

BIG SPRING HERALD

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

WEDNESDAY

December 1, 1999

WEATHER

Tonight:



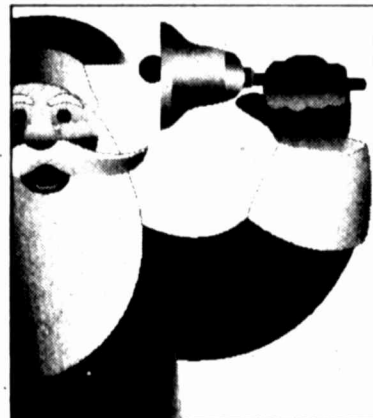
PARTLY CLOUDY

TONIGHT 40°-45° THURSDAY 63°-65°

HELPING OTHERS...

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

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



Angel Tree locations:

- Big Spring Herald (seniors)
- Big Spring Mall
- Al's and Son B-B-Q
- Wal-Mart
- Cosden Credit Union
- Scenic Mountain Medical Center
- Rip Griffin's Gift Shop
- Gale's Sweet Shoppe

Salvation Army Kettles:

- Wal-Mart
- Rip Griffin's
- Big Spring Post Office
- Bealls For Her
- Cinema IV

Toys For Tots:

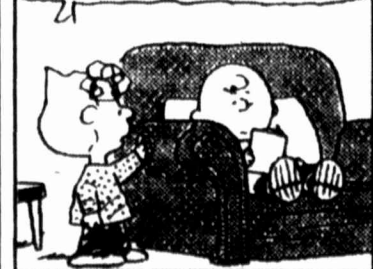
- Cellular One in the College Park Shopping Center
- Pollard Chevrolet.

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"TIS THE SEASON... THAT'S MY NEW PHILOSOPHY..."



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Vol. 97, No. 30

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.

Transportation group discusses long term planning

LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer

The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Transportation Committee met with officials of the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Tuesday to discuss long-range plans to reduce expected traffic congestion from U.S. 87.



Blair Haynie, TxDOT's

CROOKER

director of transportation planning and development for the Abilene District, summarized several alternatives to alleviate traffic congestion on Gregg St. and explained different construction funding options.

The recent vehicle/pedestrian fatalities on Gregg emphasizes the importance of reviewing the traffic flow on the street and to look at alternative routes, said Big Spring TxDOT area engineer Art Barrow.

Barrow told the committee he is reviewing the accident reports and will be contacting experts to see if moving

the light on 17th Street to Edwards will help prevent more accidents.

He told the committee it was "it's still too early to make a decision."

Following a suggestion from Haynie, the committee decided to form a focus group to discuss and narrow down alternative projects.

Haynie also suggested that the focus group could meet with TxDOT mediators who are specially trained to help groups narrow down projects and make a decision on long-term plans.

See **TRANSPORTATION**, Page 2A

ADVENT OFFERINGS

'Advent Offerings', the first of two noontime concerts presented in a series by St. Mary's Episcopal Church, will be held at 12:05 p.m. Thursday at the church, 1001 Gollard.

Thursday's concert will feature baritone David Morrow, flutist Gloria Steelman and organist Linda Hill.

Attendees are invited to bring a box lunch and then stay for a fellowship period afterward.

The second concert is Dec. 9.

'A Christmas Carol' takes the stage Thursday

By MARSHA STURDIVANT
Staff Writer

A sweet ghost from Christmas Past, a cockney Christmas Present ghost and a scary Christmas Yet-To-Come ghost haunt Ebenezer Scrooge in a community theater production of "A Christmas Carol."

The production, featuring a cast list of about 40 individuals, opens at 8 p.m. Thursday with a second performance at 8 p.m. Friday in the Municipal Auditorium. Admission is free.

"We're inviting the community to see our gift to them, a completely local performance of "A Christmas Carol," a holiday favorite," said Clay Grizzle, director for the production.

"Cast members have worked very hard, attended hours of rehearsal, and we believe this production will set the pace for a wonderful Christmas season," Grizzle said.

Nineteenth-century costumes from Midland Theater transform teachers, secretaries, a dietitian and other professionals into cockney thieves, clerks, shop owners, married couples, and of course the Cratchit family.

Vincent Clemons, a Vietnam veteran from the VA Medical Center, portrays Bob Cratchit, down-trodden employee of Ebenezer Scrooge. Andi Andrews-York, tourism director for the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, portrays Mrs. Cratchit, who manages to feed all her children on 15 bob a week.

Al Scott, United States Marine and World War II veteran, is cast in the leading role as as surly and brutish Scrooge.

"Al is so perfect for this part. He is Ebenezer Scrooge," Grizzle said.

Postmaster Richard Saxton



A community theater production of "A Christmas Carol" opens in the Municipal Auditorium Thursday at 8 p.m. and features the talents of Deborah Drake as a fine lady, Al Scott as Ebenezer Scrooge, Vincent Clemons as Bob Cratchit, Will Currie as Tiny Tim and Greg Nelson as Mr. Buckworthy.

portrays Ebenezer's nephew Fred Scrooge, complete with a felt top hat and tails, and Texas Workforce Center's Mary Thompson portrays his wife.

Greg Nelson portrays several parts, as do other Buckworthy, a worried and penniless expectant father.

Heather Nichols and her four-year-old daughter Morrow have

several parts, as do other actors. "Once we got rehearsals

See **PLAY**, Page 2A

Think safety first during holidays, officials say

LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer

As many Howard County residents decorate their homes for the traditional holiday season, the Big Spring Fire Department wants to remind local



JENSEN

residents to watch for fire hazards decorating could create.

Deputy Chief Brian Jensen has some safety tips to prevent home fires.

- Live Christmas trees are a potential hazard if allowed to become too dry. Make sure to check and water the tree regularly.

- Don't purchase a dried-out tree.

- Discard the tree as soon as the holidays are over.

- Keep the tree away from any

heat source such as space heaters, fireplaces, or anything that gives off a moderate amount of heat over a period of time.

- Be careful to not overload electrical outlets with too many strands of tree lights. Overpowering the outlet can cause the wires to overheat and the plastic covering can melt or become brittle and fall off, exposing the wiring. Contact with exposed wire can seriously shock humans or pets or can

cause combustible items to catch fire.

- Pay attention to the directions that come with the lights or the tags attached to the light string in order to avoid over powering the outlet.

- When hanging outdoor lights, check to see if the lights are marked for outdoors.

- Don't hang outside light strands directly over placed nails. The nail's abrasive sur-

See **SAFETY**, Page 2A

Pecan Show entries due Thursday at courthouse

By BILL McCLELLAN
News Editor

Entries are due Thursday for the Howard County Pecan Food Show, held in conjunction with the Howard County Pecan Show.

Pecan Show entries were due Monday at the county extension office, located in the Howard County Courthouse.

Entries for the Food Show will be accepted in the courthouse lobby from 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. Thursday. The show is open to any Howard County resident.

"The main purpose of the show is to emphasize the production of pecans in Howard County and encourage those

people who enjoy cooking to bring their goods up and showcase their baking skills," said Dana Tarter, county extension agent for family and consumer science. "It's a fun thing to go along with the pecan show."

The entries will be judged between 10 a.m. and noon and ribbons will be awarded to the top three places in each class. There will also be Best of Show Awards, selected from the first place winners in each division, according Tarter.

Classes are cakes, pies, cookies, candies and breads. An entry consists of one whole cake or pie, a loaf of bread or eight cookies or pieces of candy.

Contestants may enter only one food item per class, but can enter each class if they prefer.

There are also two divisions: a youth division for those who are in school or 18 years old and

See **PECANS**, Page 2A



Sands Consolidated Independent School District gifted and talented students collected coats for a drive sponsored by the American Business Woman's Association. Trisha Nichols, left, Amanda Watkins, Hollie Gibbs, Morgan Fisher, Clay Hart and Cal Zant brought nine sacks of coats to the Howard County Courthouse to place in the ABWA donation box.

911

District director resigns amid investigation into finances

By BILL McCLELLAN
News Editor

Howard County 911 Communications District executive director Kay Kennemur resigned

Tuesday, a week after being suspended by the communication district's board of directors.

"To help the board, I am resigning as

KENNEMUR

911 director. I have decided that's best for the board and the 911 community," an emotional Kennemur said, following an executive session with the board. She declined any other comment.

Kennemur was suspended with pay a week ago, following financial questions raised by a certified public accountant. At that time, Drew Mouton, attorney for the communication district, said an investigation into the finances would be conducted.

"The investigation is still going on. This has not been resolved," Mouton said Tuesday. "However, Mrs. Kennemur has agreed to work with the district's auditor, Steve Stone, to get this resolved."

Mouton said that the investigation involves financial questions.

"The questions were raised through the annual audit and relate to finances. The questions that are arising are very small numbers. That is not saying this is not a serious matter. Any time you are dealing with public funds it is serious," Mouton said.

The attorney said the financial questions do not jeopardize the communications district, nor will the investigation hamper the operations of 911 emergency communications.

In a brief statement, board

See **911**, Page 2A

DEC 1 1999

OBITUARIES

Frank Patrick Duley

Funeral service for Major Frank Patrick Duley (Ret.), 84, Aurora, Colo., formerly of Big Spring, was Monday, Nov. 29, 1999, at Ft. Logan National Cemetery in Denver, Colo., with Paul A. Schumann, retired military chaplain, officiating.

He died Wednesday, Nov. 24, after a lengthy illness.

He was born on March 17, 1915, in Bonham. He graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School in Dallas in 1931. He moved to Big Spring in 1932 and worked for Lincks Grocery Store prior to joining the Army in 1941. After retiring from the military's Chemical Warfare Service at Rocky Mountain Arsenal, he was a realtor with Van Schaak & Co. Real Estate in Denver. He married Jackie Cunningham. She preceded him in death. He was a Catholic, past president of the Aurora Association of Realtors and recipient of its Realtor of the Year Award.

Survivors include: a sister, Helen Green of Big Spring; and two nieces, Lynn Goddard of Lawrence, Kan., and Paula Green of Bellaire.

Arrangements under the direction of Veterans Burial and Cremation.

Louise Merrick Entriken

Service for Louise Merrick (Schermerhorn) Entriken, 89, formerly of Big Spring, will be 11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 2, 1999, at Highland Park Presbyterian Church, Main Sanctuary, with the Rev. Robert Thompson officiating. Private burial will be in Hillcrest Memorial Park.

Mrs. Entriken died Monday, Nov. 29.

She was born on Feb. 11, 1910, in Big Spring. She married Robert F. Schermerhorn, and he preceded him in death. She then married J. Spencer Entriken. He also preceded her in death. Mrs. Entriken was a member of the Dallas Woman's Club, Dallas Garden Club and Highland Park Presbyterian Church.

Survivors include: two sons, Robert R. Schermerhorn and Scott Schermerhorn; two daughters, Linda Schermerhorn Brown and Susan Schermerhorn Flanagan; 11 grandchildren; and seven great grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the John Schermerhorn Fund at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center; 5323 Harry Hines Blvd.; Dallas;

MYERS & SMITH
FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL
21th & Johnson 267-8238
Ester Parras, 82, died Tuesday. Prayer service is 7:30 PM tonight at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral service is 2:00 PM, Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

NALLEY-PICKLE & WELCH
Funeral Home
Trinity Memorial Park and Crematory
906 Gregg St. (915) 267-6331
James Dixon, 63, died Tuesday. Services will be 1:00 PM Thursday at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood chapel. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.
Melvin A. Brown, 62, died Tuesday. Services will be 4:00 PM Thursday at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

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75235-9002, Highland Park Presbyterian Church, or to the charity of one's choice.

Arrangements under the direction of Sparkman/Hillcrest Funeral Home, Dallas.

James Dixon

James Dixon, 63, Big Spring, died on Tuesday, Nov. 30, 1999, at his residence. Service will be 1 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2, 1999, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Dr. Kenneth Patrick, Chaplain of Baptist Memorial Center in San Angelo, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.



DIXON

He was born on July 17, 1936, in Eola, and married Sandra Sue Patterson on July 14, 1962, in Big Spring.

He worked for Halliburton for 27 years and for Small Fishing and Rental for 15 years, retiring on June 30, 1999. His hobby was his family, especially his grandchildren.

He was a member of First Baptist Church. Mr. Dixon served in the United States Army during the Korean Conflict.

Survivors include: his wife, Sandra Sue Dixon of Big Spring; one daughter and son-in-law, Lisa and Robert Martin of San Angelo; one son and daughter-in-law, James Troy Jr. and America Dixon of Altus, Okla.; two sisters, Marie Kiefer of San Angelo, and Jewell Taylor of Midland; three grandchildren, Ashley Dixon, Brittany Dixon and Brooke Dixon; and several nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers will be Horace Nash, Chuck Breyman, Ronnie Taylor, Ricky Smith, Allan McCarty and Kent Kuykendall. The family suggests memorials to: American Heart Association; 3525 Andrews Hwy, Suite 111; Midland; 79703.

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

Melvin A. Brown

Service for Melvin A. Brown, 62, Coahoma, will be 4 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2, 1999, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Walter Lee, pastor of first Presbyterian Church of Coahoma, and the Rev. Allan Futhrie, retired Presbyterian minister, officiating. Burial will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

Mr. Brown died Tuesday, Nov. 30, 1999, in a Lubbock hospital.

He was born on Aug. 28, 1937, in Amarillo. He married Merlene McDonald on March 21, 1959, in Big Spring. He attended Big Spring schools graduating in 1955. He then attended Howard College and Texas Tech University. He worked for the United States Postal Service for over 30 years, retiring in 1992. Mr. Brown was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Coahoma where he had served as an Elder and Treasurer. He was also a member of the National Association of Letter Carriers.

Survivors include: his wife, Merlene Brown of Coahoma; three daughters, Melissa Shaffer McKay of Copperas Cove, Kerre Seright of Lubbock, and Jenna Roberts of Denver City; his mother, Louise Brown of Big Spring; and four grandchildren.

The family suggest memorials to the First Presbyterian Church; 701 Runnels; Big Spring, or the First Presbyterian Church; P.O. Box

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94; Coahoma, 79511. Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Ester Parras

A prayer service for Ester Parras, 82, Big Spring, will be 7:30 p.m. tonight at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral service will be 2 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2, 1999, at the Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Mrs. Parras died Tuesday, Nov. 30, at Comanche Trail Nursing Home.

She was born on Feb. 17, 1917, in Toyah. She married Pablo Olveras in 1941. He preceded her in death. She was a lifetime resident of Big Spring and was a member of the First Mexican Baptist Church. Mrs. Parras had worked at Ideal Laundry for many years.

She is survived by: three nephews, Robert Luevano of Big Spring, David Parras and Danny Parras, both of Dallas; and two nieces, Brenda Parras and Gloria Parras, both of Abilene.

Arrangements under the direction of Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

UBS to stop in Big Spring on Thursday

HERALD Staff Report

United Blood Services Bloodmobile will be in Big Spring Thursday.

The Bloodmobile will be at Wal-Mart from 4:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.

Those wishing to donate must:

- be at least 17 years old
- weigh more than 110 pounds
- have proof of identification
- know the names of any medication you may have taken within the last 30 days.

If you would like to make an appointment to give blood, please call 1-800-756-0024.

United Blood Services is the area's not-for-profit provider. UBS blood drive dates for Big Spring in the year 2000 are Feb. 3, April 6, June 8, Aug. 10, Oct. 19 and Dec. 21.

911

Continued from Page 1A

chairman Melinda Hernandez said "We assure everyone operations will continue. We will be discussing a search for a 911 director or interim director. Everything will run on schedule."

Members of the board will handle Kennemur's duties until someone is hired for the position.

Kennemur had served as the local 911 executive director since 1996.

SAFETY

Continued from Page 1A

face will wear through the plastic covering the wiring and expose the wire.

Use special plastic attachments to hang outside lights. The attachments will also help

3IG SPRING AROUND THE TOWN

secure the light bulbs.

- Watch for any fraying or breaks in the both outdoor and indoor lights.
- Don't leave burning candles unattended. "We have candle fires every year," said Jensen. Don't leave candles alone with children and pets.
- Make sure all candles are away from any decorations.
- Blow out all lit candles before leaving the room.
- Keep gift wrapping away from any heated source.
- For those who are using fireplaces, keep a protective screen to trap any sparks.
- Only burn seasonal wood in your fireplace, never green wood or trash such as discarded wrappings.
- Be sure to have your chimney cleaned yearly. Built up creosote can cause a fire.
- If you use a space heater to warm a room, make sure the room is well ventilated.
- Keep the heater at least three feet from curtains, beds, clothing, and all combustible items.
- Unplug the lights before you go to bed, and never leave them on when you are not home.

Following these suggestion will help you to have a safe and happy holiday season.

PECANS

Continued from Page 1A

younger, and an adult division for those out of school or 19 and over.

Mixes may be used as an ingredient in a recipe, but mixes used by themselves will not be accepted, said Tarter.

Pecans must be included as an ingredient in the actual dish, not just in icing or for decoration.

Unlike the Pecan Show, pecans used for food items do not have to have been grown by the exhibitor.

Entries should be covered with transparent wrap, with the name and address of the exhibitor on the bottom of the container. Each entry must be accompanied by with recipe, written or typed on a 3x5 inch card.

"We average about 20 entries. We'll have some youth entries as well as adult entries," said Tarter. "Everybody just kind of does it for fun"

David Kight, extension agent, estimated that pecans generate \$75,000 to \$80,000 annually in Howard County.

"We have probably about 4,000 acres of pecans from commercial orchards but that does not take into account the trees homeowners have. I'd say we have another 1,000 acres that aren't commercial," Kight added. "For our area, it's a pretty significant amount."

Some 52 people entered the Pecan Show, which will also be judged Thursday morning.

TEXAS LOTTERY

Pick 3: 5,4,9

Cash 5: 11,18,20,22,36

Lottery numbers are unofficial until confirmed by the state lottery commission.

Cast members, who have been in rehearsal since mid-October, were issued tapes to practice proper English and cockney dialects.

Jeff Janca has a dual role as a blind beggar, as well as Ol' Joe, who buys stolen merchandise from cockney thieves LeAnn Bruton, Deborah Drake and Marsha Jones.

"I've really enjoyed being a part of this production and playing in the comic relief scenes. I guess theater is in my blood," Bruton said.

David Drake portrays Charles Dickens, a role that functions as narrator and partygoer. Kathy McDiffitt is a cockney Christmas Present with an attitude; Connie Tubbs is a sweet Christmas Past; and Edward Slate is a scary, hooded Christmas Yet-To-Come, as well as a mean and sadistic school master.

Linda Battle plays Topper, who organizes a game; Carroll Jennings is the ghost of Jacob Marley; and David Risner and Julia Trevino are Mr. and Mrs. Fezziwig, who throw a big party.

The cast list continues with more than 20 children who wreck havoc on the stage as part of one scene, and who spend several scenes cowering from mean adults.

"The diversity of the actors, and the response and commitment shown by all my cast members lends me to hope we may have an interest in creating a community theater group," Grizzle said.

Indeed, he is hoping this production will spin off into an annual production of the play, as well as other community theater productions throughout the year.

"Of course, we will need a director, because I cannot have this role every time due to my duties and commitments to my students at Howard College," Grizzle said.

And while attendance to both performances is free, donations boxes will be positioned in the front, to help fund future theater productions.

"A Christmas Carol," in two acts with a short intermission, will also offer musical entertainment with traditional Christmas songs, with direction and assistance from Big Spring Independent School District choir director Linda Lindell.

HELPING

Continued from Page 1A

through Dec. 14.

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.
- Church of the Nazarene will collect canned food for the Salvation Army during the drive-through nativity scene,

PLAY

Continued from Page 1A

going, the versatility of many of our actors allowed me to cast them into multiple parts for the production, with costume and accent changes," Grizzle said.

TRANSPORTATION

Continued from Page 1A

Transportation Committee chairman Bill Crooker said, "the meeting was very effective and we made excellent process. This meeting put us on the right road."

POLICE

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following incidents from 8:00 a.m. Tuesday until 8:00 a.m. today:

- GREGORIO ARENIVAZ, 57, was arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- MARY MAGANA, 40, was arrested on a charge of resisting arrest.
- WILLIAM COOK, 20, was arrested on a charge of minor driving under the influence.
- MAJOR ACCIDENT was reported in the 3900 block of West Highway 80.
- THEFT was reported in the 900 block of Willia, the 400 block of Johnson, and the 1800 block of Greg.
- ASSAULT BY THREATS was reported in the 1800 block of Scurry.
- JUVENILE PROBLEM was reported in the 1800 block of Goliad, 1900 block of Main, and the 900 block of Johnson.

FIRE/EMS

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

TUESDAY

12:22 a.m. — 3300 block W. Hwy. 80, traffic accident, one refused service and one transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

7:11 a.m. — 2700 block Ann, medical call, service refused.

7:31 a.m. — 100 block E. 18th, medical call, patient transported to the VA Medical Center.

12:16 p.m. — 1000 block Lamesa Hwy., medical call, patient transported to SMMC.

2:30 p.m. — 1200 block Mesa, false call.

7:28 p.m. — 1900 block Scurry, medical call, patient transported to SMMC.

Effective December 31, 1999

DR. BENJAMIN ALLEN, M.D.

will no longer be affiliated with Big Spring Family Medical Center.

Existing patients are encouraged to make appointments with John Farquhar, M.D. or Les White, M.D. Patients may retrieve copies of personal medical records at the Big Spring Family Medical Center at 2301 South Gregg Street.

For more information, contact Big Spring Family Medical Center (915) 267-5111

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Protests disrupt WTO session, but ministers insist they will carry on

SEATTLE (AP) — Stunned by violent street protests, officials at a 135-nation trade gathering insisted they would push ahead with their effort to launch a new round of talks aimed at breaking down barriers to global commerce.

President Clinton was scheduled to address ministers today in the conference he has been banking on heavily, but was heading into a shattered downtown where officials sought to restore order with an overnight curfew and officers in riot gear.

Washington Gov. Gary Locke ordered as many as 200 members of the National Guard and 300 state troopers to Seattle, where they will serve as backup to police who on Tuesday bat-

led rampaging protesters with tear gas and pepper spray.

"This conference will be a success. The issues are far too important to be ignored," said Mike Moore, director general of the World Trade Organization.

WTO delegates long had expected protests, but nothing like the storm that hit Seattle when at least 40,000 activists took to the streets Tuesday. Some 5,000 protesters confronted police, with a handful launching an assault on the downtown business area.

Windows were shattered everywhere from NikeTown to Santa's Village outside of Nordstrom. A Starbucks coffee shop was broken into and looted.

The protests threatened to become a major embarrassment for the Clinton administration. News of the violence generated headlines across Asia today: "Demonstrators overrun Seattle," said a page-one headline in the Times of India, one of India's top national newspapers.

In Tokyo, Yasushi Abe, an official at Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry said he had anticipated protests. "But the scale of demonstrations and reported violence were beyond imagination," Yasushi Abe said in an interview in Tokyo.

The protesters are unhappy with the Geneva-based organization that sets the rules for

global trade, charging that it too often only considers the needs of giant corporations at the expense of protecting the environment and worker rights.

Some of the more moderate opponents want the WTO, the Geneva-based body that sets world trade rules, to include tougher labor and environmental standards in any trade deal — an idea strongly opposed by developing nations in Asia and Latin America who depend on cheap labor to make economic gains.

Downtown merchants shut their doors as shop windows were beaten in Tuesday. Graffiti was sprayed on walls and trash bins overturned and set afire. Shops were looted and

police-car tires slashed.

King County Executive Ron Sims said some protesters boarded transit buses, assaulted drivers and vandalized the vehicles to try to block traffic.

Disappointed WTO officials scrapped morning speeches by Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan and they headed straight into the first of a series of plenary sessions where all the trade ministers are able to air their concerns.

Later, as trade ministers dined at a gala miles away, police in body armor and gas masks fired tear gas and pepper spray to clear demonstrators from the downtown core. Hundreds ran choking from

heavy clouds of gas. As of late Tuesday, 17 minor injuries were reported and at least 25 people had been arrested.

White House press secretary Joe Lockhart said Clinton "has said that he believes the people there protesting have a legitimate point of view and should be heard inside and outside the hall."

"While the vast majority of protesters were peaceful, Clinton condemned those who chose violence. 'That's wrong,' Lockhart said.

"Despite the problems with the ceremonial events, the substantive work goes on," Lockhart said. "Our team believes we've made some progress today."

Mexico, U.S. dig for bodies of 100 missing

CIUDAD JUAREZ, Mexico (AP) — U.S. and Mexican authorities unearthed the remains of two people during an intensive search of border ranches where an FBI informant has indicated that as many as 100 victims of a powerful drug cartel could be buried.

FBI forensic experts worked with Mexican soldiers and sketched police Tuesday searching two desert ranches near the city of Ciudad Juarez, once the undisputed territory of the Juarez drug cartel, at one time Mexico's largest and most violent drug-smuggling outfit.

Authorities were led to the ranches by an informant who approached the FBI early this

year, a federal law enforcement official said in Washington. The informant said there might be as many as 100 bodies there, including people who had been providing information to U.S. drug agents, according to the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Bones, clothing and shoes were found at the Rancho de la Campana, 10 miles southwest of Ciudad Juarez, Attorney General Jorge Madrazo told TV Azteca in a live interview late Tuesday.

Madrazo reiterated that officials do not believe that any bodies of U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration or FBI agents are at the ranches. But he said agents of the

Mexican federal judicial police could be buried there.

TV Azteca reported that Rancho de la Campana's owner and a caretaker had been detained and taken to Mexico City. A spokesman for the Attorney General's office told The Associated Press he had no information about the alleged detentions.

Madrazo told the Televisa television network that investigators suspect the victims were killed by the Juarez drug cartel.

He said that while the number of bodies in the ranches was unknown, the number of people reported missing in the area was around 100 people — including 22 Americans.

"The list of complaints of people who have disappeared includes a little more than 100, but that doesn't mean that in the places where we are looking, you're going to see 100 bodies or more. This we don't know," he told TV Azteca. "We are investigating this."

U.S. officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said only four or five Americans had been reported missing in the area over the past several years.

Assistant FBI Director Thomas Pickard in Washington said that it was "a pretty good assumption" that Americans are among those buried at the ranches, given "the proximity to the border."

Bush tax plan would aid very rich and working poor

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Republican presidential candidate George W. Bush wants to slash tax rates at all income levels, proposing a five-year, \$483 billion package he says will "make life better for average men, women and children."

Targeting the working poor as well as the very rich, Bush's package embraces conservative economic staples with a populist twist, further defining what he means by his promise to be a "compassionate conservative."

The proposal, which Bush was unveiling today, drew instant criticism from Republican and Democratic rivals as the GOP front-runner looks beyond the primaries to court general election voters.

The package would cut taxes a bit deeper than a similar Republican congressional package vetoed this year by President Clinton, but is not nearly as ambitious as the flat-tax overhaul championed by presidential rival Steve Forbes and other conservatives.

"Clearly, Bush faced down the tax code and blinked," Forbes spokeswoman Juleanna Glover Weiss said.

Bush's package would:

- Simplify and reduce marginal tax rates. Incomes are now taxed at five levels — 15 percent, 28 percent, 31 percent, 36 percent and 39.6 percent. Bush would propose four rates, with the poorest paying 10 percent and the wealthiest paying a top rate of 33 percent.
- Double the \$500 child tax credit, a benefit to the middle class.
- Bush's plan would open the credit to people earning up to \$200,000; the current cap is \$100,000.
- Reduce the penalty paid by couples who get married by restoring a deduction that ended in 1986.
- Eliminate all estate taxes, a GOP favorite that would primarily aid small business men and women, farmers and family members who inherit huge sums.
- Make permanent the research and development tax credit that Congress just extended for five years.
- Raise from \$500 to \$5,000 the amount of money a person can put in tax-free education savings accounts.
- Current law limits the accounts to college expenses. Bush would expand it to kindergarten through 12th grade.
- Eliminate the so-called "earnings limit" for Social Security.



BUSH

Exxon-Mobil deal expected to have little impact at pump

DALLAS (AP) — A merger creating the world's largest publicly traded oil company has driven the MOB from Wall Street.

MOB, the stock symbol of Mobil Corp., disappears as of today from stock listings as Exxon Corp. has completed its takeover and formed the new Exxon-Mobil Corp. Exxon's old symbol, XON, also disappears and has been replaced by XOM.

But while stock traders will have a new symbol to deal with, consumers should see relatively little change at the pump, according to oil industry analysts.

The way analysts see it, even the combination of the nation's two largest oil companies isn't enough of a force to control prices in a highly fragmented industry. Nor, they said, would the forced sale of an Exxon

refinery in California do anything to reduce high gasoline prices there.

A few analysts even believe the requirement that Exxon and Mobil sell 2,413 service stations — 15 percent of their total — as a condition of the \$81 billion merger might increase competition.

A half dozen or so major oil companies and independents are expected to bid for the stations, many of which occupy valuable real estate in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic.

George Gaspar, an analyst with Robert W. Baird and Co. in Milwaukee, said the forced sale

gives smaller companies a chance to get big in a hurry.

"It will enhance at least two of the downstream players, so from that point of view there should be an improvement in competition," Gaspar said.

In a comment echoed by other analysts, Tyler Dann of Banc of America Securities in Houston said the gasoline-retailing business is among the most competitive out there — with or without the merger.

"How many other industries is the price of the product displayed for all the world to see?" Dann said. "On balance, the merger is probably a neutral"

on gasoline prices.

"It's such a global market that no one company has a whole lot of pricing power," said Mark Hastings, an analyst with Citibank Global Asset Management in Stamford, Conn.

Some, such as Frank Knuettel of Paine Webber in New York, took a wait-and-see attitude. "It's much too early to tell what the effect on competition will be when we don't even know who the buyers are."

The combined Exxon-Mobil will produce 3.8 percent of the world's oil with 120,000 employees and \$138 billion in assets.

Experts warn of damaging e-mail virus

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Experts scrambled to warn thousands of computer users that a familiar and damaging virus has struck scores of companies and could be slumbering in their e-mail inboxes.

The Mini-Zip virus tore through computers on Tuesday, devouring files and crippling e-mail systems, anti-virus analysts said. It was expected to renew its assault today as unsuspecting users logged on.

Dan Schrader, vice president of new technology at Trend Micro in Cupertino, Calif., said he fielded complaints of significant problems from four Fortune 500 companies and scores of smaller companies.

Anti-virus experts said the bug gets loose from an infected system as a seemingly friendly reply to a clean e-mail sent via the Microsoft Outlook, Outlook Express or Exchange browsers.

The virus intercepts the original message and automatically sends itself as a response — even changing the subject line from, for example, "Work Meeting" to "Re: Work Meeting."

The body of the message reads: "Hi (recipient's name)! I received your e-mail and I shall send you an e-mail ASAP. Till then, take a look at the attached zipped docs. bye."

The e-mail contains an attachment: "zipped-files.exe." If a user double-clicks on the attachment, the virus is set loose.

It then destroys a series of files in a computer's hard drive by replacing them with empty files. Experts cautioned users against opening e-mails if they do not know the sender. They said the virus could be fought with updated anti-virus software.

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EDITORIAL

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

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

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OUR VIEWS

Fans can hoop it up in Coahoma

With Borden County's exit from the six-man football playoffs Saturday, the Crossroads Area's sports scene has become fully focused on basketball.

The timing couldn't be better in the minds of Coahoma Independent School District officials as they prepare for Thursday's start of the 14th annual Coahoma Invitational basketball tournament.

"We feel like this is becoming one of the best tournaments in West Texas," Coahoma Bulldogs head coach Kim Nichols said as he and his team prepared to host a 10-team field in the tourney's boys division. "One of the things that makes this tournament interesting is that you never know who's going to win."

No better example of that, Nichols said, came a year ago when Seminole's junior varsity got on a roll and walked away with the championship.

Seminole's JV will return to defend that championship, but figures to get a considerable challenge from the likes of Stanton, Crane, Abilene Wylie and an unbeaten Merkel squad.

Other boys teams entered include Monahans, Midland Greenwood, Borden County, Grape Creek, Anson and Snyder's junior varsity.

The 10-team girls division figures to every bit as competitive, even though Borden County's three-time defending champion Lady Coyotes return four starters from a team that reached the Class 1A state tournament a year ago.

The biggest challenge for the Lady Coyotes figures to come from the likes of Class 4A Sweetwater and Coahoma's host Bulldogettes, who bring a 4-0 record into the tournament and want nothing more than to end a six-year string of second-place finishes in their own tournament.

The remainder of the girls field includes Crane, Stanton, San Elizario, Fort Stockton, Lubbock Cooper, Grape Creek and Anson.

The tournament gets under way at 11 a.m. Thursday with Merkel's Badgers taking on Midland Greenwood's Rangers in the Coahoma Elementary School gymnasium.

Coahoma's girls will open the tournament by facing Anson at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, followed by the Bulldogs' opener with Anson's boys at 8 p.m.

We here at the *Herald* encourage local basketball fans to take advantage of the opportunity the tournament offers this weekend.

And with a \$3 adult admission or \$2 student ticket entitling fans to spend an entire day watching high school basketball, the Coahoma tournament offers fans an excellent bargain.

We'll see you there.

How To Contact Us

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

- In person at 710 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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- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
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- We reserve the right to edit letters for style and clarity.
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- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered for publication.
- We do not acknowledge receipt of letters.
- Letters from our circulation area will be given preference.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721.

Education needs mending, not affirmative action

Remember President Clinton's 1995 promise to "mend affirmative action, not end it"? He did virtually nothing to turn that promise into policy — but now, a new group of menders has stepped into breach, promising to end racial preferences in college admissions while ensuring access to the best-qualified minority students.



LINDA CHAVEZ

The latest is Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, who issued his own proposal a few weeks ago. He asked state colleges to quit using race as a factor in deciding whom to admit, but then, urged them to change their policies to admit any Florida student who graduated in the top 20 percent of his high-school class, regardless of test scores. Texas and California universities have adopted similar plans, with the former opting to admit the top 10 percent of graduating seniors, and the latter, the top 4 percent.

Have these reformers figured a successful way out of the affirmative-action morass? Or are they creating new problems and masking old ones? It's too early to know for sure how these experiments will turn out, but a few words of caution are in order.

Racial preferences strike most people as wrong on their face. Giving extra points in the college-admission process to a black or Hispanic student because of his race or ethnicity seems no more fair than taking away points on those bases. But what about devising new rules that appear to treat everyone the same but really are intended to maintain a certain racial or ethnic balance?

If, for example, the University of Mississippi, which admitted its first black student in 1962, adopted a policy to admit only students whose great-grandparents had attended Ole Miss, we would know that the purpose of the new rule was to keep blacks out — even though race was never mentioned.

When it comes to race, intent counts. No matter how neutral — or clever — a policy appears, if its intent is to give some people an advantage and others a disadvantage because of their skin color, then, the

policy is discriminatory, plain and simple. But what about Florida's proposed 20 percent rule, or Texas' less generous 10 percent, or California's 4 percent solution? If the intent is to ensure racial balance — to put caps on the numbers of some groups in order to ensure a floor on the number of others — these plans aren't much different than the racial preferences that preceded them.

And there are other problems as well. Everyone knows that not all high schools deliver the same education. What's more, the worst schools tend to be concentrated in the poorest neighborhoods, and black and Hispanic students are far more likely to attend such schools. Graduating in the top 20 percent of the class — or even the top 4 percent — from a terrible school won't prepare the student to compete at a first-rate university, especially if the student hasn't taken the courses necessary to tackle college work, such as algebra. Texas has already discovered that many of its 10 percenters need remedial classes, and some lack even the requisite academic credit hours to be admitted to college.

And what about poor black and Hispanic students who have found their way out of

failing public schools and manage to attend, say, a local parochial school? Chances are, they'll be measured by tougher standards, and take a more challenging curriculum, but this could actually hurt their chances of getting into college in Florida, Texas or California under the new rules.

Let's say a low-income, Hispanic, public-school student graduates in the top 10 percent of his class with a 'B+' average, having tackled nothing more difficult than one year of algebra. His twin brother, on the other hand, graduates from the Catholic school across the street, having taken not only algebra, but trigonometry and calculus, plus four years of science and English literature, but manages only to rank in the top quarter of his class with a solid 'B' average. Which student would likely fare better at the University of Texas? Unfortunately, not the one guaranteed admission.

What needs mending isn't affirmative action, but education.

It's time to end all public policies that treat citizens differently depending on their race and get about the difficult business of reforming our elementary and secondary education system.

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Mineral Wells, it's the crazy city

Years ago, Indians fell in love with Palo Pinto county because it offered plenty to eat and drink. Outlaws liked it because the trees and giant boulders made great hiding places.

At one time, mulberry orchards were maintained to produce silk-worms.

The area's past includes legendary cattlemen, coal miners and wildcatters. Palo Pinto county has produced 20 million barrels of oil and is rich in minerals.

Its natural timber resources include forests of cedar, oak and pecan. It is a place where the bald eagle soars. It is home to deer, quail, turkey and dove. Some pioneers poked holes in the ground and got some funny tasting water that turned out to have medicinal properties

that could cure everything from rheumatism to mental disorders.

The word got out and people came here from all over to drink the water and bathe in it. Two hundred thousand people a year visited Mineral Wells searching for renewal: good health, a place to relax for awhile and gain perspective on their lives.

Prominent people came: superstars in movies and politics.

Film maker D. W. Griffith put up the Hollywood sign in California after seeing the Welcome sign on a hillside in Mineral Wells.

The city got the reputation as the nation's greatest health resort.

Somebody got the idea to evaporate the mineral water and sell the resulting residue. It was packaged under the name Crazy Water Crystals, advertised on radio and sent all over the world.

Customers only had to add tap water to the crystals to make mineral water.

The Baker Hotel, fashioned after the Arlington in Hot Springs, Arkansas, and the

Crazy Hotel are monuments to the healing waters that made the city famous.

World War II and the invention of sulfa drugs brought an end to the bathhouse heyday of Mineral Wells.

Now, water of another sort — lake water — is bringing people to Mineral Wells, to once again relax and heal and gain some perspective on life.

They enjoy the Brazos River Valley with its wooded hills, scenic roads, clear sky and the feeling of space and freedom.

Nearby landmarks like Inspiration Point, Lovers Retreat and Penitentiary Hollow are intriguing places to visit. Some Mineral Wells homes have unique and significant architectural characteristics.

Creative individuals see opportunity in the cross timbers and build companies that produce helicopter parts, bricks, pharmaceuticals, fiberglass pipe, leather goods and agricultural products.

This city, nestled at the foot of two mountains, offers picturesque water, appealing scenery and active, loving people.



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SLICE of Life!

QUICK TRIVIA

◆Of Americans over age 12, 95.3 percent listen to radio for an average of three hours and 20 minutes each workday.

◆The word crass may have been inspired by the money-making ventures of the Roman Marcus Licinius Crassus, who set houses on fire so his own fire brigade could put them out, for a price.

Got an Item?

Do you have a story idea for the *life!* section? Call 263-7331, Ext. 236.

'Flower of the holy night' requires care, brings beauty to holidays

We finally made it to the Christmas season! I love Christmas for many reasons: gifts, lights, trees, etc. ... But most importantly, I love it because our Lord was born on this very special day!

Since Christmas has plenty of history and meaning, I thought I would explain how the beautiful poinsettia plants came about.

Poinsettias are native to Mexico and are called "flor de la nochebuena," which means "flower of the holy night." Its name comes from the legend of a small Mexican girl who was unable to finish her gift for the Christ child in time for the vil-

lage's Christmas procession. A miracle allows her to offer a beautiful red flower.

Today, poinsettias come in more than 15 shades of red and a rainbow of other colors such as pink, cranberry, white, creamy yellow and many multi-colors. They are given the names like Monet and Winter Rose.



GINA GARZA

Poinsettias came to the United States by way of their native Mexico in the 1800s.

According to the Texas Department of Agriculture, 6 percent of the nation's crop is grown in Texas. Poinsettias are so popular during the holidays, they represent a third of Texas' \$36.5 million in annual potted plant sales.

Here are some tips in buying and caring for poinsettias:

- look for plants with large, colorful bracts, the leaves that give poinsettias their color.
- Poinsettias thrive on indirect, natural daylight. At least six hours daily is recommended.



Poinsettias, native to Mexico, are a tradition at the holidays. They represent a third of Texas' \$36.5 million in annual potted plant sales.

• To prolong the bright color, daytime temperatures should not exceed 70 degrees F. Avoid

placing the plants near drafts, excessive heat or dry air from appliances, fireplaces or ventilating ducts.

- An enclosed patio or entryway offers a choice location to show off poinsettias, provided the climate is mild. Night temperatures should not drop below 55 degrees F. If you want to decorate outdoors with poinsettias.
- The plants need moderately moist soil to do their best. Water thoroughly when the soil surface feels dry to the touch. Remove plants from decorative pots and water enough to completely saturate the soil. Do not let the plants sit in standing

water. This could cause root rot, which will kill them.

- Fertilizing isn't necessary when the plants are blooming. However, a balanced, all-purpose household plant fertilizer may help maintain rich, green foliage and promote new growth after the holidays. Follow the directions on the fertilizer label.
- Hopefully, all of you who buy poinsettias will remember their history and be able to keep beautiful plants throughout the whole year.

Gina Garza, features assistant for the Herald, writes a weekly column on family tips and information.

Youth involved in the community

4-H program activities have included many service projects

Youth today must learn to cope and be attuned to what is happening in the world around them. That is where the 4-H citizenship and community services program comes in.

Youngsters need to become aware of their relationship to others: family, peers, community, state, nation and world. They should acquire life skills that enable them to become active, responsible members of their communities. They need to learn respect and to respond to the needs of others and also learn that their contribution to the community is necessary to keep it alive.

Howard County 4-H members have taken community service seriously this fall and have participated in several activities to help their community. 4-H celebrated 91 years in October and in order to create more awareness of this viable youth organization, 4-H members set up an exhibit at Walmart and encouraged other

youngsters to get involved in this youth development program.

In many of the 4-H projects, community service is a major part of the activities. 4-H members in the Foods and Nutrition project gathered supplies and made bean soup mix which they sold during the County 4-H Food Show. The money made from this project was donated to the Salvation Army for use with their programs to assist families in need.

The 4-H Dog Care and Training project participants packaged homemade dog biscuits which they sold during



DANA TARTER

Howard County 4-H members have taken community service seriously this fall and have participated in several activities to help their community.

their weekly dog obedience classes. The profit from this project will be given to the Big Spring Humane Society for help with food supplies.

Annually the local 4-H Club raises funds to help support their club activities during the year. Recently, the club membership voted to make a donation to the West Texas Food Bank.

4-H members have also planned to be involved in their community during the Christmas Holidays as well.

They will be caroling during their annual 4-H Christmas program and they will also bring gifts to donate locally so that families in need will have gifts under the tree at Christmas.

Through 4-H community service projects such as these, 4-H members learn a valuable lesson, one that they will carry over into adulthood. Research has shown that adults who volunteered were usually youth who volunteered.

4-H is the youth organization of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

It is open to boys and girls 9 years of age (or 8 and in the third grade) through 18 years of age. If you would like to find out more about 4-H in Howard County you may contact the Texas Agricultural Extension Service in Howard County at 264-2236.

Dana Tarter is the Howard County Extension Agent family and consumer science.

Tamale tradition about more than just cooking

DALLAS (AP) — Esmeralda Cisneros is making tamales. Esme, as she is known to her family and friends, will soon teach a class on making the Mexican holiday food and wants to have some of the tamales already made.

In her kitchen, her mother, sister-in-law and niece spread masa, or corn dough, on moist corn husks. They spoon seasoned beef and olives onto the dough. Then they roll them, fold them and stack them.

While they work, the women laugh, gossip and remember family history.

"We sit and talk about... issues that are going on in the family," she says. "Money. Relationships. Who got married. Who got divorced. Who ran away. My grandmother was stolen by her husband. She was taken by a jinete (a horseman). She couldn't go back home. They wouldn't take her back because she was already taken by a man."

Once Esme has started telling stories, the women can't help but recount the life story of Abuelita - Grandma - who is returning from a trip and will also be at the cooking class.

For all three generations of the Cisneros family, making tamales for the holiday season is more than a tradition. It's about sharing. It's about putting love into food for your family - and feeding your soul by strengthening family ties. By being together.

"I'm hoping that I'll pass on something they can share with their daughters, the way I shared with my mother," she says of the class. "Because we don't ever know if we're going to be here tomorrow."

Esme, her mother and grandmother meet at the West End Ballroom on a Sunday afternoon to teach several students. The class is sponsored by the Mujeres de LULAC. The women's council of the League of United Latin American Citizens is dedicated to Latina issues.

The instructors arrive with personal recipes and memories about food. And about love. From these memories, they will teach students how to turn simple ingredients of flour, water, red chile, salt and beef into tamales so moist they slide right off the corn husk.

Esme introduces her mother, Cecilia Cisneros, and her grandmother, Antonia Rodriguez. Mrs. Rodriguez is wearing a brown dress with gold buttons. Her hair is pulled back like her daughter's and her granddaughter's. But her hair is white.

'I'm hoping that I'll pass on something they can share with their daughters, the way I shared with my mother. Because we don't ever know if we're going to be here tomorrow.'

Esmeralda Cisneros

Her job is to show the students how the shredded beef should look once it's cooked. "I feel bad," she says before the class. "I'm not young enough to be doing these things anymore." Then she takes several rings off her small fingers and walks to the front of the room.

The experience that Mrs. Rodriguez brings to the class goes way back. To Laredo, where she raised her family, and before that, a tiny ranch in northern Mexico. She's 91, but she doesn't look it. Her face and hands are brown but smooth.

"My life is long," she says in Spanish. "I can assure you I can't tell it (her life story) to you in two years. I grew up in the mountains. We ate mostly roots - zotol, maguey - I survived on that."

She helped her father plow the fields and make adobes. She could make 150 of them between 9 in the morning and 3 in the afternoon. But she also learned how to cook from her mother.

"I could teach them about enchiladas, gorditas," she says of the class. "I could teach them about menudo. If they pay attention, they need only be here once."

After she got married, and against her will, Mrs. Rodriguez planted 1,700 trees in the orchards with her husband. "Apple, apricot, peach," she says.

Years later, after her husband left her with eight children to feed, life got tougher. She washed clothes for rich people. She cleaned their homes. Her children waited for her at home, hoping that she would bring food home that day.

"Sometimes we had one meal a day," she says. "Sometimes we had none. If I had a taco, I used to split it among (the children)." And that was the important thing: sharing what they had. "In spite of all that I've suffered, I don't feel bad. I'm very grateful. I'm here."

The problem with cooking

See **TAMALES**, Page 6A

Thinking about Beaumont? Think museums

BEAUMONT (AP) — To outsiders, Beaumont is best known as the hub of the oil and gas industry, the city whose famous Spindletop oil well ushered in a century of petroleum-based economic growth.

Some travelers only know Beaumont as a convenient stopping point along Interstate 10.

But among travel agents and in the tourism industry, Beaumont is known not just for Spindletop or the city's convenience.

Instead, travel agents remember Beaumont for its museums -- all 17 of them.

From fire fighting to steamboats and ships, Beaumont offers an eclectic mix of entertainment and education -- so much so, that in 1987, former Mayor Maury Meyers dubbed Beaumont the "Museum Capital of Texas."

It's been almost a decade since the city Convention and Visitor's Bureau touted the city with the slogan, but the figures are hard to dispute: there's one museum for every 7,200 people in Beaumont.

No one planned to develop a Museum Mecca. It just happened.

In the late 1980s, a renewed commitment to revitalizing downtown Beaumont prompted city residents and officials to build the Texas Energy Museum and the Art Museum of Southeast Texas on Main Street. Even police officers joined in, developing a museum in the Beaumont Police Department's basement on College Street.

The Fire Museum of Texas, the Edison Plaza Museum, the Telephone Pioneer Museum and the Temple of the Brave all off of Main Street add to the downtown displays.

"Now, you have this nice corridor of museums all within walking distance of each other," said Ryan Smith, executive

director of the Texas Energy Museum, which opened in 1990.

The mix of museums throughout Beaumont clearly draw tourists to the area, said Jef Russell III, executive director of the Beaumont Convention and Visitors Bureau. But, he admitted, it's difficult to know just how much money the attractions bring to the area.

"It's very important to have these museums here," he said. "It has a tremendous impact on visitation."

Because Beaumont has no large, comprehensive science and history museums, like those in Houston, there was room to cultivate smaller, more unique museums, Smith said.

Take for instance, the Edison Plaza Museum, which showcases the work of famed inventor Thomas Edison.

Edison lived in Ohio, Michigan, New Jersey and Florida. Never once did the scientist take up residence in Southeast Texas. He had no relatives in Beaumont and probably never even visited the city.

So why is Beaumont home to a museum about the man's life?

Simple, said Janeen Odom, who gives tours of the Edison exhibits. Beaumont might never have been home to Edison but was home to one of his fans: W. Donham Crawford, who for four years was the chairman and CEO of Gulf States Utility Company.

For a lifetime, Crawford collected Edison memorabilia. When he died, Crawford's wife donated the hand-blown glass equipment, phonographs and other items to the company, which established the museum in the historic Travis Street Substation, the first place to send electricity to 22 cities.

People donated and loaned newspaper clippings, old equipment and Gulf States

merchandise to the museum, which now has more than 1,400 items, including ledgers and lighting from Edison's Menlo Park laboratory.

Just a block away, the Fire Museum of Texas displays an array of fire fighting equipment -- and a two-story dalmatian-spotted fire hydrant.

There are similar exhibits across the state, but only one has received the state's endorsement, said Director Linda Gaudio.

Inside the 1927 (and current) fire department headquarters, visitors can climb on a fire engine, try on fire fighting gear and examine a fire rattle from the 1600s.

Another museum, off Interstate 10, near downtown, pays homage to hometown hero, athlete and musician Babe Didrikson Zaharias.

"We're very unique, nationwide, because we cover the life of just one person," said Raleigh Marcell, who staffs the domed building, that doubles as a visitors' welcome center.

On their way to and from the Atlanta Olympic Games, people would visit the center to view "the Babe's" trophies, scrapbooks and Olympic medals, Marcell said.

Still others are lured to the area by what may be the only museum dedicated solely to steamboats.

The Clifton Steamboat Museum on Fannett Road showcases shipbuilding and U.S. military history.

David Hearn developed and financed the two-story exhibit because of his own love of sea vessels.

Whether spawned by one person's love of a subject or by downtown revitalization, area museums offer visitors a diversity of displays.

"It's really incredible," Russell said. "We're just very fortunate to have this variety of attractions to offer people."

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COMMUNITY NEWS



THE COAHOMA LIONS CLUB will bring in the Christmas spirit this year by selling poinsettias. They have five colors available: red, white (looks like a pale yellow), pink, striped, and peppermint. The flowers are \$10 each, available from any Coahoma Lion.

For more information, call Bill R. at 394-4384, Jack at 394-4527, Quail at 394-4000, or any other member of the club.

HANGAR 25 AIR MUSEUM will glow after Big Spring Herald Community Christmas Parade on Saturday. The hangar 25 will be open to the public from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., outlined in white lights and the interior will have special lighting for the holidays. Museum volunteers will be serving cookies, coffee and punch.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF Health will be giving flu shots starting on every Wednesday through the winter months to those persons 18 years and older, from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. and from 1 to 4 p.m. If you are on Medicare we will file. The cost to others will be \$5. For more information call 263-9775.

THE LAST WORD

To be prepared for war is one of the most effectual means of preserving peace.

George Washington

Nothing is easier than being busy, and nothing is more difficult than being effective.

Alec Mackenzie

Spare no expense to make everything as economical as possible.

Sam Goldwyn

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ABC considering fate of 'Millionaire' TAMALES

Continued from Page 5A

NEW YORK (AP) — After its astounding November run, the only question about "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire" is how soon it will be back on ABC and how often.

Final answer? ABC promises it by the end of the week. Network executives are huddling to decide whether to bring the quiz show back as a regular series or another ratings "sweeps" event in February.

"We really believe we're in a win-win situation no matter what we do here, but we are still carefully considering our options," Lloyd Braun, ABC Entertainment co-chairman, said today.

Regis Philbin, the man who helps make the millionaires, jokingly says that he's "ready to save the network any time they call."

Don't laugh. It's hard to overstate the impact of "Millionaire" on ABC, which will almost certainly claim an unexpected victory in the important November ratings "sweeps" on the back of its hit quiz show.

"Over the course of time I have been blown away by the public's demand for this program," said Michael Davies, the show's executive producer.

"Millionaire" drew its biggest audience ever — just under 30 million people — on Wednesday for the last of its 18-

night run. Over the 18 nights, it had an average viewership of 24.2 million, and was consistently popular among everyone from teen-agers to senior citizens, said Larry Hyams, ABC's top researcher.

"That's very, very rare," Hyams said. "You don't see such broad-based programming on network television anymore."

ABC has a seemingly insurmountable lead in the November sweeps, which end Wednesday. It would be ABC's first victory in a sweeps month, which occur four times a year, since 1994.

CBS and NBC were expected to battle it out for sweeps supremacy this month, with big-budget miniseries on leprechauns, Y2K travails and rock 'n' roll pioneers.

Instead, ABC clobbered the competition with a show that's cheaper to produce than anything else on its prime-time schedule.

"It's a huge morale boost," said Tom DeCabia, executive for Schulman Advancers, a media buying firm in New York. "It's like picking a dark horse and seeing it win the World Series."

Even a cable rival has caught the "Millionaire" craze: MSNBC on Monday showed a "Special Edition" program on Philbin packed with clips of the show biz veteran.

More than five million people have downloaded the "Millionaire" game off the Internet to play on their home computers, Davies said. A CD-ROM version of the game also recently went on sale.

It's safe to say ABC is making more off "Millionaire" than it is giving away in prize money, although it's hard to quantify exactly how much. The show enables ABC to meet — or exceed — viewership levels promised to advertisers. And it increases interest in other ABC shows, although that residual effect hasn't been dramatic.

DeCabia said he expects "Millionaire" to return as a regular series, because it is more profitable and easier to sell to advertisers that way.

ABC is considering both approaches, and may ask for the show as many as four or five times a week, Davies said.

He said he feared the show will become less of an event if it is on so much. But the public appetite is such that other networks will step into the breach with their own quiz shows if "Millionaire" is not on regularly, he said.

Waving goodbye on the final night, Philbin promised viewers. "See you next year!" Davies said he had slightly hedged his bets — the signoff was originally supposed to say, "See you in January."

today is that you can easily get food already made, she says. "Even in Mexico, you have the ready-made tortillas," she says. "You can order tamales made for you."

But if you want to learn, "el querer es poder," she says. Where there's a will, there's a way.

While Esme talks to the class, the grandmother runs her fingers through the beef and shows the students how it's supposed to look. Esme takes the students through the steps of seasoning the beef and shredding it into thin strings.

"The salt," says Esme, and her mother hands it to her. "This is something kind of new to us." She measures out a portion of salt. "We never measure. We just cook everything to taste."

Holding the bowl with one hand, she kneads and pulls the dough with her other hand. She leans close to her mother — a petite woman with bifocals — and gestures to a pot on the table. Mrs. Cisneros takes the pot and goes to the kitchen to bring her daughter more water for the dough.

The gentle relationship among the three women touches the students. "Que hermoso," says Betty Swinners. A

member of the Mujeres de LULAC, she helped organize the class. She wants to learn so she can teach her son and two daughters.

"Somewhere down the line, we stopped focusing on culture," she says. "We want the American dream. We want (our kids) to be doctors and lawyers. We stopped the tradition of having family times together, of 'Let's make tamales.' This is what I wish every Hispanic could have."

Malcolm Broyles studies the masa Esme is preparing. He knew the class would be a way to reconnect with his own roots, he says. And Esme's masa reminds him of his grandmother's biscuit dough.

"I think what they're doing is absolutely beautiful," he says. "That three generations are standing together. ... In their eyes, you can see them say, 'I love you.'"

It is about love, says Cecilia Cisneros, who is 66. She got the family recipe for tamales from her mother and has passed it down to Esme. And she learned that love from her mother.

"When we lived with my mother, she gave us a good life," she says. "In spite of the difficulties, we weren't sad. There was always joy. With my

mother, there was always joy. This is part of what I've taught them (her children). Wealth is knowing how to live, how to overcome."

Be happy with the things and the relationships you have, she has told her four daughters and three sons. Just do the best you can for your family. And do it with love.

"Without love, you can't do anything," she says. "My mother used to say that if you cooked for your husband, you had to do it with love. She used to say that if you were angry, your husband would get sick from eating your food. Sometimes I would say, 'I don't care if he gets sick.'"

But Esme remembers waking up before dawn, smelling delicious aromas from the kitchen. "My mom used to get up and make tortillas for my dad at 3 in the morning," she says. "You would hear the hustle and bustle in the kitchen. That was Mom. She's awake and making food. We'd go down and start eating."

There were always tacos filled with any combination of eggs, beans, potatoes and chile, she says. After eating breakfast with their father, Esme and her siblings would troop back to bed.

War on drugs increasing number of women in prison

WASHINGTON (AP) — The war on drugs has sent an increasing number of women to prison, according to a study released recently. It also says two-thirds of incarcerated women have children under age 18.

The drug war has had a "dramatic and disproportionate impact on women," said the report by The Sentencing Project, a private group devoted to finding alternatives to imprisonment.

The number of women in state prisons for drug offenses rose from 2,400 in 1986 to 23,700 in 1996, nearly 10 times as many, the study said. For non-drug crimes, the number of imprisoned women more than doubled, rising from 17,200 to 39,400. In other words, drug crimes accounted for half of the overall increase of women in state prisons.

The figures for women imprisoned for drug crimes start from a "relatively low base, but it's still an enormous growth," said professor Alfred Blumstein of Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh.

The numbers for women still are far below the numbers of men in prison.

In 1986, there were 34,400 men in state prisons for drug crimes, a number that rose to 213,900 in 1996, more than six times as many. For non-drug offenses, 391,400 men were imprisoned in 1986, compared with 767,500, almost twice as many, a decade later. Drug crimes made up one-third of the total increase.

"It is unclear to what extent our findings reflect changes in behavior and criminality or changes in official responses to those behaviors," the Sentencing Project's report said.

James Alan Fox, professor of criminal justice at Boston's Northeastern University, said the study shows a strong impact of the drug war on both men and women.

"This does not suggest that there has been any differential enforcement on women," Fox said. He added, "The impact on families and children is obviously disproportionate when women are locked up."

Two-thirds of female state prison inmates had children under age 18, and half of the women said their children had never visited them in prison. Many children of female inmates were placed in foster care.

"Thus, women's incarceration results in a disruption of children's living situation as well as creating emotional stress for both women and their children," the report said.

The report focused further on three states — New York, California and Minnesota — to show how the figures can vary across the country.

In New York, the number of women sentenced to state prison for drug crimes rose from 209 in 1986 to 1,226 in 1995, nearly six times as many. For men, the number tripled from 3,006 to 9,110.

Drug offenses accounted for 91 percent of the increase in the number of women imprisoned in New York from 1986 to 1995, 55 percent in California and 26 percent in Minnesota.

One in three male prisoners in New York were serving drug sentences in 1997, but six of every 10 women were sentenced for a drug crime, the study said. In California, about one in four male state prisoners in the same year were imprisoned for a drug crime, compared with four of every 10 female inmates.

In Minnesota 19 percent of women's prison sentences were for drug offenses, compared to 15 percent of men's.

The Sentencing Project recommended repealing mandatory sentencing laws, expanding drug treatment inside and outside of prisons, and providing aid for the children.

Zoo celebrates birth of baby elephant by artificial insemination

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. (AP) — In an important milestone for an endangered species, an Asian elephant has given birth after artificial insemination. Mother and son are doing fine.

Weighing in at 378 pounds, Haji was born Sunday at Dickerson Park Zoo. It was the world's first birth from artificial insemination of an Asian elephant, which are estimated to number only 35,000 worldwide.

"I think this opens the possibilities in a number of areas, the main goal being the conservation of the animal," said Michael Hutchins, director of conservation and science for the American Zoo and Aquarium Association in Maryland.

"This is another way that captive animals can help preserve wild elephants and their place in nature," he said.

Veterinarians had tried unsuccessfully since the mid-1980s to impregnate an Asian elephant through artificial insemination. One problem is determining when the females breed in captivity. Another was the male's semen peaking early.

"We had to develop a technique to gather the semen and preserve its ability to fertilize," said Dickerson veterinarian Dennis Schmitt. "This all took a very long time."

Because male elephants are very aggressive, they need special holding pens and can't be kept with females, making breeding options difficult. Scientists hope artificial insemination will alleviate some of the expense and difficulty of transporting males between breeding facilities.

Meanwhile, Haji and mom Moola are bonding nicely.

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The Big Sp... Club will Steers Footba p.m. Monday Roberts Com... The banquet catered by Barbucue... Tickets are available at Al's and Son the high scho be available

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Cancer Soc Texas Golf

The Howar the America is encouragi advantage of Texas Golf P... The pass, golfers with rounds of g courses, is n \$35 donation. Both the Golf Course Spring Coun participating in is the Stantor Those wan pass can do s... ()... also available courses.

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Registration interested in Spring Yo Association i ue through D... Tryouts ar 18 and the will be \$20 pe Registration 8 p.m. Monda and from 10 Saturday at Mall until De... Youngsters ter from 9 a.i day except S Sports throu For more Charlie Hall

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Television COLLEGE BAS

Men
6 p.m. — ACC Michigan at G Ch. 30.
8 p.m. — Al Challenge, Mi North Carolina

Women
7 p.m. — S Texas, FXS, C NBA
7 p.m. — H Phoenix Suns.

SPORTS EXTRA

SCHOOLBOY PLAYOFFS

CLASS 5A
DIVISION I

Table with columns for team names, scores, and game times for Class 5A Division I and II.

CLASS 4A
DIVISION I

Table with columns for team names, scores, and game times for Class 4A Division I and II.

CLASS 3A
DIVISION I

Table with columns for team names, scores, and game times for Class 3A Division I and II.

CLASS 2A
DIVISION I

Table with columns for team names, scores, and game times for Class 2A Division I and II.

SIX MAN
Semifinals

Table with columns for team names, scores, and game times for Six Man semifinals.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL: MILWAUKEE BREWERS—Re signed RHP Jeff D'Amico to a one-year contract.
ST. LOUIS CARDINALS—Named Jim Levilard major league scout.
NBA: TRADES: CHICAGO Bulls—Signed guard Steve Nash to a one-year, \$15 million contract.
WRESTLING: DENVER BRONCOS—Placed TE Shannon Sharpe on injured reserve.
HOCKEY: PITTSBURGH PENGUINS—Signed G Jean-Sebastien Aubin to a one-year, \$1 million contract.

NFL STANDINGS

Table showing NFL Standings for the American Conference East and West divisions, including teams like Indianapolis, Miami, Buffalo, and Cincinnati.

Table showing NFL Standings for the National Conference East and West divisions, including teams like Washington, Dallas, Arizona, and Minnesota.

THURSDAY, Dec. 2

Table listing Thursday, Dec 2 NFL games between Detroit and Chicago, and Pittsburgh and New York Giants.

SUNDAY, Dec. 5

Table listing Sunday, Dec 5 NFL games between Green Bay and Chicago, and Arizona and Cincinnati.

MONDAY, Dec. 6

Table listing Monday, Dec 6 NFL games between Green Bay and Tampa Bay, and Minnesota and Tampa Bay.

MONDAY, Dec. 6

Table listing Monday, Dec 6 NFL games between Green Bay and Tampa Bay, and Minnesota and Tampa Bay.

TOP 25 - BASKETBALL

Table listing the Top 25 basketball teams, including Cincinnati, North Carolina, Stanford, and Arizona.

MEN'S SCORES

Table listing men's basketball scores for various teams like Dartmouth, Duquesne, Miami, and Tulsa.

WOMEN'S SCORES

Table listing women's basketball scores for various teams like Connecticut, Holy Cross, and New Hampshire.

TOP 25 - FOOTBALL

Table listing the Top 25 football teams, including Florida State, Virginia Tech, and Oklahoma State.

LOCAL BOWLING

MENS MAJOR WEEK 13

Table listing men's bowling results for various leagues like Dan's Bowling, Tropic Fuchs, and others.

PIN POPPERS WEEK 12

Table listing pin poppers bowling results for various leagues like Sunbelt Bowling, Tropic Fuchs, and others.

WEDNESDAY STRIKERS WEEK 12

Table listing Wednesday Strikers bowling results for various leagues like Sunbelt Bowling, Tropic Fuchs, and others.

Nebraska's Solich Big 12 coach of year

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — As an assistant coach for 19 seasons, Nebraska's Frank Solich knows how much help a head coach needs in order to be successful.

Solich said he was honored Tuesday when he heard he was voted the AP Big 12 coach of the year in just his second season as a head coach, but he wanted to share the credit.

COWBOYS

Continued from page 1B

Yet Gailey would be the first to admit things need to change. "I think we just have to impress upon our guys how important it is not to have them," he said.

The rise in penalties is a curious aspect of Gailey's two-year tenure. While he's done a good job overall of cleaning up the mess left behind by Barry Switzer, this is one area he hasn't been able to control.

Gailey's positive spin is that only four flags were for pre-snap violations such as false starts and lining up in the neutral zone.

more special considering what he and the Cornhuskers went through a year ago. It was the first time Nebraska had lost four games since 1968.

Solich received the honor after taking the Cornhuskers from their worst finish in 30 years to the Big 12 championship game. Nebraska went from 9-4 in Solich's inaugural season to 10-1.

Solich, the longtime Huskers' assistant who took over the program when Tom Osborne retired, can become the first Nebraska coach to win 20 games in his first two seasons when Nebraska plays Texas on Saturday for the Big 12 title.

Solich, a fullback under coach Bob Devaney at Nebraska in the 1960s, said the award is even

wiped out a 36-yard pass that would've gone for five more because of a minor face mask violation by Miami's Terrell Buckley; the offsetting penalties resulted in no play.

"There seemed to be a lot of calls against us," Cowboys running back Emmitt Smith said after the game. "But we still made the plays when we had to."

Nebraska's record is better this year, but it has not been an easy season on or off the field for Solich.

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KNIT & WOVEN TOPS**

Choose from tops and sweaters
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**ENTIRE STOCK LADIES'
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Leather, all-weather and wool.
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and more. Reg. 34.00-40.00,
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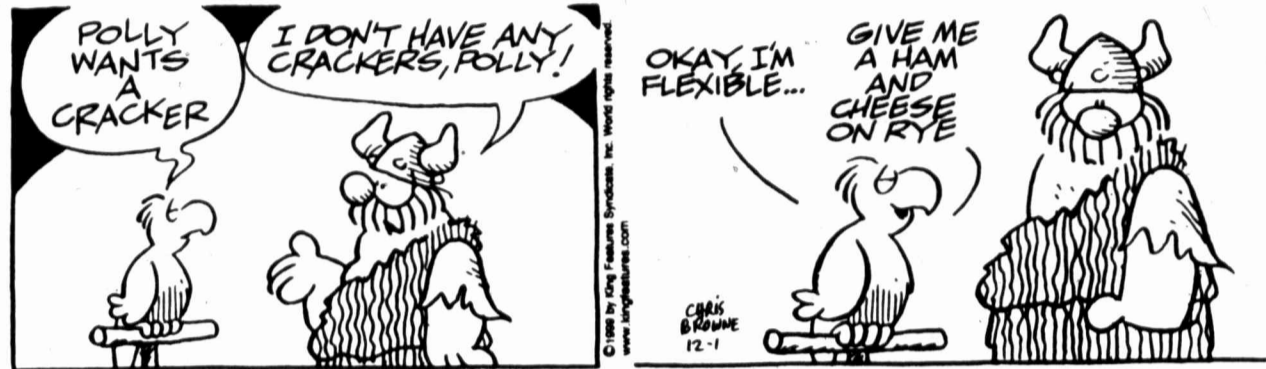
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WEDNESDAY				DEC. 1																			
Time	KMID (2)	KPEJ (3)	KERA (5)	FAM (6)	KOSA (7)	WFAA (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	UNI (13)	DISN (14)	NASH (15)	TMC (16)	SHOW (20)	HBO (22)	KMLM (24)	A&E (25)	DISC (26)	TNT (28)	USA (38)	SCIFI (39)	LIFE (46)	TLC (41)	
6:30 PM	News (CC)	Home Imp. Judge Judy	Creatures Antiques	Every Day (CC)	News Ent. Tonight	News (CC) Fortune	News (CC) Senfeld	Fresh Prince	Sonadoras	Friends-AIDS Movie: The Thirteenth Year (CC)	Waltons (CC)	As Good as It Gets (CC)	..	..	News John Hagee	Law & Order (CC)	Wild Discovery	ER (CC)	JAG (CC)	Siders (CC)	Intimate Portrait (CC)	Turning Point
7:30 PM	Two Guys-Girl Whose Line?	Movie: Jerry Maguire (CC)	Great Performances (CC) Ballroom	Borrowed Hearts: A Holiday Romance	Red-Nosed Reindeer	Two Guys-Whose Line?	Christmas-Rocketeer	NBA Basketball	Tree Mujeres	Thirtieth Year (CC)	Century of Country (CC)	..	Movie: Philadelphia (CC)	Stuart Little Movie: Color of Night (CC)	Light of the Southwest	Biography (CC)	On the Inside	Movie: Dirty Dancing	Walker, Texas Ranger (CC)	Siders (CC)	Chicago Hope (CC)	Ultimate Special Effects	
8:30 PM	Drew Carey Norm (CC)
9:30 PM	20/20 (CC)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10:30 PM	News (CC) Nightline	Jerry Springer (CC)	Announced Newshour	700 Club (CC)	News (35) Late	News (CC) Nightline	News (35) Tonight	News (35) Tonight	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
11:30 PM	Politically Inc. Cheers	Newsradio Unhappily	Laher American	Who's Boss? Random Acts	Show (CC) (37) Late	Ent. Tonight Politically Inc.	Show (CC) (37) Late	Secret Service	Viviana a la Medianoche	Zorro (CC) Mickey Mouse	Dukes of Hazzard (CC)	Violence	Beggars and Choosers	281 (CC)	Faith Pleases God	Biography (CC)	Bear Attack 2	..	..	..	..	..
12:30 AM	(12:06) Gunsmoke	Cops (CC) Hollywood	Experience (CC)	Paid Program	Grace Under	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

HAGAR



BLONDIE



B.C.



FAMILY CIRCUS



DENNIS THE MENACE



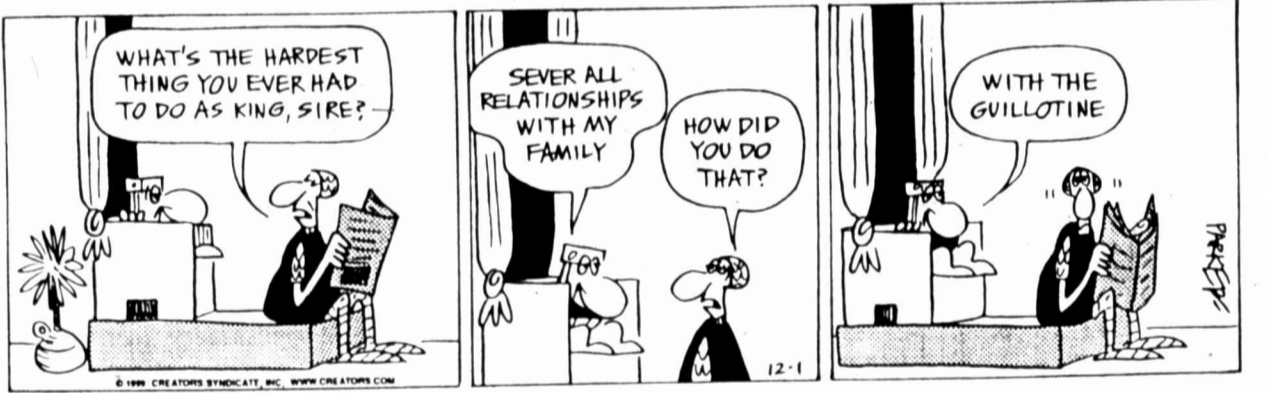
GEECH



"One thing's for sure, Mommy. It's easier to say 'Y2K' than 'New Millenimum'."

"THERE ARE NO MONSTERS UNDER YOUR BED, JOEY. THEY'RE ALL WORKING IN THE MOVIES."

WIZARD OF ID



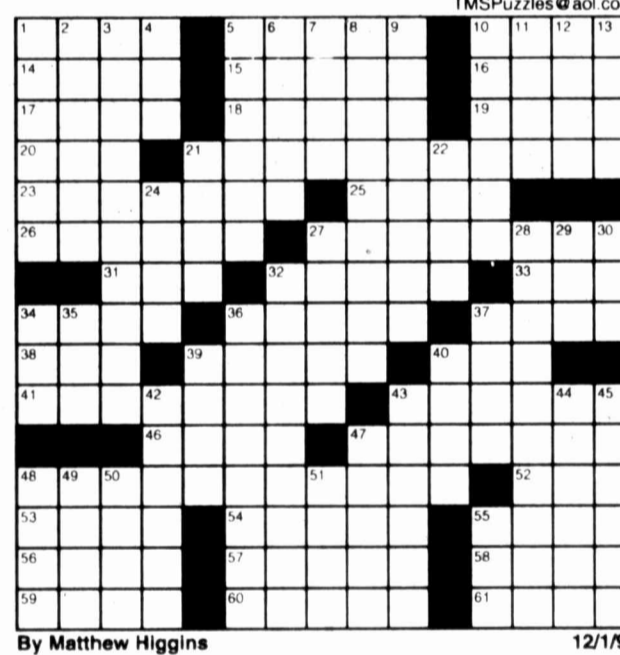
THIS DATE IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS Today is Wednesday, Dec. 1, the 335th day of 1999. There are 30 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Dec. 1, 1955, Rosa Parks, a black seamstress, refused to give her seat to a white man on a city bus in Montgomery, Ala.; Her arrest led to a year-long boycott of the buses by blacks. On this date: In 1913, the first drive-in automobile service station opened, in Pittsburgh. In 1934, Sergei M. Kirov, a collaborator of Josef Stalin, was assassinated in Leningrad, resulting in a massive purge. In 1942, nationwide gasoline rationing went into effect in the United States. In 1956, the Leonard Bernstein musical "Candide," based on Voltaire, opened on Broadway. In 1959, representatives of 12 countries, including the United States, signed a treaty setting aside Antarctica as a scientific preserve, free from military activity. In 1965, an airlift of refugees from Cuba to the United States began when Cubans were allowed to leave their homeland. In 1969, the U.S. government conducted its first draft lottery since World War II. In 1973, David Ben-Gurion, Israel's first prime minister, died in Tel Aviv at age 87. Ten years ago: In an extraordinary encounter, Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev met with Pope John Paul II at the Vatican. East Germany's Parliament abolished the Communist Party's constitutional guarantee of supremacy. Five years ago: The Senate gave final congressional approval to a world trade agreement, passing the 124-nation General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, 76-24. One year ago: Exxon Corp. agreed to buy Mobil Corp. for \$73.7 billion. Cuba's Communist Party recommended that Dec. 25 be re-established as an annual holiday. Today's Birthdays: Former CIA director Stansfield Turner is 76. Actor Robert Symonds is 73. Singer Billy Paul is 65. Actor-comedian-director Woody Allen is 64. Singer Lou Rawls is 64. Golfer Lee Trevino is 60. Singer Dianne Lennon (The Lennon Sisters) is 60. Comedian-actor Richard Pryor is 59. Country musician Casey Van Beek (The Tractors) is 57. Rock singer-musician Eric Bloom (Blue Oyster Cult) is 55. Rock musician John Denmore (The Doors) is 55. Actress-singer Bette Midler is 54. Singer Gilbert O'Sullivan is 53. Actor Treat Williams is 48. Country singer Kim Richey is 43. Actress Charlene Tilton is 41. Actress-model Carol Alt is 39. Actor Jeremy Northam is 38. Actor Nestor Carbonell is 32. Actor Ron Melendez is 27.

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS
1 Repeat
5 Clearly detailed
10 Kisser
14 Khomeini's predecessor
15 Woods of golf
16 Turkish title
17 Processes leather
18 Eyes
19 Snail's pace
20 Like MacDonald?
21 Propose using parliamentary procedure
23 Shotgun ammo
25 Place for a chapeau
26 Barroom perches
27 Justinian code
31 Small child
32 Prima donnas
33 Washington's bill
34 Meat cut
36 Highway stop
37 Eager
38 Fuss
39 Brubeck and Garroway
40 Type of chart
41 Reproves
43 Moderate
46 Red explorer?
47 Comfort
48 Act on a whim
52 Highland topper
53 Winter glider
54 Leaning
55 Location
56 "A Death in the Family" writer
57 Blue ducks
58 Tilled
59 "Atlas Shrugged" author Ayn
60 Elia piece
61 Warhol or Williams
- DOWN
1 Legally bars
2 Alpine cottage
3 Dishwasher's soother
4 Exclamations of surprise
5 European
6 Rubes
7 Chills and fever
8 Kin
9 Ancient
10 Subdued color
11 Jamaican citrus fruit
12 Bug off!
13 Cut, like lumber
21 Thaw
22 "Miss Regrets"
24 Diving bird
27 Refers to a source
28 Passion arouser
29 Tropical blackbird
30 Merry
32 Pigeons' digs
34 Fond du ____, WI
35 Poem from Pindar
36 Soak in wine
37 Objectives
39 __ mater
40 Famous Quaker
42 Sowed
43 Baby's foot
44 Jubilant
45 Correct
47 Beatles' songs singer Black
48 Pater the Great's title
49 Primitive plant
50 Sharp
51 Aunts in Barcelona
55 1950's revival group, __ Na



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