THURSDAY

January 6, 2000

WEATHER

Tonight:



TONIGHT 20°-25°

Tax volunteers are still needed

Volunteers are needed for the income tax assistance program.

A training class by the Internal Revenue Service will take place at the Spring City Senior Citizen's Center, 1901 Simler Drive, beginning Monday, and will run through Friday, Jan. 14, from 9 a.m.-noon each day.

Volunteers who attend the training and pass a test given by the IRS will provide free tax assistance on a volunteer basis during February and March to senior citizens and needy persons.

Call Dorothy Kennemur, 398-5522 or the senior center, 267-1628, for more informa-

WHAT'S UP...

☐ Genealogical Society of Big Spring, 7:15 p.m., Howard County Library. ☐ Masonic Lodge No. 1340, 7:30 p.m., 2101 Lancaster.

FRIDAY

□ AMBUCS, noon, Brandin' Iron Restaurant. □ Spring City Senior Citizens country/western dance, 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

☐ Dance, 8:30 p.m., Eagles Lodge, 704 W. Third. Members and guests wel-

MONDAY

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

☐ Big Spring Comandery No. 31, 7:30 p.m., Masonic Temple, 211 1/2 Main. There is a 6:30 p.m. dinner.

☐ Big Spring Assembly No. 211, Social Order of the Beauceant, 7:30 p.m., Masonic Temple, 211 1/2 Main. There is a 6:30 p.m. dinner.

TUESDAY

☐ Intermediate line dance classes, 9 a.m. Senior Citizens Center.

☐ Big Spring Rotary Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room

WEDNESDAY

Optimist Club, 7 a.m., **Howard** College Cactus Room.

☐ Senior Circle Big Spring Mall walkers meet 9:15 a.m. in front of movie theater box office.

☐ Big Spring Downtown Lions Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room.

INSIDE TODAY...

Abby	3 A
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Life	 5-6A
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Opinion	4A
Sports	1B

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

So much for holidays, school students gear now for TAAS testing

By MARSHA STURDIVANT

Staff Writer

Students in public school districts across the state comthe Christmas-New Year's vacation to face more than just the usual reading, writing and arithmetic in class.

BOWERMAN

The Texas Assessment of

the horizon, and preparations for Big Spring sophomores to take it begin this month.

"All sophomores will be required to attend the math tutorials after school for 20 minutes beginning Jan. 17. They will continue for five weeks and finish Feb. 17," said BSHS Principal R. Kent Bowermon.

Big Spring sophomores began attending the math tutorials at this time of year five years ago, in the 1994-95 school year. At that time, BSHS had a 39.6 score in TAAS math, above the state

Academic Skills test looms over average, but not where the read-tutelage, the after-school proing and writing scores were at the time, Bowermon said.

"The math department got together and along with our site-based decision making committee, determined to use this tutorial. Since then, our math scores have jumped to better than 80. We went from less than 40 to more than 80 with this tutorial program," Bowermon

And all students win through mandatory participation in the program, he said. For those students who need additional math

gram provides an opportunity for intensive study

Seniors and juniors who need the review to pass the TAAS may take part in the tutorials on a slot-availability basis, he

And top scores on the TAAS math also allow students an exemption from taking the Texas Academic Skills Program test for college, he said.

"And for our advanced students, this tutorial provides a review for material they may not have had in a while, so

everybody benefits from this program," he said.

All the high school math teachers will be involved in the program, which begins at 3:05 p.m. and concludes at 3:20

Monday through Thursday. "And we may bring in one or two more teachers, depending on the size of the sophomore class. We have 302 sophomores now, and we'll have between 11

and 12 teachers," he said. The TAAS math test currently covers material presented to

See TESTS, Page 2A

The Permian Building at Second and Scurry streets has been reduced to rubble, which city and county crews are using to fill in low areas in and around Big Spring. Midwest Wrecking employees were still at work late Wednesday, removing debris.

Local man held on sexual assault charges

Staff Writer

Big Spring police on Tuesday arrested a local man for the sexual assault of a 12-year-old boy that may have been occurring for as long as four years.

Rudy Holguin, 44, faces one charge of indecency with a child and two charges of aggra-

vated sexual assault. Municipal Judge Gary Tabor set Holguin's bond at \$75,000 on

each charge. "I felt the need to set the bond so high because of the serious-

According to District Attorney Hardy Wilkerson, police were notified of the alleged offense by the child's guardian on May 31.

"The alleged offense may have been occurring for as long as four years," Wilkerson said. According to Wilkerson, the alleged offense probably took

place in a Big Spring motel. There are no apparent physi-

cal injuries to the child, he said. "Due to the continuous conduct of the offense occurring

over a period of time, you would

ness of the crime," Tabor com- not necessarily expect injuries," Wilkerson said.

Holguin has not been indicted for the offense, and Wilkerson said the case may not make it on the docket for the Jan. 19 grand jury,

Holguin has been charged and convicted of previous criminal offenses, but those were not sexual crimes, Wilkerson said.

Holguin is currently in the county jail, and has not posted

Big Spring Police Department Detective Charlie Calvert was the investigating officer on the

Vacancies

Big Spring City Council looks to fill posts vacated by mayor and attorney

By BILL McCLELLAN

News Editor

With the new year, Big Spring City Council has some new problems — most importantly, how to go

about replacing the mayor and city attorney. Jim Finley, who served as city attorney for the past three years resigned over

period, effec-

the

holiday

FUQUA

tive Dec. 31. He left to take the city attorney's position in Longview.

"From what I understand, the council wants to take resumes for the position and then determine want it wants to do," said Big Spring City Manager Gary Fuqua.

Finley's position was full-time with the city, and his contract did not allow him to have an outside practice.

"Jim was a full-time attorney and it was beneficial to have him here and have him available all the time, so it was very handy for the administration, Fuqua said.

Big Spring has previously employed an attorney part-time to look after its needs, and at other times employeed a full-

time attorney who was able to continue some personal prac-"I think what council mem-

bers will probably do this time, is as they are interviewing applicants, see what is the best fit for the city. It depends on the candidates, salary and all, and I think the council wants to keep its options open," said Fugua.

In the meantime, local attornevs such as Mike Thomas, Drew Mouton and Lanny Hamby can be called upon if the city needs legal assistance.

"Our local attorneys have been real good about helping us," said Fuqua.

The city does have a couple of cases pending, but they are being handled by attorneys retained through the city's insurance carrier, Fuqua said.

The question of city attorney won't be on Tuesday's council agenda, but filling the vacancy of mayor will. Tim Blackshear, in the middle of a three-year term, forfeited his position Monday when he filed as a candidate for the Texas House of Representatives.

According to state law, the city must hold an election within 120 days to fill the vacancy.

Though the normal city election is not far off - May 6, in fact - it doesn't fall within the 120-day limit, said Fuqua.

See CITY, Page 2A

Influenza virus reaches alert stage in Texas, local residents warned

By MARSHA STURDIVANT

Staff Writer

Influenza virus has reached the alert stage in Texas, as the National Flu Surveillance Network in Oklahoma reports a sharp increase in diagnosed cases of flu.

And in Big Spring, Scenic Mountain Medical Center reports a higher than average daily patient census, from about 55 to nearly 80 patients currently hospitalized.

"That's not all flu, but there is a lot of respiratory complications from the flu, such as pneumonia and bronchitis. And

some of these problems are also from the sand storm," said SMMC Chief of Nursing Mary Shetler.

The type of flu currently being treated is actually two separate viruses, she said. One type causes the common intestinal problems such as vomiting and diarrhea, while the other is an upper respiratory virus that can quickly develop into serious lung problems, she said.

"This is slipping quickly into pneumonia, especially for those who have certain conditions such as congestive heart failure or chronic pulmonary disease. It goes quickly into the chest,

and it is important that people with those types of illnesses see their doctor," she said.

One of the reasons the respiratory flu progresses so quickly is its very nature, which is to attack the air passages. she said. But the illness also progresses because individuals believe their first symptoms are just that of a common cold.

"But this virus produces chills and fever, although it does start out like a cold. Usually with a cold, you'll have a dripping nose and feel bad, but not chills and a high temperature," she said.

SMMC has also seen a great

influx of patients to the emergency rooms lately, she said. Many of these individuals have traveled for emergency care at night when they realize they are not suffering with a common cold.

"But we've had accidents, heart attacks, really a combination of things in the ER. There are a lot of people sick right now, and the ER has been kept very busy," Shetler said.

The increased ER patient traffic is such that additional personnel have been placed in the emergency room, to help provide patient care, she said.

"We tell our staff to treat our See VIRUS, Page 2A

patients as they would a loved family member, and that means providing good, quality care. To deliver the kind of care we want, we have staffed up the ER to three people each shift, and the supervisors and doctors are on call in case they're needed in ER," she said.

And while the respiratory flu virus seems to dissipate after about a week, a cough that accompanies the virus may last another two to three weeks, she

"It just hangs on, and patients report not feeling well, even

Dramatic influenza increase reported in many communities

By MARSHA STURDIVANT

Staff Writer

The National Flu Surveillance Network classifies flu outbreaks in three stages — influenza watch, alert and warning.

An influenza watch indicates that two or more cases of the flu have been accurately diagnosed in a region. Alert means cases of the flu are being diagnosed every other day, while warning means doctors are diagnosing influenza every day, according to Jane Braden, public relations

officer for the NFSN. "Physicians sites report a sharp increase of influenza in Dallas, prompting the NFSN to changing the flu status in that one Texas city to influenza warning," Braden said.

A 95 percent increase in flu

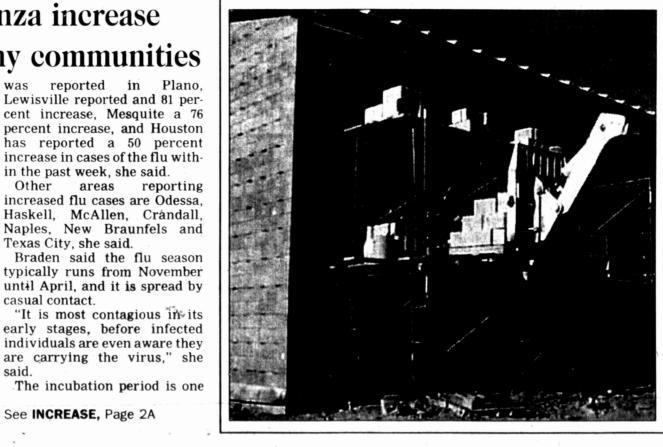
was reported in Plano, Lewisville reported and 81 percent increase, Mesquite a 76 percent increase, and Houston has reported a 50 percent increase in cases of the flu within the past week, she said.

Other reporting areas increased flu cases are Odessa, Haskell, McAllen, Crandall, Naples, New Braunfels and Texas City, she said. Braden said the flu season

typically runs from November until April, and it is spread by casual contact. "It is most contagious in its early stages, before infected

The incubation period is one

See INCREASE, Page 2A



Employees with South West Masonry of Midland brick the exterior portions of the walls of the multipurpose center at the SouthWest Collegiate Institute of the Deaf. The center, which will house a gymnasium, aerobics areas and dressing rooms, is expected to be complete in the spring.

BIG SPRING

the answer was no," said

Fugua. "So we're going to have

council to set a date for the spe-

cial election. We'll have some

Allowing for a filing period

and early voting period, the ear-

liest the election could be held

is the first part of March, Fuqua

Tuesday's council meeting

after the fever and chills are

Shetler said prevention is the

best medicine, and she strongly

urged people to get a flu shot,

which are available at the

health department, some phar-

Remarkably, local school cam-

puses do not report excessive

absences this first week back

Big Spring High School,

Goliad and Marcy elementaries

and Big Spring Junior High

attendance clerks said absences

have remained about average

the flu, though it has not been

excessive. It's really not been

that bad for the first couple of

days back from the holiday."

said BSJH attendance clerk

to four days, and symptoms

include fever, cough, headache,

Influenza can be fatal, espe-

cially among individuals most

at risk for complications, such

as the elderly, children, individ-

uals with chronic illnesses, and

It is estimated more than

deaths occur on the average

each year in the United States,

Information

Dec. 24 theft

Crimestoppers of Big Spring

is currently seeking informa-

tion about a theft that occurred

at Higginbothan-Bartlett on

An unknown person or per-

Anyone who has information

about the crime, please call:

Crimestoppers of Big Spring at

Crimestoppers is authorized

to pay up to \$1,000 in cash for

any information leading to an

arrest, conviction or indict-

ment of any person or persons

Information is confidential

and all calls may remain

involved in criminal activity.

unnamed and unknown.

sons stole property from this

sought on

Dec. 24.

263-8477.

local business.

influenza-associated

muscle aches and weakness.

"We have had some cases of

macies and doctor's offices.

from Christmas break.

for this time of year.

Jaynie Gamble.

INCREASE

Continued from Page 1A

and pregnant women.

said. The latest date is May 3.

will begin at 5:30 p.m.

Continued from Page 1A

VIRUS

gone," she said.

"Tuesday' we'll be asking the

to have a special election.

options available to them.

AROUND THE TOWN

Dene Anderson

Dene Anderson, 60. Big Spring, died on Monday, Jan. 3, 2000, at her

residence. Graveside service will be 1 Thursday Jan. 6, 2000, at

Trinity Memorial Park with the Don Snipes, pastor

Baptist

ANDERSON

Temple Church, officiating.

She was born on March 13. 1939, in Gorman

Dene came to Big Spring in 1943 from Gorman. She graduated from Big Spring High School in 1957 and then attended Howard County Junior College. She worked at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for over 20 years, most recently as admissions director

She was a charter member of Baptist Temple Church. Ms. Anderson was also a member of the Jaycettes.

Survivors include: three sons and two daughters-in-law, Neal Anderson of Midland, Craig and Donna Sexton of Timberon. N.M., and Erick and Corinne Nilsen of Andover, Kan.; four grandchildren. Kristen and Kari Nilsen of Andover, Kan., and Chase and Kaylie Sexton of Timberon, N.M.; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Jimmie and Fred Wilson of San Angelo, and Barbara and Ronald Eberhardt of Austin; three aunts, Maedell Sanders and Jolene Bennett, both of Big Spring, and Purnia Faye Smith of Gorman; one niece, three nephews, several cousins and other family members, Janice and Wayne Stroup, Kayne Stroup, Amber and Kevin Rich, Goldie Anderson and Ronnie and Ellen Anderson.

She was preceded in death by a son, Michael Bennett Anderson, her parents, James W. and Maudie Bennett and a sister, Sarah Bennett

The family suggests memorials to: American Heart Association, 3525 Andrews Hwy. Suite 111. Midland 79703: or the American Diabetes Foundation, 9430 Research Blvd., Echelon II Ste 300. Austin 78759; or to the Alzheimer's Association of the Permian Basin, P.O. Box 3389. Midland 79702.

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

Paid obituary

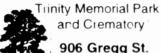
MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Bert Matthies, 69, died Tuesday, Services are 2 PM Saturday in Myers & Smith Chapel. Interment will follow in Trinity Memorial Park.

Merle Johnson, died today Services are pending.

NALLEY-PICKLE & WELCH **Funeral Home**



906 Gregg St. (915) 267-6331

Eugene Crawford, 77, died Tuesday, January 4, 2000. Memorial services will be 2:00 PM Saturday at Berea Baptist Church.

Lois Catherine Dallefeld, 81. died Wednesday. No services are planned.

Jack Bradley Howard, infant son of Stephen and Bree Howard, Wednesday. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home

Big Spring Herald ISSN 0746-6811 USPS 0055-940 Daily except Saturday BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: Evenings and Sunday, \$8.65 monthly; \$93.42 yearly (includes 10% discount for

MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$12.50 monthly Howard & Martin Counties, \$13.25 elsewhere. The Herald is a member of the Associated Press, Audit Bureau of Circulation, American Newspaper Association and West Texas Press

yearly).

POSTMASTER: Send changes of address to: Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, Texas. 79720.

Lois Catherine Dallefeld

Lois Catherine Dallefeld, 81, Big Spring, died on Thursday, Jan. 6, 2000, in a local hospital. No services are planned.

She was born on Aug. 26, 1918, in McAlester, Okla. to Carl and Faye Stone Fangel. She married Donald E. Dallefeld on Oct. 12, 1936, in Kansas City, Kan., and he preceded her in death on March

Surviving are one son and daughter-in-law, Ronald and Delma Dallefeld of Big Spring; one granddaughter and grandson-in-law. Debra and Tom Davidson of Mertzon; two greatgrandchildren, Paige Guthrie of Mertzon, and Austin Davidson of Mertzon.

She was also preceded in death by her parents, two brothers and two sisters.

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

Eugene Crawford

A memorial service for Eugene Crawford, 77, Big Spring, will be 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 8, 2000, at Berea Baptist

Mr. Crawford died Tuesday, Jan. 4, in a local hospital.

He was born on July 19, 1922, in Rolla, Kan., and married Pauline Ream on June 15, 1947, in Kansas. She preceded him in death on July 5, 1997. He grew up in Kansas and moved to Hobbs, N.M., and had resided in Big Spring for the last several months. He served in the United States Army during World War II. He enjoyed bowling and golfing. Mr. Crawford was a Methodist and was a member of the American Legion and the V.F.W. in Hobbs, N.M.

Survivors include: a son. Todd Crawford of Big Spring; two sisters. Helen Hamilton of Hugoton, Kan., and Ruby Arnold of Sublette, Kan.; two grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

The family suggests memorials to the American Cancer Society; c/o Lucy Bonner; P.O. Box 2121; Big Spring; 79721-2121.

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

Merle Johnson

Service for Merle Johnson, Big Spring, is pending with Myers & Smith Funeral Home. He died today.

Bert Matthies

Funeral service for Bert Matthies, 69, Big Spring, will be 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 8, 2000, at Myers & Smith Chapel with the Rev. Don Snipes, pastor of Baptist Temple Church, officiating. Burial will follow in Trinity Memorial Park.

Mr. Matthies died Tuesday, Jan. 4, at the VA Medical Center.

He was born on Aug. 7, 1921, in Howard County. He grew up in the Knott community and graduated from the Knott schools and had been a lifetime resident of Howard County. Mr. Matthies was a veteran of World War II, serving in the U.S. Army as a paratrooper in the 82nd Air Borne Division. He married Myrle Platte on Feb. 22, 1999, in Big Spring. He had worked for Cosden Refinery for 15 years and had also been a truck driver for the oilfield companies. He retired in 1985 and after retiring, he drove cars in for 87 Auto Sales.

He is survived by: his wife, Myrle Matthies of Big Spring; two sons, Dwaine Matthies of Lamesa, and Mark Matthies of Austin; one daughter, Marsha Padilla of Round Rock; one brother, Hershel Matthies of Big Spring; one sister, Annie Merle Dennis of Winsboro; five step-sons, Larry Platte of Big Spring, Kenneth Platte of Shattuck, Okla., Roy Platte and Clifton Platte, both of Big Spring, and Bobby Platte of Pflugerville; two step-daughters, Karen Sullivan of San Angelo, and Janis Allman of Phoenix, Ariz.; four grandsons, one granddaughter; one greatgrandson; two great-granddaughter; and numerous step-

BIG SPRING MOVIE HOTLINE For showtimes call 263-2479

grandchildren and two step-

great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Arrangements under the direction of Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Jack Bradley Howard

God's will will never lead you where God's grace cannot keep you. Much loved Jack Bradley Howard was born and died on Jan. 5, 2000, at Odessa Regional Hospital. He is survived by: his parents, Stephen and Bree Howard and one brother, Baxter Howard; his aunt and uncle, Megan and Keith Becker; cousins, Talan Klein and Violet Becker; grandparents, Kay and Terry McDaniel of Big Spring, and Gene and Glenda Howard of Corinth; great-grandparents, Cliffa and Wally Slate of Big Spring, and Louise Howard of Big Spring. Graveside services pending at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Paid obituary

Continued from Page 1A

students in algebra I and geometry, but Bowermon said the test is expected to include alge-

bra II by 2003. "This year's TAAS will be more difficult because it has changed from the essential elements to the TEKS, or Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills, which is brand new. We've changed our curriculum to TEKS," Bowermon said.

TEKS involves more broadbased material, with higherlevel thinking skills required for comprehension and mastery, he said.

"We hope we do as well or better this year than last year. Last year we missed two subsections in math and we're hoping if we master those subsections, we could be a recognized campus," he said.

The Texas Education Agency ranks campuses and districts in Texas into four categories, based on attendance, drop-out rates and TAAS scores.

Exemplary and then recognized are the two top honors, compromised immune systems, followed by acceptable and unacceptable.

TAAS tests begin Feb. 22 for all sophomores, who will take their EXIT level tests for writing, math and reading. Juniors and seniors who have not passed the EXIT level, which is required to receive a high school diploma, may also take the EXIT at this time.

In May, seniors who have not passed the TAAS will be given a final opportunity before gradua-

"We usually get the results of those final tests back the day before graduation rehearsal, so those students and their parents are really in the bubble until the last second," Bowermon

Elementary and junior high students will take the writing portion of TAAS Feb. 22 in grades four and eight. Grades third through eighth will take the math and reading TAAS April 11-14, and eight grade students must also take science and social studies TAAS tests that week.

202 Scurry

Continued from Page 1A

"We did check with the Secretary of State to see if since we were that close to the scheduled election, could we hold them (the elections) together —

ALLAN'S

EVENING Lions Club will have free eyeglasses for all

BRIEFS

DUNLAPS

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*Annual Percentage Yield

(APY)-Interest cannot

remain on deposit; period

ic payout of interest is required. Effective 12/30/99

TEXAS LOTTERY

Pick 3: 5,5,2

Lotto: 4, 22, 23, 31, 43

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

adults Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon at the Big Spring Evening Lions Club bingo building, 1607 East Third.

All adults needing eyeglasses who don't have the income to purchase the exam or glasses are welcome. The recycled eyeglasses are donated by the community as a service project of the Lions.

The Lions group offers the eyeglasses the second Saturday of each month. For more information call Donna Groenke at 393-5298

HANGAR 25 AIR MUSEUM is open weekdays from 9 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday hours are 10 a.m. to 2

SUPPORT GROUPS

THURSDAY

•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon open meeting.

•A.D.D.A.P.T. non-profit support 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.

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

death of a loved one. Call Nurses Unlimited, Inc., at 264-

 Alzheimer's Association Support Group, last Thursday of the month, Comanche Trail Nursing Center, 3200 Parkway, 7 p.m. Call 267-9459.

MARKETS

March cotton 51.75, up 19 points; trauma call, patient transported Feb. crude 24.78, down 13 points; cash hogs steady at 36 even; cash steers steady at 69 even; Feb. lean hog futures 55.27, up 20 points; Feb. live cattle futures 69.55, up 57 points.

courtesy: Delta Corporation.

Noon quotes provided by	Edward Jones &
Co.	
ATT	50 ¹ 16 - 78
Atlantic Richfield	$78^{7}_{16} - 1^{1}_{2}$
Atmos Energy	1913 16 - 8
BP-Amoco	59 ¹² ₁₆ - 11 ₁₆
Chevron	$88\frac{1}{4} + 3\frac{1}{8}$
Cifra	21 ³ to 22
Compaq Computer	$28^{3}_{4} + {}^{1}_{4}$
Cornell Correc.	738 - 16
Dell	4715 6 - 2
DuPont	69^{15} 6 + 2
Exxon	$82^{9}_{16} + 1^{9}_{16}$
Halliburton	$37\frac{5}{8} + \frac{13}{16}$
IMB	121/16 -1/16
Intel Corp	81% - 24
Mid Amer Energy	34 - 16
NUV	7 ¹³ / ₁₆ nc
Palex Inc.	611/16 -1/16
Patterson Ener	$13^{3}_{32} + {}^{11}_{32}$
Pepsi Cola	35% + 9/16
Phillips Petroleum	$44\frac{3}{8} + \frac{3}{4}$
SB€ Com.	443/16 -1/2
Sears	$31\frac{3}{8} + \frac{13}{16}$
Texaco	$56\frac{1}{16} + 3\frac{1}{8}$
Texas Instruments	
Texas Utils. Co	35 1/16 -1/8
Total Fina SA	$62^{7}_{16} - 2^{1}_{8}$
Unocal Corp	$34\frac{1}{4} + 1\frac{1}{4}$
Wal-Mart	64% + 1%
Amcap	17,91-19.00
Europacific	40.85-43.34
Prime Rate	8.50%
Gold	278.70-280.80
Silver	5.10 - 5.20

SHERIFF

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activities

 ARCHIE DALE GOOD-MAN, 27, was arrested for three counts of forgery of a financial instrument. (HCSO)

POLICE

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activities for the period ending today 8 a.m.

• KAYLA HORTON, 36, was arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

· SHOTS FIRED was reported in the 1400 block of East

 DISTURBANCE/FIGHT was reported in the 700 block of West Interstate 20.

 ASSAULT BY THREATS was reported in the 1300 block

 BURGLARY OF A HABI-TATION was reported in the 800 block of North Nolan.

• THEFT was reported in the area of 11th and Settles. DOMESTIC DISTUR-

BANCE was reported in the 1600 block of East Fifth.

FIRE/EMS

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

8:43 a.m. — 2000 block Virginia, trauma call, patient transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center. 3:00 p.ml - SMMC medical

call, patient transerred to. Stanton Care Center. 3:48 p.m. - 1200 block Grafa

to SMMC. 4:33 p.m. — Two miles South on Highway 821, traffic accident, one patient transported to

SMMC. 5:14 p.m. -500 block Highland, medical call, patient transported to SMMC.

7:47 p.m. — 1900 block North 87, trauma call, patient transported to SMMC.

RECORDS

Wednesday's high 61 Wednesday's low 24 Average high 54 Average low 27 Record high 83 in 1916 Record low 8 in 1971 Precip. Wednesday 0.00 Month to date 0.00 Month's normal 0.09 Year to date 0.00 Normal for the year 0.09

Retired Person

Manager needed for American Self Storage. Approximate \$12,000 salary and commission. Send resume to 3314 E FM 700 this week or pick up application at Storage. Current manager retiring.

Thursday Night is 50's Night FUN, MUSIC & GREAT TASTING PIZZA AT '50s PRICES!

Pizza Inn

SMALL I TOPPING

(Extra toppings, 45¢)

DRINKS .45¢

1702 Gregg

MEDIUM I TOPPING

Dine-inn Only

.99¢

SALADS

263-1381

Labor

BIG SPRING HE

Thursday, Jan

WASHINGTO Republicans vowing to inve Department de

issue, and then ter telling a Te must extend w protections to a Labor Secr Herman on W drew the adviso firestorm of crit

Hill. Herman said at-home worker mal response to a single compa intended as a st cy for all busine But Sen. Chr R-Mo., insisted them with their cookie jar."

porate Americ

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Labor Department under fire despite retraction

WASHINGTON (AP) - on employer-employee rela-Republicans in Congress are vowing to investigate a Labor Department decision to first issue, and then withdraw, a letter telling a Texas company it must extend workplace safety protections to at-home workers.

Labor Secretary Alexis Herman on Wednesday withdrew the advisory letter amid a firestorm of criticism from corporate America and Capitol

Herman said the advisory on at-home workers was an informal response to questions from a single company and was not intended as a statement of policy for all businesses.

But Sen. Christopher Bond, R-Mo., insisted that "we caught them with their hands in the cookie jar.

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"You can be sure this idea is not dead," said Bond, who as chairman of the Small Business Committee is leaning strongly toward hearings on the matter. Rep. John Boehner, R-Ohio, chairman of the House

Workforce Committee's panel

tions, said he wants the labor secretary to give Congress all memos and documentation relating to the advisory letter.

"There's a fine line separating big government from Big Brother," Boehner said. "Americans deserve to know the full extent of this intrusive scheme.

Rep. Pete Hoekstra, R-Mich., chairman of the House Workforce Committee's investigations panel, has promised a hearing as early as this month.

"You don't spend two years working on a four-page letter, then issue it, then 36 hours later after it goes public, withdraw it," Hoekstra said. "I'd like to know what their decision-making process was."

Republicans already had pledged to scrutinize the department over regulations proposed in November that would require employers to minimize everyday physical or "ergonomic" — stresses of certain jobs.

Rep. Roy Blunt, R-Mo., a

ship team, said he expects several different hearings on the ergonomic and home office rules.

The controversy has raised questions about what protections Americans working at home can expect from the government, Herman said, so she will convene a conference of business and labor leaders and set up an interagency task force to study the issue.

"We acknowledge ... that employers are responsible for employee safety and health, but we don't know what that means and how that applies to these new work arrangements in the home today. That is why we need a national dialogue on this subject," Herman said.

House Majority Leader Dick Armey scoffed at the idea, saying, "Based on the overwhelming outrage these regulations sparked, I'd say this will be a short, one-sided conversation."

The letter was written by officials at Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administra-

member of the House leader- tion in response to a Texas based credit services company that sought advice about mov ing some sales executives into home offices.

> The now-retracted OSHA let ter said, "All employers including those which have entered into 'work at home agreements with employees are responsible for complying with ... safety and health stan dards."

> It described how an employer **could be liable if it knew** or rea sonably should know about home workplace hazards such as computers that over load home electrical circuits creating a fire hazard, or rick ety stairs leading to a basement office.

> And it suggested companies should train people to set up safe home offices and periodi "cally inspect at-home workers quarters.

Such "interpretation" letters to individual companies often are made public, and other businesses look to them for guidance.

Taxes expected focal point of GOP presidential debate

sparring at a distance for two days, Republican presidential contenders George W. Bush and Sen. John McCain meet tonight for a debate that is likely to provide a prime-time platform for their brewing argument over who has the better tax-cut plan.

McCain. R-Ariz., also faces the prospect of questions about his decision to prod a federal regulatory agency to act on a request from one of his campaign donors

The one-hour debate, being held at the University of New Hampshire in Durham, N.H., is sponsored by The (Manchester) Union Leader, New England Cable News and New Hampshire Public Television. The moderator was NBC's Tim Russert

In the latest spin on the tax theme, Bush said Wednesday that he was "startled" that McCain and Democrat Al Gore agree that his proposed fiveyear, \$483 billion tax plan may be too big for the country to

"I think it is just right," Bush, the Texas governor, told reporters after touring a Fidelity Investments office

"It's a plan that I intend to defend in the primaries. It's a plan I'm going to campaign on in the general election, and it's when I become president of the United States.'

In June, McCain proposed to expand the 15 percent bottom tax bracket, eliminate the socalled "marriage penalty," give Bush and McCain over taxes.

BEDFORD, N.H. (AP) — After relief to Social Security recipients who work and eliminate taxes on estates worth up to \$5 million.

Next week, in response to Bush's challenge, McCain will expand on his plan. Aides said the package will be significantly smaller than Bush's, but focus on Americans earning \$30,000 to \$70,000 a year and with more than half his cuts helping people who are not wealthy

Under McCain's plan, 60 percent of the surplus would help shore up Social Security and the rest would go to Medicare and debt reduction. Bush has no plans to pump extra money into Social Security.

"Bush should explain to those nice people at his news conference why 60 percent of his tax plan helps the rich without doing anything to save Social Security," said McCain spokesman Dan Schnur.

Sharing the stage with Bush and McCain tonight are conservative activist Gary Bauer, millionaire publisher Steve Forbes, Sen. Orrin Hatch of Utah and former U.N. ambassador Alan Keves

Bauer said he again will train his focus on Bush, who is running even with McCain in New Hampshire polls but holds a sizable lead in national surveys.

"I want to nail Governor Bush a plan I hope to put in place on whether he's a conservative," Bauer told a news confer-

ence. Forbes, on the other hand, dismissed as "this little food fight" the sparring between

FDA eases limits on dietary supplements' health claims

government eased some restrictions on dietary supplements Wednesday, saying the products can legally claim to treat a variety of symptoms — from morning sickness to memory loss that are considered common passages of life.

WASHINGTON (AP)

President Clinton says he is

agree on "a simple bill" to shore

up Social Security as part of his

Clinton emerged from a meeting Wednesday with Senate

Minority Leader Tom Daschle,

D-S.D., and House Minority

Leader Dick Gephardt, D-Mo.,

saying he believes the Social

insolvency by 2034 as baby

boomers retire, can be extended

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final-year legislative agenda.

ment manufacturers to make claims regarding serious health conditions without any pre-market review by the FDA," said Bruce Silverglade of the Center for Science in the Public

century," Silverglade said.

strides which will allow beneficial health information" to be conveyed to consumers.

At issue are the \$6 billion worth of dietary supplements that Americans buy each year pills, capsules and teas that do not undergo any government scrutiny for safety or effectiveness before selling.

Federal law allows the prodthat they maintain the healthful too strict.

"structure or function" of the body — but they may not claim to treat diseases. Actual treatments must undergo rigorous scientific study not required for supplements.

The FDA proposed in 1998 that supplements cannot even imply that they diagnose, treat, prevent or cure a disease or definitive disease symptom. But the agency received thousands ucts to make truthful claims of letters complaining that was

Chairman Bill Archer, R-Texas,

said that despite Clinton's proanother school construction proposal as part of an overall tax relief package. "For the past two years, the

passed plans to help build and renovate public schools, but both times the president

Clinton said he does not worry that, in an election year, he may lose support among Democrats for much of his agenda.

"There will always be differ-House of Representatives ences of opinion that will shape the coming election, and that is in the very nature of democracy." Clinton said. "So I don't blocked them." Archer said. "I believe that it, in any ways, "We all hope this year can be children will come before poliparty in the coming elections to tics, and that the president do things that are good for

WASHINGTON (AP) - The The new rule "allows supple-America said the rule "makes

surprised consumer advocates. who say it weakens patient pro-

"That means consumers at The final regulation by the the beginning of the 21st centu-Food and Drug Administration ry are about the same place as consumers at the end of the 19th The Grocery Manufacturers of

Clinton proposes Congress make 'simple' fix to boost Social Security would devote interest savings from the national debt and the hopeful he can get Congress to Social Security surplus to its

> trust fund. "If we just did that, a simple bill, we could take Social Security out beyond the life of the baby boom generation," Clinton said. "If there is a willingness to do it, I am certainly more than willing to do my part and to meet them halfway on

Security program, which faces it." Clinton revealed the Social Security idea as part of an overthrough a compromise that all legislative agenda for his to reach across party lines to

final full year in office. The help our children reach for the agenda is focused on a plan to sky. fix crumbling schools — the Democrats hold an advantage, even though Republicans have tried to improve their image by, among other things, supporting

added spending for schools. 'We can't expect our students to meet high academic stanmeet high building standards," Clinton said.

"Our New Year's resolution is

Otherwise, Clinton's agenda posal, the GOP is planning type of issue on which polls say consists mostly of efforts he

pursued unsuccessfully last year, such as hate crime legislation, gun restrictions, a mininum wage increase, a patient's bill of rights and boosting Social Security and Medicare.

"This unfinished agenda was dards if their schools don't even a casualty of last year's raw partisan politics," Gephardt said. hope this year that our school- weakens the position of my different

House Ways and Means works with us. We need to get America now.'

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

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OUR VIEWS

Old building still providing some purpose

rive north out Birdwell Lane and you'll find big piles of rubble off the side of the road Chunks of concrete, some big, some small They are being used to help fill low spots, areas subject to flooding and erosion.

This isn't just any old rubble though. It's part of what remains of the Permian Building. Yes, that building at the corner of Second and Scurry streets that served Big Spring well as office space in years past, is being utilized for another purpose.

Instead of filling the city skyline, the Permian Building is filling low-lying areas — and just as importantly — not filling up our landfill.

There's still quite a bit of work to be done, but all that remains downtown of the once-stately building is on the ground. With persistent effort, the help of a 5,000-pound wrecking ball and a whole lot of pound ing, the Permian Building is no more. Workers from Midwest Wrecking in Fort Worth have reduced it to a pile of cement and steel. And piece by piece, it is being hauled off — where possible, to help enrich selected

While we won't go so far as to say the old building still lives, we find it interesting that the Permian Building – its usefulness as an office complex long since past—is still a benefit.

It's easy to find some satisfaction in that.

OTHER VIEWS

Everyone is arguing over which discoveries were the most important of the millennium. The understanding of the earth's place in the solar system? Movable type? The theory of relativi-

We'll leave that debate to others. But here's a list of some of the small discoveries of the past 1,000 years that make life worth living:

Chocolate. And ice cream. Better yet, chocolate ice cream. French fries and potato chips, of course. Margaritas and daiquiris. Go-cups and Mardi Gras throws. Pizza delivery and drive-throughs. Microwave popcorn, TV dinners, instant grits and olives without pits.

Speaking of convenience, what did we do without paper towels and disposable

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diapers? Or those fabulous resealable plastic bags?

And what about all those other automated wonders? Garage door openers and garbage disposals. Ice makers and blenders. The cordless phone, electric screwdrivers, VCRs, the remote control, instant replay.

Then there's the blow dryer. Now, that was revolutionary.

So were no-iron fabrics and pantyhose. Insect repellent and self-adhesive stamps. Velcro, too. Ballpoint pens. Paperback books. Portable disc players. The list could go on and

on. Sure, there's plenty of loftier stuff that could be praised. But sheer deodor-

ant? That's magic.

THE TIMES-PICAYUNE, **NEW ORLEANS**

into the thickets of church and state. In its Friday conferences this month, the justices will take a look at two cases involving

ike it or not, the

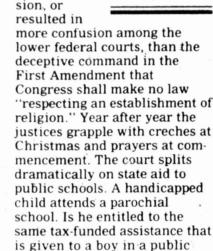
Supreme Court is about

to plunge once more

Good Friday as a state holiday. They probably won't like what they see. Nothing in

the

Constitution has caused KILPATRICK more divi-



school? The high court never has addressed the Good Friday question specifically. Now, in cases from Maryland and

Indiana, an opportunity is presented for the court to lay down uniform rules that would apply across the country. Thirteen states treat Good Friday in one way or another as a legal holiday. Other states schedule their school and court calendars so that a spring break neatly coincides with sectarian accommodation.

Good Friday and the First Amendment

For more than 130 years Maryland has observed Good Friday as a four-day "Easter" break. On its own motion, the school board of Montgomery County a few years ago added Yom Kippur and Rosh Hashanah to the annual schedule. Judith M. Koenick, a schoolteacher, challenged the arrangement by suing the board in U.S. District Court. She complained that the schedule violates the establishment clause by unconstitutionally promoting religion. The court disagreed, and the Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit affirmed. Although Koenick has retired as a teacher, her suit is alive and well on her petition for Supreme Court review.

She contends: The selection of specific holidays communicates a message about a state's priorities. Maryland's statutory requirement for an "Easter" closing sends a message to non-Christians that the state finds Good Friday, and thus Christianity, to be a religion worth honoring. The message is particularly significant for

the affected children. "The statute sends a message of inclusion to Christian schoolchildren and a message of exclusion to their Jewish, Muslim and non-believing classmates.

A three-judge panel of the 4th Circuit, speaking through Judge Sam Ervin III, refused to buy this argument. Instead, the court accepted the county's contention that a high rate of absenteeism could be expected if the schools remain in operation on major religious holidays. There is thus a plausible, pragmatic and legitimate secular purpose for the schedule. Moreover, the four-day Easter holiday benefits all of the county's pupils and teachers. The schedule manifests no preference for any one faith. It neither endorses nor advances religion. "It merely gives people the days off to spend as they like. Substantially identical issues

Circuit. Since 1941, Indiana has by law observed Good Friday as an official holiday for state employees. Russell Bridenbaugh, a citizen and taxpayer, sued for a summary judgment. He contends that the law has no secular purpose and serves chiefly to advance religion. A three-judge panel disagreed. Judge Daniel A. Manion and Judge Michael S. Kanne found a secular purpose in the law: It provides a day of general rest in the long period

arise in a case from the 7th

between Martin Luther King day in January and Memorial Day in May. Judge Thomas E. Fairchild dissented.

The remarkable thing in the 7th Circuit is that five years ago a different panel of circuit judges came to precisely the opposite conclusion. Speaking through Chief Judge Richard Posner; the panel then struck down an Illinois statute that provided for school closings on Good Friday. The state advanced no secular rationale for its law. The statute never got past the first hurdle of a constitutional test.

The Supreme Court already has a full plate. Before the term ends in June, the justices must ponder the whole question of state aid to church-related schools. A landmark case will test the viability of the famed Miranda warnings. In a Virginia case the court will consider the Violence Against Women Act.

A South Carolina case challenges the Driver's Privacy Protection Act. An Illinois case turns on a man's simple flight from police. A Wisconsin case involves compulsory student fees to finance partisan political activities.

These are huge questions of civil and criminal law. The high court may cry hold, enough!

But the Good Friday cases are ripe for argument and decision, and they ought to be heard. If not now, when?



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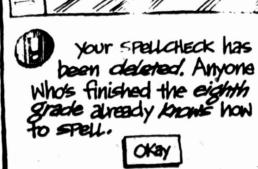
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ANDERSON





Spending our money in wrong places

rading with the enemy increases the enemy's strength, not his friendship. Communist China is the case in point; history is our guide

Grain sales to the Soviet Union pro-

longed the life of the Evil Empire. Scrap iron

and oil shipments helped build the war machine Japan turned on us in 1941. Joint ventures with German

industrialists aided Hitler's

Germany in ways so embarrassing that only now are we beginning to understand America's complicity in his

Just as Americans do not seem to differentiate between fame and infamy among our notable personalities, neither do we discern the difference between defeated enemies and victorious enemies. So we have begun relations and trade with Vietnam as if we were dealing with Germany and Japan at the end of World War II. We

seem not to understand that the same men who took no prisoners remain in power. (Their captives consisted primarily of airmen who parachuted out of crippled planes over North Vietnam. Very few infantrymen were taken alive.) The butchers of Hanoi are not our friends any more than were Tojo, Hitler or Mussolini. And this is only recent histo-

Compare this behavior with Great Britain's attitude toward Napoleon's France in the early 19th century. Britain, like the United States today, was an economic powerhouse, but unlike us, it used that power wisely. The military theoretician Clauswitz said that war is politics by other means. The British understood this and added money to their arsenal, imposing a blockade against Napoleon and his allies, while financing their own allies. And, in the end, it was the British economic weapon more than any other single factor that brought Napoleon's empire to an end.

Oddly enough, Americans seem to understand this. Witness our policies toward Cuba and North Korea. But when economic benefits weigh into the balance, that under-

standing seems to vanish, as is the case with our China policy. China's leaders are no longer

communists; they have become pragmatic totalitarians who understand the benefits of a free market economy. After all, there is no such thing as a stock market in a communist state. How could there be when all industry is owned by the state? But there is in China, and not just in newly acquired Hong Kong, but also in Shanghai. And what is China doing

with its new-found capital derived from its thriving capitalism? Is it building its economy for peaceful purposes, as did Japan and Germany after World War II, or is it building for war as Tojo and Hitler did before that war? The answer is that China supports a 3 million-man army and is increasing defense spending at doubledigit rates, including funds for aircraft carriers and nuclear weapons.

The Chinese people may be our friends, but their government is our enemy, and as their economy flourishes, so will their hostility. It's not that peace cannot be bought. It can. We are simply spending our money on the wrong people and in the wrong places.

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By DEBBIE L. J

If you see Car ping, visiting a events around retirement ce nine-passenger "With more a in wheelchairs

Features Editor



QUESTION: M

as different as a You'd never ev were born to the One of them is in school and the thing of a super worried about th some kids start

ly and then catch DR. DOBSON ness they often o you an encoura tion. Several yea ed a wedding o beautiful garden came away with about parents wh child like your b

After the r instructed the the bride on tha mately 150 cold filled balloons into the blue C Within a few se loons were just across the hear them rising hu

Industries takes that was Susan surprise of the af Credit cards to

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life!

QUICK TRIVIA

◆The works of Grandma Moses and Henri Rousseau, neither of whom was trained in painting, are referred to as "naive art."

Hippos are born underwater

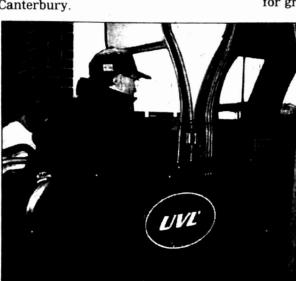
Do you have a story idea for the life! section? Call 263-7331, Ext. 236

Big Spring Herald

Canterbury residents ready to hit the road

If you see Canterbury residents shopping, visiting and participating in more events around town, here's why: The retirement center recently bought a nine-passenger van.

"With more and more of our residents in wheelchairs, this seemed almost a necessity," said JoAnne Hyer, director of St. Mary's Episcopal Retirement Centers, commonly known as



The center earned a grant from the National Episcopal Church to buy the van. They took delivery of the brandnew vehicle in late December, with help from the local Bob Brock dealer-

"We took residents to the live (drivethrough) nativity," Hyer said. "And we made many trips out to see the

Christmas lights.' Now, each Tuesday and Thursday, residents are transported to medical appointments. Other days are set aside for grocery shopping and other errands.

> Then there are always impromptu trips that need to be made.

"It has really opened our world," she said. **Assistant Director Pat Edwards** said the van is a welcome addi-

"I've been here 20 years, and this is one of the neatest things that has ever happened," she

Employees take turns driving the van, which is equipped to hold two wheelchairs and three other passengers, or nine passengers without wheelchairs. It has several safety features designed especially for the elderly and handicapped, including a lift in back that carries an



From left, Canterbury residents Keith Oldaker, Joy Wallace and Mamie Roberts are ready to go in the new van purchased by the facility with grant money. The van accommodates those in wheelchairs as well as ambulatory residents, and takes them to medical appointments and on shopping trips. At left, Oldaker, in

is available for those in wheelchairs.

out of the way as the need arises. Two complexes, Canterbury North

Once inside, a specially-fitted seatbelt and South, offer housing for elderly and disabled people in the community with Ambulatory residents enter the van rent based on income. There is no from the side, through an extra wide charge for them to use the new van.

his wheelchair, is lifted into the van with help from staffer Teresa Sheppard. entire wheelchair — or a person with door. Several seats can be folded up and mobility problems — from the ground to the back door.

Some low-flying children take time before they soar

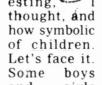
as different as night and day. You'd never even know they were born to the same parents. One of them is having trouble while the in school and the other is someshow-offs thing of a superstar. I'm very became mere worried about the one boy. Do some kids start out doing poorly and then catch fire?

DR. DOBSON: Thank goodness they often do. Let me give you an encouraging illustration. Several years ago l'attended a wedding ceremony in a how symbolic beautiful garden setting, and I of children. came away with some thoughts Let's face it. about parents who are raising a

child like your boy. After the minister had instructed the groom to kiss the bride on that day, approximately 150 colorful, heliumfilled balloons were released into the blue California sky. Within a few seconds the balloons were just scattered all across the heavens, some of them rising hundreds of feet

overhead and others cruising toward the horizon. A few balloons struggled to clear the upper branches of the trees,

pinpoints of color on their journey to the esting,



DOBSON girls seem to be born with more helium than others. They catch all the right breezes and they soar effortlessly to the heights, while others wobble dangerously close to the trees. Their frantic folks run

It is an exhausting experience.

DR. JAMES

In short, I have a word of encouragement to you and all the parents of low-flying kids. Sometimes the child who has the greatest trouble getting off the ground eventually soars to the highest heights. That's why I urge you as parents not to look too quickly for the person your child will become.

QUESTION: Do you believe between some people?

readers will disagree with me, "love at first sight" is a physical and emotional impossibility. Why? Because love is much more than a romantic feeling. It is more than sexual attraction, or the thrill of the chase, or the desire to marry someone. These are responses that can occur "at first sight," and they might even lead to the genuine thing in time. But those feelalong underneath, huffing and ings are usually temporary, puffing to keep them airborne. and they do not mean the per-

"in love." I wish everyone first sight, as though he were understood that fact!

The primary difference between infatuation and real love is where the emphasis lies. Temporary romantic attractions tend to be very selfish in nature. A person may say, "I can't believe what is happening to me. This is the most fantastic thing I've ever experienced! love at first sight occurs I must be in love." Notice that she's not talking about the DR. DOBSON: Though some other person. She's excited about her own gratification. Such an individual hasn't fallen in love with someone else; she has fallen in love with love!

Genuine love, by contrast, is an expression of the deepest appreciation for another human being. It is an intense awareness of his or her needs, strengths and character. It shares the longings, hopes and dreams of that other person. It is unselfish, giving and caring. And believe me, these are not attitudes one "falls" into at

tumbling into a ditch.

I have developed a lifelong love for my wife, but it was not something I fell into. I grew into it, and that process took time. I had to know her before I could appreciate the depth and stability of her character -- to become acquainted with the nuances of her personality, which I now cherish. The familiarity from which love has blossomed simply could not be generated on "some enchanted evening, across a crowded room." One cannot love an unknown object, regardless of how attractive or sexy or nubile it is!

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 to Dr. Dobson may be sent to P.O. Box 444; Colorado Springs,

Because, the notions about what's dis-

posable are changing. Americans have

more surplus goods than ever, and there

exists what Strasser calls "a communal

agreement that we all want new stuff."

So eBay and garage sales and the notion

Such ideas are hardly new; they're

just spun differently to suit the age.

Everybody used to turn throwaways

into showpieces when possessions were

scarcer than they are today. Now that

abumdance abounds, what's more

acknowledging that old stuff you no

longer want might be your next-door

American than the garage sale

of "shabby chic" have grown popular.

Write your family story for future generations

Thursday, January 6, 2000

Each of us has a past, and how we preserve it is important to ourselves but not necessarily others. What we want to remember

may not be what others want remember about us.

If you want your descendants and friends to remember you, or have knowledge of you, then you must write



Вовву RAWLS

vour own = biography. But writing one on the family is sometimes challenging to say the least Although I am no expert, I have seen enough biographies to know the basic makeup, which allows the vital information to be recorded yet not be too cluttered, making it hard to read and therefore not as use-

I am writing an outline of my family history in companion to the genealogical book I am writing. This family history tells a story from the first known family member in our line and the exploits and happenings of each family member's life.

When you add stories on the family member, or events that took place in their lives, you bring them to life and they become more than just words on paper: They live.

My fifth great-grandfather was a Baptist preacher, lived to be about 100 years old, and traveled from Virginia in the 1730s to North Carolina in the 1760s to South Carolina in the 1770s to Tennessee about 1796, then through Mississippi down the Natchez trace, finally settling in Catahoula parish, La., where he died about 27 December 1819.

With 100 years of history vested in this one man, there is much to write. Knowing where to start is the most important aspect of his biography, knowing where he came from helps to relate where he went in his

The things that man must have seen! Very few records relating to his personal life are known, only public records such as deeds, census records and such. Although they help map his movements, they do little to record his family life.

There are two records which pertain to his family. They are a Bible of his son's family and a diary/journal by his greatgranddaughter which gives much information on not only the Rawls family, but the families they lived near. This diary/journal is nearly 300 pages long with information on the everyday lives of people in many walks of life.

She talks of the family coming from South Carolina with five children, staying in Tennessee briefly, then moving on to Louisiana and then finally Mississippi. She speaks of church meetings, baptisms, births, deaths, marriages, events of the civil war, trips to revivals in other places that they attended and much more.

See RAWLS, Page 6A

Author's 'Social History' makes sense of what we throw away

son who experiences them is

NEW YORK (AP) - Goodwill Industries takes American Express that was Susan Strasser's first major surprise of the afternoon.

Credit cards to buy castoffs? Just perfect. This miniature revelation, at the Goodwill shop just off Broadway on Manhattan's Upper West Side, fits Strasser's notion about the nation that Americans have a complicated relationship with the things they throw

Strasser, a social historian who has plumbed everyday life for, among other things, a history of housework, thinks a lot about such things. Throw it away, and she's interested. Garbage — yours. mine and everyone's; out on the curb, in the wastebasket or inside the Dumpster — is the source of her fascination, perhaps a curious notion in a world increasingly crowded with adjectives like "new," "fresh," "clean" and "ster-

That's exactly why Strasser, who has a knack for making the obscure into the fascinating, wrote her new book, "Waste and Want: A Social History of Trash."

She tells of clothes recycled into quilts and furniture upholstery, ...and of the staggering — and often unnoticed — changes that the emergence of paper products and sanitary napkins wrought upon the material world.

In a country where acquisition and novelty are king and queen, Strasser sees the politics of disposal as the flip side of materialism - a way in an increasingly disposable culture to seek insight into what we're all about.

"In many circumstances, we throw things out because we don't know what to do with them," she says. "People have a tremendous discomfort about the subject. Some of it is guilt, but some of it is confusion — 'What do I do with this? I don't feel comfortable that I'm generating all of these disposable items,

but I don't know how else to live." Strasser's book is an impressive piece of research.

In the book, she delves into how and how slowly — the notion of people thinking about trash developed. She tells of clothes recycled into quilts and furniture upholstery, of localized barter systems evolving into a mass market of **goods**, and of the staggering — and often unnoticed - changes that the emergence of paper products and sanitary napkins wrought upon the material

On a recent afternoon in Manhattan, Strasser sits in a coffee house and inventories the things around her, projecting ahead to the time when they will become throwaways. She orders peppermint tea and pointedly asks for a "real cup," not a disposable one. "If I'm going to stick around," she says, "I get a cup

that can be reused. Then she reveals more. She reuses rags instead of paper towels. She composts — in a pile in her back yard. She's always pondering what she can keep instead of throw away.

"Garage sales are a function of affluence," Strasser says, noting that they first took hold in the late 1960s, after enough time had passed from the prosperity of the postwar years for new stuff to lose its sheen.

neighbor's cool new thing?

A garage sale, she says, is a conscious choice to discard. You're going to be far more careful about the items you put

See THROW AWAY, Page 6A

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

WASHINGTON (AP) — The illusion that the full moon seen near the horizon is bigger than the moon seen overhead is a trick the brain plays when it perceives distance to a far object, according to new

In a study appearing Tuesday in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Lloyd Kaufman and his son, James Kaufman, report that a test with artificial, indentically sized moons showed that viewers of

from the surrounding terrain and interprets the moon as being more distant. This, in turn, causes the brain to perceive the moon as larger, the researchers said.

being closer and smaller, the researchers said. Lloyd Kaufman is a professor of psychology at Long Island University in Brookville, N.Y. James Kaufman is a researcher with IBM in San Jose, Calif.

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

THE MOBILE MEALS PROGRAM, also known as Meals on Wheels, needs volunteers

If you can spare one hour per week to deliver eight or 10 meals, we need you. About 85 to 90 meals are prepared, packaged and delivered within the city limits of Big Spring. If you can volunteer, please call 263-4016 before 3 p.m.

THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT 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.

Science News

research by a father-son team.

a horizon moon perceived it as being farther away. The researchers said that when the moon is on the horizon, the brain apparently picks up distance cues

When the moon is overhead in an empty sky, there are no distant cues and the moon is perceived as

Continued from Page 5A out for neighbors to buy than

the ratty old goods you throw in a garbage bag and put out at the curb. "The clothes we wear and the objects we surround ourselves with are the things that define

us. That's what we use to say, 'I'm me,'" she says. "And part of how we mark change in our lives is getting rid of stuff that doesn't fit our conception of ourselves anymore."

Some of those things ends up at stores like Goodwill, so Strasser heads there to check things out. The first thing she sees upon entering is an old Compaq Prolinea computer — a good example of something that's going to become more disposable in coming years. Then to the racks of garments.

"Lots of clothes — heavy on the clothes," she muses. Then, on one shelf, she finds

the perfect thought-provoking object for her purposes - a McDonaldland Happy Meal Girl Doll, complete with plastic cheeseburger, plastic fries, tiny plastic coke cup and happy meal box. "Hmm." Strasser's face

squinches as she processes the oddity. "Plastic replicas of disposable things.

"It's the disposable made permanent," she marvels.

The purchase is made (with the AmEx card), and she steps outside the store to unpack the doll box's contents. Behind her, an animal hospital employee brings out trash bags to dump at the curb. It's garbage day in New York City, arguably the world capital of voluminous

This diary/journal brings those

people to life; it makes them

When writing your family

history, include events that

happened which stand out. A

family member in the war, an

early pioneer, a family member

that made you laugh with jokes

or different sayings or acts. What about an aunt or uncle

who told you things about their

childhood memories of growing

up in the Depression? We all

more than words on paper.

RAWLS

generations.

Continued from Page 5A

garbage.

So here's the social historian, holding a plastic bag that contains a battery-operated gurgling soda cup with a golden "M" on it, studiously gazing at plastic French-fries — in a regular, "disposable" Happy Meal box designed to be kept as a

Boggles the mind — and it's a perfect example of the conflict between what to keep and what to discard that Strasser has studied so closely.

"There's a general sanitizing of this culture. And trash is not acceptable in a sanitized culture," Strasser says. "But ultimately, nothing is disposable. Disposable is a marketing term. It's defined by people who are trying to sell things based on cleanliness and convenience.'

It's a world where even thoughts become a product with an existence — a physical book with a "birth," a "life" and, odds are, eventually a trash-related demise.

"It's a fascinating process for me to watch my ideas turn into a mass-produced product," she says, tapping a copy of her book. "A friend of mine asked, 'What color is your book going to be?' I didn't know. I didn't quite grasp it was going to be an object.'

Strasser will be the first to acknowledge that even after all the time she's spent on the subject, ingrained human notions of missing the evident can still kick in. What color is her book, you might ask? The answer surprised even her.

It's shiny and black — just like a Hefty bag.

Even if you don't have a com-

puter, you can use a type-

writer. No typewriter? Use a

pen and paper. Seeing your his-

tory in your own handwriting

to many is more important

than seeing it typed. The time

is now, tomorrow may be too

EDITOR'S NOTE: Bobby

Rawls writes a weekly column

on genealogy for the Big Spring

Herald. To contact him, call the

"life! section" in the subject line.

life! desk at 263-7331, ext. 236

have events that are special; and leave a message, or e-mail

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Woman's life changed during 16-year coma

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) White Bull was unable to speak, swallow or move much. She slipped into a catatonic state while delivering her fourth child.

On Christmas Eve, she suddenly snapped back to consciousness.

"Don't do that," she blurted out when nurses were trying to fix her nursing home bed.

Doctors cannot explain why Ms. White Bull, 42, awakened. Her mother, Snowflake Flower, said it was a Christmas miracle from God.

Ms. White Bull — known as "Happi" — has been speaking her children's names, catching up on family developments and spending a lot of time just watching her children and smiling.

"I just went up to her and gave her a hug, and she gave me a hug back," her oldest child, Cindi, told the Albuquerque Journal. "It was the first time she had ever hugged back. It was scary at first. It was overwhelming emotionally.'

Ms. White Bull's speech is clear but limited. She has talked very little but listened a lot. Her hands, which had been clenched tightly for 16 years, have loosened.

- For 16 years, Patricia the mountains to breathe the fresh air. She has been wheeled around a shopping mall. She has eaten a small bite of pizza. And on Monday, with her ability to swallow improving, she ate chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy.

Pointing to new running shoes, she said: "I'm going to

Doctors say Ms. White Bull's condition was caused by a blood clot that lodged in her lung and caused her to stop breathing while her son Mark Jr. was being delivered by Caesarean section. She was resuscitated but suffered brain damage from lack of oxygen.

Cindi, Mark Jr., 16, and Ms. White Bull's other children, Floris, 17, and Jesse, 19, have been raised by their father on the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation in South Dakota. They rushed back to Albuquerque when they heard their mother had awakened from the vegetative state they had been told would last the rest of her life.

For three years after Ms. White Bull slipped into a catatonic state, her husband kept the children in Albuquerque, where he was a computer programmer for the city. But

accept that nothing was going to change."

He moved his children to family. He took a job with the here," he said.

She has been driven up into then, he said, "I grew to Standing Rock Sioux tribal government. And he sought a divorce.

But now, "If she recovers the reservation so they could and she wants to re-establish be raised with the help of his a relationship with me, I'm



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A hunter edu required of all born on or after will be held fro p.m. Saturday Feb. 12-13, in t Area Chamber conference roon

Hunter educa

scheduled for

Poitivent will for the class. The class is al home study cou students to atte hands-on skills take a written e For more info

Boyce Hale

Sweetwater's commits to N

Hale at 627-5957

Gun Shop at 267

Sweetwater Hi running back W reportedly made mitment to acco ship offer from of Nebraska. Amos decided just before Chris

ing to Sweetw director Hank D He cannot of with the Cornh the NCAA's nat day of Feb. 2. The 6-foot-1, 18

rushed for 1,392 senior season Mustangs, finish ty career with yards.

Baseball boos organizational The Big Spr

Boosters Club h an organization all players' par p.m. Monday at t High School Ath Members will

year's fund rais For me e info Jim Clements at 267-1069.

Semi-pro footb being formed in

Efforts are cui way to field a Texas semi-Pr League this seas

Rick Boles, the ager and defens the team, said t rently 12 players at 10 a.m. on Sat p.m. on S Blankenship Fiel The team, ov

Spring resid Danguard, would a roster of 25 to 3 Players will no will have to pay

provide their ow Boles said the t four or five hom ing the season in mid February For more info tact Boles at 264-

International L Jan. 11 board

The Internat League has sche meeting for 6 p Jan. 11, at The C on the Lamesa H Anyone interes

ing a team or interested in the encouraged to at For more info Denise Yandrick Raymond Ontiv

Cancer Societ Texas Golf Pa

3811 or Delbert

The Howard C the American C

is encouraging g advantage of the Texas Golf Pass. The pass is n for a \$35 donatio Details are als

all local golf cou ON THE

Television

NBA 7:30 p.m. — Uta Dallas Mavericks, GOLF

6 p.m. — PGA N Championships, fi

ESPN. Ch. 30.

IN BRIEF

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Hunter education class scheduled for Feb. 12-13

A hunter education course, required of all Texas hunters born on or after Sept. 2, 1971, will be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 12-13, in the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce conference room.

Boyce Hale and Steve Poitivent will be instructors for the class.

The class is also offered as a home study course, allowing students to attend a one-day, hands-on skills course and take a written exam.

For more information, call Hale at 627-5957 or Dibrell's Gun Shop at 267-7891

Sweetwater's Amos commits to Nebraska

Sweetwater High School star running back Willie Amos has reportedly made a verbal commitment to accept a scholarship offer from the University of Nebraska.

Amos decided on Nebraska ust before Christmas, according to Sweetwater athletic director Hank Dowell.

He cannot officially sign with the Cornhuskers until the NCAA's national signing day of Feb. 2.

The 6-foot-1, 180-pound Amos rushed for 1,392 yards in his senior season with the Mustangs, finishing his varsity career with 3,805 rushing yards.

Baseball boosters set organizational meeting

The Big Spring Baseball Boosters Club has scheduled an organizational meeting of all players' parents for 6:30 p.m. Monday at the Big Spring High School Athletic Training

Members will discuss the year's fund raisers, planned improvements and activities.
For me e information, call Jim Clements after 6 p.m. at 267-1069

Semi-pro football team being formed locally

Efforts are currently under way to field a team in the Texas semi-Pro Football League this season.

Rick Boles, the general manager and defensive coach of the team, said there are currently 12 players working out at 10 a.m. on Saturdays and 2 p.m. on Sundays Blankenship Field.

The team, owned by Big Gail Spring resident Danguard, would like to have a roster of 25 to 30 players.

Players will not be paid and will have to pay a \$100 fee and provide their own equipment. Boles said the team will play four or five home games dur ing the season which begins in mid February.

For more information, contact Boles at 264-1111.

International LL slates Jan. 11 board meeting

The International Little League has scheduled a board meeting for 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 11, at The Country Store on the Lamesa Highway.

Anyone interested in coaching a team or is otherwise interested in the league is encouraged to attend.

For more information, call Denise Yandrich at 263-1945, Raymond Ontiveros at 263 3811 or Delbert Green at 263

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 is now available for a \$35 donation. Details are also available at all local golf courses.

ON THE AIR

Television

7:30 p.m. — Utah Jazz at Dallas Mavericks, FXS, Ch. 29. GOLF

6 p.m. - PGA Mercedes Championships, first round, ESPN, Ch. 30.

Playoffs, not Payton, will be Emmitt's inspiration this time

IRVING (AP) — Emmitt Smith was inspired by the death of his childhood idol the last time he played Minnesota. This time, he'll be motivated by the pursuit of the Super Bowl.

Smith revealed Wednesday that when the Dallas Cowboys played the Vikings on Nov. 8, he dedicated his game to the memory of Walter Payton, who died a week before.

Smith would've made Sweetness proud, running for 140 yards and two touchdowns in just 1) quarters as Dallas took a 17-0 lead. He left with a broken hand, and the Cowboys ended up losing

Dallas returns to the Metrodome on Sunday for a first-round playoff game. Smith expects to have another big game,

but for different reasons. "My mindset every week is to go out

was just a special moment for me," Smith said. "Now, this is a special moment, too, but in a different light."

Smith missed only one game because of his broken hand, but a strained groin limited him to one carry in another game. Still, he finished the season with 1,397 yards — 8 shy of the NFC lead and

his best since 1995. For his career, Smith has 13,963 yards, third on the career list. He's 2,764 yards from breaking Payton's record.

"I lost an individual that I had looked at his personal accomplishments in life as well as in the game of football," Smith said. "I think any player who cares anything about the game of football understands who he was, what he stood for and what he did for the game."

Payton died at age 45 on Nov. 1, exact-

Vikings on a Monday night. The NFL announced that all stadiums that weekend would have a moment of silence, and Smith began planning his own tribute.

When it was time for the fans who usually fill the Metrodome with deafening cheers to stand quietly, Smith played out in his mind a scene he'd been planning

"I draped his jersey, 34, on my back, gave him honor and said, 'Let me go play now," Smith said. "It was just a moment, a moment that I wanted to lift him up and say, 'Thank you, thank you for what you've done.

Smith ran for 49 yards in the first quarter against the Vikings, but it only led to two missed field goals. Two carries later, Payton's spirit took over.

Smith took a handoff at the Cowboys'

and perform, but that particular night ly a week before the Cowboys played the 37, went off right guard and charged 63 yards down the sideline for a touchdown. He got past the final defender, Kenny Wright, with a stiff-arm to the

The Vikings fumbled the kickoff and Dallas recovered at the Minnesota 24. Smith got the ball again and he scored without being touched.

Then he went into the locker room for X-rays, and his night was over, leaving him wondering whether he might've broken his career-best 237 yards, or even Payton's NFL record of 275, which he set against the Vikings.

'God saw it fit that this hand be broken that particular day. And that's that," Smith said. "If it was meant for me to be out there and do more than I did, I probably would have never broken my

Lady Steers eye 5-4A opener

By JOHN A. MOSELEY

Sports Editor

What a difference a year can make.

After having demolished Lorenzo's Lady Hornets 73-37 in their final warm-up, Big Spring's Lady Steers now prepare to open District 5-4A play Friday with an 11-8

That means the Lady Steers have already won almost three times as many games as they did in the entire 1998-99 season, their

first under head coach Kathy Loter. Big Spring's 4-26 record a year ago isn't something Loter will soon forget. It was, after all, the first losing season she'd ever

endured as either a player or a coach. However, the Lady Steers' solid start has helped put those memories in their proper place.

So, too, has the fact that Big Spring's district opener will be a trip to Sweetwater where the two-time defending league champion Lady Mustangs await the Lady

And even though Sweetwater no longer has the services of Vanessa Lehrmann, the two-time 5-4A MVP having moved on to Howard College's Lady Hawks program, Loter says she still believes the Lady Mustangs have to be considered the district favorite.

Loter pegged weetwater as the loop favorite prior to the selson's start and she says she hasn't had any reason to change at assessment

"I still have to believe Sweetwater is the favorite," Loter said during a brief break during the Lady Steers' workout session Wednesday afternoon. "They had a lot of success last year and the only player they lost was Lehrmann. That experience is going to go a long way for them."

Just one of the reasons Loter believes Sweetwater is the team to beat in 5-4A was the Lady Mustangs quadruple overtime win over Borden County earlier this sea-

"Turnovers and pressure don't bother them," she explained. "They stay focused and play their game ... just keep coming back at you. Nothing rattles Sweetwater."

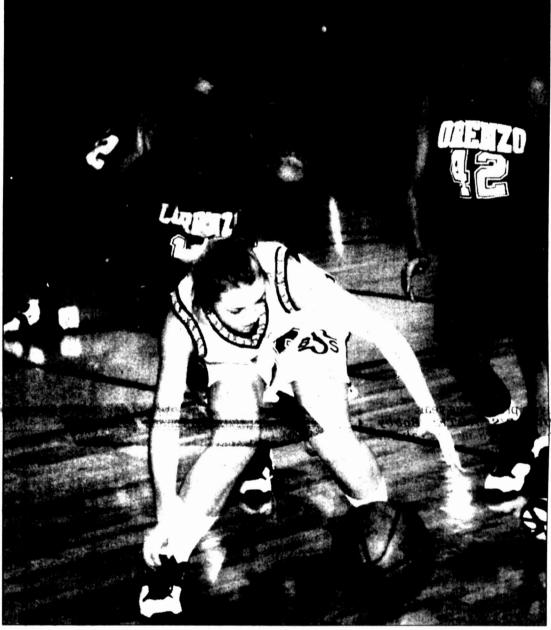
That does not mean that Loter and her young charges plan on stepping onto the Sweetwater gymnasium floor in absolute awe of the Lady Mustangs at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

"We've got to go out there and be ready to play our best basketball," Loter said. "We're going to have to do that every night we play. We're going to have to want it bad every game.

The reward for displaying that attitude, Loter said, could be a return to the playoffs for the Lady Steers.

"We're playing better basketball than we did at the start of the season," she noted. "We're handling pressure better most of the time and developing some confidence in ourselves, especially in our ability to

"The reason that's important," Loter added, "is that I really believe that the rest of our district is going to be in a dogfight to see who earns the other two playoff spots with Sweetwater. If we play well,



Big Spring reserve guard Brittany Bryant tracks down a loose ball before Lorenzo's Ana Rodriguez and Melissa Carrillo (42) can get it during the Lady Steers 73-37 win Tuesday. Bryant, a sophomore, and the rest of the young Lady Steers open District 5-4A play Friday night in Sweetwater.

teams in the playoffs.

That kind of confidence might be considered extreme in some circles, primarily because the Lady Steers' starting lineup is often made up of a junior, three sophomores and a freshman.

If anything, however, those young Lady Steers players are even more confident than their coach, even though several of them rate San Angelo Lake View's

Maidens as the 5-4A favorite. "We're going to be in the playoffs," junior point guard Melissa Forth said in a matter-of-fact tone. "We've got confidence

in ourselves. Forth, the district's newcomer of the year last season, joined freshman post Christina Gwyn in leading the Lady Steers' scoring Tuesday night, both scor-

ing 18 points against Lorenzo. Those two, along with sophomore post beating anyone.

we're capable of being one of those three Meghan Pudliner, who had 12 points in Tuesday's win, have become Big Spring's primary offensive weapons.

Pudliner may be the most confident of

'We don't worry about how young we are," the 5-foot-11 sophomore explained, "we just look at the person out there on the floor with us as a teammate.

In fact, Pudliner says she and Gwyn, who was moved up from the Lady Steers junior varsity early in the season, are becoming more and more comfortable playing together as a tandem.

"We're good together," she explained "We know what to expect from one another ... know where the other one is going to be on the floor.

"That's important, because we've got to play together as a team. If we do, though, and work hard, I think we'll be capable of

Warner tops big season with MVP

NEW YORK (AP) - Last winter, Kurt Warner was an obscure quarterback available in the expansion draft. The Cleveland Browns could have had him for next to nothing.

On Wednesday, Warner was selected the NFL's Most Valuable Player by The Associated Press. If the Browns or anyone else want him now, well, forget it. He's not avail-

"Kurt is an example of what a team player is all about," St. Louis Rams coach Dick Vermeil said. "He's not about individual things or in this for individual awards.'

Yet Warner received the most significant individual honor in pro football, joining the likes of Brett Favre, the only three-time recipient; Joe Montana; and many other quarterbacks with Hall of Fame credentials.

That Warner would be in such a position is astonishing. A refugee from NFL Europe, where he led the league in passing? tand a three-year starter with Iowa of Arena Football, not even Warner could imagine the kind of season he had.

Warner joined Dan Marino as the only NFL players with at least 40 touchdown passes. He completed 325 of 499 passes (65.1 percent) for 4,353 yards and had just 13 interceptions. His 109.2 rating easily led the league as he helped engineer the Rams' turnaround from 4-12 to 12-3 and a favorite's role in the NFC playoffs.

He was a questionable backup in training camp before Trent Green, signed as a big-money free agent, wrecked his knee.

"I thought we could be successful." Warner said. "but to think in training camp that it would happen for me this way was pretty farfetched. They were not sure what they would do going in, they had some questions if I was an NFL back-

He obliterated all the questions throughout the league. Warner's big year earned him 33 votes in balloting by a nationwide panel of 50 media members. That far outdistanced teammate Marshall Faulk and Indianapolis quarterback Peyton Manning, each of whom had eight votes. Colts rookie running back Edgerrin James

"I just felt comfortable out there," Warner said, noting

See WARNER, page 2B

Ditka fired by Saints, says he won't be coaching again NEW ORLEANS (AP) - Mike Ditka, 1986, Iron Mike could not stop a down- have the expectations we do, you bring football people ever.

who came to New Orleans three years ago talking Super Bowl, is leaving with regrets that he didn't get one more year.

"It surprised me," Ditka said after Saints owner Tom Benson fired him and 22 assistants Wednesday. "I really thought we would get another year to try to get untracked.'

Ditka followed a pair of 6-10 records with a 3-13 mark this season, the secondworst in franchise history. The losses, poor play and apparent disorganization during games infuriated fans, who booed Ditka for the first time in his tenure this season.

"I walked to the door and started cheering," said Saints fan Alan Cousin Sr, a 46-year-old U.S. Postal Service manager. "Ditka is great personally. I love him, but I think the game has passed him by. The cost of the product wasn't

Beloved in Chicago for 11 seasons after leading "Da Bears" to the Super Bowl in

ward slide in New Orleans. Add to that a trade of eight draft picks to get running back Ricky Williams, and Ditka ran out of chances. "We tried, but we didn't get it done,"

Ditka said. "That's the bottom line. When you don't get it done, you're going to get out of there in a hurry. The 60-year-old Ditka said he had hoped to stay on as coach despite the

team's troubles but, with the firing, said he would never coach a football team "Nope, never, no," Ditka said. When he drafted him, Ditka pro-

claimed Williams the "final piece of the

puzzle" for the Saints and again talked of taking the team to the Super Bowl. But Williams, who was injured for much of the season, gained only 884 yards and two touchdowns rushing including 7 yards on 14 carries in the final game against Carolina.

"I understand it fully: You're 3-13, you

in Ricky Williams, and it doesn't work out," Ditka said. "I mean, we got to be realists.

Ditka originally signed a three-year contract and said he should be fired if he couldn't accomplish his goals. He finished with a 15-33 record, including 6-23 in the last 29 games, and a league-leading 14-game road losing streak.

This season's record is the worst ever for Ditka. His previous worst mark was 5-11 with the Bears in 1992, which led Chicago to fire him.

Also fired Wednesday by Saints owner Tom Benson were general manager Bill Kuharich, senior vice president Terry O'Neil and 19 assistant coaches. Benson described it as the first step in returning the Saints to the spot the team enjoyed in the late 1980s, when it had its only winning years and made four trips to the playoffs.

"This was a difficult decision," Benson said. "Mike Ditka is one of the greatest

Financial terms of Ditka's departure were not disclosed, but he signed a contract extension two years ago. The new deal runs through 2002 and is reportedly worth \$2 million a year.

Benson said the search for a new general manager and coach would begin immediately and continue until he finds candidates to "take us where our organization and our fans want to be.

Under Ditka, Chicago dominated the NFC Central with 52 regular-season victories between 1985-88. That was the most wins by an NFL team in any four-

year period. Ditka ranked second among Bears coaches in both tenure and victories. He coached the Bears to six NFC Central titles, three appearances in the NFC title

game and a Super Bowl title in 1986. The Bears were 18-1 that season. After the Super Bowl, Ditka was honored as

See DITKA, page 2B

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FISHING

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Wildlife Depart

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www.txfishing.c

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BROWNWOOD

Hill scores 42 for second straight game, leading Pistons to 120-108 win The ASSOCIATED PRESS Hill, who helped Detroit extend its Orlando 116, Vancouver 96; Utah 118, served as acting head coach. The ASSOCIATED PRESS Hill, who helped Detroit extend its Orlando 116, Vancouver 96; Utah 118, served as acting head coach. The ASSOCIATED PRESS Hill, who helped Detroit extend its Orlando 116, Vancouver 96; Utah 118, served as acting head coach. The ASSOCIATED PRESS Hill, who helped Detroit extend its Orlando 116, Vancouver 96; Utah 118, served as acting head coach. Hill, who helped Detroit extend its Orlando 116, Vancouver 96; Utah 118, served as acting head coach. Hill, who helped Detroit extend its Orlando 116, Vancouver 96; Utah 118, served as acting head coach.

Dikembe Mutombo and the Atlanta Hawks know exactly how the Orlando Magic felt.

Two nights after scoring 42 points in Detroit's victory in Orlando, Grant Hill matched the total Wednesday night in the Pistons' 120-108 victory in Atlanta.

"Every time the ball was in his hands, it went straight through the basket," said Mutombo, a three-time NBA defensive player of the year. "There's nothing you can do about

winning streak to five games, buried the Hawks with a 17-point third quarter as the Pistons rallied from a 10point deficit.

"It feels good to win, whether you score 40 or four," said Hill, who finished four points shy of his career high set last season against Washington. He was 14-of-23 from the field, 13-of-15 from the line and had six assists.

In other NBA games, it was the Los Angeles Lakers 118, the Los Angeles Clippers 101; Chicago 77, Washington 66; Philadelphia 113, Golden State 92;

Charlotte 96; and Seattle 99, San Antonio 96.

Jerry Stackhouse added 28 points for the Pistons, and former Hawks forward Christian Laettner had 23. Isaiah Rider, playing for the second time since a one-game suspension, led

the Hawks with 27 points. Atlanta has lost five straight to drop to 11-20, its worst start since 1971-72. The Hawks played their second straight game without coach Lenny Wilkens, who was home with the flu. Assistant Stan Albeck once again

Lakers 118, Clippers 101

Shaquille O'Neal had 40 points and 19 rebounds as the Lakers extended their winning streak to 12 games. O'Neal, who came out of the game for

good with 6:49 remaining just missed the third 40-point, 20-rebound game of his career. He had 38 points and 15 rebounds Tuesday night against the

The Lakers' winning streak is the longest in the NBA this season, and their longest since they won 16 in a shots in 39 minutes.

row in 1990-91. They are 19-1 in their last 20 and an NBA-best 27-5 overall.

Kobe Bryant added 26 points, 10 rebounds and six assists. Lamar Odom led the Clippers with 26 points.

Bulls 77, Wizards 66

Toni Kukoc, playing his first game in almost two months, hit his first four shots and finished with 18 points as Chicago beat visiting Washington to snap an 11-game losing streak.

Kukoc also had 11 rebounds, five assists, two steals and two blocked

WARNER

Continued from page 1B

how the experience in other leagues helped him recognize defenses and make quick decisions. "I when out there not thinking about it as a different game than what I had been playing. It is all playing football and making plays wherever you are. You have seen it at numerous times. Maybe the systems are different and the people are different, but you are playing football. It's all very similar to what I have done in the past."

Except now he has done it on the biggest stage. And he's made the folks from his past proud.

"There may not be a more deserving player than Kurt Warner, a man who represents all the good things in sports: courage and character and determination," AFL commissioner David Baker said. "We are honored to say Kurt was a part of the Arena Football League.'

Warner is the second Rams quarterback to win MVP; Roman Gabriel won it in 1969.

Without the likes of Faulk, only the second player to gain 1,000 yards rushing and 1,000 receiving in a season - he broke Barry Sanders' total yardage mark of 2,358 by gaining 2,429 — wideouts Isaac Bruce, Az-Zahir Hakim and Torry Holt and a steady line, Warner might still be a relative unknown.

"It never hurts when you have the guys we have," Warner, 28, said. "Marshall is a special back and does so many things well. I have as good a wide receiver corps as anyone in the NFL. It's great to be in my position and have all those weapons at your disposal.

Plus a coach who has such

faith in you. "Dick was very instrumental in this," Warner said. "He had that much confidence in me and he showed it when he said I'd be the guy and he was going with me. That was a big confidence-booster for me, to know that he had so much confidence

in me was a big help to me."

DITKA

Continued from page 1B

the league's coach of the year. After being fired by Chicago, Ditka worked as an NBC commentator for four years. He was hired by the Saints on Jan. 28,

Ditka's first year was marked by sideline tantrums, yanking players out of games and even a threat to quit, which he rescinded later.

"With all the ranting and raving that people saw, he always left it on the field," quarterback Billy Joe Tolliver said. "He had his say and moved on. He was never devious. He's a man's man and a stand-up guy, and I have a lot of respect for him.'

Ditka maintained close ties with Chicago, where he has a restaurant. His newly completed restaurant in New Orleans is

scheduled to open Jan. 14. Despite his Chicago connections, Ditka tried to adopt New

Orleans as his own. "I don't live in the past," he said in September. "This is my team now and this is my city.'

After he drafted Williams. Ditka donned a dreadlocks wig and formal attire and posed with the running back in a wedding dress on the cover of a national magazine.

Ditka played in five Pro Bowls, two league championships (1963, 1971) and a Super Bowl during his NFL playing career with Philadelphia and Dallas.

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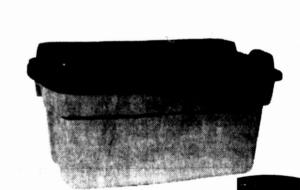
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FISHING REPORT

Here is the weekly fishing report as compiled by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for Jan. 5. (Report also available on Web as www.txfishing.com.)

CENTRAL BROWNWOOD: Water clear; 58 degrees; Black bass are fair on spinnerbaits 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. BUCHANAN: Water clear; 55 degrees; 1007.90'; Black bass are good on firetiger crankbaits, Texasrigged Creme Scremer worms and Carolina-rigged Ring-Frys fished along main lake points. Crappie are very slow. White bass are slow to fair trolling small shad-type crankbaits or vertically jigging Horizon Perk Minnows over schools. Striped bass are fair to good drifting live bait or trolling around Hallmark Island, White Bluff and Paradise Point. Channel and blue catfish are slow. Yellow catfish are fair on live goldfish in 30-foot holes.

PROCTOR: Water clear; 56 degrees; Black bass are fair on spinnerbaits fished around the dam and the north shore (use a slow retrieve). Crappie are excellent on minnows white jigs fished against the edge of the dam. Hybrid stripers are fair drift fishing white jigs with a chartreuse trailer from the dam toward the north bank.

AMISTAD: Water fairly clear; 55 degrees; 30.5' low; Black bass are fair on crankbaits and slabs fished deep under the white bass. Crappie are slow. White and striped bass are good on slabs and live shad fished in the Devil's and Rio Grande Rivers (watch for the birds). Catfish are fair on cheesebait fished in 60 to 90 feet.

WEST ALAN HENRY: No report available. ARROWHEAD: Water clear; 48-50 degrees; 10' low; Black bass are slow. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs fished around the derricks. Channel and blue catfish are slow. Few fishermen out.

BRADY: No report available. COLORADO CITY: Water murky; 50 degrees; 13.5' low; Redfish are fair on Rat-L-Traps and shad. Few fishermen out due to cold tempera-

FT. PHANTOM HILL: Water clear: 63 degrees; 17' low; Black bass are fair on spinnerbaits fished by the spillway. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs fished by the spillway in 12 to 14 feet. White bass are slow. Blue catfish are fair to good on shad fished on the west side of

the lake towards the south end. HUBBARD CREEK: Water stained; 47-50 degrees; 9.18' low; Black bass to 11.8 pounds are fair on jign-pigs and Carolina-rigged french fries fished in 20 feet. Crappie are good on minnows and white marabou jigs fished in Sandy and Hubbard creeks in 8 to 12 feet. Channel and blue catfish are slow.

KEMP: No report available. NASWORTHY: No report available.

NOCONA: Water clear; 52 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 slow. OAK CREEK: Water fairly clear: 50

degrees; Black bass are fair on jign-pigs and crankbaits. Crappie are slow on minnows and jigs. White bass are fair on minnows and white RoadRunners. Channel and blue catfish are fair on nightcrawlers and prepared baits.

OH. IVIE: Water clear; 52 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 clear; 51 degrees; 8.2' low; Black bass are fair on jigs and spoons fished in 10 to 40 feet. Crappie are slow. White bass are fair on small jigs and minnows fished in the river end in 10 to 30 feet. Striped bass are good on live shad fished in the main river in 20 to 40 feet. Blue catfish are fair on live perch fished in 30 to

40 feet. Yellow catfish are slow. 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; 52 degrees; 12' low; Black bass to 4.85 pounds are slow on white spinnerbaits. White bass are good on small spinnerbaits. Few people on the lake due to poor weather condi-

TWIN BUTTES: Water stained; 62 degrees; 40 feet low: No fishing report due to extreme low lake level. Roots can be launched form

WHITE RIVER: No report available.



By BETTY DEBNAM

Important Events of the New Year

A Kid's 2000 Calendar

Keep this 2000 calendar and watch for coming special events.



Summer Olympics in Sydney. A year to remember

2000. They will also host the

The year 2000 will be a time to remember. History-making events and celebrations will be going on all year. All over the world people will be celebrating the turn of the millennium*

(a 1.000-year period) and the turn of the century (a 100-year period). *The millennium does not really begin until

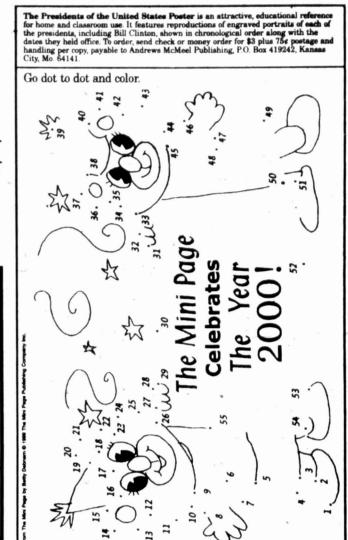
America will choose a new president on Nov. 7. Voters will also be choosing U.S. senators and members of Congress, governors and mayors.

Almost every four years an extra day, Feb. 29, is added to the calendar, making it a "leap year." The year 2000

The Summer Olympics will be held in Sydney, Australia, from Sept. 15-Oct. 1. More than 10,000 athletes from about 200 countries will be competing.

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What to do: 1. Cook beef in a large pot over medium heat for 15 minutes

Words that remind us of the new year are hidden in the block

below. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally. See it

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NEW YEAR FIND

- or until browned. Drain well. 2. Add remaining ingredients. Mix well. Bring to a boil.
- 3. Cover and turn heat to medium-low.
- 4. Cook 10 minutes.
- Serves 6

August









 pencil bucket • letter C

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· man in the moon

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States, Two hundred years ago, John Adams became the first president to move into the White House. Congress first met in Washington, D.C., and the Library of Congress opened. Look through your newspaper for stories about New Year's Eve. • lima bean Next week The Mini Page looks at fads and bird

www.minipage.com

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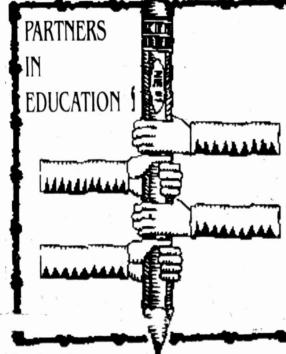
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Bankrupt? Bad Credit? We can help, call toll free 1-877-583-9846 HELP WANTED

Personal/Business Oppt.

IMMEDIATE OPENING for clerk/cashier/cook Apply at 3315 E. FM 700. Neighbors Convenience Store.

ATTENTION THE BIG SPRING HERALD **APPRECIATES**

YOUR BUSINESS Here are some helpful tips and information that will help you when placing your ad. After your ad has A-CDL and route sales or been published the first day we suggest you check the ad for mistakes and it the company is willing to errors have been made, we will gladly correct the ad and run it again for you at no additional charge. If your ad is inadvertently not printed your advance

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SERVICE

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publication of

advertisement.

BUSINESS OPPT.

BUSINESS OPPT.

Bookkeeper needed Experience in computer accounting, accounts payable & receivable payroll & general ledger preferred. Send resume to: Personnel P. O. Box 1007 Big Spring, TX

HELP WANTED

79721 Entry communication installer Will train motivated application @ 504 E. 3rd. Street.

Entry level or experienced full-time soft drink route person needed. Requirements include being 18 or older. completion of high school or GED, good driving record, capability to perform physically demanding labor, ability to meet people and communicate effectively and a willingness to work till the job is done.

Applicants with Class

commercial driving

train the right person. Dr. Pepper/Pepsi 3611 N. Hwy 87

experience preferred, but

Big Springs, Texas EEO/AA Employer 263-4186 **Experienced DOT Truck** drivers needed. Good driving record and references. Call 263-0033. Good office help needed. Must have phone skills, typing, etc. Send resume o blind box: 221/1431, Big Spring, TX. 79720.

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Big Spring Herald
PROFESSIONAL SERVICE DIRECTORY

1 Month: \$42.00 • 2 Week Service Directory: \$25.00 • 6-mo Contract: \$37.50 per mo.

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Career Opportunity for Howard County Resident

Big Country Autoland in Snyder is seeking the right person from Big Spring area in becoming a part of our winning sales to

Requirements ✓ Good Driving Record Reliable transportation

✓ Positive Attitude ✓ Good People skills Good References (6) **Benefits**

Excellent working

✓ Paid training period

✓ Medical Insurance

environment

✔ Premium Wages Call Carter Higgins @ 1-800-573-5459 for appointment.



Day - time help needed at Coronado Plaza Dairy Queen. Apply in person @ 2600 Gregg.

Dietary Supervisor, LVN, CNA's & full time RN with some nursing home experience needed at Big Spring Care Center. Apply at 901 Goliad.

Help Wanted mature farm ranch hand. Farming cattle & goats. Housing and utilites furnished. Prefer middle aged or semi retired couple. Need references. Write to P O Box 215 Brady, Texas

HELP WANTED

Domino's Pizza Part time drivers and inside help needed. Apply in person at: 2202 Gregg.

DRIVER **EDUCATION TEACHER**

WANTED Expanding business needs instructor to teach TEA approved driver education

course. Instructors are needed to teach the classroom portion

of the course. TEA certified applicants only. Inquire at Big Spring **Driver Education**

located in the Big Spring Mall. Please call 915-268-1023 Lic.#C-1200



WEST TEXAS CENTERS now hiring full-time and part-time Direct Care Staff, High School Diploma/GED required. Full time salary \$517.85 biweekly (\$13,464 annually), excellent benefits. part time salary \$6.47 per hour Applications may be obtained at 409 Runnels.

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LIKE NEW

'96 FESTIVAL LTD

16X76 3BR 2 bath

Masonite siding

shingled roof

\$195.67/mo

300 mos. 10% down

267,1717

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Maintenance/make-ready person needed. Basic carpentry, plumbing, and a/c skills helpful. Painting and yard work included. Apply in person 538 Westover. No phone calls

Manager wanted for American Self Storage Present manager retiring Salary & commission, approximately \$12,000 per year. Pick up applications at 33!4 E. FM700. 263-3131.

MOUNTAIN VIEW LODGE is now hiring CNA's for the 10-6 shift. *Excellent benefits 10 days vacation after one year *Great starting

pay Apply in person at 2009

Virginia **MOUNTAIN VIEW** LODGE Position are now available for full-time and part-time

We offer excellent starting pay. 10 pd vacation days after a year, 7 pd holidays per year, incentive bonus, & quarterly bonus. Apply in person at 2009 Virginia. **PIZZA INN**

Now hiring for all positions Great PT job. Please apply in person to 1702 Gregg .

Secretary/receptionist needed FT. M-F. Typing & computer skills required. Apply in person @ Southwestern Pest Control 2008 Birdwell

HELP WANTED

Needed part-time office worker to do filing and small amount of office work; also must be able to run errands. 15-20 hours per week. Please send response to: Office Personnel P.O.2892

Big Spring, TX 79721 NURSES UNLIMITED MANAGED CARE, INC. Speach thereapist needed in the Stanton area. Contact Ken at (915)

580-2015, M-F, 8-5, EOE Oil Well Service Company is seeking operator derrick hand and loor hand. EOE. Call 915-267-5291

Opening for Full-Time Evening Cook. Monday Saturday. Apply @ Red Mesa Grill, 2401 Gregg. Physical therapy

technician needed. Must be fluent in Spanish Please come by 306 W Third St. for more information. Waitress needed for split

shift Monday - Saturday. Must be 18. Apply @ Red Mesa Grill 2401 Gregg.

Wallace Medical Unit with Mitchell County Hospital District is accepting applications for Correctional LVN position. Good benefits. Contact Ms.LeMaster, D.O.N. at (915) 728-2162, extension 4265

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StarTek is accepting

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Applicants must type 20

wpm and have basic

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Students welcome! Apply

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-310 Owens, or call

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Looking for full/part time

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Tubing tester operator

& derrick hand needed

Will train, must have oil

field exp. w/good

driving record. Drug

free. Guaranteed wages

267-5818 after 8pmg.

Security Finance is looking for people with experience in collections or cashiering. We offer competitive pay, good benefits, with opportunities for advancement. Send resume or apply in person at 204 S.Goliad, Big Spring, TX 79720.

HELP WANTED

WAIT-STAFF needed. Apply in person only Tues.- Fri. 8-5. No Phone Calls. Big Spring Country Club **Driver Road**

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has the following The Big Spring Her

routes no Route 314

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Tree season Trees remove \$100.00 each. Mo including haul-Paul @ 264-7752

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Hwy 350 11/2 m I-20. \$600 + de Westex Auto **263**-5000. FOR LEASE: build Snvder Highway. 1800 square fe month 100 depo Westex Auto

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Provided Very nice clean 2 bo bth. great neighborh 1610 Bluebird. Call

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For Sale By Owner 123 Jonesboro Rd. Nice 2 bedr. 1 bth. Pecan trees and fruit trees on 1/2 acre Double carport with storage. Fenced yard. Call 399-4406 or 353-4402.

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Very nice clean 2 bdr. 1 bth. great neighborhood. 1610 Bluebird. Call Kelly 425-9994

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By Owner: Secluded 2 Br,1 bath brick house, on 11.5 fenced acres in Tubbs addition. Good well. Enclosed barn 45' x 15'. Barrel arena.\$56,000. 267-1066

EXECUTIVE HOME. 4400 sq.ft. 5Br, 4 bath Parkhill, \$225,000 By owner, 267-3601

Beautiful Executive home 1008 Driver Rd. 2.69 acres pool, priced below 268-9696 or 263-0664

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Seller will help with closing costs so you can recently remodeled 3 bdrm home, cent ht/air carport tile fence, storage bldg. new carpet, fresh paint. Payment approx \$350 move in cost approx \$1,000. Owner/agent 263-6892

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\$200/mn. Come by 3081/2

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New Appliances. 900 S

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263-6944, 263-2341.

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3 bedroom 2 bath beautiful hardwood floors. C/H/A fenced: att. garage, all brick, must see to appreciate. Please No Pets. Call 267-5855.

3/2 207 Jefferson newly remodeled \$625/mn +

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Carpeted 2Br, 1bth, sun

porch, fence, central heat,

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Clean 2 Br, stove,

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Clean, attractive 2Br, 1bth.

Carpeted with stove &

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separate. \$300/mo. No

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Princeton (off Washington

Blvd.) Call 267-7628.

References.

267-7666.

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E. 5th. No pets. Call 267-3841 or 270-7309. 2 Br, 1bth in city limits. Acreage, barn. Horses & Responsible,mature persons only. Ref Required. \$350/mo + dep.

267-1131. 2/1 \$350/mo + dep. 3/1 \$450/mo. + dep.3/1 \$550/mo.+dep. \$600/mo.+dep. Call 264-9907.

Especially nice 2506 Central, Kentwood bedroom, 2 bath house add.,3 bdr.,2 bath. C/H/A, Ref. stove. dw. \$500/mo. garage ,fenced yard. Call 263-3350 or 634-0997 Call Doris at 263-6525 or

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Two clean - 3 bdr. homes for rent 104 Circle & 2521 264-0793 or 270-2405 after 4 pm.

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Extra clean 2Br on nice landscaped half acre. Water well, good location.

263-5272. Town & Country Food Store, Full & Part time positions open in Coahoma & Big Spring All shifts. Apply at 1101 Lamesa Hwy, Big Spring or 101 E.Broadway., Coahoma. EOE., Drug test required.

Nordic Track Pro for sale In good condition. Used of & on. Call 267-1439 & ask for Connie.

2 Bedroom, 1 bath. 105 E.17th. Call 267-3841 or To those who invested in

Cornerstone Financial call 263-3914 for more information.

☐ Moving Sale: Fri. & Sat. 8:30 - 3:30 pm. 2500 W 24th. Street.

☐ Big Sale: Microwave, full size mattress & box springs, lamps, luggage, recliner buy 1 get 1 free 2210 Main. Fri. & Sat.

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Don't throw those unwanted items away! Sell them!

meet our standards of

Call 263-733 i and place your garage sale in the Herald Classified section and receive a

Garage sale kit Free!

CHURCH AND **CLUB NEWS DEADLINES**

Church and club news items are due at the Herald office by noon Wednesday Friday for publication.

Items should be dropped off to the office, 710 Scurry mailed to P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721 1431; or faxed to 264-7205.

information call 263-7331 ext]. 235.

Pictures of one person who may be speaking at a club church can also be submitted.

HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR FRIDAY, JAN. 7:

You might often waver about ideas and plans because so much sounds appealing to you. You'll try to squeeze every last ounce out of your days. Your commitment to living is high. Family life is vital to your wellbeing. An investment or major real estate p urchase highlights your year. If you are single, romance knocks on your door this spring. You might actually have a choice of two suitors. If attached, your relationship benefits from your "bon vivant" attitude. AQUARIUS makes money with you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ****Clear out work as fast as you can. You're overloaded, and others seem to keep giving you more to do! When you cruise out of the office, you know you have done your job well. Schedule meetings for late afternoon, when others are in a more convivial m ood. Tonight: Join friends.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ***** Intuition guides you,

and you need to listen. If you want to escape this weekend, cruise out the door as soon as you can. Work appears out of nowhere in the later day. Others turn to you to follow through on key items. Others see you as trustworthy. Enjoy the admiration. Tonight: A

force to be dealt with. **GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) *****Count on an established relationship in a pinch. You breeze past any problems because of your ability to keep goals in sight. Schedule meetings. Express your opinions confidently. Take a work friend aside for a key chat. He needs that personal touc h. Tonight:

Take off ASAP. CANCER (June 21-July 22) *****Others might be loading requests on you, but you can say no if you choose. Your social life goes into high gear, even at the office. Others find you unusually pleasant to deal with. Make the most of the easy atmosphere, even if you do need to clear out work. Your attention means a lot to another. Tonight: Quality time with a loved one.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

****You find shortcuts where others can't. Others discover that you have a different vision about what will succeed. Extend your lunch hour, relax and get to know another better. Don't be surprised if lunch becomes happy hour and then dinner. News from a distance is important. Tonight: As a duo.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) *****A partner or associate comes through for you in an outstanding manner. Brainstorm; deal with new ideas and consider which ones to make happen. Opportunity strikes, but you'll have to put in long or hard hours. Relax and be easy with co-workers. Not all of them have the same agenda as you. Tonight: Fit in a little exercise.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) *****Listen to your sixth sense with a partner, who has a lot to offer. Don't negate his ideas, even if you might be worried about a family discussion. Creativity charges up, though you might express it in a more amorous manner. Be careful with a flirta tion. Tonight: Making the most of

the moment. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ****Last-minute work lands on your desk. You find that others might count on you a little too much. Though you might not be up for a revolution, you do need to stop always being there. Make your health and personal life higher priorities. Charge your hi gh energy elsewhere. Tonight: Head home.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec

****You might opt for a risk despite recent resolutions! Listen to your feelings about a child or a new relationship. Be aware that, in your present frame of mind, you could be heading into murky waters. Keep communication active, but avoid additional spending Understand your limits

Tonight: Out and about. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan

****Use the daytime hours to clear out any residual work and errands. High energy, mixed with enthusiasm, allows vou to mow over past restrictions. Check out a new item for your home, or perhaps even a new home. Be financially resourceful. Know that any thing is possible! Tonight: Your

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ***You needn't respond to everything you hear. Take your time. You might not know what to say just yet. Mull over thoughts and weigh suggestions. Later in the day, ideas come forward that you are more comfortable with. Tonight: Beam in what you want.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ***Use the daytime hours to pursue an important happening. Remain sure of yourself. Understand what your financial goals are. See the positives of writing a business plan. Build on established ground. Don't opt for any unusual ideas. Take time to think over any money decisions. Tonight: Take some time off.

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Smokers pay painful price for 'pleasure' of their habit

'Concerned Daughter-in-Law,' whose mother-in-law continued to smoke after being diagnosed with emphysema and deteriorating lungs, brought back some painful memories for me. My mother was diagnosed

same condition and she, too, continued to smoke. Her reason was that she was going to die anyway, so she might as well enjoy the only little "pleasure"

left in life. It tore at my heart

watch her take her oxygen treatment from the machine beside her chair and, afterward, reach for her cigarettes

ABIGAIL

VAN

BUREN

She had to use a walker to navigate the 20 or so steps from her chair to the bathroom. When she returned, she was gasping for breath as if she had run the marathon. How I For more wished that any young person just beginning to smoke could see her — and possibly keep from making the same mistake. It took her three long years to

die from this horrible disease. Abby, please continue your campaign to discourage young people from starting this terrible, addictive habit, so their loved ones will not have to go through the pain of watching them die a slow, painful death. CAROL MASON, COSTA

DEAR CAROL: You have my promise — as long as there is breath in my body — that I will

MESA, CALIF.

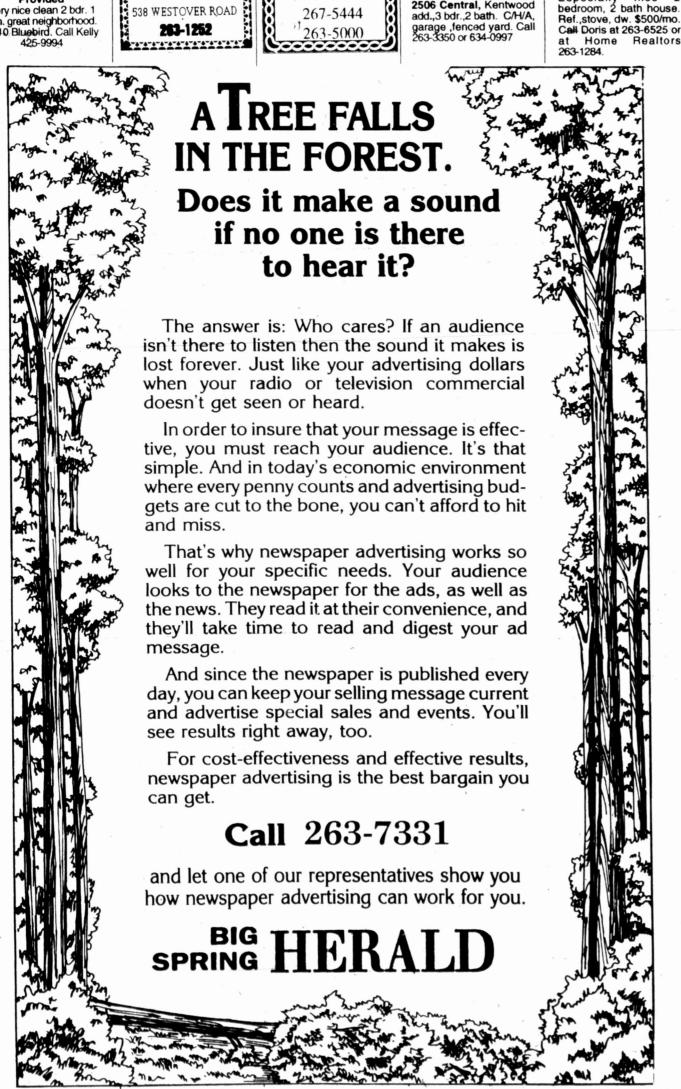
DEAR ABBY: The letter from do exactly that. But first, ANOTHER warning: No one should EVER "light up" in the vicinity of supplemental oxygen, which is extremely flammable. I heard about a woman who received third-degree burns to her face because she lit a cigarette before her oxygen was completely turned off and the flames melted the plastic breathing tubes onto her skin.

What young smokers fail to realize is that smoking causes changes in brain chemistry and creates a dependency. Tobacco companies recruit new smokers to replace the ones who escape the tentacles of the addiction, or who die from smoking-related illnesses. So, while adolescents and teens may take up the habit to appear "hot," "cool," or grown-up, breaking the habit may require not only iron will, but medical interven-

DEAR ABBY: I'm 27, and I think I have a pretty good marriage. One of my husband's friends kissed me, and I didn't stop him. Now all I do is fantasize about me and him together. What should I do? — CON-CERNED IN COLUMBIA, S.C.

DEAR CONCERNED: Arrange a romantic rendezvous and turn your fantasies into a reality - WITH YOUR HUSBAND. And don't let that man kiss you again. Believe me, he's no "friend" to either of you.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a businesssize, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for a \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is includ-



JAN. 6

THURSDAY

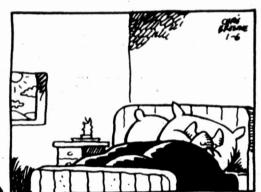
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7:	M Whos Whos	se Line? se Line?	Getting a Ticket	Mystery! (CC)	Movie: Dangerous	Diagnosis . Murder (CC)		Friends (CC) Jesse (CC)	(:05) WCW Thunder	Nunca Te Olvidare	(:45) Movie : it	(00)	19.00	Movie: Starship	Inside the NFL (CC)	Light of the Southwest	Biography (CC)		Movie: The Outlaw Josey	Walker, Texas Ranger (CC)		Chicago Hope (CC)	Mudslide
	M Totali 30 Cont		Greed: The Series (CC)	Mystery! (CC)	Waters (CC)	Chicago Hope (CC)	Totally Out of Control	Frasier (CC) Stark Raving	(:05) WCW Thunder	Tres Mujeres	Runs in the Family (CC)	::	Movie: Blind! Faith (CC)	Troopers (CC)	Movie: The Principal		Investigative Reports (CC)	Science	Wales	Movie: Star			Daring Cap- ers: Plunder
	M 20/20 30 town		Mad Abt. You Nanny (CC)	Mystery! (CC)	Lance Burton- Top Secret	48 Hours (CC	20/20 Down- town (CC)	ER (CC)	(:05) Movie: Mortal	Lente Loco Picardia Mex.		Championship Bull Riding		(:15) Movie: Knock Off	**	Richard Roberts	Inside Story	Into the Unknown	· :	Undiscovered Country (CC)		**	Daring Cap- ers: Kennedy
10	M News 30 Night	tline	Jerry Springer (CG)	News-Lehrer	700 Club (CC) News (:35) Late	News (CC) Nightline	News (:35) Tonight	Kombat	P. Impacto Noticiero Univ.	The Last Farewell (CC)		(:05) Movie:	(CC) Linc's	Shock Video 2000 (CC)		Law & Order (CC)	On the Inside	Movie: The River	Walker, Texas Ranger (CC)	Movie: Asteroid (CC)	Golden Girls Golden Girls	Mudslide
11 5	M Politic	cally Inc.	Newsradio Unhappily	Primary Debates	Who's Boss? Random Acts		Ent. Tonight Politically Inc.	Show (CC) (:37) Late	(:10) WCW Thunder		Zorro (CC) Mickey Mouse	In-Fisherman Bassmasters		(:15) Movie: Tricks (CC)	Inside the NFL (CC)	Faith Pleases God	Biography (CC)	Science Mysteries	:	Silk Stalkings (CC)	"	Designing Unsolved	Daring Cap- érs: Plunder
12	M (12:00 Guns	6) smoke	Cops (CC) Hollywood	Frontline (CC)		Show (CC) Grace Under	(12:06) Oprah Winfrey (CC)		(12:10) WCW Thunder	Gordo y Flaca El Blablazo		Am. Legends Roland Martin			Movie: The Dentist II	Light of the Southwest	Investigative Reports (CC)	Into the Unknown	(:35) Movie:	New York Undercover	Movie: Asteroid (CC)		Daring Cap- ers: Kennedy

HAGAR

B.C.







YOU KNOW YOU'RE OVERWEIGHT WHEN YOU STEP ON YOUR SCALE AND IT

DISAPPEARS FROM SIGHT.

BLONDIE





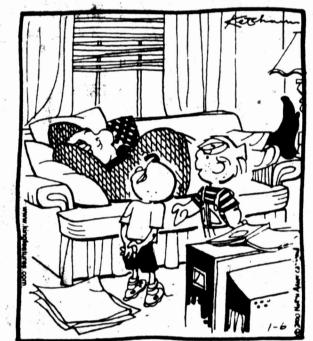


FAMILY CIRCUS

DENNIS THE MENACE



"If there were too many sponges in the ocean, would it soak up all the water?"



"JOEY JUST WANTS TO SEE WHAT A COUCH POTATO LOOKS LIKE."

GEECH





WIZARD OF ID







HI AND LOIS



GASOLINE ALLEY



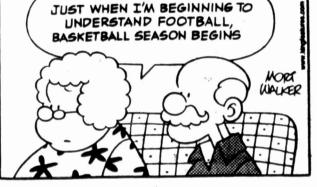
SNUFFY SMITH





BEETLE BAILY





THIS DATE **IN HISTORY**

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

ACROSS

16 Stability

and Henry

accessory

cousins

32 Pisa's river

35 Sing with

in Hebrew

40 Pastoral poem

activities org.

44 Short intervals

of relief 46 China's Sun

42 Family

43 Thomas _

Edison

20 Blockhead

21 High cards

23 Hot tubs

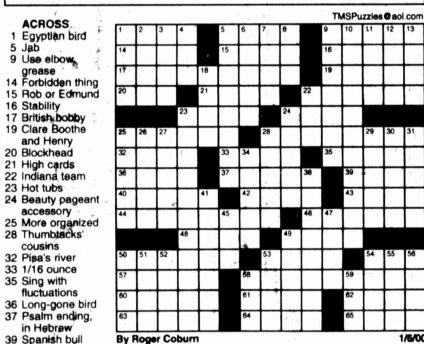
Today is Thursday, Jan. 6, the sixth day of 2000. There are

Today's Highlight in History: On Jan. 6, 1912, New Mexico became the 47th state.

On this date: In 1412, according to tradition, Joan of Arc was born in Domremy.

In 1540, England's King 360 days left in the year. Henry VIII took his fourth

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams



By Roger Coburn Summerville, GA

6	Judges' garb
7	Nocturnal
	raptors
	Poor grade
9	Ostentatious
10	Boob tube
	addict
11	Houston scho

48 Turner and Clanton 49 Rival rival 12 Manipulator 13 One Truman 50 Account book 53 Partnership 18 CD alternative 22 _ de deux 54 School org. (dance duet) 57 Extraterrestrial 23 Police informer

58 Close associate 60 Tippy craft 61 Yeah, sure 62 Top-notch 63 Correct text 64 Blue and Cross

65 Recolored DOWN Quechan ruler 2 Kin of raspberries

3 Lodges

4 Distress signal

26 Wear away 27 Williams and Devine 28 Tropical trees 29 Images of gods 30 Effrontery 31 "Six O'Clock"

painter John Syndrome associated with aspirin 38 Barn storage areas

24 Poison ivy, e.g.

25 Lowest point

45 Part of

Canada's Y.T. 47 Church projection 49 Shakespearean forest 50 Fancy fabric 51 NFL kicker

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

THEMINTMAKES

52 Have supper 53 Neuwirth or **Daniels** 54 Outwitting maneuver

55 Vocal inflection 56 Dumbfounded 58 Apron part 59 Youngster

5 Protest signs 41 Compared (to) Jason BIG **SPRING**

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Publisher. Ext. 250 Managing Editor.. .Ext. 230 Ext. 225 Advertising Sales Manager... Circulation Manager. Ext. 240 Production Manager... .Ext. 256 Business Office Manager. ...Ext. 255 Office Hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday

The Herald is a member of the Associated Press, Audit Bureau of Circulation, Texas Press on, and Southern Newspaper Publishers Association.

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wife, Anne of Cleves. The marriage lasted about six months. In 1759, George Washington and Martha Dandridge Custis were married.

In 1838, Samuel Morse first publicly demonstrated his telegraph, in Morristown, N.J.

In 1919, Theodore Roosevelt, the 26th U.S. president; died in Oyster Bay, N.Y., at age 60.

In 1942, the Pan American Airways "Pacific Clipper" arrived in New York after completing the first round-theworld trip by a commercial airplane.

In 1945, George Herbert Walker Bush married Barbara Pierce in Rye, N.Y.

In 1950, Britain recognized the Communist government of China.

In 1967, U.S. Marines and South Vietnamese troops launched Operation "Deckhouse V," an offensive in the Mekong River delta.

In 1993, ballet dancer Rudolf Nureyev died in Paris at age 54: jazz trumpeter Dizzy Gillespi died in Englewood, N.J., at age

Ten years ago: Defense Secretary Dick Cheney told CNN the U.S. invasion of Panama should not be viewed as a new "Bush doctrine" inclined toward military intervention in countries where democratic elections had been subverted.

Five years ago: Haitians housed at Guantanamo Bay Naval Base in Cuba were sent home by the U.S. military against the refugees' will and over protests of refugee advocates.

One year ago: The 106th Congress convened with Dennis Hastert as the new House speaker. Buckingham Palace announced that Prince Edward, youngest son of Queen Elizabeth II, would marry his longtime friend, public relations executive Sophie Rhys-Jones, later in the year.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Loretta Young is 87. Pollster Louis Harris is 79. Bluegrass performer Earl Scruggs is 76. Former automaker John Z. DeLorean is 75. Author E.L. Doctorow is 69. Singer Doris Troy is 63. Actress Bonnie Franklin is 56. Rock singermusician Kim Wilson (The Fabulous Thunderbirds) is 49. Singer Jett Williams is 47. Rock musician Malcolm Young (AC-DC) is 47. Movie director Anthony Minghella is 46. Actorcomedian Rowan Atkinson is 45. Golfer Nancy Lopez is 43. Rhythm-and-blues singer Eric Williams (BLACKstreet) is 40. Rock musician Michael Houser (Widespread Panic) is 38. Movie director John Singleton is 32. Actor Danny Pintauro ("Who's the Boss?") is 24.