

BIG SPRING HERALD

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"Reflecting a Proud Community"

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

THURSDAY

January 13, 2000

WEATHER

Tonight:



CLEAR
TONIGHT 27°-30°
FRIDAY 63°-66°

Hangar 25 sets members party

Hangar 25 Air Museum will hold its first membership meeting at 6:30 tonight. Charter members will be recognized with a plaque and directors for 2000 will be elected.

The wine and cheese party will celebrate a drive which netted 150 members, according to organizers.

The museum will also be open for tours during the party.

Big Spring ISD board to convene

Trustees with Big Spring Independent School District will meet at 5:15 p.m. tonight.

Agenda items include the superintendent's evaluation and approval of amendments for career and technology programs and Update 62.

An attendance report and Worksteps presentation from a representative of Scenic Mountain Medical Center are other items.

Literacy program is seeking tutors

The Howard County Literacy Program is seeking tutors to teach adults how to read.

The program requires a commitment of one to three hours each week, with long-term involvement with each student recommended.

Material and training are provided each tutor, as well as support. Scheduling flexibility is available.

To volunteer, call Loraine Redman, Howard Country librarian, at 264-2260.

WHAT'S UP...

TODAY

- American Legion Auxiliary, 7 p.m.
- Masonic Lodge No. 598, 7:30 p.m., 219 Main.
- Big Spring Newcomer's Club, contact Pat Mireles for time and location at 267-8741.

FRIDAY

- Signal Mountain Quilting Guild, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Bring a lunch.
- AMBUCS, noon.
- Brandin' Iron Restaurant.
- Spring City Senior Citizens country/western dance, 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.

INSIDE TODAY...

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

Interest grows in community theater

By MARSHA STURDIVANT
Staff Writer

Nearly 30 people expressed an interest in forming a community theater group in Big Spring recently, and made plans for a board of directors and community awareness projects.



GRIZZLE

"I am really excited about this

project, and the interest expressed. If everyone here will bring at least one friend to the next meeting, we can really get this going," said Howard College theater instructor Clay Grizzle.

And while Grizzle has agreed to continue to chair the meetings as the organization forms grass roots efforts at incorporating, he said his role will slowly fade away and others will begin leading the project.

"There is room in community theater for everyone, and this should belong to the communi-

ty," he said.

In the first organizational meeting, a steering or nominating committee was formed, to recruit community leaders to serve as members of the board of directors.

And a media committee was created, to inform the public about the group, and the need for local support.

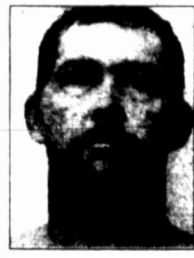
"If we do this right, set this program up properly, we will be successful. However, if we have a bunch of actors managing the

See THEATER, Page 2A

Big Spring man, 38, charged with Humane Society vandalism

By MARSHA STURDIVANT
Staff Writer

Howard County sheriff's deputies arrested a 38-year-old man Wednesday in connection with vandalism committed at the Big Spring Humane Society in mid-



MINCE

December.

Alen Dale Mince remains in Howard County jail in lieu of \$5,000 bond, charged with criminal mischief, more than \$1,500 less than \$20,000.

"This investigation is still undergoing, and we are still looking for several other accomplices," said Howard County Sheriff Bill Jennings.

Jennings said credit for the arrest belongs to two me-

See ARRESTED, Page 2A

Ag issues must be addressed, says Stenholm

By MARSHA STURDIVANT
Staff Writer

Agriculture, oil and gas, health care, foreign trade and low-level Air Force training flights were among the issues raised during a town hall meeting Wednesday morning with U.S. Rep. Charles Stenholm (D-Stamford) at the Dora Roberts Community Center.

More than 50 Howard County area residents took advantage of the opportunity to visit with Stenholm, who is in the middle week of a three-week jaunt across the 32-county 17th Congressional District.

Stenholm told the group that "despite the fact that next month the United States will experience its longest peacetime economic expansion ever, agriculture is busted."

The Stamford resident, who was first sent to Washington in 1979, said it is time to stop talking about ways to help the agribusiness segment of the economy and do something.

"The 15 Blue Dog Democrats — moderates who work both with their own party as well as with Republicans — will meet two days before the State of the Union," he explained.

"Then, the entire House Agriculture Committee (chaired by Lubbock Republican Larry Combest) will meet after the State of the Union."

One proposal Stenholm has for assisting agribusiness is the Supplemental Income Plan, or SIP.

Under this plan, producers would compare their income for the five previous years times the price received. If the current year's income is below that average, they would receive a supplemental payment to make up the shortfall.

"We cannot exist at the current prices," he said.

"To those not in agriculture, how would you exist if your wages or income were at the same level as 1970? That's what agriculture is forced to do."

Stenholm called the 1995-1996 farm policy "a unilateral disarmament of agriculture" but said he wanted to avoid tariffs on products.

Junior livestock show off to good start with strong goat class at fairgrounds

By JOHN H. WALKER
Editor

Hali Tubb's medium light weight goat and Meagan Kothmann's heavy weight goat took grand champion and reserve grand champion Wednesday night at the annual Howard County Junior Livestock Show got under way.

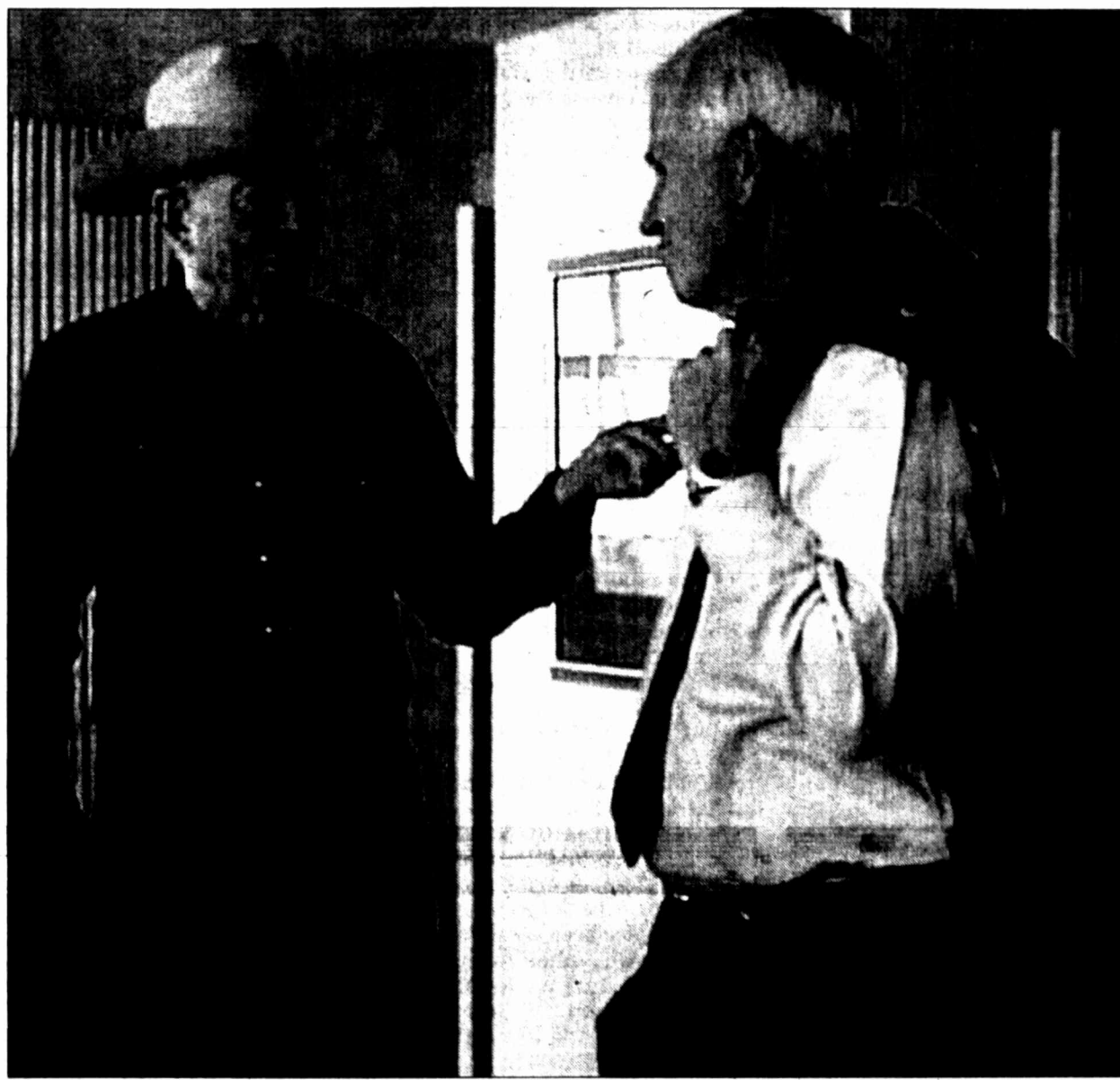
Both youngsters are members of the Howard County 4H Club. The show continues through Saturday at the Howard County Fairgrounds, when the appreciation luncheon, awards ceremony and premium sale will be held.

For Tubb, it was a title in her first showing in the Howard County Show while Kothmann repeated in the runner-up spot.

Tubb's 85-pound goat was a quick selection for judge Preston Faris of Sonora.

"This is a real eye-appealing goat," he said. "It's really flashy as it comes into the ring."

The two goats finished 1-2 in a field of 68 goats, up five from a year ago when 63 goats were



HERALD photo/Marsha Sturdivant
U.S. Rep. Charles Stenholm talks with Leland Wallace after a town hall meeting Wednesday in the Dora Roberts Community Center. More than 50 people listened and questioned Stenholm about the future of agricultural and trade in West Texas.

"That's a no-win situation," he said.

"Somewhere in between full trade and a full cold war is the best place to be ... but how to get there is the question."

One action he thinks can improve the ag situation is to lift all sanctions.

"The best way to change the government of people is to change the people, and you do that by sharing. We need to lift all sanctions because sanctions prevent food from being delivered, and the only thing being hurt with sanctions are our producers and the people of that country," Stenholm said.

"This (trade sanctions) has not worked with Cuba, and Fidel Castro. In my humble opinion, I believe that if we lifted the sanctions against Cuba, Castro would be brought to his knees within 12 months," he said.

Another agricultural issue discussed was crop insurance.

One proposal Stenholm believes holds promise is cost production insurance. He compared this type of insurance with that of purchasing a home and needing mortgage insurance.

"We've got price and crop insurance in the same policy, and it is not working with the way we've got it today. It is

time we farmers realized that we have to be willing to help ourselves," he said.

By competing in an open market, farmers and other agricultural producers stand a better chance of success that the current method of production, he said.

"We are the minority voice, and we will continue to be the minority, especially after the redistricting when rural representation will be much less than it is now," he said.

He said ag producers have always prided themselves on their independence, and it is

See STENHOLM, Page 2A

Mayor

Former city councilman seeking post

By BILL McCLELLAN
News Editor

It didn't take long for a hat to be tossed into the ring in the race for mayor of Big Spring.

Russ McEwen, a businessman and former member of the city council, filed for the mayor's race Wednesday morning — just hours after the city council called the special March 4 election.



McEWEN

The special election was necessitated when former mayor Tim Blackshear filed to run for the Texas House of Representatives. Under state law, any elected official with more than 12 months remaining in a term that was initially longer than two years and less than four automatically resigns when they file to run for another office.

McEwen, who served on the council from 1981 until 1988, said he has considered running for mayor for the past several years, and decided to do so when the opportunity presented itself.

"With Tim resigning, I felt like it was time to step up and make a run for office," McEwen said.

"I feel I am in a unique situation," said McEwen. "I spent seven years as a city councilman. I know how the budget works and I know the inner-workings of a city council. And then I've been off the council for 10 years now and I've been able to observe from the outside. Because of that, I think I bring a uniqueness that is not part of the present regime."

A Big Spring native, McEwen

See MAYOR, Page 2A



HERALD photo/John H. Walker
Goat competition judge Preston Faris checks the body composition of Garrett Cline's light weight entry during Wednesday night's goat show at the Howard County Junior Livestock Show. Cline is a member of the Howard County 4H Club and entered a 73-pound goat.

See GOATS, Page 2A

JAN 13 2000

OBITUARIES

Kenneth "Frenchie" French

Funeral service for Kenneth "Frenchie" French, 54, of Big Spring, was 1 p.m. today at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Maj. Roy Tolcher of the Salvation Army officiating. Military graveside rites will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.



He died Sunday, Jan. 9, 2000, in a local hospital. Mr. French was born June 19, 1945, in Big Spring. He was raised here and attended Big Spring schools. He served in the United States Army and then worked in the oil fields until becoming disabled. Mr. French was a member of the Salvation Army. Survivors include: his foster parents, Pat and William McNew, three foster sisters, Wanda Tubbs, Beverly Smith and Debra Myrick, and a foster brother, W.J. McNew, all of Big Spring; two aunts and several nieces and nephews. Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Frances Vinson Hall

Frances Vinson Hall, 88, Big Spring, died on Tuesday, Jan. 11, 2000, at her daughter's residence. Funeral service will be 2:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 14, 2000, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Neil Hall, Church of Christ minister from Abilene, and Randall Morton of Midland, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.



She was born on Oct. 29, 1911, in Luling. She married George Burley Vinson on Sept. 1, 1928, in Ballinger, and he preceded her in death on June 14, 1960. She then married Jesse Hall on March 31, 1963, in Big Spring, and he preceded her in death on Feb. 20, 1986. Mrs. Hall had been a long-time resident of Big Spring and Howard County and had lived in Ralls for 24 years. In Big Spring she had worked for 17 years at Big Spring Hardware and Stanley Hardware. She was a member of Cedar Ridge Church of Christ. Survivors include: a daughter and son-in-law, Fave and Johnnie Hobbs of Big Spring; three grandchildren and their spouses, Nita and John Cline, Leon and Frances Hobbs and

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-3233
Ramona Munoz, 62, died Thursday. Services are pending.
Henrietta Pardue, 84, died Tuesday. Services are pending.

NALLEY-PICKLE & WELCH Funeral Home

Trinity Memorial Park and Crematory
906 Gregg St. (915) 267-6331
Frances Vinson Hall, 88, died Tuesday. Services will be 2:30 PM Friday at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

Big Spring Herald
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Karen and Rusty Henderson, all of Big Spring; seven great-grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; beloved step-children, Neil and Judy Hall of Abilene, Carol and Don Rowell of Waco, and Bobby Fayne Kuntz of Little Rock, Ark.; numerous step-grandchildren; step-great-grandchildren; and a sister, Doris Perkins of Dallas. She was also preceded in death by her parents, John Thomas and Margaret Fitzpatrick Ward, a son, Milton J.T. Vinson, three brothers, Frank, Fred and Floyd Ward and two sisters, Myrtle Moore and Dollie Mae Cole. The family suggests memorials to the Cedar Ridge Church of Christ, 2110 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring. The family will receive friends from 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursday at the funeral home. Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Ramona Munoz Service for Ramona Munoz, 62, Big Spring, is pending with Myers & Smith Funeral Home. She died Thursday, Jan. 13, 2000, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center following a long illness.

THEATER

Continued from Page 1A program, it is doomed to failure, because actors notoriously have egos, and eventually someone's feelings will be hurt," he said.

The board of directors should be comprised of community leaders, as well as directors with expertise in law and finance, he said.

"And the others should be good fund raising individuals, with good community support. These people need to be interested in seeing community theater work," said Andi Andrews York, one of the members of the nominating committee.

The other members of that committee are Vince Clemons, Mary Thompson, Carroll Jenkins and Marsha Jones. That committee has scheduled a meeting within the next few days to prepare a list of individuals who might agree to serve on the board.

A media committee, comprised of Bethany Robbins, Richard Saxton and Al Scott, agreed to contact various media entities, and Stacy Rawls agreed to create flyers announcing the next meeting and the existence of the community theater group.

"I did this when we performed 'A Christmas Carol,' so I know who we need to talk to," Scott said.

Cost of incorporation was discussed by those attending, and one individual who had been involved in a community theater group in the 1980s said a charter with by-laws might still exist. He agreed to locate that paper work.

A separate production board will also be formed, as the group comes closer to selecting their first season of performances.

And a permanent home for the troupe was also discussed, and future plans include touring various locations that might be receptive to a community play production.

"Only in this country do you find community theater, and there are several in our area that are very successful, such as Midland, Lamesa and Colorado City. I believe we can do this here as well," Grizzle said.

The next meeting is set for 8 p.m. Feb. 21 in Garrett Hall of the First United Methodist Church.

MAYOR

Continued from Page 1A graduated from Big Spring High School, received his associate's degree from Howard College, and his bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Texas. He has resided in Big Spring for the past 25 years and owns his own insurance agency at 900 Main. He also coaches the

BIG SPRING MOVIE HOTLINE
For showtimes call 263-2479

Sidewinders gymnastics team at the YMCA, including the team that won the national championship.

In addition to having been elected to the council for seven years, McEwen has served on the United Way of Big Spring and Howard County as both a chairman and director, and has been chairman of the board at First Christian Church. He has served on the YMCA board and was chairman of the committee which had oversight into the building of the multi-purpose athletic training facility at Big Spring High School.

McEwen said setting priorities and providing positive leadership are two assets he feels he can bring to the position of mayor.

"I want to look at the budget, not from what we have done in the past, but what we can do for the future," said McEwen. "I'd like to see a city council where we hammer out ideas that each and every city council member brings to the table. I want to implement free-flow work sessions within the council.

"I'd like for us to put our community in a position of leadership in West Texas. We have incredible assets here," he said, speaking of Big Spring's crossroads location. "I feel like we can do some things that would be positive toward the growth of our community."

Filing for the special election will continue in the secretary's office at City Hall through Feb. 2. Early voting will be held Feb. 16-29 for the March 4 election.

STENHOLM

Continued from Page 1A now time to join the competitive market, vying for consumer dollars in much the same way as high-end technology and corporate industry.

"We've got to cooperate with corporate America to see that the farmer gets a bigger share of the consumer dollar," he said.

Other items discussed included: • Realistic Bomber Training Initiative (RBTI). He said currently, Snyder is the preferred location for the low-level bomber training missions.

The Snyder-area proposal — as with two other proposed areas — has drawn a great deal of opposition. Stenholm promised training aircraft will fly in excess of 3,000 feet.

"We need studies to know what sort of impact the noise level and disruptions will have if the airplanes fly at 3,000 feet," he said.

Health-care and vehicle insurance: He urged those individuals with complaints against the current vehicle insurance in Texas to coordinate and pass a state policy, which he would then present to Congress in an effort to develop a standardized national policy.

And he commended the San Angelo community for preparing recommendations for health care that will be presented to state and federal governments.

"Did you know that in the 17th District, one out of every three families has a gross family income of \$25,000 a year or less? There are folks who have to choose between food and medicine each month, and we must do something about that."

Federal Communications Commission (FCC) restrictions on religious broadcasting: Stenholm admitted to a lack of knowledge when asked about a Dec. 29, 1999 FCC ruling that changed the definition of some religious broadcasting and resulted in the denial of a license application by a station in the northeastern United States.

"Initially, I would say I am opposed to any such action, but I will find out about it and get back with you," he promised.

North American Free Trade Agreement: "It is still very controversial, despite all of the new jobs that have been created. But how can it be so bad if we have so many more working?"

"We are selling \$100 million more beef to Mexico and importing \$80 million less annually ... how can that be so bad?"

(Herald editor John H. Walker contributed to this report.)

DUNLAP'S Your Fashion Headquarters
111 E. Marcy 267-8283

BIG SPRING AROUND THE TOWN

ARRESTED

Continued from Page 1A

the force who investigated the reports and eye witness accounts, and sought a search warrant for Mince's home on Harding Street.

"Deputy Ron Allan and Chief Deputy Kerry Fritz have spent several hours a day to clear up this hideous crime," Jennings said.

Fritz said Mince became a suspect because his vehicle was seen in the area of the Humane Society on West 1-20 by a policeman three times the night before the break-in and vandalism.

Mince was arrested after a search of his premises, and Fritz said he submitted to the arrest quietly.

Thus far, he has not confessed to the crime which cost the Humane Society, a non-profit organization that houses and feeds several hundred stray dogs and cats, more than \$10,000 in damages.

"He said he did not do it, but he knows who did. We interviewed him up to four times and made him take polygraph test," Jennings said.

Fritz said the results of the polygraph are confidential and may not be used as evidence.

"We have an estimate of the damage at \$10,000, but that includes only the three vehicles and the floor safe. It does not include the gates," Fritz said.

On the night of Dec. 11, unknown individuals destroyed the locked gates and two sections of fencing at the Humane Society and then damaged three vehicles belonging to the organization.

Staff writer Lyndel Moody contributed to this story.

GOATS

Continued from Page 1A

Wednesday's goat show results: GRAND CHAMPION — Hali Tubb, Howard County 4H. RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION — Meagan Kothmann, Howard County 4H.

LIGHT WEIGHT 1. Meagan Kothmann, 4H; 2. Heather Harris, BSHS; 3. Trisha Nichols, S; 4. Courtney Schaedel, 4H; 5. Sara Murphree, BSHS; 6. Skyler Ashley, BSHS.

MEDIUM LIGHT WEIGHT 1. Hali Tubb, 4H; 2. Trisha Nichols, S; 3. Tony Wyrick, BSHS; 4. Kyland Wegner, BSHS; 5. Meagan Kothmann, 4H; 6. Grayson Wegner, 4H.

MEDIUM WEIGHT 1. Heather Harris, BSHS; 2. Blake Coates, C; 3. Amanda Watkins, S; 4. Skyler Ashley, BSHS; 5. Scott Crowell, BSHS; 6. Meagan Kothmann, 4H.

MEDIUM HEAVY WEIGHT 1. Danielle Hill, S; 2. Brandi Plantt, BSHS; 3. Heather Harris, BSHS; 4. Blake Coates, C; 5. Amanda Watkins, S; 6. Megan Knight, 4H.

HEAVY WEIGHT 1. Meagan Kothmann, 4H; 2. Chance Nichols, S; 3. Angela Dickinson, BSHS; 4. Christopher Wigington, BSHS; 5. Courtney Schaedel, 4H; 6. Shelly Chaney, BSHS.

(Legend: 4H=Howard County 4H; BSHS=Big Spring FFA; S=Sand's FFA; C=Coahoma FFA.)

BRIEFS

THE HOWARD COUNTY LITERACY Program is seeking tutors to teach adults how to read.

The program requires a commitment of one to three hours each week, with long-term involvement with each student recommended.

Material and training are provided each tutor, as well as support. Scheduling flexibility is available.

To volunteer call Loraine Redman, Howard County librarian, at 264-2260.

ALLAN'S FURNITURE
12 Months No Interest
202 Scurry PH. 267-6278
Big Spring, Texas

TEXAS LOTTERY

Pick 3: 3,0,8

Lotto: 15,27,29,46,48,49

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

PARENTS WHO CARE IS seeking junior class parents to assist with the after-prom party, a tradition at Big Spring High School. An organizational meeting is planned Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the high school library.

Each parent is asked to donate \$20 to start the fund for the party. Call Linda Perez, 263-4921, for more information.

STATE HOSPITAL EMPLOYEE DEBBY Calley Cook's apartment in Midland was destroyed by fire Dec. 30. She and her family are in need of many items that were destroyed in the blaze.

Hospital employees have mobilized a drive to collect items for the family, including furniture.

If you can donate items, bring them to the Activities Therapy Department at the hospital, or call 268-7248.

SUPPORT GROUPS

THURSDAY • Al-Anon support group, 8 p.m., 615 Settles. • A.D.D.A.P.T. non-profit support and learning organization about attention deficit disorder, learning disorders and dyslexia. Meets second Thursday of September, October, November, January, February, March, April and May, Cerebral Palsy building, 802 Ventura, Midland.

MARKETS

March cotton 53.60, down 12 points; Feb. crude 26.73, up 45 points; cash hogs at 37 even; cash steers steady at 70 even; Feb. lean hog futures 55.12; up 32 points; Feb. live cattle futures 70.07, down 35 points.

Table with market data including ATT, Atlantic Richfield, Atmos Energy, BP Amoco, Chevron, Cifra, Compaq Computer, Cornell Correc, Dell, DuPont, Exxon, Halliburton, IMB, Intel Corp, Mid Amer Energy, NUV, Palex Inc., Patterson Ener, Pepsi Cola, Phillips Petroleum, SBC Com, Sears, Texaco, Texas Instruments, Texas Utils. Co, Total Fina SA, Unocal Corp, Wal-Mart, Amcap, Europacific, Prime Rate, Gold, Silver.

POLICE

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activities for the period

ending 8 a.m. today: • WILLIAM HUTCHESON, 17, was arrested on a warrant. • JESSIE TARIN, 39, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication. • WENDELL HANKINS, 29, was arrested on a charge of burglary of a building. • ANTHONY PACE, 28, was arrested on a charge of burglary of a building. • BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in the 1100 block of Wood.

• THEFT was reported in the 2500 block of South Gregg, the 1100 block of North Lamesa, and the 400 block of West Fifth. • JUVENILE PROBLEM was reported in the 200 block of East 10 and at Blankinship. • DISTURBANCE/FIGHT was reported in the 1300 block of Mobile. • BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 1200 block of Settles. • ASSAULT was reported in the 1600 block of Martin Luther King Boulevard.

SHERIFF

The Howard County Sheriff's Department reported the following activities:

• ALEN DALE MINCE, 37, was arrested on a warrant for criminal mischief over \$1,500. (HCSD)

• TONY ALAN PIKE, 34, was arrested on a warrant for driving while license suspended/invalid. (HCSD)

• ISABEL RIVERA, 29, was arrested on a warrant for issuing bad checks and motion to revoke probation possession of a controlled substance. (HCSD)

• WANDA SUE ANDERSON, 43, was arrested on a Lubbock warrant for false report to a police officer. (HCSD)

FIRE/EMS

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

WEDNESDAY 8:20 a.m. — 1700 block of Morrison, medical call, service refused.

9:52 a.m. — 1700 block Lancaster, medical call, patient transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

12:06 p.m. — 500 block NW 7th, medical call, patient transported to SMCC.

3:51 p.m. — 23 miles north on Highway 350, traffic accident, patient transported to SMCC.

8:41 p.m. — 100 block Nolan, medical call, patient transported to SMCC.

RECORDS

Wednesday's high 79
Wednesday's low 39
Average high 54
Average low 26
Record high 78 in 1957
Record low 6 in 1962
Precip. Thursday 0.00
Month to date 0.41
Month's normal 0.28
Year to date 0.41
Normal for the year 0.28
Sunrise Thursday 7:48 a.m.
Sunset Thursday 6:02 p.m.

Thursday Night is 50's Night
FUN, MUSIC & GREAT TASTING PIZZA AT '50s PRICES!
Pizza Inn
DRINKS .45¢
SMALL 1 TOPPING (Extra toppings, 45¢) \$3.99
MEDIUM 1 TOPPING (Extra toppings, 55¢) \$4.99
LARGE 1 TOPPING (Extra toppings, 65¢) \$6.99
SALADS .99¢
1702 Gregg 263-1381
Dine-Inn Only

Censi

WASHINGTON America will much more d from now, ar twice as many New popula from the Cens call for the po from the curre 571 million in : an age rising a er proportions An older Am profound soci changes, such demand for nu prescription dr demands on Social Security "Even thoug levels in the remain quite c needed only to ulation, the inc of potential par

U.S.

WASHINGTON Clinton admin out a role for t in mediation l and the rebels i suggested Euro on the job.

But as R resumed an of republic Wedne no indication heed U.S. advic political soluti ended secession with Chechen le "We don't be result of the t

Gove

WASHINGTON Justice Depar breaking Micro parts, people cl ernment's antir A federal judge agree to such a d but if it did occu mantle the sof built by Bill among America's ful companies.

Government early in the tria missed, as unlik tions they m breakup, now be lesser sanctions v quate to limi

Prose

BURLINGTON Federal officials telephone records arrested last mor to two Algerians trying to smugg into the United S In court doc Wednesday, feder for the first time Lucia Garofalo v Abdel Ghani Ressay. Their arrests s terrorist attacks day season. Ressay night reservation

Triple

UNITY, Maine neighbors and wept, the bodies o old triplets were charred wrecka home. The boys were Josh, Marcus Freyer, Carmen boys' mother, wa in good condition with her 2-year-o Neighbor To helped save the hearing Freyer c Wednesday after into a smoke- enclosed porch i the house. "I saw two lit grabbed her," he per-clad child wa soot, he said. As Freyer away, she

Bob's Custom 409 East Lift-M GAR/ DOOR O
1/2HR
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Census Bureau: Twice as many Americans by 2100

WASHINGTON (AP) — America will be a bit older and much more diverse a century from now, and there will be twice as many of us.

New population projections from the Census Bureau today call for the population to jump from the current 275 million to 571 million in 2100, with a median age rising above 40 and larger proportions of minorities.

An older America could mean profound social and economic changes, such as an increased demand for nursing home care, prescription drugs, and greater demands on the country's Social Security system.

"Even though childbearing levels in the United States remain quite close to the level needed only to replace the population, the increasing number of potential parents and contin-

ued migration from abroad would be sufficient to add nearly 300 million people during the next century," said Census Bureau analyst Frederick W. Hollmann.

"Because the Hispanic and Asian and Pacific Islander populations in the U.S. are younger than the nation as a whole and because they continue to receive international migrants, these populations will become increasingly prominent," he added.

The Census projection calls for the nation's population to probably reach 300 million in 2011, 400 million in 2049 and 500 million in 2081.

By comparison, the U.S. population was 5.3 million in 1800 and 75.9 million in 1900. The United Nations projects the world's population to rise from

the current 6 billion to about 9.4 billion in 2100.

Currently, the Baby Boom generation creates a bulge in the U.S. population at ages 35 to 39 and 40 to 44, the only two segments making up more than 8 percent of the total. And today's population includes just 65,000 people aged 100 and over, 0.02 percent of the total.

By 2100 the over-100 crowd is expected to grow to 5.3 million, 0.9 percent of the total, and no five-year age group will even reach 7 percent of all Americans. The largest age group is expected to be those aged 15 to 19, at 6.4 percent.

The projections show an especially rapid surge in the elderly population as the surviving baby boomers pass age 65. In the year 2011, baby boomers — those born between 1946 and

1964 — will begin turning 65.

Between 2011 and 2030, the number of elderly would rise from 40.4 million, 13 percent of the population, to 70.3 million, 20 percent of the population.

The median age in 2100 is expected to be 40.3, compared to the current 35.8. Median means half of all Americans will be older than that and half younger.

The Hispanic population is expected to triple from 31.4 million in 1999 to 98.2 million in 2050. Hispanics could become the nation's largest minority group with their percentage rising from 12 percent in 1999 to 24 percent in 2050.

The Asian and Pacific Islander population, meanwhile, would more than triple, from 10.9 million in 1999 to 37.6 million in 2050.

Texas, California among states with smoggiest air

WASHINGTON (AP) — California and Texas were among the states with the worst smog problem last year, an environmental group said today after assembling preliminary air quality data from the states.

The findings by the U.S. Public Interest Research Group said that nationwide there were at least 7,672 incidents in which air at a monitoring site failed to meet the tougher federal health standards imposed by the Clinton administration for smog.

That standard, which requires monitoring over an eight-hour period, was withdrawn last year because of a court challenge. But the group said even under the less stringent one-hour standard that was reimposed, there were 592 incidents in 32 states of smog standards being exceeded.

The findings, based on data obtained from the states, were preliminary and in some cases incomplete, the group said. But it provided a general outline of the air pollution problem nationwide during the peak ozone months. When complete data is in it is expected to exceed the dirty air problems of 1998, the group said.

California had by far the largest number of breeches of the eight-hour health standard with 1,217, followed by Texas (555), North Carolina (539),

Pennsylvania (512), Ohio (461), Georgia (407), Tennessee (344), Indiana (320), Maryland (319) and Kentucky (316).

The group said it could provide no data for California as to the number of days that unhealthy smog levels were detected somewhere in the state because the information was incomplete. Nevertheless, California, as in past years, was expected to lead the pack, the group said.

The groups said Texas followed with 79 dirty air days, Tennessee (74), Georgia (72), North Carolina (68), Kentucky (57), Pennsylvania (51), Ohio (46), New Jersey and Maryland, (both 44), and Virginia (42).

The U.S. PIRG analysis did not provide a city-by-city breakdown on number of dirty air days. But it said six of the 10 eight-hour monitors that recorded the highest amounts of smog were located in metropolitan Houston.

Houston's dirty air has become an issue in Texas Gov. George W. Bush's GOP presidential campaign. According to preliminary data released last year, Houston for the first time had more dirty air days than Los Angeles. According to the EPA, Houston recorded at least 50 days in 1999 in which it exceeded federal health standards for ozone, a component of smog.

U.S. won't mediate between Russia, Chechnya

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Clinton administration ruled out a role for the United States in mediation between Russia and the rebels in Chechnya, and suggested Europeans could take on the job.

But as Russian forces resumed an offensive in the republic Wednesday, there was no indication Moscow would heed U.S. advice that it seek a political solution to a threatened secession by negotiating with Chechen leaders.

"We don't believe that the result of the use of force is

going to be the melting away of resistance," the State Department spokesman James P. Rubin said. "We believe that the Russians are in a cul-de-sac, that they cannot by their current strategy come to the end of road because there is no end to this kind of fighting."

At the start of a visit to Washington Wednesday night, Ilyas Akhmadov, who acts as foreign minister in the Chechen government, said he was not seeking U.S. help or mediation, but only understanding of the Chechen cause. He planned

meetings with members of Congress and others.

"God forbid, I don't want the United States to bomb Russia or give us weapons," Akhmadov said. His remarks at an academic institute forum were translated from Russian.

"The only aim of our government is to stop the total destruction of our people, and we are prepared to do anything," he said. "We are prepared to negotiate."

Meanwhile, the State Department is asking Russia for clarification of reports that

Chechen males between ages 10 and 60, would be detained to see whether they had ties to rebel forces.

"It is essential that Russia respect the fundamental human rights of civilians in and around Chechnya, not endanger the lives of non-combatants, and ensure freedom of movement for displaced persons," Rubin said.

Akhmadov said he appreciated the State Department's concern but more important would be its reaction once it hears from Russia.

Government favors three-part breakup of Microsoft, sources say

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department favors breaking Microsoft into three parts, people close to the government's antitrust trial say.

A federal judge would have to agree to such a dramatic action, but if it did occur, it would dismantle the software empire built by Bill Gates that is among America's most successful companies.

Government lawyers, who early in the trial last year dismissed as unlikely any suggestions they might seek a breakup, now believe that any lesser sanctions would be inadequate to limit Microsoft's

expansive influence over the nation's technology industry, sources said.

If U.S. District Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson were to accept such a solution, it would carry enormous implications for the way consumers worldwide buy and use software for their computers.

Justice Department lawyers laid out their proposal favoring to break Microsoft into three parts during a secret meeting last week in Washington with representatives of 19 states, people familiar with the talks said. The states are also suing the company over alleged antitrust

violations.

The Justice Department, which disclosed last month that it had hired as its adviser a financial consulting firm, Greenhill & Co. LLC, argued that lesser sanctions — such as prohibiting the company from abusing its influence or publishing its wholesale prices — would be inadequate to rein in Microsoft.

The Justice Department declined to publicly discuss its plans Wednesday.

Microsoft spokesman Jim Cullinan said "the notion of breaking up Microsoft is an extreme and radical proposal

not justified by what has been presented in this case."

Microsoft lost more than \$18 billion in stock market value Wednesday. The company's shares closed down \$3.56, or 3.3 percent, at \$105.81 C.

The government expects to formally present the breakup plan next week when it meets privately again in Chicago with U.S. Circuit Judge Richard Posner, the federal mediator who is holding ongoing settlement talks.

Those close to the discussions indicated little progress has been made so far in those discussions, as the sides remain

far apart on important issues.

The government's endorsement of a breakup — considered the "death penalty" among possible remedies — could spur Microsoft to seek a lesser sanction in settlement. But it could also stymie the sensitive negotiations and encourage Microsoft to battle the case through America's courts for years.

It wasn't immediately clear exactly how the government envisions the restructuring of one of America's most successful companies, with \$19.7 billion in sales last year alone. But one source said lawyers ruled out dividing Microsoft into one

company to sell its dominant Windows operating system, another to sell its software applications and a third to sell its Internet content — because these companies still would wield extraordinary control over Windows and the industry's most popular software programs.

Another breakup option that had been under consideration includes dividing Microsoft into smaller duplicate companies, dubbed "Baby Bills" after the company's famous billionaire chairman, that would be set against each other in the market.

Prosecutors allege telephone records link Canadian woman, Algerians

BURLINGTON, Vt. (AP) — Federal officials say cellular telephone records link a woman arrested last month in Vermont to two Algerians suspected of trying to smuggle explosives into the United States.

In court documents filed Wednesday, federal prosecutors for the first time tied Canadian Lucia Garofalo with Algerians Abdel Ghani and Ahmed Ressaym.

Their arrests stirred fears of terrorist attacks over the holiday season. Ressaym had a one-night reservation at a motel

near Seattle's Space Needle, which was cited as one reason for the cancellation of the New Year's bash there.

Ms. Garofalo was arrested trying to cross the border at Beecher Falls, Vt., on Dec. 19. Five days earlier, Ressaym was arrested in Washington state allegedly trying to carry bomb materials into the United States. And on Dec. 30, Ghani was arrested in New York City and accused of attempting to meet up with Ressaym.

"There is a close and concerning link between Ms. Garofalo

and the investigations that are under way in New York and Seattle," Assistant U.S. Attorney Tristram Coffin said.

Attorneys for Ms. Garofalo, a 35-year-old mother of three, have disputed the government's allegations and say they do not prove she was part of a conspiracy.

Magistrate Judge Jerome Niedermeier agreed to continue holding Ms. Garofalo without bail until her trial on immigration violations, tentatively scheduled for Feb. 14.

The alleged telephone links

are circuitous, prosecutors said. But they said that was how the terrorist organization that Ghani and Ressaym belonged to operated. Previously, Ressaym and Ghani have been linked to the Algerian Armed Islamic Group, known by its French acronym GIA.

Assistant U.S. Attorney David Kirby said there were a series of telephone calls between people who have ties to Ressaym and Ms. Garofalo last month around the time of both their arrests.

"The timing of the link is remarkable in that it occurs

during the December period when the defendant and Ressaym were committing their crimes," Kirby wrote.

Ressaym, who was arrested at Port Angeles, Wash., has pleaded innocent to five charges related to bomb-making. Ghani, 31, was charged with being Ressaym's accomplice.

The individual common to most of the players was a man named Raja Aslam, prosecutors said. A telephone number registered to Aslam allegedly was in Ms. Garofalo's pocket when she was arrested.

"Records show that on Dec. 14, 1999, the date Ressaym tried to bring explosives into the United States, Garofalo called this cell phone," according to court records.

Ms. Garofalo's attorney, Maryanne Kampmann, said that did not prove Ms. Garofalo was part of a conspiracy. She said Ms. Garofalo did not know who made the call.

Ms. Garofalo told Kampmann someone else had used her phone, although Coffin said that did not explain the telephone number in Garofalo's pocket.

Triplet boys die in Maine house fire

UNITY, Maine (AP) — As neighbors and family friends wept, the bodies of three 7-year-old triplets were pulled from the charred wreckage of their home.

The boys were identified as Josh, Marcus and Brydon Freyer. Carmen Freyer, 28, the boys' mother, was hospitalized in good condition after escaping with her 2-year-old daughter.

Neighbor Todd Converse helped save the daughter after hearing Freyer calling for help Wednesday afternoon. He ran into a smoke-filled, glass-enclosed porch in the back of the house.

"I saw two little feet and I grabbed her," he said. The diaper-clad child was covered with soot, he said. As rescuers led Freyer away, she looked back at

her home and repeatedly screamed "I love you."

Two neighbors sobbed and held each other while watching the house burn: Danielle Creasy, who said she baby-sat the triplets, and family friend Tammy Knowlton.

Teachers from Unity Elementary School, where the triplets were enrolled in a special-education program, watched silently. Neighbors said the boys' father, Kurt Freyer, was out of state driving a tractor-trailer.

Firefighters also were mourning the loss of a comrade who collapsed at the scene of the blaze and later died, said Stephen McCausland of the Maine Public Safety Department.

Robert M. Jones, 48, the

Waldo County Sheriff, was pronounced dead at MaineGeneral Medical Center, a hospital spokesman said. Jones used to be chief of the Unity fire department.

Firefighter Mike Heath appeared shaken after learning of Jones' death, throwing down his helmet and coat. He was consoled by other firefighters and deputies.

"Right now, I'm not even thinking straight," said Dennis Turner, the town fire chief, who said he had known Jones since 1972.

State fire marshals were expected to investigate the blaze.


The house was located on a residential side street off Route 139, near the center of this college and farming town.

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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

Stand Down opportunity to aid our veterans

For four days, beginning Friday, homeless and low-income veterans will have the opportunity to receive medical care, food, clothing, fellowship and — if they wish — counseling.

Called Stand Down, the event reflects a military term allowing combat troops a safe haven from the front lines in which to rest and recover.

Stand Down will be held at an appropriate place — the grounds of the VA Medical Center. A tent "city" is currently being created, where veterans can go to get a good night's sleep and a shower. There is no obligation on the veteran's part. He or she can get a free meal, clean clothes and leave, or take advantage of a myriad of services available.

Those include medical exams, infection control screening, HIV, tuberculosis, and hepatitis testing and counseling, nutritional counseling, podiatry evaluations and optometry exams.

For veterans who wish, help will be available for housing assistance, legal aid VA benefits counseling and employment assistance.

Stand Down is an attempt to remove legal and social barriers faced by homeless and low-income veterans. Officials hope, of course, that those who participate will find renewed hope and purpose in their lives.

Something of this nature takes an unbelievable amount of organization and teamwork. We applaud those agencies and volunteers who are giving their time to make this event a success.

It is fitting, that at the start of a new year, as we move into 2000, we start by opening our arms to our veterans — those who gave so much to their country.

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

I am inquiring about the status of the vandalism to the military tank on display at the Vietnam Memorial in Big Spring about 13 months ago.

I have not read anything in the newspaper if anything will be done about the vandalism. Do you have any information regarding this matter?

DEAN KRAUS
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

I would like to say "A Great Big Thanks" to the white motor home, with two nice people in it, who stopped to help us about a half mile east of Coahoma, on Monday, Jan. 3, where we were stalled.

Also to a nice lady who was on the service road going to her home. She turned around and came back to help. In the meantime, the van had gone to a service station to send a man out with gas. The sand was thick and dirty, also the wind was blowing hard, it didn't seem to bother them.

I did not get any names but would love to say "Thank You" to all of them. It restores my faith in people. May God bless you all.

My husband has had a stroke and can hardly walk, so I could not leave him to get help. We had been to Fort Worth for the holidays.

R AND C WILLIAMS
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

My husband is a firefighter/paramedic for the city of Big Spring and has been for almost 14 years. The city leaders decided five years ago that the ambulance service we had was too costly and would like for the community to have the best in the business, our firefighters. (Well, that's what they said anyway.) Now, the leaders have decid-

ed that because it is not making money that they will look into getting rid of the Big Spring EMS and contract with another company from who knows where. What the leaders haven't told you is they have not exhausted every avenue to help the fire department be more profitable.

I'll bet there are not many citizens in Big Spring that know the city had an ambulance subscription service to offer, did you? (That's ok, neither did I!!) I am sure that in the earliest stage of this venture my husband mentioned it, but being naive and trusting I just figured the leaders would really try hard to push that idea and support the EMS service and our firefighters.

The only reason I found out about it was because recently a friend asked me why Big Spring didn't have a subscription service for the ambulance like Odessa. I asked by husband and he said we did. I really got angry. (Odessa's is \$60 a year per household, our is only \$49!!) By the way, Cheri Harris at city hall can set you up.

Why have we not seen any advertising about it? Why are some of the leaders saying they can see no way to keep the service because of the money the department is losing each year?

Why didn't any of our city leaders push for the publicity of the service?

The way I see it the city leaders did not pursue this avenue and have lost potentially thousands and thousands of dollars over the last four years. Plus there are families who could have used the break and didn't know it existed. So, is it the department's fault or the leaders fault.

Ask your city leaders, I will.
STACIA GIBB
BIG SPRING

You can take the man out of Bowdon...

You can miss a place in the same deep-down, soul-sapping way you miss a person. You can miss the smell, the sounds, the feel of a town, the peculiar way folks raise one finger from the steering wheel in standard greeting.

L. E. Witt missed his little hometown of Bowdon, in Carroll County, Ga. He missed it while flying 326 wartime missions in the Pacific during World War II. He named his fighter plane "Homesick."

And he missed it during his 30-year career in the Air Force, forever assuring his family that one day they would all return to Georgia.

And he almost didn't miss it on leave in 1945 when he checked out an airplane and "gave Bowdon a buzz job," flying lower than some of the taller monuments in the local cemetery and encountering the traffic light that had been added in his absence. (Locals still talk about that thrill.)

In an appealing white board-and-batten cottage right across the road from where he grew up, Witt today is 83 and happy

at home. He returned 30 years ago, a retired Air Force colonel.

After the smoke cleared, the Army Air Corps informed Witt he had flown more wartime missions than any American pilot in World War II. Most of the time he was flying from Port Moresby, New Guinea, a few miles from the enemy's ground forces. His airplane was hit 13 times, and he crashed three times, but never bailed out. He was credited with six kills of Japanese Zero fighters and with single-handedly sinking a Japanese destroyer. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

The modest Witt explains his extraordinary record: "I weighed 116 pounds, but I stayed healthy. There was malaria, typhus, dysentery, all kinds of diseases. But they couldn't get rid of me. Most pilots flew 50 missions and stayed a year and a half. I flew 326 missions and was there two and a half years."

Today you still see the daring young pilot in his eyes. His war stories aren't run-of-the-mill reminiscences. There was, for instance, the memorable day he taught Charles Lindbergh how to fly a P-38.

The famous aviator was still on the outs with President Franklin D. Roosevelt for what many considered Lindbergh's pro-German stance before the war. After Pearl Harbor,

Lindbergh volunteered to help American pilots improve airplane efficiency. When Lindbergh arrived in New Guinea, he had worked with bombers, but never fighter planes.

Witt was assigned to "see to" Lindbergh, who readily admitted he'd never had any experience with the in-line engine on fighter planes.

"You can imagine how self-conscious I felt checking Lindbergh out in an airplane," Witt chuckles.

Lindbergh listened to Witt, took off and, after a spell, landed. He then told Witt he needed only a toolbox and a tent: "I'll be with you for a while," he said.

"We left him alone," Witt says. "Sometimes you'd see him in the mess hall in the morning, getting a cup of our so-called coffee or, when we had bread, a piece of toast. He was sort of antisocial. Had absolutely no personality. But his changes made a big impact on the war."

Lindbergh's expert technical advice stretched the P-38's maximum five-hour missions to nine-hour missions. And that naturally increased "loiter time," when you could look for a target.

"After the war started, Lindbergh couldn't have been more patriotic," Witt says. "He deserves a lot of credit."

Witt also met another man

most soldiers just read about: Gen. Douglas MacArthur. Witt's commanding officer sent him to Manila in the Philippines with a message for MacArthur. Witt was to explain how the men in his unit needed to go home after their exceptionally long stints. (Witt himself had nearly 1,000 hours of combat time.)

"MacArthur came out, threw his arm around my shoulder, started bragging about specific things I had done. He was charming. I was bursting with pride. I completely forgot what I'd been sent to say."

After the war ended, Witt eventually found himself at an Air Force base in Ohio. He'd been there only a few hours when he noticed in the base newspaper a photograph of the comely secretary to the base commander.

The picture was of Edna Strong, or "Miss Eddie," as he's called her since 1949, when they married. They wed at the base chapel and were allowed three days' leave.

The couple honeymooned in Bowdon, naturally, where the high-flying pilot had deep, deep roots.

They've now reached 50 years together.

"Let's go, Miss Eddie," Witt says impatiently, tapping the car horn to hurry his bride.

The fightingest pilot of World War II is past ready for lunch at a Bowdon cafe.



RHETA GRIMSLEY JOHNSON



Russia more dangerous than U.S. might think

Most Americans, including me, know nothing about Vladimir Putin, the new Russian president.

Therefore, speculation about what he will do is pointless. But I do know that Russia is continuing to modernize its nuclear strategic forces.

It is easy to get the impression from news reports that Russia is falling apart, and in some of its civilian sectors that is true.

But the Russians long ago embarked on a nuclear modernization program, and they are currently deploying a new intercontinental ballistic missile that is both rail and road mobile. Russia has also embarked upon building new ballistic-missile submarines.

Furthermore, the Russians are modernizing and improv-

ing their blast-proof command-and-control centers connected by a deep underground railroad that can evacuate the government leadership in time of war. In addition, they are building a gigantic underground facility several hundred miles from Moscow at Yamantau Mountain. Some 20,000 to 30,000 workers are employed on this project, which U.S. intelligence estimates is the size of metropolitan Washington. U.S. intelligence, however, does not know the purpose of the facility. Western observers are not allowed in the area.

Unfortunately, the Clinton administration has the same attitude toward American security as it does toward Clinton's personal misadventures: Whatever they say is, is. And they are telling the American people, despite evidence to the contrary, that the Russian government is just bending over backward to cooperate in disarmament projects. In fact, the General Accounting Office has reported that Russian scientists being paid by the American taxpayers to work on non-weapons projects are still work-

ing on weapons of mass destruction. The Russians have not ratified the START II agreement.

Furthermore, the Russians and Chinese have entered into several strategic agreements. Because the Russians are sharing missile technology and because Clinton has authorized the sale of advanced computers and allowed U.S. firms to sell the Russians other technology related to missile development, it is unlikely that the government's case against a Chinese-American is anything but scapegoating. The U.S. government has not charged the gentleman with espionage, only with violating security rules by taking classified documents home to work on them. This is a quite common practice. The Clinton administration has always taken a cavalier attitude toward security.

Clinton likes to say that Americans are no longer targeted by nuclear missiles. This is, first of all, a lie because the CIA reports that the Chinese ICBMs are aimed at American targets. In the second place, so-called de-targeting is just public-relations nonsense. It is

unverifiable, and, even if the Russians are telling the truth, re-targeting the United States would take less than 15 minutes, and that, too, is something unknowable to American intelligence.

I'm not trying to be an alarmist. I just want to point out to you that the fact that the American press has been so negligent in its reporting on national-security matters does not alter the fact that the Clinton administration has harmed American national security. People, on their own, ought to realize that the chief role of a president is to make sure the nation is secure and safe from foreign attack. If the American people continue to elect left-wing (expletive deleted), they may wake up one morning to find their cities burning. There is no love lost between either the Russians and the Americans or the Chinese and the Americans.

Electing a president is a damned serious business, and Americans had better stop casting their votes on the basis of which candidate is the cutest or promises them the most freebies.



CHARLEY REESE

Mallard Fillmore by BRUCE TINSLEY. Includes 'Liberal Lexicon 2000' and 'Syndrome' (Gindrom) (n.) WORD USED TO REDUCE REPRESSIBLE ACTIONS TO MERE SYMPTOMS OF SOME VAGUE SOCIETAL ILL. USED IN A SENTENCE: IT'S NOT MY FAULT I PUNCHED YOU IN THE NOSE... I HAVE 'PUNCHING-YOU-IN-THE-NOSE SYNDROME!'

Enter i determ

QUESTION: practical suggestion of selection of a want to get it think I should look for person the factors I s before saying ' DR. DOB- SON: 1. Don't marry s o m e o n e who has characteristics that you feel are intolerable. You may plan to change him or her in the future, but that probably won't happen. Behavior runs nels that we early childhood difficult to alter. Therefore, i with a char- shows up dur may plague yo your life. For son who drink not likely to g after the hone she is foolish is basically u to get violent or is extreme are red flags ignore. What you get.

We all have not suggesting has to be perfo date for marr point is tha decide if you quirky behavi your life - be long you ma with it. If y bank on depr partner after do." I advise eyes wide op riage and th thereafter. 2. Do not ma I can think of mess up your into this cr without care prayer. Rem dating relation to conceal ir reveal it. Bot their best fa they seek to guard the sec be a turnoff. newlyweds g during the fi ried life. I s take at leas beyond the fa inner charact 3. Do not i with dram religious vie

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SLICE of life!

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QUICK TRIVIA

◆ A female mouse is called a doe.

◆ When President Andrew Johnson tried to remove Secretary War Edwin Stanton from his post in 1868, Stanton locked himself in his office and refused to let his successor take over.

Got an Item?

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

Enter into marriage with the determination to make it work

QUESTION: Give me some practical suggestions for the selection of a husband. I sure want to get it right and don't think I should depend just on looks or personality. What are the factors I should consider before saying "I do"?

DR. DOBSON:

1. Don't marry someone who has characteristics that you feel are intolerable. You may plan to change him or her in the future, but that probably won't happen.



DR. JAMES DOBSON

Behavior runs in deep channels that were cut during early childhood, and it is very difficult to alter them.

Therefore, if you can't live with a characteristic that shows up during courtship, it may plague you for the rest of your life. For example, a person who drinks every night is not likely to give up that habit after the honeymoon. If he or she is foolish with money, or is basically unclean, or tends to get violent when irritated, or is extremely selfish, these are red flags you should not ignore. What you see is what you get.

We all have flaws, and I'm not suggesting that a person has to be perfect to be a candidate for marriage. Rather, my point is that you have to decide if you can tolerate a quirky behavior for the rest of your life -- because that's how long you may have to deal with it. If you can't, don't bank on deprogramming the partner after you've said "I do." I advise you to keep your eyes wide open before marriage and then half-closed thereafter.

2. Do not marry impulsively! I can think of no better way to mess up your life than to leap into this critical decision without careful thought and prayer. Remember that the dating relationship is designed to conceal information, not reveal it. Both partners put on their best faces for the one they seek to attract. They guard the secrets that might be a turnoff. Therefore, many newlyweds get a big surprise during the first year of married life. I suggest that you take at least a year to get beyond the facade and into the inner character of the person.

3. Do not marry someone with dramatically different religious views, especially if

matters of faith are important to you or to the other person. You may expect to win your spouse to your point of view at some future date, and that does happen on occasion. But to count on it is risky at best, foolhardy at worst. Again, this is the question that must be answered: "Just how critical is it that my husband (or wife) shares my faith?" If it is essential and non-negotiable, then that matter should be given the highest priority in one's decision to marry.

4. Do not move in with a person before marriage. It undermines a relationship and often leads to divorce. Studies based on five decades of data show that couples who live together before marriage have a 50 percent greater chance of divorce than those who don't. Those who cohabit also have less satisfying and more unstable marriages.

Why? The researchers found those who had lived together later regretted having "violated their moral standards" and "felt a loss of personal freedom to exit out the back door." Furthermore, and in keeping with the theme of marital bonding, they have "stolen" a level of intimacy that is not warranted at that point, nor has it been validated by the degree of commitment to each other. Postponing "playing house" until marriage, it turns out, is the healthiest for everyone concerned.

5. Don't get married too young. Those who wed between the ages of 14 and 17 are twice as likely to divorce as couples who wait until their 20s. Making it as a family requires some characteristics that come with maturity, such as selflessness, stability and self-control. It's best to wait for their arrival.

6. Finally, I'll conclude with the ultimate secret of lifelong love. Simply put, the stability of marriage is a by-product of an iron-willed determination to make it work. If you choose to marry, enter into that covenant with the resolve to remain committed to each other for life. Don't allow yourself to consider even the possibility of divorce. Calling it quits must not become an option for those who want to go the distance!

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

Military records helpful to genealogists

Today I will share with you an article that Dr. Stephen A. Ralls sent me a while back, to use if I needed it. It is on the role of the military in tracing our family history.

One of the more exciting elements of genealogy is uncovering ancestors who had military service. This would include different Colonial Wars, the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, the Mexican War, the various Indian Wars, The Civil War, the Spanish American war and, of course, the Twentieth Century wars.

The converse is also important. That is, military records are often the only records available to link two generations. The genealogist often only has military records to connect generations. Because of their importance to genealogists, many of the more visible military records have been micro-filmed and still others have been compiled in printed works.

Once one finds an ancestor who had military service, another puzzle begins. What battles was the ancestor in? Under whom did they serve?

Were they wounded? Sheer curiosity often takes the research way beyond linking generations.

Military service dating to colonial times was important, because at least records were usually kept. In this sense, military records rank with land and court records in importance.

The more common military records include muster rolls, service records, pension records, and bounty land records. Even county tax lists were frequently organized by militia units. The National Archives in Washington, D.C., is the first place to check for service, pension, and bounty land records. The National Archives may be contacted at:

National Archives and Records Administration
7th and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Washington, D.C. 20408

State archives and even local counties, kept some of the military records. One example is militia records. Another good example is bounty land granted by States for service during the Revolutionary War. This bounty land is not to be confused with bounty land granted by the federal government.

Other important military records include commissioning papers, discharge papers, unit histories, battle histories, and pension records of others in the same unit. Pension records, if available, are the most valuable to genealogists. These often named children, spouses, birth dates, birth places, and frequently gave detailed accounts of military service. Naval records should also not be overlooked.

Numerous patriotic genealogical organizations arose to acknowledge military service. Most notable among these are the Sons of the American Revolution, The Sons of the Revolution, the Daughters of the American Revolution, and Society of the Cincinnati.

To belong to these types of organizations one normally has

to prove descent from a qualifying ancestor. Each organization has their own requirements for qualifying ancestors. Once you know the general birth and death dates for one of your ancestors, you can have a good idea as to whether or not they might have been eligible to serve in a given war.

Uncovering military ancestors is truly one of the most exciting aspects of genealogy. If nothing else, there is something very special knowing that one of your ancestors might have served at Bunker Hill, Valley Forge, Gettysburg, or the Alamo, or at a host of other places. An interest in military service is the entry point for many into genealogy. I hope it is for you as well.

I hope you enjoy this article. I will be back next week with more information on tracing your ancestors.

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



BOBBY RAWLS

Help for troubled teens

Southwest Key Program moves kids into mainstream

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — Juan Jose Sanchez measures the success of the Southwest Key Program in its ability to help troubled teens move into the mainstream of life.

The agency Sanchez founded 12 years ago as Texas Key Inc. today employs 1,000 people, runs 34 programs, administers a \$40 million annual budget and assists an average of 1,600 teens a day in five Puerto Rico.

Sanchez said growing up in the Southwest area of Brownsville gave him the motivation to work toward improving the quality of life in economically deprived areas.

"More than 80 percent of the kids locked up in jail today are Afro-American and Hispanic. The rest are white kids who come from poor families," he said. "That is a tragedy because it's all tied to economics."

A number of factors are at work. Sanchez said children living in economically disadvantaged areas often lack activities to keep them busy and incentives to stay out of trouble. Inadequate schools, high crime and unemployment rates and little access to recreational and other youth-oriented activities contribute to the problem, he said.

"We spend more and more money building institutions to lock up kids than investing in the communities where more help is needed," he said. "Locking kids up is not a solution to that problem. Investing money in them is."

Sanchez began his career at La Esperanza Home in Brownsville, an agency founded about 30 years ago to give help to troubled teenagers. While there, he learned about a youth outreach and tracking program in Boston.

"I went there and liked what I saw," he said. "After I came back, I went before the state

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Juan Jose Sanchez

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The program pays either to a day care center or a family member who is taking care of the child while the parents are away, said Mera-Champion, DCCDS executive director for Southwest Key.

Sanchez said a new goal of the program is to work with parents wanting to operate their own day care centers.

"We want to give them the chance to become entrepreneurs," he said. "We also would like to have the business community involved in another program called Adopt a Day Care Center."

The idea is for the business community to help make sure day care centers are run properly.

Sanchez said helping families meet financial obligations is part of his job, but helping troubled youths is his top priority.

Sanchez said Southwest Key has a 60 percent to 80 percent success rate. One recipient who benefited is Daniel Groves of Houston.

Groves, now 26, said he had been in trouble since he was 16. "I was committed to an institution for drug possession when I was 21," he said in a telephone interview from Houston. "I was young and did not have a focus about life."

Groves said he was sent to the program, where he said he got a good foundation to help him cope with the real world.

"After that, I joined the agency and became a caseworker for SKP for about 4 years," he said, "and I am now employed by a merchandise store."

Sanchez said people like Groves are what SKP is all about.

"We are now working with 1,600 kids a day," said the 52-year-old Sanchez, who holds a doctorate in education and administration from Harvard University.

SCHOOL NEWS

City-wide qualifiers have been named in the PTA Cultural Arts program.

All qualifiers will go to district competition, where their entries will be judged. In April, district qualifiers will be announced, and their work will go on to state competition. Some of the students qualified in more than one category, or more than once in a category.

City-wide qualifiers are:

Literature

Trey Soto, sixth grade, Goliad; Melissa Calwell, Bauer; Valerie Calwell, Bauer; Stetson Elliott, Marcy; Samone Foster, Marcy; Brennan Jackson, Bauer; Tori Mrotz, Marcy; Zoie Salgado, Bauer; Jena Vidana, Marcy; Kaitlyn Villaneuva, Marcy; Allison Ward, Bauer; Leonard Aguinaga, Marcy; Brett Doe, Bauer; Bradley Foster, Marcy; Christopher Freeman, Kentwood; Jordan Herrod, Marcy; Alyssa Rains, Bauer; Casey Speck, Marcy; Jessica Stone, Kentwood; Joseph Martinez, Marcy; Stephanie Rieser, Marcy.

Photography

Victoria Mrotz, Marcy; Jerilyn Bermea, Bauer; Ashley Estes, Bauer; Lanny Hall, Bauer; Bianca Mireles, Moss; Ashley Slate, Marcy; Crystal Ward, Kentwood (three entries).

Composition

Chad Chalker, fourth, Moss; Barrett Colwell, fourth, Bauer; Laurin Jeter, fourth, Moss; Jared Wilkerson, fourth, Moss; Meagan Smith, fifth, Kentwood.

Visual Arts

Megan Doe, Anderson Kindergarten; Kyle Demyen, first grade, Marcy; Jessica Granados, first, Bauer; Shane Howell, first, Bauer; Micaela Martinez, first, Bauer; Jayce Newton, first, Bauer; Krista Whitehead, first, Bauer; Faith Black, second, Moss; Alexandra Ortega, second, Kentwood; Yuly Rodriguez, second, Goliad; Breanna Conner, third, Kentwood; Bianca Mireles.

See **SCHOOL**, Page 6A

ODDS-N-ENDS

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Jeff Swanagan may have bitten off more than he can chew.

Swanagan, the director of the Florida Aquarium, thinks red-bellied piranhas would be a terrific addition to his Frights of the Forest exhibit, alongside tarantulas, vampire bats and poison dart frogs.

About 40 piranha species, the three types of red-bellied flesh-strippers are the only ones known to attack humans, although biologists say injuries are uncommon and deaths virtually unknown.

But while Swanagan hopes to

have visitors eating out of his hand, Florida officials worry escaped piranhas could survive and perhaps even thrive in the state's mild climate.

State biologist Paul Shaffland said a permit for a piranha, while possible under state law, would probably never be issued, even to a public aquarium.

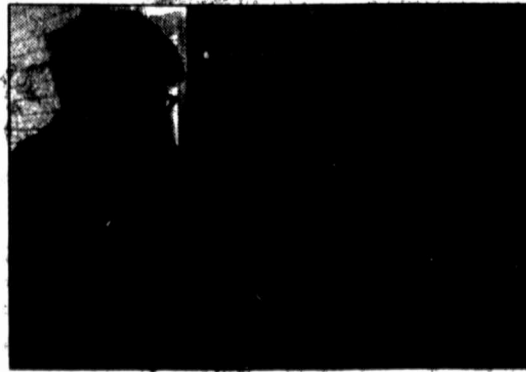
"Sharks in Florida are one thing. But you start hollering piranha and that would be a disaster," Shaffland said. "This is a fish that occupies a unique place in the sociological consciousness."

CLUB NEWS



Cindy Freshour of the Southwestern Bell Pioneers presents a stereo to Kenzie Rodriguez of Washington Elementary. It was a reward for perfect attendance.

Two Washington Elementary students received CD "boom boxes" as a reward for perfect attendance in the first semester. The gifts were presented by members of the Southwestern Bell Pioneers, Permian Basin #84, which is trying to help improve attendance at elementary schools in the Permian Basin.



Colton Watson receives his boom box from Shirley Whitehead.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

THE HOWARD COUNTY LITERACY PROGRAM is seeking tutors to teach adults how to read.

The program requires a commitment of one to three hours each week, with long-term involvement with each student recommended. Material and training are provided to each tutor, as well as support. Scheduling flexibility is available.

To volunteer call Loraine Redman, Howard County librarian, at 264-2260.

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

JAN 13 2000

'Freaks and Geeks': A fresh new course in high school life

NEW YORK (AP) — "Freaks and Geeks" reminds us that it's not enough just to say "outsider." Alienation comes in many shapes and sizes, and this drama, as its title might suggest, celebrates the rich variety.

Set in a midwestern high school, circa 1980, "Freaks and Geeks" is a knowing, affectionate and often very funny out-post on the rim of suburban life. What we find there resists stereotypes and Hollywood styling. The look of the show is remarkably unremarkable. The characters, like the world they occupy, seem captured as they really are.

"Freaks and Geeks" is hardly TV's first showcase for teenage outcasts. What makes it so special is its fresh take on outsider status.

Now, happily, this wonderful show has been rescued from the Saturday fringes of the NBC schedule, where, since its September premiere, no one knew about it but adoring critics. NBC has moved the series to a more accessible slot: Mondays at 7 p.m. CST. Its survival there apparently depends on an instant upsurge in the ratings.

Here's hoping. "Freaks and Geeks" centers on Lindsay Weir. A bright but disaffected sophomore, she has sought refuge from one fringe group (the school's brain trust) by penetrating another (the fun-loving, rules-defying freaks).

"Oh, you're that chick who got an A," says gratuitous burnout Daniel, trying to place her.

"Yeah, well," says Lindsay, feeling nailed. "Whadaya gonna do?"

Played by the adorable Linda Cardellini, Lindsay is a complicated mix of goodwill, gumption and free-floating peevishness. The recent death of Lindsay's grandmother has shaken her, triggering fundamental doubts.

Now, as she tries to redefine herself, everyone is on her case — especially her father (Joe Flaherty), who, dispensing guidance, always cites the worst-case scenario.

"You know who used to cut class?" he lectures Lindsay. "Jimi Hendrix. You know what happened to him? He DIED!"

"I just cut one class!" Lindsay fires back. "And guess what? Everybody's still alive!" She's alive, yes, but steeped in confusion.

She dreads a first date with

NBC has moved the series to a more accessible slot: Mondays at 7 p.m. CST. Its survival there apparently depends on an instant upsurge in the ratings.

her would-be boyfriend Nick, whom she assumes will expect her to go all the way. Instead, he serenades her off-key to a Styx record ("Laaaady! When you're with me I'm smiling!"), she's disappointed that he won't make out a little.

In a chronic funk, Lindsay views her world through wary eyes. She reacts to its absurdities with a stricken smile. And in the face of all the brazen winners who surround her, she seems hellbent on taking up for the underdog.

Another underdog: her freshman brother. Played by John Daley, Sam is a sweet kid who, small and immature for his age, is dwarfed even by the petite Lindsay, who on at least one occasion defends him against a bully.

Unlike Lindsay, Sam is fundamentally happy hanging out with his geek pals. Together they endure the indignities of PhysEd and contemplate such issues as, "Will girls ever like us?"

On last week's episode, a lovely transfer student befriends Sam and his chums. She launches model rockets with them. She pigs out with them at an all-you-can-eat ribs restaurant. She's a dream come true for the boys.

Then comes the question: Other than keeping her from the clutches of the "in" crowd, what should be their next move?

Sam: "OK, we're all in love with her. And obviously she likes all of us. So now all we have to do is decide who gets her."

Gangly, bespectacled Bill: "How do we do that?"

Sci-fi nut Neal: "The same way we decided who had to stand in line for 'The Empire Strikes Back' tickets."

Sam: "I'll get the hat."

As its heroes struggle to maintain their footing against the undertow of adolescence, "Freaks and Geeks" is funny without being phony, tender without being sentimental, honest without being harsh.

Professors argue 'glass ceiling' firmly in place for women

STANFORD, Calif. (AP) — Women may be moving on to corporate boards and into chief executive offices, but a national study concludes that the glass ceiling is still firmly in place.

Women make up just 10 percent of senior managers in Fortune 500 companies, according to a Harvard Business Review article published this week, because barriers to promotion remain widespread.

Authors Debra Meyerson and Joyce Fletcher said the way to end workplace discrimination is to stop trying for a revolution.

Instead the women, who are both business professors, suggested a strategy of what they call "small wins" — a series of incremental changes aimed at the subtle discriminatory forces.

"It's not the ceiling that's holding women back; it's the whole structure of the organizations in which we work: the foundation, the beams, the walls, the very air," said Ms. Meyerson, of Stanford University.

Specific changes could include scheduling longer job interviews to give job seekers a better chance to explain their strengths and abilities, or devising new ways to let employees get credit for "invisible work" — tasks that are

necessary but rarely noticed. Ellen Hancock, president and chief executive of Exodus Communications, a leading Internet host for businesses, said "there is a real problem when there are so few women running the top 500 companies in the U.S."

She urged women "to make sure that the corporate culture of their company supports them," adding: "If not, they should move."

A study published in November by Catalyst, a women's advocacy group, found that 11.9 percent of the 11,681 corporate officers in America's top 500 firms were women, up from 8.7 percent five years ago.

But the group also found that women are most likely to be in "staff" jobs such as human relations and public relations and not in "line" jobs. It is from line officer positions — those who run the factories, head the sales staffs and supervise the accounting — that promotions to senior management tend to come, the group said.

Hewlett-Packard Co. chief executive Carly Fiorina, who garnered national attention when she was appointed in July, has said she believes "competitive industries don't have any time for glass ceilings."

SCHOOL

Continued from Page 5A

third, Moss; Ashton Fillingim, fourth, Moss; Cadry Gibbs, fourth, Moss; Ashley Slate, fifth, Marcy; Bryan Juan, fifth, Bauer; Natasha Pittman, fifth, Marcy; Alyssa Rains, fifth, Bauer; Augustus Waddy, fifth, Marcy; LeAnn Brumley, sixth, Goliad

Coming Sunday...
It's vs. It's
There vs. their

Do you know the rules
of grammar and word usage?
How does your command of
the language affect your
chances for job success?

Be part of our special bridal section
coming later this month...
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life! section, Big Spring Herald,
P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring

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In Japan, sexually assaulted women have few places to turn

TOKYO (AP) — Raelyn Campbell had heard about the safety of Tokyo's streets and the efficiency of its police. Soon after coming to Japan, however, she came in contact with another reality — an expectation that victims of sex crimes remain silent.

Though Japan has seen many advances toward gender equality over the past few decades, experts say women who have been sexually assaulted often face a familiar old problem — a justice system that is unsympathetic and a society that blames the victim.

Campbell experienced those obstacles firsthand. And while she is not Japanese, social workers and activists say her case is typical — except that she insisted on justice, and is willing to talk about it.

A man followed Campbell to her apartment, threw her against the door and tried to molest her. She fought him off, and the man was arrested.

But when the American woman tried to press charges, police dragged their feet. When the prosecutors took over, they suggested the case be dropped because the attacker — who had confessed — had no prior record and was a source of financial support for his parents. He ended up with a suspended sentence.

"As a general rule in Japan, sex crimes are not dealt with as serious crimes," Campbell says more than a year later.

Because of the stigma of sex crimes, even assessing the situation is extremely difficult, says Kiyomi Takahashi, a counselor at St. Marianna Medical Institute near Tokyo, and Takako Konishi, a psychiatrist at Tokyo's Musashino Women's University.

Of the various forms of assault, molestation of women on commuter trains may be the most common.

says Takahashi, who was sexually abused as a child. "As women, they are considered worthless."

Only 6,124 rapes and sexual assaults were reported in Japan in 1998, the most recent year for which statistics are available. According to police figures for 1997, there were roughly six such crimes for every 100,000 people 15 years or older.

By comparison, there were roughly two rapes or sexual assaults reported for every 1,000 people 12 years old or above in the United States in 1998, according to the U.S. Department of Justice.

Supporters of the Japanese justice system say at least part of the statistical gap is due to a genuinely lower incidence rate.

But surveys indicate a high rate of sex-related incidents.

More than 80 percent of 459 Tokyo women in a survey released this past year said they had experienced some sort of sexual assault, ranging from sexually oriented verbal abuse to rape. The survey was conducted by Makiko Sasagawa, a counselor at St. Marianna Medical Institute near Tokyo, and Takako Konishi, a psychiatrist at Tokyo's Musashino Women's University.

The problem is so bad that subway operators have considered making some cars off-limits to all male passengers.

Still, formal complaints are relatively rare. "There are probably passengers who don't report incidents to station authorities, but simply get off and wait for the next train," says Eiichi Okazaki, a spokesman at the Teito Rapid Transit Authority.

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Softball booster

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For more info
Hale at 627-5957
Gun Shop at 267-

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JUCO BASKETBAL
6 p.m.

* Howard Lady F
Midland College L
8 p.m.

* Howard Hawks
College Chaparrals

ON THE

Radio
JUCO BASKETBAL
Women

6 p.m. — Howa
at Midland College
Chaparrals, KBYG

Men
8 p.m. — Howa
Midland College C
KBST-AM 1490.

Television
JUCO BASKET
Men

8 p.m. — Ohio
Wisconsin, ESPN,
9:30 p.m. — St
Oregon State, FXS

Women
7 p.m. — Hawa
Methodist, FXS, C

GOLF
6 p.m. — PGA
round, ESPN, Ch.

IN BRIEF

Lady Steers boosters will meet at ATC tonight

Big Spring Lady Steers Booster Club will meet at 6 tonight in the Big Spring High School Athletic Training Center.

All parents of Lady Steers players are urged to attend.

For more information, call Debbie Churchwell at 264-4135.

Softball boosters slate meeting for Jan. 20

The Big Spring Softball Boosters Club has scheduled an organizational meeting of all players' parents for 6:30 Thursday, Jan. 20, at the Big Spring High School Athletic Training Center.

Members will discuss the year's activities.

All parents of BSHS softball players are encouraged to attend.

Baseball boosters slate meeting for Monday

The Big Spring Baseball Boosters Club has scheduled its next meeting for 6:30 p.m. Monday at the Big Spring High School Athletic Training Center's meeting room.

Members will turn in ads that have been sold, as well as discuss other fund raisers and improvements to the field.

For more information, contact Jim Clements at 267-1069 after 6 p.m.

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.

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

Players will not be paid and will have to pay a \$100 fee and provide their own equipment. The league's season begins in February.

For more information, contact Boles at 264-1111.

AREA GAMES

TODAY JUCO BASKETBALL

6 p.m.
• Howard Lady Hawks at Midland College Lady Chaparrals
8 p.m.
• Howard Hawks at Midland College Chaparrals.

ON THE AIR

Radio JUCO BASKETBALL

Women
6 p.m. — Howard Lady Hawks at Midland College Lady Chaparrals, KBYG-AM 1400.
Men
8 p.m. — Howard Hawks at Midland College Chaparrals, KBST-AM 1490.

Television COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Men
8 p.m. — Ohio State at Wisconsin, ESPN, Ch. 30.
9:30 p.m. — Stanford at Oregon State, FXS, Ch. 29.
Women
7 p.m. — Hawaii at Southern Methodist, FXS, Ch. 29.
GOLF
6 p.m. — PGA Sony Open, first round, ESPN, Ch. 30.

Jones must mine his list of candidates for next Cowboys coach

IRVING (AP) — Jerry Jones hired his first coach before he even bought the Dallas Cowboys. His second hire settled in less than 24 hours after the other guy left.

It took Jones more than a month to find the third guy. Now, as he prepares to hire a fourth coach in 11 years, there's no telling how long he'll need to find Mr. Right.

"I can only assure you that we'll acquire and try to have the brightest people available," Jones said after deciding to get rid of coach Chan Gailey and his offense, too.

On Wednesday, Jones spent Day 1 of the search for the fifth coach in the team's 40-year history in New York handling previously scheduled business. He did not return a phone call from The Associated Press, leaving his intentions

somewhat of a mystery. But not entirely. Jones has said and done enough in recent days and years to suggest that his next coach will be someone who:

- Has never been an NFL head coach,
- Is willing to work cheap,
- Can work with Jones on a 50-50 basis but clearly understand that it's actually 51-49 in favor of Jones, and
- Has a background in offense, preferably one approved by quarterback Troy Aikman.

The Aikman factor is huge. Jones considers No. 8 the No. 1 reason why Dallas can still win the Super Bowl, so he has to have an offense that is to the quarterback's liking. Gailey's wasn't.

As for the other items, the second and third ones are the reason why the first is a cinch.

Nobody who has sat in the big chair for another team would accept those conditions, not even for a franchise as prestigious as the Cowboys.

But someone who has always dreamed of being a head coach and is looking for their big chance would jump at the offer, especially for a franchise as prestigious as the Cowboys.

Gailey did. He'd been an assistant in the NFL for 10 years, the last two as Pittsburgh's offensive coordinator, when Jones stumbled onto him weeks into his 34-day search for Barry Switzer's replacement.

Gailey's enthusiasm and offensive ideas impressed Jones. His willingness to be a good trooper cinched the deal once former UCLA coach Terry Donahue backed out over money and control.

"I think as long as everyone under-

stands the structure, it's not a problem," Gailey said.

Jones' first two hires were easy because he went back 30 years with Jimmy Johnson and Switzer. Lou Holtz is about the only one left in that pipeline and Jones knows that wouldn't work.

So Jones will have to start from scratch, just like he did last time. That shouldn't be too tough for someone who once said any of 500 people could coach his team.

But the nearly five-week journey to find the last coach may have taught Jones that it's as difficult as wildcatting for oil. Remember, Gailey wasn't even on Jones' radar when he started looking last time.

The obvious suspects are Washington

See SEARCH, page 2B

Steers boss set for 5-4A opener

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
Sports Editor

Nothing, not even a loss to Midland Trinity on Monday, is going to keep Big Spring head basketball coach Jimmy Avery from being optimistic about Friday night's District 5-4A opener in Andrews.

Avery has every reason to adopt a rosy outlook.

The Steers are, after all, entering district play with a 13-10 record — that's more than twice as many wins at this juncture than they'd recorded in Avery's first year at the Big Spring helm.

What's more, there doesn't appear to be a District 5-4A team that is literally "head-and-shoulders" better than the rest of the field this season.

While Avery will quickly mention Snyder's Tigers when asked to pick a league favorite, he just as quickly maintains his Steers are capable of doing anything in the 5-4A chase, as is the rest of the field.

"Right now, I'd say Snyder is ahead of everybody ... they're the most fundamentally sound team in the district," the Steers boss explained.

"Otherwise, the district's awfully close," he added. "(San Angelo) Lake View's probably down more than anybody else because they lost such a great senior class last year, but they're still a very capable team.

"I honestly don't see a really dominant team in the district," Avery continued. "That means that a lot of games are going to be close and there's no telling who'll come out of this and go on to the playoffs."

With the way his team has improved this season, Avery isn't about to leave his Steers out of the mix. In fact, he's clearly convinced that his team can achieve a couple of goals that few would have believed were possible at the start of the season.

"I think a lot of people thought I was crazy, but one of my goals for this team this season was to win 20 games," Avery noted. "Looking at it now, I think that's really possible."

"I'm not going to sit here and say we're going to go 7-3 in district, or 8-2, or anything like that," he added. "As a matter of fact, from what I've seen, any team in the district could get hot and win all 10 district games. But any of us could have a few breaks go against us, have a couple of key injuries and lose all 10, you just never know."

One thing is certain, however. The Steers will have their hands full once Friday's 7:30 p.m. tip with the Mustangs arrives.

The Mustangs have always been difficult to beat in their own gym, and that hasn't changed with the arrival of a new coach.

"Andrews is scrappy ... they always have been," Avery explained. "And now they've got a new coach and a new system. They like to use their athletic ability ... run up and down the floor and shoot a lot."

The Mustangs' new free-wheeling style makes them somewhat unpredictable.

"It just depends on whether they're shooting well or not," the Big Spring boss added. "The other night they scored 31 points in the first quarter against Levelland ... that's scary."

"Now, they cooled down and wound up



Big Spring reserve guard Ricky Smith (14) drives to the hoop and hits a layup during the Steers 73-68 win over Lorenzo on Jan. 4. The Steers open District 5-4A play at 7:30 p.m. Friday in Andrews.

winning by just eight, but they'd built such a big lead in the first quarter that it would have been hard for them to lose."

That's a scenario Avery and his Steers are somewhat familiar with following Monday's 58-47 loss to Midland Trinity, although the Chargers were able to jump out to a commanding first half lead as a result of poor shooting on Big Spring's part, rather than being red-hot themselves.

"We just had a game where we couldn't buy a basket in the first half," Avery said, maintaining that even with the loss, the Steers benefited from the experience by rallying in the second half.

"It wound up being a good experience for us, because it forced us to step our level of play," he added. "It was either that or get our lungs kicked in, but we raised our level of play in the second half ... showed some guts on offense, and that pleases me."

From top to bottom, the Big Spring roster is composed of workmen — players that

are workmanlike. "We don't have any stars ... there's not a kid on our roster that you can look at and say, 'Well, he's going to give us 20 or 25 tonight,'" Avery explained. "Instead, we almost always have two or three kids that are going to come up and score 10 to 15 points, but you never know which two or three it's going to be."

Some nights it will be guards Justin Dille or John Purcell that come up big. On others it's swingman Jason Woodruff or posts Lance Brock and Blair Nutting.

The scoring lead could just as easily come from reserves like Clarence Wilkins or Arthur Belvin.

"The really good thing about that is that it makes us awfully hard to scout ... at least our offense is," Avery concluded. "But what you can count on is this bunch of kids ... every one of them ... is going to play good defense and they're going to battle you all night."

One job, 499 candidates for Jerry Jones to consider hiring

A half-dozen years ago, Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones took the wraps off his new hire, and right after the laughter died down, he introduced Barry Switzer as one of 500 coaches who could get the team back to the Super Bowl.



JIM LITKE

Switzer did exactly what he was told, the Cowboys won a Super Bowl and Jones was the one who laughed last.

But that partnership fell apart soon enough, and now that Chan Gailey, Switzer's successor, is out of the equation, getting back to the big game should be easy enough. All Jones has to do is find

one of the 499 coaches he missed the last time.

"I have no criticism of Chan at all," he said Tuesday night. "Anybody who places the responsibility of our failures on Chan Gailey is not giving it an honest go."

Yet for reasons that will become clear in a moment, determining who was responsible for the Cowboys problems was the one place Jones seemed unwilling to go. He had no problem saying what the problem was not.

"It was not about egos," Jones said. "Maybe because he's been there, done that. A clash of egos is what cost Jimmy Johnson his coaching job, despite coming off back-to-back Super Bowl wins."

"It was not about friendships gone awry," Jones said. Presumably, that was Switzer's sin. It was not about the players quitting

on Gailey, either.

"They tried their hearts out," Jones said. "They worked at it to try to make it productive."

So, where else to look? Try holding the roster up alongside the Cowboys' salary-cap figures, and the problem seems transparent enough. Michael Irvin and a few other household names from past years spent too much time at home and in the trainer's room healing. There was no depth and not enough wiggle room to restock.

How did that happen? Too many poor draft choices. Too many aging veterans signed to big contracts.

Whose fault was that? In order, the general manager and the personnel director.

And they are? In order, Jones and his son, Stephen.

And if there is any justice in the world, those two would be on the hook

to clean the mess up.

Let's be fair. There are not easy times to guide an NFL franchise, whether it's from field level or a luxury box. Former commissioner Pete Rozelle had this feverish dream about parity years ago, even if he never envisioned that free-agency and the salary cap would make it come true.

The Cowboys were one of nine teams that finished the regular season 8-8. Another 10 teams finished within two games of .500. It should come as little surprise that the Cowboys became the fifth team to hang a "vacancy" sign on the coach's door.

When Jones bought the team in February 1989, the league was still wide open for business. He got Troy Aikman with the No. 1 pick that spring, unloaded Herschel Walker in a trade

See LITKE, page 2B

Here is the week compiled by the Wildlife Department...

CENTRAL: BROWNWOOD: degrees; black b... Crappie are good...

BUCHANAN: Degrees: 1007.2... 5.8 pounds are...

PROCTOR: V degrees; black b... nerbaited fish...

SOUTH: AMISTAD: W degrees; 30.5 l... fair on crankb...

WEST: ALAN HENRY: ARROWHEAD: 10... slow. Crappie...

HUBBARD CREEK: 47.50 degrees; 9... to 11.8 pounds...

KEMP: No report... NASWORTHY: NOCONA: Water...

OH. IVE: Water... black bass are...

ROSS: 51 degrees; 8... 40 on jigs and...

SPENCE: W degrees; black... Texas-ridged...

TWIN BUTTES: degrees; 40 f... report due to...

WHITE RIVER: S...

On day Charlotte's Phills dies, NBA decides games must go on

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rather than shut down the NBA for a day following the death of Bobby Phills, the show went on, and so did the Los Angeles Lakers' winning streak.

Los Angeles led 16 victories in a row Wednesday night with a victory in Milwaukee on a sad day all around the league, with players grieving and stunned by the sudden death of Phills in a car crash in Charlotte.

"It makes you think what life is really about, that we're not invincible," Vancouver's Dennis Scott said. "We play a game that we dearly love so much and get a lot of recognition for it. But it only takes two seconds for the good Lord to take it all away from you."

Teams were told by the league office to observe a moment of silence for the 30-year-old Phills, who was killed instantly in a head-on collision less than a mile from the Charlotte Coliseum.

The Hornets' game against the Chicago Bulls was postponed.

In Milwaukee, the Lakers and Bucks wore black arm bands on the uniforms as Los Angeles tied the second-longest winning streak in franchise history. Shaquille O'Neal had 27 points and 10 rebounds, Kobe Bryant scored 22 points and Eric Rice had 20.

Elsewhere, Portland beat Cleveland 95-75, Phoenix edged Vancouver 95-92, Detroit downed New York 114-108, Indiana topped Washington 117-102, Seattle topped Denver 103-93, Toronto defeated Orlando 105-102 and Boston beat the Los Angeles Clippers 95-88.

The win matched the Lakers' 16-game string in 1990-91, but still left them 17 short of the NBA-record 33 games the Lakers won in 1971-72 — a streak that ended against the Bulls.

Can the Lakers reach that lofty mark? Can anyone? Coach Phil Jackson isn't sure.

SEARCH

Continued from page 1B

coach Norv Turner and St. Louis offensive coordinator Mike Martz.

Turner doesn't completely fit the aforementioned profile, but he holds a bigger hammer: a tight bond with Aikman. However, Redskins owner Daniel Snyder has said he's keeping Turner and it wouldn't make sense for Snyder to let his coach jump to a division rival.

Turner, preparing his team for Saturday's playoff game at Tampa Bay, played down the speculation Wednesday.

"It's unfortunate that my name comes up in that discussion at any time over the last couple of months or now," Turner said. "Obviously, we're in the middle of getting ready for a big playoff game, and I hope to be here for a lot more playoffs games."

Martz, a Turner disciple, has been mentioned for several of the other four NFL head coaching vacancies but he can't be interviewed until the Rams' season ends.

Being a hot commodity means Martz may have the luxury of picking his team, rather than it being the other way around.

But there's a chance he'd choose the Cowboys. Considering that he got Kurt Warner to throw 41 touch-

snapped a three-game losing streak by winning at Vancouver.

Despite going 4-for-18 from the field, Kidd went 11-for-13 from the free-throw line and added 10 rebounds and 10 assists as the Suns won for only the second time in seven games.

Othella Harrington scored 19 points and Shareef Abdur-Rahim and Michael Dickerson had 17 each for the Vancouver Grizzlies, who blew an opportunity to win their franchise-record fourth straight game.

"We just know that at a certain point in a game, we're going to hold them down, and we're going to start hitting shots," Bryant said. "We're sure from the get-go."

Milwaukee, which had its six-game home winning streak snapped, is the ninth team with a winning record that the Lakers have beaten during the season.

The Lakers are two wins away from joining five other teams in league history with 18-game streaks. Only three teams, including the 1970-71 Bucks and the 1971-72 Lakers, have won more than 18 straight games.

"As far as 33 in a row, we'll worry about it at the end," Bryant said. "People are talking about it every day, but we're not."

SuperSonics 103, Nuggets 93 Gary Payton went on a tear following an exchange of words with Denver coach Dan Issel, finishing with 35 points.

The Sonics, who trailed 85-84 after Denver's Keon Clark tipped in a missed shot with 8:44 remaining, outscored the host Nuggets 19-8 the rest of the way, including seven points by Payton and five by Brent Barry, who had 21.

Raptors 108, Magic 102 Vince Carter had 30 points and a career-high nine assists as the Raptors snapped a three-game losing streak.

Muggsy Bogues had a season-high 22 points and shot 10-of-11 from the free-throw line. Tracy McGrady added 16 points.

candidate who can't be ruled out. The guy knows the team inside and out, has gotten along great with Jones for years and wouldn't cost much. He has no coaching experience, but he'd love the chance to call all the plays; so maybe you're already done.

But it probably won't happen. Because if Jerry Jones hires himself to coach the Cowboys, there would come a day when he'd have to fire himself, too.

There is one other long shot

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SPORTS EXTRA

NFL PLAYERS

Table with NFL Standings: AFC East, AFC South, AFC West, NFC East, NFC West.

NBA STANDINGS

Table with NBA Standings: Eastern Conference, Western Conference.

JUCO - MEN

Table with JUCO Men Standings: Division I, Division II.

JUCO - WOMEN

Table with JUCO Women Standings: Division I, Division II.

NCAA - MEN

Table with NCAA Men Standings: Division I, Division II.

NCAA - WOMEN

Table with NCAA Women Standings: Division I, Division II.

NHL

Table with NHL Standings: Eastern Conference, Western Conference.

LITKE

Continued from page 1B that would bring Emmitt Smith, Darren Woodson and a handful of serviceable players and cut a few marketing deals to line his pockets besides.

TRANSACCIONS

BASEBALL: American League, National League.

BASKETBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE, NATIONAL LEAGUE.

FOOTBALL

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE.

HOCKEY

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE.

WOMEN'S SOFTBALL

NATIONAL WOMEN'S SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

NATIONAL WOMEN'S TENNIS ASSOCIATION.

Table with Women's Softball Standings: Division I, Division II.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Table with Women's Tennis Standings: Division I, Division II.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Table with Women's Basketball Standings: Division I, Division II.

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Table with Women's Volleyball Standings: Division I, Division II.

WOMEN'S GOLF

Table with Women's Golf Standings: Division I, Division II.

WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Table with Women's Swimming Standings: Division I, Division II.

WOMEN'S WATER POLO

Table with Women's Water Polo Standings: Division I, Division II.

WOMEN'S JUDO

Table with Women's Judo Standings: Division I, Division II.

WOMEN'S KARATE

Table with Women's Karate Standings: Division I, Division II.

WOMEN'S TABLE TENNIS

Table with Women's Table Tennis Standings: Division I, Division II.

WOMEN'S ARTS AND CULTURE

Table with Women's Arts and Culture Standings: Division I, Division II.

WOMEN'S MUSIC

Table with Women's Music Standings: Division I, Division II.

WOMEN'S THEATRE

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WOMEN'S FILM

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WOMEN'S TELEVISION

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WOMEN'S RADIO

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WOMEN'S ARTS AND CULTURE

FISHING REPORT

Here is the weekly fishing report as compiled by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for Jan. 13. (Report also available on Web at www.txfishing.com.)

CENTRAL
BROWNWOOD: Water clear; 58 degrees; black bass are fair on spinnerbaits fished in 2 to 10 feet. Crappie are good on minnows fished around the docks in the evening and over brush piles during the day. Hybrid strippers are good on white jigs and slabs fished in 25 to 30 feet. Catfish are slow.

BUCHANAN: Water clear; 55 degrees; 1007.87; black bass to 5.8 pounds are good on Creme Scoundrel worms, jigs-n-pigs and Red Rat-L-Traps fished along breaklines and lake points. Crappie are very slow on minnows. White bass are fair vertically jigging 1/8oz. Horizon Perk Minnows and casting or trolling Spin Traps or small crankbaits in the channels. Striped bass are good drifting live bait and trolling 1/2oz. bucktail jigs in 18 to 28 feet at midlake. Channel and blue catfish are slow on cut baits or bloodbait. Flatheads are fair in deeper holes on live goldfish.

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

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

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

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

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

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

KEMP: No report available.

NASWORTHY: No report available.
NOCONA: Water clear; 52 degrees; black bass are fair on chrome jigging spoons fished in 15 to 25 feet and black/blue jigs fished in 10 to 18 feet. Crappie are good on jigs and jigging spoons fished in 15 to 30 feet. White bass and hybrid strippers are fair on chrome jigging spoons fished in 15 to 30 feet. Channel and blue catfish are slow. Yellow catfish are slow.

OAK CREEK: Water fairly clear; 50 degrees; black bass are fair on jig-n-pigs and crankbaits. Crappie are slow on minnows and jigs. White bass are fair on minnows and white RoadRunners. Channel and blue catfish are fair on nightcrawlers and prepared baits.

OH. LIVE: Water clear; 52 degrees; black bass are fair on spinnerbaits fished in 2 to 4 feet. White bass are fair to good on slabs and jigging spoons fished in the creek channels in 40 feet. Catfish are slow.

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

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

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

SWEETWATER: Water murky; 52 degrees; 12 low; black bass to 4.85 pounds are slow on white spinnerbaits. White bass are good on small spinnerbaits. Few people on the lake due to poor weather conditions.

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

WHITE RIVER: No report available.

Especially for kids and their families
The Mini Page

By BETTY DEBNAM

Hello, Rocky Mount, N.C.!

The Kids of 1999



Page surveyed some kids at Englewood Elementary School in Rocky Mount, N.C.



Rocky Mount
Rocky Mount is about halfway between New York and Florida. It has a population of about 58,000 and has been named twice as an All-America City.

The railroad runs down the middle of Main Street, dividing the city so part is in one county and part is in another.

Rocky Mount is the sweet potato capital of the world, and the original home of Hardees restaurants.

The Mini Page thanks all of the students and Mary McAdams, counselor, at Englewood Elementary School for their help with this issue.



Here are some of Rocky Mount's biggest fads. Put a check if these are popular where you live.



Favorite authors

- J.K. Rowling (Harry Potter books)
- R.L. Stine
- E.B. White
- Judy Blume
- Beverly Cleary

Character education

Englewood Elementary received a national honor for its character education program, teaching:

- trustworthiness
- respect
- caring
- perseverance
- responsibility
- fairness
- courage
- self-discipline
- citizenship

In September and October, Hurricane Floyd caused flooding in Rocky Mount and other eastern North Carolina cities. Many people lost their homes.

Students and parents collected food and supplies for flood victims.

Character Eddie is Englewood's character education mascot.

Can you identify these faces of 1999?



Answers: 1. Will Smith, 2. Michelle Williams, 3. Michael Jordan, 4. J.K. Rowling, 5. Elizabeth Berkley, 6. Cher, 7. Madonna, 8. Britney Spears, 9. Robin Williams, 10. Ashley Olsen, 11. Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen, 12. John Travolta, 13. Shaquille O'Neal, 14. Natalie Portman, 15. Shania Twain, 16. Melissa Joan Hart.

Funny Phonics

It's fun to learn phonics, or the sounds letters make. This week's target sound is the one made by the long A. The letter A makes two sounds. The long A says its name, as in the sound you hear in the darkened words below.

Q: What does an ape sleep on?
A: An apricot!

Q: What three letters make a boy a man?
A: Age!

Wendy: Knock, knock.
Anne: Who's there?
Wendy: Amos!
Anne: Amos who?
Wendy: A mosquito just bit me!

Go on an A-word hunt. What other words can you find beginning with the letter A? What sound do you hear?

The Mini Page Map of the U.S.A. LEARN THE STATES... and each state's Capital, Flower and Bird. Includes a map of the United States and a coupon for a free map.

KIDS OF 1999 TRY 'N FIND Words that remind us of the kids of 1999 are hidden in the block below. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally. See if you can find: KIDS, COOL, CHARACTER, FADS, POPULAR, ROWLING, STINE, WHITE, BLUME, CLEARLY, RUGRATS, POKEMON, MUSIC, HATS, BAGGY, BANGS, BASEBALL, PURSES.

Mini Spy ... Mini Spy and her friends are playing with Pokémon cards and yo-yos. See if you can find: elephant's head, ruler, letter A, safety pin, peanut, letter C, letter J, key, bell, word MINI, heart, number 8, butterfly, number 3.

Fads From A to Z Here are some popular things from around the country. Circle the fads that are big where you are. A: all-black outfits, alternative music, Army fatigue clothes, backward hats, baggy clothes, bangs, baseball, baseball shirts, basketball, Beanie babies, bell-bottoms, big purses, bike riding, boot-cut jeans, butterfly hair clips, C: capri pants, cargo pants, collecting sports cards, computers, corn rows, D: drawing, E: even-cut hair, earrings, F: flannel shirts, flip-flop shoes, football, French braid, Furby, G: golf, glasses, H: hair clips, Harry Potter books, Hawaiian-style shirts, hip-huggers, I: in-line skating.

More Favorites From Rocky Mount Includes photos and descriptions of popular items like Pokémon, Vests, and Yo-yos.

J: jeans, jersey, jewelry, K: keychains on backpacks, L: layered hair, Legos, long shorts, long skirts, M: manicured nails, movies, N: nail polish, neon colors, Nintendo, P: pedal pushers, platform shoes, Pokémon, ponytails, R: R&B music, rap music, reading, S: short hair, shoulder-length hair, skateboarding, soccer, softball, spaghetti straps, stuffed animals, swimming, T: T-ball, T-shirts, tank tops, thin jackets, tight jeans, V: V-neck shirts, video games, W: wide-leg pants, Winnie the Pooh, Y: yo-yos.

More favorites from around the country Authors: Tomie dePaola, Johanna Hurwitz, Eric Carle, Jan Brett, Brian Jacques, Cory Elementary, Denver, Colo., Survey teacher: Vivian Gutierrez. Fads: baggy pants, cargo pants, skateboarding, Star Wars, yo-yos, Thomas Jefferson Middle School, Jefferson City, Mo., Survey teacher: Ernestine Grimes. Musical artists: Fleetwood Mac, Hanson, Michael Jackson, Backstreet Boys, Spice Girls, Merriam Avenue School, Newton, N.J., Survey teacher: Barbara Gingerell. Athletes: Mia Hamm, Ken Griffey Jr., Mark McGwire, Tiger Woods, Venus and Serena Williams, Englewood Elementary School, Rocky Mount, N.C., Survey teacher: Mary McAdams.

PARTNERS IN EDUCATION Tomorrow's workforce is in today's classrooms. The Mini Page Sponsored by: Fina Refinery, Partee Enterprises, Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

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

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1966 Ford Mustang 2/door, red all original interior, good tires, low mileage. \$4,200. Call 263-7323.

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'97 S-10 Blazer 4x4, 4dr, LT pkg, Red/charcoal leather, 1 owner, 55,000 miles. \$14,995. Call Danny 263-0582.

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HAS THE FOLLOWING VEHICLE FOR SALE:

1998 FORD EXPLORER, 52,566 MILES, XLT TRIM, CD PLAYER, LUGGAGE RACK, ANTI-THIEF SYSTEM, CAPTAINS CHAIRS, EXCELLENT CONDITION.

Sealed bids will be accepted through January 31, 2000. A minimum bid of \$16,500.00 has been set. The vehicle may be viewed at Cosden Federal Credit Union at I-20 and Refinery Road, Big Spring, Texas between the hours of 9:00a.m.-5:00p.m. Monday-Thursday and 10:00a.m.-6:00p.m. Friday. If you have any questions, you may call Cindy Langston, Collections Officer at 264-2600 ext. 239.

SUBURBANS
For Sale: 1998 Dodge Caravan SE. Loaded. 36K. Call 263-1361 M-F, 9-4.

PERSONAL
NEED CASH NOW OPEN E-Z CASH of Big Spring Checking Acct. Required 263-4315

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Convenience store for sale. Up grading done. Call Lewis 268-1315 or 661-8968.

Convenient store great location. Gross sales \$700,000 +. A money maker \$110,000. Call 263-8690.

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Personal/Business Oppt. Bankrupt? Bad Credit? We can help, call toll free 1-877-583-9846

CHILD CARE
Openings now available for 4 year olds. Call 267-4515 or come by 409 Goliad. Rainbow Christian Preschool.

HELP WANTED
BLAST MASTERS, INC. Now hiring mature, motivated people. Lots of out of town travel. Few overnight with expenses paid. Must have valid driver's license. 1711 Snyder Hwy., Big Spring, Texas.

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

Don's Tire & Truck Service S. Service Rd I-20 & Hwy 350 Big Spring, Tx Phone: (915) 267-5205 Taking Applications. Experienced Diesel & Gas Mechanic. Must Have Valid Texas Drivers Lic. Full or Part Time/ pay according to experience. Apply in Person only.

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"Career Opportunity for Howard County Resident"

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

Requirements
✓ Good Driving Record
✓ Reliable transportation
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Benefits
✓ Paid training period
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Call Carter Higgins @ 1-800-573-5459 for appointment.

DRIVER Seeking a F/T Class A local P & D Driver to be domiciled out of Big Spring area. Starting wage \$13.20/hr. Applicants must submit a current DMV Abstract, a valid Drivers License with Hazardous Materials and Double/Triples Endorsements. Must have minimum of 12 years Common Carrier/LLT experience. Excellent company paid benefits. Mail resume to: Attn: Woody 3410 N. Pan. Am Expressway San Antonio, TX 78219 Or send fax to: 210-281-1227 EOE/MF/ADA

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

Entry level or experienced full-time soft drink route person needed. Requirements include being 18 or older, completion of high school or GED, good driving record, capability to perform physically demanding labor, ability to meet people and communicate effectively, and a willingness to work till the job is done. Applicants with Class A-CDL and route sales or commercial driving experience preferred, but the company is willing to train the right person.

Dr. Pepper/Peppi 3611 N. Hwy 87 Big Springs, Texas EEO/AA Employer 263-4186

Friendly, motivated person to join Parks Convention Center team. Part time position available. Apply in person at 311 Gregg.

Full and part time custodial help needed. Call 263-2001.

Good office help needed. Must have phone skills, typing, etc. Send resume to blind box: 221/1431, Big Spring, TX. 79720.

Help wanted. Require 6 mos. experience in retail. Qualified applicants only. Apply in person at Dunlaps Department Store, 111 E. Marcy.

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

Maintenance/make-ready person need'd. Basic carpentry, painting, and a/c skills included. Apply in person 538 Westover. No phone calls please.

Medical Assistant for doctor's office. Send resume to 905 Caprock Drive, Big Spring, Tx. 79720.

MHMR Aids \$1250.00 mo. Big Spring State Hospital has opening for MHMR aids. Qualifications are any combination of education and experience equivalent to high school graduation or GED, plus ability to take and pass the Fitness for Duty test and ABE test. Job duties are providing treatment, care and training to mentally ill and mentally retarded persons.

Big Spring State Hospital 19021 North Hwy 87 Big Spring, Texas 79720 (915)268-7256

HELP WANTED
Licensed plumber needed. Contact 915-561-9440. Ask for Kevin.

LOCAL CABINET MANUFACTURER has immediate opening for assembler and/or machine operator. Experience required. Call 263-3669 days or 268-9209 evenings.

DRIVER EDUCATION TEACHER WANTED Expanding business needs instructor to teach TEA approved driver education course. Instructors are needed to teach the classroom portion of the course. TEA certified applicants only. Inquire at Big Spring Driver Education located in the Big Spring Mall. Please call 915-268-1023 Lic.#C-1200

Dentist seeking Hygienist who is well versed in periodontal therapy, a self starter, who works well with patients and would like to be part of a great team. Please send resume to P.O. Box 514, Sweetwater, TX 79556.

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

MOUNTAIN VIEW LODGE is now hiring CNA's "Excellent benefits" "10 days vacation after one year" "Great starting pay" "Quarterly and Shift bonuses" Apply in person at 2009 Virginia

Need full-time patient & dependable person to work at daycare. Must enjoy children! Call 264-7664 for interview.

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

Howard County Library is accepting applications for part time (30hrs/wk) clerk. Applicant must be 18 or older, a high school graduate and available on Saturdays. Applications must be returned to 500 Main Street by 5:00pm Friday, January 14, 2000.

DELTA LOANS Loans from \$50-\$450 Se Habla Espanol Phone Apps. Welcome 115 E. 3rd. 268-9090.

SUN LOANS Loans from \$100 - \$470 Phone apps. welcome Se Habla Espanol 110 West 3rd. 263-1138

Rolling Plains Memorial Hospital, Sweetwater, TX, an 85 bed JCAHO accredited hospital, has the following opportunities for medical professionals:

- Certified Respiratory Therapy Techs or Registered Respiratory Therapy Techs. Full Time and PRN
- Ultrasound Tech. Vascular and Non-vascular procedures, RMS or Registry Eligible. Full Time. M-F 8 am - 5 pm & call
- Radiology Tech. Registered or Registry Eligible. Full Time. M-F 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. & call
- Licensed Vocational Nurse. Full Time. 7 p.m. - 7 a.m.

Interested candidates should contact the H.R. Dept. at 915-235-1701, ext. 222 or fax resume to 915-235-1783.

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

Part time office help for a non-smoking office. Student OK. Delta Lightning Arrestors, 3204 East I-20 after 3pm. \$6/hr.

Set Own Income! Set Own Hours! Be Your Own Boss! Sign Up Free! AVON 394-4804

Texaco Star Stop # 8 Looking for full/part time employers for our team. Come grow with us. Drug free workplace with drug testing required. Apply in person @ 2501 S. Gregg

The Howard County 9-1-1 Emergency Communications District will be accepting resumes for the position of Director until January 25, 2000 at 5:00p.m. Resumes may be mailed to 309 South Main Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720 or hand delivered to the same address:

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

Van driver/care giver. Apply in person to Jack & Jill, 1708 Nolan. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

Waitress needed for split shift Monday - Saturday. Must be 18. Apply @ Red Mesa Grill 2401 Gregg.

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

LOANS
\$5,000/\$50,000 \$5 "CALL NOW APPLY" FREE 1-888-935-2021 "FOR APP"

1000 NEW CUSTOMERS No Credit - No Problem Loans \$100-\$467 Apply by phone 267-4591

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LOANS
MIDWEST FINANCE Loans \$100-\$430. Open M-F 9-6pm. 612 Gregg. 263-1353. Phone apps. welcome. Se Habla Espanol.

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GRAIN, HAY OR FEED
Kline grass hay for sale. Round bales. Call 394-4527 after 6:00pm.

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7 week old Boston Terrier puppies. Have 1st shots. 1 male, 1 female. \$200 ea. 264-9026.

Registered Chihuahua puppies for sale. In Snyder, unusual colors. Call 915-573-2333.

GARAGE SALES
Estate Carport Inside Sale, 703 W. 16th. Fri. 14, and Sat. 15. 9:30-5:30pm. 57 Yrs. of items. Ref. small items.

Garage Sale: 811 W. 5th. (Salvation Army Bldg.) Sat. 8:30-7. Computer equipment, clothing, misc.

Yard Sale: 1018 S. Nolan. Fri & Sat. 8-7. Lot's of miscellaneous.

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Found: Puppy in the Tubbs addition. Call to claim 263-4909.

Lost - Childs puppy. N. Kyle Rd. Small white puppy with black spots. Blue left eye. Maroon collar. Reward offered. 267-4862 leave message.

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Grand Opening E-Z Rentals 120 days same as cash! SPECIAL 10 free weeks on long term contract. or \$50 - OFF - 120 Namebrand TV's, VCR's, furniture, appliances, etc. 263-4315

Unbeatable Values at **Branham Furniture** 2004 W. 4th In Bedroom, livingroom suites, dinette, sofa sets, computer desk, bunk and canopy beds, mattresses, futons, vanities and new appliances

Z J's BASIC FURNITURE Living room, bedroom suites, dining room sets, at unbelievable low prices. Located in old Wheat's building. Come see us today. 115 E. 2nd. 263-4563

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8 acres w/trailer house & lg. metal storage bldg. due N. of old Dairy Queen near Coahoma on Swinney St. 263-4410.

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FOR LEASE: 5600 sq ft. warehouse with 3 offices on 2 acres. fenced land. Hwy 350 11/2 mile N. I-20. \$600 + dep. Call Westex Auto Parts 263-5000.

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4 Lots in Trinity Memorial Garden of Olivete. Below cost. Sold separately or together. 915-694-3094.

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Low or 0 down! Gov't and bank repo's being sold Now! Financing available. Call Now! 1-800-355-0024 ext 8040.

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Beautiful Executive home. 1009 Driver Rd. 2.69 acres pool, priced below cost. 268-9696 or 263-0664.

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

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

FOR SALE BY OWNER

Split level 3 bdr. 2 bh. 2 car garage. Corner lot sprinkler sys. fence, stor. bldg. Call 263-3280

HOME FOR SALE

Home for Sale in Stanton, Texas. 501 Mason, St. Brick home with 4 Br, 2 ba, 2 la, fireplace, formal dining, breakfast nook, 2 car garage and lots of storage. Call 756-2406.

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3 Br, 2bh inside cellar. Lg shop/garage in back. Make offer. 1303 11th Pl. 915-942-0350.

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at banks who don't give real estate loans because of bad credit, problems or new employment. I do, call L.D. Kirk, Homeland Mortgages. (254) 947-4475.

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Two bedroom, 1906 Rannels. \$300 down. \$272 per month. (806) 791-0367.

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\$233/mo. 2000 model Palm Harbor 3 bed, 2 ba. 653-7800/800-698-8008. (10% dn, 8 pt buy down, 360 mos. 8.5% W.A.C.)

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ABANDONED DOUBLEWIDE

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3 Bedroom 2 baths. Great shape. Call Dimas Avalos (915)363-0881.

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de pagar Renta. Pero su credito esta mal, o no tiene. Venga a verme en A-1 HOMES, Midland, TX. Obllene al telefono 1-800-755-9133 y pregunte por Cuco o Terri, para ayudarle en su casa mueva o usada.

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Invest in a home you will be proud to own. New 4 bedroom fully loaded \$388 per month. Call 1-800-755-9133 5% down, 11.25APR, 360mos., WAC

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15,000 firm. Call 653-7800.

OH, ABANDONED, REPOED,

OH MY!!! Starting as low as \$1,000.00 cash. Ask about the "Special of the Month" Call Brent at (915) 363-0881 or at 1-800-725-0881.

FURNISHED APTS.

Very nice home in Kentwood area. Bdrms & baths roomy and clean. Storage extra large. Scenic view. call for apmt. 267-6585.

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Responsible male 35-55 wanted to share expenses on nice 3BR house. Call 267-4622

UNFURNISHED APTS.

\$99 Deposit, CH/A, Carpeted, Ceiling Fans 1BR \$235/mo - 2BR \$275/mo 915-267-4217

\$99 MOVE IN PLUS

deposit. 1,2,3 bdr. Partially furn. 263-7811 a.m. 393-5240 evenings

UNFURNISHED HOUSES

1 br, 1 bath, 1102 Sycamore. No Pets!! Call 267-3841 or 270-7309.

1409 E. 18th

3Br, 1 1/2bth, CH/A, Carpeted cellar. Water Paid. \$535/mo., \$250/dep. 263-3689.

1610 State St.

2 bdr. 1 bh. 2-car garage/detached. \$300/mo. \$100/dep. 263-1792 or 264-6006

2 bedroom, 11/2 bath

304 E. 5th. No pets. Call 267-3841 or 270-7309.

5 acres w/ trailer house

big barn, lots of pens & tree's & tractor with 10 disc included. Call 394-4475.

UNFURNISHED HOUSES

2 bd, 1 bath Mobile home. New carpet & fridge. Stove, washer & dryer connection. Fenced yard, water paid. No pets. \$250/mo. + dep. 267-2177.

2 bdr mobile home

1407 B Mesquite \$265/mn. \$150/dep. Also: 2 bdr. mobile 1410 rear Harding \$265/mn. \$150/dep. water paid. Call 267-6667.

2 Br stove and refrigerator

Call 267-7666.

2506 Central, Kentwood

add., 3 bdr., 2 bath, C/H/A, garage, fenced yard. Call 263-3350 or 634-0997

2507 Albrook 3/1 \$450

1115 Lloyd 3/1 \$395 1804 B State 1/1 \$175 American Realty (915) 520-7577

3 bdr, 1 1/2 bath, fenced

C/H/A. 4220 Hamilton. \$450/mo. 1 yr lease. Owner/Broker. 263-6514

3 Bedroom, 1 1/2 bath

4219 Hamilton Call 267-3841 or 270-7309.

3 Bedroom, 1 bath, 1602

E. 5th. Call 267-3841 or 270-7309.

4 Br, 1 bh, appliances

1/2 acre. \$350/mo., \$175/dep. 267-7666.

406 E. 10th

2 bdr. C/H/A. \$350 mn. Call 263-5818.

Carpeted 2Br, 1bth, sun

porch, fence, central heat, appliances. No pets, non-smoker. Good credit references. \$350/mo McDonald Realty 263-7616

For Lease or Sale by owner

1413 Sycamore 2 bdr. C/H/A, large back yard. \$300/mn. or \$2000 minimum down \$350/mn. to buy. 915-695-6100.

For Rent or Sale: Owner

finance Coahoma, 3BR/2bth, CH/A, 2 car porch, appliances, fenced yard, storage building, on five lots. Very nice. References required. 264-6301 leave message.

One, two and three

bedroom houses. Call 263-4410.

Very nice home in

Kentwood area. Bdrms & baths roomy and clean. Storage extra large. Scenic view. call for apmt. 267-6585.

3/2 207 Jefferson newly

remodeled \$625/mo + dep.

1 bdr. apt. stove &

refrigerator 407 1/2 E. 8th. \$225/mn. Call 267-2296

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TOO LATES

IF YOU are NOT making AT LEAST \$1,000 per WEEK... WE DEFINITELY NEED TO SPEAK!!! "Our MISSION is to CHANGE YOUR VISION because it's TIME TO CHANGE YOUR Paradigm!" "PARADIGM INTERNATIONAL" 267-2167 Thursday 7PM at Spanky's Coffee Shop 1903 S. Gregg Monday 7PM at Church of the Harvest 1311 Goliad

TOO LATES

Duncan Phyle dining table with 6 chairs and 3 leaves for sale. \$700 OBO. Call 264-0850.

TOO LATES

Yard Sale: 1102 N. Nolan. Fri 10-7. Clothes, flea market items, religious articles, some ceramics, misc. Comanche Trail Nursing Center has openings for CNA's - all shifts. We offer holiday pay, vacation pay & 401K plan. We are also looking for LVN charge nurse with IV experience and leadership qualities. Apply at 3200 Parkway.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR FRIDAY, JAN. 14:

This year, you land on your feet no matter what.

Despite occasional bouts with confusion or frustration (because you never give up), you come back strong. You easily renew and recharge your batteries. Know what you want, and you'll be unbeatable. Home and family play major roles in your life and decisions. If you are single, you are likely to create a very special, comfortable relationship in the first seven months of the coming year. Seek long-term commitments. If attached, you'll enjoy each other as never before. Allow loving and fun to flow. A child proves to be very lucky for you. TAURUS understands you.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

****Your best intentions can become convoluted, presently. Confirm plans, then put your best foot forward. A positive attitude helps you bypass problems and lasso in success. Others seek you out for advice and a fresh perspective. Tonight: Treat yourself well.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ****Your instincts help you make the correct choices, presently. Remain upbeat and positive. Don't sell yourself short. Another's perspective opens doors. Don't jump on the bandwagon unless you feel comfortable. You know what is good for you. Tonight: Be am in what you want.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

****You are out of kilter, though your friends do their best to give you insight. You land what you want, once you clear the confusion around you. Allow yourself some time to ponder what has happened. You gain through reflection. Tonight: Take a night off.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

****Initially, you have your hands full as you attempt to cover your bases carefully. Listen to feedback. Make sure you understand a boss's expectations. You'll not only meet them, but you'll also have reason for celebration. Tonight: Do your Friday thing.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

****Getting a perspective might be difficult. So much is happening so quickly. Be especially careful with friends and

money - together and separately.

Plan a trip in the near future. A winter getaway is just what the doctor ordered. Tonight: Be prepared to go beyond the call of duty.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

****You are out of sorts. However, an associate will come to the rescue. By the end of the day, you'll feel you've reversed a trend. Listen to feedback, but don't get plugged into the story. Postpone a phone call until later, when you can chat. Tonight: Take off ASAP.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

****You might be overly nervous or worried. Adjust plans. Good news and a request demand your presence. Be aware of others' expectations, and you'll come out way ahead. Plan an important one-on-one discussion for later in the day. Tonight: Togetherness counts.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

****Plug into your work. Don't let a momentary disappointment get to you. Communication runs amok, yet your intent comes through. Let your actions speak louder than your words. Others seek you out. You'll be happy about a change in plans. Tonight: Where the action is.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

****You easily misunderstand another. Deal with a boss directly. Don't negate the importance of a particular course of action. Clarify a financial decision. Once you understand, you can make another's expectation happen. Tonight: Handle some personal errands.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

****Keep at it. When encountering a block, go within for the solution. Don't get hitting your head against a wall. Consider another approach. Jump over the wall or walk around it. Creativity is your key to success. Go with it! Tonight: Have fun.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

****Keep talking, even when another slams the door. Get past an immediate reaction, and continue your attempts to clear the air. Return calls. Remain cheerful. You will find the way through the maze. As a result, good news comes. Tonight: Head home.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

****Irritation occurs when dealing with money and

HOROSCOPE

friends. Establish limits. Be open to another's input. You might not like everything you hear, but you'll find a way to harness your funds and let them grow. Communication flourishes. Tonight: At a favorite spot.

BORN TODAY

Rap artist L.L. Cool J (1968), actress Faye Dunaway (1941), columnist Andy Rooney (1919)

For America's best extended horoscope, recorded by

Jacqueline Bigar, call (900) 740-7444, 99 cents per minute. Also featured are The Spoken Tarot and The Runes, which answer your yes-or-no questions. Callers must be 18 or older. A service of InterMedia I nc., Jenkintown, Pa.

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at http://www.jacquelinebigar.com.

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Cover mouth, wash hands is good advice for cold season

DEAR ABBY: Because the season of colds and flu is upon us, I'd like to share with you a verse I think can be credited to the late Ish K. Bibble, a comedian on the "Kay Kaiser Kollege of Musical Knowledge," a popular radio program in the '40s:



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

"I sneezed a sneeze into the air;

"It fell to earth I knew not where;

"But you should have seen the looks on those

"In whose vicinity I snoze!"

Abby, please remind your readers to remember this little verse the next time they feel a sneeze or cough coming on, whether on the street, in a theater, a supermarket, a plane, train or boat - and especially in MY vicinity! Always use a handkerchief, a tissue, your hand or even your shoulder. Those around you will be grateful.

Thanks for passing this along, Abby. - HATES THE SNIFFLES

DEAR HATES: You're welcome. No one wants to be sneezed upon - and colds and flu germs are nothing to be sneezed at. My experts tell me that the hands are the most frequent spreaders of disease. Cold germs can be picked up by touching doorknobs, elevator buttons or telephones that were first handled by infected individuals. When the hand is then used to touch the mouth or nose, or to scratch an eyelid, the cold is transferred to the next "victim." The most effective way to avoid cold and flu germs is to frequently wash one's hands in warm, soapy water.

DEAR ABBY: My granddaughter is being married next April. She and her boyfriend have been living together for four years. It will be the second marriage for her and the third for him.

My question: Do they share the expense of the wedding equally, or does my granddaughter assume the whole financial responsibility? Her fiancé says, "The bride pays for everything - and if you want to marry me, you'll pay for it." Is that right? - ALICE IN ATLANTA

DEAR ALICE: That depends on how you look at it. From my perspective, not only will your granddaughter "pay for it" - she'll pay for it and pay for it and pay for it. He should be ashamed of himself for attempting to place the entire financial burden on her shoulders. He and your granddaughter are a couple and should split the cost of their wedding 50-50. She should think twice about marrying this fellow.

DEAR ABBY: A church here in Minneapolis made up a list of all their male parishioners who died during service in any war.

They put this list on the wall for everyone to see. A 4-year-old boy was standing and looking at the list when the minister came by.

The boy asked the minister, "What is this list for?" The minister replied, "That is all our male parishioners who died in the service."

The boy asked the minister, "Was it during the 9 o'clock or 10:30 service?" - ORVILLE M. ANDERSON, MINNEAPOLIS

DEAR ORVILLE: That's a cute story. Did it really happen, or are you pulling my prayer shawl?

DEAR ABBY: While going through the papers of a recently deceased friend, Jim Heistercamp, a well-known San Francisco personality, I came across a number of barely legible newsletters dating back to 1934, from St. Joseph School in Menomonie, Wis.

On the first page of the January newsletter was printed the enclosed poem, whose message as we approach the new millennium could not be more timely. I hope you'll share it with your readers. - FRANK LEVIN, SAN FRANCISCO

DEAR FRANK: The poem you discovered is a gem, and certainly deserving of space in this column. How generous of you to share it. Read on:

RECIPE FOR A HAPPY NEW YEAR

To leave the old with a burst of song

To recall the right and forgive the wrong;

To forget the thing that binds you fast

To the vain regrets of the year that's past;

To have the strength to let go your hold

Of the not worthwhile of the days grown old,

To dare to go forth with a purpose true,

To the unknown task of the year that's new;

To help your brother along the road

To do his work and lift his load;

To add your gift to the world's good cheer,

Is to have and to give a Happy New Year.

DEAR ABBY: I am a 19-year-old woman who, against my parent's wishes, was recently married. They didn't attend my wedding and told me they would disown me if I got pregnant before I was 24 or so.

Well, three weeks after we were married I became pregnant. I'm now a month along, and my husband's family knows all about it. How do I tell my family? They're already mad at me for dropping out of college and refusing to pay them back for what they agreed to pay for, and I'm afraid this will terminate any relationship we have.

THURSDAY

JAN. 13

	KMID (2)	KPEJ (3)	KERA (5)	FAM (6)	KOSA (7)	WFAA (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	UNI (13)	DISN (14)	NASH (15)	TMC (16)	SHOW (20)	HBO (22)	KMLM (24)	A&E (25)	DISC (26)	TNT (28)	USA (38)	SCIFI (39)	LIFE (40)	TLC (41)
6:30	News (CC) Fortune	Home Imp. Judge Judy	Creatures Zoolomoo	Who's Boss? Random Acts	News Ent. Tonight	News (CC) Fortune	News Seinfeld (CC)	Fresh Prince Fresh Prince	Sonadoras	Movie: Lady and the Tramp (CC) Go Inside Disney's Fairy Tale	Waltons (CC)	Hoodlum (CC)	Menace (CC)	News John Hages	Law & Order (CC)	Wild Discovery	ER (CC)	JAG (CC)	News (CC) JAG (CC)	Science Fic. Vampire's	NFL Stories Straight	48 Hours
7:30	Who's Line? Who's Line?	Movie: Lethal Weapon 3	Wild Islands (CC)	Movie: Avalanche	Diagnosis Murder (CC)	Who's Line? Who's Line?	Jesse (CC)	(05) Movie: Die Hard	Nunca Te Olvidare	Tramp (CC) Go Inside Disney's Fairy Tale	Movie: Zandy's Bride (CC)	Movie: Permanent	Harley Davidson and the Marlboro Man	Movie: Gattaca (CC)	Light of the Southwest	Biography: (CC)	On the Inside	Movie: The Presidio	Tomatoes (CC)	Movie: The Addams	Chicago Hope (CC)	Ferocious Oceans
8:30	Be a Millionaire	Nanny (CC)	Nova (CC)	World's Wildest Magic	48 Hours (CC)	20/20 Downtown (CC)	ER (CC)	(10) Movie: Die Hard	Lante Loco Picardia Mex.	Fantasia/2000 (25) Movie: The Kid (CC)	Championship Bull Riding	Midnight (CC) Movie: Deceiver	Linc's (CC)	Taxcab Confessions (CC)	News Life in Word	Law & Order (CC)	On the Inside	(05) Movie: Trial by Jury	Walker, Texas Ranger (CC)	Movie: The Addams	Golden Girls Golden Girls	Ferocious Oceans
9:30	20/20 Downtown (CC)	Nanny (CC)	Nova (CC)	World's Wildest Magic	48 Hours (CC)	20/20 Downtown (CC)	ER (CC)	(10) Movie: Die Hard	Lante Loco Picardia Mex.	Fantasia/2000 (25) Movie: The Kid (CC)	Championship Bull Riding	Midnight (CC) Movie: Deceiver	Linc's (CC)	Taxcab Confessions (CC)	News Life in Word	Law & Order (CC)	On the Inside	(05) Movie: Trial by Jury	Walker, Texas Ranger (CC)	Movie: The Addams	Golden Girls Golden Girls	Ferocious Oceans
10:30	News (CC) Nightline	Jerry Springer (CC)	News-Lehrer (CC)	700 Club (CC)	News (35) Late	News (37) Late	Ent. Tonight Politically Inc.	News (37) Late	Viviana a la Medianoche	Zorro (CC) Mickey Mouse	In-Fisherman Bassmasters	(15) Movie: Snake Skin	Inside the NFL (CC)	Faith Pleases God	Biography (CC)	Science Mysteries	(05) Movie: The Presidio	Silk Stalkings (CC)	Family (CC)	Designing Unresolved	Slide!	
11:30	Politically Inc. Cheers	Newsradio Unhappy	Lords of the Mafia	Who's Boss? Random Acts	Show (CC) (37) Late	Ent. Tonight Politically Inc.	News (37) Late	(12:06) Oprah Winfrey (CC)	Gordo y Flaca El Biabla	Walt Disney Presents	Am. Legends Roland Martin	Jacket	Movie: Gloria (CC)	Investigative Reports (CC)	Beyond Bizarre	New York Undercover	Movie: Vampire's	Mysteries Commish	Earthquake			
12:30	Guns n' Smokes	Cops (CC) Hollywood	Lords of the Mafia	Paid Program	Grace Under																	

HAGAR



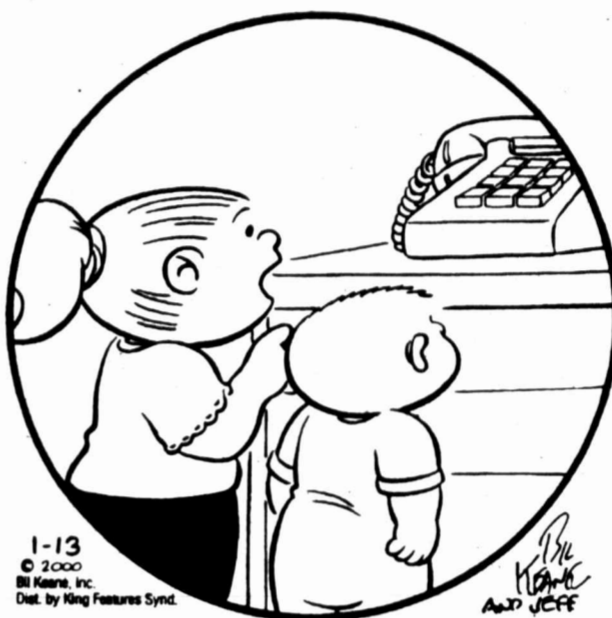
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HI AND LOIS



GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILY



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS Today is Thursday, Jan. 13, the 13th day of 2000. There are 353 days left in the year.

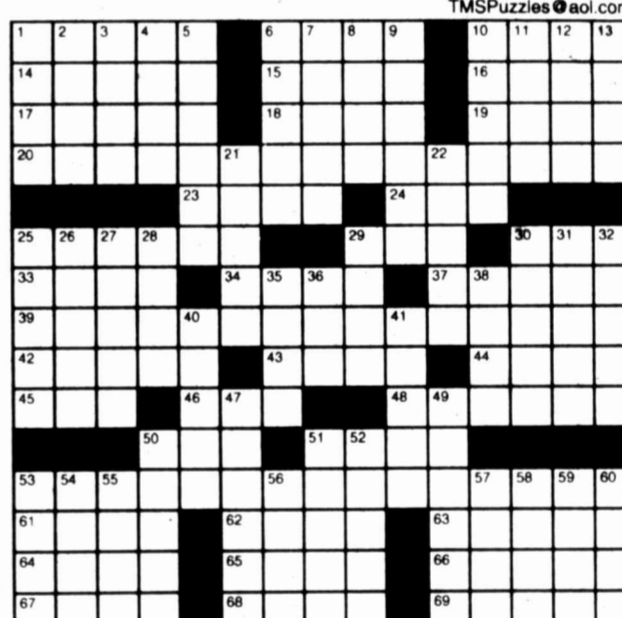
Today's Highlight in History: On Jan. 13, 1794, President Washington approved a measure adding two stars and two stripes to the American flag, following the admission of Vermont and Kentucky to the union. The number of stripes was later reduced to 13.

On this date: In 1864, composer Stephen Foster died in New York. In 1893, Britain's Independent Labor Party, a precursor to the current Labor Party, first met. In 1898, Emile Zola's famous defense of Capt. Alfred Dreyfus, "J'accuse," was published in Paris.

THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS
- 1 Tibetan monks
- 6 St. Louis monument
- 10 Actress Olin
- 14 Florida city
- 15 Landscape dip
- 16 Son of Eve
- 17 Bay window
- 18 Open somewhat
- 19 Last breath
- 20 Biblical injunctions
- 23 Wide shot
- 24 Dumbo's wing
- 25 Overacted
- 29 Former 1/2 country
- 30 Work unit
- 31 Slangy negative
- 34 Brent Spiner on the "Enterprise"
- 37 "A Delicate Balance" playwright
- 39 Guessing game
- 42 Oscar de la
- 43 Jamaican fruit
- 44 Builder's map
- 45 Gridiron meas.
- 46 Money manager: abbr.
- 48 Store, as grain
- 50 Newscaster Lindstrom
- 51 Donated
- 53 Ken Olin sitcom
- 61 Younger Saارين
- 62 Gumbo veggie
- 63 Teach
- 64 Thick slice
- 65 Lacking: suff.
- 66 Andes animal
- 67 "Pursuit of the Graf"
- 68 Historic periods
- 69 French shes



By Philip J. Anderson
Portland, OR

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved



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In 1941, novelist James Joyce died in Zurich, Switzerland. In 1962, comedian Ernie Kovacs died in a car crash in west Los Angeles. In 1966, Robert C. Weaver, President Johnson's secretary of Housing and Urban Development, became the first black Cabinet member. In 1978, former Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey died in Waverly, Minn., at age 66. In 1992, Japan apologized for forcing tens of thousands of Korean women to serve as sex slaves for Japanese soldiers during World War II. In 1993, former East German leader Erich Honecker was freed from prison and allowed to leave for Chile. Ten years ago: L. Douglas Wilder of Virginia, the nation's first elected black governor, took the oath of office in Richmond. Five years ago: Italy named Treasury Minister Lamberto Dini its prime minister. Authorities in the Philippines said they had unearthed a conspiracy by militant Muslims to assassinate Pope John Paul II during his visit. One year ago: President Clinton's legal team dispatched a formal trial brief to the Senate, arguing that neither "fact or law" warranted his removal from office; House officials sent the Senate all public evidence in the case. Michael Jordan announced his retirement from the Chicago Bulls. Today's Birthdays: Actor Robert Stack is 81. Hollywood columnist Army Archerd is 78. Actor Billy Gray is 62. Actor Richard Moll is 57. Rock musician Trevor Rabin (Yes) is 46. Rhythm-and-blues musician Fred White is 45. Actor Kevin Anderson is 40. Actress Julia Louis-Dreyfus is 39. Rock singer Graham "Suggs" McPherson (Madness) is 39. Country singer Trace Adkins is 38. Actress Penelope Ann Miller is 36. Actor Patrick Dempsey is 34. Thought for Today: "If all mankind minus one, were of one opinion, and only one person were of the contrary opinion, mankind would be no more justified in silencing that one person, than he, if he had the power, would be justified in silencing mankind." — John Stuart Mill, English philosopher (1806-1873).