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THURSDAY

December 23, 1999

WEATHER

Tonight:



TONIGHT 22°-24°

Friday's edition to be delivered in the morning

So that Herald employees might have the opportunity to spend as much time as possible with family and friends this Christmas, Friday's edition will be published tonight and will be delivered by 7 a.m. Friday.

If you have a problem with your delivery Friday morning, call our circulation department at 263-7335 between the hours of 7 and 11 a.m. All other Herald offices will be closed Friday.

From the Herald family to your family, may the joys fo the season fill your hearts. Merry Christmas.

Post office plans late hour closing

County and city government buildings will close Friday for the holidays, but persons will still be able pick up and mail letters and pack ages that day.

"I've made the decision to stay open Christmas Eve and New Years Eve until 5 p.m., said Richard Saxton, Big anyone has any packages they need to mail, purchase stamps or things of that nature, the window will be open.

The post office will be closed Christmas Day and New Years

City offices will be closed Friday and Monday, as well as Friday, Dec. 31.

Howard County offices will close Friday and Monday.

WHAT'S UP...

TODAY

☐ Masonic Lodge No. 598, 7:30 p.m., 219 Main.

FRIDAY

☐ Signal Mountain Quilting Guild, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Bring a lunch.

INSIDE TODAY...

Abby		5B
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Vol. 97, No. 49

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.

Many Big Spring churches to hold Christmas Eve candlelight services

By DEBBIE L. JENSEN

Features Editor

Worshippers will flock to the local churches Friday evening, as they plan special services to mark Christmas Eve.

SPRING

A variety of special services are planned, many of them including candlelight. In some cases, each member of the congregation is given a candle as they enter the sanctuary, to be lit at some point in the service

Initial autopsy report shows gunshots cause of couple's death

LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

A preliminary autopsy report has confirmed that a Sand Springs couple found dead at

their residence Friday died of gunshøt wounds to the head.

Howard County Sheriff's Department is still waiting on a full autopsy report on Carroll Coates



and his wife Rhonda Coates, who were discovered in their two-room residence by a family member.

"The preliminary autopsy report said that the cause of death was due to gunshot wounds to the head that the penetrated the skull," said Howard County Justice of the

See AUTOPSY, Page 2A

as the lights are dimmed.

First Church of God. 2009 Main, will have its annual candlelight Christmas Eve service beginning at 6:30 p.m. There will be carols, the reading of the traditional Christmas story from the Bible. Professional musicians Melvin and Marilyn Chappell will also perform.

First United Methodist Church will have a 6 p.m. service, including candlelight and special music. Joyce Bradley,

will sing a solo, "O Holy Night." Choir will also do an arrangement of "Jesus, Jesus Rest Your Head" with handbells.

First Presbyterian Church, 8th and Runnels, will also host its annual Christmas Eve service at 7 p.m., with candlelight, carols and communion.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1001 Goliad, also has a traditional service of lessons and carols, along with communion,

soprano and longtime member, at 10:30 a.m. on Friday. It will include guest musicians Jamie Bain, mezzo soprano; Joyce Bradley, soprano; and Mary Frances Malone, harp. On Christmas Day, the church will also observe communion beginning at 10:30 a.m.

> First Assembly of God will have a candlelight communion service beginning Friday at 7 p.m. The informal service will include music, and is designed as a time of "reflection on the

Jo Wyatt, a Retired Senior

Volunteer Program volun-

teer, inspects some of the

bicycles which have been

donated to the Salvation

Army. Other bicycles have

Services, an RSVP project

season. RSVP is responsi-

completed each holiday

ble for coordinating the

between the donor and

prison, who repair bicy-

the inmates at the federal

HERALD photo/Marsha Sturdivant

delivery of the bikes

cles for children's

Christmas presents.

been donated to

Children's Protective

real reason for the season.'

First Church of the Nazarene plans a candlelight service beginning at 6 p.m. Friday, with special music and reading of the traditional Christmas story.

First Baptist Church also plans a service at 6 p.m., with music, including the quartet of Casie Fillingim, Carol Hanes, Nancy Welch and Julie Wolf. The lighting of the Advent wreath, candlelight and communion will also be included

BSFD

Jensen named interim chief at fire department

By JOHN H. WALKER

Brian Jensen, 45, an 11-year veteran with the Big Spring Police Department, has been named interim

chief. Chief Frank Anderson, who has announced his retirement effective March 1, 2000, will retain the title of fire chief until that time, but will leave take until then.

Jensen joined the department in 1988 and advanced to the position of lieutenant. In 1995, he was named to direct the dayto-day operations of EMS and has since been promoted to the

Unrealistic expectations can lead to holiday depression, experts say

By MARSHA STURDIVANT

Staff Writer

While wrapping those presents and sipping that eggnog. mental health professional are reminding all Yuletide merrymakers to remember to take care of themselves to avoid holiday depression.

"Holiday depression, a situational type depression, really comes from three basic areas exaggerated expectations, over commitment and disrupted routines," said Shannon Nabors. area mental health director with West Texas Centers for Mental Health and Mental Retardation.

And the solution to holiday depression requires common sense actions of slowing down, enjoying the moment, getting plenty of rest and realizing the magic of Christmas is not really magic, she said.

"One of the biggest reasons for holiday depression is that people have expectations that because it's Christmas, all their

problems will just disappear. If they have a strained relationship or martial problems or other types of problems, they tend to think those will magically resolve because it's Christmas. But that is not real life," she said.

The same problems a person has will continue through the holidays, she said, and the best way to deal with this to realize life is not perfect.

"We need to look at the holidays as a time like any other time. We shouldn't set a picture in our mind that this is how it's supposed to be," Nabors said.

Holiday depression may be caused by over commitment, or doing too much during the season. By insisting that all presents be bought and wrapped, decorated with hand-tied bows. or that all holiday baking be done perfectly could lead to depression when those commitments are left undone, she said.

The baking traditional at Christmas started when everyone gathered together and

baked. Over commitment comes Christmas parties with alcohol when we have a list of things we have to do, such as looking right and dressing right and all the presents are just right. We have too many commitments and that can lead to depression," she said.

Disrupted routines are other actions that might create holiday depression, Nabors said. Late-night package wrapping, during the week, and eating rich food can all lead to missed sleep, which can led to depres sion, she said. "Out sleep patterns get dis-

rupted during the holidays, and our eating patterns too. We will eat foods not on our diet during the holidays, and these can lead

to loss of sleep," she said.

time for themselves during the holidays. Eat right, try to get plenty of sleep, watch alcohol consumption and remember to take care of their own mental

"Really enjoy the holidays instead of rushing through them. It's the simple things that make holiday memories, like

She urged everyone to take See DEPRESSION, Page 2A

Acceptance vital to dealing with a loss

By MARSHA STURDIVANT

Staff Writer

One depression-creating situa tion which requires more than common sense solutions at Christmas is when a family experiences the loss of loved

"If a family member has been lost due to death or illness, that can be a sad time as families realize that traditions may health director with West Texas burden of some of the depres-Centers for Mental Health and Mental Retardation. Acceptance is the key to mak-

ing it through holidays when a family member or close friends is missing, she said. "You just have to realize and

accept that this will be a hard time, so make sure you have people there and that you have support," she said.

Focusing on the richness and

sion that comes from the loss of a loved one, she said.

And knowing the holidays will be a time the loss is keenly felt, and walking through that time is another solution, as well as strength builder, she said.

"We all have to go through that grief and loss, and it helps if we look at the blessings in life and enjoy being with our family and friends," she said.

BSISD began preparing for Y2K in 1997-98

the second in a series of articles explaining how local entities are preparing for Y2K. Coming Friday — how the City of Big Spring is addressing the prob-

By MARSHA STURDIVANT

Staff Writer

Big Spring Independent School District began Y2K tests in the 1997-98 school year, more than two thirds of the administrative computers had to be replaced.

"We replaced quite a few computers, 66 out of 81 in our administrative offices and our school offices, and all the business computers," said James McFarland, BSISD office man-

McFarland said once the initial testing was completed and the problems discovered with the administrative systems, he went to the school board and asked for funds to bring the district into Y2K compliance.

"When it's all said and done. this will have cost \$450,000,

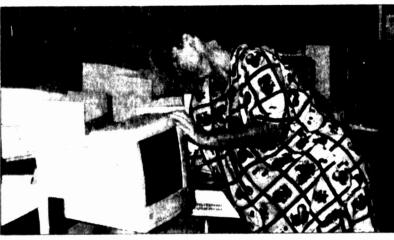


counting the new software. We began placing these items in the budget in the 1998-99 school year," he said.

McFarland said much of the district software is leased, such as the student data and business operations software. Therefore, BSISD officials were actually dealing with two separate situations at once.

"We are changing into a new system next year, so we had to check for Y2K compliance and the new system as well. We have to make sure the business and administrative offices systems are operational," he said.

The focus for Y2K compliance has been at the district and administrative level, and whether student-use computers will still function after the new year remains unknown.



Paula Cole, Big Spring ISD technology coordinator, looks over computers at Washington Elementary. BSISD began Y2K tests in the 1997-98 school year

"We did not test all the student use computers, because those are not critical systems. Our critical systems are the ones that make money, from food service to attendance and financial. We have more than a thousand student-use computers, some old and some new, and student-use computers are a different ballgame," he said.

Along with testing and preparing the administrative computers, McFarland said several safe guards were also pre-

"That is to prevent hacking, so that a student cannot hack into our system on-line and change their grade or their

See BSISD, Page 2A

Big Spring police officer found dead in Ruidoso Downs

By MARSHA STURDIVANT Staff Writer

Sgt. John Stowers, 38, a 12year veteran with the Big Spring Police Department was found dead in

Ruidoso Downs, N.M. about 6 p.m. Wednesday, a victim of a single gunshot wound.

Stowers was pronounced dead at the scene by a New Mexico

STOWERS medical examiner about 6:20

"This is still under investigation. We have ordered an autopsy today, and with toxicology reports it will take about six-to-

See OFFICER, Page 2A

OBITUARIES

Melvin F. Ray

Service for Melvin F. Ray, 89, Temple, formerly of Big Spring, was 11 a.m. today at Sheffield Funeral Home, Temple, with Dr. Jerry Carlisle officiating. Entombment followed Bellwood Memorial Park.

Mr. Ray died Tuesday, Dec. 21, 1999, in a Temple nursing

He was born on Jan. 20, 1910, in Alba. He had lived in Big Spring for 30 years before moving to Temple. He attended school in Meadow and was a member of the First Baptist Church of Temple. He married Earline Fielder on July 4, 1933, in Brownfield.

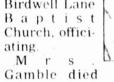
He is survived by: his wife, Earline Ray of Temple; a daughter, Melva Washburn of Temple; three sisters, Gladys Reynolds of Odessa, Ona Bynum of Clovis, N.M., and LaVelle Hamilton of Dickenson; and one grandson.

Arrangements under the direction of Sheffield Funeral Home, Temple.

Patsy Gamble

Service for Patsy Gamble, 62, Big Spring, will be 2 p.m. Friday, Dec

24, 1999, at Myers Smith Chapel with the Rev. Jess Colgrove. pastor Birdwell Lane Baptist Church, offici-



GAMBLE Wednesday, Dec. 22, at her residence follow ing a short illness.

She was born on Oct. 31, 1937. in Spur. She married Prentice Gamble in Lovington, N.M. She moved to Big Spring in 1968 from Napa, Calif. She was a homemaker and a Baptist. She is survived by: her hus-

band, Prentice Gamble of Big Spring; two sons, Ricky Gamble of Big Spring, and Randy Gamble of Midland; one stepdaughter, Joellen Canales of Big Spring; one brother, Joseph Lassette of Rest of Signature of Big Spring, and Peggie Ramos of Fresno, Calif.; five grandchildren; four great-grandchildren;

nephews. Arrangements under the direction of Myers & Smith Funeral Home & Chapel.

and a number of nieces and

Sgt. John Stowers

Service fo**r** Sgt. John Stowers, 38, Big Spring, is pending with

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME

& CHAPEL 24th & Johnson 267-8288

Patsy Gamble, 62, died Wednesday. Services are 2:00 PM, Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Sgt. John Stowers, 38, died Wednesday. Services are pending.

Hank Thompson, D.V.M. 70, died Thursday. Services are pending.

NALLEY-PICKLE & WELCH **Funeral Home** Trinity Memorial Park



and Crematory 906 Gregg St.

(915) 267-6331

Mrs. Buster "Wanda Bruce, 77, died Tuesday. Graveside services were 11:00 AM Thursday at Trinity Memorial Park

Wesley Craig "Wes" Kerby, 21, died Monday. Services were 2:00 PM Thursday at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Burial will followed in Trinity Memorial Park.

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Myers & Smith Funeral Home & Chapel.

He died Wednesday, Dec. 22, 1999, in Ruidoso, N.M.

Hank Thompson,

Service for Hank Thompson, D.V.M., 70, Big Spring, is pending with Myers & Smith Funeral Home & Chapel.

He died today at Midland Memorial Hospital in Midland.

AUTOPSY

Continued from Page 1A

Peace Bennie Green.

No signs of struggle or forced entry to the residence was apparent, according to Howard County Sheriff's Department Chief Deputy Kerry Fritz.

Green expects to receive final autopsy reports in two weeks. Dr. Robert Lyon at the Pathology Association of Lubbock is conducting the autopsy.

Fritz said they have received reports that Coates and his wife were separated, and she had recently returned to Big Spring.

"She left Oklahoma on that Wednesday for Big Spring. Prior to that, we do not have any knowledge of what she was doing," he said.

According to reports given to the sheriff's department, Ronda Coates returned to Big Spring with the intention of considering resuming the marriage.

"We do not know what his intentions on resuming the marriage was," Fritz said. "We have talked to all the people that we are aware of that we need to talk to.

Coates and his wife were found in the back room which contained the bedroom and kitchen area, and the revolver found at the scene was owned by Carroll Coates, according to

"We have received some information from neighbors who could have possibly heard gunshots around 9:30 pm. on Thursday," he said "When they heard the sound, they did not

They can not make a final deter mination until they receive the the final autopsy reports, according to Fritz.

Until final autopsy reports are received, the sheriff's department is continuing to investigate the incident as a double homicide, he said.

DEPRESSION

Continued from Page 1A

taking, the children to see Christmas lights and visiting with family and friends. Everyone has mental health. but we don't exercise our mental health as we do our physical health. So try to exercise your mental health at the holidays and enjoy yourself," she said.

And Nabors also said if any one is having trouble with depression to call the MHMR hotline at 1-800-375-4357.

CHIEF

Continued from Page 1A rank of deputy chief.

City manager Gary Fuqua named Jensen after fire marshal Burr Lea Settles declined the position. Fuqua said Settles, who will retire in less than 20 months, asked to be left in the

BIG SPRING MOVIE HOTLINE For showtimes call

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on existing electric, plus tax Door Repairs Extra

department's No. 2 position.

'We had two very talented and qualified individuals to consider for the position," Fuqua said. "We're excited to have both of them in leadership roles in the department."

In his new job, Jensen will continue his duties as EMS director while adding the responsibility of overseeing the day-to-day operations of the fire department.

"Brian will have some excellent deputy chiefs working with him and helping him out in the day-to-day operations," Fuqua said. "Brian has always had good ideas about how the department can better serve the community.' Fuqua said Jensen will

remain interim chief until March 1. At that time, an acting chief will be named and the search will begin for a new fire The fire department has an

annual budget of \$2.1 million. not including the EMS services, which is entering the fifth year of a five-year contract between the city and the fire department.

BSISD

Continued from Page 1A

teacher's salary," he said.

Also, all air conditioning systems, bell alarms and fire alarms, security systems and even fuel pumps in the district school buses have been

"All systems have either been changed out or upgraded to be Y2K compliant," he said.

McFarland will begin preparing payroll Christmas that will be distributed Jan. 2, so an immediate application of the system will happen before the new year turns.

"I feel we are definitely ready to the new year," he said.

OFFICER

Continued from Page 1A

eight weeks to receive a final report. We will not say what the cause of death is until after the autopsy," said deputy medical examiner Danny Sisson.

think of it as junshots.

The shift of the prime at estimates that the victims had been mates that the victims had been in Ruidoso Downs. He had Service. apparently been shot with his service revolver, Sisson said.

"He and his family had arrived in Ruidoso Downs Tuesday, and they had gone snow skiing. His construction company had been very busy, and he was doing some catch-up work. The family intended to return (to Big Spring) today, because they had a big Christmas party planned for Christmas Eve at their home," Sisson said

Sisson said he would not speculate on the cause of death until the autopsy results were made available

"We treat everything as a homicide until we know," he said.

Stowers became a patrolman for the Big Spring Police Department in 1987. He was promoted to sergeant on Nov. 1, 1997, and had also served as a detective and warrant officer.

Sgt. Roger Sweatt with the BSPD said no further information has been forthcoming from New Mexico. Big Spring officers attempted to find out more about their fellow officer's death until 11 p.m. Wednesday night

'We still don't have the circumstances of what happened," Sweatt said.

He said he had enjoyed working with Stowers, whom he described as a good officer with a can-do attitude.

Your One Stop

Headquarters

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Christmas Shopping

BIG SPRING AROUND THE TOWN

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"He was a friend of mine. He was a hard worker, and no matter what was asked of him, he was always willing to do it,' Sweatt said.

Further investigation into the death is under the direction of the Ruidoso Downs Police Department. Other than indicating the death'is not being investigated as a homicide, individuals within the department refused any additional comment.

Ruidoso Downs assistant police chief David Hightower also refused comment.

Stowers is survived by his wife, Liz, and two children, and two brothers. Funeral services are pending with Myers and Smith Funeral Home.

BRIEFS

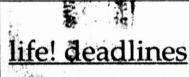
THE TEXAS DEPART MENT OF Health will be giving flu shots every Wednesday through the winter months to those persons 18 years and older, from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. and from 1 to 4 p.m. If you are on Medicare we will file. The cost to others will be \$5. For more information call 263-9775.

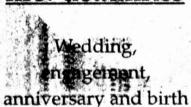
A MEMORIAL TREE FROM the American Cancer Society is set up at Merle Norman in Big Spring Mall. Donors can give a gift to the Big Spring Unit of ACS in memory or honor of a loved one.

When the tree is removed, the ornament marking the gift will be sent to the person honored or the family of the person memorialized. Donations can be made through Dec. 25. Call Lucy Bonner at 263-6305. Memorials can also be mailed to P.O. Box 2121, Big Spring.

Service Place at the Center, 1901 Simler Drive, Monday Tan. 10 through Friday, Jan. 14 from 9 a.m. noon each day.

Volunteers will brovide free tax assistance during February and March. Call' Dorothy Kennemur, 398-5522 or the senior center, 267-1628, for more information.





announcements are due Tuesday at noon for publication in the Sunday, Jan. 2 edition of the Herald.

Church and club news for the Friday, Dec. 31 edition are due Monday by 5 p.m.

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·A.D.D.A.P.T. non-profit sup-

•Alzheimer's support group, noon, Scenic Mountain Medical Center, third Thursday of the month. Call Janice Wagner at

the Hangar 25 Museum.

The same article listed some

69.17, up 5 points. courtesy: Delta Corporation.

Other markets unavailable by press

RECORDS

Wednesday's low 21 Average high:58 Average low 29 Record high 79 in 1933 Record lew 0 in 1989 Precip. Wednesday 0.00 Month to date 0.00 Month's normal 0.52 Year to date 11.84 Normal for the year 18.17 Sunrise Friday 7:44 a.m. Sunset Friday 5:47 p.m.

TEXAS LOTTERY

Pick 3: 8,4,1

Lotto: 8,13,26,37,39,49

Lottery numbers are unofficial until confirmed by the state lottery commission

FIRE/EMS SUPPORT GROUPS

THURSDAY

port and learning organization about attention deficit disorder, learning disorders and dyslexia. Meets second Thursday of September, October, November, January, February, March, April and May, Cerebral Palsy building, 802 Ventura, Midland.

CORRECTION

An article in Tuesday's edition stated that Jim Grantham is the McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark manager assistant. Mr. Grantham is actually a Green Thumb employee who works at

incorrect fees for charter membership to the Hangar 25 Air Museum. The correct prices are \$15 for student membership. \$30 for individual membership and \$60 for family membership.

MARKETS

March cotton 49.80, up 47 points; Jan. crude 25.74, up 24 points; cash hogs steady at 36; cash steers steady at 69 even; Feb. lean hog futures 55.65, down 5 points; Feb. live cattle futures

Wednesday's high 51

Following is a summary of Spring Department/EMS reports: WEDNESDAY

11:26 a.m. - 2000 block Virginia, medical call, patient transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

2:12 p.m. - 1500 block Sycamore, trauma call, service refused.

2:12 p.m. - 100 block E. Third, dumpster fire, extinguished by responding units.

 $5:33 \, \text{p.m.} - 1000 \, \text{block}$ Stadium, medical call, patient transported to SMMC. 6:58 p.m. - 1700 block

Lancaster, medical call, patient transported to SMMC. 7:09 p.m. — 700 block E. 15th, medical call, patient transport-

ed to SMMC. 10:37 p.m. — 900 block E. I-20, medical call, patient transported to SMMC.

POLICE

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following incidents between 8 a.m. Wednesday and 8 a.m. today:

 ERLINDA HERNANDEZ, 47, was arrested for local war-• DANIEL MARQUEZ, 42,

was arrested for local warrants. · JOE TORRES, no age available, was arrested for public intoxication. CITY ORDINANCE VIO-

LATION was reported near the intersection of Northwest Eighth and San Antonio. MINOR ACCIDENT was reported in the 800 block of

west FM 700 and the 1100 block · DISTURBANCE/FIGHT was reported in the 500 block of

Northeast 10th.

CLASS C CRIMINAL MIS-CHIEF was reported in the 500 block of Highland. · CRIMINAL TRESPASS

WARNING was issued at the police station BURGLARY OF A HABI-**TATION** was reported in the 1300 block of Mesquite.

of Parkway · THEFT was reported in the 1700 block of East Third.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF

was reported in the 4200 block



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THE BIG SPRING HUMANE SOCIETY

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Officials try to calm Americans, urge vigilance

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Eric Holder told a news confer-FBI warned today of possible mail bombs being sent from Germany to addresses in the United States even as federal officials urged Americans to stay calm but vigilant about possible terrorist threats.

Meanwhile, authorities are searching for links between suspicious individuals and alleged terrorism mastermind Osama bin Laden

President Clinton, law and State enforcement Department officials all walked a fine line Wednesday, encouraging people to go ahead with holiday plans while saying they should look for unattended packages and other signs of possible terrorism.

"We obviously are trying to strike an appropriate balance," Assistant Attorney General or

ence. He advised Americans traveling overseas to avoid large gatherings, but assured people it was safe to attend large New Year's events in the United States where there will be "an extensive law enforcement presence."

An FBI statement issued in the predawn hours today warned that it had received unsubstantiated information that individuals may be planning to send bombs in small parcels to addresses in the United States" from Frankfurt, Germany.

"Out of an abundance of caution, the public is being promptly alerted to this information," the statement said. "The public should be cautious with parcels originating from

Germany, postal markings or stamps when the sender is unknown or unfamiliar to the recipient. Questionable packages should not be handled and local authorities should be noti-

The statement gave no further details nor any indication of which "individuals" were involved in the potential threat.

U.S. officials have been passing on warnings of possible attacks on Americans overseas, but the threat of domestic terrorism became real on Dec. 14 when an Algerian was arrested in Port Angeles, Wash., after bomb-making materials

allegedly were found in his car. Ahmed Ressam, 32, was indicted in Seattle and pleaded innocent Wednesday to charges he made false statements to U.S. customs officers; smuggled Clinton said.

nitroglycerin across the border; transported explosives; committed a felony while carrying explosives; and possessed unregistered firearms - the apparent timing devices found in Ressam's car.

Clinton, who plans to attend a large New Year's celebration at the Lincoln Memorial, visited a Washington food kitchen Wednesday as airport security tightened around the country and federal buildings received extra protection.

He advised Americans to "go about their holidays and enjoy themselves and make the most of it," but urged them to report "anything suspicious" immediately. "We are taking extraordinary efforts in the government to act based on the incident out in the Pacific Northwest,"

IRS will waive penalties for legitimate Y2K tax woes

WASHINGTON (AP) Taxpayers who cannot comply with tax laws due to Y2K computer glitches can get penalties and interest waived by the Internal Revenue Service — but they should actively try to avoid such difficulties.

IRS Commissioner Charles Rossotti said Wednesday that taxpayers should make a "reasonable effort" to comply, such as checking out their own computers or asking if an employer or bank is Y2K ready.

Once a problem is discovered, individuals and businesses should contact the agency immediately at 1-800-829-1040.

"Taking a common-sense approach will help most taxpayers adequately prepare for Y2K," Rossotti said. "But the IRS stands ready to help if some taxpayers and businesses encounter Y2K tax problems beyond their control.'

The computer Y2K problem is the result of past computer programming that expressed years with two digits, meaning that on their returns.

uncorrected computers could interpret "2000" as "1900" and crash, or garble data.

After spending \$1.3 billion, the IRS itself is confident that its multitude of computers and systems is ready for the Y2K tax

filing season. In most cases, the IRS expects that individuals will have enough time to deal with any century-change dilemmas and still get their tax returns filed by the April 17 deadline. April 15 is a Saturday in 2000.

Businesses may encounter more pressing problems because they have more frequent tax dealings with the federal government and might be prevented from sending proper forms to workers on time.

The IRS recommends that individuals hold onto their final 1999 pay stub, which contains most year-end tax and income information, in case there are delays in getting a W-2 form from an employer. That at least allows taxpayers to get started

Government agrees to field test

Department says it will agree to a field test that may help settle the question of whether federal authorities fired shots at the Branch Davidian compound at the end of the deadly April 1993

The decision ended three weeks of negotiations involving senior Justice Department and FBI officials and was reported in a letter from Deputy Waco Special Counsel Edward L. Dowd Jr. to a federal court in

"We believe that the agreed upon format could result in significant information related to the question of whether there was gunfire emanating from

DALLAS (AP) — The Justice government positions on April 19, 1993," Dowd said in the letter to U.S. District Judge Walter Smith

> Mike Caddell, lead lawyer for the Davidians in a massive wrongful death case, said the test outlined in the general counsel's letter is everything the plaintiffs wanted.

> "It should answer once and for all whether there was government gunfire on April 19. he said. "There are people at the FBI who must be quaking in their boots. Given their performance in depositions in the last two weeks, they either have no idea what's on their own infrared tapes or they must know it's gunfire."

FCC allows Bell Atlantic to offer long-distance

NEW YORK (AP) — In just a few days, Bell Atlantic will begin offering long-distance telephone service to New York residents following a landmark decision by federal regulators.

The company said it would offer long-distance service Jan. ... 5 in New York, where it now provides local service to 6.6 million households.

Communications Commission marks the first time since the court-ordered breakup of AT&T 15 years ago that consumers can get both local and long-distance service from one of the AT&T spinoffs.

"We are able to finally declare that the Berlin Wall of local phone monopoly in New York has been demolished and hauled away," FCC Chairman William E. Kennard said after Wednesday's unanimous decithe state of New York.'

New York Attorney General and wireless service. Eliot Spitzer said the decision of the competitive telecommuni-

cations marketplace." Industry analysts predicted New York would be just the beginning, guessing that other local phone companies around Approval of the plan by the the country would use Bell Atlantic as a model for getting into the lucrative long-distance

> "Our own view is you're probably going to have regional bell company entry in about a half a dozen states in 2000 and then another 1) to 2 dozen in 2001, and more will peter in after that," said Blake Bath, an analyst with Lehman Brothers.

Bell Atlantic said it hopes to snag 25 percent of the residential and business customers in

the doorstep of every citizen in one-stop shopping plan that serves 13 Northeast and Midincludes local, long-distance

It also said it will soon seek "puts New York in the forefront federal approval to offer longdistance service Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

The FCC's action is a milestone in meeting the goals of the 1996 Telecommunications Act, a law that permitted cable television and local and long-distance phone companies to get into one another's businesses.

Under the law, a local Bell company had to show it had opened up its local monopoly to give rivals a chance to compete before it could offer long-distance. Others tried, but Bell Atlantic was the first to convince the FCC it met the requirements.

'We will hit this market in a big way," said Ivan Seidenberg, sion. "The competitive future in the New York long-distance chairman and chief executive local phone service is now on market within five years with a officer of Bell Atlantic, which

Atlantic states. "We're ready to go, and we can't wait to roll out Bell Atlantic long distance, not just in New York, but all across the Bell Atlantic region."

AT&T all but promised to appeal the FCC's decision in court, claiming the commission ignored evidence that Bell Atlantic gives its own orders priority over competitors.

"Today's decision short changes the people of New York because it does not ensure that Bell Atlantic's local phone markets are truly open to competition," said Jim Cicconi, AT&T's chief legal counsel.

Consumers in Texas may be the next to get all of their phone services from the same compa-

Earlier this month, Southwestern Bell got the backing of the Texas Public Utility Commission to offer long-distance service.

Pokemon rules but other toys are in short supply NEW YORK (AP) - So you weeks ago and most retailers Amazing Ally, a \$60 doll with a have exhausted their supplies. computer chip embedded thought Pokemon games and

cards were the only things flying off store shelves this Christmas? Guess again. Game Boy Color

vided game players. Amazing Ally dolls and Millennium Barbies have joined the list of toys retailers can't seem to keep in stock. Many parents are scrambling

to find these goodies in time for Christmas. Some are going so far as to pay hefty premiums on auction Web sites such as eBay and Amazon.com.

"I don't know what I am going to do if we don't find it, but I'm not sure we will. I think we've looked everywhere," said Don Schumaker of Gettysburg, Pa., who has much of his extended family searching for a "Shop With Me" Barbie Cash Register for his 7-year-old daughter.

The panic has only worsened since Toysrus.com began emailing shoppers late Tuesday with awful news: Some customers may not get their orders by Christmas.

Toysrus.com said affected customers would be compensated for the inconvenience with \$100 coupons that can be used in their stores.

That may do little to soothe customers like Latrice Lyde, who is furious that the four games she ordered Dec. 6 for her 4-year-old daughter will not come to her New York home by Saturday.

"What am I going to say to my daughter?" she asked. "This is the first year she really believes in Santa and this is going to be so disappointing for her.'

The last-minute search for substitute gifts won't be easy. Pokemon and many products tied to the Japanese cartoon including video games and trading cards — are in short supply.

But there are also a number of lesser-known toys that are just as hard to find.

"Yes, Pokemon is very popular, but this isn't a one-hit season. There isn't one specific toy like a Furby or Tickle Me Elmo that everyone has to have," said Jim Silver, editor of The Toy Book, a New York-based trade publication. "I would say there are a dozen or so toys that people want but can't get.

The \$80 Game Boy Color, for instance, is scarce at stores nationwide. The manufacturer, Nintendo, said it ran out of the hand-held video-game players

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

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-FIRST AMENDMENT Opinions expressed on this page are those of the Editorial Board of the Big

Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated. Charles C. Williams

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Bill McClellan News Editor

OUR VIEWS

We salute:

Each week, the Herald salutes individuals and groups from our community and area who have been recognized for special achievements or accomplish-

We recognize these special people for working to help make our region a better place to live, work and

This week we salute:

- THE HARLEY OWNERS GROUP and all local donors who adopted Salvation Army angels.
- **JOELLE FORD,** Big Spring High School teacher, who was honored recently by her former student, Sarah Sanghavi, at the Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science.
- VOLUNTEER BIRDERS who helped with the 100th Winter Bird Count last weekend.
- ALL THOSE WHO PUT SPARKLE AND SHINE **IN THE SEASON**, by creating beautiful light displays at their homes and businesses, especially those who were named winners in the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce decorating contest.
- HOWARD COLLEGE HEAD BASEBALL COACH BRIAN ROPER who will be missed when he leaves to take the head coach job at Blinn College in Brenham.
- BIG SPRING JUNIOR HIGH STUDENTS who collected 3,971 cans of food for the Salvation Army.
- MITCHEM AND SONS WRECKER SERVICE, which will once again offer the tipsy wrecker service to prevent drunk driving incidents for the holidays.

Is there an individual or organization in our commu nity that you feel should be saluted? If so, please send us their name and why you think they should be recognized. We must have your name and telephone number and you must provide it in writing.

OTHER VIEWS

Maybe it will take something as horrific as a mass grave outside of Ciudad Juarez to breach the wall of distrust and nationalism that stymies full cooperation between the United States and Mexico on the problem of drug trafficking.

Recently, as dozens of FBI and Mexican anti-drug agents worked side-by-side digging for graves, FBI Director Louis Freeh and Mexican Attorney General Jorge Madrazo held a press conference on the joint effort on Mexican

Although the probe is far from complete, authorities fear they have uncovered the mass graves of potentially scores of victims of Mexico's drug violence.

. Mexico could continue sinking under a wave of drug-fueled violence, becoming every day more like Columbia, even though Bogota finally has realized that working with the United States is far better than allowing the drug traffickers to take over.

Madrazo apparently sees Mexico facing the same danger.

At the press conference, he loudly defended working with the FBI: "Cooperation does not harm sovereignty. What hurts it is drug trafficking.

It's time for all Mexicans to acknowledge that their nation stands at the edge of an abyss of violence and corruption spawned by savage drug traffickers

The way out is to work shoulder-to-shoulder with Americans in waging war against the cartels. Our two nations cooperate on many other issues; why not on

> Roswell (N.M.) Daily Record

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- · Limit your letters to no more than 300 words
- Sign your letter.
- · Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes
- We reserve the right to edit letters for style and clarity. • We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number
- or address will not be considered for publication.
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- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O.
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- Our normal hours of operation are from 7:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. Our offices are closed on weekends and holidays.

'Pomp and circumstance' found behind bars

ne is from Florida, serving time for murder. Says he didn't do it.

The other is from Snellville. Ga., locked up for making terroristic threats. Says flatly, "I deserve it."

Robert Kenneth Ross, 35, is called "Doc" by other inmates. Maybe it's because he studied nursing in Florida, or because he

can wax

philosophical



GRIMSLEY JOHNSON

hat do the Romans,

Buddha and Jesus

mon? They all rec-

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all have in com-

ognized that materialism could

I don't remember any declen-

sions or conjugations from my

not bring human happiness.

high-school

but I do.

that the

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instructor

said that

Romans

believed that

a man could

slave to his

possessions.

That is cer-

tainly true.

The more

stuff we have, the more

resources we have to devote to

maintaining and protecting it.

harder we have to work to get

Only recently I discovered

before me: It's much easier to

move a library card than a ton

Buddha said that human suf-

"hungry ghosts." The whole of

is based on fanning desires and

pretending to satisfy them. The

axiom, taught in the best grad-

uate schools, is that you don't

sell product, you sell satisfac-

tion of desires. That's why the

beautiful, bubbly, healthy and

people in the TV ads are so

American marketing strategy

fering is created by human

desires, often spoken of as

what others have discovered

and a half of books.

The more stuff we want, the

become a

Latin classes,

about everything from the Great Depression to the gold standard.

Ross is compiling a book that he insists will prove the body they found in Lowndes County, Ga., wasn't that of the aunt he's accused of shooting to death.

William "Billy" Nelson, 23, is as contrité as Ross is smooth. Nelson's trouble started, he says, when he dropped out of high school and fell in with

bad kids. When he gets out, he wants to attend a two-year college, maybe move out to Arizona and work as a therapist in a drug-abuse program.

"My parents say they are proud of me," he says, "if you can imagine that with me in

Both men are well-spoken, intelligent and polite. Both have that jail-pale skin that makes their eyes look huge, like painted eyes on bisque. Both wear the snow-white prison garb that reminds you of nothing so much as pajamas.

Oh, and another thing these different types have in common. Both, eventually, will get

So both are part of an education effort at Coffee Correctional Facility. Ross is a teacher's aide. Nelson passed the GED and is about to complete a computer course. When I visit the prison, they are just two days away from a graduation ceremony — replete with caps, gowns and "Pomp and Circumstance" - that will recognize achievement the same way it's recognized outside. With decorum.

Each "graduate" can invite four guests. There's a speech by a salutatorian and a valedic-

Materialism won't bring happiness

happy — even if they are swill-

ing beer or stuffing themselves

How many things have we

gotten them, discovered that

possession? Think about the

and garages and attics. And

thought we wanted but, having

desire was actually better than

stuff that sits unused in closets

think about the old saying, "Be

careful what you want because

Americans have even devel-

junk. They hold garage sales to

oped the habit of exchanging

sell their junk, and then they

sales and buy theirs. If a guy

could get one of those federal

grants for useless projects, it

might be fun to track a partic-

garage sale to the next and see

I discovered on my own that

desires than to increase one's

income. Perhaps I got a boost

from my father, whose favorite

way of saying no to something

enough for your wants not to

hurt you." Because he began

saying that when I was a tod-

dler, I'm not sure how young

you have to be for your wants

Jesus, of course, taught that

believe that he said it was easi-

er for a camel to get through

the eye of a needle than for a

rich man to get through the

gates of heaven. One can not

material things were, if any-

thing, an impediment to

improvement of the soul. I

I wanted was, "You're old

ular piece of junk from one

how many times it changes

it is easier to curb one's

go to other people's garage

full of junk food.

you may get it."

hands.

to hurt.

TO MISS **SNOOPY** HE CRIED HIMSELF

torian. There's an invocation and a benediction. All this in the prison's Visitation Room, the place where good things occasionally happen.

A former high-school football coach and administrator, John DeLoach, heads the prison literacy program. "Coach," as the inmates call him, is a husky, hail-fellow-well-met who knows most of his charges by name. You can tell he used to coach, to motivate with a push-up and platitude.

Coach says there's not "all that much difference" in dealing with inmates and highschool kids.

"These men are older, have more foresight, more vision. And I have fewer disciplinary problems in here.

About half of the 1,000 prison ers choose to take part in the prison school. They take a test and are placed at the right. level to work toward getting the GED.

That behind them, they have options among vocational courses. They can learn about computers fr m Terry Douglas, horticulture from blueberry farmer Billy Douglas, carpentry from Jackie McLean, electrical wiring from Damon Powell.

CRYING

serve two masters, and one

mutually exclusive. Often

exclusive.

treasure.

can't serve two desires that are

being and getting are mutually

It's said you can teil what

buy, but I think a better indi-

cator is how they spend their

Money we can usually get

more of, but time, once spent,

is forever gone. Moreover, our

store of time on Earth is limit-

ed. We don't know when it will

run out, but we do know that it

The value of time, which is

equivalent to life, was brought

home to me by my green years

on the cop beat. Almost every-

day out unaware that it's going

to be his or her last. Those peo-

ple are busy going about some

routine task, thinking about

the future, when suddenly up

The Christmas season is a

good time to think not about

death but about life, how it is

Certainly the greatest gift any

parent can give a child is time.

Children, perhaps because they

Investment of time with peo-

are recent arrivals from heav-

en, instinctively know that

time is more valuable than

money or the stuff it buys.

ple you love will yield a far

better return than any invest-

ment of money. Nobody ever

said on their deathbed, "Gee, I

wish I had spent more time at

to be spent, and with whom.

pops Death.

the office.

one who gets killed starts the

will, though most people try

not to think about that.

time. Time is an unrecognized

people care about by what they

William Hardy, who himself owns a successful commercial cleaning business, teaches inmates about that — how to figure square footage, how to bid a job. He gives a final

exam that begins: "Congratulations! You are the new owner of Nicholls Home Cleaning Inc. Your first big job is to clean the floors on an old Victorian home ...

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Lookir

We are

"You'd be surprised at the talent you find in here," DeLoach says. We are looking at the prison greenhouse, state of the art, and at inmatedesigned beds featuring ornamental cabbage.

Actually, I wasn't at all surprised at the talent inside. I have seen plenty of warehoused talent at Parchman, Angola and Atmore. Nearly every week I get letters from prisoners, many of them more literate than your run-of-themill reader correspondence.

What is surprising, always, is how smart men sometimes go bad just like dumb ones. How they send themselves to concrete vaults for years of dry storage.

And how we never hear about those who get out, go to work and quietly live out the rest of their lives.

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4-3600.



QUICK TRIVIA

◆The first Christmas tree was probably of German origin, created by Boniface, an English missionary to Germany. The Christ tree replaced the pagan custom of a tree dedicated to the Norse god Odin.

◆Since Christmas in Brazil falls in mid-summer, it is celebrated with fireworks, picnics and boating.

Вовву

RAWLS

Got an item?

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

Big Spring Herald

Sedentary life is major health risk

life!

By DR. GUY OWEN

Columnist

The newest and possibly the most important risk factor identified for our number one killer, Coronary Heart Disease (CHD), is a sedentary lifestyle.

The "big three" causes of all deaths in the United States are tobacco use, poor diet and inactivity, and alcohol abuse. Nine of ten causes of death are related to lifestyle and common sense.

We are the major controllers of our destiny related to our

Looking at the fitness levels of the youth of America, we find that surveys taken during the past decade show us that cardio-respiratory endurance and upper body strength of our youth is decreasing and that our current physical education programs are not promoting lifetime fitness and wellness adequately.

In a recent study by Dr. Ken Cooper, from his Aerobics Center in Dallas, he states that he is now finding coronary heart disease risk factors such as high blood pressure, excessive body fat, and low fitness levels in 5 and 6 year old chil-

We, as adults, have been poor examples of physical fitness for our youth. The average adult gains two pounds of excessive body fat while losing one pound of lean mass each year after our high school years. In other words, we have less muscles to carry a bigger load. The change has much more to do with less activity than too much of a caloric intake.

How inactive is a sedentary person? Our forefathers averaged working 10 hours per day behind a plow. This is the

PEOPLE

Our forefathers averaged working 10 hours per day behind a plow. This is the equivalent to four miles of activity per hour or 35-40 miles per day.

equivalent to four miles of activity per hour or 35-40 miles per day. One mile is about 100 calories of activity. This equals a calorie burn of

3,500 to 4,000 calories per day. We, as adults, currently average 15 minutes of exercise per week at a brisk walk pace, which equals 100 calories burned per week doing exercise. Our forefathers averages 20,000 plus calories burned doing physical activity per week versus our 100 calories.

If we will go from 100 calories of exercise per week to 2,000 calories, which is less than they did in one day, women of all ages can reduce their chances of coronary heart disease by six times and men by three times.

Begin slowly by trying to exercise at least 15-20 minutes per day or 100 calories and during the year 2000, move up to at least 20 miles per week or 2000 calories and maintain this level for a lifetime. Park your car farther from your office, walk the mountain, the high school track, the mall, or join one of our three fitness centers. Then you can move out of the ranks of the seden-

My next article will review the difference between physical activity and exercise. Best of luck for an active Y2K!

Guy Owen, Ph.D is Program Coordinator for Dora Roberts Wellness Center.

Family history found where you least expect Some people search for years

for proof of an ancestor's parent. When they finally find it, it is often in a place they least One case in point is this: A

couple of years ago, I was looking through some indexes for soldiers that served in the Revolutionary War. I found there a William Harper. In the pension application of his wife, who had remarried to an Elijah Barrett, she stated she had married William Harper in 1792 in Georgia. After his death in 1811 in Louisiana, she then married Elijah Barrett. She applied for the pension in 1857.

She further stated that she was a Rawls, born in 1777, and that her father. James Rawls and her two brothers, Isaac and Shadrach Rawls, all fought in the Revolutionary War.

Dr. Steven A. Ralls of there had stated he was a no matter where they end up; Virginia and Henry W. Rawls junior, however there were two of Montgomery, Ala., have been James Ralls there about the trying to find

out who was the father of the three brothers, James, Isaac and Shadrach Rawls. Steven Ralls

is descended

from the James Rawls who began to spell the name Ralls. Henr Rawls is descended

from the Isaac Rawls Sr., who moved to Georgia. James went to Stewart County, Tenn., where he is listed on records as James Ralls Jr. Argenealogist—check the records for siblings.

same time.

The second was not related to his James, so it threw him off as to the father of his James. The second James Rawls is actually from my branch of the family.

The pension application of Sarah Rawls-Harper-Barrett cleared up the mystery for Steve and Henry. The location for Sarah Rawls was Louisiana, so the point here is, the information you seek might very well be in a place you don't

I had started to order the pension myself because my family was in Louisiana in the time period Sarah Rawls Harper and family were there. Always you never know where the documentation you are seeking is located.

Thursday, December 23, 1999

I also recently found information on my family from the Alston line. Philip Alston Rawls was named after his mother's grandfather, Philip Alston. I found on the Internet his family, which also ties into my direct line.

By searching families that traveled with your family, you will likely find more informa-

tion on yours. Merry Christmas!

EDITOR'S NOTE: Bobby Rawls writes a weekly column on genealogy for the Big Spring Herald. To contact him, call the life! desk at 263-7331, ext. 236 and leave a message, or e-mail to: jwalker@crcom.net with "life! section" in the subject line.

TV stars eat, too: So says new book

LOS ANGELES (AP) -Television is not a balanced

meal. We, the viewers, sit in front of the tube crunching and slurping and ballooning into the approximate shape of our couches. The performers who are holding us in thrall leave

all the calories for us. Or so it seems. In most sitcom dinner scenes, for example, characters spend more time talking than eating, a sharp contrast to real family life. Only "The Simpsons' with dad Homer happily stuff ing his face and waistline

gets it right. Actresses and most actors are rail thin, even those playing characters who logically might carry a bit more heft. Consider chef Monica (Courteney Cox) on "Friends," who probably couldn't go two rounds with sturdy Julia Child.

is feasting in TV Land, and it cream mixture. Drizzle another, taken on set, and not just pubcomes from a convincing quarter cube of butter on top; licity photos, of all kinds of source: an actress whose cred- bake for 55 minutes. Serve with people in the business.

its extend from "Father Knows fruit. Best," in which she played teen-age daughter Betty from 1954 to 1960, to "Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman."

In "In the Kitchen with Elinor Donahue: Favorite Memories and Recipes from a Life in Hollywood," Donahue reveals that she and her colleagues consume pasta, cream sauces and even (gasp!) chocolate cake.

The words "nonfat" or 'reduced calorie' are rare in this down-to-earth book (Cumberland House, Nashville, Tenn.) The recipes collected from co-

stars and Donahue's own files include, for example, the Blintz Casserole: Beat 1-1/2 cups sour cream, four eggs, 1/2 cup sugar and one teaspoon vanilla extract. Place two boxes of cheese blintzes in a casserole containing a quarter cube of But evidence exists that there melted butter and top with sour

There's a favorite recipe of the late Robert Young, the wise dad in "Father Knows Best"

"Marcus Welby, M.D.," in which liver and onions are sauteed in bacon drippings. Is this all a charade? What about the image of actors living

and wiser physician in

on Evian and air? "I think that's true today more than back then. Donahue said, referring to her early years in the business "But when you really have your favorite recipe, it's something yummy, gooey, good or something your mother made.'

So stars are not so different from the rest of us? "Absolutely not," she replied firmly "Actors tend to go for comfort

"I think my book is unique in the form it takes," she said. "It has 260 pictures, most never seen before. They're pictures

The rejected individual

should know that their future

together depends on the skill

with which he or she handles

that crisis. If the hurting indi-

vidual can remain calm, the

next two steps may be reconcil-

Study says honesty not key to teen popularity

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (AP) Whether Pinocchio or a president, a liar can remain a pretty beloved figure. In fact, a new study suggests the best teen-age liars are often the most popular kids.

"Politicians have known for a very long time that telling people what they want to hear is a very good social tactic," said Robert Feldman, the University of Massachusetts psychologist who did the research.

The study in this month's Journal of Nonverbal Behavior bolsters a widespread view researchers that lying is a social skill that can help a person get along. Other researchers looking at adults nave made similar findings but this study was said to be the first to focus on teens.

The study led by Feldman looked at the nonverbal behavior of 32 young people ages 11 to 16. They were first evaluated for their social skills from information on friends, interests, and school performance - yielding an assessment of their populari-

They were then videotaped both lying and telling the truth about whether they liked a drink they were given. Then, 58 college students were asked to watch the videotapes and judge how much each teen-ager really liked the drink.

Possibly thanks to stronger nonverbal skills, girls were better at lying than boys. Nonverbal cues of lying can include a blank expression, blinking, little or excessive eye contact, shrugs, scratching or rubbing, and even dilated pupils in the eyes.

"Lying is in some ways a social skill,'' Feldman said. 'If we were always totally honest with other people, we would get ourselves in lots of unpleasant situations Nobody wants to hear that you don't like the gift they just gave you.

Psychologist Bella DePaulo of the University of Virginia, who studies lying, said the study doesn't indicate if bet ter liars are apt to lie more

Healthy relationships built on tough love

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Make room in your garage Celebrities are clearing out theirs.

A 1933 Ford hot rod owned by Nicolas Cage and the James Bond "Goldfinger" Mustang are among the show business vehicles up for bids Jan. 20-23 at the Barrett-Jackson Classic Car Auction.

The selection of rare cars available includes a 1957 Chrysler convertible and 1955 Ford Thunderbird owned by Richard Carpenter, half of the 1970s brother-sister singing

There's also a 1991 Lamborghini Diablo custom built for late billionaire publisher Malcolm Forbes and the 1965 gold Mustang from "Goldfinger.

In total, more than 800 vehicles will be offered at the Barrett-Jackson auction, which is considered a barometer for collector car values at the start of each year.

LONDON (AP) — The pop group Pet Shop Boys will receive undisclosed libel damages Tuesday over an author's claim that they made only a minimal contribution to songs recorded in their name.

See PEOPLE, Page 6A

Neil Tennant and Chris

QUESTION: In your book "Love Must Be Tough," you cedes love. Build it stone upon suggest some ways unmarried people can build healthy relationships and not smother each

Would you share those again and apply the "tough love" principle to those of us who are not married?

DR. DOBSON: The principles of loving toughness are the same for those who are single as for those who have been married for decades. There are circumstances, however, that are specific to the courtship period.

Let me cite 17 suggestions that will help you avoid the common pitfalls among those who are trying to win the heart

1. Don't let a relationship move too fast in its infancy. The phrase "too hot not to cool down" has validity. Romantic affairs that begin in a frenzy frequently burn themselves out.

Take it one step at a time. 2. Don't discuss your personal inadequacies and flaws in great detail when the relationship is

No matter how warm and accepting your friend may be, any great revelation of low selfesteem or embarrassing weaknesses can be fatal when interpersonal "valleys" occur. And they will occur.

stone.

4. Don't call too often on the phone or give the other person an oppor-

tired of you. 5. Don't be too quick to reveal your desire to get married -- or that you think you've iust found

tunity to get

Wonderful or Miss

Marvelous. If your partner has not arrived at the same conclusion, you'll throw him or her into panic.

DR. JAMES

Dobson

Most important: Relationships are constantly being "tested" by cautious lovers who like to nibble at the bait before swallowing the hook

This testing procedure takes many forms, but it usually involves pulling back from the other person to see what will happen. Perhaps a foolish fight is initiated. Maybe two weeks will pass without a phone call. Or sometimes flirtation occurs

with a rival. In each instance, the question being asked is, "How important Most important: Relationships are constantly being "tested." ... Keep in mind that virtually every dating relationship that continues for a vear or more and seems to be moving toward marriage will be given the ultimate test.

am I to you, and what would you do if you lost me?" An even more basic issue lie below that one. It is: "How free am I to leave if I want to?" It is incredibly important in these instances to appear poised, secure and equally indepen-

Do not grasp the other person and beg for mercy. Some people remain single throughout life because they cannot resist the temptation to grovel when the test occurs.

7. Extending the same concept, keep in mind that virtually every dating relationship that continues for a year or more and seems to be moving toward marriage will be given the ultimate test. A breakup will occur, motivated by only

iation and marriage. It often happens that way. If not, then no amount of pleading will change anything. 8. Do not depend entirely upon each other for the satisfaction of every emotional need. Maintain interests and activities outside that romantic relationship, even after mar-

riage 9. Guard against selfishness in your love affair. Neither the man nor the woman should do all the giving. I once broke up with a girl because she let me take her to nice places, bring her flowers, buy her lunch, etc. I wanted to do these things but expected her to reciprocate in

some way. She didn't There are eight more "Love Must Be Tough" principles to be discussed, and we'll take a look at them next week

EDITOR'S NOTE: Dr. James C Dobson's "Focus on the Family" appears each Thursday as a cooperative effort of Scenic Mountain Medical Center and the Big Spring Herald. Letters may be sent to P.O. Box 444; Colorado Springs, Colo.; 80903.

THE LAST WORD

COMMUNITY NEWS



Bobbi-Leigh Spiller, a senior at Coahoma High School, has been named area candidate for All-State Choir from Region II. She placed fifth chair in the soprano section, competing against students from Wichita Falls to San Angelo, including Abilene area. Bobbi-Leigh will compete again on Jan. 8 in Birdville for a position in the all-state mixed chorus or the new treble chorus. She is the daughter of Jan Spiller of Coahoma.

A MEMORIAL TREE FROM the American Cancer Society is set up at Merle Norman in Big Spring Mall. Donors can give a gift to the Big Spring Unit of ACS in

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

memory or honor of a loved one. When the tree is removed, the ornament marking the gift will be sent to the person honored or the family of the person memorialized. Donations can be made through Dec. 25. Call Lucy Bonner at 263-6305. Memorials can also be mailed to P.O. Box 2121, Big Spring.

More than kisses, letters mingle souls.

Great literature is simply language charged with meaning to the utmost

John Donne

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Ezra Pound His words were softer than oil, yet they

were drawn swords. Psalms 55:21

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PEOPLE

Continued from Page 5A

Lowe, who make up the group, had sued Roger Scruton, author of "An Intelligent Person's Guide to Modern Culture," and the book's publishers, Gerald Duckworth and Company Ltd.

The defendants' lawyer, Jane Phillips, said the book mistakenly suggested that there was compelling evidence that songs recorded by the Pet Shop Boys were almost entirely the work of sound engineers.

Ms. Phillips said that the allegations were baseless, and that her clients would pay Tennant and Lowe damages and reimburse them for their legal costs.

SPARKS, Md. (AP) — Tennis star Jennifer Capriati, who has bounced back after a drug arrest five years ago, has signed a multimillion-dollar endorsement deal with Fila U.S.A. Inc.

Capriati, 23, will compete wearing Fila tennis shoes and apparel, appear in Fila advertising and conduct tennis clinics for young players

Capriati, a top-10 player as a teen-ager, went through drug rehabilitation after her arrest and has had a strong year. She is ranked 23rd on the Women's Tennis Association Tour.

"She's making a comeback, we're making a comeback,' said Howe Burch, spokesman for Sparks-based Fila. "We see Jennifer as a metaphor for what we're doing as a compa-

Fila's apparel sales fell 20 percent during the third quarter of 1999, and the company lost \$132.9 million last year.

MONTECITO, Calif. (AP) Rare surfing medals awarded to Shaun Tomson were stolen from the former world champion's home.

Tomson, who moved from South Africa to California to escape the high crime rate, returned home after dinner Friday night to find intruders took \$50,000 worth of jewelry and surfing gold medals.

"I was going to pass the medals on to my son," the 44year-old Tomson said. "This really hits us hard. These things were very precious to

The medals were given to Tomson by the South African government in 1975 and 1977. He was once named top

surfer in the world by Surfer Magazine, and was ranked among the top six professional surfers for nine straight years.

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) A collection of watercolors attributed to Georgia O'Keeffe that had fetched millions of dollars is not the work of the world-famous painter, art experts say.

Experts from the National Gallery of Art in Washington deemed the collection inauthentic because the age of the paper on which the works were painted wasn't consistent with the dates attributed to the art.

The so-called Canvon Suite exhibit features 28 watercolors in all and is on display at the Museum Contemporary Art.

Four of the works were a gift to the museum from New York art dealer Gerald Peters. The other 24 had been sold by Peters to the museum's founder, R. Crosby Kemper Jr., for \$5.5 million.

Doubts about the works' authenticity have swirled since early November, when it became known that they were among 210 works omitted from a new catalog of the artist's complete works.

Kemper Museum director Dan Keegan said Monday that the museum had accepted the experts' findings.

"It's not the outcome we would have hoped for," he said, "but one we were prepared for, after having done our own research.'

Watch for a special Christmas Reader's Corner, coming Friday.

Schools, parents joining forces to fight against children's asthma

SAN ANTONIO (AP) -Steward Perez, a wide-bodied ex-football player, remembers standing in the emergency room holding back tears. He gently cradled his 6-month-old son, Jacob, in an attempt to calm his rapid breathing. Jacob's panting and unsettling humming left his father at the mercy of anyone who could

"We took him to the emergency room with a temperature of about 104 degrees," Perez recalls. "He was breathing really fast, about 60 breaths per minute. He kept humming; it was so awkward. We were scared.'

After numerous X-rays, breathing treatments and what seemed a "lifetime of waiting," little Jacob was diagnosed as having asthma.

"It was a really crazy time. We were like, 'What's going on?" says Perez.

As the number of children with asthma grows, more parents are asking the same question. American Medical News reports that the number of Americans with asthma has increased 75 percent since 1980, with a 160 percent rise in children under the age of 5. One out of 10 children in the United States has asthma, and more than 28,000 children in San Antonio suffer from the chronic lung disorder.

At its onset, asthma restricts the passage of air in and out of the lungs. Muscles around the tubes of lungs squeeze shut and the walls of the airways become ing cause of absenteeism in

irritated and inflamed. As mucus in the airways increases, air has a hard time getting through, resulting in wheezing, coughing or shortness of breath.

As unbearable as an attack can be for an adult, it can be even more traumatic for a child. Rebecca Gray, assistant regional director of the American Lung Association, says that the tubes in an adult's lungs are about the size of a pinky finger.

'Can you imagine how hard it is to breathe for a child with swollen tubes?" says Gray. Unable to pinpoint the reason

for the increase in asthma, Gray ventures it could be a combination of things.

"There could be more polluted areas. We also have a lot more indoor pets and synthetics like drapery and carpeting which house dust mites," says Gray. "Also, doctors are now able to diagnose asthma with improved techniques to spot the symptoms quicker.

The disorder can be kept under control with proper precautions. Daily medication is often prescribed. Jacob, now 4, is on preventive medication.

"Now we can tell when he is getting sick. We can tell with his coughs," says Perez. "As soon as he starts coughing or wheezing we start the treatments of albuterol (a dilating medication).

Asthma also causes a lot of problems for kids in school. The American Lung Association reports that asthma is the lead-

More than 20 percent of missed school is due to asthmarelated problems, says Candy Mallonee, assistant director of Health Services for the North East School District.

And many children in the Southwest School District are on daily medication for preventive care, says Melanie Matthews, nurse coordinator for the district.

'We have a higher number of children with asthma in the elementary schools than the secondary (schools),'' Matthews. "I am not sure, but they may be growing out of it by that age."

Bronchodilators, albuterol, which open tubes in the lungs, are routinely prescribed to be taken before asthmatic students exercise.

Nine-year-old Francisco Javier Vasquez has had asthma since he was 9 months old. He plays soccer regularly and has learned to control his asthma so well that he has never had an attack during a game.

"When I am running, I smell the grass, and I start to not breathe right," says Vasquez. "I feel a little weak, so I sit down until I breathe a little better."

With the help of the American Lung Association, the Southwest School District brings teachers, coaches and principals together to teach the children how to use inhalers and peak-flow meters, instruments used to measure the amount of air flow in the air**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Valor Telecommunications of Texas, LP, ("Valor"), formerly known as dba Texas Operating Co., LP, has entered into a contract with GTE Southwest Incorporated to purchase the following exchanges in Howard County: Forsan. On December 13, 1999. Valor filed an application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas ("Commission") requesting approval of the acquisition and issuance of a certificate from the Commission to provide telephone service to the listed exchange(s). If approved, GTE will cease to be the local telephone service provider in this area and Valor will assume the responsibility of providing local exchange service in this area. The Valor application has been as signed Docket No. 21834. GTE's application to remove the exchange(s) from its certificate has been assigned Docket No. 21830. The Commission intends to investigate the acquisition and its impact on the public interest pursuant to Sections 14.101 and 54.051-54.054 of the Public Utility Regulatory Act.

Valor does not propose any increase in charges to customers in this application. If, in the future, the Company proposes a rate change, customers will be given notice at that time.

In addition, Valor seeks designation by the Commission as both an eligible telecommunications provider ("ETP") and as an eligible telecommunications carrier ("ETC") within the service area acquired from GTE, to permit it to receive state and federal universal service support. The Valor applications have been assigned Docket Nos. 21832 and 21833. GTE also seeks to remove the service area sold to Valor from the area in which it has been designated as an ETP and ETC. The GTE application has been assigned Docket No. 21831.

All of the applications and the proposed tariffs are available for inspection and copying at the Central Records Office of the Public Utility Commission of Texas in Austin, Texas. The Valor applications and tariffs are also available at the office of counsel, Brook Bennett Brown, McGinnis, Lochridge & Kilgore, L.L.P., 919 Congress Avenue, 1300 Capitol Center, Austin. Texas 78701. The GTE applications are available for inspection at GTE's offices at 816 Congress Avenue, Suite 1500, Austin, Texas

Persons with questions regarding the Valor proceeding should contact Mike Page with Valor at (202) 466-0940. Persons with questions regarding the GTE proceeding should call Carl Erhart with GTE at (512) 477-8986. Persons who wish to intervene in either proceeding or comment on the action sought should identify the relevant docket number and contact the Public Utility Commission at Public Utility Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas, 78711-3326, or you may call the Public Utility Commission office of Consumer Protection at (512) 936-7120 or, toll free, at (888) 782-8477. Hearing-and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones ("TTY") may contact the Commission at (512) 936-7136 or use Relay Texas at (800) 735-2989 to reach the Commission's toll free number (888) 782-8477. The deadline for intervention in these proceedings is February 22, 2000, and you must send a letter requesting intervention to the Commission which is received by that date

AVISO PUBLICO

La Compañía de Telecomunicaciones Valor, LP., ("Valor"), antiguamente conocida como Texas Operating Co., LP, inició un contrato con la Compañía GTE Southwest Incorporated para comprar la siguiente central telefónica Forsan en el Condado de: Howard. El 13 de Diciembre de 1999, La compañía Valor lleno una aplicación con la Comisión de Servicio Público de Texas ("La Comisión") solicitando la aprobación para la adquisición y la emisión de un certificado por parte de la Comisión, para proveer servicio telefónico a la(s) mencionada central telefónica. Si la solicitud es aprobada, GTE dejara de ser la proveedora local de servicio telefónico en esta área y la compañía Valor asumirá la responsabilidad de proveer servicio telefónico a través de esta central telefónica en este área. La aplicación de la compañía Valor le a sido asignado la Causa No. 21834. La aplicación de GTE para que la central telefónica sea eliminada de su certificado le a sido asignado la Causa No. 21830. La Comisión tiene la intención de investigar la adquisición y su impacto en el interés del público según lo establecido en la Sección 14.101 y 54.051-54.54 de la Ley Reguladora de Servicio

En esta aplicación la compañía Valor no propone ningún aumento de precio para el público. Si en el futuro, la compañía propone un cambio de precio, se le notificará oportunamente a los clientes.

Adicionalmente, la Compañía Valor esta solicitando de la Comisión, la designación como una compañía elegible para proveer ("ETP") y transportar ("ETC") telecomunicaciones dentro del área de servicio adquirida de GTE, para que le permitan recibir servicio de soporte universal estatal y federal. Las aplicaciones de la compañía Valor les a sido asignada las Causas No. 21832 y 21833. GTE esta solicitando también la eliminación del área de servicio vendida a la compañía Valor del área que a sido designada como ETP y ETC. A la aplicación de GTE le a sido asignada la Causa No. 21831.

Todas las aplicaciones y las tarifas propuestas están disponibles para ser examinadas y copiadas en la Oficina del Registro Central de la Comisión de Servicio Público de Texas en Austin, Texas. Las aplicaciones de la compañía Valor y sus tarifas están disponibles también en las oficinas de los Abogados, Brook Bennett Brown, McGinnis, Lochridge & Kilgore, L.L.P., en el 919 Congress Avenue, 1300 Capitol Center, Austin, Texas 78701. Las aplicaciones de GTE están disponibles para ser examinadas en las oficinas de GTE en el 816 Congress Avenue, Suite1500, Austin, Texas 78701.

Las personas que tengan preguntas en relación al proceso que esta llevando a cabo la compañía Valor, deben de contactar al Sr. Mike Page en la compañía Valor por el teléfono (202) 466-0940. Las personas que tengan preguntas con respecto al proceso que GTE esta llevando a cabo deben de contactar al Sr. Carl Erhart en GTE al teléfono (512) 477-8986. Las personas que deseen intervenir en cualquiera de los dos procesos o quieran hacer comentarios en relación a las acciones contacto con la Comisión de Servicio Público de Texas en el P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas, 78711:3326 o pueden llamar a la Oficina Protección al Consumidor al teléfono (512) 936-7120 o llamar gratuitamente al (888) 782-8477. Las personas con problemas de audición-conversación que utilicen teléfonos con texto ("TTY"), pueden ponerse en contacto con la Comisión al teléfono (512) 936-7136, o pueden utilizar el Relay Texas al (800) 735-2989 para comunicarse con el número telefónico gratuito de la Comisión (800) 782-8477. La fecha de vencimiento para una intervención en esos procesos es el 22 de Febrero del 2000 y se^trequiere que usted envie antes de esa fecha, una carta requiriendo una intervención ante la

THE RESPONSE WAS GREAT! **BUT DON'T FORGET! GET YOUR**



By Dec. 23rd

FROM

A Great Big THANK YOU goes out to all of you who bought a six month subscription to the Big Spring Herald. But don't forget you must redeem your certificate at the Big Spring HEB, 2000 S. Gregg by Thursday, December 23rd.

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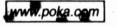
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'Certain conditions apply, see in store for details



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SPORTS

SPRING HERALD

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

> Page 1B Thursday, Dec. 23, 1999

IN BRIEF

Coahoma Bulldogettes trip Permian by 52-42

Coahoma's Bulldogettes improved to 10-5 on the season with a 52-42 win over Class 5A Odessa Permian on Tuesday.

Kortney Kemper led the Bulldogettes with 22 points, followed by Karen Sterling's 16. Kenni Kay Buchanan added six points and Crystal Atkinson five for the victors.

Coahoma coach Danny Williams said his team was victorius despite putting a young team on the court.

"We had a young lineup," he said. "Both our post girls (Suzanna Wood and Jayci Roberts) did not play because of injuries.

Coahoma returns to action next Tuesday when they face Class 4A Amarillo Caprock at 3 p.m. in the Lubbock Caprock Classic.

Cancer Society offering Texas Golf Pass again

The Howard County unit of the American Cancer Society is encouraging golfers to take advantage of the society's 2000 Texas Golf Pass.

The pass, which provides golfers with more than 450 rounds of golf at 273 Texas courses, is now available for a \$35 donation.

Both the Comanche Trail Golf Course and the Big Spring Country Club are participating in the program, as is the Stanton Country Club.

Those wanting to order the pass can do so by calling 1-800-ACS-2345 or online at www.acs-tx.org. Details are also available at all three local

YMCA registering players for its basketball program

The Big Spring YMCA is now registering girls and boys in grades K-6 for its youth basketball program.

The fee includes a T-shirt, individual award and a full YMCA youth membership for January and February.

YMCA full members may register for the program for \$15. Basic program members will pay \$25 and non-members will pay \$32.

For more infor, call 267-8234.

TP&WD official releases hunt recommendations

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials have suggested harvest recommendations for the general deer hunting season which continues through Jan. 2 in Howard County.

The legal bag limit for Howard County is four deer with no more than two of them being bucks.

No special permits are required for harvesting antlerless deer, but both anterless deer and bucks must be tagged with an appropriate tag from a valid hunting license.

TP&WD wildlife biologist Kathy McGinty has recommended that landowners allow the harvest of one antlerless deer per 800 acres and one buck per 1,700 acres.

For more information, call McGinty at (915) 795-2238.

Rodman arrested for drunken driving

COSTA MESA, Calif. (AP) Dennis Rodman, who has had a stormy few months since his NBA career ended abruptly, was booked Wednesday for investigation of drunken dri-

Rodman, who was driving a Bentley, was stopped for a traffic violation, a passenger not wearing a seat belt, police Sgt. Bob Ciszek said.

ON THE AIR

Television

COLLEGE BASKETBALL 6 p.m. — Michigan State at Kentucky, #ESPN. 8 p.m. - North Carolina at

Louisville, ESPN.

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE 6:30 p.m. — Colorado Avalanche at Buffalo Sabres,

7:30 p.m. - Dallas Stars at Chicago Blackhawks, Fox Sports

UCLA comes up short against Colorado St. in Pearl Harbor play The ASSOCIATED PRESS

UCLA came up just short of stopping Colorado State's upset

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The Lady Hawks travel

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26th goal midway through the

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Shane Doan and Adams

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Coyotes 8, Mighty Ducks 2

on the power-play.

Devils 3, Flyers 2

Devils' home ice.

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Sharks 2, Kings 1

HERALD file photo

Phoenix College on

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Ross (left) is guard by

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At Columbus, Ohio, Scoonie At Lawrence, Kan., Nick Penn made four free throws in the final two minutes and then sealed Ohio State's victory with a late steal

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Horned Frogs take second consecutive upset victory in post-season bowl game

MOBILE, Ala. (AP) — Texas—by alternating between quarter-Christian and East Carolina backs Casey Printers and wanted to get the same thing Patrick Batteaux, while making out of the inaugural Mobile Alabama Bowl momentum for next season.

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"I'm tired, I'm going home." For TCU, which leaves the Western Athletic Conference after next season for Conference USA, the win proved the school was ready for

"Maybe we should go in next year," Franchione said. "But it feels good to know when we do go, we'll be going in on pretty good footing.

LaDainian Tomlinson ran for 124 yards and two touchdowns to lead TCU

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It was the biggest shot of the season for Ewing, who was playing in just his seventh game since recovering from a partially torn Achilles' tendon. He finished with eight points just the 36th single-digit scoring night of his 984-game career and eight rebounds.

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Tyrone Nesby scored a season-high 28 points and Lamar Odom added 22 and seven blocked shots for Los Angeles.

Eric Piatkowski also scored 22 for the Clippers, who ended a six-game losing streak on the road and won for the first time turnovers in the first 9:19 of the this season after trailing at halffourth quarter and lost its fifth time

IN BRIEF

Coahoma Bulldogettes trip Permian by 52-42

Coahoma's Bulldogettes improved to 10-5 on the season with a 52-42 win over Class 5A Odessa Permian on Tuesday.

Kortney Kemper led the Bulldogettes with 22 points followed by Karen Sterling's 16. Kenni Kay Buchanan added six points and Crystal Atkinson five for the victors.

Coahoma coach Danny Williams said his team was victorius despite putting a young team on the court.

"We had a young lineup," he said. "Both our post girls (Suzanna Wood and Jayci Roberts) did not play because of injuries."

Coahoma returns to action next Tuesday when they face Class 4A Amarillo Caprock at 3 p.m. in the Lubbock Caprock Classic.

Cancer Society offering Texas Golf Pass again

The Howard County unit of the American Cancer Society is encouraging golfers to take advantage of the society's 2000 Texas Golf Pass.

The pass, which provides golfers with more than 450 rounds of golf at 273 Texas courses, is now available for a \$35 donation.

Both the Comanche Trail Golf Course and the Big Spring Country Club are participating in the program, as is the Stanton Country Club.

Those wanting to order the pass can do so by calling 1-800-ACS-2345 or online at www.acs-tx.org. Details are also available at all three local courses.

YMCA registering players for its basketball program

The Big Spring YMCA is now registering girls and boys in grades K-6 for its youth basketball program.

The fee includes a T-shirt, ndividual award and a full YMCA youth membership for January and February.

YMCA full members may register for the program for \$15. Basic program members will pay \$25 and non-members will pay \$32.

For more infor, call 267-8234

TP&WD official releases hunt recommendations

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials have suggested harvest recommendations for the general deer hunting season which continues through Jan. 2 in Howard County.

The legal bag limit for Howard County is four deer with no more than two of them being bucks.

No special permits are required for harvesting antlerless deer, but both anterless deer and bucks must be tagged with an appropriate tag from a valid hunting license.

TP&WD wildlife biologist Kathy McGinty has recommended that landowners allow the harvest of one antlerless deer per 800 acres and one buck per 1,700 acres.

For more information, call McGinty at (915) 795-2238.

Rodman arrested for drunken driving

COSTA MESA, Calif. (AP) Dennis Rodman, who has had a stormy few months since his NBA career ended abruptly, was booked Wednesday for investigation of drunken dri-

ving. Rodman, who was driving a Bentley, was stopped for a traffic violation, a passenger not wearing a seat belt, police Sgt. Bob Ciszek said.

ON THE AIR

Television COLLEGE BASKETBALL

6 p.m. — Michigan State at Kentucky, ESPN. 8 p.m. - North Carolina at Louisville, ESPN.

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

6:30 p.m. — Colorado Avalanche at Buffalo Sabres, ESPN2.

7:30 p.m. - Dallas Stars at Chicago Blackhawks, Fox Sports

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Howard College Lady Hawks sophomore Caryn Ross (left) is guard by Sweetwater freshman Vanessa Lehrmann during a recent practice.

The Lady Hawks travel to Scottsdale, Ariz. next week to take part in the Scottsdale Classic — a tournament they have won the past two years.

Howard opens with **Phoenix College on** Wednesday, then faces perennial national power Central Arizona on Thursday before finishing against Glendale on Friday.

HERALD file photo



Potvin, Kariya celebrate Vancouver victory

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The Vancouver Canucks unveiled their new goalie on Steve Kariya's birthday

Felix Potvin, acquired Sunday in a trade with the New York Islanders, was brought out west to try and cure the Canucks' problems in goal.

Potvin made 31 saves Wednesday night and ended his own eight-game winless stretch (0-6-2) in Vancouver's 6-3 victory over the Washington Capitals.

Kariya celebrated his 22nd birthday with two goals to snap his 13-game scoring drought and give Potvin a win for the first time since Nov. 19.

The Canucks won for the first time in eight games and second in 14.

In other NHL games, it was New Jersey 3, Philadelphia 2; Detroit 4, Carolina 1; Atlanta 3, Florida 3; Phoenix 8, Anaheim 2; and San Jose 2, Los Angeles 1.

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tled down. Kariya's performance ignited the Canucks' best offensive output in more than two months and snapped a string of 12 straight games in which Vancouver failed to score three or more goals in regulation.

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Shane Doan and Adams scored on the Coyotes' first two shots against relief goalie Dominic Roussel, who played the final period after Guy Hebert left with neck spasms.

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TCU

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Ewing's shot returns in Knick of time for New York

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Scoreboard

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Holy Cross 82, Northeastern

St. John's 98, Hofstra 86 St. Peter's 83, Monmouth, Syracuse 68, La Salle 52 Temple 66, Penn St. 51

Villanova 77, S. Carolina St. SOUTH

E. Kentucky 73, American U.

Florida St. 70, Vanderbilt 65 George Washington 90, Clemson 71 Georgia Tech 80, Wofford 70 McNeese St. 68, Jackson St.

Stetson 67, Belmont 57

W. Illinois 73, Florida Atlantic William & Mary 89, Campbell

MIDWEST

Butler 66, Nevada 45 Hampton 79, Chicago St. 68 Indiana St. 89, Tennessee

Kansas St. 68, Old Dominion

Nebraska 80, Oral Roberts

Notre Dame 75, Rider 62 Ohio St. 64, Toledo 61 Purdue 92, Cent. Michigan

SE Missouri 65. Bradley 60 St. Francis, Pa. 72, Youngstown St. 69 UMKC 70, SW Missouri St.

W. Michigan 101, Marist 78 SOUTHWEST

Alcorn St. 70, Texas Southern 67 Cincinnati 72, Öklahoma 57 Lamar 51, Rice 40

Southern U. 91; Prairie View Texas-Pan American 68,

Pacific 56 UTEP 93₇ CS Northridge 82 FAR WEST

Hawaii 73, Creighton 53 Long Beach St. 127, CS Monterey Bay 57 Oregon 91, N. Arizona 54 Portland 68, Ohio 66

San Diego St. 60, UC Santa Barbara 57 UC Irvine 89, Humboldt St Utah 79, Texas 73 Wyoming 78, Denver 60

TOURNAMENTS Coors Light Classic Championship Fresno St. 105, Cornell 86 Third Place Wagner 86, Norfolk St. 67
Pearl Harbor Classic.

emifinals Colorado St. 55, UCLA 54 San Jose St. 71, South Florida 63

onsolation Bracket

Maine 83: Florida A&M 73 Puerto Rico Holiday Classic Semifinals
Tennessee 87, S. Illinois 74
Tulsa 76, N.C. Charlotte 61

onsolation Bracket Boston College 67, III.

Massachusetts 102, Arderican U., P.R. 65 Sport Tours San Juan Sho Championship

Auburn 87, Pepperdine 76 Virginia Tech 59, Louisiana

Illinois St. 87. Miami 78

Seventh Place Detroit 92, Puerto Rico-

Championship lowa St. 86, Texas A&M-

Samford 86, Idaho St. 67

Akron 81, Albany, N.Y. 55

Boston College 80, La Salle

Merrimack 58, Mass. Lowell

Seton Hall 65, Loyola, Md.

St. Peter's 83, Long Island

Vermont 76, Syracuse 56

Auburn 79, Charleston

York, N.Y. 68, NYC Tech 54

Cent. Florida 75, Austin Peay

Grambling St. 85, Alabama

62

Third Place

Agreed to terms with C Mike Figga on a minor-league con-

Dan Serafini to the San Diego Padres for OF Brandon Pernell COLORADO ROCKIES. Named Jim Fregosi Jr. major league scout.

Bones on a minor-league con-PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES-

McDaniel to assistant director Agreed to terms with OF Thomas Howard on a one-year

SAN DIEGO PADRES-Acquired 18 Ryan Klesko, 28 Bret Boone and RHP Jason Shiell from the Atlanta Braves for 2B Quilvio Veras, 1B Wally Joyner and OF Reggie Sanders

James Madison 85, UMBC LSU 63, Wake Forest 52 Radford 76, Robert Morris

South Carolina, 100, S. Carolina St. 55 Southern Miss. 55, Va. Commonwealth 50 Vanderbilt 92; Fairfield 42

MIDWEST Evansville 79, N. Illinois 58 Kentucky 68. Cincinnati 62 Kenyon 76, Mount Union 63 Missouri 91, Illinois St. 44 Oakland, Mich. 75, Cent. Michigan 61 Oregon 86, DePaul 82

Saint Louis 76, Hampton 66 Simpson, Iowa 93, Baldwin-Wallace 78 Tennessee Tech 62, Indiana

SOUTHWEST Alcom St. Southern 61 SW Texas 68, Texas Pan

Southern U. 69, Prairie View Texas Tech 63, TCU 57 Tulsa 78, Oral Roberts 51

Hawaii 70, Princeton 52 Nevada 60. Idaho St. 49 Portland 61, Montana St. 57 Utah 75, San Francisco 62

Willamette 77, Redlands 52

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

American League
BALTIMORE ORIOLES— Named Syd Thrift vice president baseball operations. Promoted

Bill Stetka to director, public BOSTON RED SOX—Agreed to terms with LHP Jeff Fassero on a one-year contract

CLEVELAND INDIANS-Named Jay Robertson special assistant to the general manager, professional player procure, ment, and Dom Chiti special assistant to the general manage er, professional and advanced scouting. Agreed to terms with RHP Kane Davis, C Mahdy Romero, C Kevin Lidle, INF Rvar Jones and RHP Ernie Delgado

Traded RHP Hideki Irabu to the Montreal Expos for RHP lake

TAMPA BAY DEVIL RAYS-

National League CHICAGO CUBS—Traded LHP

FLORIDA MARLINS—Agreed to terms with RHP Ricardo

Named John Cook general man-ager of Clearwater of the Florida State League. Promoted Lee

BASKETBALL

Association ATLANTA HAWKS—Activated F LaPhonso Ellis from the injured list. Waived F Brandon CLEVELAND CAVALIERS-

Placed F Danny Ferry on the **FOOTBALL National Football League**

NFL—Fined Denver Broncos LB Bill Romanowski \$15,000 for a helmet to-helmet hit on Jacksonville Jaguars RB Fred Taylor. Suspended Cleveland Browns OT Orlando Brown indef initely for shoving a referee in a Dec. 19 game.
ATLANTA FALCONS—Signed

QB Wally Richardson.
BALTIMORE RAVENS— Signed DT Marques Douglas. Signed DE Charles Preston to CHICAGO BEARS Placed

WR Curtis Conway on injured reserve. Signed WR Sulecio Sanford from the practice DALLAS COWBOYS—Signed DB Jason Kaiser from Kansas City's practice squad. Waived

WR Bryan Still.

DENVER BRONCOS—Signed OL Jason Watts to the practice squad. Waived DE Jonathan DETROIT LIONS-Placed OT

Ray Roberts and FB Brock Olivo on injured reserve. Signed FB Travis Reece and G Paul Janus. Signed LB Scott Field to the practice squad. NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS-

Signed DT Noel Scarlett to the practice squad.

NEW YORK GIANTS—Waived K Jose Cortez, Signed TE Mark

National Hockey League NASHVILLE PREDATORS-Recalled G Tomas Vokoun from Milwaukee of the IHL. Assigned

> SAN JOSE SHARKS-Assigned G Evgani Nabokov to Cleveland of the IHL WASHINGTON CAPITALS— Recalled C Glen Metropolit from

> > LX255 Lawn Tractor

St. Louis Rams, Tampa Bay Bucs land six starters on Pro Bowl team

players named Pro Bowl starters a year after the St. Louis Rams had to settle for one third alternate was almost too much to take for Dick Vermeil.

The coach choked up, as he's known to do, relaying the news Wednesday that quarterback Kurt Warner, running back Marshall Faulk, offensive tackle Orlando Pace, wide receiver Isaac Bruce, defensive end Kevin Carter and cornerback Todd Lyght would represent the NFC West champions in the Feb. 6 game.

Their first four seasons in St. Louis, the Rams had only one Pro Bowler, Bruce in 1996. This time around, it's an embarrassment of riches, with six more Rams selected as alternates

"I think we might rent a Rams yacht," said Lyght, a nine-year veteran who'll get his first free trip to Hawaii. Lyght is one of four Rams players honored for

It's another indication of the upheaval this year in the NFL. with the Rams (12-2), Colts (12-2) and Buccaneers (9-5) among the league's dominant Warner, Steve Beuerlein of Carolina and Rich Gannon of Oakland made the Pro Bowl ahead of Brett Favre, Troy Aikman and Doug Flutie.

"I guess the second half of life is the greater half," said Beuerlein, 34, selected for the first time in a 13-year career.

Warner, a former Arena League and NFL Europe star, was left unprotected on the expansion list from which the Cleveland Browns assembled their roster. He became an instant success as a starter when Trent Green was lost with a knee injury in the preseason, and leads the league in passing with 36 touchdowns and a 111.1

Warner said. "Obviously, it's going to go to certain people that are more in the limelight, but there's a lot of guys that are deserving on this team.'

Last year. Pace was the only Rams player to get a mention: 'That's the difference a year makes," Pace said.

Tampa Bay also has six players on the NFC squad, five of them starters, while Dallas, Detroit and Minnesota will send five players each.

The Bucs have a league-high four starters on defense: outside linebacker Derrick Brooks, linebacker inside Hardy Nickerson, tackle Warren Sapp and strong safety John Lynch. Fullback Mike Alstott will start on offense, and center Tony Mayberry is a reserve.

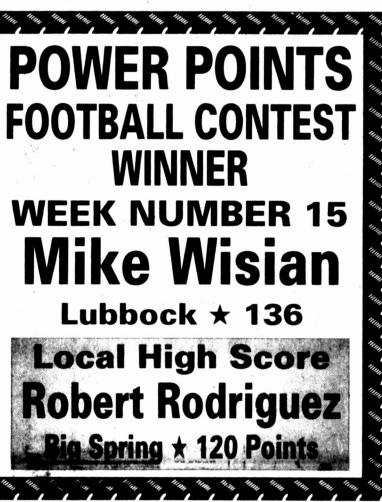
Jacksonville (13-1) landed seven players on the AFC team, five of them starters: wide "I dreamed about this back receiver Jimmy Smith, offen-

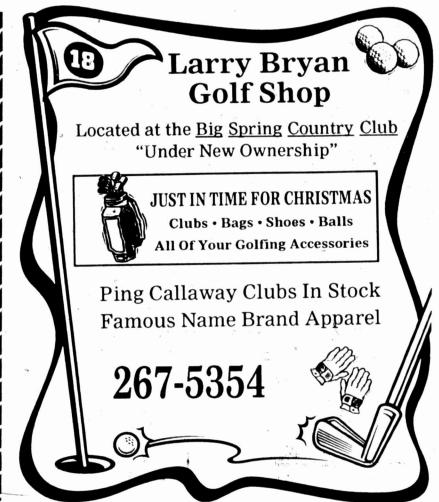
sive tackle Tony Boselli, free safety Carnell Lake, defensive end Tony Brackens and outside linebacker Kevin Quarterback Mark Brunell is a backup behind the Colts' Peyton Manning, and offensive tackle Leon Searcy also is a reserve.

The Colts lead the AFC with three offensive starters, with wide receiver Marvin Harrison, rookie running back Edgerrin James and Manning unanimous choices.

James and defensive end Jevon Kearse of the Titans were the only rookies to make the team. Kearse has a rookie record 13.5 sacks and James leads the AFC with 1,400 yards rushing and trails only Faulk in total yardage.

Five teams have no representatives, including the NFC's last three Super Bowl representatives, Atlanta and Green Bay. The other three are San Diego, Cleveland and Pittsburgh.





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AUSTIN report as c Wildlife De SOUTH **AMISTA** bass are g and striped Little Geor fair on cut to 80 feet on live per

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chrome Rat-FT. PHAN degrees; B are good on HUBBAR 61 degrees are good or jigs fished KEMP: W

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CENTRAL Black bass stripers are

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FISHING REPORT

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AUSTIN (AP) - Here is the weekly fishing report as compiled by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for Dec. 22. (Report also available on Web as www.txfishing.com.)

AMISTAD: Water clear; 64 degrees; Black bass are good on jigging spoons and slabs fished in 30 feet. Crappie are slow. White and striped bass are fair on slabs, shad and Little George's. Channel and blue catfish are fair on cut and prepared baits fished in 50 to 80 feet of water. Yellow catfish are slow on live perch.

CHOKE CANYON: Water fairly clear; 62 degrees; Black bass are good on grape Texas-rigged worms and spinnerbalts fished along the edges of the hydrilla. Crapple are fair on minnows fished over brush piles. White bass are fair on Rat-L-Traps. Channel and blue catfish are good on cheesebait fished in 7 to 8 feet off the south shore. Yellow catfish are slow.

BAYLOR: Little activity on the lake due to poor weather conditions.

GREENBELT: Water murky: 48 degrees White bass and walleye are fair on slabs fished in 40 to 45 feet. Very few fisherme on the lake due to cold temperatures. MACKENZIE: Few fishermen out due to poor weather conditions.

MEREDITH: Water stained; 48-52 degrees; Black bass are good on slabs. Crappie are slow on minnows. White bass are good on slabs (fish are suspended in 48 to 58 feet of water). Smallmouth bass are slow on minnows fished by the dam. Walleye are fair on minnows fished off the bottom by the dam.

PALO DURO: Water fairly clear; 56 degrees; Black bass are slow. Crappie are fair on minnows fished near the bridge in shallow water. Walleye are slow. Channel and blue catfish are fair on shad fished in the channels.

ALAN HENRY: Water stained: 58 degrees: Black bass are fair on jig and pork combinations fished in the creek channels. All other fishing has been slow.

ARROWHEAD: Water clear; 60 degrees; Black bass are fair on orange and white spinnerbaits. Crappie are good on minnows fished near the derricks in 18 feet. White bass are slow. Channel and blue catfish are good on large shiners fished at night on the south end of the lake. BRADY: No report available

COLORADO CITY: Water murky; 56-58 degrees; Black bass are fair to good on chrome Rat-L-Traps fished over the rocks. Redfish are fair trolling stickbaits. Few fishermen out due to cold temperatures.

FT. PHANTOM HILL: Water clear; 60 degrees; Black bass are slow. Blue catfish are good on shad and shiners fished on the west side of the lake in the shallows.

HUBBARD CREEK: Water lightly stained; 61 degrees; Black bass are slow. Crapple are good on minnows and white marabou jigs fished in Sandy and Hubbard creeks in 8 to 12 feet. Channel and blue catfish are

KEMP: Water stained; 58 degrees; Black bass are slow. White bass are fair on white and chartreuse slabs fished in 30 to 45

NASWORTHY: No report available. NOCONA: Water clear; 58-60 degrees; Black bass are fair on chrome jigging spoons fished in 15 to 25 feet and black/blue jigs fished in 10 to 18 feet. Crappie are good on jigs and jigging spoons fished in 15 to 30 feet. White bass and hybrid stripers are fair on chrome jigging spoons fished in 15 to 30 feet. Channel and blue catfish are slow. Yellow catfish are

OAK CREEK: Water fairly clear; 59 degrees; Black bass are fair on minnows spinner and buzzbaits fished in 5 to 15 feet Crappie are slow on minnows and jigs. White bass are fair on minnows and jigs. Channel and blue catfish are slow on stinkbait and minnows fished in 10 to 20 feet.

OH. IVIE: Water clear; 62 degrees; Black bass are fair on spinnerbaits fished in 2 to 4 feet. White bass are fair to good on slabs and jigging spoons fished in the creek channels in 40 feet. Catfish are slow.

POSSUM KINGDOM: Water fairly clear; 62 degrees; 7.5' low; Black bass are slow on jigs and crankbaits fished in 5 to 20 feet. Crappie are slow on minnows fished in 20 feet. White bass are slow on small jigs and minnows fished in 5 to 20 feet. Striped bass are fair on live shad fished in 30 to 40 feet. Channel and blue catfish are slow on cut baits fished in 30 to 45 feet. Yellow catfish are slow on live perch fished in 20 to 30

SPENCE: Water stained; 60 degrees; Black bass are good on Texas-rigged worms fished off the bank. White bass are very good on slabs and minnows fished in 2 to 18 feet. Striped bass are good on cut baits fished in 12 to 16 feet. Channel and blue catfish are good on stinkbait and shrimp fished in 4 to 12 feet.

STAMFORD Water murky; 62 degrees; Black bass are slow. Crappie are slow. Channel and blue catfish are excellent on nightcrawlers and minnows fished in 5 to 12 feet. Yellow catfish are slow.

SWEETWATER: Water murky; 58-60 degrees; Black bass are fair on spinnerbaits fished in the shallows. Few people on the lake due to poor weather conditions

TWIN BUTTES: Water stained: 62 degrees; 40 feet low: No fishing report due to extreme low lake level. Boats can be launched form Sailboat point but caution is advised on entire lake.

BROWNWOOD: Water clear; 58 degrees; Black bass are fair on spinnerbalts fished in 2 to 10 feet. 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. Catfish are slow.

·CANYON LAKE: Water ultra clear: 60 degrees: 906.02': Black and smallmouth bass are fair to good on Creme Killer Krawdads, 1/8 or 1/4oz. brown/black jigs with trailers and 3" white or chartreuse grubs on 1/4 oz. jigheads fished in the lower end. Crappie are slow on minnows fished upriver. White bass are slow and scattered trolling shad-type crankbaits and 1/8 or 1/4oz. Horizon Perk Minnows from the midlake to Cranes Mill. Striped bass are fair on Golden Eye Creme Lil Fishies and bucktail jigs fished on lake points in the midlake area. Channel and blue catfish are slow on cut or live baits. Yellow catfish to 21 pounds are fair on trotlines baited goldfish

COLEMAN: Water clear; 58 degrees; Black bass are good on black 6" Power Worms fished in 2 to 10 feet. Crapple are slow. Hybrid stripers are good on slabs fished in 30 feet (follow the birds). Catfish are slow.

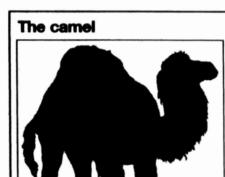
LAKE LBJ: Water stained; 60 degrees; 824.91'; Black bass are fair (but scattered due to weather) on Creme Scremer worms 1/4oz. pumpkin jigs with trailers and 1/4oz. white spinnerbaits. Crapple are fair to good on minnows and chartreuse tiny tubes fished under bridges and dock with brushpil White bass are fair but small trolling Spin Traps or vertically jigging Horizon Perk Minnows. Channel catfish are slow on live baits. Yellow catfish are fair on goldfish



By BETTY DEBNAM

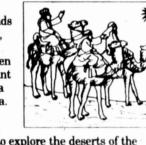
A Celebration of Creatures

Animals of Christmas



mainly found in the deserts of Asia and northern Africa. It is sometimes called a ry (DRAH-muh-dare-ee).

thousands of years, camels have been important in Africa and Asia They allowed



people to explore the deserts of the world and to trade with faraway cities.

Today, few people still use camels for transportation. They are raised for their milk, meat, wool, leather and for racing. Dried droppings are used for fuel.

Camels are known for their bad habits. They often don't follow orders. They also bite, kick and spit!



humps. It is found mainly in the rocky Asian deserts. It has longer hair than the Arabian

When camels walk, two legs on the same side move forward at the same time. This makes riding a camel very

Camels store fat in their hump. When they get hungry, their hump shrinks. After they eat, the hump becomes firm.

Camels are well-adapted for desert living. They can go without water for a long time because they don't sweat as much as other mammals. They also get moisture from the plants they eat. Camels have special parts on their

bodies to help keep out the sand. These · three eyelids and a double row of

evelashes. · special muscles that enable them to

close their nostrils. · special hairs inside their ears.



the horse. Small donkeys are ca le donkey and a

In hot desert areas, a donkey can carry people or things for a long time without needing much food or water.

The sheep Sheep can do



well in many climates. Often they are raised in dry, arid areas because they don't need a lot of water.



over their flocks. For thousands of years, people have depended on sheep for food

Go dot to dot and color



Rookie Cookie's Recipe **Merry Mix** You can serve this at a holiday party.

You'll need:

- 1 can mixed nuts
- 3 tablespoons sunflower seeds • 1 tablespoon hot sauce • 2 teaspoons seasoned salt
- What to do:
- 1. Place nuts and sunflower seeds in an 8-by-8-inch baking pan.
- 2. Combine remaining ingredients in a
- small bowl. Mix well.

3. Pour mixture in bowl over nuts and seeds. Toss to coat. 4. Bake in a preheated 250-degree oven for 45 minutes. Stir every 15 minutes. Makes about 2 cups.



NEWS HOLIDAY

Words that remind us of holiday animals are hidden in the block below. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally. See if you can find: ANIMALS, CHRISTMAS, REINDEER, CAMELS, SHEEP, PETS, ZOOS, COLD, FUR, SHEPHERD, FLOCKS, DONKEYS, MALE, GIFTS, PARTRIDGE, DESERT, FLY, BIRDS. HUMP.



CMMSGIFTSHOHPEB AFAEHHUMPRNEESN NFULQEWFHIKPTEB IGRREZEGJSEHSRI MCAMELSPHTYEUTR AIVSKCOLFMSRQCD LJCOLDFLYABDDES SREEDNIERSKSOOZ

EGDIRTRAPCDSBDL

Mini Spy

Mini Spy and Alpha Mouse are meeting a camel.



- funny face number 7
- star elephant head
- fish
- lips comb frog
- word MINI lima bean
- bird
- number 8 man in the moon

dog looks would be unfair to holiday gift. So much is going on during the pets often do not get they need at that

Say no to pets as gifts

Giving an animal as a gift is an especially bad idea during the busy holiday times, according to experts at the Humane Society of the United



commotion then that people would probably be too distracted to care for a new pet Also, there is a chemistry between an animal and a

person. It is important that people pick out the animal that is right for them. If you are giving an animal as a gift,

it is much better to give a gift certificate. Then, when the time is right, the person can go to a shelter and pick out the right pet.

The Mini Page thanks Nancy Peterson, sues specialist at the Humane Society of the United States, for help with this story. Look through your newspaper for

pictures of animals. What kind of care do you think they would need? Next week The Mini Page celebrates the

Check out: www.minipage.com



Care for pets already there During the holiday season there are extra dangers to pets. During this time it is important to take special care of the pata you already have.

Cats especially are very curious. They will investigate anything new Be sure dangerous things are out of your house or out of their reach.

 Remove glass ornaments and tinsel It would be better to use ornaments made of different materials, such as satin or wood



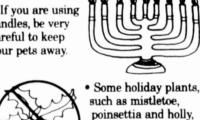
 Cover the water under the Christmas tree. Pets should not be drinking it. Never put chemicals in the tree water. They might make the tree last longer, but

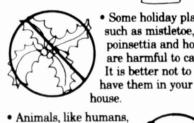
could hurt your pets.

are harmful to cats.

It is better not to

 If you are using candles, be very careful to keep your pets away.





need to watch what they eat during the holidays. A little extra turkey is fine, but ham could upset their stomachs. Never give your pets candy. Chocolate is especially bad



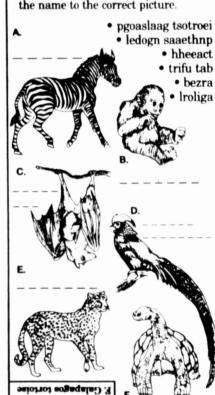
· Be sure your pets are safe inside on New Year's Eve. Loud noises and people celebrating could scare or hurt animals.



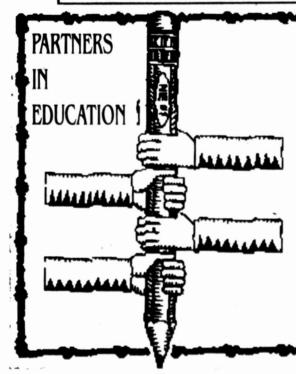
Many caring people celebrate the holiday season by making a contribution to a worthy cause. At many zoos you can "adopt" an

animal, helping to pay for its care. Although all animals stay at the zoos, the "adoptive parents" receive pictures and other benefits.

Here are some of the animals you can adopt at zoos around the country. Unscramble the letters to spell out the name of the animal. Then match the name to the correct picture.



3. gorilla; C. fruit bat



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FRIDAY, DEC. 24:

Extremes mark your year. If possible, keep your imagination harnessed. Don't go hogwild. Your magnetism draws many toward you. Count on your abilities to get you where you want to be, professionally. You could be up for a promotion or a raise. You are p ractically intuitive about what others need. If you are single, you have your pick of admirers. Making the right choice is important. Summer brings interesting possibilities into your life. If attached, you can enrich your relationship, especially during the period before Valentine's Day. Make longdreamed-of plans together this summer. LEO helps you see the big picture.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ****Overindulgence marks your day and mood. Your cre-

ativity comes out when you're around children. Another touches you on a deep level. Make time for friends and a holiday celebration. You could go to extremes, but you are clearly cared for. Tonight: Th ere are many types of Christmas presents!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) **** You are anchored and

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR direct, and you make a big difference to those in your immediate circle. You know how to make another feel pampered by caring. Do it. Plans could change, but remember how important another is to you. Tonight: Getting into the role

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ****You have the ability to shake another out of the doldrums. Create greater connection and caring. Make time for a last-minute get-together. You could be racing in many different directions. You play a big role in making this Christmas work for other s. Tonight: Touching those you care for.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ****You might have some residual errands or work to do. Clear the decks as quickly as possible. You could get yourself upset and frantic. Don't. A partner might not come through like you think he should. Tonight: Let it all begin!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) *****Beam in what you want, and give others more of what they want. If any Christmas has a special tone, it is this one. Your magnetic ways bring joy to those around you. Take time, even with a passing face in your life. Good news comes from a distance. Tonight: Happy as a cat.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) **** Reach out for others.

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Don't get yourself upset about what isn't right; rather, look at what is working. A partner

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goes overboard for you and is willing to pitch in where you can't. You are exhausted by your hectic pace. Tonight: Mellow out.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

***** Sort through invitations. A lot of people want your time and well-wishes this Christmas. A loved one goes overboard for you. Don't kid yourself about this person and what he means to you. Deal with others from the heart. Tonight: A Christmas to rem

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

****You are in the limelight, drawing others to you. Be prepared to take over some responsibilities, as a relative or friend might not feel up to snuff. Fortunately, you have the energy to skip over any problem that arises. Tonight: The Christmas star!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec

*****Join family and friends as soon as you can this Christmas Eve. You might need to travel or make an important phone call. Caring abounds. Share the spiritual values of the holiday with children. Surround yourself with music. Tonight: Confirm plans.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan

***** Build a better relationship by taking time with that special partner. A lot of people, especially family, need and Syndicate Inc.

want your attention. Take care of details as fast as you can, so you can relax with the special person in your life. Tonight: Let the good times roll.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) *****Others surround you and want to celebrate the holiday. Worry less about what is going on with a partner. Don't confuse the issue. Count on your bonding. Calls, presents and friends all clamor at your door. Enjoy the moment. Tonight: Make this remar kable.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

****You have a lot to do, and your pace is unusually hectic. Last-minute spending goes overboard. You, however, will delight others. Remember, your actions count as much as your words. Your instincts could be off with someone close to you. Tonight: Easy does it.

BORN TODAY

Author Nicholas Meyer (1945), health administrator Anthony Fauci (1940), actress Jill Bennett (1931)

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Woman's search for insight yields man of her dreams

DEAR ABBY: I would like to share something special with little experiment to give me insight into the people around me ended up giving me more than just the warm fuzzies. I asked some of those I work

with and some close friends to answer the

following question with the first thing that came mind. Lasked it exactly as stated with no emphasis on any one

particular word: "If you

could do any one thing in the world, what would it be?" Some of the answers were amusing. My coworkers answered: "Turn invisible." "Lose 50 pounds." "Educate the world." "I'd rule

ABIGAIL

VAN

BUREN

the world. My friends answered: "Feel better about myself." "Feed the world'' "Become a millionaire.'

Lasked my boyfriend of five months at the time the same question. Without hesitation, he answered, "I would give you a working pancreas." My jaw dropped, my heart melted and my eyes filled with tears. You see, Abby, I have had type II diabetes for nearly 10 years. Thankfully, I am very well controlled and healthy, yet he knows that the daily rituals that control my life will never go away

I think I have finally met a man with my best interest at heart. How could I not love someone with such unselfish kindness? Maybe there is hope for the world after all! — LANA A., ATLANTA

DEAR LANA A.: You picked yourself a Georgia peach, honey. Hang onto him — he's a

DEAR ABBY: Yet one more letter about tolerance. Can we not be great Americans and still hold onto ethnic traditions? Why do we have to be a melting pot? Why do we need to shed our backgrounds in order to be true Americans?

There are so many wonderful, beautiful and enriching traditions, and if we open ourselves to learning about them, we can only grow in our acceptance and appreciation of all people. Tolerance means the acceptance of individuals as they are, not as we necessarily want them to be

I choose to believe that our founding fathers wanted America to be a place where all are welcome, not just those who are like us. Good citizenship does not require the shedding of our backgrounds. Good citizenship means accepting each other and working together for the betterment of us all. ANDELA IN LOVELAND,

DEAR ANDELA: Of course you. What began as a simple "we can be great Americans and still hold onto our ethnic traditions. However, this country would be stronger if everyone who immigrates here became proficient in the English language. And while our various cultural traditions are important in defining who we are, I think it is important to define ourselves as Americans first, rather than calling ourselves 'hyphen-Americans," which separates us rather than unites us as a nation. It's a matter of

DEAR ABBY: I have a neighbor who tells visitors to remove their shoes before entering because she has a light-colored carpet.

I, for one, don't like it. What should I do in this situation? WONDERING IN COLORADO

DEAR WONDERING: Either walk on your hands or stay home!

DEAR ABBY: Your advice to "Wishing for Comfortable Shoes in Parsippany, N.J. should have been, "Elope!" A mother as selfish, self-centered and inconsiderate as she is should be left holding the high

Whose wedding is it, anyway? ELAINE T., PORTLAND, ORE

DEAR ELAINE: I think we all know the answer to that question. But don't be so hard on the mother. Almost every woman who gives birth to a daughter has a fantasy of how she'd like her daughter's wed ding day to be. "Wishing's mother is just having a little trouble letting go of her dream. I'm willing to bet that after she sees this column she'll compro-

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable – and most frequently requested poems and essays, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby's "Keepers," P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is includ-What teens need to know

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1619 Harding 4 bdr. 2 bth. \$350/mn. \$200/dep. Sorry No Pets. 263-4922 2 bdr. 2 bth. brick C/A. well water, trash & yard

paid . Ref. needed. No Pets. \$375/mn. (Knott area). 915- 268-3044 lv. 2 bdr mobile home 1407 B

Mesquite \$265/mn. \$150/dep. Also: 2 bdr. mobile 1410 rear Harding \$265/mn. \$150/dep. water paid. Call 267-6667. 2 bedroom, 11/2 bath, 304

5th. No pets. Call

267-3841 or 270-7309. 2/1 \$350/mo + dep. 3/1 \$450/mo. + dep.3/1 \$550/mo.+dep. 3/2 \$600/mo.+dep. Call 2510 Carlton. Good neighborhood. Nice, clean 3BR, 2bth, CH/A, 2 living

areas, fenced backyard double carport. \$550/mo, \$250/dep, 267-1543. 3 bdr. stove & refirigerator furnished. New paint & carpet. Bills pd. HUD ok!

501 Union. Secluded. Call 263-4011 3 Bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, 4219 Hamilton Call 267-3841 or 270-7309. 3 Br 1 bath, CH/A. Nice

Neighborhood. 2410 Carelton. \$475/mo. + dep. Call 263-4367 or 263-6997 2506 Central 3 bdr. C/H/A, garage fenced yard. Also: 3617 Hamilton clean, 3 bdr. C/H/A, fenced yard. Call 263-3350 or 634-0997

3/2, Kentwood, \$495. 2/2, ref., stove, dishwasher, Call Doris at 263-6525 or Home Realtors 263-1284. FOR RENT 207 Jefferson 3 bdr. 2 bth. fireplace,

totally remodeled, new

with good references.

Especially nice rentals:

plumbing & electric. C/H/A, wood & tile floors new carpet. \$650 + dep.

FOR RENT 407 1/2 East 8th 1 bdrm Eff Apt.(upstairs) Stove +

NO HUD You Pay Bills House for rent at Lake

Colorado City. Call (915)

Ref. \$250 + Deposit.

263-2510. One, two and three bedroom houses. Call

FOR RENT

TOO LATES Wallace Medical Unit with Mitchell County Hospital District is accepting applications for a Correctional LVN position. Good benefits. Contact

extension 1236.

The following routes are

Route 314 All or part of Abrams

All or part of Baylor, Colby, Fisher, Marshall

Barksdale, Chanute Gunter, Hunter, Kelly

Parkway, Hamilton, The Big Spring

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DEC. 23

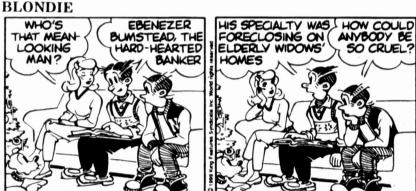
THURSDAY

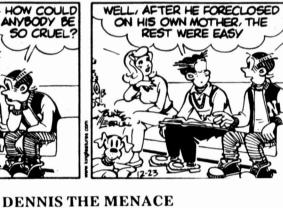
	KMID (2)	KPEJ 3	KERA (5)	FAM 6	KOSA 7	WFAA (B)	KWES 9	WTBS 11	UNI (13)	DISN (14)	NASH (15)	TMC 16	SHOW 20	HBO 22	KMLM24	A&E 25	DISC 26	TNT 28	USA 38	SCIFI 39	LIFE 40	TLC (1)
	Midlend	Odessa	Dallas		Odessa	Dellas	Midland	Atlanta	Spanish	Premium	Nashville	Premium	Premium	Premium	Odessa	New York	Discovery	Atlenta	New York	Science Fic.	Lifetime	Learning Ch.
	News (CC) Fortune	Home Imp. Judge Judy	Creatures Antiques	Christmas Carol (CC)	News Ent. Tonight			Fresh Prince Fresh Prince	Sonadoras	Movie: Cinderella	Waltons (CC)	(CC) (:35) Movie:	Movie: The Cowboy Way	Shadrach (CC)		Law & Order (CC)	Ultimate Guide	ER (CÇ)	JAG (ÇÇ)		Intimate Portrait (CC)	Trauma: Life in the ER
	Whose Line? Whose Line?	Movie: Multiplicity	Journey to Planet Earth	Movie: The Christmas		Whose Line? Whose Line?		(:05) WCW Thunder	Nunca Te Olvidare	(CC) (:35) Movie:	Movie: The Gathering,	Baby Face Nelson	"	Inside the NFL (CC)	Light of the Southwest	Biography (CC)	On the Inside	Christmas in Washington	Walker, Texas Ranger (CC)		Chicago Hope (CC)	Global Catastrophe
	Americas Funniest	(CC)	Mystery! (CC)	List (CC)	Chicago Hope (CC)		Frasier (CC) Stark Raving	(:05) WCW Thunder	Tres Mujeres	The Big Green (CC)	Part II _, (CC)	Movie: Suicide Kings		Movie: Retroactive		Investigative Reports (CC)	Science Mysteries	Dennis the Menace	Movie: Field of Dreams	Movie: Alligator (CC)	Movie: On the Second Day	Storm Rescue
9 :PM	20/20 Down- town (CC)	Mad Abt. You Nanny (CC)	Mystery! (CC)	Trans- Siberian	48 Hours (CC)	20/20 Down- town (CC)		Chimp (:35) WCW	Lente Loco Picardia Mex.		Waltons (CC)	(CC) ,,	(CC) ,,	(CC) Any Given	Richard Roberts	Inside Story	Into the Unknown	Strikes Again (:35) Movie:	` ','		of Christmas (CC)	Tomadoes
10 :PM	News (CC) Nightline	Jerry Springer (CC)	News-Lehrer	700 Clụb (CC)	News (:35) Late		News (:35) Tonight	Thunder (:35) WCW	P. Impacto Noticiero Univ.	Genius (CC)	Dallas (CC)	(9:50) Movie: State of	Movie News Linc's (CC)	Real Sex 16 (CC)		Law & Order (CC)	On the Inside	Super Mario Bros.			Golden Girls Golden Girls	Global Catastrophe
11 :PM		Newsradio Unhappily	Hard Rock Live	Who's Boss? Random Acts	Show (CC) (:37) Late Late	Ent. Tonight Politically Inc.	Show (CC) (:37) Late	Thunder Chimp	Viviana a la Medianoche	Zorro (CC) Mickey Mouse	Dukes of Hazzard (CC)	Grace,	Movie: The Paper (CC)	Inside the NFL (CC)	Faith Pleases God	Biography (CC)	Science Mysteries		Silk Stalkings	The Mutation (CC)	Weddings of a Lifetime XVII	
12 :AM	(12:06) Gunsmoke	Cops (CC)		Paid Program	Show (CC) Grace Under	(12:06) Oprah Wintrey (CC)		(12:05) Movie: Gold	Gordo y Flaca El Biablazo		Movie: The Gathering.	(12:05) Movie: Taffin	,,	Movie: American	Light of the Southwest	Investigative Reports (CC)	Into the Unknown	(11:50) Movie: Santa		Movie: Alligator (CC)	Designing Unsolved	Tornadoes

HAGAR









B.C.



GEECH









FAMILY CIRCUS



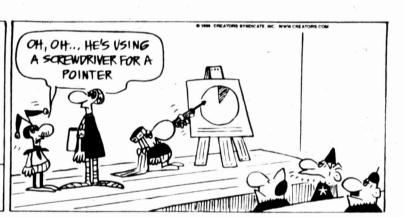
"Shouldn't the swaddling clothes be blue for a boy?'

"I WENT TO A LOT OF TROUBLE FOR YOUR GIFT."

·HEY! THOSE THINGS ARE HARD TO CATCH!

WIZARD OF ID











SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILY





THIS DATE

IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Thursday, Dec. 23, the 357th day of 1999. There are

eight days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Dec. 23, 1893, the Engelbert Humperdinck opera "Haensel und Gretel" was first performed, in Weimar. Germany.

TMSPuzzles@aol.com

On this date:

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

	*									
ACROSS 1 "The Outcasts	1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9
of Poker Flat"	14	\top	\top	\top			15	T		
writer 6 Be a Good	17	T	T	\top	T		18	\top	T	
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14 Declares 15 Hebrew month	23	24			25	\top				26
16 Roll-call call	27	+	+	28		+		29	30	

18 Wendy's dog 19 Actress Moran 20 Start of Evan Esar quote 23 Layer

17 Station

25 Toledo aunt 26 Down the dumplings 27 Like an NBA backboard?

29 Type of insurance 31 Toque or tam 34 Fencer's foil 35 List ender

37 Wide-receiver Don 39 Part 2 of quote 42 Sen. Kefauver

44 Former Yugoslavian dictator

43 One on one's

Moines 46 Irritated Island, NY 48 50 Still

51 In favor of 52 Madison Ave. offerings 53 End of quote

59 Conception 60 Rara 61 Pot sweeteners 64 Bring up 65 Destitution

66 River's end,

often 29 Up-for-bids 67 Goofs up 68 Pub potables 69 Authority

DOWN 1 Possessed

Maria" 3 Debt reducers 5 What we will?

12/23/99 By Alan P. Olschwang Huntington Beach, CA Wednesday's Puzzle Solved 6 Barbera's partner 7 Ball-shaped cheese 8 Actress Turner 9 Orison

location 30 Hebrew month 31 Reluctantly 32 Slackened 33 Mortise mates

36 Russian autocrat 38 Kett of the comics

10 Ream

13 Darn it?

component

11 Parsley or sage

12 Callas number

21 More extensive

23 College course,

breaks down

22 Disney deer

24 Enzyme that

28 Word on the

in brief

fats

wall

54 Baltic feeder 40 Double curves 41 Actress Cicely 55 Approach 47 Canada capital 56 Cricket pitch 49 Threesomes 57 Yearn 50 Decade **58 SSS**

divisions 51 Pugilist's weapons 53 Engage

classification 62 "Star Trek" extras 63 _ Paulo

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In 1783, George Washington resigned as commander in chief of the Army and retired to his home at Mount Vernon. Va.

In 1823, the poem "A Visit from St. Nicholas" by Clement C. Moore was published in the Troy (N.Y.) Sentinel.

In 1928, the National Broadcasting Co. set up a permanent, coast-to-coast network.

In 1941, during World War II, American forces on Wake Island surrendered to the Japanese.

In 1948, former Japanese premier Hideki Tojo and six other Japanese war leaders were exe-

cuted in Tokyo. In 1968, 82 crew members of the U.S. intelligence ship Pueblo were released by North Korea, 11 months after their

capture. In 1980, a state funeral was held in Moscow for former

Premier Alexei N. Kosygin, who had died Dec. 18 at age 76. In 1986, the experimental air-

plane Voyager, piloted by Dick Rutan and Jeana Yeager, completed the first nonstop, roundthe-world flight without refueling as it landed safely at Edwards Air Force Base in California.

In 1995, a fire in Dabwali, India, killed 540 people, including 170 children, during a yearend party near the children's school.

In 1997, a jury in Denver convicted Terry Nichols of involuntary manslaughter and conspiracy for his role in the Oklahoma City bombing, declining to find him guilty of murder.

Ten years ago: Ousted Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu and his wife, Elena, were captured as they were attempting to flee their coun-

Five years ago: Bosnian Serbs and the Muslim-led government agreed to a week-long truce beginning the next day as they worked on details of a fourmonth cease-fire. Professional baseball owners imposed a salary cap fiercely opposed by players.

One year ago: Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat freed Hamas spiritual leader Sheik Ahmed Yassin from house arrest, a move denounced by Israel. Lebanese guerrillas attacked Israel's northern border with rockets, in retaliation for an Israeli air raid a day earlier.

Today's Birthdays: Photographer Yousuf Karsh is 91. Actor James Gregory is 88. Actor Gerald S. O'Loughlin is 78. Emperor Akihito of Japan is 66. Actor Frederic Forrest is 63. Actor James Stacy is 63.