinton administration aides in a grim but fighting mood, while the outcome of the House's first presidential impeachment vote in 130 years remains in doubt.

Republican Reps. Frank LoBiondo of New Jersey, Jim Walsh of New York, and Fred Upton of Michigan, all of whom had been on Democratic-completed lists of potential impeachment opponents, said Monday they would instead vote for impeachment.

But President Clinton could take some comfort from Rep. Virgil Goode Jr., a Virginia Democrat who was widely assumed to be pro-impeachment but declined in an interview to say how he would vote.

However, Goode said Monday he continues to believe "that false statements under oath after one has been warned that such statements are subject to perjury is an impeachable offense."

An Associated Press tele-

phone survey of House members demonstrated that it was impossible to make a prediction. The results: 122 lawmakers said they would support impeachment, 151 said they would oppose it, 104 remained undecided, and 58 wouldn't answer or didn't return phone calls.

The totals include members who said they were leaning toward a position.

White House advisers said Monday they were increasingly pessimistic about Clinton's prospects of avoiding impeachment in the House.

"It's like a tidal wave moving against him," said Democratic consultant Harold Ickes. Nevertheless, the former White House aide held out hope that the trend could be reversed.

In the Gaza Strip, Clinton was asked today whether he can separate his impeachment problems from other work like the Mideast peace agreement that took him to Israel and Palestinian territory this week.

"Absolutely," the president replied. How? "Show up for work every day," he said. "It isn't a complicated thing."

Several advisers inside and outside the White House complained that the president has made matters worse with ill-advised statements, saying he is surprisingly tone deaf to his GOP critics and unusually reluctant to turn advice into action.

Still, top White House officials and leading Democrats put Clinton's chances in the House at 50-50. White House chief of staff John Podesta reminded worried aides at one meeting that their boss has prevailed in tough fights before.

And House Minority Leader Dick Gephardt's aides told the White House there were still enough undecided moderate Republicans to give the president hope.

Clinton, on a trip to the Middle East, said he was open to "any reasonable compromise" with Congress short of

impeachment — but Republican leaders have united in opposing a censure resolution in the House.

The president will get extra help from Vice President Al Gore, who on Monday night canceled a trip to New Hampshire — the state with the first presidential primary — so he could stay in Washington this week to defend his boss.

The extraordinary House session starting Thursday morning will be the chamber's first presidential impeachment vote since Andrew Johnson was impeached in 1868. Approval of just one of the four articles approved by the Judiciary Committee could trigger a Senate trial.

The articles accuse Clinton of perjury in the Paula Jones civil lawsuit, perjury before a federal grand jury, obstructing justice and abuse of power — all related to efforts to conceal the president's extramarital affair with former intern Monica Lewinsky.

Poll: Impeachment inquiry fails to affect public opinion

WASHINGTON (AP) — The impeachment debate that consumed Washington last week did little to change public opinion in the rest of the country, according to a new poll.

The poll, by the Pew Research Center for the People and the Press, found that two-thirds of American adults think Clinton should not be impeached and removed from office.

More than half of those polled are unhappy with the way the president has handled the congressional investigation into his affair with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky, but 61 percent still approve of the job he is doing as president.

They weren't as kind to Republicans. About 60 percent of respondents disapprove of the way Republicans in Congress have handled the impeachment issue.

A CNN/USA Today/Gallup poll, also released Monday, indicated that about six in 10 Americans opposed impeachment.

And in a Washington Post/ABC News poll, a similar percentage opposed impeachment. However, almost as many people in that poll — 58 percent — said that Clinton, if impeached by the House, should resign rather than go through a Senate trial.

The Post-ABC poll also found that Clinton's job approval rating remained strong at 64 percent, although down from 67 percent in October. The president's negative rating rose from 30 percent to 35 percent.

Asked if Congress should publicly reprimand Clinton, 59 percent in the ABC poll supported censure. Another poll by CBS News-New York Times showed 57 percent of respondents favoring censure.

Clinton fails to persuade Israel on troop withdrawal but calls his trip a success

EREZ CROSSING, Gaza Strip (AP) — President Clinton today failed to persuade Israel to resume the West Bank troop withdrawals called for under the Wye River peace accord, but he held out hope the pullback would resume soon.

"We will have it and starts but we will get through this just fine," he said.

Speaking to American reporters after a 90-minute meeting with Israeli Prime

Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat at this border outpost, Clinton called his three-day Mideast trip a success.

"I have achieved what I came here to achieve," the president said. He was winding up a three-day Mideast tour with the future of the historic Wye River accord still in doubt. "I do think we are back on track again. I am quite hopeful."

In remarks to reporters later,

Sandy Berger, the president's national security adviser, qualified Clinton's remark about the peace process being back on track.

"It's a bumpy track," he said with a smile.

Clinton said he would send Secretary of State Madeleine Albright back to the region soon for further talks.

After today's 90-minute meeting, Clinton flew by helicopter to Bethlehem and was greeted

by Arafat.

The president visited the Church of the Nativity in Manger Square with first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and their daughter, Chelsea. The Clintons also were to tour the ruins of the city of Bethlehem, remnants of a Jewish rebel force in the first century took their own lives rather than surrender to conquering Romans. Afterward Clinton was flying back to Washington to resume

his impeachment fight.

Asked by a reporter whether he was able to separate his personal problems from his official duties, Clinton replied, "Absolutely... you need to show up for work every day. It's not a complicated thing."

In today's meeting, the three leaders discussed the work of committees set up under the Wye River accords to work out sticky issues such as weapons confiscation and safe passage at border crossings, Clinton said.

"We now have to decide practical means to go forward," he said.

Clinton said the meeting — the first between the three leaders since signing the Wye River deal in October — was frank.

"The atmosphere was an open exchange," Netanyahu said.

Arafat left the meeting without speaking to reporters, but an adviser, Marwan Kanafani, harshly criticized Netanyahu.

Tempered sense of hope for peace

DEARBORN, Mich. (AP) — Some Arab-Americans following President Clinton's visit to the Middle East say haggling and delays over the Wye River agreement could overwhelm chances for a lasting peace.

"Witnessing what has been going on, it does not make me feel hopeful that we will reach genuine peace in the Middle East," said Imad Hamad, the Dearborn director for the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination League. "We see ourselves switching from agreement to negotiations and finally negotiations of negotiations."

Clinton met with Yasser Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu today as part of a drive to keep the Wye River accord from

falling apart.

The agreement calls for Palestinians to get another 13 percent of Israeli-held territory on the West Bank of the Jordan River and for Palestinians to fight terrorism by Islamic militants. But the agreement has frayed over charges of bad faith from both sides.

Dearborn has a high concentration of Arab-Americans; the 1990 U.S. Census found 12,000 people who spoke Arabic in a city of 90,000, and many storefronts feature signs in Arabic and English.

Samir Fadallah, 30, stopped in at the Venice Barber Shop on Monday to get haircuts for himself and his 5-year-old son, Mohammed. He said the United States had historically favored

Israel over Arab countries, and reversing the effects would take time.

"This peace agreement is going to hurt us," said Fadallah, who was born in Lebanon. Palestinians "shouldn't have to live like animals. It's their land. So what if they have their own state?"

"They call us terrorists for fighting," he said. "But if someone came and took your house, your rights — you would fight too."

Haider Koussan, who spent the first 15 years of his life in a Lebanese refugee camp, works at the market his family owns here. He said he hopes the Wye River agreement and Clinton's mission bring calm to the region.



Letters to Santa

North Pole

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FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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John H. Walker
Managing Editor

John A. Moseley
Sports Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Take precautions while shopping this holiday season

Christmas is a joyful time for most of us. It's a time of giving and sharing. We get caught up, sometimes, in racing from store to store to find that "perfect" something for someone special. Unfortunately, there are people who count on us becoming so involved in the spirit of the holidays that we don't take time the time to remember that not everyone is good. Not everyone is kind. Not everyone believes that giving is more important than receiving.

These people, although few in number, prey on others. They walk the mall parking lot, looking for unlocked cars. They drive the streets, looking for signs of homes that are empty of people, but full of Christmas cheer.

It's a shame, but it is a fact, that those who put a lot more stock in receiving than giving victimize good folks every year.

And so we remind you to take some precautions, to keep yourself and your possessions safe.

When you are out shopping, remember to lock your vehicle. It only takes a second for a thief to ruin Christmas.

Put presents in the trunk; don't leave them out in the seats for everyone to see. They are a tempting target for some.

Leave your Christmas tree lights on only when you are at home. When a thief sees a brightly-lit tree through the window, and no cars out front or in the garage, it is a sign that no one is at home.

Be careful, when shopping, not to show much cash. And be sure if you use a credit card, to tuck it away safely after your purchase.

If you can, try to alert relatives and friends that they can expect a package in the mail. Ask for an alternate address, such as their work, if the contents of the package are expensive and they get their mail early in the day. There are unscrupulous people among us who know what delights the mailbox can hold at Christmas time.

If you are sending that All-American gift for the hard-to-buy person — money — don't send cash. It's much harder for a thief to turn a check into something he or she can use.

Finally, watch out for your neighbor. If you see a suspicious person lurking around, in the parking lot or the neighborhood, let them know, or let the police or sheriff's department know.

Have a wonderful holiday season. Don't let it be spoiled by someone whose spirits are not as bright as your own.

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

I urge Herald readers to contact U.S. Rep. Charles Stenholm on the subject of impeachment. CNN reported this morning that he is undecided how he will vote next Thursday. If you believe the President of our

country needs to follow the laws of the United States of America, I urge you to tell Rep. Stenholm you expect him to vote for impeachment. Rep. Stenholm's phone is 202-225-6605.

CAROL OWEN
BIG SPRING

How To Contact Us

In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you can contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail at either bsherald@xroadstx.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.

LETTER POLICIES

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- 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.

There is just no debating some issues

There is no debating some issues: abortion, the death penalty, the Vietnam War. No amount of argument or evidence will persuade those who hold one view to change their minds to the opposite position. Opponents simply start from different premises, and it is impossible to reconcile the differences. A fetus is either a separate, unique human being deserving of the same protection the Constitution affords every other person, or it is a dependent mass of cells within a woman's body over which she has total control -- and so on. The debater's simply talk past each other, with no hope of moving their opponents.



LINDA CHAVEZ

The impeachment of President Clinton is that kind of issue. Few minds will change as members of the

House of Representatives debate articles of impeachment this week, because the two sides aren't talking about the same set of facts. One side believes that the president of the United States committed perjury and obstructed justice in order to cover up evidence that he solicited sexual favors from subordinates in the workplace. The other side believes that the president simply tried to conceal information about a private, consensual relationship that, no matter how tawdry, ought to be no one's business but his own. It is as if the two sides are describing entirely different circumstances.

How can perceptions of the same events be so different, indeed almost diametrically opposed? It is because these perceptions reflect two nearly opposite sets of moral presumptions.

Those who favor impeachment believe that the president broke the law, period. The law itself, they believe, is unambiguous. The oath administered before a defendant testifies in a civil or criminal proceeding commits the defendant to tell "the truth, the whole truth,

and nothing but the truth," as clear and complete a directive as imaginable. If a defendant explicitly lies or says he doesn't remember something when he does, he has violated the oath. If he encourages others to lie as well, he has compounded his crime.

But those who oppose impeachment adopt a far more malleable view of the law -- civil, criminal and moral. The law itself is not fixed but relative.

Whether someone has truly broken the law depends not solely on what the law says but, more importantly, what the accused's motives were and what other circumstances might have mitigated the actions of the accused. In this view, Bill Clinton lied under oath, but his lie was justified because it was about sex. To paraphrase historian Arthur Schlesinger, who testified on behalf of the president: Everyone lies about sex. The moral relativists have gone beyond the admonition "He who is without sin cast the first stone" to insist that since we are all sinners, sin itself no longer exists.

Although there may be some ambivalence about these matters among some people, which is why Democrats have embraced censure as an alternative "punishment" of the president, in fact, a chasm exists between the two sides. Censure, after all, carries no penalty -- a non-punishment for a non-crime.

The polls suggest that most Americans take the moral relativists' view, which should hardly be surprising given the state of American culture today.

It is no accident that the United States suffers one of the highest divorce rates, out-of-wedlock birth rates and violent-crime rates in the world. We have long ago given up on moral absolutes.

The vote to impeach President Clinton on Thursday will not change any minds. What it will do is put the authority of one democratic institution on the side of one or the other in the great cultural divide that already exists among the people.

More important than what this vote will decide about the fate of Bill Clinton is what influence it will have on the fate of the American people.



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Apocalyptic predictions on Y2K

Somebody asked me if the Y2K problem is as serious as some folks say it is. Well, I don't know, but I'm not worried about it.



CHARLEY REESE

I make it a rule not to worry about things I can do nothing about; so much less will I worry about things I do not even understand.

As best I can figure it, the Y2K problem is that older computers cannot write the year "2000." Frankly that doesn't strike me as all that big of a problem for most of us.

It will be a colossal pain of the type for which aspirin is not usually prescribed for big business and big government simply because of the expense of fixing it.

Anything that is going to cost business a lot of money is usually described by them as a disaster.

I do not see, however, how the inability of a computer to write the year 2000 is going to cause the collapse of civilization as we know it, as some people are forecasting. I've noticed, however, that the peo-

ple forecasting the collapse of civilization due to Y2K are the same people who have been forecasting the collapse of civilization as we know it for one reason or another for as long as I've been aware of their existence.

Some people are addicted to apocalyptic forecasts, and it is usually those in the survival goods business. Heaven knows it would take a disaster of biblical proportions to persuade any sensible person to buy a 12-months' supply of that awful-tasting freeze-dried food or to pay inflated prices for gold coins.

Nevertheless, 30 years of dire forecasts and apocalyptic predictions notwithstanding, we have not yet been ravaged by runaway inflation; Soviet missiles buried off our shores have not incinerated us; Soviet divisions hidden in the Mexican desert have not poured across the Rio Grande; evil men in the Kremlin have not changed the weather and caused a new ice age; etc., etc. and so forth. You name a predicted disaster, and it hasn't appeared. I expect Y2K will be similarly disappointing to those who yearn for the end of civilization as we know it.

I don't wish to rain on anybody's parade, but on average, human life is a whole lot less eventful and much duller than your average explosion film.

Our food supply is not dependent on computers. Farmers

may use computers to keep their books, but food is grown the old-fashioned way -- planting seeds, watering and fertilizing, weeding and harvesting. Doesn't matter diddly whether a computer can or can't write 2000. It isn't computer bugs farmers have to contend with. It's the real ones with little legs and wings and other wiggly parts.

A lot of what computers do in the modern world has nothing to do with dates. Most of the Y2K problems will be basically in accounting, it seems to me. And a lot of what is done in the world is not computer-dependent. If stockbrokers, the IRS and bankers have to tear their hair out and lose sleep, well, I don't want to seem un-Christian, but so what?

If my computer ever tells me, "Sorry, old chap, but I can't write 2000." I'll just say, "Don't sweat it, old chap. Just leave the space blank and I'll write in the date."

To save everyone an e-mail, I already know I'm computer-illiterate, and I don't care and do not wish to be educated on this topic. If you want to chew your nails about Y2K, be my guest. I do know humans are pretty darn good at coping. Whatever happens, we folks will do what folks gotta do as folks always have -- for millenniums.

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



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Gene therapy builds strong muscles in laboratory mouse study

WASHINGTON (AP) — Old mice injected with new genes developed youthful muscles in a laboratory experiment, but researchers cautioned that more study is needed before the technique could be used safely in humans.

The experiment, by researchers at the University of Pennsylvania Medical Center, showed that old mice gained 27 percent of the muscle lost to age when they were injected with a gene that prompts muscle, cell growth.

The younger mice, the gain was about 15 percent, Dr. H. Lee Sweeney, the study's senior author, said Monday.

Before the technique is ready for humans, however, there are both ethical and safety questions to be resolved, Sweeney said.

For athletes, he said, the technique could be the "perfect

performance enhancer." "You build muscle mass and strength even without exercise," said Sweeney. "And it is not detectable in the blood."

Olympic athletes are routinely tested for drugs that artificially improve strength and performance. Most such drugs are now outlawed.

The safety issue arises because the same gene that causes muscles to grow can also cause the overgrowth of unwanted cells.

"Abnormal growth could be a

health risk," said Sweeney. "For instance, you wouldn't want your heart to grow larger."

Nonetheless, the experimental gene therapy offers the promise of correcting one of the major problems of aging — muscle feebleness, the researcher said.

Some experts estimate that humans lose 10 percent of their muscle strength and mass each decade after the age of 50.

Weakness from old age can cause falls, broken bones and loss of the ability to walk or

care for oneself.

This feebleness may be caused because the muscles stop making a protein called insulin-like growth factor-1, or IGF-1, which causes new cells to grow.

In muscle tissue, that protein sends a signal to satellite cells, which are immature cells within the muscle tissue. The signal turns the satellite cells into functional muscle cells, which then replace damaged or weak tissue.

Without the IGF-1 signal, muscle cells that wear out or

become injured are not replaced and a person becomes weaker.

To deliver the growth factor gene, the researchers used what is called an adeno-associated virus. The scientists first stripped the virus of any genes that would cause disease, then inserted the gene for the growth factor.

When it was injected into mouse muscle, the altered virus quickly infected nearby cells, delivering the growth factor gene but causing no other infection.

Once in place, the new gene caused the muscles to make IGF-1, which, in turn, led to more muscles.

Mice used in the experiment were two, 18 and 24 months old. Sweeney said the 24-month-old mice are considered elderly for the rodents, aged at about the rodent equivalent of an 80-year-old human.

The gene therapy worked only in the muscles directly receiving the injection. Sweeney said it would take scores of injections to treat every muscle.

GM names woman to run Saturn

WINDSOR, Mich. (AP) — General Motors Corp. customers will be pleased to see a woman at the helm of the General Motor's subsidiary, which will be run by a woman, GM officials said Monday.

GM officials said Monday that on Dec. 15, Virginia M. Trudell will succeed Harold W. Hudler as president of the Spring Hill, Tenn., company.

Trudell, president of a GM subsidiary in England, is believed to be the first woman picked to run a GM subsidiary company.

Trudell is a Canadian operations manager at Ford Motor Co. in the U.S. "I believe she will be a real force with her experience from Saturn's Spring Hill plant," GM officials said.

Trudell's appointment is a sign of GM's commitment to diversity in the market. "We have a strong tradition of diversity," said Noble of GM's Human Resources in Santa Ana, Calif.

Women now make up 53.6 percent of GM's employees, their percentage has risen. Plus, women make up 40 percent of Saturn employees, he said.

Trudell's appointment helps to make GM's vehicles are designed with women in mind, and the company's experience is designed with women in mind," said Trudell. The Cabinet of CSM is based in Southfield, Mich.

Trudell is more likely to understand the customer," said analyst Lapidus of Sanford C. Bernstein in New York. But, he added, it's more important for GM to make products people want.

Trudell has been criticized by some analysts for sticking to a line of small cars. "Consumer demand is shifting to larger trucks and sport utility vehicles. Saturn's sales are down 10 percent this year," he said.

The company does have a sport utility vehicle and will be launching its first midsize sedan and wagon in Washington next year, but will have a sport utility vehicle in 2001.

Trudell is not coming into an easy job to be," said Noble. "The stagnant segment of the GM's current bent toward centralization, she's got to get out for her."

Trudell called it "an exciting challenge" at Saturn, which she said is "open for growth and has a potent force in the small car market."

Trudell, 45, started her career at GM's chemical process division in Windsor, Ontario, and joined GM in 1981 as senior engineering supervisor at the Windsor Transmission Plant.

She rose within the ranks and was plant manager of the Wilmington Assembly Plant in Wilmington, Del., where Saturn will produce its new midsize L-series models.

Most recently, Trudell was president of IBC Vehicles in Windsor, which produces four-wheel drive vehicles.

Trudell will become the chief executive of Saturn Retail Enterprises. The Charlotte, N.C. company, which will start with 29 dealerships, will be run by Trudell and her team.

SEARS STOREWIDE SALE



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and shirts

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fleece separates

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juniors' collections

save 25-40%
selected juniors'
Canyon River Blues® jeans

gifts for him
save 50%
nylon and fleece sets

save 50%
flannel shirts

save 50%
turtlenecks

save 50%
Canyon River Blues®
woven shirts

save 50%
corduroy pants

save 40%
gloves and mufflers

save 40%
flannel pjs and boxers

save 30-50%
team apparel

gifts for kids
save 50%
nylon and fleece sets

save 50%
flannel shirts

save 50%
girls' 7-16 overalls

save 30-50%
team apparel

save 40%
packaged blanket
sleepers

save 30%
turtlenecks

footwear
save 25%
entire stock of
women's shoes

save 25%
select athletic
shoes for men,
women and kids

save 25%
select kids'
dress shoes

save 25%
select kids'
casual shoes

save 25%
select men's
casual shoes

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IN BRIEF

Lady Hawks boosters to meet on Thursday

The Lady Steers Booster Club will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday at the Big Spring High School athletic training center.

Those interested in the Lady Steers athletic teams, cheerleaders, managers and trainers are urged to attend.

Lady Steers freshmen suffer loss at Monahans

Big Spring's Lady Steers freshmen saw their record dip to 6-5 overall Monday night with a 37-33 loss to Monahans' young Lady Lobos.

The Lady Steers fell short despite Dena Cook's nine points and the seven-point performances of Jessica Woodward and Ashley Larson. In addition, Woodward pulled down 11 rebounds.

Big Spring's freshmen will play host to Crane at 4:30 p.m. Monday at Steer Gym.

Lady Mavericks split games with Sweetwater

Goliad Middle School's Lady Mavericks managed a split with Sweetwater's seventh-grade Lady Mustangs on Monday night.

The Lady Mavs "A" team took a 52-12 win over Sweetwater's "A" squad, while the "B" team dropped a 29-18 decision.

Kim Maves paced the Lady Mavs "A" win with 20 points, while Leina Braxton chipped in 16 more. Green also led the way defensively with nine steals, followed by Erica Stewart's six thefts. Stewart added five offensive assists.

Big Spring's top scorer in the "B" team's loss was Lindsay Wilks, who finished with eight points, while Karissa Magers and Brittney Roney each had four.

Lady Yearlings post split in Sweetwater twinbill

Runnels Junior High School's Lady Yearlings split a pair of games against Sweetwater's eighth-grade Lady Mustangs, taking the "A" game with a lopsided 51-7 romp, while dropping the "B" game 37-22.

Christina Gwyn paced the Lady Yearlings with 17 points in the "A" team's big win, while Ashley Tuttle added 10 more.

In the "B" team's loss, Sidney Rojas paced Runnels with five points, while Rachel Wester and Alicia Brunson each added four.

The Lady Yearlings now take a break for the holidays before returning to action Jan. 11.

Youth basketball league now holding registration

The Big Spring Youth Basketball Association is currently registering youngsters for league play at the Big Spring Mall.

The league is open to boys and girls in the first through sixth grades. All games will be played on Saturdays at Runnels Junior High School.

Registration at the mall will be from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. In addition, youngsters can register at Neal's Sporting Goods during business hours throughout the week.

A fee of \$20 is required for each participant in the league. The deadline is Friday.

For more information, call Charlie Hall at 263-0159, Duane Murphree at 394-4557 or Rick Watkins at 267-2358.

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.

ON THE AIR

TODAY:
7 p.m. — St. Louis Blues at Dallas Stars, ESPN, Ch 30.

49ers have no trouble in taking 35-13 win over Lions

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Barry Sanders pursed his lips as he watched Garrison Hearst dart again through Detroit's defense.

This wasn't expected: Sanders should have been racking up yards against the San Francisco 49ers' defense, undermanned after the loss of injured tackle Bryant Young.

Instead, the Lions' normally brilliant running back was frustrated on the sideline as he watched Hearst rush 24 times for 198 yards, including a 5-yard scoring dash, in the 49ers' 35-13 victory Monday night.

Hearst broke San Francisco's record for rushing yards, surpassing Delvin Williams, who had 194 on Dec. 31, 1976, against St. Louis. When the new record was announced on the video scoreboard

near the end of the game, the sellout crowd chanted Hearst's name and teammates offered hugs and congratulations.

Sanders, meanwhile, ended the game by sprinting alone to the locker room, his head bowed. He finished with 14 carries for just 28 yards.

"This is what we practiced for. We practiced to slow them up," 49ers free safety Merton Hanks said. "Obviously you don't expect to hold Barry to under 100 yards."

Even 49ers quarterback Steve Young outrushed Sanders, with 10 carries for 66 yards — including a 9-yard touchdown run. Through the air, Young was 12-of-18 for 82 yards and a touchdown pass to Terrell Owens.

"For us to throw for less than 100 yards is very uncharacteristic," San Francisco

coach Steve Mariucci said. "But the run worked for us, so we stayed with it."

The 49ers set a team record with 328 rushing yards, breaking the team record of 324 yards against Minnesota in 1961.

In addition to Hearst's touchdown, Terry Kirby scored on runs of 1 and 31 yards for the 49ers (11-3).

Frank Reich, who replaced injured starter Charlie Batch, was 18-of-35 for 281 yards for the Lions (5-9). He threw for two touchdowns, both in the final quarter: a 24-yard pass to Herman Moore and a 3-yarder to David Sloan.

At halftime, Hearst already had 127 yards, his career-high fifth 100-yard game of the season. He has scored a touchdown in each of his five career Monday night games.

"My thing is just to do what I can for

my team," Hearst said. "I can't control what Barry does. Like everybody else, I enjoy watching him play. I just do what I can for my team."

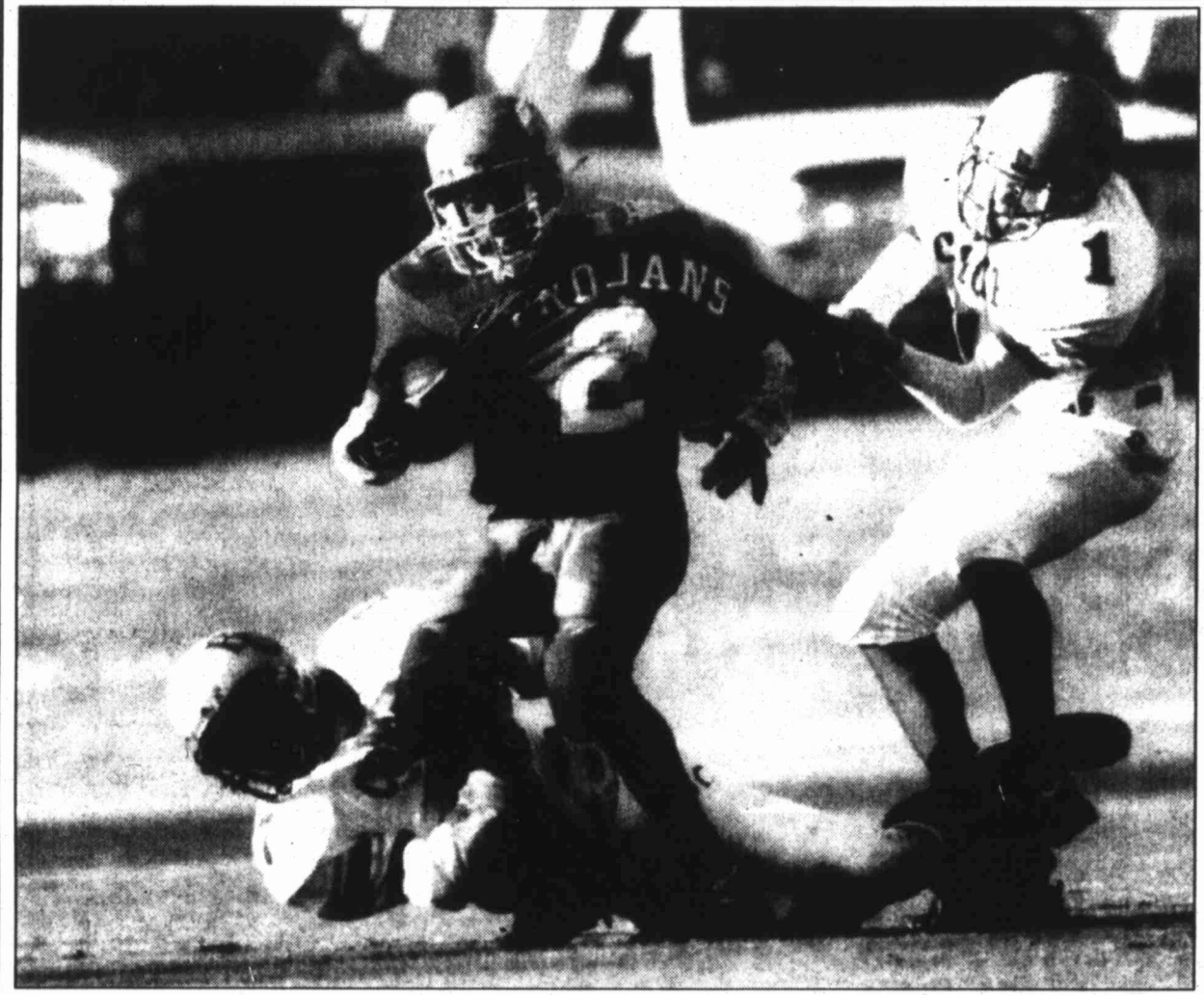
Sanders, meanwhile, was gentlemanly in the loss, complimenting Hearst.

"He's had a great year," Sanders said of his counterpart. "He's made a lot of great runs and deserves some credit."

The 49ers took a 21-0 lead at halftime. After Hearst's touchdown run with 4:41 left in the first quarter, Terry Kirby leaped for a 1-yard touchdown midway through the second.

Young hit Owens with a 1-yard scoring pass with just more than a minute to play before halftime.

The Lions lost Batch after a collision with Chris Doleman with 6:09 left in the second quarter.



Trinidad running star Damien Jackson (2) attempts to pull away from Borden County's Joseph Hardman (1) and Colt Miller (17) during Saturday's six-man state championship game in Glen Rose. Jackson, who along with Borden County's Colt McCook leads the list of finalists for the Texas Football Magazine/Fox Sports Southwest six-man player of the year award, led the Trojans to a 62-16 win over the Coyotes.

Winter meetings end with Clemens still in Jays' fold

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Edgar Renteria, Butch Huskey and Brant Brown found new homes. And the Toronto Blue Jays are going home — without trading Roger Clemens.

The winter meetings produced more than a half-dozen deals Monday, plus this juicy tidbit: Heisman Trophy winner Ricky Williams was picked by Montreal in the major league draft, though he may be headed to the Texas Rangers.

Yet there was absolutely no movement for another University of Texas star athlete. Clemens is coveted by nine teams, and the Blue Jays were planning to leave the Opryland Hotel tonight.

"There's no chance it will happen here," Clemens' agent, Randy Hendricks, promised.

The big deal of the day came shortly before midnight when the Florida Marlins traded Renteria, their "All-Star" shortstop and here of the 1997 World Series, to the St. Louis Cardinals for three top prospects.

Also, the New York Mets traded outfielder Butch Huskey to Seattle, the Chicago Cubs dealt outfielder Brant Brown to Pittsburgh for pitcher Jon Lieber. St. Louis sent pitcher Mark Petkovsek to Anaheim and Minnesota moved outfielder Alex Ochoa to Milwaukee.

A couple of free-agent catchers signed — Bill Haselman with Detroit and Chad Kreuter with Kansas City.

In off-the-field activity, general managers made no change to the playoff format. Some had been in favor of allowing wild cards to face their own division's winner in the first round.

The New York Yankees, Houston and Cleveland remained at the top of the list of teams pursuing Clemens, with Texas, Colorado and the Mets also in the mix.

"All is quiet," said Blue Jays GM Gord Ash, who had wanted to finish a deal for the five-time Cy Young winner at the meetings. "We've had a few minor conversations, not anything of any significant substance."

As is often the case, the World Series champion Yankees remained a wild card. Owner George Steinbrenner likes Clemens, but has not indicated whether he wants to give up the necessary players and cash to complete a trade. The Boss

might make his intentions known by the weekend.

The Marlins acquired minor league pitchers Braden Loper and Armando Almanza and shortstop Pablo Ozuna for Renteria, 23. The deal left Florida with just four players from its 25-man roster that won the championship last year.

"This is a deal we've been talking about for quite a while," Cardinals general manager Walt Jocketty said. "We think we got the No. 1 guy we wanted."

Renteria ended the '97 Series with a two-out single off Cleveland's Charles Nagy in the bottom of the 11th inning of Game 7, giving Florida a 3-2 victory.

Renteria hit .282 with three home runs and 31 RBIs, and also stole 41 bases. He fills the hole created July 31 when the Cardinals sent shortstop Royce Clayton to Texas.

Looper, 24, was the overall third pick in the June 1996 draft. Ozuna, 20, hit a league-leading .357, stole 62 bases and was picked as the Midwest League player of the year, and Almanza led the Carolina League with 36 saves in 1997.

The Mets, already one of the majors' most active teams this winter, sent Huskey to Seattle for minor league pitcher Lesli Brea.

Huskey, 27, hit .252 with 13 home runs and 59 RBIs last season. "I was prepared for this, but it's still a shock," said Huskey, who joined the Mets organization in 1990. "They made a decision and I was the odd man out."

Huskey will play right field for the Mariners and take the place of Jay Buhner, moving to first base because of a surgically repaired elbow.

Brea, a 20-year-old right-hander, was 3-4 with 12 saves and 2.76 ERA in 49 games for Class A Wisconsin in the Midwest League.

Another minor leaguer with impressive numbers attracted attention in the draft of players left off 40-man rosters.

At first, there was hardly a ripple in the room when Montreal announced it had taken Erick L. Williams. As many soon found out, that was really Ricky Williams, the Heisman winner and a cousin of Cecil Fielder.

December dive? Cowboys in another late season swoon

IRVING (AP) — The Dallas Cowboys aren't playing offense, defense or special teams. It's a December dive with the ground coming up fast.

When Dallas lost its last five games last season, Barry Switzer was swept out of Valley Ranch. Now new coach Chan Gailey is trying to find a way to revive a team that was coasting to the NFC East title before losing three straight.

"We're not playing well right now," Gailey said Monday. "But there is no doubt in my mind we can turn it around."

Dallas, fresh off a 20-17 loss to Kansas City, finishes the season with back-to-back games against Philadelphia and Washington. A victory in either game or an Arizona loss to either New Orleans or San Diego would clinch the sixth NFC East title in seven years for the Cowboys.

After studying the tapes of the loss to the Chiefs, Gailey said he was pleased with the effort.

"We did play hard, although

we didn't exactly get things done," Gailey said. "That was a positive to me."

Last December, the team wasn't playing all-out for Switzer.

The Cowboys' problems are many, including injuries. Cornerbacks Deion Sanders and Kevin Smith, tight end David LaFleur and backup running back Chris Warren missed the Kansas City game with injuries.

Dallas hasn't been able to run the ball for three weeks. The defense can't tackle.

And, on Sunday, the special teams joined the bad play department by allowing a blocked punt for the first time since 1989 and compounded that by losing a fumble on a punt return.

"The blocked punt was caused by a miscommunication," Gailey said.

Gailey said another problem is that the Cowboys can't run or stop the run.

"We had a bout earlier in the year where we couldn't tackle, but we got out of it," Gailey

said. "Now, we're back to it again."

Dallas only has 117 yards rushing in its last three games.

"We're not getting the yards we got earlier in the year," Gailey said. "We have to do some things differently."

Quarterback Troy Aikman said the Cowboys need to do a lot of things differently.

"If ever we're going to have a sense of urgency it should be in the next two weeks," Aikman said.

"This December is different than last year because this time we have a different attitude and atmosphere. It's painful the way we've been playing and we've got to battle through the tough times."

Dallas got some good medical news regarding wide receiver Michael Irvin, who suffered a back injury during the Kansas City game.

An MRI showed Irvin had just a deep bruise. He was expected to play Sunday against the Eagles.

Little to celebrate at NBA Christmas party

NEW YORK (AP) — There was little to celebrate when the NBA threw its annual Christmas party while the lockout claimed more games, threatened more jobs and was on the verge of costing the players another paycheck.

Commissioner David Stern attended the party Monday at the new NBA Store, which was closed to the public for almost four hours in another "lockout" of sorts.

The real lockout entered its 168th day today, and 287 games have been canceled in a dispute between owners and players on how to divide \$2 billion in revenue. Today is the third missed payday for the players.

Since the lockout began, more than 100 employees have left the league office, cutting the staff to about 750.

Spokesman Brian McIntyre said all the workers left voluntarily, and Stern said some of the remaining employees could face layoffs if the season is canceled.

The league has had a hiring freeze and payroll freeze since July 1, and Stern has not been drawing his salary.

"We're still hoping to make a deal, so we haven't contemplated that yet. But obviously that would affect the situation dramatically," Stern said.

"Right now, we're 125 positions reduced from where we were in June through attrition and the elimination of part-time work and the like," Stern said. "We're achieving very successful cutbacks without mandating layoffs."

A constant throng of holiday shoppers stopped outside the

new NBA Store on Fifth Avenue, but they were turned away by a pair of league employees standing guard at the door.

The store, which sells a variety of basketball merchandise, was closed to the public from 2:15 p.m. until about 6 p.m. for the NBA office party.

"I was going to buy a shirt for my son, but I can't because they are closed," said Robert Gambardella, an electrician from Staten Island. "They must be having a good year in order to close the store. Why didn't they just have it after hours?"

Almost all league employees have been instructed not to speak to the media regarding the lockout. However, a handful said they were not concerned about having to find employment elsewhere.

Bulldogs romp to easy 78-45 win over Midland Christian

HERALD Staff Report

MIDLAND — Coahoma's Bulldogs continued their return to form Monday night, having little trouble in improving their record to 10-2 on the season with a 78-45 win over Midland Christian's Mustangs.

The Bulldogs, who saw senior guard Ryan Peckham score a game and season-high 33 points, jumped out to an early lead and parlayed that into a 24-9 edge going into the second period.

By halftime the Bulldogs owned a 40-22 edge and returned from the intermission and ignited another run, putting all doubt to rest by outscoring the Mustangs 22-10 in the third period and taking a 30-point lead into the final eight minutes of play.

In addition to Peckham's 33 points, forward Blake Nichols added 22 points to the Bulldog total, while Kris Harding chipped in seven points and Michael Kinard had six.

In junior varsity action Monday, the young Bulldogs got 17 points from Mario Garcia and another dozen from Tony Tucker in posting a 53-46 win.

The Bulldogs will play host to Rotan's Yellowhammers Friday night. Varsity girls' action will begin at 6:30, following with the boys' game at 8.

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JACOB HU
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averaged 48
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JASON RU
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QUARTERBA
CHAVIS M
— Broke CI
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coach says 1
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DUSTIN E
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NAT GREI
1,679; 22 TD
DANTE HU
1,661, 16 TD
KICKER
CHRIS BA
PATS, 5 Fgs.
pts.
OFFENSE
McCollister, 1
DEFENSE
LINEMEN
JEREMY EI
71 tackles, 1
JAMES EG
118 tackles,
TD), 12 tackl
MATT FANI
les, 14 sack
caused, three
146 yds
DEON HOI
leads team in
LINEBACKER
SCOTT BE
tackles on de
JASON CAI
— 48 solo,
INT, forced 3
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(tie) RUSTI
158 tackles, 1
recoveries, 5
(tie) DILLO
114 tackles, 1
fumbles caus
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DEFENSIVE B
TRAVIS CL
116 tackles,
CLINTON A
154 tackles,
forced fumble
RUBEN RA
tackles, 4 INT
picks, 4.4
MIKE DROZ
tie, 4 INTs re
PUNTER
BRIAN STA
42.3 avg on 1
50, six inside
DEFENSE
Bishop, 104
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OL COLLIN
290
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OL LANNY I
OL TOM RO
OL GREG V
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E JAMAICA
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RB JERRY J
RB ZACK
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DL JOSH CI
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DL KYLE N
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DL JOSH RR
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LB JAMAL H
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DB JEFF FR
DB ERIC BEA
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Ramon Fuer
Ridge, Roman H
Gruber, B.J. K
Kola, Justin Med
Sudan, Michael
Mullie, Marlo
Sundate, Alvor
Stiefek, Granger
LINEBACKERS
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Tenaha's McCollister repeats as Class 1A offensive player of year

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

The best offensive player in Class 1A is Tenaha's Chavis McCollister — again.

The do-it-all senior who has led his team into the finals for the second time in three seasons was named Monday the Associated Press Sports Editors' 1A offensive player of the year for the second straight season.

The 5-foot-7, 195-pound McCollister also was voted first-team quarterback for a second straight year, even though he spent much of the season at running back after undergoing surgery to repair ligaments on his right (throwing) thumb. He still set class records

for career passing yards and touchdowns.

Joining McCollister on the all-state team was defensive lineman Deon Horton, the team's leading tackler.

The Tigers (15-0) play last year's state runnerup Wheeler (12-2) in the finals Saturday night. A matchup to watch may be Horton vs. Ben Britt, Wheeler's top offensive lineman and only first-team selection.

The ninth annual APSE team was chosen by sportswriters around the state, based on players' regular-season performance. Nominees were selected during the season and balloting was conducted during the playoffs.

When the regular season ended,

Tenaha was right where it began — at No. 1 in the AP poll. McCollister was a big reason.

"He's done it all," coach Raymond Jackson said. "He's a tremendous leader. What he says goes. He's a complete ballplayer."

McCollister was injured while trying to make a tackle on defense. He landed on the thumb and hyperextended it. With the help of a cast and a position change, McCollister didn't miss a game. He also continued punting, earning honorable mention at that position.

McCollister was a four-year starter for Tenaha, leading the team to the playoffs each year. The Tigers were eliminated in the first round his fresh-

man year, lost to Windthorst in the finals his sophomore season and was eliminated by Granger in the regional finals last year. Granger went on to beat Wheeler for the 1A title.

"If there's one thing about him that stands out, I'd have to say it's the way he practices. He likes it," Jackson said. "He's very competitive, very intense. He hates to lose."

Running back Dante Hailey of Frost was the only other returning member of the first team. He's joined in the backfield by Nat Green of Runge and Dustin Bookout of Era.

Other Era players chosen were Matt Fanning at defensive line and Dillon Wilson at linebacker.

Wortham, which went 10-0 in the regular season, also placed three players on the first team: offensive lineman Shawn Armstrong, defensive lineman James Eggins and linebacker Ruben Randle.

The defensive player of the year was Scott Bishop of Iola. The senior linebacker made 176 tackles on a defense that allowed 7 points per game while going 9-0 and finishing the year No. 2 in the AP poll.

Teammate Jacob Hager was picked at offensive line. Other linemen include John Aldama of Mildred and Patrick Cypher of Gorman.

The ends are Corey Pick of Kopperl and Jason Ruple of Charlotte.

CLASS 1A ALL-STATE

The Class A All-State high school football team, released Monday, as voted on by The Associated Press Sports Editors based on regular-season performance:

OFFENSE

QUARTERBACK

RUNNING BACKS

KICKER

DEFENSE

LINEMEN

DEFENSIVE BACKS

PUNTER

SECOND TEAM

OFFENSE

QUARTERBACK

RUNNING BACKS

KICKER

DEFENSE

LINEMEN

DEFENSIVE BACKS

PUNTER

SECOND TEAM

OFFENSE

QUARTERBACK

RUNNING BACKS

KICKER

DEFENSE

LINEMEN

DEFENSIVE BACKS

PUNTER

SECOND TEAM

OFFENSE

QUARTERBACK

RUNNING BACKS

KICKER

DEFENSE

LINEMEN

DEFENSIVE BACKS

PUNTER

SECOND TEAM

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PUNTER

SECOND TEAM

OFFENSE

Kansas State's Bill Snyder voted AP Coach of the Year

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

It takes a massive dose of self-confidence for a man to believe he can succeed where so many others have failed.

So what made Bill Snyder think he could succeed at Kansas State?

"I think you'd have to have some confidence to make a decision like that," Snyder said. "But for me, the decision was not that difficult and the rea-

soning behind it was pretty simple. I was impressed with the people here, and have been to this day."

After leaving the security of his offensive coordinator post at Iowa in 1989, Snyder never wavered in his plan of building up the Wildcats slowly and patiently.

"Our goal is always the same — to be better today than we were yesterday," he said. "In his 10th season at Kansas

State, the Wildcats (11-1) came close to achieving what had seemed beyond their wildest dreams. But a double-overtime loss to Texas A&M in the Big 12 championship game on Dec. 5 cost them a shot at No. 1 Tennessee in the Fiesta Bowl, sending them all the way down to the Alamogordo to face unranked Purdue.

It was a bitter blow to a team and a loyal legion of fans. But it did not prevent Snyder from

being named The Associated Press' first College Coach of the Year.

"I've been in this business a long time," Snyder said, "and I accept this award on behalf of the players and assistants and administrators in this program. It has been an emotional season."

Snyder, a runaway winner for Big 12 coach of the year, collected 37 of the 143 votes in the AP balloting, edging Tennessee's

Phillip Fulmer, who had 35 votes. Tommy Bowden, who coached Tulane to a perfect season before leaving for Clemson, was third with 29 votes.

Arkansas' Houston Nutt was fourth with 14 votes and Wisconsin's Barry Alvarez fifth with seven votes.

Snyder is always quick to deflect credit for what Kansas State fans call "the greatest turnaround in the history of college football."

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HOW TO PLAY

Select a winner from each of the week's games, listed below. Select in descending order of your CONFIDENCE in your choices. Win points at left for each correct selection toward possible total of 136 points. See complete rules below. You must be at least 8 (eight) years old to enter. To enter, clip along dotted line, then place game entry in POWER POINTS container at co-sponsor's retail outlet(s). Entrants must list name, address and phone number below.

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TIEBREAKER 1 Total points scored (both teams) in COWBOYS game.

TIEBREAKER 2 Total offensive yards (both teams) in this game.

136 TOTAL POINTS

Name _____

Address _____

City, State (zip) _____

Day Phone () _____

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POWER POINTS OFFICIAL RULES

- Object of the game is to amass as many of the 136 possible points as you can. Simply review the week's schedule of games, listed on entry form, and decide which game you are SUREST of picking a winner in. Write the name of your projected winner on the 16-point line. If that team wins its game that week, you win 16 points. Write the name of your second-surest winner on the 15-point line, and so on down to the 1-point line, which game you figure to be a toss-up. Next, fill in Tiebreaker 1, the total points scored by both teams in the week's designated game. If this step fails to produce a winner, the judges will apply Tiebreaker 2, total offensive yardage from scrimmage in this game. If a winner still doesn't emerge, a drawing will be held among those contestants still tied. Decisions of the judges are final. The weekly statewide winner of the contest will receive \$1,000.
- Any entry form that does not contain a legible name, address, etc., will be disqualified.
- Entries that fail to forecast a winner from each and every game will be disqualified, as will entries that fail to distinguish between the Jets and Giants of New York.
- No points are awarded on tie games or in case any game is not played for any reason during its scheduled week.
- Entering POWER POINTS constitutes permission by contestant for his or her name and photograph to be used for news and reasonable promotional purposes at no charge.
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- Weekly deadline for entry will be 2 p.m. Fridays except when noted otherwise on weekly entry form.
- Neither this newspaper nor any co-sponsor will be responsible for illegible entry forms or those lost, stolen or damaged in any way.
- Limit: one entry per person per week. Each entry must represent the original work of one entrant; "group" entries, "systems" or other attempts to enter multiple entries will be disqualified. Filing out extra forms and putting your friends' and relatives' names on them violates this rule. Any such entries are destroyed prior to grading.
- Contestants must have reached the age of eight (8) years by the Sunday of any week's play.

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TUESDAY

DEC. 15

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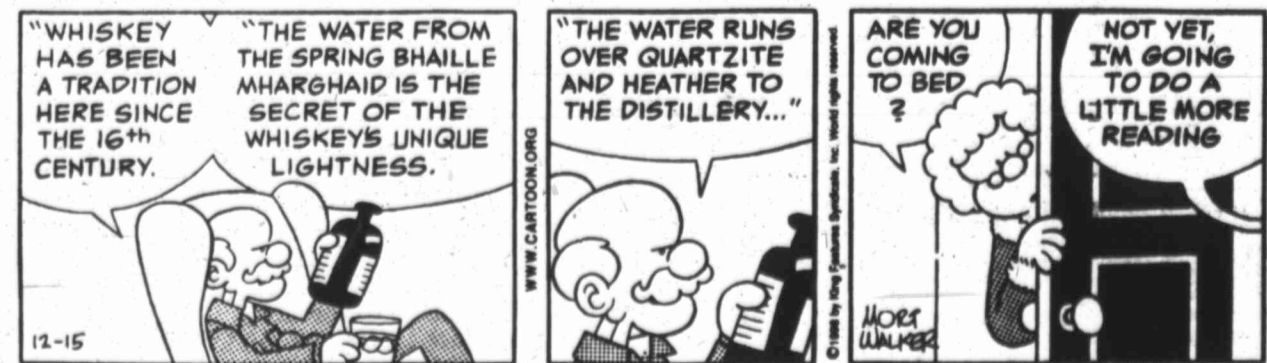
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THIS DATE IN HISTORY

16 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Dec. 15, 1791, the first ten amendments to the U.S. Constitution - the Bill of Rights - went into effect following ratification by Virginia.

THE Daily Crossword

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words.

1890, Sioux Indian Chief Sitting Bull and 11 other tribe members were killed in Grand River, S.D., during a fracas with Indian police.

In 1916, the French defeated the Germans in the World War I Battle of Verdun.

In 1938, groundbreaking ceremonies for the Jefferson Memorial took place in Washington, D.C.

In 1939, the motion picture "Gone With the Wind" had its world premiere in Atlanta.

In 1944, a single-engine plane carrying band leader Glenn Miller, an Army Air Force major, disappeared over the English Channel while en route to Paris.

In 1948, former State Department official Alger Hiss was indicted by a federal grand jury in New York on charges of perjury.

In 1961, former Nazi official Adolf Eichmann was sentenced to death by an Israeli court.

In 1964, Canada's House of Commons approved dropping the "Red Ensign" flag in favor of a new design.

In 1965, two U.S. manned spacecraft, Gemini VI and Gemini VII, maneuvered within 10 feet of each other while in orbit.

In 1966, movie producer Walt Disney died in Los Angeles.

In 1978, President Carter announced he would grant diplomatic recognition to Communist China on New Year's Day and sever official relations with Taiwan.

Ten years ago: U.S. Ambassador Robert H. Pelletreau Jr. telephoned the PLO's headquarters in Tunisia, one day after President Reagan authorized direct talks.

Five years ago: Defense Secretary Les Aspin announced his resignation, citing "personal reasons." In Geneva, 117 countries completed the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, agreeing on a reform package intended to jump-start the global economy.

One year ago: Over Republican objections, President Clinton appointed Bill Lann Lee acting assistant attorney general for civil rights.

Today's Birthdays: Country singer Ernest Ashworth is 70. Actor-comedian Tim Conway is 66. Singer Cindy Birdsong (The Supremes) is 58. Rock musician Dave Clark (The Dave Clark Five) is 56. Rock musician Carmine Appice (Vanilla Fudge) is 52. Actor Don Johnson is 49.

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