

BIG SPRING HERALD

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"Reflecting a Proud Community"

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

SUNDAY

January 9, 2000

WEATHER

Today:



SUNNY
TODAY 60°-65° TONIGHT 30°-33°

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...

- 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, Industrial Park.
 - Eagles Lodge Ladies Auxiliary, 7 p.m., Eagles Lodge, 704 W. Third.
- THURSDAY**
- Gideon's International Big Spring Camp No. 4206, 7 a.m., Hermans.
 - Big Spring Senior Citizens Center art classes 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. for 55 and older.
 - Kiwanis Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room.

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Success of holiday play prompts push toward community theater

By **MARSHA STURDIVANT**
Staff Writer

An organizational meeting for a community theater group is set for 8 p.m. Monday at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, and everyone interested in performing and managing productions is invited to attend.



GRIZZLE

"Following the success of our first production, 'A Christmas Carol,' I'm encouraged by the community's interest in theater and hope people interested in organizing community theater will attend," said Clay Grizzle, theater instructor for Howard College. That first production found more than 60 individuals who auditioned for roles in the classic Charles Dickens play, and the cast had more than 40 members. Performances were presented two nights, and attendance at

the free production reached nearly 1,000 at the Municipal Auditorium. "We need people not just interested in production and acting, but also those community-minded people who will help with the organizing and the business of a community theater group," Grizzle said. At this first meeting, he plans to present an overview of successful community theater groups, and seek volunteers to canvass the community to determine if interest exists, he said.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

When: 8 p.m. Monday
Where: Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce
For: Anyone interested in organizing and participating in a community theater group

"We'll need those people with good organizational skills and people who are willing to work hard and volunteer for a variety of activities," he said. Community theater is not just about acting, he said.

Volunteers will be needed to help build sets and prepare costumes, sell tickets, greet the audience and pass out programs, run the lights and even

See **THEATER**, Page 2A

Hundreds go HOG wild at 12th chili cookoff

By **BILL MCCLELLAN**
News Editor

A crowd of several hundred enjoyed great weather and a spicy meal Saturday at the 12th Boss HOG Chili Cookoff. "We're in full gear here. The judges are tasting the entries, the teams are serving up chili, the band is playing. It's just great," said Lezlie McCurdy, president of the Harley Owner's Group, HOG, which puts on the event. Some 24 teams paid the \$15 entry fee this year and hundreds spooned down bowls of red at \$5 each. Proceeds go to help HOG fund some of its projects during the year. Saturday's event was the 12th, though at least one contestant wasn't too sure about that.



HERALD photo/Bill McClellan

"I've been making nearly all of these. They said it's been 12 but I'd swear I have been here about 15 times," said Jimmy "Goober" Lloyd of Snyder, whose Goober Chili took third place in the competition. "It's good to get together. It's a lot of good, clean fun," said Lloyd. "I've ridden motorcycles for years and I've known Howard (Harley-Davidson Shop owner Howard Walker) all my life and I knew his daddy, too." Shot Smith and the Cannibal Draw Cooking Team came to the cookoff from Glasscock County. "It's been a big experience for me, learning about cooking chili," said Smith, who entered the cookoff once before and has been making other cookoffs in Water Valley and Grady for about four years now. "It's a gamble. The judges are always different. You have to play the weather, the wind and the climate. You just kinda

gamble at it," Smith said. "It's a lot of fun and you know it's all to help someone when you do it." The Boss HOG was sanctioned through the Terlingua International Cook-off for the first time, meaning the top three finishers will have the honor of cooking "behind the store" at Terlingua's cookoff later this year. First place went to a team simply called Chuck and Sheila, from Kermit. Second went to Vance Weaver of Big Spring, Lloyd's Goober Chili got the other ticket to Terlingua. Fourth was Tommy Tilley of Big Spring, followed in order by Steve Mattingly and Troy Wrye of Big Spring, Independent Texans of

Shot Smith dips up a bowl of chili for Becca Fryar as Troy Wrye looks on. The Cannibal Cooking Team was one of 24 teams entered in Saturday's Boss HOG Chili Cookoff.

See **COOKOFF**, Page 3A

County

Court to mull 'work steps,' medical pay

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
Staff Writer

Discussion on adopting a medical employee testing program offered by Scenic Mountain Medical Center and paying medical bills for a Howard County Volunteer Fire Department fireman will be on Monday's commissioners court meeting. "I like some parts of the (work steps) program, but there are some parts I do not think we will need," County Judge Ben Lockhart said.



LOCKHART

Sheila Chandler, marketing coordinator for Scenic Mountain Medical Center, presented information on the work steps program during the last commissioners court meeting. "The work steps program is essential for both medical and functional testing for pre-employment or post-employment employees to help determine the candidates' ability to function in the job duties," Chandler said. The work steps program helps employers cut down on work-related injuries by testing

See **COUNTY**, Page 2A

Miller receives certification through National Board of Trial Advocacy

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
Staff Writer

A local attorney, Robert D. Miller, joined an elite group of lawyers when he achieved recognition as a board certified civil trial lawyer through



MILLER

the National Board of Trial Advocacy. "Only a few attorneys in the nation are members of the National Board of Trial Advocacy," Miller said. "The screening process is very difficult." The National Board of Trial Advocacy is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing consumers with experienced legal counsel. The organization helps consumers with legal services by

providing names of attorneys with proven experience as a trial lawyer, according to the NBTA Executive Director Roberta Hugus. "Our board of directors consists of some of the most renowned trial attorneys, law professors and judges across the country," Hugus said. Only 2,386 attorneys in the nation are members. Attorneys who apply for board certification with the organization have to complete a rigorous screen-

ing process of their credentials, she said. Miller, who was already board certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization, applied for certification from the NBTA after being encouraged by a fellow lawyer, he said. According to Hugus, Miller's application process took about 14 months to complete. He learned in December 1999 that he had achieved board certification as a civil trial lawyer through NBTA.

"The process includes recommendations by a number of judges and lawyers," Miller said. According to Hugus, the peer review for the applicant is difficult. The review requires the applicant to submit at least 12 names of both judges and attorneys, and at least three of each must respond. Those attorneys who respond to the review process must have

See **ATTORNEY**, Page 2A

Glasscock stock show boasts good turnout, quality animals

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
Staff Writer

GARDEN CITY — The 63rd annual Glasscock County Junior Livestock Show concluded Saturday with strong community participation both in livestock exhibitions and the Home Economics Fair. "We had a better turnout this year than last year," Steve Sturtz, county extension agent said. "Everything went up as far as the number of exhibitions, as well as animal quality." According to Tommy Hoelscher, president of the Glasscock County Livestock Association, the stock show had



STURTZ

Stock show results, 3A

63 exhibitors entered this year. "This show was better than last year," Hoelscher said. "We had a higher quality show this year than last, mainly due to the depth and class of the animals entered this year." Both swine and steer shows were held Friday, and the goat show was held Saturday morning. "I was looking at each goat for a nice pattern — the bone structure and the amount of muscle," said George Ahlschwede of San Angelo, who judged the goat show. "They had a nice show with lots of quality animals." "We have some animals in every species that will be competitive in the major shows," Sturtz said.

See **LIVESTOCK**, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

First place winner, Morgan Schwartz, left, second place, Dillon Jansa, and third place, Marcus Cook, received their ribbons in the Glasscock County Junior Livestock Show in the PeeWee goat competition Saturday.

JAN 9 2000

LIVESTOCK

Continued from Page 1A

Following the goat show was the annual pig scramble where area kids competed to be the first to capture a pig. The winners received trophies or ribbons.



WEEKS

One young boy, Brodie Halfmann, gave up his first place trophy in the 4-and-under competition because he remembered he had turned 5 in November. He then competed in the correct age group. "The most impressive part of the show is how the kids and the parents worked together for the common goal," Sturtz said. Carol Batla said she has seen a change in her son Blayne, who participated in the stock

show this year. "He wants to get out and be with the animals much more than before," she said. "I would say about 60 to 70 percent of the community was involved with the show this year in some way," Sturtz said. After the pig scramble, the Glasscock County Livestock Association held a barbecue fund-raiser, followed by the presentation of awards and the premium sale.

New at the show this year was the Home Economics Project show that included eight categories. "I am new to this county and have done project fairs for other counties," said Shirley Weeks, county extension agent for family consumer science. "I always enjoyed doing these shows. I also hope it may help bring more people to the stock show." The home economics show had 60 entries this year, and Weeks expects an even stronger showing next year.



Brodie Halfmann attempts to capture a pig in the annual pig scramble at the Glasscock County Junior Livestock Show on Saturday.

COOKOFF

Continued from Page 1A

Twisters of Midland, Howard Walker was third. Twenty-four teams entered the competition. Alf Marsh, general manager with Western Container, was one of the judges. "There was some really good chili, and there was one that whoever made it should be shot," he said with a laugh. "It was a lot of fun and it's a beautiful day. It's amazing the diversified crowd that is here. They are all ages, all types of people." Marsh said he was impressed with the chili, but that it was also making an impression on him. "I think I am in need of some Alka-Seltzer or some Roloids," he said. "I had so much chili, that even the Coke started tasting like chili." It was the first time to be a chili cookoff judge too, for David and Dawn Pappajohn. "It was fun. It was interesting," said Dawn. "There were a few very good batches of chili," said David. "It really went from one end to the other, from very good, to bad. There was one that raised the hair and the eyebrows of everyone at the table," he said with a grin. "This has been a nice get together, we've enjoyed it," he added.



HERALD photo/Bill McClellan
Trash piled up quickly in bins outside the Harley-Davidson Shop Saturday, a testament to the good chili being served at the 12th annual BOSS HOG Chili Cookoff. In the background on stage, The Mauraders performed.

Glasscock County Junior Livestock Show

STEER SHOW

Grand Champion of Show: Garrett Kellermeier
Reserve Champion of Show: Tanner Donica
British Breed: 1. Tanner Donica, champion, 2. Lauren Plagens, reserve champion
American Breed: 1. Rebecca Cmerek, champion
European Breed: Light Weight: 1. Garrett Kellermeier, 2. Drew Plagens, 3. Whitney Kellermeier, Heavy Weight: 1. Garrett Kellermeier, 2. Drew Plagens, 3. Douglas Cmerek
European Breed Champion: Garrett Kellermeier, reserve champion: Garrett Kellermeier

SWINE SHOW

Grand Champion of Show: Colby Hirt
Reserve Champion of Show: Angela Schraeder
Chester Class: 1. Anthony Wheat, champion, 2. Marissa Schwartz, reserve champion, 3. Marissa Schwartz, 4. Jake Schwartz, 5. Macy Schwartz, 6. Spencer Plagens
Duroc: Champion: Deidra Hirt

Reserve Champion: Erin Hirt
Light Weight: 1. Anthony Wheat, 2. Keith Batla, 3. Darren Hillger, 4. Keith Batla, 5. Colton Schwartz, 6. Ryan Batla, 7. Alicia Frysak, 8. Ryan Batla, 9. Trey Hillger
Medium Weight: 1. Alicia Frysak, 2. Ryan Batla, 3. Keith Batla, 4. Keith Batla, 5. Matthew Frysak, 6. Marissa Schwartz, 7. Jack Schwartz, 8. Ryan Batla, 9. Darren Hillger
Heavy Weight: 1. Deidra Hirt, 2. Erin Hirt, 3. Deidra Hirt, 4. Anthony Wheat, 5. Ryan Batla, 6. Macy Schwartz, 7. Lauren Plagens, 8. Keith Batla, 9. Macy Schwartz, 10. Todd Weishuhn

Hampshire: Champion: Erin Hirt
Reserve Champion: Todd Weishuhn
Light Weight: 1. Erin Hirt, 2. Ashley Hirt, 3. Matthew Frysak, 4. Colton Schwartz, 5. Keith Batla, 6. Alicia Frysak, 7. Matthew Frysak, 8. Macy Schwartz, 9. Marissa Schwartz, 10. Marissa Schwartz
Medium Weight: 1. Todd Weishuhn, 2. Landon Hoelscher, 3. Kevin Hillger, 4. Spencer Plagens, 5. Colby Hirt, 6. Angela Schraeder, 7. Macy Schwartz, 8. Anthony Wheat, 9. Matthew Frysak
Heavy Weight: 1. Ashley Hirt, 2. Angela Schraeder, 3. Anthony Wheat, 4. Anthony Wheat, 5. Macy Schwartz, 6. Lori Hoelscher, 7.

Matthew Frysak, 8. Alicia Frysak
OPB: Champion: Jill Hoelscher
Reserve Champion: Landon Hoelscher
Light Weight: 1. Lori Hoelscher, 2. Jill Hoelscher, 3. Angela Schraeder, 4. Marissa Schwartz, 5. Jason Flores, 6. Anthony Wheat, 7. Anthony Wheat
Heavy Weight: 1. Jill Hoelscher, 2. Landon Hoelscher, 3. Anthony Wheat, 4. Macy Schwartz, 5. Angela Schraeder, 6. Anna Flores, 7. Angela Schraeder

Crossbred: Champion: Colby Hirt
Reserve Champion: Deidra Hirt
Light Weight: 1. Macy Schwartz, 2. Colton Schwartz, 3. Josh Schmitz, 4. Marissa Schwartz, 5. Marissa Schwartz, 6. Landon Hoelscher, 7. Ryan Batla, 8. Macy Schwartz, 9. Jack Schwartz, 10. Jacob Schmitz
Medium Weight: 1. Colby Hirt, 2. Jack Schwartz, 3. Erin Hirt, 4. Trey Hillger, 5. Todd Weishuhn, 6. Darren Hillger, 7. Josh Schmitz, 8. Macy Schwartz, 9. Drew Plagens, 10. Anthony Wheat
Heavy Weight: 1. Colby Hirt, 2. Deidra Hirt, 3. Deidra Hirt, 4. Jill Hoelscher, 5. Anthony Wheat, 6. Anthony Wheat, 7. Colby Hirt, 8. Marissa Schwartz, 9. Matthew Frysak

Yorkshire: Champion: Angela Schraeder
Reserve Champion: Jill Hoelscher
Light Weight: 1. Jill Hoelscher, 2. Lori Hoelscher, 3. Anthony Wheat, 4. Todd Weishuhn, 5. Trey Hillger, 6. Erin Hirt, 7. Alicia Frysak, 8. Colby Hirt, 9. Todd Weishuhn, 10. Marissa Schwartz
Heavy Weight: 1. Angela Schraeder, 2. Ashley Hirt, 3. Matthew Frysak, 4. Anthony Wheat, 5. Anthony Wheat, 6. Macy Schwartz, 7. Alicia Frysak, 8. Marissa Schwartz

GOAT SHOW

Grand Champion: Alex Halfman
Reserve Champion: Jill Hoelscher
Class 1, Does: 1. Alex Halfman, 2. Erin Hirt, 3. NA, 4. Landon Hoelscher, 5. Angela Schraeder, 6. Colby Hirt, 7. Erin Hirt, 8. Alex Halfman, 9. Colby Hirt, 10. Colton Schwartz
Class 2, Does: 1. Logan Willis, 2. Angela Schraeder, 3. Matt Webb, 4. Matt Webb, 5. Angela Schraeder, 6. Dendra Maxie, 7. Colton Schwartz, 8. Jack Schwartz
Class 3, Wethers: 1. Lora Braden, 2. Logan Willis, 3. Lora Braden, 4. Jake Schwartz, 5. Cade Halfmann, 6. Colton Schwartz, 7. Alex Halfman, 8. Dendra Maxie, 9. Britton Avery, 10. Katie Schmitz
Class 4, Wethers: 1. Cade Halfmann, 2. Lora Braden, 3. Cade

Halfmann, 4. Taylor Willis, 5. Jake Schwartz, 6. Colton Schwartz, 7. Angela Schraeder, 8. Dendra Maxie, 9. Jake Schwartz, 10. Colton Schwartz
Class 5, Wethers: 1. Logan Willis, 2. Cade Halfmann, 3. Jill Hoelscher, 4. Taylor Willis, 5. Anthony Wheat, 6. Colton Schwartz, 7. Colton Schwartz, 8. Jake Schwartz, 9. Cade Halfmann, 10. Sydney Halfmann
Class 6, Wethers: 1. Alex Halfmann, 2. Sydney Halfmann, 3. Lora Braden, 4. Marianne Halfmann, 5. Angela Schraeder, 6. Chance Burks, 7. Kristen Buzbee, 8. Angela Schraeder, 9. Jacob Schmitz, 10. Dendra Maxie
Class 7, Wethers: 1. Lori Hoelscher, 2. Lora Braden, 3. Alex Halfmann, 4. Logan Willis, 5. Chase Burks, 6. Wade Jansa, 7. Angela Schraeder, 8. Landon Hoelscher, 9. Wade Jansa, 10. Anthony Wheat
Class 8, Wethers: 1. Alex Halfmann, 2. Angela Schraeder, 3. Taylor Willis, 4. Sydney Halfmann, 5. Alex Halfmann, 6. Jake Schwartz, 7. Chase Burks, 8. Wade Jansa, 9. Marianne Halfmann, 10. Angela Schraeder
Class 9, Wethers: 1. Jill Hoelscher, 2. Cade Halfmann, 3. Sydney Halfmann, 4. Angela Schraeder, 5. Angela Schraeder, 6. Colton Schwartz, 7. Landon Hoelscher, 8. Lori Hoelscher, 9. Colton Schwartz, 10. Wade Jansa

another
HIGH SCORE
MAKES OUR PATIENTS
the
WINNERS

Scenic Mountain Medical Center receives high marks from leading independent accreditation organization, again.

This inspection isn't for chickens. The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) is the nation's oldest and most distinguished accreditation organization. When they come to review a hospital's operations, they really mean business.

JCAHO inspectors examine every aspect of patient care and professional efficiency at thousands of hospitals across the country. Their standards for accreditation are tough; not every facility surveyed makes the cut.

That's why it's even more gratifying to know that Scenic Mountain earned accreditation for the second time running, with a superior score of 92 percent. We've worked hard to improve our hospital facility—and our emergency, surgical, diagnostic, maternity and other services.

As always, we hope that you and your family enjoy the best of health. But if—and when—you need medical care, remember our 92 percent score: an "A" in anyone's book.

JOINT COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION OF HEALTHCARE ORGANIZATIONS (JCAHO)
JCAHO is an independent, not-for-profit organization whose members include the American College of Physicians, American College of Surgeons, American Hospital Association and the American Medical Association. They conduct on-site surveys looking at all aspects of a healthcare organization's operation and care giving before they award an accreditation score.

SCENIC MOUNTAIN MEDICAL CENTER
1601 West Eleventh Place / Big Spring, TX

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EDITORIAL

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

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

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OUR VIEWS

God bless you, Tolcher family, for a great job

During the next few weeks, there will be many goodbyes said to Salvation Army Maj. Roy and Mary Dell Tolcher. The couple moves to McKinney Jan. 23 to accept their next assignment.

Incoming officers, Maj. Ronald and Jo Alexander from Biloxi, Miss., should be in Big Spring the week of Jan. 24.

Typically, officers are moved to new locations every three years. The Tolchers have been with us for six — time to make them a special part of the community.

During those years, we have had the chance to see the results of the couple's hard work with the Salvation Army. Most of us are familiar with the Army's many community support projects aimed at the physically, emotionally or spiritually needy.

Most recently, we saw the Angel Tree campaign come to a successful end. In the fall, there was the Make A Difference Day program and before that, a school-supply drive for children.

While they say they have enjoyed their time in Big Spring, the Tolchers are also looking forward to their work in McKinney where they will operate a newly constructed building and operate a full range of Salvation Army programs in a city of about 45,000.

We wish them well, but we also want them to know they will be missed.

Roy and Mary Dell Tolcher have been more than just directors of a busy social service agency. They have worked alongside us on other projects, and been supporters of Big Spring. For much of their time here, they had a son, Jonathan, in the local school system.

Take time this week to stop by the Salvation Army headquarters at 811 W. Fifth St. Give a handshake or a hug to the Tolchers, and a "good luck" or a "God bless" for their next assignment.

OTHER VIEWS

It is a melancholy but unavoidable fact that in the years immediately ahead, we will bid farewell to many of the members of what newsman and author Tom Brokaw dubbed "The Greatest Generation": the Americans who uncomplainingly shouldered the responsibility of seeing us through to victory over Nazi Germany and imperial Japan.

That is why it is essential to ensure that we say farewell in the fashion these Americans (and others who followed in their footsteps) deserve: They have earned, and must receive, full military honors at their funerals.

Granted, this is a costly and manpower-intensive business. It is doubly so these days because, following the end of the Cold War, the U.S. military has been sharply downsized. Military authorities — particularly in states like Texas with large concentrations of veterans — find themselves taxed to meet their obligations. In some cases, they have turned to veterans' groups (like the Patriots Band & Honor Guard here in Corpus Christi) to represent the military at veterans' funerals.

The years ahead will impose an even greater strain: It is estimated, for example, that 572,000 U.S. military veterans will die in the year 2000. World War II veterans alone will die at the rate of 1,500 a day. These are stark, unpleasant facts, but ignoring them is not an option.

Some have pointed out that the provision of military honor guards by the Pentagon is a matter of custom, not law.

But give Congress some credit here: Its members are acutely aware of veterans' concerns, and so last summer mandated that at least two active-duty or reserve service members must be on hand for the funeral of any veteran should his or her family request it. They will present a flag to the family, and ensure there is a rendition of "Taps."

In the larger sense, though, what is or is not written in the law is beside the point. These veterans' service speaks for itself — compellingly. Whether they served in World War II, the Korean War, Vietnam or in other settings, they unhesitatingly responded to their country's call.

They were not superhumans. On the contrary, they were very much like the rest of us. They were ordinary men and women. They experienced the same fears, grieved about the perennial irritants of military life, and dreamed the same dreams of putting bloodshed and horror behind them. What they did, however, was extraordinary in every sense of the word. Some fell, some were grievously injured, some emerged seemingly unscathed but bore with them terribly, ineradicable memories. All did their duty. The nation they served can do no less than return the favor.

CORPUS CHRISTI CALLER-TIMES

The Writer's Art: Court of peeves in session

The Court of Peeves, Crotchets & Irks opens its winter assizes with complaints against a plethora of redundancies. The court has reviewed the petitions, and after mature consideration will deny a few, grant a few, and waffle on the rest.

Carol K. Parr of Saginaw, Mich., asks for a permanent injunction against redundant prepositions. She writes: "Chefs use terms such as 'browning off' the meat. They do not simmer liquid to reduce the quantity, they simmer to 'reduce down' the amount of liquid. They also 'weigh off' ingredients. An artist who offers lessons on PBS is especially prone to such phrases as 'diffuse out,' 'erase out,' 'evaporate out' and 'dilute down.' Our local TV station has a weather announcer who tells what weather we will have 'all throughout the viewing area.' I thought 'throughout' meant 'all through.'"

Subject to certain general comments to be made hereafter, the injunction will be granted. There is no excuse for "reduce down" or "erase out." Properly speaking, we do not connect two lines together; we simply connect them. We do not inquire where the gin is AT.

It is more genteel to inquire, "Where the hell is the gin?" Should the court continue on? David Baskind of Saginaw echoes his neighbor's complaint. He objects to, "You can write TO him at ..." The sentence would be simplified, he remarks, by dropping the redundant "to," thus leaving "You can write him at ..." The court will decline the opportunity to discuss the difference between "may" and "can," and will rule simply that the "to" is a benign redundancy. It is not to be condemned out of hand.

As a general rule, brevity is good, prolixity is bad, but this is not a bright-line rule. There are times when an extra word or syllable will ease the flow of a sentence and save it from the vice of abruptness. But the court adds an admonition: When a writer uses apparently unnecessary words, the writer had better have a good reason for his choice.

Steve Lange of Jensen Beach, Fla., is peeved by what he regards as an unnecessary

"yet." He cites an Associated Press story in October about the Yankees' sweep of the Atlanta Braves in the World Series. The writer noted that shortstop Derek Jeter had acquired "yet another World Series ring." He also cites a letter to the editor of The Stuart News from a correspondent complaining that the Martin County commission was proposing "yet another study by a committee or a consultant."

The court will deny a restraining order. Here the "yet" serves a useful purpose. It provides an element of emphasis that would be lost without the intensifier. If the grumpy citizen had written only that the commissioners "want another study," his bottled indignation would have lost its fizz.

George Topka of Travelers Rest, S.C., and Lew Cady of Denver are irked by the same construction. Reader Cady winces at, "Western Union does business in one hundred AND thirty countries." Reader Topka wants an injunction against a measure of "two hundred AND thirteen feet." He asks, "Two hundred what and thirteen feet? Could it be two hundred yards and thirteen feet?"

Injunction denied. The court holds that the probabilities of

misunderstanding are somewhere between infinitesimal and nil when we are told that a quarterback passed for "four hundred AND seventeen yards." The "and" may be padding, but it is harmless padding.

Columnist Heloise writes from San Antonio to ask about a phrase in a column by Ellen Goodman. She said of Martin Luther King that "the sum total of his estate was a \$50,000 insurance policy bought for him by Harry Belafonte."

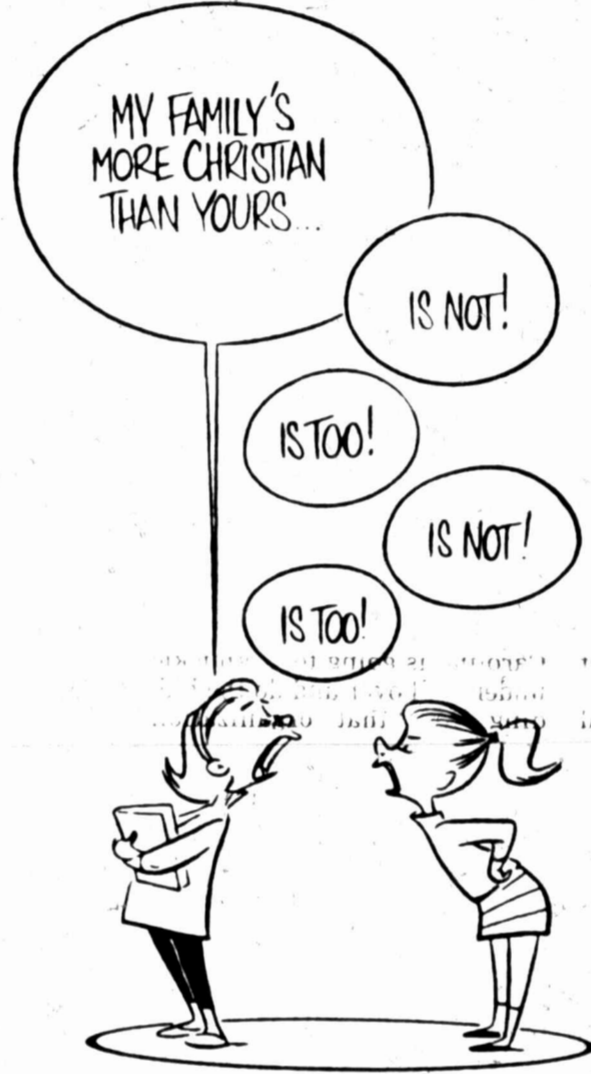
The court will rule that a single item cannot constitute a "sum total." If we add the annual bills for electricity, the annual bills for gas and the annual bills for water, we get a sum total for utilities. Otherwise we have a simple total that seems to get larger all the time.

On that morose note the court will take a week's recess for contemplation of a paragraph from a memoir of evangelist Johnny Bisagno: "He was a charismatic preacher of Italian extraction who, like I, played the trumpet. He had been, like I, a jazz musician, but unlike I, he had given up the night life ..."

The court has been asked to construe those first-person nominative pronouns, and the court needs to think.



JAMES J. KILPATRICK



Owing much to the Reform Party

America has had very little political party history. We began with the Federalist Party of John Adams and Alexander Hamilton. It was soon contested and defeated by Thomas Jefferson's Democratic-Republicans, which would eventually become known simply as the Democratic Party.

This whole concept of vying political parties had not been envisioned by the Founding Fathers and was lamented by President George Washington. Even so, just as the U.S. Constitution and the economic system of capitalism which it protected sought and largely succeeded in making the most of human nature, so too did that document unintentionally give rise to political parties — human beings having from earliest times found security and

power in numbers. The passage of time has served to increase the Constitution's stature. Its simplicity and brevity resulted from its writers' radical desire to capitalize rather than control human nature. In so doing, they left the door for human innovation and genius perpetually open. Precisely because they could not see the future, they did not attempt to unduly harness it. And so, political parties came naturally into being.

Just as naturally, third parties never lasted as third parties. They absorbed or were absorbed: The Whigs eventually took the place of the Federalists, only to be absorbed by the Republicans. Such is our short history of political parties — at least of parties that nominated successful candidates for the presidency.

The best known third party attempt in this century was initiated by ex-President Theodore Roosevelt's Bull Moose Party in 1912, but all he succeeded in doing was splitting the vote of the Republican Party from which he sprang, electing Democrat Woodrow

Wilson in the process.

And so we come to the Reform Party of H. Ross Perot, the Texas billionaire. And he is always described thus because his money injects a factor never before seen in American politics. No other political figure in this country has ever come close to making such an effort. No other political figure in this country has ever had the resources to do so — not Nelson Rockefeller, not John F. Kennedy, not even Steve Forbes.

While other candidates are out begging for money — and candidates for public office spend much of their time doing precisely that — Perot's nominee can spend his time (and money) getting the message out.

When political parties have gone astray, if their manner and means no longer produce acceptable leaders, then new entities and methods are not inhibited by law from replacing them. Perhaps this is why we are witnessing the insurgent candidacies of Republican John McCain and Democrat Bill Bradley. They may owe much to the Reform Party.



JACK ANDERSON

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- HOWARD CO. COMMISSIONERS**
OFFICE — 264-2200.
BEN LOCKHART, county judge —
Home: 263-4155; Office: 264-2202.
EMMA BROWN — Home: 267-2649.
JERRY KILGORE — 263-0724; Work
(Jerry's Barbers): 267-5471.
BILL CROOKER — Home: 263-2566.
GARY SIMER — Home: 263-0269;
Work (Ponderosa Nursery): 263-4441.
- BIG SPRING CITY COUNCIL**
TIM BLACKSHEAR, mayor — Home:
263-7961; Work (Earthco): 263-8456.
GREG BIDDISON — Home: 267-6009;
Work (Ponderosa Restaurant): 267-7121.
OSCAR GARCIA, Mayor Pro Tem —
Home: 264-0026; Work (Cedar Hill
Unit, Cornell Connections): 268-1227.
STEPHANIE HORTON — Home:
264-0306; Work (VA Medical Center):
263-7361.
CHUCK CANTOWN — Home: 263-7490; Work (Chuck's Surplus): 263-1142.
TOMMY TUNE — Home: 267-4652;
Work (Howard College): 264-5000.
JOHN SMOOT — Home: 267-6965;
Work (BSISD): 264-3600.

Judge

SAN ANTONIO Minorities opposed high school exit press on with despite a federal upholding the ex... "It is not a good Kauffman, an American Defense and Edu... "It has hurt min... judge said that..." U.S. District J... on Friday ruled... Texas Assessment Skills test is rejecting legal o... exam discrimi...

Report

ABILENE (AP) attacks on state have more than past five years. State prison o... the trend on ha... nals who feel the... to lose by assault... al officers, the S... Austin Bureau s... story published S... Last year, inn... prison employee... compared with... 1996, according... records. Statewide, the... such assaults in... from 1996-99.

About

COLUMBIA, S... army of 6,000 pe... Saturday under... Confederate flag... banner that has... Statehouse dome... and thrust the... national spotlight... There were no... lence during the... parade route that... cemetery holdin... dead down the... Street. Saturday's even... ond day of a t... being staged by... the flag, who say... defiant defense o... Southern heritage... The NAACP sa... is a symbol of s... the other end of... leaders of the sta... but did not decid... nomic sanctions... Carolina beyond

Ban on t

WASHINGTON Mexican trucks allowed to cross the United States meet U.S. safe... despite the co... alliance, White H... said Saturday. Continuing a p... since 1995, the... Transportation... "because of un... issues," not to r... tions on trucks... border between... United States... spokesman Jim K... "The Depa... Transportation h... not let Mexican tr... border and ent... States unless it... carriers are in co... American safety... Kennedy said.

Discussions co... the two governm... and there is a po... vening an arbit... review the issue... The 1993 No... Free Trade Agr... drew the United... and Mexico into... alliance, gave M... unrestricted a... United States... 1995. But that timet... been pushed ba... sure from orga... the United State... about the safet... trucks. Mexica... quently have be... meet U.S. weigh... insurance standa... The new date... was Jan. 1, 2000... said many Mexi... do not meet U... dards. More than 25... Congress aske... House in June... granting Mexica... unfettered acces... States provided... agreement. "We write... maintain U.S.-M... trucking restricti...

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FM FACT!

Judge says TAAS test constitutional; opponents vow to keep fighting

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Minorities opposed to the state's high school exit test vow to press on with their battle despite a federal judge's ruling upholding the exam. "It is not a good test," said Al Kauffman, an attorney for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund. "It has hurt minorities, and the judge said that."

U.S. District Judge Ed Prado on Friday ruled the high school Texas Assessment of Academic Skills test is constitutional, rejecting legal claims that the exam discriminates against blacks and Hispanics and thus violates their rights. The lawsuit's plaintiffs failed to prove the adverse impact of the standardized test on minorities is greater than the positive impact or that other approaches would work as well, the judge ruled. "The system is not perfect, but the court cannot say that it is unconstitutional," Prado wrote. The judge said the state of Texas has demonstrated a necessity for the test and that it is not for the court to determine whether the state has chosen

the best way to achieve its education goals. Now, the lawsuit's plaintiffs say, they will fight against the high school TAAS test in the Texas Legislature, before the State Board of Education and in public forums. "We will continue working on this issue in every venue," Kauffman said, noting that an appeal to a higher federal court is under consideration. Kauffman contends there are legal and factual errors in Prado's decision. "I would hope that after the emotion of a loss sinks in and

perhaps dissipates to some extent that he will evaluate what happened and that is that he had an opportunity to present his best case and his witnesses and ... was rejected by the court," said John Cornyn, Texas Attorney General. Texas students must pass the exit-level reading, writing and math test before receiving a high-school diploma. First comes the 10th-grade exam, then come at least seven more chances with the test before graduation. Larger percentages of white students than black and

Hispanic students have passed the test since its advent in 1990. The plaintiffs alleged that ultimately 20 percent of Latinos and blacks fail the exit test, counting all of their attempts, compared with a failure rate of about 10 percent for white students. The state acknowledges there are gaps between whites and minorities in TAAS failure rates. Last spring, 60 percent of blacks, 64 percent of Hispanics and 86 percent of white sophomores taking the test passed. But the state contends those gaps are closing.

"An entire generation of Texans has graduated from high school under this requirement and I believe this has proven to be a reform that works," said Education Commissioner Jim Nelson. "The passing rates have gotten better but the dropout rates have gotten worse," Kauffman said Friday. "That's the reason the results have gotten better." The state denied the test has led to higher dropout rates or, as the plaintiffs claimed, to the retention of more minority students in ninth grade in order to boost test scores.

Report indicates attacks on state prison guards are on the increase

ABILENE (AP) — Inmate attacks on state prison guards have more than doubled in the past five years. State prison officials blame the trend on hardened criminals who feel they have nothing to lose by assaulting correctional officers, the Scripps Howard Austin Bureau reported in a story published Saturday. Last year, inmates assaulted prison employees 1,649 times, compared with 720 attacks in 1995, according to state prison records. Statewide, there were 6,001 such assaults in Texas prisons from 1995-99, the analysis

showed. That includes the slaying of Daniel Nagle, the correctional officer stabbed to death last month at the McConnell Unit near Beeville. Assaults range from hitting and showing guards to spitting and throwing urine and body waste on the officers, state prison system spokesman Larry Todd said. "We're getting inmates who are in for longer sentences who are younger and come from gangs in the free world," Todd said. "Therefore, they have very little to lose when they start assaulting an officer." Statewide, there were 6,001

assaults on guards in Texas prisons in 1995-99, the Scripps Howard analysis showed. That includes the slaying of Daniel Nagle, the correctional officer stabbed to death last month at the McConnell Unit near Beeville. Another came at the Robertson Unit in December 1998, when an inmate managed to open his cell door, grab a female officer, and sexually assault her. He kept other officers at bay by threatening her life with a makeshift knife and covering the window into his cell. "The type of people we're dealing with used violence and

aggression all their lives to solve problems," said Doyle McElvaney, senior warden at the Robertson Unit, a large, maximum-security prison near Abilene that houses some of the state's most violent offenders. Nagle's slaying prompted a vigil by prison employees in Austin last week. On Monday, they plan to present Gov. George W. Bush with a petition asking for a special session of the Legislature to give correctional officers pay raises and authorize more prison staff. "Correctional officers around the state are afraid. And Daniel was, too," said Brian Olsen,

deputy director of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees. "He told me himself that he was worried about the understaffing and what might happen." "Where there should be two, three or four officers in prisons (around the state), there's one," he said. Bush spokesman Mike Jones said the issue of low guard pay and understaffing is important

to the governor. Last year, Bush proposed spending \$53 million on prison guard pay raises, but lawmakers cut it from the state's final budget. Prison officials said a growing number of inmates could account for some of the assaults. Some 151,000 inmates are incarcerated in Texas compared with about 92,000 inmates in 1994, Todd said.

About 6,000 rally round the Confederate flag in S.C.

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) — An army of 6,000 people gathered Saturday under a sea of red Confederate flags to defend the banner that has flown from the Statehouse dome for 38 years and thrust the state into the national spotlight. There were no reports of violence during the rally or along a parade route that wound from a cemetery holding Confederate dead down the city's Main Street. Saturday's event was the second day of a three-day rally being staged by supporters of the flag, who say it stands for defiant defense of freedom and Southern heritage. The NAACP says the banner is a symbol of slavery. And at the other end of Main Street, leaders of the state NAACP met but did not decide to widen economic sanctions against South Carolina beyond a tourism boycott that started a week ago. The civil rights organization hopes to force the flag from the Statehouse dome and its legislative chambers. At the pro-flag rally, a group of ministers carrying a banner that read "No King but Jesus," followed three bagpipers to lead the procession. Behind them were thousands of people, including 92-year-old Alberta Martin of Elba, Ala., a Confederate widow. About three dozen women dressed in period costume and widow's black marched next. Rank upon rank of Confederate re-enactors followed with muskets shouldered and bayonets and mess cups at their sides. The crowd that followed stretched more than six blocks. After the parade, speakers at the Statehouse rally derided the National Association for the

Advancement of Colored People as outsiders and agitators. Sen. Arthur Ravenel, R-Mt. Pleasant, said lawmakers cannot cave into the pressure of outside influences when they return next week for a legislative session that could be marked by the divisive issue. Ravenel said an out-of-state reporter asked him recently, "Aren't you people in South Carolina worried about what the people in the rest of the country think about you?" The crowd shouted back with a resounding "No." "Can you believe that there are those who think that the General Assembly of South Carolina is going to ... knuckle under, roll over and do the bidding" of "that organization known as the National Association for Retarded People?" Ravenel asked the cheering crowd.

He's entitled to his opinion," said state NAACP Planning and Research Committee Chairman Lonnie Randolph, who is leading the boycott effort. "We don't dignify ignorant comments and ignorant statements with a response." The flag issue came up in the opening moments of a debate Friday in South Carolina among Republican presidential candidates. George W. Bush said South Carolinians should decide for themselves whether the flag should fly atop their Statehouse.

He's entitled to his opinion," said state NAACP Planning and Research Committee Chairman Lonnie Randolph, who is leading the boycott effort. "We don't dignify ignorant comments and ignorant statements with a response." The flag issue came up in the opening moments of a debate Friday in South Carolina among Republican presidential candidates. George W. Bush said South Carolinians should decide for themselves whether the flag should fly atop their Statehouse.

Ban on trucks seeking to cross border continues

WASHINGTON (AP) — Mexican trucks will not be allowed to cross the border into the United States unless they meet U.S. safety standards, despite the country's trade alliance, White House officials said Saturday. Continuing a policy in place since 1995, the Department of Transportation has decided, "because of unresolved safety issues," not to remove restrictions on trucks crossing the border between Mexico and the United States. White House spokesman Jim Kennedy said. "The Department of Transportation has said it will not let Mexican trucks cross the border and enter the United States unless it is sure Mexican carriers are in compliance with American safety regulations," Kennedy said. Discussions continue between the two governments continue, and there is a possibility of convening an arbitration panel to review the issue, he said. The 1993 North American Free Trade Agreement, which drew the United States, Canada and Mexico into a new trade alliance, gave Mexican trucks unrestricted access to the United States, beginning in 1995. But that timetable twice has been pushed back amid pressure from organized labor in the United States and concerns about the safety of Mexican trucks. Mexican trucks frequently have been found not to meet U.S. weight, driver and insurance standards. The new date for compliance was Jan. 1, 2000. But Kennedy said many Mexican trucks still do not meet U.S. safety standards. More than 250 members of Congress asked the White House in June to again delay granting Mexican truckers the unfettered access to the United States provided by the NAFTA agreement. "We write to urge you to maintain U.S.-Mexican border trucking restrictions," the law-

makers wrote Clinton. "They are essential to our ability to protect the safety of the traveling public and our commercial drivers." They said they wanted current safeguards to "remain firmly in place" until the two countries agree on safety standards, enforcement programs and adequate staffing levels for inspectors. Mexico has protested the U.S. reluctance to allow its truckers access, saying the delays violate

NAFTA. The United States has pressed Mexico for more aggressive truck inspections before the vehicles enter the United States. A report last year by the Transportation Department's inspector general found inspections for only 17,332 of the 3.5 million trucks entering the United States from Mexico in fiscal year 1997. Some 44 percent of those vehicles inspected were taken out of service due to serious safety concerns.

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JAN 9 2000

SPORTS EXTRA

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

ANNHEIM ANGELS—Agreed to terms with 2B Scott Spiezo on a one-year contract and 2B Pat Kelly and 2B Jason Bates on minor-league contracts.
BALTIMORE ORIOLES—Agreed to terms with RHP Aaron Sele on a four-year contract.
TAMPA BAY DEVIL RAYS—Named Jose Cardenal first base coach and outfielders and baserunning coach. Agreed to terms with RHP Juan Guzman on a two-year contract. Agreed to terms with LHP Norm Charlton on a minor-league contract.
TORONTO BLUE JAYS—Agreed to terms with LHP Pedro Borbon on a one-year contract.
CHICAGO CUBS—Agreed to terms with RHP Brian Williams on a one-year contract.
LOS ANGELES DODGERS—Agreed to terms with OF-IF P. Santiago on a two-year contract and with RHP Darren Dreifort on a one-year contract.
NEW YORK METS—Named John Stephenson manager, Doug Simons pitching coach and Donovan Mitchell hitting coach of Capital City of the South Atlantic League and Tera Tenna manager, Bob Stanley pitching coach and Ken Berry hitting coach of Pittsfield of the New York Penn League.
ST. LOUIS CARDINALS—Agreed to terms with RHP Andy Benes on a three-year contract and with RHP Darin Kufner on a one-year contract.
SAN DIEGO PADRES—Named Brian Giles and Darren Baisley coaches at Fort Wayne of the Midwest League. Named Jake Molina coach at Idaho Falls of the Pioneer League. Assigned trainers Lance Cacarrino to Las Vegas of the Pacific Coast League, John Maxwell to Mobile of the Southern League and Jason Hausinger to Rancho Cucamonga of the California League. Named Mike Epstein minor league hitting instructor. Named George Hendrick coach at Mobile of the Southern League.
SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS—Acquired RHP Ken Ray from the Pirates for Royals to complete the Dec. 13 trade for RHP Jerry Spradlin.
ATLANTIC LEAGUE
NASHVILLE PIRATES—Signed of Pete Incaoglia to a one-year contract.
NEWARK BEARS—Signed the contract of RHP Bobby St. Pierre to the Atlanta Braves.
BASKETBALL
NATIONAL Basketball Association
NEW JERSEY JETS—Suspended Dallas coach Don Nelson for one game and fined him \$10,000 for bumping a referee and getting into a shouting match with Utah's Karl Malone and fined Malone \$10,000 for throwing an elbow at Dallas C Shawn Bradley and a shouting match with Nelson.
CHICAGO BULLS—Signed G Matt Maloney.
MINNESOTA TIMBERWOLVES—Activated G Bobby Jackson from the injured list. Placed F Andrea Patterson on the injured list. Signed Eric Riley to a 10-day contract.
SEATTLE SUPERSONICS—Placed G Vernon Maxwell on the injured list. Activated G Shammond Williams.
UTAH JAZZ—Named F Pete Chilcutt. Signed F Armon Gilliam to a one-year contract.
WNBA
SEATTLE—Announced the team nickname will be the Storm.
Continental Basketball Association
CBA—Assigned F Jimmy King to Sioux Falls.
CONNECTICUT PRIDE—Signed FG James Martin. Released F Shelton Jones.
FOOTBALL
NFL—Signed Pittsburgh Steelers WR Troy Edwards. Signed WR Jabari Tippecanoe. Signed DE Damion Sydney during a game on Jan. 2.
CFL—Signed BECKALS—Signed LB Ben Peterson to a two-year contract.
SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS—Signed WR Morris Anderson to a two-year contract.

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Table with columns: Team, W, L, Pct, GB. Sub-sections include Atlantic Division, Eastern Division, Central Division, Pacific Division, Western Division, and various game results under 'Today's Games'.

Cowboys prepared to pick their poison with Vikings

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. (AP) — Cris Carter and Randy Moss present the classic pick-your-poison dilemma.
They combined for 2,654 yards receiving this season, the fourth-highest total by a tandem in NFL history, and caught 170 passes, 24 of them touchdowns.
"It's like asking which of your kids you love more," Dallas Cowboys coach Chan Gailey said. "I don't have to pick which one of my sons I love the most."
Cowboy's safety George Teague said there are no easy answers for the Cowboys (8-8) when they visit the Minnesota Vikings (10-6) today.
"One of the guys will beat you deep and quick and fast, or take the other guy and die slowly," he said.
Safety Darren Woodson said blitzing isn't the answer, either. "You have to take your chances. I know teams that really get after them take chances every once in a while and put pressure on Jeff George. But sometimes you get burned by that pressure," Woodson said.
Because nobody is better at exploiting 1-on-1 matchups than Moss, and nobody is better at third-down underneath routes than Carter.
The Cowboys have more to worry about than just Moss and Carter, too.
"It's hard to double-team Randy Moss and Cris Carter when you have a healthy Robert Smith because he can take it the distance," Woodson said.
Smith didn't play the last time these teams met, on Nov. 8, because he was out after undergoing a double hernia operation. He still topped 1,000 yards rushing for the third straight year despite missing four games.
Without a healthy Deion Sanders to cover Moss or Carter, the Vikings have had no problem torching the Cowboys' secondary in their last two meetings.
Sanders hopes things will be different today now that he's healthy.
"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," Sanders said.
Moss caught three touchdown passes totaling 163 yards and Carter had seven catches for 135 yards as Minnesota beat Dallas 46-36 on Thanksgiving 1998. Sanders missed that game with a toe injury.
In November, the NFL's most productive tandem combined for 15 catches, three touchdowns and 207 yards as the Vikings scored the final 27 points after falling behind 17-0. Sanders, the NFL's best cover cornerback, limped through the game with hamstring and groin problems.
See **COWBOYS**, page 8A

Advertisement for Citizens Federal Credit Union. Features a large '5.75%' Annual Percentage Yield and '6 month Certificate' with a minimum investment of \$5,000. Includes contact information for various branches.

Advertisement for Cellular One. Features cartoon characters and a 'KA-POW!' graphic. Promotes a '700 MINUTES PER MONTH \$39.99' deal for the NOKIA 918 \$999. Includes the slogan 'YES, TRUSTY SIDEKICK... BUT WE CAN'T REST UNTIL EVERYONE KNOWS.'

COYOTES

Continued from page 6A
was held scoreless in the second half and finished with 10 points.
The win allowed the Coyotes to even their record at 9-9.
Borden County's junior varsity teams made certain there would be a hometown sweep, the Lady Coyotes JV rolling to a 60-14 win, while the Coyote JV played the closest game of the night in taking a 47-40 victory.
Borden County faces another pivotal District 18-1A showdown Tuesday when the Coyotes and Lady Coyotes travel to Lenora to face Grady's Wildcats and Lady Wildcats.
The Lady Mustangs will have Tuesday night off, but the Mustangs will play a non-district game when they travel to Forsan for a 6:30 tip.

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Titans dodge scare from Buffalo with touchdown return

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Call it the Adelpia Miracle. Kevin Dyson sped 75 yards down the left sideline with a lateral on a kickoff for the winning touchdown with three seconds remaining Saturday, lifting the Tennessee Titans to a 22-16 playoff victory over the stunned Buffalo Bills.
The Titans had to survive a video review, and when referee Phil Luckett announced the throw from Frank Wycheck to Dyson was legal, the Adelpia Coliseum rocked like nothing Music City has seen before. Buffalo players, meanwhile, lay strewn on the turf, in shock that they allowed Tennessee to steal the first playoff game of 2000.

ROUNDUP

Continued from page 6A
Brady Cook paced the Buffs with 14 points, while Clay White added 10.
The Buffs will get their final tune-up for District 3-2A play Tuesday when they play host to Wall's Hawks at 7 p.m. They'll open district play Friday by entertaining Tahoka's Bulldogs.

'Skins make Lions' playoff stay brief

LANDOVER, Md. (AP) — Stephen Davis didn't last the whole game after all. It hardly mattered, because he did enough damage well before halftime to lead the Washington Redskins to victory in their first playoff game in seven years.
Davis, playing despite a sore ankle, ran for 119 yards and two touchdowns before suffering a sprained knee five minutes into the second quarter. By then, the Redskins already had a 17-point lead on the way to a 27-13 rout of the mistake-prone Detroit Lions in an AFC wild-card game Saturday.

COWBOYS

Continued from page 7A
While fans would love to see Sanders and Moss go head-to-head on every snap, Dallas coaches will mix up their coverages to avoid being predictable.
"I think we're talking about something that's on everybody's wish list but doesn't really happen," Gailey said of the Sanders-Moss matchup. "I know

Davis was in pain as he practiced last week, and coach Norv Turner was concerned that his Pro Bowl back wouldn't be able to play the entire game. Davis responded with two runs for 30-plus yards before the new injury forced him out.
The Lions were 8-4 following a 33-17 home victory over the Redskins last month, but lost their last five games and went only 2-7 away from the Silverdome this season.
The Lions haven't won a road playoff game since 1957 and are 0-20 against the Redskins in Washington, including 0-3 in postseason. The Lions were in the playoffs for the fifth time in seven years, but have yet to advance.
Former Redskins quarterback Gus Frerotte was heckled, and banners invited him to reprise his infamous head-but into the wall from two seasons ago as he returned to Washington for the first time. Frerotte was essentially a non-factor because the Lions don't have a running game and his line didn't give him time to throw.
Frerotte was sacked on the first play of the game and had to use a timeout after the second play. He finished 21-for-46 for 251 yards and two interceptions and was sacked five times.
When Detroit beat Washington five weeks ago, the Redskins were undone by 14 penalties, five sacks and four turnovers. The rematch was a mirror image, with the Lions committing 12 penalties for 126 yards, two turnovers and allowing five sacks.
The Redskins were nearly flawless as they scored on five of their first six possessions, although the Lions graciously helped more than once with ill-timed penalties. Washington had just one penalty, no turnovers and allowed no sacks in a 27-point first half.
A running-into-the-punter penalty on Clint Kriewaldt and a 41-yard pass interference call against Bryant Westbrook on Washington's opening drive set up the first touchdown, a 1-yard run by Davis.
Despite the loss of left tackle Andy Heck with a torn hamstring, Davis started the next drive with a 58-yard scamper and ended it with a 4-yard run behind Pro Bowl guard Tre Johnson.
Champ Bailey's interception and a personal foul on Lions linebacker Allen Aldridge for showing a forearm into Brad Johnson's helmet set up the Redskins' next score, a 33-yard field goal by Brett Conway. Davis had a 32-yard run before getting hurt on the next drive, which ended with a 23-yarder from Conway.
Brad Johnson hit Albert Connell for a 30-yard touchdown to make it 27-0 with 1:19 left in the first half. That would be all the Redskins needed.

"Deion's unbelievable," George said. "When he's not healthy, he's unbelievable. Just his presence on the field is unbelievable."
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"Deion's unbelievable," George said. "When he's not healthy, he's unbelievable. Just his presence on the field is unbelievable."

Grady splits 18-1A opens with Ira

IRA — There were no real surprises in Friday's District 18-1A opening games for Grady and Ira.
In the evening's varsity opener, Grady's Lady Wildcats followed the scoring lead of Katie Yates and Caroline Madison in posting a 48-42 win over the Lady Bulldogs.
The nightcap, however, saw the Bulldogs retaliate with a 57-50 win over the Wildcats.
Yates scored 12 points to lead the Lady 'Cats, while Madison added 11 more. Teammate Sherree Rivas also finished in double figures with 10, as the Lady Wildcats improved their overall record to 17-1 on the sea-

'DOGS'

Continued from page 6A
Buff, who dropped to 8-9 with the loss, will play their final tune-up for District 2-2A play by playing host to Sands' Mustangs at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday.

son.
The Wildcats dropped their district opener, despite the scoring lead of the Tunnell brothers, Josh and Eric.
The elder, Josh, paced Grady with 15 points, while Eric added 10 more. Jed Hinojosa had nine points in the losing effort, while Frankie Garza had eight more.

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Angie Dia... much time... works at bo... Center at H... it wasn't alv... There was... working m... work and h... busy perio... become her... Now she s... to get the m... also und... time into o... And for th... "The first... mind, get c... find a plac... Three one... ed. Diaz sai... away from t... If that's n... "You can... ular traini... weights in... split the da... Monday, W... weights on... Just be su... weight train... "Some ex... training is... Confused... ty that gets... calories. Th... even a ri... "Take you... times," Dia... Lots of ho... not necessa... key is havi... movements... book... Diaz star... daughter, J... would lie o... from her B... lifted and l... The baby... gets the job... Using a c... lifts, or sit... with your... your body... upper arms... An uprig...

QUICK TRIVIA

◆Sports fans know him as Jim Thorpe, but his native American name was Who-Tho-Huch.

◆The birthstone for July is the ruby; the flower is the water lily.

Got an item?

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

Big Spring Herald

Sunday, January 9, 2000

FIT FOR REAL LIFE

Angie Diaz understands many people don't have much time for working out. A personal trainer who works at both the YMCA and Harold Davis Fitness Center at Howard College, working out is her job. But it wasn't always.

There was a time when Diaz was just like any other working mom who had to fit exercise between school, work and her children's schedules. It was during that busy period in her life that she decided fitness would become her vocation.

Now she spends her days showing other people how to get the most from their time in the gym. But she also understands that some of us can't even fit gym time into our schedules.

And for those people, Diaz said there is an answer. "The first thing a person has to do is make up their mind, get committed to fitness," said Diaz. "Then you find a place for it in your schedule."

Three one-hour sessions each week are recommended. Diaz said when she started, she took that time away from television viewing.

If that's not possible, however, there is still hope. "You can split the time, say 30 minutes of cardiovascular training in the morning, and 30 minutes with weights in the evening," Diaz said. You could also split the days, doing your cardiovascular workout on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and taking time for weights on Tuesday and Thursday.

Just be sure to rest your muscles for a day before weight training again.

"Some experts say the most important about weight training is that rest period," Diaz said.

Confused about what is "cardiovascular?" It's activity that gets your heart pumping and helps to burn calories. That can include walking, running, bicycling — even a ride around the block with your kids counts.

"Take your kids and go around the block several times," Diaz said.

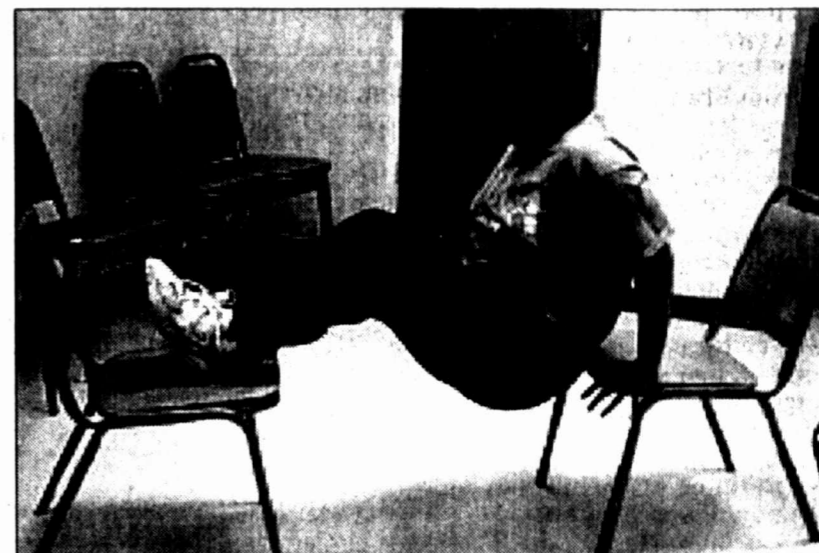
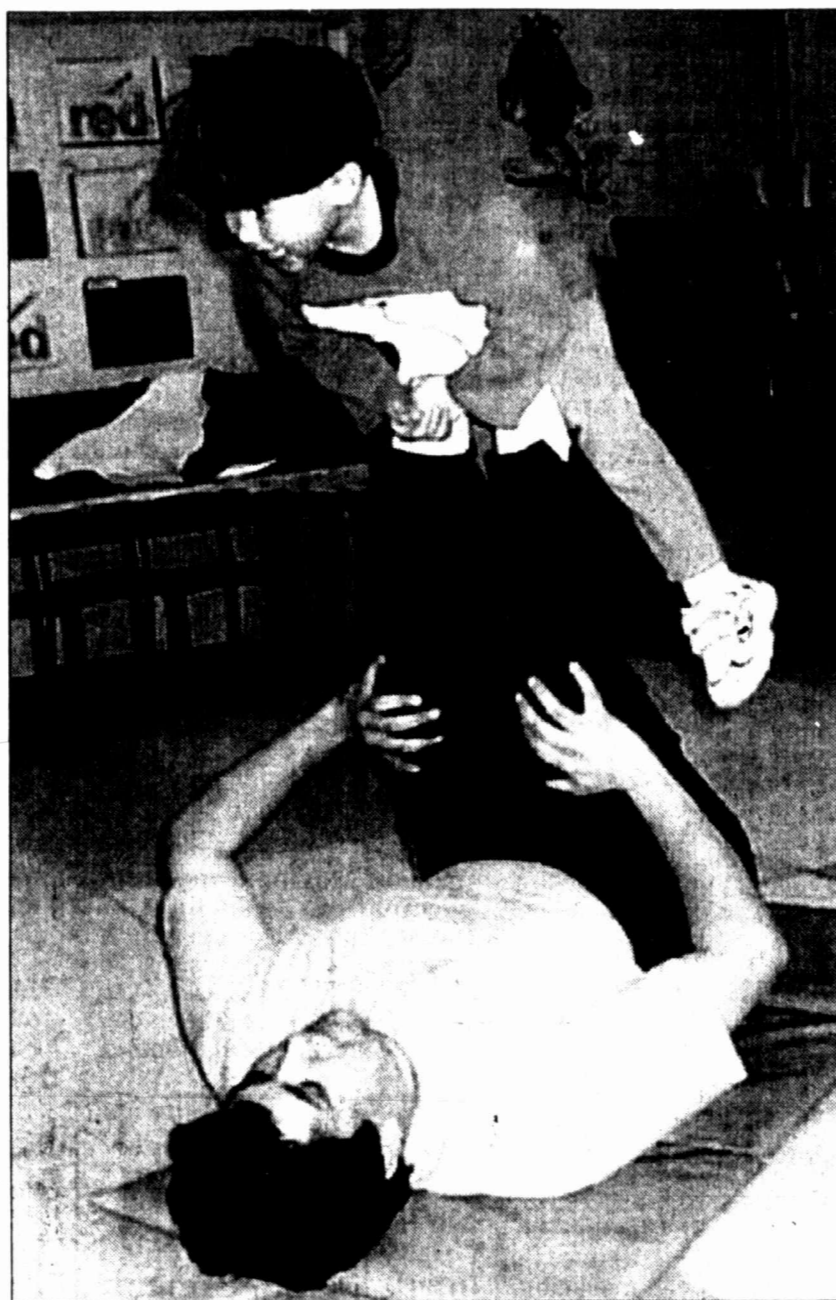
Lots of home equipment is also available, but it is not necessary. When it's time for weight training, the key is having some resistance as you do repetitive movements. Now weights? Try a can of soup or a book.

Diaz started several years ago getting help from her daughter, Jaye Cee McCurtain, in workouts. She would lie on the floor, lifting Jaye Cee straight up from her chest, or hold the child on her legs as she lifted and lowered them slowly.

The baby loved it, the little girl still does, and it gets the job done, Diaz said.

Using a chair or two, there are a variety of exercises that can be done. Lean on the chair and do leg lifts, or sit on one chair with your feet on another, with your weight on your hands, raise and lower your body slowly. That is good for shaping the upper arms.

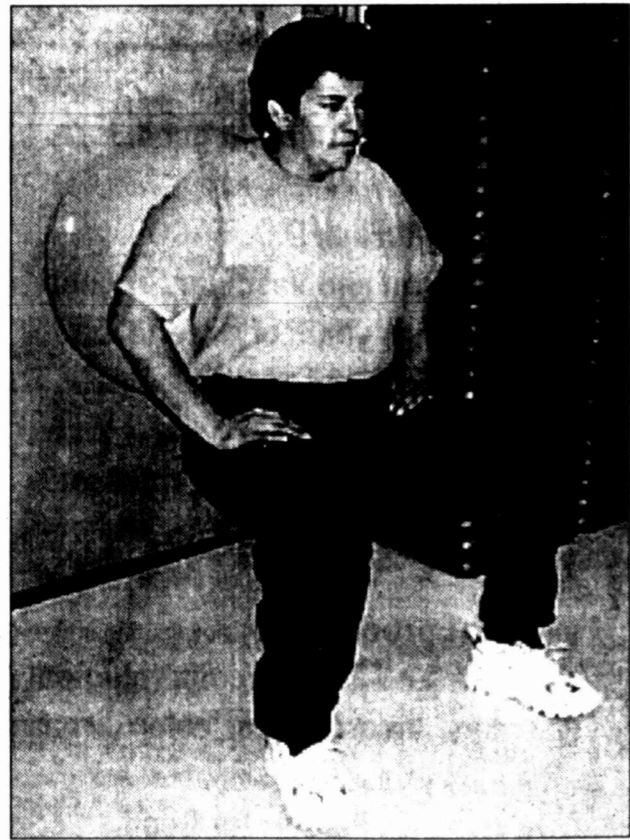
An upright broomstick makes a good support for



At left, personal trainer Angie Diaz gets some assistance from her daughter, Jaye Cee McCurtain, in her workout. Above, Diaz shows how two chairs can be used as part of a home fitness program. Below, an elastic band can provide resistance for strength training, such as the arm exercise shown here. Pulling against the band helps to build and shape muscles.



At left, Diaz shows how a broomstick, or similar stick, could be used in a workout. Holding it behind your neck, twist for a good waist-shaper. Far left, Diaz works with a piece of equipment called Resist-A-Ball, doing squatting exercises against a wall. Below, you don't need weights when you have cans of soup, books or even a child. Here Diaz lifts her daughter, about 30 pounds, slowly up and down in a "chest press."



squatting exercises, which help shape the thighs and hips. Drape it over your shoulders and twist, and you have a good waist shaper.

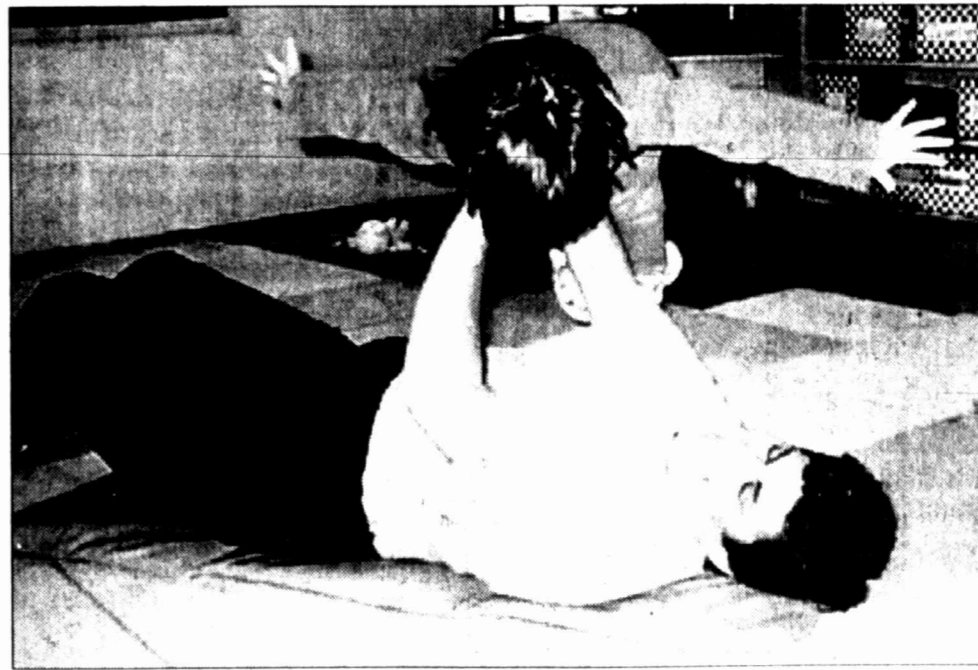
Crunches, or sit-ups, can be done easily on the floor, while your kids hold your feet in place.

Small bursts of activity are a good addition to your "program." Diaz said tips like taking the stairs instead of the elevator, parking farther from the store, and putting some power into your housework really do make a difference.

"If you need to lose weight, it all helps," she said. "When you are moving, you are burning fat. When you sit still, you are getting fat."

There are three important principles of weight training: frequency (how often), duration (how long) and intensity (how hard). By far, though, the most important factor, Diaz said, is making a lifestyle change.

"Play with your kids; get out and play ball, ride bikes, just enjoy yourself," she said. "And get your kids moving, too. Encourage them in sports if that is what they enjoy. Just don't push them to the point of burnout. They need to enjoy it, just like you do."



Laughter's good medicine can last a lifetime and beyond

Humor is a wonderful way to restore perspective in this business called life. "Lighten up!" is often excellent advice.

The Bible bears this out. The psalmist wrote, "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine."

According to Thackeray, "A good laugh is sunshine in the house." Colette, a French novelist said, "Total absence of humor renders life impossible."

In retirement, looking back on all the years I spent in the classroom, the funny moments seem to linger more clearly than many others. It is wonderful if you can laugh at yourself, laugh with your co-workers, and laugh along with your students.

Once, at Runnels, to secure the full attention of the class, I said, "If you pick up your pen while I'm giving directions, I'll throw it out the window." Of course, a very cooperative student, who can only be

described as a sweet girl, thoughtlessly picked up her pen.

I threw it out the second story window. Fortunately, she thought it was funny. We both laughed.

Humor can diffuse a tense situation. It can also take the edge off anxiety.

According to the American Association of Therapeutic Humor, laughter is good therapy because it decreases stress and promotes relaxation and healing.

Sometimes humor is evident even in the somber setting of a cemetery. In Georgia, there is

an epitaph on a tombstone for one who must have been a hypochondriac: "I told you I was sick."

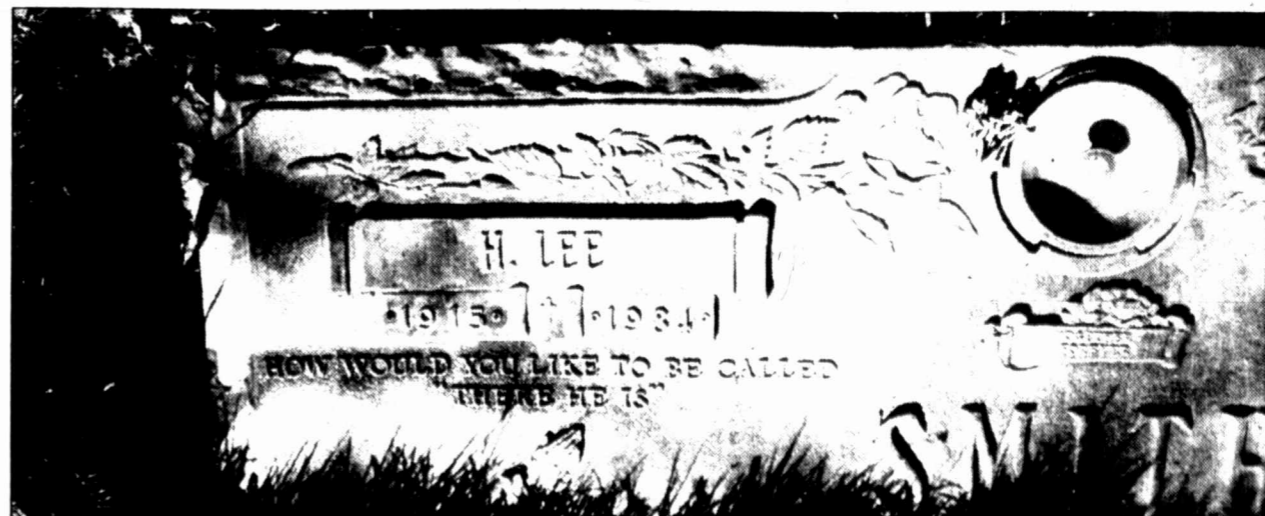
I'm not sure about the message the family was trying to convey about a man buried in the East Dalhousie Cemetery, Nova Scotia. "Here lies Ezekial Aikle, 102. The Good Die Young."

An epitaph in Westminster Abbey reads, "Life is a jest, and all things show it. I thought so once, but now I know it."

There is an unusual epitaph in the Elmwood Cemetery in Abilene, where my son-in-law's mother was helping a friend locate a grave. The cemetery is large and the markers are flat. In all that uniformity, finding a particular grave site is not easy.

Beverly finally located the grave and called out, "Here he is."

She glanced down at the adja-



This tombstone was found in the Elmwood Cemetery in Abilene.

cent marker and did a double-take. It said almost the same words she had just spoken: "How would you like to be called 'There he is.'"

Her startled surprise was

immediately replaced by laughter.

The marker, on the wife's side, gives evidence of a happy marriage. It says: "His woman, his wife, for a wonderful 46

years."

There is a sentimental inscription between the name plates that reads, "Together forever." It probably could have added, "Laughing all the way."



JEAN WARREN

Courtesy photo

JAN 9 2000

