

# BIG SPRING HERALD

COPYRIGHT 2000

"Reflecting a Proud Community"

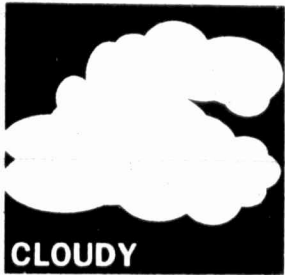
50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

**FRIDAY**

January 7, 2000

**WEATHER**

**Tonight:**



**CLOUDY**

**TONIGHT 30°-35° SATURDAY 53°-57°**

**MLK march set for 6 p.m. Jan. 17**

A candlelight march will be held in Big Spring on Monday, Jan. 17, in remembrance of Martin Luther King Jr. The march is held annually on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, offering an opportunity for citizens to come together for a celebration of his work and to remember the message he preached. Those wanting to participate are asked to meet at 6 p.m. at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home. The march will proceed down Martin Luther King Blvd. to FM 700. Participants should bring a candle or flashlight. Everyone is invited to participate.

**WHAT'S UP...**

- TODAY**
- 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 welcome.
- 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.
  - Line dancing, 1 p.m., Senior Citizens Center.
  - Eagles Lodge Ladies Auxiliary, 7 p.m., Eagles Lodge, 704 W. Third.

**INSIDE TODAY...**

- Abby 5B
- Classified 4-5BB
- Comics 6B
- General 3A
- Horoscope 5B
- Life 5-6A
- Obituaries 2A
- Opinion 4A
- Sports 1-3B

**Vol. 97, No. 62**

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.

**Saturday to be a 'chili' day in Big Spring, regardless of weather**

By **DEBBIE L. JENSEN**  
Features Editor

Whatever the forecast, Saturday will be chili for members and friends of Big Spring's Harley Owners' Group.



**MCCURDY**

HOG members are making final preparations for the 12th Annual Boss HOG Chili Cookoff, slated to

begin with a cook's meeting at 8:30 a.m. at the Harley-Davidson Shop. HOG president Lezlie McCurdy said the club never knows exactly how many cooks they will have until the meeting begins.

"Most of ours just register on site," she said. Since the Boss HOG is sanctioned through the Terlingua International Cookoff this year, there may be several new faces.

"We don't know what to expect, and we like that; it's exciting," McCurdy said. The

top three winners will have the honor of cooking "behind the store" at Terlingua's cookoff later this year.

The cost to compete is \$15, and teams must cook at least five pounds of the spicy stuff. Anyone who wants to attend and try some of the competing chili pays \$5 per person.

Live music is also planned from 1-5 p.m. by the local band The Marauders.

HOG member Barry Barnett said the outlook for this year's event is exceptional.

"The weather's supposed to be

nice, we have a good band, and we've had good advertisement in the 'Goat Gap Gazette' (newspaper) from Terlingua," Barnett said. "We expect quite a few new cooking teams. We know about several coming from Midland and Odessa, and more in town."

Already, the group has lined up several judges, but depending on the number of teams, they could need a dozen or so more.

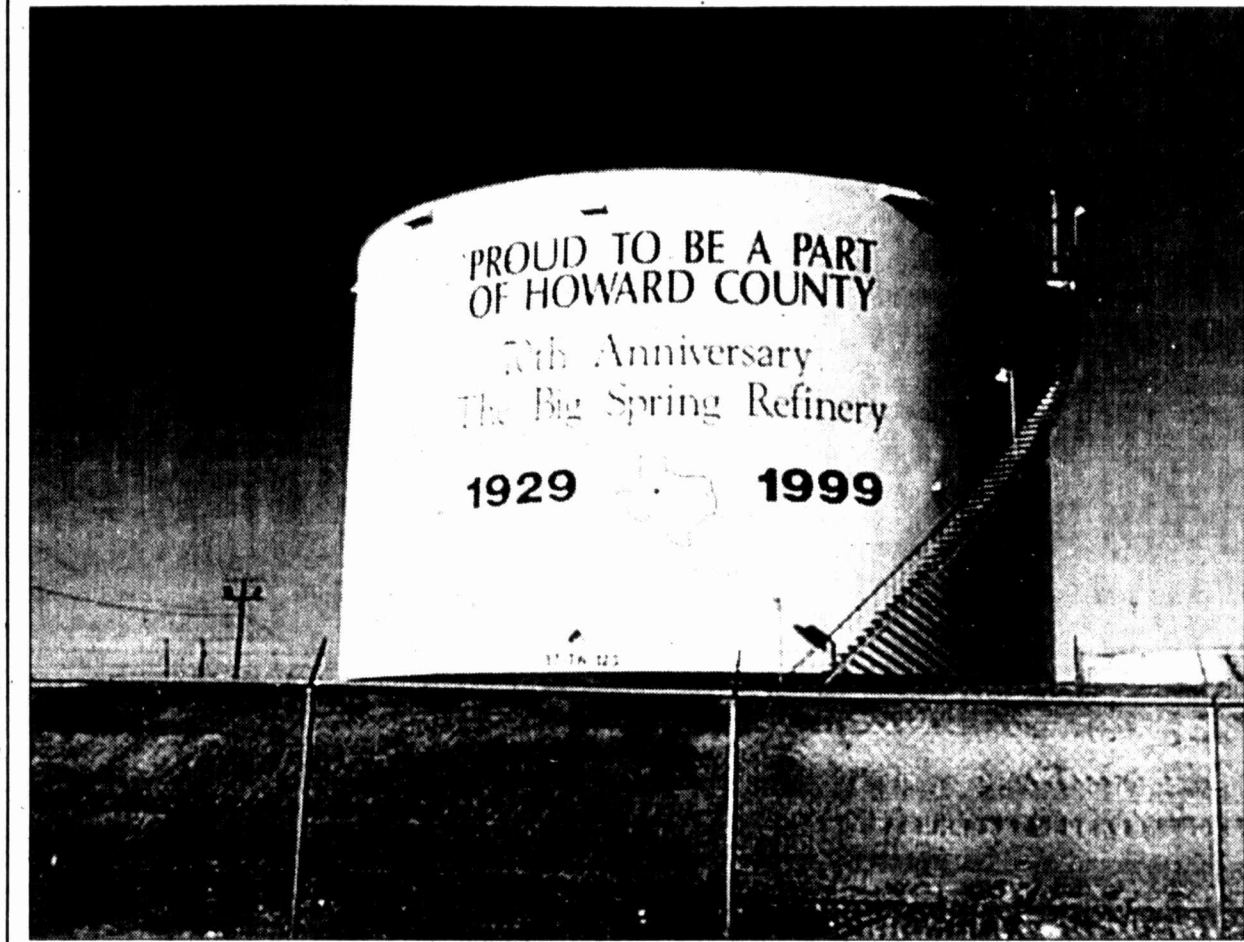
"If we need them, and we have a big enough crowd, we may get them from the crowd,"

McCurdy said.

Being sanctioned requires doing a few things differently, and it also adds some flavor to the competition. The showmanship award will offer first, second and third place trophies this year. Winners will be chosen at an assigned time just before the chili is handed over to the judges.

"They might dress in costumes, or have an unusual booth setup," McCurdy said. "There are points given for

See **COOKOFF**, Page 2A



HERALD photo/Bill McClellan

A preferred bidder has been selected for sale of the Big Spring Refinery, which celebrated its 70th anniversary last year. A letter of agreement is anticipated by the end of the month.

**Preferred bidder designated as sale of Big Spring Refinery moves forward**

By **MARSHA STURDIVANT**  
Staff Writer

The process of selling the Big Spring Refinery has progressed to the next stage, as a preferred bidder has been selected, and owners are in negotiations now.

"This means of all the bids submitted, one has been selected for negotiation. This is not a guarantee that this will be the bid chosen, nor a guarantee that this bid will go through," said refinery manager Steve Weber.

Weber said the next step is a

letter of agreement between French-owned Total Fina and the preferred bidder. He anticipates, if all negotiations continue in good stead, to have a letter of agreement between the two entities by January's end.

"The letter of agreement is not the final close, but it clears the way for a process called due diligence between the preferred bidder and the refinery," he said.

Once the letter of agreement is received and due diligence process began, this allows the preferred bidder to send representatives to the Big Spring

Refinery for a first hand look at the plant and all its assets, he said.

"For example, they might come and look at all our environmental records, or our warehouse inventory. This just means that both sides have open access and that there are no surprises for either party," he said.

Originally, the sale of the refinery was placed on a more aggressive schedule, but Weber said the process has followed a predictable pathway within a

See **REFINERY**, Page 2A

**Smaller refineries gain more time to implement ruling**

By **MARSHA STURDIVANT**  
Staff Writer

An Environmental Protection Agency ruling requiring refineries to reduce the sulfur content in gasoline should improve the quality of the air and raise the cost of gasoline.

"The EPA has said refineries

must reduce the sulfur content from 300 to 350 parts per million to 30 parts per million, which is about a 90 percent reduction. This will cause the whole industry to invest money in the technology to perform this, and may drive the cost of gasoline up," said Steve Weber, Big Spring Refinery manager.

Weber said the EPA estimates the cost of gasoline will increase by 2-3 cents, while the petroleum industry is estimating an increase of 6-8 cents.

"Of course, they are on opposing sides of this issue," he said.

Regardless of the cost, the

See **EPA**, Page 2A

**Big things going on in Glasscock County as junior livestock show gets underway**

By **JOHN H. WALKER**  
Editor

GARDEN CITY — The 63rd annual Glasscock County Junior Livestock Show opened here Thursday morning with 15 youngsters showing a total of 57 rabbits.

Also being shown and judged Thursday afternoon were the sheep. The show continued this morning with the swine show at 9 a.m. and the steer show at 2 p.m. The show concludes Saturday with the goat show at 8 a.m., followed by the annual pig scramble and barbecue fund-raiser.

"This was a good showing of rabbits down here," said judge Debbie Ernst of Lubbock. Ernst, who has been a rabbit producer for about 15 years, said "there are a lot of bigger shows where they just have the

big stock and few rabbits." After judging the showmanship competition, Ernst said it was evident the youngsters had worked with their animals.

"Showmanship is where you check the youngster's knowledge of the rabbit and you see how they manage the rabbit," she said. "You can definitely tell when a kid has worked with the rabbit by the (rabbit's) coat and demeanor."

The total number of entries for the first livestock show of the year reached 137, according to Delmer Batla.

This year's show includes something new — a home economics show for all ages — and Glasscock County agent Steve Sturtz said he thought the addition would help attendance.

"Last year we had about 300 to 350 people in attendance and I think will be up a few more

**• Thursday's results, 2A**

than that year because we have added a project show," he said.

The Home Economics Project Show will have eight categories — sewing, photography, amateur art, baked goods, food preservation, needlework, crafts and quilts.

"We don't expect a whole lot, this being the first year, but we think it will be fun," said Shirley Weeks, county extension agent for family and consumer science. "It's open to anyone in the county; it's not just a 4-H thing."

Age groups will be preschool, 5-9 years, 10-13, 14-18, adult, senior citizens (55 and older) and exceptional citizens. All entries are to be brought to the

See **STOCK SHOW**, Page 2A

**Low flights**

**Air Force to select Lancer as bombing training area, New Mexico senator says**

By **BILL MCCLELLAN**  
News Editor

U.S. Air Force training flights will take place over West Texas, including along the Howard-Mitchell county line, the U.S. Air Force has apparently told a New Mexico senator.

Sen. Jeff Bingaman, D-N.M., said Air Force officials told him an environmental study to be released later this month will recommend B-52 and B-1 bombers utilize the Lancer Military Operations Area (MOA) for training flights. Lancer encompasses eight counties: Borden, Scurry, Kent, Fisher, Stonewall, Dawson, Lynn and Garza.

The Air Force had been considering several areas, including another in Texas over parts of Tom Green County and nearly all of Irion, Reagan and Upton counties. The third option is over northern New Mexico, and a fourth is to select none of the areas, according to the Air Force.

Within the MOA, Air Force officials have said planes will fly at 3,000 to 18,000 feet. However, the planes would

approach the MOA along what is termed a Military Training Route, or MTR, at altitudes as low as 300 feet. One of the low-altitude flight paths into the Lancer MOA is north directly up the Howard-Mitchell county line.

Lt. Don Kerr, chief of public affairs at Langley AFB in Virginia, would not comment on the selection, saying only, "The Air Force has not made an official announcement at this point."

He confirmed that the site selected will be made public in an environmental statement to be released later this month.

Meanwhile, members of the Heritage Environmental Preservation Association (HEPA), headquartered in Snyder, are forming battle lines for legal action. The group had previously denounced an environmental impact statement released by the Air Force as misrepresenting the facts.

"We hope that the FAA will stop this bad idea dead in its tracks. The 54,000 people living in these eight counties should

See **BOMBERS**, Page 2A

**Death of Sand Springs couple ruled as murder-suicide by JP**

By **LYNDEL MOODY**  
Staff Writer

The deaths of a Sand Springs couple found in their residence on Friday, Dec. 17, was ruled a suicide/homicide yesterday by Justice of the Peace Bennie Green.

Green received final autopsy reports for Carroll Coates, 55, and his wife Rhonda Coates, 33, Thursday from Dr. Robert Lyon at the Pathology



**GREEN**

Association of Lubbock.

"Based on the evidence presented by the Howard County Sheriff's Office and the autopsy reports I have received, I am ruling it as a suicide for Rhonda Coates and a homicide for Carroll Coates," Green said.

Rhonda Coates shot her husband, Carroll, and then turned the gun on herself, Green said. According to the preliminary autopsy reports, the cause of death for Carroll Coates and Rhonda Coates was due to gunshot wounds to the head that penetrated the skull, he said.

Rhonda Coates was ruled a

See **AUTOPSY**, Page 2A



HERALD photo/John H. Walker

Tracey Machicek (foreground) and Wade Machicek groom their light weight New Zealand rabbits Thursday at the 63rd annual Glasscock County Junior Livestock Show.

JAN 07 2000



# Taxes, gays in military dominate Republican presidential debate

DURHAM, N.H. (AP) — In the first of back-to-back debates, the Republican presidential candidates split on the question of whether gays should be allowed to serve openly in the military.

Texas Gov. George W. Bush and Sen. John McCain said they supported the Clinton administration policy now in effect — which members of their party long have reviled.

"I'm a 'don't ask, don't tell' man," declared the front-running Bush, who opened the debate with an all-but-unequivocal tax pledge similar to one that later caused trouble for his father, former President Bush.

Their rivals, however, said gays should not be permitted to serve openly.

Meanwhile, McCain again defended his action as chairman of the Senate Commerce Committee to prod the Federal Communications Commission

to act on a license request from one of his campaign contributors.

The Arizona senator has made campaign finance reform a cornerstone of his presidential campaign, saying that money is "corrupting" the political process.

"Most objective observers believe the FCC hasn't done their job," he told a questioner. "That's my obligation as a senator and as the chairman of a powerful committee."

Bush, McCain and their rivals — Steve Forbes, Alan Keyes, Gary Bauer and Sen. Orrin Hatch of Utah — meet again tonight in South Carolina, and on Monday in Michigan.

Thursday's debate was the most boisterous yet, a fact apparent to voters.

"There were good things I heard tonight, but I was surprised by the amount of nega-

tivity," observed Mary Westfall of Durham, a self-labeled Democrat who said she came to the debate undecided. "I think they missed an opportunity to go deeper."

On gays in the military, McCain said the existing policy could be fine-tuned. But in apparent agreement with Bush, added, "I cannot change a policy that's working."

The "don't ask, don't tell" policy, which the president and others have said has not worked well, requires gays in the military to keep their sexual orientation a secret.

The other Republicans on stage trashed the policy.

Bauer said the pledges Wednesday night by the two Democratic candidates to ensure that homosexuals can serve openly in the military were "idiotic."

"The Joint Chiefs of Staff

have one purpose, to keep the United States out of war, and if they fail that, to win any war we're getting into," he said. "Our party ought to find our voice and say that we will not put that kind of requirement on our military."

An animated Keyes said, "I will return to the ban on homosexuals in the military." Forbes said open gays should not be allowed, saying the military is "not an agency for social experimentation."

After struggling to be heard, Hatch offered an indirect response, saying "I will not expect anybody in the military to live any way other than the way I live."

On taxes, an aggressive Bush opened with a pledge to cut them.

"If there's a recession it's important to cut taxes to make sure the economy grows. ... It's

also important to cut the taxes where there's times of plenty. ... It's important to cut the taxes to make sure Washington, D.C., does not spend the surplus," he said.

He was asked whether he was saying "no new taxes, so help

me God" — a reference to the no-new-taxes pledge his father broke after winning the White House.

"This is not only no new taxes. This is tax cuts, so help me God," replied the junior Bush.

## Dr. Jim L. Reed

- Specializing in General Dermatology
- Skin Cancer Surgery
- Chemical Peels

Call for appointment  
**264-6860**

**Medical Care Plaza**  
1300 Gregg

## Studies of TAAS find test unfair to minorities

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Texas' public school test hurts minority and low-income children, according to two Harvard University studies that will be presented in Washington today.

A San Antonio federal judge is also expected to decide today whether the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills infringes on the rights of black and Hispanic students when used as a graduation requirement.

The reports, commissioned by Harvard's Civil Rights Project and disputed by Texas officials, say minorities disproportionately fail tests that determine grade promotion or graduation and are the biggest victims of the tests' secondhand effects.

"Almost nobody in the testing business seriously believes that that's an appropriate use of tests," Gary Orfield, a Harvard education professor and co-director of the research center,

said. "It has the potential of denying a high school diploma and making unemployable hundreds of thousands of minorities across the country."

The studies are two of 12 reports to be published later this year in a book about the impact of high-stakes testing on minorities.

Four researchers from the University of Texas and Rice, Columbia and Michigan State universities conducted the TAAS studies. In October, two of them testified in the San Antonio trial for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, which filed the lawsuit in 1997.

The Civil Rights Project researchers concluded:

— Pressure to raise TAAS scores leads teachers to spend class time drilling students on practice exams and test-taking strategies.

— Teachers ignore other subject areas when required or encouraged to substitute TAAS preparation for the curriculum in those courses.

— TAAS preparation crowds out other forms of learning and more engaging projects such as library research, science experiments and long-term writing assignments.

"The test itself, and the system of testing and test preparation, have in poor and minority schools come to supplant the opportunity for high quality, meaningful learning," the report concludes.

But a Texas Education Agency spokesman said the study applies only to a small number of schools.

"It looks like a lot of the report is based on anecdotal information, and I'm sure you can find a small number of schools that spend too much

time on TAAS preparation," Debbie Graves Ratcliffe said. "But as you've heard us say many, many times, the TAAS test is based on the curriculum. If teachers teach the TAAS test, their students will pass."

The second study, which is less critical and summarizes the use of such tests in Texas, New York and Minnesota, points out that while the gap between minority and white TAAS scores at the 10th-grade level has shrunk over time, it remains in the double digits.

"Although the increasing cumulative pass rates from 1996 to 1998 are encouraging," the study says, "the overall impression is that these tests are, and will remain for some time, an impediment to the graduation prospects of African-American and Hispanic youth."

## More information surfaces about accused killer

LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP) — A man accused of killing two teenagers in Kentucky and Texas may have worked at a college here the day of the Lexington girl's murder.

Documents show Tommy Lynn Sells probably worked at Transylvania University from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. An invoice from the school's accounting office authorized a temporary labor agency that Sells worked for to pay him for eight hours' work on Thursday, May 13 — the day Haley McHone was murdered.

Sells, who police describe as a rail-riding transient from Del Rio, Texas, never picked up the check.

Later that day, the 35-year-old was arrested at 11:52 p.m. when police found him intoxicated

and passed out on a street corner, court records show.

At the time, Sells had been living, homeless, in Lexington for about two weeks, police said.

Authorities finally arrested Sells for more serious crimes on New Year's Day.

A 10-year-old girl who survived Sells' New Year's Eve assault on her and her friend gave authorities a description that helped them nab him.

He was arrested at his mobile home and charged with the capital murder of Kaylene Harris, 13, and the attempted capital murder of Krystal Surlis.

During questioning in the attack of the two Texas girls, Sells admitted killing people in Alabama, Arkansas, California, and North Carolina.

Sells also confessed to killing Haley McHone in Lexington during questioning at the Val Verde County, Texas, jail, said Sgt. John Allen of the Texas Rangers.

Police detectives from Lexington and San Antonio have already traveled to Del Rio to question Sells.

"The way this guy talks, we expect we'll be visited by a bunch more," Allen told The Dallas Morning News.

Haley's family last saw her on the morning of the 13th, as she left the house to play video games at her grandmother's home across the street from Haley's house. When her mother went to get her for a doctor's appointment, Haley was gone.

Her body was found 10 days later in some bushes.

## Nearly \$300,000 spent on bonfire investigation

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — Texas A&M has spent at least \$292,000 on costs related to the deadly November bonfire collapse and has set aside another \$225,000 for investigation of the accident, records show.

Plane trips for students attending out-of-state funerals, overtime for university police and food and drinks for emergency workers were among expenses detailed in a spreadsheet available at A&M's Cushing Memorial Library Thursday.

More than 2,200 documents

and photographs relating to the disaster have been compiled at the library for use by a special commission investigating the accident's cause and for inspection by the public.

The Nov. 18 collapse of the 7,000-log stack killed 12 Aggies and injured 27. One student, John Comstock of Richardson, remained hospitalized Thursday in critical condition.

The University Police Department spent about \$48,500 on security, overtime and supplies after the accident, records show. Another \$39,500 covered

plane rental to fly students to a victim's funeral in California. Additionally, \$1,819 paid for food and drink for emergency workers who pulled students from the tumbled logs.

Cindy Lawson, executive director of university relations, said all of the \$292,235 spent on the accident has come from "unrestricted investment income" such as interest on gifts received by A&M and book store profits. It does not include state general revenue or interest earned on general appropriated funds, she said.

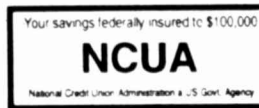
## Citizens FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

for folks like you who live or work in Howard, Borden or Glasscock County

**5.75%** 6 month Certificate  
Annual Percentage Yield  
Minimum investment of \$5,000  
Limited time offer effective Jan. 3, 2000

Substantial penalty for early withdrawal. Fees or other conditions could reduce earnings on account

267-6373



701 E. FM 700

Deposits insured up to \$350,000

The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce

cordially invites you to

The Annual Banquet

January 15, 2000

7:00 p.m.

Dorothy Garrett Coliseum

Program provided by

The Big Spring Symphony and Chorus

Tickets \$20

Available at 213 West 3rd Street

or call 263-7641

"Black & White Attire - Your Desire"

Portraits available 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

**"Millennium Madness"**  
**Clearance Sale Continues..**

**50% OFF**  
**50% OFF**

**Free Delivery Within 100 Miles**

**Allan's Furniture**  
202 Scurry Where All Of West Texas Buys Their Furniture 267-6278

JAN 7 2000





### Some say gold dental work appeared after revival

**WEATHERFORD (AP)** — Is it the Midas touch? Dozens of people claim gold teeth, crowns, plates, bridges and bands have materialized in their mouths after attending a revival at the New Life Community Church in this town of nearly 15,000 people. Mary Carter of Colleyville said gold dental work miraculously appeared in her mouth. "I'm not saying it's pure gold," Ms. Carter told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. "But it sure does glitter and shine. No one knows what this is all about, and no one can explain why. But it came from God, from Jesus." The Rev. Don Connell, the church's pastor, said while some people have reported gold

crowns in their mouths only to later recall receiving them from dentists years earlier, most of this dental work is still the work of God. "The question is, Why gold teeth?" Connell said. "Why not perfect health? We just feel God is touching and saying, 'Have a little gold.' It's a sign." Church officials said the revival, which began Sept. 26, filled their 200-seat building five nights a week for 10 weeks, attracting 8,000 people from across North Texas and six states. New Life Community Church is affiliated with the International Church of the Four Square Gospel, founded by evangelist Amy Semple McPherson.

Previous revivals at the church, which has a regular membership of 250, lasted a week. The event is set to resume Sunday. But Connell said the large crowds have not significantly impacted church membership and the cash offerings, split evenly with guest evangelist Larry Taylor, barely cover expenses. Charles Ford, a 57-year-old car salesman, was among those who attended the revival. "My wife has perfect teeth, and we wanted her to have a mouthful (of gold teeth) to prove God's power," he said. "We prayed for her, but I got the gold tooth — totally off the wall. It's weird, wonderful weird."

### CHURCH

Continued from Page 5A

A ladies Bible study continues on Thursday evenings at 6:30. It features Beth Moore's "A Heart Like His: Seeing the Heart of God through a study of David." Call Jackie Simpson at 267-5745 or Virginia Martin at 263-3758. A nursery is available. Our first Bible Club of 2000 will be Tuesday, Jan. 11, immediately after school until 5:30 p.m. Call 267-7851 to register your child in grades 1-6. After school pickup is also available.

### Philadelphia Primitive Baptist

Elder John Horner of Nacogdoches, will be the guest minister Saturday night at 7, and Sunday morning at 10:30, at Philadelphia Primitive Baptist Church, 201 East 24th.



HORNER

Elder Horner is pastor of Corinth Primitive Baptist Church in Appleby.

Guest speaker for Wednesday, Jan. 12, at 7 p.m., will be Elder L. Jeff Harris, pastor of Eureka Primitive Baptist Church, Chula, Ga.

Before moving to Georgia, Elder Harris pastored the church here in Big Spring. We invite everyone to attend, especially the many local friends of the Harris family.

### TEENS

Continued from Page 5A

Medical Center of the Dallas and Golden Acres, the Dallas Home for the Jewish Aged. The decision about whether to make grants to these organizations will be made within the month, Mrs. Kaufman said. The group's giving spirit is catching on. Twenty-one members of the academy's seventh-grade class have created their own fund, called Happiness

Under Giving, or HUG. Daniel Frid, 14, said that when the idea of the TGIF fund came up, he had to fight off the temptation to want the money for himself. "But I decided to give it a try, and I found I really liked the way it felt," Daniel said. "I think we've all been changed as individuals and as a group."

## Islamic school in Sugar Land aims to provide moral training

*When we die, only three things will continue to benefit us: an act of charity, whose benefit endures, knowledge that benefits others, and a righteous child who prays for us.* — Mohammed

**SUGAR LAND (AP)** — Twenty-five students, boys on one side, girls on the other, sit around low wooden benches in the mosque. On the benches are their Korans, the Islamic holy book.

"Assalamu-Aliakum (Peace be upon you)," says Rifaqat Raza, principal of Dar-ul Arqam, a private Islamic school. "Assalamu-Aliakum," comes the enthusiastic reply from the first- and second-graders.

Soon, Sheikh Maqsood Al-Syed, in a black fez and long gray robe, will have the children reciting verses from the Koran in singsong fashion. Not only do the youngsters, most of whom grew up speaking English, learn of the sixth-century writings of Mohammed, they learn Arabic, as well.

It's all part of the education at Dar-ul Arqam, where 100 preschoolers through sixth-graders begin their days facing east, toward Mecca, with hands folded for prayers led by Al-Syed, a graduate of the prestigious University of Al-Azhar in Cairo, an institution known for its religious education.

"Most of the parents want their kids to learn the Koran from him especially," Raza said of Al-Syed, who memorized the Koran at age 9 and is regarded as a religious scholar.

In addition to the 50-minute classes on the Koran, the students follow the academic curriculum of the Fort Bend Independent School District. Their school is one of three sponsored by the Islamic Society of Greater Houston, a sign of a growing Houston-area Muslim community intent on preserving its religious values in an increasingly secularized society.

"When I took it over, there were 25 students," said Raza, who holds degrees in education and a master's degree in political science from her native Pakistan. "In 3 1/2 or four years it has gone up to 100 students and at least 20 students on the waiting list."

For the past five years, the school has added a grade a year. "Maybe next year we will have a seventh grade," said Raza, a former substitute teacher in Katy ISD. Parents, after all, pressured her to add the sixth grade the last school year. "I personally did not want to have a sixth grade because of the limited facilities," she said. "But the parents pushed us very hard."

The school holds classes in two large trailers, at the adjacent mosque at 10415 Synott Road and even in the mosque's

worship area. "We don't have any more room," Raza said. "Our goal is to build a permanent building."

But even with the generous support of the school's 60 families, a building is still a few years away. The families, however, contribute furnishings and even computers to the school in addition to the \$200 monthly tuition.

Parents like Asma Ghori are willing to sacrifice financially to make certain their children learn Muslim values. Mohamed Ghori, 6, is in the first grade, and Ahmed, 4, is in preschool.

"I and my husband feel that it is very important to surround our children with our religious culture in order to protect them from the evils and bad influences from the society," Asma Ghori said.

Raza added that many parents are anxious about violence and drugs in public schools and fearful about the loss of Muslim identity as their children become Americanized.

In addition to Koran studies, Dar-ul Arqam students also take Islamic courses dealing with history, culture and doctrine.

But Islam is integrated into all subjects. "Islam is not just a religion," said Marzieh Kafi, the third- and fourth-grade teacher. "It is a way of life."

"It is not just that you know what is two plus two, it is what God wants you to learn," said Amudat Adesina, a first-grade teacher.

Most of the students were born in the United States. Many are of Palestinian, Egyptian and Pakistani heritage. Their teachers come from Pakistan, Iran, Nigeria, Yemen, Egypt and other Islamic nations. Although there are cultural differences among the different countries, students are exposed to the unifying thread of Islamic worship and doctrine, Raza said.

Islam means "peace" in Arabic, Raza said. "The Islamic life that Allah describes is a very clean, neat and easy (to follow) life," she said. Education is the key to understanding and following Allah's will.

"If we understand and follow and read and study what the Koran means, life is easier and the religion is easier," Raza said.

The school recently was observing the penitential month of Ramadan, the ninth month of the Islamic lunar year and the month in which Mohammed received the Koran from Allah.

During Ramadan, all Muslims

10 years and older are obligated to observe a strict sunup-to-sundown fast. No food or water is allowed, but exemptions are made for the sick or those unable to comply.

Younger students are encouraged to participate with half-day or limited fasts, Raza said. But religious devotion knows no age limits. Last year, a 4-year-old girl, Sarah Siddiqui, surprised the principal and others by adhering to the month-long fast, although her mother made certain food and beverages were available to the child.

The school supports the fast by limiting physical activity and giving students more time for academic assignments. No food is served in the cafeteria. Students who do not fast must bring food from home.

"They see their elders fasting and they want to do it," said Rukhsana Saleem, who teaches the older students. "Even when their parents tell them no, they want to fast."

Of her own fasting, Saleem said, "Where there is a will, there is a way. If you are fasting, then God gives you the strength to do everything."

During this period, the students greeted each other with "Ramadan Mubarak!" not unlike Christians saying "Merry Christmas." The school hallways were decorated with the 99 names used to describe Allah in the Koran, and students pursue the meaning of Ramadan through readings and written assignments.

Older students generally attend evening mosque services, where Al-Syed each day recites from memory a chapter of the Koran. The Koran will be recited in its entirety by the end of Ramadan, at the sighting of a new moon. Students also participate in the daily breaking of the fast with communal suppers.

But they also prepare for Eid-ul-fitr, the festive end of Ramadan that includes services, family gatherings, gift-giving and other celebrations. "This time of month, we all feel holy," said Amani Alarashi, a kindergarten teacher.

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

Cordially Invite You to Attend our Services  
**TRINITY BAPTIST**  
810 11TH PLACE 267-6344

Anxiety does not empty tomorrow of its sorrows, but only empties today of its strength.

Randy Cotton  
Pastor

Sunday 11:00 a.m. Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.  
Service broadcast Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m.  
over KBYG 1400 AM Evangelistic Service.....6:00 p.m.  
on your dial Wednesday Service.....7:00p.m.

**LAST CHANCE SALE**

**40% OFF** All Accessories  
**50% OFF** All Christmas Merchandise

**Sale Ends Saturday Jan. 8, 2000**

**ELROD'S**  
2309 Scurry Big Spring's Oldest, Finest, Largest Furniture Store 267-8491

Koret® & DonnKenny®

**50% off to 75% off**

Pants and Skirts \$14.99 Shirts and Sweaters \$19.99

Stock Pots \$9.99 each reg. \$18.00  
Holiday Sweater & Millennium Shirts **75% off** reg. up to \$56.00

**DUNLAPS**  
111 East Marcy • 267-8283

www.dunlaps.com

We Accept MasterCard, Discover, Visa, American Express

© 2000 H-E-B Food

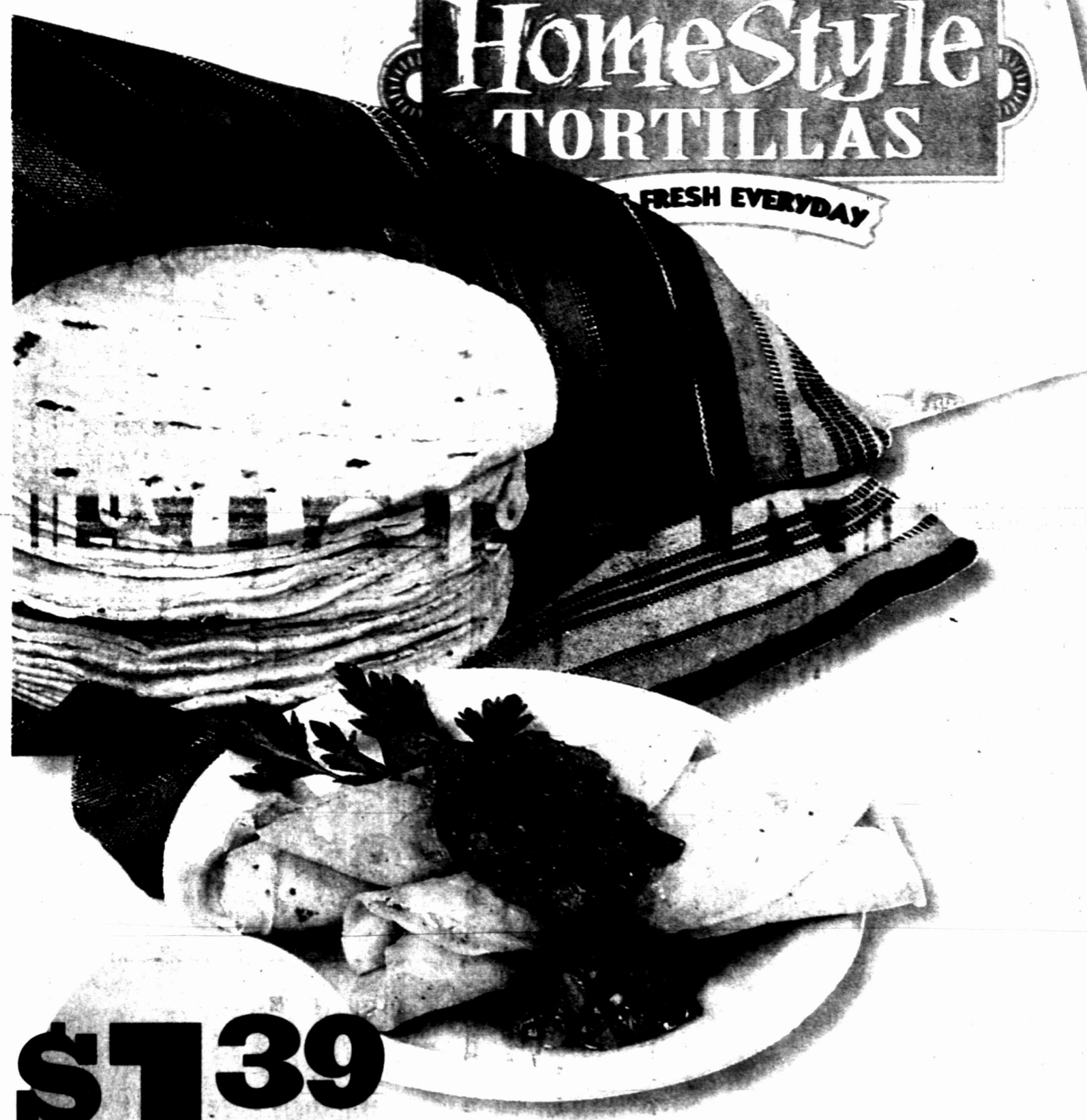
H-E-B  
NE  
H-E  
Hor  
Tort  
\$1  
H-E  
Hor  
Tort  
20 Ct.  
QUICK & EASY FAJITAS  
BE  
www.  
We Accept MasterCard, Discover, Visa, American Express  
© 2000 H-E-B Food

RALD  
2000

that  
fund  
of the  
oney  
  
a try,  
i the  
d. "I  
ed as

# H-E-B Great Low Prices!

## NEW H-E-B Homestyle Tortillas



### \$1.39 Ea.

H-E-B  
Homestyle  
Tortillas  
20 Ct. Pkg.

- Rich Homestyle Flavor
- Made Fresh Everyday



### \$2.99 Lb.

 H-E-B Seasoned Beef Skirts For Fajitas Value Pack

[www.heb.com](http://www.heb.com)  
We Accept Pulse/PAY, VISA, MasterCard, Discover, American Express And Lone Star

Prices Good Friday, January 7 Through Sunday, January 9, 2000  
At Your Abilene, Big Spring, Copperas Cove, Harker Heights, Killeen, Midland, Odessa And San Angelo H-E-B Stores  
Due To The Popularity Of Our Low Prices Every Day,  
We Reserve The Right To Limit Quantities. Some Items May Not Be Available In All Stores



T-Bone Steaks  
U.S.D.A. Select Beef  
Value Pack, Limit-2

### \$1.99 Lb.

With Additional \$10 Purchase



## Surf & Turf

### \$2.49

Great With Steak!  
2 Oz. Average

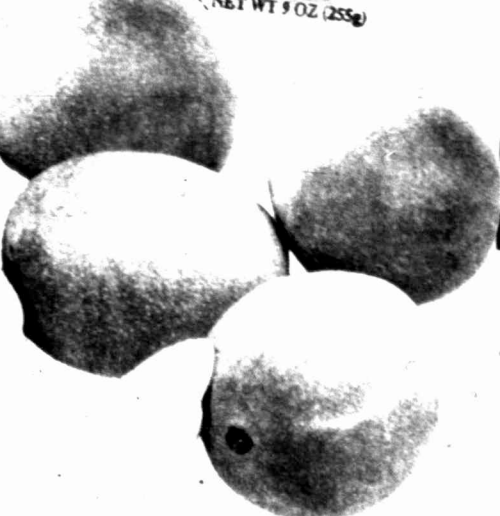
### 2\$3 For

Steakhouse Knife  
Contoured comfort grip handle is made of genuine walnut. Dishwasher safe, stainless steel blade. Serrated at the tip to cut even the thickest steaks smoothly and easily.



### 99¢ Ea.

Contadina Cut Pastas  
9 Oz. Pkg.  
Choose From Linguine, Angel's Hair, Fettuccine Or Spinach Tagliatelle



### 2\$1 For

Mangos

## H-E-B PHOTO PLACE Film Processing Special

### \$1.00 OFF

On Film Processing Of Any Roll Of Film

Glossy Only. Includes 110, 35mm And APS  
Applies To Film Dropped Off Between 01/05/00 Thru 01/11/00 And Purchased Between 01/05/00 Thru 01/18/00  
(Offer Good On C-41 Processing Only)

With In-Store Coupon

JAN 7 2000

# H-E-B

# Get Free Stuff

## THE BIG HOUSEHOLD EVENT

**BUY**  
Dove Bath Soap,  
\$5.29 Ea.

Buy Dove Bath Soap 6 Ct. Pkg., Get Dove Anti-Deodorant Perspirant 1.5 Oz. Cntr. **FREE!**

**BUY** Your Choice, 2 For \$5  
Formula 409 All Purpose Cleaner, Clorox Clean-Up, Pine-Sol Spray, or Soft Scrub Cleanser, or Pine-Sol, or Sparkle Paper Towels

Buy Any Two 409, Clorox Clean-Up, Pine-Sol or Soft Scrub, Get One Sparkle 3 Roll Paper Towels **FREE!**

**BUY** Angel Soft Bundle Bath Tissue \$6.98 Ea. 36 Ct. Pkg.

Buy Angel Soft 36 Ct. Bath Tissue, Get Tilex Fresh Shower 32 Oz. Btl. **FREE!**

**BUY** Sunlight Antibacterial Dish Soap, \$3.79 Ea. Twin Pack, 28 Oz. Btls.

Buy Sunlight Twin Pack, 28 Oz. Btls. Get S.O.S Scrubber Sponge **FREE!**

**BUY** Surf Powder Detergent \$9.99 Ea. 132 Load Value Pack Box

Buy Surf 132 Load Detergent, Get Clorox Scented Bleach & Snuggle 40 Ct. Softener **FREE!**

**BUY** Glad Mega Pack 180

Buy Glad Mega Trash Bags, Get Clorox 12 Oz. Disinfecting Spray **FREE!**

## See Store For Free Coupons And Save!

# H-E-B

Prices Good Friday, January 7 Thru Tuesday, January 18, 2000  
At Your Neighborhood H-E-B Stores Including H-E-B Marketplace  
Offers Not Valid At Broadway Central Market • Items Not Available At Central Market  
Due To The Popularity Of Our Low Prices Every Day, We Reserve The Right To Limit Quantities.  
Some Items May Not Be Available In All Stores

www.heb.com  
We Accept Pulse/PAY, VISA, American Express, MasterCard, Discover And Lone Star  
© 2000 H-E-B Food Stores #00-0530

# SP

## IN BR

### Lady Hawks suffer loss at Blinn College

Howard College Lady Hawks saw their season end on Tuesday night, as they dropped to Blinn College. Sophomore pitcher Grant paced the attack with 20 pitches. Grace Gantt added to the Lady Hawks will be their West Texas College Athletic Center opener, hosting Texas at 6 p.m. M

### Hunter education scheduled for Feb.

A hunter education class is required of all Texas residents born on or after September 1, 1991. The class will be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 12-13, in the Area Chamber of Commerce conference room. Boyce Hale will be the instructor. The class is also a home study course. Students will attend hands-on skills training and take a written exam. For more information, call Hale at 627-5957 or Gun Shop at 267-7

### Baseball boosters organization formed

The Big Spring Boosters Club has formed an organizational committee. The meeting was held at 7 p.m. Monday at the High School Athletic Center. Members will work on the year's fund raising efforts and improvements. For more information, call Jim Clements at 267-1069.

### Semi-pro football team being formed

Efforts are currently underway to field a Texas semi-pro football team this season. Rick Boles, the general manager and defensive coordinator of the team, said they currently have 12 players. The team would meet at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 15, at Blankenship Field. The team would have a roster of 25 to 30 players. Players will have a \$100 fee and provide their own equipment. For more information, contact Boles at 264-1

### International League Tuesday board meeting

The International League has scheduled a board meeting for 6 p.m. Tuesday at the Country Club on Lamesa Highway. Anyone interested in joining a team or interested in the league is encouraged to attend. For more information, contact Denise Yandrich at Raymond Ontiveros, 3811 or Delbert G. 2631.

### AREA SCHEDULE

- TODAY**  
**HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL**  
5:30 p.m.  
• Forsan at Coahoma  
  
6:30 p.m.  
• Forsan at Ozona  
• Sands at Border  
• Garden City at W  
(VG-VB)  
• Grady at Ira (VG-VB)  
  
7:30 p.m.  
• Big Spring at Sw  
  
8 p.m.  
• Stanton at Coah

### ON THE

- Television**  
**NBA**  
7 p.m. — New York Knicks at Orlando Magic, TNT.  
**NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE**  
7:30 p.m. — Vancouver Canucks at Dallas Stars, Ch. 29.  
**GOLF**  
6 p.m. — PGA Men's Senior Championships, sec ESPN, Ch. 30.



### IN BRIEF

#### Lady Hawks suffer road loss at Blinn College

Howard College's Lady Hawks saw their record drop to 12-4 on the season Thursday night, as they dropped a 74-73 loss to Blinn College in Brenham.

Sophomore post Yolanda Grant paced the Lady Hawks attack with 20 points, while Grace Gantt added 13 more.

The Lady Hawks' next game will be their Western Junior College Athletic Conference opener, hosting Western Texas at 6 p.m. Monday.

#### 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.

#### 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 Center.

Members will discuss the year's fund raisers, planned improvements and activities.

For more 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 at Blankenship Field.

The team would like to have a roster of 25 to 30 players.

Players will have to pay a \$100 fee and provide their own equipment.

For more information, contact Boles at 264-1111.

#### International LL slates Tuesday board meeting

The International Little League has scheduled a board meeting for 6 p.m. Tuesday 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 263-2631.

### AREA SCHEDULE

**TODAY  
HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL  
5:30 p.m.**

• Forsan at Coahoma (VB)

**6:30 p.m.**  
• Forsan at Ozona (VG)  
• Sands at Borden Co. (VG-VB)  
• Garden City at Water Valley (VG-VB)

**7:30 p.m.**

• Big Spring at Sweetwater (VG)

**8 p.m.**

• Stanton at Coahoma (VG)

### ON THE AIR

#### Television

**NBA**

7 p.m. — New York Knicks at Orlando Magic, TNT, Ch. 28.

**NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE**

7:30 p.m. — Vancouver Canucks at Dallas Stars, FXS, Ch. 29.

**GOLF**

6 p.m. — PGA Mercedes Championships, second round, ESPN, Ch. 30.

## Crossroads teams set to begin district hoops play tonight

By JOHN A. MOSELEY  
Sports Editor

Now it gets serious. District play begins for a number of Crossroads Area high school basketball teams tonight, and several coaches say those loop openers could be pivotal.

Not only do all the area's coaches stress the importance of getting off to a good start in league play, some admit their teams figure to be battling their top competition for district championships.

Such is the case in Coahoma, where the defending District 3-2A champion Bulldogettes will play host to Stanton's Lady Buffaloes, last year's runner-up.

And since the area's Class 2A and Class 4A boys' teams do not open district play for another week, some fans are already a little confused.

That's the case in Coahoma, where head boys' basketball coach Kim Nichols spent time this morning contacting the media trying to make tonight's schedule clear.

While the Bulldogettes are scheduled to host Stanton, Nichols and his Bulldogs will play host to Forsan's Buffaloes.

The boys' schedule calls for junior varsity action to begin at 4 p.m. in the high school gymnasium, followed by a 5:30 varsity date. Girls' games will be played in the elementary school gym with freshmen kicking things off at 5 p.m., followed by a junior varsity game at 6:30 and the varsity taking the floor at 8.

The Bulldogettes, who figure to be without the services of senior post Jayci Roberts until the midpoint of their district schedule, will be facing a formidable Lady Buffs team that's won its last 11 games.

"This is going to be a tough one," first-year Bulldogettes coach David Musick admitted. "We've kind of been struggling lately and have had a lot of injuries."

"Stanton's been on a roll," he added. "They kid of struggled early, but they played some awfully tough teams. They lost twice to Ozona and then to Sweetwater and Borden County, but nobody else has been able to do it."

Second-year Lady Buffs coach Tim Van Hecke admits his team has learned some lessons after getting off to a 6-4 start.

"We played four awesome teams early," Van Hecke noted.

"That shows how smart I am to schedule those people," he mockingly added. "Borden County absolutely educated us, but we've gotten a lot better since then."

Elsewhere in the area, Big Spring's Lady Steers take their 11-8 record on the road to Sweetwater — opening District 5-4A play against the two-time defending champion Lady Mustangs at 8 p.m.

The rest of tonight's schedule has Forsan's Queens opening District 3-2A play at Ozona at 6:30.

All four of the area's Class A schools will open boys' and girls' district play tonight at 6:30. Sands' squads travel to Borden County, Garden City visits Water Valley and Grady plays at Ira.

Garden City Lady Bearkats first-year head coach Mike Wallace said his girls will be facing one of the teams at should battle them for the District 4-1A championship.

"Water Valley has a good girls' program," Wallace said as he prepared to take the 14-3 Lady Kats into the opener. "We'll have our work cut out for us. Not only are we playing a good team, but we've got to open up in their gym."

## Franks says he's headed to NFL

From staff and wire reports

As expected, former Big Spring football star and Miami Hurricanes tight end Daniel "Bubba" Franks will forgo his senior season and enter the NFL draft.

Franks, a 6-foot-6, 260-pound, three-time all-Big East selection was named a second-team all-America pick by The Associated Press this season.

Considered a top flight blocker with good hands and speed, Franks is regarded as a first-round pick in the NFL draft. He caught 45 passes for 565 yards and five touchdowns during the regular season and added three receptions for 72 yards in Miami's 28-13 win over Georgia Tech in the Gator Bowl.

"I'm declaring," Franks said Thursday afternoon. "It was a hard decision. It's not easy when you're leaving a program like this. I could have stayed and could have won a national championship, but I figured I'm ready."

Franks said he reached his decision after speaking with his mother, Miami coach Butch Davis and three former Hurricanes teammates who are playing in the NFL.

Two of those three former Miami players left school early, including Indianapolis Colts rookie running back Edgerrin James.

He said James, his former roommate at Miami, had checked with the Colts' front office and the response was favorable.

"They said I should be somewhere in the first round," Franks said.

The biggest influence, however, was his mother.

"My mom felt it was time for me to move on," Franks said. "There's not much more I could have done."

Franks said he has not yet officially notified the NFL of his decision. The deadline for underclassmen to apply for the draft is Monday.

The former Steers star was not the only underclassman to make his intentions known Thursday. Texas receiver Kwame Cavil and Texas Tech offensive lineman Jonathan Gray both said they will skip their senior seasons to enter the 2000 NFL draft.

Cavil, a 6-2 205 pounder from Waco, set Longhorn and Big 12 Conference single-season records for receptions (100) and receiving yards (1,188).

But 36 hours before Texas played Arkansas in the Cotton Bowl on New Year's Day, Cavil and three teammates were suspended for team rules violations. The Longhorns lost 27-6.

Cavil was expected to enter the draft if his suspension continued into next season. He declined to address his suspension in a prepared statement, and the university athletic department said such information is private.

"After great deliberation with my family, I have decided to forego my final year of eligibility and go to the NFL," Cavil said,



Former Big Spring Steers football star Daniel "Bubba" Franks, pictured here in a 1998 game, says he'll pass up his senior season of eligibility at the University of Miami to enter the NFL draft this spring.

adding that his son does well in the draft, but did not elaborate on circumstances surrounding his suspension.

"I have no idea" how he will perform, the elder Cavil said. "That thing is just like when he went from high school to the university. You just hope for the best."

Concerning the suspension, he would only term it as "crazy," adding that his son

remained in Austin on Thursday night and could be reached through the university.

Texas coach Mack Brown said he never tells players what to do if they are considering entering the NFL draft early.

"Kwame has been a big part of our two years here, and I will always love him for who he is, and what he has done for Texas," Brown said. "We will miss him, but I respect his decision and wish him nothing but the best."

In Lubbock, Red Raiders head coach

See **DRAFT**, page 2B

## Cowboys banking on Deion

IRVING (AP) — Without a healthy Deion Sanders to cover Randy Moss or Cris Carter, the Minnesota Vikings have had no problem torching the Dallas Cowboys' secondary.

Sanders hopes things will be different Sunday now that he's playing with no strains or sprains.

"I'm better this time," Sanders said. "I think it will allow us to do more things and not just sit back and wait on what they're going to do. We'll be able to force them into situations."

"But even if you had Lester Hayes and Mike Haynes, I don't know if you'd have enough talent to match up with those guys."

Moss caught three touchdown passes totaling 163 yards and Carter had seven catches for 135 yards as Minnesota beat Dallas 48-38 on Thanksgiving 1998. Sanders missed that game with a toe injury that required offseason surgery.

In November, the NFL's most productive tandem combined for 15 catches, three touchdowns and 207 yards as the Vikings scored 27 unanswered points after falling behind 17-0. Sanders, considered the NFL's best cover cornerback, limped through the game with hamstring and groin problems.

The stakes are higher for Round 3.

This time, it's a first-round playoff game.

"I'm going to do my best," Sanders said, smiling. "We're going to have a good time."

While fans would love to see Sanders and Moss go head-to-head on every snap, Dallas coaches won't allow it. They prefer mixing up their coverages to avoid being predictable.

Still, Sanders mostly will line up on the right side of the defense, often before Minnesota is done with its huddle. Once quarterbacks stand over the center, they make sure to find Sanders.

Jeff George sure did two months ago.

Of the 15 times Sanders lined up against Moss, George went

See **DEION**, page 3B

## Stephenville has a coach, but quarterback question is unanswered by Briles

STEPHENVILLE (AP) — Two-time defending state champion Stephenville High has a new head coach, but Mike Copeland doesn't know yet if he'll have to find a new quarterback.

Copeland, a Stephenville assistant coach for 31 years and the defensive coordinator the past nine seasons, has been approved as the successor to Art Briles. The Stephenville school board unanimously approved the promotion this week.

Briles resigned last month after Stephenville won its second straight state title and fourth in the 1990s (1993, 1994, 1998 and 1999). He left to become the running backs coach at Texas Tech for new coach Mike Leach.

Still undetermined, however, is if junior quarterback Kendal

Briles, the son of the former coach, will return to Stephenville for his senior season or transfer to Wolfforth Frenship High.

Briles threw for 2,243 yards and 22 touchdowns and ran for 844 yards and nine scores in Stephenville's second straight state championship season. He plans to wait a couple of months before making a decision.

"Frenship is a nice school, but this is my home," Briles said.

"I've been going to Stephenville since kindergarten. I'm just trying to hang on right now and be happy where I'm at now. I don't want to worry about it daily. I try not to worry about it."

Copeland said there was no rush for the younger Briles to decide.



Big Spring Lady Steers volleyball star Nina Evans, flanked by her brother, Antwone Edwards, and her mother, Pebble Evans, signs her NJCAA letter of intent to play volleyball for Cisco Junior College next season. Looking on from behind are Cisco coach Susan Moore (left) and Lady Steers coach Traci Pierce.

SPORTS EXTRA

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

American League
AL—Announced the resignation of Gene Budig, president.
CHICAGO WHITE SOX—Named Nick Leyva manager of Charlotte of the International League. Mike Brumley, bunting instructor for the White Sox system, and R.J. Reynolds, manager of Bristol of the Appalachian League, promoted Nick Capra, manager of Burlington of the Midwest League, to manager of Birmingham of the Southern League. Danny Boston, hitting coach for Burlington, to hitting coach of Winston Salem of the Carolina League, and Orsino Hill, hitting coach for Rooker League Tuscon, to hitting coach for Bristol.

NEW YORK YANKEES—Acquired OF Terry Jones from the Los Angeles Dodgers for a player to be named. Named Dan Radison manager and Ken Dominguez coach of Nepesin of the Eastern League.
TEXAS RANGERS—Signed INF Jon Shave to a minor-league contract with Oklahoma of the PCL. Announced the resignation of Alex Smith, assistant director of player development. Named John Lombardo, assistant director of player development.

National League
ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS—Hired Brian Lamber, assistant to the general manager.
HOUSTON ASTROS—Agreed to terms with RHP Dwight Gooden on a minor-league contract.
SAN DIEGO PADRES—Named Bill Clark international scouting supervisor. Promoted Gary Neekens to director of scouting.

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
CLEVELAND CAVALIERS—Signed F

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Table with columns: Atlantic Division, Central Division, Western Conference, Midwest Division, Pacific Division. Columns include W, L, Pct, GB.

Table with columns: Atlantic Division, Central Division, Western Conference, Midwest Division, Pacific Division. Columns include W, L, Pct, GB.

NHL

HOCKEY
National Hockey League
BOSTON BRUINS—Signed C Jason Allison to a one-year contract extension, through the 2000-01 season. Recalled C Marcus Mathieu from Providence of the AHL.
BUFFALO SABRES—Recalled LW Denis Hamel from Rochester of the AHL.
VANCOUVER CANUCKS—Recalled C Lubomir Visnovc from Syracuse of the AHL. Assigned C Josh Holden and D Zenith Komarniski to Syracuse.

Table with columns: Thursday's Games, Today's Games, Saturday's Games, Sunday's Games. Columns include Team, Score, Location, Time.

NBA SCHEDULE

Thursday's Games
Toronto 101, Sacramento 89
Miami 111, Houston 95
Detroit 101, Milwaukee 95
Cleveland 90, Golden State 75
Minnesota 98, Portland 96
Utah 105, Dallas 92
Indiana 102, Denver 97
Today's Games
Chicago at Washington, 6 p.m.
Sacramento at Boston, 6 p.m.
Vancouver at New Jersey, 6:30 p.m.
Toronto at Atlanta, 6:30 p.m.
New York at Orlando, 7 p.m.
San Antonio at Phoenix, 9:30 p.m.
Charlotte at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.
Saturday's Games
New Jersey vs. Miami, 6:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Detroit, 6:30 p.m.
Cleveland at New York, 6:30 p.m.
Atlanta at Dallas, 7 p.m.
Utah at Houston, 7:30 p.m.
Orlando at San Antonio, 7:30 p.m.
Boston at Chicago, 7:30 p.m.
Charlotte at Denver, 8 p.m.
Phoenix at Portland, 9 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Seattle, 9 p.m.
Indiana at L.A. Clippers, 9:30 p.m.
Sunday's Games
Vancouver at Toronto, 2 p.m.

NCAA-MEN

East Carolina 86, Belmont 54
Louisiana-Lafayette 76, Denver 60
Louisville 75, Utah 55
Morehead St. 86, Tennessee Tech 76
N.C. State 68, Maryland 66
N.C.-Asheville 76, Morehead 55
New Orleans 73, Arkansas St. 66
North Carolina 65, Clemson 45
San Houston St. 70, McNeese St. 65
UT-Arlington 94, Northwestern St. 64
MIDWEST
Cleveland St. 70, Loyola, Ill. 68
E. Illinois 75, Austin Peay 73
Ill. Chicago 70, Detroit 58
Illinois 80, Ohio St. 77
Indiana St. 56, Creighton 46
Oral Roberts 79, W. Illinois 62
SE Missouri 79, Tennessee St. 46
UMKC 65, Chicago St. 60
Xavier 86, Virginia Tech 67
Youngstown St. 43, Ind.-Pur.-Indpls. 41
SOUTHWEST
Lamar 58, Stephen F. Austin 56
New Mexico St. 74, UTEP 73
SE Louisiana 90, UT-San Antonio 86
SW Texas 82, Nicholls St. 52
Texas 71, Baylor 43
Tulsa 94, TCU 73
FAR WEST
Arizona 65, California 61
CS Northridge 89, N. Arizona 66
Colorado St. 69, UT-Pan American 70
E. Washington 70, Idaho St. 69
Portland 83, Texas A&M-C. 75
S. Utah 86, Valparaiso 79
Santa Clara 82, Brown 48
Southern Cal 83, Washington St. 61
Stanford 86, Arizona St. 67
Washington 63, UCLA 62
WEST
Arizona 65, California 61
CS Northridge 89, N. Arizona 66
Colorado St. 69, UT-Pan American 70
E. Washington 70, Idaho St. 69
Portland 83, Texas A&M-C. 75
S. Utah 86, Valparaiso 79
Santa Clara 82, Brown 48
Southern Cal 83, Washington St. 61
Stanford 86, Arizona St. 67
Washington 63, UCLA 62

NCAA-WOMEN

Army 78, Coast Guard 42
Bradley 86, St. Anselm 57
Binghamton 93, Franklin Pierce 61
Clemson 73, Rutgers-Camden 60
Dominican, N.Y. 84, Georgian Court 56
Emmanuel 64, Catholic 57
Felician 59, Rutgers-Newark 36
George Washington 70, Duquesne 51
Grove City 53, Penn St.-Behrend 49
Janss 72, Lyonning 57
La Salle 57, Massachusetts 61
Monmouth, N.J. 79, UMBC 62
Quinnipiac 55, Sacred Heart 56
Robert Morris 72, St. Francis, N.Y. 40
St. Bonaventure 72, Fordham 66
St. Francis, Pa. 72, Long Island U. 68
Wagner 88, Cent. Connecticut 58
SOUTH
Alabama 84, Belmont 58
Cumberland, Ky. 68, Lindsey Wilson 46
Denver 63, Louisiana-Lafayette 54
E. Kentucky 90, Middle Tennessee 70
Florida 85, Mississippi St. 72
Florida Atlantic 96, Troy St. 82
Georgia Tech 73, Wake Forest 62
Hardin-Simmons 49, Miss. College 48
Jacksonville St. 70, Jacksonville 65
Kentucky 71, Auburn 69
Kentucky 74, Clark Atlanta 50
Lee 96, Temple 73
Loyola, MO 66, Lyon 60
Lynn 63, Nova Southeastern 47
Maryland 74, Clemson 58
Marymount, Va. 66, Eckerd 58
Mercer 50, Cent. Florida 36
N.C. State 62, Florida St. 58
N.C.-Pembroke 81, High Point 79
North Alabama 77, Mobile 59
Northwestern St. 60, UT-Arlington 46
Randolph-Macon 94, Guilford 70
San Houston St. 70, McNeese St. 47
St. Joseph 83, Stetson 63
St. Vincent 80, Valdosta St. 68
Tennessee 86, LSU 50
Tennessee Tech 82, Morehead St. 53
Union, Ky. 91, Alice Lloyd 80
Virginia Tech 81, Rhode Island 38
W. Carolina 68, Coastal Carolina 50
Winston-Salem 65, Longwood 50
MIDWEST
Austin Peay 77, E. Illinois 59
Benedictine, Ill. 94, Illinois Wesleyan 87
Bowling Green 80, Cent. Michigan 69
Butler 70, Cleveland St. 65

DRAFT

Continued from page 1B

Mike Leach told the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal on Thursday that papers received in Tech's football offices from the NFL confirmed Gray's application.

The coach said that Gray also recently told him that "he thinks he's going" to enter the draft, but had not yet

announced his decision to the school.
Gray, 6-foot-5, 330-pound left tackle, started every game for Texas Tech since 1997.
He was named first-team all-Big 12 Conference by the Football News in 1998 and 1999. Mel Kiper Jr. ranked Gray as one of the nation's top junior offensive linemen.

NCUA COSDEN Federal Credit Union Serving Howard County
Apply today for a Cosden Federal Credit Union Mastercard
9.5% Annual Percentage Rate - 1% Annual Rebate on Purchases.
Call (888) 482-COOL (2665) anytime day or night to apply.

LUNG CANCER OR MESOTHELIOMA
IMPORTANT: THIS FREE CONSULTATION IS ALSO AVAILABLE TO FAMILIES OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE DIED FROM LUNG CANCER OR MESOTHELIOMA.
FACT: Lung Cancer can occur 20-50 Years After a Person First Breathes Asbestos Dust.
OR MESOTHELIOMA SMOKERS ATTENTION NON-SMOKERS
If You have lung cancer or a loved one who has died of lung cancer and worked before 1974 in any Commercial or Industrial trades or sites including:
Refineries, Chemical Plants, Power Plants, Pipefitters, Construction, Laborers, Navy Ships, Boilermakers, Steel Mills, Shipyards
Your lung cancer may have been caused by exposure to asbestos
Call the law firm of Blumenthal & Gruber, LLP 1-800-523-0031, Office in Dallas, TX
Please visit our website at www.AsbestosRights.com

WE JUST MADE THE BIGGEST CUTS OF THE SEASON.
BEST BUY OF THE SEASON
LX255 Lawn Tractor • 15 hp • 42-inch convertible mower deck • Automatic transmission \$61 Per Month\* Save \$250
425 Lawn and Garden Tractor • 20-hp, V-Twin, liquid-cooled engine • 54-inch mower deck • Automatic transmission \$149 Per Month\* Save \$1,300
GT225 Lawn and Garden Tractor • 15 hp • 42-inch convertible mower deck • Automatic transmission \$72 Per Month\* Save \$300
JA60 Walk-Behind Mower • 6 hp • 21-inch cast-aluminum deck Now \$419 \$80 OFF
Savings are so big at your John Deere dealer's store, there's never been a better time to cut a deal. And with Same-As-Cash until June 2000\*, you'll enjoy the biggest cuts of the season long before the grass begins to grow.
\*Don't wait for it to green up. See your John Deere dealer today because the offers end February 29, 2000.
NOTHING RUNS LIKE A DEERE®
99-5944-H/B www.deere.com
GRAVES IMPLEMENT, INC. HIGHWAY 137 NORTH STANTON, TX 79782 915-756-3357
HONDA IMPLEMENT, INC. HIGHWAY 87 NORTH BIG SPRING, TX 79720 915-263-8344

\*Offers end February 29, 2000. Subject to approved credit on John Deere Credit Revolving Plan. For noncommercial use. 10% down payment required. If the balance is not paid in full by the end of Same As Cash promotional period, interest will be assessed from the original date of purchase at 19.8% APR unless you reside in CA (19.2% APR). AL, FL, KS, LA, ME, MA, MN, NE, NC, ND, PA, VT & WV (18% APR). TX (14% APR, but rate may vary). with a \$0.50 per month minimum. Taxes, freight, setup, and delivery could increase monthly payment. Other special rates and terms may be available, including installment financing and financing for commercial use. Available from participating dealers. Prices and models may vary by dealer.

Irate N bumps after e The ASSOCIAT
Don Nelson only lost Karl Nelson was Malone and th 59-year-old Da cally confront Utah star dur 92 road victo
Nelson, who for comment, after the coach arguing about Dallas center after a play in "That's the has bumped Malone said, when I was li elders, but yo line when you face. He cross have no resp Malone, 6-foot tively listed as a fight with th would be in between a "Vc 18-wheeler."
In other NB Detroit 101, Toronto 101, Minnesota 98 Indiana 102 Cleveland 90, and Miami 111
Nelson, who that he would coach after th concentrate on his al manager, v 6:04 left in th when he was technical for an ee Scott Wall.
Bradley was against Malon struck Bradley the 7-foot-6 cen a charge.
Bradley was minutes before the locker room start the fourth ejected after pi ond technical.
Nelson's son a Donnie, took of was hit with a 4:53 left in the go on the c no-call.

DEION
Continued from
that way only was a draw as down a long pa an 8-yard catch "Deion's"
George said, "healthy he's ur his presence unbelievable.
"But that do shy away fro have every bit our receivers a game."
The respec Sanders shifts other side of that's where vulnerable.
Injuries to Kevin Smith Kevin Mathis the playing th safety Charlie undrafted r Hawthorne.
Although w there gets hel it's not alway The back of is all over the the last gam Vikings, espe big plays. Te started pickin who is listed foot-10.
The good Cowboys is Mathis both m the first time s Vikings game in and out of then.
"I thought th on the field t times were not coach Chan C even if Kevin Mathis don't least the guys field will be 1 gain an advan if we get eith back, it'll hel being able to Nelson is g and he's happ himself.
But there's he'd like to se "I wish our that clock tick second before ball," he sai more you kee the field, the they have."







FRIDAY

JAN. 7

Table with 20 columns (KMID, KPEJ, KERA, FAM, KOSA, WFAA, KWES, WTBS, UNI, DISN, NASH, TMC, SHOW, HBO, KMLM, A&E, DISC, TNT, USA, SCIFI, LIFE, TLC) and 6 rows of program listings.

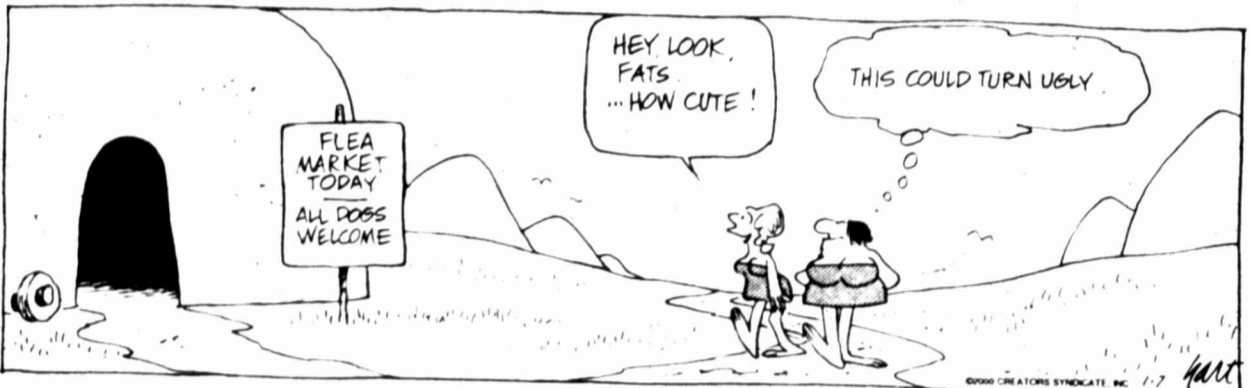
HAGAR



BLONDIE



B.C.



FAMILY CIRCUS



DENNIS THE MENACE



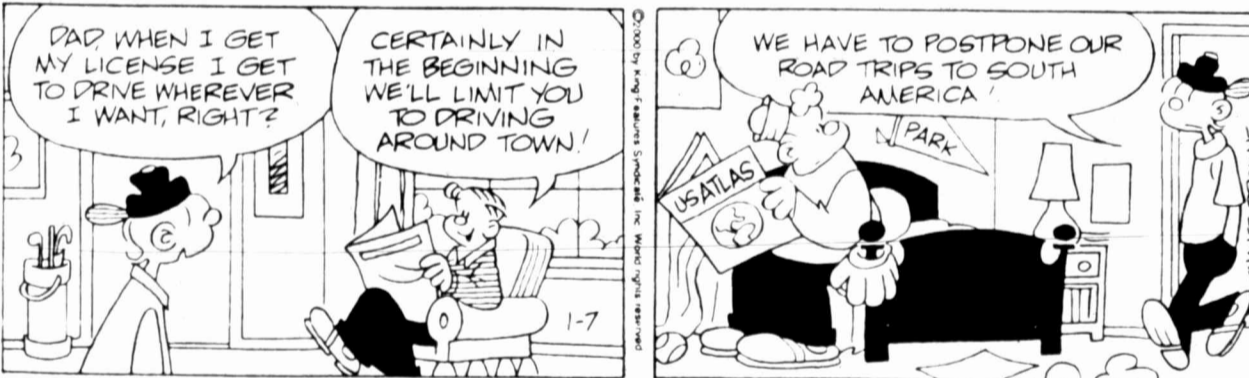
GEECH



WIZARD OF ID



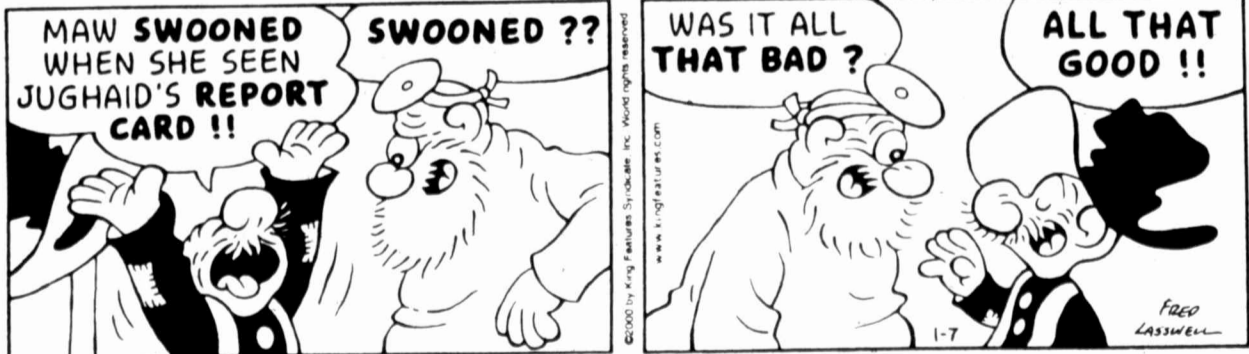
HI AND LOIS



GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILY



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

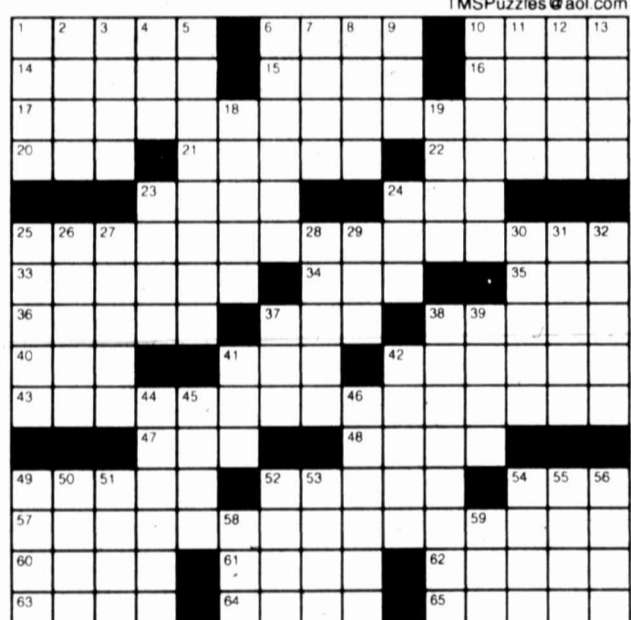
The ASSOCIATED PRESS Today is Friday, Jan. 7, the seventh day of 2000. There are 359 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: One year ago, on Jan. 7, 1999, for the second time in history, an impeached American president went on trial before the Senate. Bill Clinton was ultimately acquitted of charges of perjury and obstruction of justice.

On this date: In 1610, the astronomer Galileo Galilei sighted four of Jupiter's moons. In 1800, Millard Fillmore, the 13th U.S. president, was born in Summerhill, N.Y. In 1894, one of the earliest motion picture experiments took place at the Thomas Edison studio in West Orange, N.J., as comedian Fred Ott was filmed sneezing. In 1927, commercial transatlantic telephone service was inaugurated between New York and London. In 1942, the World War II siege of Bataan began. In 1953, President Truman announced in his State of the Union address that the United States had developed a hydrogen bomb. In 1959, the United States recognized Fidel Castro's new government in Cuba. In 1972, Lewis F. Powell Jr. and William H. Rehnquist were sworn in as justices of the U.S. Supreme Court, the 99th and 100th in history. In 1979, Vietnamese forces captured the Cambodian capital of Phnom Penh, overthrowing the Khmer Rouge government. In 1989, Emperor Hirohito of Japan died in Tokyo at age 87; he was succeeded by his son, Crown Prince Akihito. Ten years ago: The president of El Salvador, Alfredo Cristiani, said in a nationally broadcast address that military men two months earlier had massacred six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper and her daughter. Five years ago: Major General Viktor Vorobyov, a senior commander leading Russian troops in their advance on the secessionist capital of Chechnya, was killed by a mortar shell.

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS 1 Fern leaf 6 Bivouac 10 Driving gadgets 14 Also-ran 15 Melville novel 16 Tolstoy's Karenina 17 Greek or Russian church 20 Genetic letters 21 Mother-of-pearl 22 Path to the altar 23 Beige 24 Amtrak and B&O 25 Protestant sect 33 Green club 34 Anger 35 Logger's tool 36 Web-footed mammal 37 Eggs 38 "The Trip to Bountiful" author 40 Lyric poem 41 Regret 42 Holiday or Burke 43 Ulster 47 Duped 48 Prop starter? 49 Bay window 52 Palatable 53 Coburg 54 Order's partner 57 Omelet on bread 60 Zeno of 61 Animal's den 62 Heart connection 63 Recolors 64 Petty quarrel 65 Dough raiser



By Matthew Higgins Concord, NH 1/7/00

Thursday's Puzzle Solved



- 45 Nathan or Barbara 46 Divulge 49 Had an obligation 50 Count (on) 51 Two words of understanding 52 Piece of cake 53 Large landmass 54 Italian currency unit 55 Play divisions 56 Excuse me? 58 "Kidnapped" author's initials. 59 Misery

Big Spring Herald advertisement. Reflecting a Proud Texas Community. 915-263-7331 (Main Switchboard) 915-263-7335 (Circulation Calls Only) (Fax) 915-264-7205. Publisher: Ext. 250. Managing Editor: Ext. 230. Advertising Sales Manager: Ext. 225. 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 Association, and Southern Newspaper Publishers Association.