

# BIG SPRING HERALD

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

**THURSDAY**  
January 21, 1999

**Tonight:**



**TONIGHT** **FRIDAY**  
35°-40° 53°-58°

## Spelling Bee date now set

The Howard County Spelling Bee has been set for Tuesday, March 2 at the Howard College Auditorium.

The bee, sponsored by the Big Spring Herald, will include local school winners, who will be chosen in contests at each school in coming weeks. The county-wide contest will be conducted using the official practice book.

Winner of the county-wide bee will go on to compete at the regional bee on March 27 in Lubbock. The winner of that competition goes to the national bee in Washington, D.C., all expenses paid.

For more information about the Howard County Spelling Bee, call Pat Williams at the Herald office, 263-7331.

## WHAT'S UP...

### TODAY

- Rackley-Swords Chp. 379 Vietnam Veterans of America 7 p.m., 124 Jonesboro Road.
- American Legion Post 506, 7 p.m. Call 263-2084.
- Masonic Lodge No. 1340, 7:30 p.m., 2101 Lancaster.

### FRIDAY

- Spring City Senior Citizens country/western dance, 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. All seniors invited.

### SATURDAY

- Eagles Lodge pot luck supper, 7 p.m., Eagles Lodge, 704 W. Third.
- Dance 8:30 p.m., Eagles Lodge, 704 W. Third. Everyone welcome.
- Big Spring Squares call 267-7034 or 263-6305 for more information.
- The Heritage Museum, 510 Scurry, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. A one-time admission fee of \$2 for adults and \$1 for children and senior citizen is encouraged.
- The Potton House, 200 Gregg, a restored historic home, is open from 1-5 p.m. A one-time admission fee of \$2 for adults and \$1 for children and senior citizen is encouraged.

### MONDAY

- Big Spring Evening Lions Club, 6:30 p.m., 1607 E. Third.

### TUESDAY

- Beginning line dance classes, 9 a.m., Senior Citizens Center. Call 267-1628.

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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.

## Chamber banquet to light up Dorothy Garrett Coliseum Friday

By MARSHA STURDIVANT  
Staff Writer

The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce banquet Friday evening promises to be an evening illuminated by enchantment.

"We'll have 1,000 luminarias and the catwalk at the coliseum will also be



NEWTON

lighted," said Terri Newton, chamber vice president. The annual event begins with a social gathering at 6:30 p.m. Friday in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Dinner begins at 7 p.m. and tickets, which are still available from the chamber office, are \$15.

"We're really excited to have R.H. Weaver as master of ceremonies. Mr. Weaver was very active in the chamber several years ago, and we're excited that he's chosen to return with us this night," Newton said.

Keynote speaker for the event will be Big Spring resident Bob Lewis, better known as Tumbleweed Smith. This will be his first opportunity to be the featured speaker at the banquet.

The entire evening, filled with twinkling lights, will begin with the Big Spring Police Department officers presenting colors, she said.

That will be followed by a prayer led by Floyd Green. Then, past president Ray Kennedy will bequeath the reins to this year's president,

Chuck Williams.

Smith's speech will follow Williams', and then Man and Woman of the Year will be announced, she said.

The meal, which will be served buffet style, is catered by Great Western Dining, which provides food service for Howard College.

"They have just been great, and we know this will be a really wonderful meal," Newton said.

The main course, consisting of three different kinds of meat, will be carved and served per table, she said.

"There will be three meats — ham, roast beef, and chicken," she said.

Also on the menu are a variety of vegetables, breads and deserts, she said.

About 500 people are expected to attend. Dress is business or after five, Newton said.

"But I know a lot of people will want to dress up, and that's okay too," she said.

Newton said the banquet committee, Jan Foresyth, Verne Hill, Paulette Mason, Pat Williams and Debbye ValVerde, have worked long hours.

## Big Spring to get some much-needed housing

By BILL McCLELLAN  
News Editor

Big Spring looks to have more than 60 apartments units available this fall as renovations have begun on the old Western Hills Apartments.

The units, perhaps better known as the Sandra Gale Apartments, located at 2911 West U.S. Highway 80, have been purchased by The HLH Companies in San Antonio. Gibbs Maintenance Service of Big Spring is the general contractor.

"We're excited about them coming in and getting something done about these apartments for sure," said Kenny Davis, building official for the City of Big Spring.

Construction began Tuesday. The work will be done in stages, starting with the office area first. The south complex will be finished next, followed by the east portion and then the north portion. When complete, there will be 67 or 68 apartments, Davis said.

"There is a definite demand for affordable housing in Big Spring," said Mark Gentry, Big Spring Housing Authority executive director. Gentry noted that according to the 1990 census, 71 percent of the single-dwelling households in the city were built prior to 1960. Statewide, that average is 28 percent.

"They are going to come in and rehabilitate the property to where again it is usable," Gentry said.



Brad Gibbs, working with Gibbs Remodeling, works to remove old carpet from the Western Hills Apartment complex, which is being refurbished and will provide additional housing in Big Spring.

According to housing statistics, there are as many as 600 inhabited substandard homes and 400 uninhabited below-sub-

standard homes in the city. Many of the old homes were built during the peaks of the World War II and Korean War

eras. In fact, the Western Hills Apartments were former air

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## Housing Authority head committed to the rules

By BILL McCLELLAN  
News Editor

One reason Big Spring has attracted outside developers is because of the obvious need for housing, but another is that developers know Big Spring Housing Authority will stick to the rules, says the executive director.



GENTRY

"We make a commitment to them that we will follow the rules. People who don't play by the rules don't remain in the program," said Mark Gentry, housing authority executive director. "That's important because the owner wants to know that the property will be taken care of."

Renters who damage property, use drugs or commit acts of violence and other offenses can be kicked out of the program for a minimum of three years. In addition, adults who don't keep the property clean, safe and sanitary are also dropped

from the program, said Gentry. Gang activity is not allowed, and soon to be added to the program is a stipulation that parents must make sure their school-aged children attend school.

Background checks are made on each applicant. Routine checks on the physical state of the property area also made, and the housing authority keeps up with complaints, arrests and rules violations.

In turn, the housing authority also ensures that the landlord is keeping his part of the bargain.

"We hold the tenant and the landlord accountable for their contract," said Gentry.

If a landlord fails to fix broken pipes, for instance, in a specified length of time, the authority withholds payment, or can have the repairs made, and deduct the cost from the payment to the owner.

Landlords who repeatedly refuse to make repairs are dropped from the program and residents on housing assistance are relocated.

One program Gentry is focus-

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## Blowing dust today, but nice weekend is forecast

By DEBBIE L. JENSEN  
Features Editor

Despite the high winds and blowing dust forecasters were predicting for today, Big Spring's weather is expected to shape up into another nice weekend.

"We've got a wind warning, and a blowing dust advisory for today," said Brian Curran, forecaster with the National Weather Service in Midland. "But tomorrow, things are going to head back down to normal."

By Saturday, highs in the 60s are expected, climbing to 75 on Sunday and Monday.

"It looks like a nice weekend, unless what you want is rain," Curran said. Snow flurries are predicted in the Panhandle tonight, possibly stretching as far south as Canyon. No precipitation of any kind is expected in the Big Spring area, however, for the foreseeable future. The problem causing today's

weather change is an area of low pressure that began developing over West Texas early today. That's why winds are expected to kick up, blowing dust.

After today's winds, which were expected to top out at 45 miles per hour, Friday's winds should drop back to 20-30 miles per hour. Still, expect some dust to continue to blow Friday, Curran warned.

Friday's high is predicted to hit the upper 50s, starting a warming trend for the weekend.

Afternoon temperatures in the last few days have been some of the warmest in more than a decade, according to local researchers for the USDA.

Tuesday's high temperature of 81 degrees broke the previous record of 78 degrees, reached in 1986, according to the USDA Agricultural Research Service. Wednesday's high of 80 degrees also broke that day's record high of 1979, set in 1986 as well.

## Courts lighting project under way

By MARSHA STURDIVANT  
Staff Writer

A man watched his dream of a Summer Evening Basketball Program come true today with the ground breaking for lights that will show the way.

Max Webb, director of Northside Community Center, gathered 25 people for the ceremony today which included representatives from foundations that supplied the \$35,000 in grants to fund the program.

"I can't do this by myself, and I need community support. I thank God for giving me this vision, and I thank all of you for coming here today."

"But where I really want to see you is during the basketball games, cheering and supporting the kids. Without the kids, all we have is an empty basketball court," Webb said.

Larry Gill, representing the Dodge Jones Foundation in Abilene, and Jack Swallow, from the Permian Basin Area Foundation in Midland, were

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Arthur Palomino, Johnny Cappadonna, Jack Swallow and Max Webb break ground for the basketball court lighting project at the Northside Community Center. Palomino is vice-president of the center's advisory board, while Webb is the executive director. Cappadonna's Capp Electric will do the work and Swallow is executive director of the Permian Basin Foundation, which helped fund the project.

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# New legislation introduced to deregulate electric utility market

AUSTIN (AP) — Most consumers would see a 5 percent decrease in their electric rates in 2002 under legislation filed Wednesday to deregulate the state's \$50 billion electric utility market.

"The time is right to restructure the electric industry to give consumers a chance to buy their electricity at the best price possible," said Sen. David Sibley, R-Waco.

If passed, Sibley's bill would freeze electric rates starting Sept. 1 for consumers served by investor-owned electric companies, then decrease them in 2002. That would cover more than 70 percent of the state's 8.6

million electric customers. Rates would be frozen at the reduced level for five years, or until 40 percent of the electricity in a particular market provided by two or more utilities.

"The bill will create a robust, competitive environment that should give consumers who shop around an even better deal," said Sibley, who has five Senate co-sponsors on the bill.

The bill also proposes using ratepayer-backed bonds to pay off the lingering debts of Texas utilities, estimated at about \$4 billion.

A similar proposal caused a deregulation bill to unravel during the 1997 session when rural

cooperatives withdrew their support because they said bond provisions were too complicated.

Those same cooperatives, which provide electricity to about 3 million Texans, stand behind this bill.

It gives the cooperatives and municipal utilities the option of not opening their markets to competition, and it doesn't require them to offer a rate reduction.

Sibley's legislation contains "critical consumer safeguards, while creating the framework for meaningful choice for both urban and rural consumers," said Mike Williams, president

of Texas Electric Cooperatives, which represents the state's 83 cooperatives.

"This gives them the flexibility to see how the market develops and to determine whether that competition will bring benefits to their consumer owners," said Mark Zion, executive director of the Texas Public Power Association, which represents the 75 municipal utilities in Texas.

The fight over whether the utilities looking at paying off debts for power plants — so-called stranded costs — got money up front through bond proceeds or long-term through a variety of fees is expected to be

one of the more heated aspects of the debate.

Legislation filed by Rep. Steve Wolens, D-Dallas, would pay the costs through fees on utility bills.

Consumer groups say paying 100 percent of the stranded costs the utilities request is a mistake and that the debts are due to bad investments.

"This bill sticks consumers with the bill for the utilities' mistakes," said Tom Smith, director of the consumer group Public Citizen.

The bill also addresses how to create competition where existing utilities currently own most of the power plants in a certain

geographic area.

No single provider — like TU Electric and Houston Lighting & Power — could control more than 20 percent of the generating capacity in one region.

A utility that owns more would be forced to auction off a percentage of its plants to potential competitors.

The Public Utility Commission could create an exception "allowing a utility to continue to control a certain market under the legislation."

The bill comes after an 18-month study by the Senate Interim Committee on Electric Utility Restructuring, which Sibley chaired.

## 25 California lawmakers urge Texas governor to run

SACRAMENTO (AP) — Placing their bets more than a year before the presidential primary, 25 California legislators have formally urged Texas Gov. George W. Bush to run for president.

The lawmakers on Wednesday sent Bush a petition signed by 22 of 32 Republicans in the state Assembly and three of 15 Republican senators. They include moderates and conservatives and all four Hispanic Republicans in the Legislature.

Their petition was sent to



BUSH

Bush one day after he was sworn in for a second term. Bush has not announced whether he will run for president, but some national polls put him in front of all other comers.

"He represents to me a new generation of Republican leaders, and I think that's what the country needs in 2000," said Assemblyman Bill Leonard of Rancho Cucamonga.

"I'm sure Governor Bush very much appreciates their words of support," said Karen Hughes, Bush's director of communications.

The petition was accompanied by a note to Bush beneath "California Legislature" letterhead.

"With the California presidential primary of March 2000 fast approaching, it is important that a credible candidate for president establish a California presence," the letter read.

"We know that you are the Republican presidential candidate for Texas, and we share a strong opinion that your qualities will serve well as the Republican presidential candidate for California."

The petition and the letter's rhetoric represented a double slap to California's last Republican governor, Pete Wilson, who is considering a White House run himself. Some Republicans believe Wilson cost the party by fostering racial divisiveness with his stands

against aid to illegal immigrants and against affirmative action.

Bush has "shown unmatched political leadership in his ability to reach out and bridge the gap between traditional and nontraditional Republican constituencies, like Latinos — a growing and increasingly important population in California," added Assemblyman Abel Maldonado, R-Santa Maria.

The Texas governor is the only GOP presidential candidate, announced or otherwise, who has made a courtesy call to new Assembly Republican leader Rod Pacheco, who is Hispanic and who signed the petition.

## Committees streamlined, Lt. Gov. Perry prepared to delegate assignments

AUSTIN (AP) — With Lt. Gov. Rick Perry poised to make committee assignments that could determine the course of legislation and legislative careers, the Texas Senate has approved rules streamlining its committee structure.

The rules trim the number of members on various panels, eliminate a couple of committees and split Health and Human Services in two.

Perry, the first Republican inaugurated to preside over the Texas Senate, said the changes were prompted by lengthy conversations with senators about their concerns.

"Their big complaint was a committee structure that was very onerous from the standpoint of having to be two places at one time... where you had to be, the workload, etc.," he said. "I think you'll find what we've done is to make this process as efficient and as effective as it can be."

Perry said in determining committee heads and membership, he believes that "We've done a very good job of distrib-



PERRY

uting... the responsibilities of the Senate in a very fair, equitable, bipartisan way."

He said he would soon announce committee assignments.

The new rules eliminate the standing Committee on International Relations, Trade and Technology and the General Investigating Committee.

Special committees still can be appointed to address specific issues. For example, Perry on Wednesday named the Special Committee on Electric Restructuring, headed by Sen. David Sibley, R-Waco.

Sen. Carlos Truan, D-Corpus Christi, who headed the international relations panel, said, "I have been assured that the concerns that I raised regarding... the committee that we phased out, that there is a definite need for us to have a vehicle to address those needs, and that we will be discussing those some more."

Truan quipped that a lawmaker told him "that he would nominate me to be chair of the former chairs committee."

The rules will reduce the number of members on Administration, Economic Development, Education, Finance, Intergovernmental Relations, Jurisprudence, Natural Resources and State Affairs.

## Senate rules require open-government analysis

AUSTIN (AP) — Bills will be reviewed so they can be flagged if they restrict public access to government information or the transaction of public business — unless their lawmakers certify they won't — under rules adopted by the Texas Senate.

The requirement will apply to all bills referred to Senate committees, including House and Senate measures, said Sen. Jeff Wentworth, R-San Antonio, who sponsored it.

The rules approved Wednesday also change the Senate's committee structure by trimming the number of members on various panels, eliminating a couple of committees and splitting Health and Human

Services in two.

Most committee assignments haven't yet been announced.

It was Wentworth's "open government impact statement" proposal that triggered the most Senate discussion.

As initially proposed, it would have required all bills to be checked.

The Legislative Budget Board director would have to prepare an impact statement if a bill may reduce public access government information or to the transaction of public business. The statement would go to the head of the committee to which the bill is referred for consideration.

Supporters said there is overwhelming support in Texas for

open records and open meetings.

Critics questioned the proposal's potential cost, whether it's proper to require such a statement through a rule rather than a bill approved by both the House and Senate and suggested that news media groups supporting open government would save lobby fees through the requirement.

Wentworth then agreed to a change offered by Sen. Steve Ogeen, R-Bryan.

Under it, the provision won't apply if the bill author certifies in writing that the measure doesn't reduce public access.

Wentworth said he didn't think the change weakened the provision, saying it puts law-

makers' reputations on the line.

While there is no sanction if a lawmaker falsely certifies there is no impact, he said, "People would doubt the accuracy of anything that member said in the future."

And, he told a reporter, "I think you all would just scald them in boiling oil in print."

M.J. Nicchio, director of legislative and governmental affairs for Texas Daily Newspaper Association, said it was important to put the requirement in Senate rules because they take effect right away.

If a bill requiring such a statement were passed, he said, it wouldn't take effect until after this session ends.

## Accused killers will return to Louisiana

SHREVEPORT, La. (AP) — Two young men accused of killing a local car salesman and later staging a violent Iowa bank robbery will be escorted by U.S. marshals from Laredo, Texas, to northwest Louisiana early next week to face murder charges.

A deal was struck Wednesday between DeSoto Parish prosecutors and federal authorities to bring Michael Andrew Taylor and Timothy David Taylor to Mansfield as early as Tuesday.

District Attorney Don Burkett will convene a grand jury

Wednesday to consider first-degree murder indictments. Burkett said he will seek a speedy trial, but hasn't determined if he will seek the death penalty against the two 20-year-old suspects.

The Taylors, who are not related, were apprehended Friday after leading authorities on a nine-day chase through seven states.

The chase began with the shooting death of Shreveport car salesman Chester Howell in rural DeSoto Parish and ended at a customs checkpoint on the

Mexican border. In between was a Lamoni, Iowa, bank robbery and shooting of a police chief who gave chase.

The Taylors are scheduled to appear in federal court Tuesday in Laredo, but Burkett said the only issue at that hearing is to determine "they are who they say they are. They will probably waive that hearing but, if not, we'll have to prove they're the people we have the warrants for," Burkett said.

Just in case, the FBI is lining up witnesses who can identify the Taylors.

## Fence that divided Jasper cemetery is torn down

JASPER (AP) — For more than 160 years, an iron fence ran through the Jasper cemetery, making sure that blacks and whites who lived apart also rested apart in death.

On Wednesday, they tore the fence down — just days before the trial for the first of three white men charged in the dragging death of a black man last summer.

City employees and volunteers took the rusting fence apart, piece by piece. It had stood since the cemetery opened in 1836.

"For many of us, this fence

has been a symbol of segregation in our community," Father Ron Forsage said in prayer as the work went on around him. "Give us the power and strength through this rotten and broken fence to repair the fences in our own lives."

About 75 people — blacks and whites — sang in celebration of the fence's removal. There were also tears.

"I wish my mother was here to see this," said Faye White, a black Jasper resident, as she hugged several friends after the ceremony.

Jasper was thrust into the

national spotlight in June by the killing of James Byrd Jr., who was chained to the back of a pickup and dragged to his death along backwoods roads.

Three men, John William King, 24, of Jasper; Shawn Berry, 23, of Jasper; and Russell Brewer, 31, of Sulphur Springs, have been charged with capital murder in what prosecutors say was a racially motivated crime.

King is scheduled to go on trial next week.

After Byrd's death, city leaders and clergy formed the Mayor's Task Force 2000 to help bridge racial divides.



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JAN 21 1999



# President Clinton's defense wrapping up opening presentation

WASHINGTON (AP) — Concluding the first phase of President Clinton's impeachment trial, his lawyers are urging senators to reject allegations of legal wrongdoing and focus on "the big picture" — an attempt by a married man to hide an extramarital affair.

For their third and final day of oral presentations to rebut perjury and obstruction of justice charges, the Clinton team is combining the methodical arguments of private lawyer David Kendall with the oratory of Dale Bumpers. Bumpers, a former Democratic senator from Arkansas and longtime friend of Clinton, is known as a gifted

public speaker.

Once Bumpers finishes, senators who have been forced under trial rules to sit in uncharacteristic silence will have another unfamiliar task — submitting questions in writing to Chief Justice William Rehnquist, who as presiding officer will read them and ask the lawyers and House prosecutors to respond.

The question period may be the phase of the trial conducted in a bipartisan spirit. Subsequent motions to dismiss the case and call witnesses such as former White House intern Monica Lewinsky likely will break down largely along party

lines.

Republicans have said they oppose dismissal and support the need for limited live testimony from key witnesses such as Ms. Lewinsky, Clinton friend Vernon Jordan and presidential secretary Betty Currie — and should get their way with a 55-45 majority.

With a two-thirds majority needed to make Clinton the first president evicted from his job, Democrats hold the votes for acquittal and show no signs of backing a move to remove him from office.

Republicans know the trial is unpopular with Americans. Clinton's job approval ratings

rose after his State of the Union address Tuesday night, ranging from 66 percent in an ABC poll to 72 percent in a CBS survey to 76 percent for NBC.

One well-known conservative Republican, evangelist and broadcaster Pat Robertson, said Clinton pulled off such a public relations coup in the address that there is no chance he will be convicted. "They might as well dismiss this impeachment hearing and get on with something else," he said on "The 700 Club" broadcast.

Bumpers was chosen to make the argument that the House case was a "partisan rush to judgment" that doesn't meet

with the "higher duty the Senate has always had," an adviser to the White House said Wednesday. Bumpers, who retired this year after 24 years in the Senate, also was chosen because he can talk ex-senator to senator, the adviser said.

Clinton's predecessor, George Bush, in town to attend a Senate lecture series sponsored by Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., declined a chance to discuss the impeachment trial. But speaking in the Old Senate Chamber Wednesday evening, the former Republican president lamented that today in Washington, "we are confronted with a deficit of decency

— one that deepens by the day."

During Clinton's defense before senators Wednesday, Deputy White House Counsel Cheryl Mills argued that House managers ignored testimony from Mrs. Currie in order to falsely accuse the president of trying to obstruct the Paula Jones sexual harassment lawsuit against the president.

The defense lawyer cited Mrs. Currie's testimony that Clinton never asked her to pick up gifts from Ms. Lewinsky after the presents were subpoenaed by the Jones lawyers. Mrs. Currie testified it was Ms. Lewinsky who asked her to retrieve the gifts.

# Joint Chiefs tell Congress that White House defense increases too small

WASHINGTON (AP) — Lawmakers have told the nation's top military commanders not to count on any savings in the near future from additional base closings.

Even though President Clinton plans to ask for another round of closings in the budget he sends Congress next month, "he's not going to get a base closing bill. We were burned once. We're not going to be burned again," Rep. Curt Weldon, R-Pa., said Wednesday.

Also at the House Armed Services Committee hearing on the state of military readiness, the chiefs of the Army, Navy,

Air Force and Marines, along with Gen. Henry Shelton, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said the \$12 billion in extra military spending the president is proposing falls short of meeting many pressing Pentagon needs.

In his State of the Union address on Tuesday, Clinton reiterated his intention to request \$12 billion in increased Pentagon spending in his fiscal 2000 budget, part of a plan to spend \$110 billion over the next six years.

Shelton said the \$12 billion "will go a long way toward meeting our most critical

requirements." But, he added, it falls short of the \$20.1 billion in increased spending the services believe they need next year.

"Readiness is very fragile and the indicators are not good," said Adm. Jay L. Johnson, chief of naval operations.

Like the other military chiefs, Johnson voiced support for the administration request — but also made it clear he would not mind one bit if Congress wanted to throw some more money the Navy's way.

"The administration understands our issues and is working hard to assist us, but congressional help will also be crucial," Johnson said in prepared testimony. "Your enduring support is greatly appreciated."

Gen. Charles Krulak, commandant of the Marine Corps, cautioned: "If we are going to maintain our technological advantage in defense, we simply must modernize the force."

Overall, the Pentagon chiefs have told Congress they need about \$150 billion more over the next six years, instead of the additional \$110 billion Clinton has proposed.

Committee Republicans complained that, of the \$12 billion for next year, only about \$4 billion would be in real new

money. The remaining \$8 billion would come from savings due to lower inflation and lower fuel costs. "I hope the budget contains real spending increases to apply against real shortfalls," said the committee chairman, Rep. Floyd Spence, R-S.C.

The White House has said that Clinton will ask Congress to approve two new rounds of base closings — one in 2001 and another in 2005.

Lawmakers are reeling from earlier rounds in 1991, 1993 and 1995 that shut down 70 bases.

Republicans are also suspicious of the administration's commitment to the base-closing

process, which was established in an effort to take politics out of the system by having an independent commission make binding recommendations.

They accused the White House of intervening in this process last year to keep defense jobs in California when McClellan Air Force Base in Sacramento closes — and fulfill a 1996 re-election campaign promise made by Clinton in the state.

Rep. Joel Hefley, R-Colo., told the service chiefs to detail exactly which bases they think are wasteful and should be closed.

# Northwest controllers first to get new radar

AUBURN, Wash. (AP) — New, more reliable computer equipment to help federal air traffic controllers across the United States has been introduced first in the Pacific Northwest.

The Fort Worth center will get the new equipment in April and it will be installed at Houston in June.

All 20 national air traffic control centers are to have the new systems by the summer of 2000 to replace vacuum-type radar display equipment that is prone to breakdowns. The project will cost \$1.05 billion.

Jane Garvey, administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, and Secretary Rodney Slater dedicated the new system Wednesday at the Seattle Air Route Traffic Control Center, which oversees flights over Washington, most of Oregon and portions of Idaho, Montana, Northern California and Nevada.

The new system will "help keep our skies the safest in the world while air traffic continues to grow," Slater said.

The Auburn system was installed last October and air traffic controllers began using it about a month ago. Salt Lake City and Cleveland are next in line.

Although the new system is considered faster and more reliable than the '70s-era technology it is replacing, it is not immune to glitches like the one Auburn controllers dealt with on Friday. A battery failure during a routine check of a backup power supply cut power to the center and the new equipment.

Controllers were able to maintain contact with jetliners with a backup radio system, but radar used to prevent collisions was shut down for 35 minutes. Hundreds of flights were delayed and airline traffic was frozen for an hour. There were no reports of planes flying too close together.

Controllers said one of the advantages of the new system is that it's easier to maintain. Parts needed for the old system

**SCHEDULE**

Here is a list of the centers that will be equipped with the new system, and the estimated installation dates. It will take an additional month to get the new system installed at each center. The schedule may vary.

- Salt Lake City, February
- Fort Worth, March
- Houston, June
- New York, April
- Chicago, May
- Houston, June
- Denver, June
- Washington, D.C., July
- Atlanta, July
- Oakland, September
- Albuquerque, September
- Minneapolis, October
- Memphis, October
- Boston, November
- Kansas City, Kansas, November
- Miami, November
- Los Angeles, December
- Jacksonville, December

are no longer made.

"The problem was the components — they would break and you just couldn't get them anymore," controller Mark Blair said.

Lockheed Martin Air Traffic Management of Bethesda, Md., is the prime contractor for the project.

Other improvements under way or planned by the FAA include a new system that helps pilots make precision landings guided by the Global Positioning System, and an e-mail system between computers on the ground and in the cockpit. That should reduce the time lag and chance of errors in voice communications.

The FAA's announcement came only hours after a single-engine Cessna came within 100 feet of a Southwest Airlines jet as the two were taking off from Austin, Texas, on runways that crossed, authorities said.

The smaller plane passed just under the Boeing 737 with 125 people aboard.

# Woman, three children found dead

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. (AP) — A girl seeking a cup of sugar from her neighbor found the pregnant woman dead, bound with an extension cord. Inside the home were the bodies of three children.

Police in this southwestern Missouri city called the four killings their worst homicide case in at least a decade.

"They sure didn't deserve this," said a sobbing Vanessa Woodruff, 16, who found the mother on the living-room floor of the home Wednesday evening.

The body was bound with an extension cord and white scarf around her neck. Police who searched the rest of the house found the three children, said

officer Mike Green. Their identities were withheld.

Neighbors said the woman was pregnant and had two boys and a girl, ages around 8 to 11.

"It's just scary. It's going to make me sick," said Nel Thompson, who lives across the street from the victims. "You wonder why — who would be that sick? Who would hurt a woman who was pregnant?"

Police refused to say how the four died, but said the case was being investigated as a homicide.

Maj. Darrell Crick said it matched the most fatalities in a single homicide case that he could remember in his 23 years with the Springfield Police Department.

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IN THE  
BIG SPRING MALL  
MON.-SAT.  
10 AM-9 PM;  
SUN. 12-6

# BEALLS-STAGE

IN THE  
BIG SPRING MALL  
MON.-SAT.  
10 AM-9 PM;  
SUN. 12-6

JAN 21 1999













FISHING REPORT

Here is the weekly fishing report as compiled by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for Jan. 21. (Report also available on Web as www.txfishing.com.)

**CENTRAL**  
**BROWNWOOD:** Water clear; 42 degrees; black bass are fair on spinnerbaits fished in 2 to 10 feet of water. Crappie are good on minnows fished around the docks in the evening and over brush piles during the day. Hybrid stripers are good on white jigs and slabs fished in 25 to 30 feet of water. Catfish are slow.

**BUCHANAN:** Water clear; 52 degrees; 7' low; black bass are fair on red/white Terminator spinnerbaits, Bomber A's and red Rat-L-Traps. Crappie are fair to good on minnows fished under the docks. White bass are fair on spoons fished deep in to the schools and trolling small crankbaits and minnows. Striped bass are fair trolling 1oz. bucktail jigs and live bait in deep water at the dam. Channel and blue catfish are slow on cut baits. Yellow catfish to 17.5 pounds are fair on trotlines baited with live perch.

**PROCTOR:** Water clear; 44 degrees; black bass are fair on spinnerbaits fished around the dam and the north shore (use a slow retrieve). Crappie are excellent on minnows white jigs fished against the edge of the dam. Hybrid stripers are fair drift fishing white jigs with a chartreuse trailer from the dam toward the north bank.

**SOUTH**  
**AMISTAD:** Water stained; 54 degrees; 35.5' low; black bass are good on weedless slabs fished in the deep grass. Crappie are slow. White bass are good on chartreuse and silver slabs fished in 25 to 30 feet of water. Striped bass are fair on slabs fished in 35 feet of water. Channel and blue catfish are good on cheesebait fished in 70 to 80 feet of water.

**WEST**  
**ALAN HENRY:** Water stained; 41 degrees; 5' low; black bass to 5 pounds are good on jig and pork combinations fished in the creek channels in 22 to 28 feet of water. Smallmouth and spotted bass are slow. Few fishermen out. Exercise caution at the boat ramp.

**ARROWHEAD:** Water clear; 49 degrees; 7' low; black bass are fair on orange and white spinnerbaits. Crappie are good on minnows fished near the derricks in 18 feet of water. White bass are slow. Channel and blue catfish are good on large shiners fished at night on the south end of the lake.

**BRIDGEPORT:** No report available this week.

**COLORADO CITY:** Water murky; 54 degrees; 12' low; black bass are fair on chrome Rat-L-Traps fished over the rocks. Redfish are fair trolling stickbaits. Few fishermen out.

**FT. PHANTOM HILL:** Water stained; 47 degrees; 17' low; black bass are slow. Crappie are fair on minnows fished around the dam by the rocks. Hybrid stripers are fair on shad and shiners fished on the west side of the lake in the shallows. Blue catfish to 19 pounds are good on shad and shiners fished in the shallows.

**HUBBARD CREEK:** Water stained; 48 degrees; 4.8' low; black bass are slow. Crappie are excellent on minnows and white marabou jigs fished around the boathouses in 12 feet of water. Channel and blue catfish are slow.

**KEMP:** Water stained; 49 degrees; 12' low; black bass are slow. White bass are good on white and chartreuse slabs fished in 30 to 45 feet of water.

**NOCONA:** Water clear; 44 degrees; 4.5' feet low; black bass are fair on chrome jiggging spoons fished in 15 to 25 feet of water. Also try black and blue jigs fished in 10 to 18 feet of water. Crappie are good on jigs and jiggging spoons fished in 15 to 40 feet of water. White bass and hybrid stripers are good on chrome jiggging spoons fished in 15 to 40 feet of water. Channel and blue catfish are slow. Yellow catfish are slow.

**OAK CREEK RESERVOIR:** Water clear; 42 degrees; 10' low; black bass to 9 pounds are fair on minnows, jigs and spinnerbaits fished in 10 to 20 feet of water. Crappie are slow on minnows and jigs fished in 5 to 15 feet of water. White bass are slow on minnows and jigs fished in 5 to 15 feet of water. Channel and blue catfish are slow.

**O.H. IVIE:** Water clear; 47 degrees; black bass to 6 pounds are fair on Rat-L-Traps fished in the grass in 2 to 10 feet of water. Also try black and blue jigs fished off the rocky points. White bass are good on slabs and jiggging spoons fished in 35 to 42 feet of water and at night in the Colorado River in 20 feet of water. Catfish are slow.

**POSSUM KINGDOM:** Water clear; 48 degrees; 12' low; Striped bass are fair on Sassy Shad and bucktail jigs fished at night under lights in the coves. Fishing reported generally slow.

**SPENCE:** Water stained; 46 degrees; black bass are slow. Striped bass to 22 pounds are good on cut baits fished in 6 to 12 feet of water. Channel and blue catfish to 42 pounds are good on cut shad fished in 6 to 8 feet of water. Yellow catfish to 40 pounds are good on cut baits fished in 6 to 10 feet of water.

**STAMFORD:** Water stained; 48 degrees; 11' low; black bass are slow. Crappie are slow. Channel and blue catfish are fair on nightcrawlers and minnows fished in 5 to 12 feet of water. Yellow catfish are slow.

**SWEETWATER:** Water murky; 41 degrees; 7.5' low; black bass are fair on red spinnerbaits and red shad worms fished over the grass beds. Crappie are fair on minnows. Hybrid stripers are fair on slabs fished in 10 to 20 feet of water. Channel and blue catfish are fair on shrimp and stinkbait.

**TWIN BUTTES:** The lake level is at 12% of normal due to work on the dam. The work is scheduled for completion in April or May. One ramp on the lake is reported barely accessible.

**WHITE RIVER:** Water muddy; 40 degrees; 20+ low; black bass to 4 pounds are fair on jigs and small crankbaits fished in 1 to 4 feet.

Especially for kids and their families  
**The Mini Page**  
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By BETTY DEBNAM

A Guide for Kids

It's About Time

**Time is ...**

What is time?  
WHERE IS THE TIME?  
IT IS 12:30 P.M. — LUNCH TIME.  
I WISH I HAD MORE TIME, BUT I NEVER WILL.

This question has puzzled people for a long, long time.

- everywhere, but takes up no space.
- something that can be measured, but not seen.
- There is never any more or less of it.

IT WENT TOO LONG WITHOUT WATER.  
I CAN'T GO BACK TO CORRECT MY MISTAKE.  
I AM READING THIS NOW.  
SOMEDAY I WILL FINISH IT.

PAST NOW FUTURE

- We know that time passes because we can see the effects.
- Time passes, but can go in only one direction. Think of time as being the past, now, and the future.
- We can't go back into the past or forward into the future. We can do things only now.

**Time tells us ...**

MY BIRTHDAY IS OCT. 25.  
I LEFT AT 3 O'CLOCK. I WILL BE HOME AT 4.  
IT WILL TAKE AN HOUR.  
WE MUST SET OUR WATCHES TO THE SAME TIME.

- the date when something has happened, is happening and will happen.
- how long it was, is and will be between events.
- when to do things with others. When all the people in a certain area or zone have clocks and watches that are synchronized (SIN-crui-nised), or set on the same time, time works for us.

**More ways of measuring time**

In nature: THE SUN COMES UP EVERY DAY!  
In customs: Over the years, people celebrated certain customs at certain times of the year.  
In rocks: Scientists can tell the age of rocks and fossils by finding out what stuff they are made of.

**Rookie Cookie's Recipe**

**Groovy Grits**

You'll need:

- 4 1/2 cups water
- 1 cup uncooked grits
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup butter or margarine
- 3/4 cup cheddar cheese, grated
- 2 eggs, beaten

What to do:

1. Bring water to a boil in a large pot over medium heat.
2. Add grits and salt. Cover, reduce heat to simmer and cook 10 minutes.
3. Stir in remaining ingredients. Mix well.
4. Pour mixture into a greased casserole.
5. Bake in a preheated 350-degree oven for 1 hour.

Serves 6 to 8.

**TRY 'N FIND CLOCKS**

Words that remind us of clocks are hidden in the block below. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally. See if you can find: CLOCK, TIME, NUMBERS, READ, NUMERAL, ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR, FIVE, SIX, SEVEN, EIGHT, NINE, TEN, ELEVEN, TWELVE, MINUTE, SECOND, HOUR, TICK, HANDS.

NUMERALCTONETQV  
CSEVENUEFIHWRW  
DVCLOCKJIOMFENS  
THREEGSHMGELUN  
ELEVENEAHHRVMI  
IXNETTCNHFTEBN  
READJIODUIOANEE  
KXCJISCNSTVUOTRX  
OOWTDKDCERAUSB

**Mini Spy ...**

Mini Spy and her friends are admiring her grandfather clock. See if you can find:

- caterpillar
- teapot
- crescent moon
- pencil
- frog
- word MINI
- safety pin
- lips
- cardinal
- banana
- pea pod
- pineapple
- letter I
- number 8

Time Zones Keep Us in Touch With the Sun

**The prime meridian**  
The time zones start at what is called the "prime meridian," an imaginary line that runs through Greenwich, England. Time here is known as Greenwich Mean Time.

**International Date Line**  
Halfway around the world from Greenwich, one of the zones is divided into two half zones. Another imaginary line runs through this. It is called the International Date Line.

**EARLIER** → **LATER**

Zones to the west of the prime meridian have an earlier time.  
Zones to the east have a later time.

**A map of the time zones**

The continental United States is divided into four zones. As we move from east to west, we lose an hour in each time zone.

Alaska is on a different time zone.  
Hawaii is on a different time zone, too.

It is three hours earlier in Los Angeles. Sue is just finishing lunch.

Check out The Mini Page Web site at: www.minipage.com.

The Mini Page thanks Geoff Chester, public affairs officer, U.S. Naval Observatory, for help with this issue.

Next week learn about clocks, from sundials to atomic clocks.

The Mini Page Map of the U.S.A. is a colorful 23-by-35-inch map that includes state capitals, state birds and state flowers. For your copy send \$3 plus 50¢ postage and handling per copy to: Mini Page Maps, Andrews McMeel Publishing, P.O. Box 419242, Kansas City, Mo. 64141.

Go dot to dot and color.

**Big Ideas in Geography**

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- Regions
- Place

The Arctic

Sample Page (Actual size 8 1/2" by 11 inches)

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**The Mini Page**

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JAN 21 1999





THURSDAY JAN. 21 TV schedule table with columns for station, time, and program name.

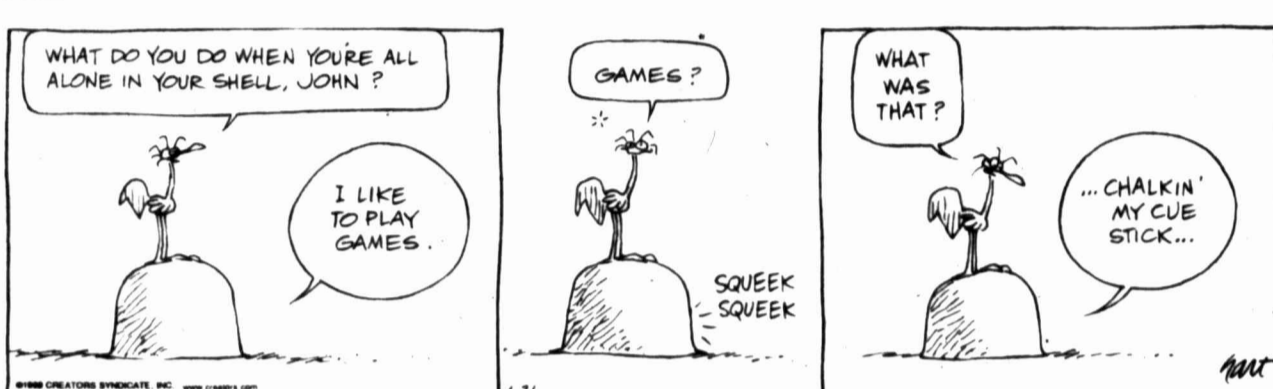
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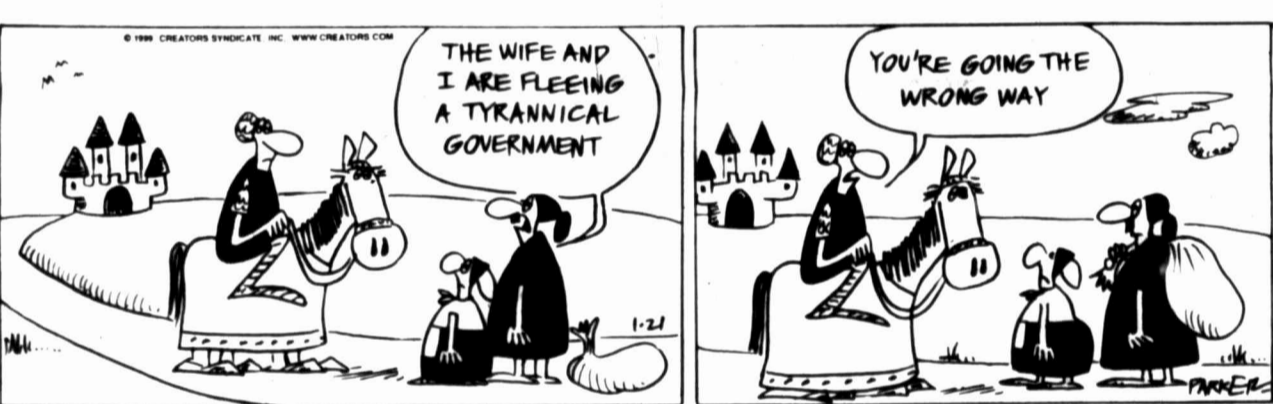
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GEECH



WIZARD OF ID



HI AND LOIS



GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILY



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS Today is Thursday, Jan. 21, the 21st day of 1999. There are 344 days left in the year.

THE Daily Crossword

- CROSS 1 Calf meat 5 Conductive element 10 R&B pioneer, James 14 Woody Guthrie's boy 15 Courtyards 16 Nobleman 17 Urban renewal plan? 20 NY gambling parlor 21 Residents of: suff. 22 Sty sounds 23 Revel noisily 25 Menial laborer 27 Inc. in the U.K. 28 Roared 32 Lunch-counter perch 35 Entreaty 36 Roaring 20s, e.g. 37 Filibusterer's dream? 41 Beer choice 42 Wallach and Whitney 43 Diagram, as a sentence 44 School period 47 Vietnam Memorial artist 48 Falsehoods 49 Carnal 53 The Evil One 56 Box seat 57 Masters players' org. 58 Wino's slogan? 62 Gratuities 63 Set sights 64 Shelterward 65 Blackthorn berry 66 Art category 67 Felt regret



By Philip J. Anderson Portland, OR 1/21/99

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved



- 7 Very in France 8 Islet 9 Buddhist Thai 10 Pacific weather phenomenon 11 Lacerated 12 Arduous journey 13 Tacks on 18 Former kicker, Y.A. 19 Hair of a goat 24 Feed, as hogs 25 Removes skin 26 Biblical land 28 British PM Tony 29 Low dam 30 God of love 31 Laertes or Hamlet, e.g. 32 Health resorts 33 Scope starter? 34 City near Provo, UT 35 Whippers 38 Head in France 39 Voices thoughts 40 Brown shades 45 Go by, as time 46 Chinese: pref. 47 Pope's emissary 49 Sub detector 50 Samoan island 51 See eye to eye 52 Hobbled 53 Exams 54 Indigo dye 55 Secretarial mistake 56 Paint a word picture 59 Waste cloth 60 Draw 61 Dark, viscous material

Big Spring Herald advertisement with contact information: 915-263-7331, 915-263-7335, and publisher details.

Southerners resigned from the U.S. Senate.

In 1908, New York City's Board of Aldermen passed an ordinance that effectively prohibited women from smoking in public. Mayor George B. McClellan Jr. vetoed the measure.

In 1915, the first Kiwanis Club was founded in Detroit. In 1924, Russian revolutionary Vladimir Ilyich Lenin died at age 54.

In 1942, Count Basie and His Orchestra recorded "One O'Clock Jump" in New York for Okeh Records.

In 1950, a federal jury in New York found former State Department official Alger Hiss guilty of perjury.

In 1950, George Orwell, author of "1984," died in London.

In 1954, the first atomic submarine, the USS Nautilus, was launched at Groton, Conn.

In 1976, the supersonic Concorde jet was put into service by Britain and France.

In 1977, President Carter pardoned almost all Vietnam War draft evaders.

In 1997, Speaker Newt Gingrich was reprimanded and fined as the House voted for the first time in history to discipline its leader for ethical misconduct.

Ten years ago: Former Ku Klux Klan leader David Duke led a field of seven candidates in an open primary to advance to a runoff election for a Louisiana state House seat.

Five years ago: A jury in Manassas, Va., acquitted Lorena Bobbitt by reason of temporary insanity of maliciously wounding her husband John, whom she'd accused of sexually assaulting her.

One year ago: President Clinton angrily denied reports he'd had an affair with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky and tried to get her to lie about it. Pope John Paul II began a historic pilgrimage to Cuba. Actor Jack Lord of "Hawaii Five-O" fame died in Honolulu at age 77.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Paul Scofield is 77. Actor Steve Reeves ("Hercules") is 73. Actress Ann Wedgeworth is 64. Blues singer-musician Snooks Eaglin is 63. Golfer Jack Nicklaus is 59. Opera singer Placido Domingo is 58. Singer Richie Havens is 58. Singer Mac Davis is 57. Singer Edwin Starr is 57. Actress Jill Eikenberry is 52. Singer-songwriter Billy Ocean is 49. Actor Robby Benson is 43. Actress Geena Davis is 42. Basketball player Hakeem Olajuwon is 36. Rap DJ Jam Master Jay (Run-DMC) is 34. Actress Charlotte Ross ("Days of Our Lives") is 31.