

# BIG SPRING HERALD

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"Reflecting a Proud Community"

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

MONDAY

November 27, 2000

## WEATHER

Tonight:



TONIGHT TUESDAY  
35°-40° 60°-65°

## Parade to go on as scheduled; letters in mail

Saturday's *Herald* Community Christmas Parade will go on as scheduled.

Though the 5:30 p.m. parade will no doubt conflict with the Big Spring Steers' 2 p.m. playoff game against Wichita Falls in Abilene, it is too complex of an event to call a halt at this late date.

The *Herald* congratulates the Steers on their success, and supports them in their playoff effort. As always, the *Herald* will be covering the game.

Parade participants are also advised that letters concerning the parade lineup will be mailed today.

## WHAT'S UP...

### TODAY

□ Big Spring Evening Lions club, 6:30 p.m., 1607 E. Third. Call Janis Dean, 267-3068.

### TUESDAY

□ Intermediate Line Dance Classes, 9 a.m., Senior Citizens Center.  
□ Big Spring Rotary Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room.

### WEDNESDAY

□ Optimist Club, 7 a.m., Howard College Cactus Room.  
□ Big Spring Downtown Lions Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room.  
□ Line dancing, 1 p.m., Senior Citizens Center, Industrial Park.

### THURSDAY

□ Gideons International, Big Spring Camp No. U42060, Herman's, 7 a.m.

## INSIDE TODAY...

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"IF 2 ELVES LEAVE SANTAS WORKSHOP AN HOUR APART..."



28 shopping days 'til Christmas

Vol. 98, No. 24

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## Council to consider Energas settlement in special session

By BILL McCLELLAN  
News Editor

Big Spring City Council will meet in special session at 5:30 p.m. today to discuss a possible settlement with Energas over a rate increase request. The council is expected to go into executive session to discuss



McEWEN

options with its attorney. Also on the agenda is a resolution authorizing Mayor Russ McEwen to execute a settlement agreement with the company. "We are really to the end of the rate case with Energas," McEwen said this morning. "The council will discuss tonight what the settlement options are." Those options haven't been made available publicly; however McEwen said he believes the council will take some sort of action following the closed-door ses-

sion. The rate case dates back more than a year, when Energas first sought an \$11 million increase. That increase was opposed by a coalition of 67 West Texas cities. The coalition formed a steering committee, which hired a consultant to study the issue. The consultant decided that not only should Energas be refused an \$11 million increase but determined the company should decrease rates by \$7 million. The case then went before

the Texas Railroad Commission, which asked the parties involved to work out an agreement. The agreement the parties came up with would allow Energas a rate increase of \$3,010,000. Fifty-nine of the cities involved approved that agreement, but the other eight — including Big Spring — rejected it. Also rejecting the settlement were Lubbock, Brownfield, Wolfforth, Shallowater, Lamesa, Levelland and Hale Center. Last month, the Texas

Railroad Commission turned down a request by Energas to impose a temporary increase in natural gas rates for Big Spring and the seven other cities that had refused the settlement. The Commission approved raising rates temporarily in the cities that had reached a settlement. Customers in those cities began paying an additional \$1.05 on their bills this month. The Railroad Commission's hearing on the final

See COUNCIL, Page 2

## Smith opens new worlds for children

Editor's Note: The following article is one in a series on volunteerism in the Crossroads Area.

By LYNDEL MOODY  
Staff Writer

Reading to the children at Westside Day Care Center is not just telling a story, but is a way to spark their imagination, believes Karol "Smitty" Smith, Retired Service Volunteer Program volunteer.

"I want to encourage them to pick up a book and learn something," she said. "If they read, they may be able to have a more open mind and think for themselves." And she does. Twice a week she reads to the children and adds a few comments of her own.

Reading to the kids is not just for their entertainment but to give them a broader vision of the world, she said. "It expands their vision so they don't have to see something but also can imagine it," she said. "Reading books allows you to see things in your mind and it stimulates the brain cells."

"I like kids and I love to read to them," Smith said. "I remember sitting listening while my father read



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody  
Retired Service Volunteer Program volunteer Karol "Smitty" Smith reads to a class at Westside Day Care Center. Smith wants to encourage the children to pick up a book and think for themselves.

to me." Smith keeps the book she reads faced toward the children and reads the story upside down — a trait she learned while she was a typesetter for a Chicago newspaper.

Though Smith is not a native Texan, she loves the people and the state she has lived in for more than 30 years, she said.

A former map maker and code breaker for the U.S. Navy, she first visited Big

Spring while she was a patient at the VA Hospital. After relocating here, Smith wanted to give back to a community that has been so friendly to her.

"I wanted to do something for Big Spring," Smith said. "The citizens in the city have been more than gracious to a Yankee."

Lately, Smith, who is a Citizens Police Academy (CPA) alumna and involved in many commu-

nity service activities, has needed to cut back — she has gone back to school to earn her degree.

"I am earning my degree in theater arts," she said. "I want to do other things besides read to the children. I would like to interact with the children and let them know how much fun it is to work together and put on a play."

But even as a full time

See VOLUNTEER, Page 2

## Sen. Duncan will visit in Big Spring Tuesday

HERALD Staff Report

State Sen. Robert Duncan is making a visit to Big Spring Tuesday as his new office opens here, as well as to update civic



DUNCAN

club members on state redistricting.

The Texas Legislature will meet in session beginning in January. One of the major issues that will be addressed during the session this year will be redistricting. Sen. Duncan is to speak to Rotary Club of Big Spring members on that subject during a noon meeting at the Howard College Cactus Room.

Before that, however, Sen.

Duncan will be at his new offices at 401 Austin for an open house from 10 until 11 a.m. The public is encouraged to attend.

"We will have a ribbon cutting on Tuesday," said Frances Wheat, district office director for Sen. Duncan.

Although Sen. Duncan can only stay for a short time at the open house, Wheat said, she encourages the public to visit his office

any time.

"The public can come by the office any time," she said. "If they want to voice any concerns, I will make sure it gets to Austin."

The open house is part of a Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating the three business that have recently moved into the building, including Bynum Enterprise and Ralph McLaughlin Financial.

Not so fast, the Democrats insisted, after Secretary of State Katherine Harris, a Bush partisan, certified him the winner with a 537-vote margin over Gore out of some 6 million votes cast.

"The integrity of our self-government is too important to cast into doubt," said Gore's running mate, Joseph Lieberman, reflecting Democratic objections over the manual recounts in Miami-Dade, Palm Beach and Nassau counties.

See ELECTION, Page 2

## Appreciation luncheon set in Rep. Counts' honor

By BILL McCLELLAN  
News Editor

Whether it be economic development, veterans issues or help for the disabled, State Rep. David Counts is always willing to help, officials say — that's why a luncheon is being held in his honor here Thursday.

The event will begin with an 11 a.m. reception, followed by a noon meal at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum East Room.

"I can tell you that without David Counts' help we wouldn't have gotten StarTek. He went to bat for us on several issues to help pull that deal together," Kent Sharp, Moore Development For Big Spring executive director, said of Counts' assistance in paving the way for the call center in Big Spring. "He



SHARP SMITH

has been instrumental in lot of economic development in this area in last four or five years. We are very appreciative of his efforts."

"I don't think there has ever been a time that we asked for help that he hasn't come through for us," said Shelley Smith, chief executive officer for West Texas Centers For Mental Health Mental Retardation. "He is just a tremendous supporter of people with disabilities. He has gone out of his way

See COUNTS, Page 2



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody  
Big Spring Wilderness Camp inmates plant grass at the Heart of the City Park this morning. City officials expect to have the majority of work finished by Saturday in time for the lighting of the Community Christmas Tree.

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### Wreckage from mid-air collision leaves one dead

KATY (AP) — One of two planes that collided over crowded Interstate 10, killing a pilot, narrowly missed the freeway's lanes as it plunged to the ground west of Houston.

Don Lee, the pilot of a Cessna 150 two-seater, died Sunday in the mid-air collision.

The pilot of the other plane, a 1979 Cessna 172 four-seater carrying two people, managed to land safely at West Houston Airport despite severe damage to one wing and one landing gear.

"About a third of the right wing was cut off and hang-

ing down," West Houston Airport manager Woody Lesikar told the Houston Chronicle in Monday's editions. "The right landing gear was also substantially damaged. I don't know how they were able to make it here to the airport. God was with them."

Lesikar said the man and the woman, who were en route to a Baytown airport, were uninjured.

Traffic backed up for miles on the inbound lane of Interstate 10 as wreckage and debris was cleared, according to the Texas Department of Public Safety. Waller County sher-

iff's officers and other authorities investigated the crash.

Investigators from the Federal Aviation Administration and National Transportation Safety Board will also review data from the 5:15 p.m. impact.

A motorist, Michael Whitaker, was returning to Sam Houston State University when the doomed plane fell within five feet of his small pickup just west of the Katy city limits.

"It hit; it wasn't loud. As it hit, I came to a stop," said Whitaker, 18. "Thank God

I'm alive."

Lee, 36, of Katy had flown from College Station en route to Westheimer Air Park in the Houston area.

A Katy hunter and his son, who were searching for deer in the area, said the planes collided about 300 to 500 feet above ground.

"I said, 'It's got to be too close,'" said the father, Gilbert L. Davila. "All of a sudden they collided — that was it. It just lost its wing, and it came straight down."

Witnesses said Lee's plane crashed into the second craft at a 90-degree angle and plunged straight to the ground.

### HOROSCOPE

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, Nov. 28:

You are unusually successful at achieving what you want. You are willing to buck the status quo in order to realize your dreams. Others might let you know loud and clear when they don't agree. Stay focused on security. You also might re-evaluate your possessions to see if they still suit you. If you are single, others see how much you have to offer. Please note the flock of suitors around you. If you are attached, you and your sweetie might not always see eye to eye. Remember, both of you have a lot to offer your partnership. CAPRICORN adores 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)

Take charge and enjoy the limelight. Others seek you out for advice. What you might find difficult is that, after giving him all your time, another goes off and does exactly what he wants. Avoid becoming vested in others' decisions. Look at yourself as a source of information. Tonight: In the limelight.

#### TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Make inquiries. Seek out other points of view. You break patterns. Your sense of humor comes out when you look at a situation or issue with detachment. Somehow, you see how others are puppets of their circumstances. Help them see this, too. Tonight: Take in a movie.

#### GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

One-on-one relating remains key. Do not pull back. Stay in touch with what is important to you. You are subject to mood swings. A partner sometimes goes to war for what he wants, without thought to the ramifications. Say "enough." Tonight: Make love, not war.

#### CANCER (June 21-July 22)

Let others come to you. Making a request might not be as effective right now. The ball is in another's lap. Think twice before accepting anything you don't want. Remember that you have the power of a yes or a no. Tonight: Out and about.

#### LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

Pace yourself, as you have a lot to do and would prefer not to blow a fuse. Your diligence directs you. Screen calls. Others see you as an idea person. Think carefully about anything new you take on. You could easily go into overdrive. Tonight: Slow down.

#### VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

When energized, you have unusual creativity and focus. Note that this is one of those periods. Let your mind lead you in new directions. Take your time and make a doctor or dentist appointment. Don't push yourself. Tonight: Dance to a different tune.

#### LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

You could become frustrated when you can't get a

project off the back burner. Your highest priority needs to be family and loved ones. Think about a long-term decision. Another could become testy if he feels you're not doing your part. Tonight: Dance on home.

#### SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Speak your mind and stay as clear as you can. Your ability to watch another and see what he doesn't rescue a difficult situation. How you convey this information can make all the difference. Curb a tendency to be angry or swallow frustration. Tonight: Out and about.

#### SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

You are a sign that often takes risks with money. How much money do you want in your war chest? You can make it happen. Avoid an argument with a friend. You need to listen to logic and ideas. Recognize your need to direct and focus. Tonight:

#### Start thinking like Santa.

#### CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

You beam in opportunities. Your personality, energy and magnetism peak. You can choose to break barriers rather than create them. An authority figure or boss seems pushy during the next few days. You can choose your response. Tonight: Whatever makes you happy.

#### AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Assume little. Even if another says something, you might not be sure about his intentions. Give this person the space to demonstrate commitment. You will learn more by saying little and observing. News from someone at a distance could shake up the status quo. Tonight: Do only what you want.

#### PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

Keep aiming for what you want. You are unusual-

ly successful at gaining objectives. Touch base with others and share your ideas. You are a strong force when you're in a group. Tonight: Go for something on your wish list.

#### BORN TODAY

Entertainer "Buffalo Bob" Smith (1917), singer Randy Newman (1943), model Anna Nicole Smith (1967)

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 Inc., Jenkintown, Pa.

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### Meth labs sprouting up with frequency in Texas

FORT WORTH (AP) — The number of "Nazi" methamphetamine labs dotting Texas is burgeoning thanks to the availability of recipes found on the Internet, growing demand and cheap materials, authorities said.

Meth labs seized in Texas climbed from 33 in 1997 to 181 in 1999, according to the Drug Enforcement Agency. Through October, 180 labs have been seized this year.

But in neighboring states, the problem is worse. Last year, seizures of meth labs totaled 396 in Oklahoma, 334 in Arkansas and 438 in Missouri, according to DEA figures. Authorities say Texans can glimpse a full-blown problem that could be developing here.

The trend "is just starting to hit Texas," DEA special agent Guy Hargreaves, who is based in Washington, D.C., told the

Fort Worth Star-Telegram in Sunday's editions.

Drug investigators say the labs are beginning to appear in the southern part of Texas, recently turning up in the Houston area for the first time.

Methamphetamine is a synthetic stimulant that can be smoked, snorted, injected or taken in pill form.

The "Nazi method" of cooking meth, also known as speed, originated with German scientists in the late 1930s who sought a stimulant that soldiers could cook easily in the field. It is now used by a cottage industry of small-time manufacturers who concoct the drug from easily acquired chemicals.

Authorities say most of the Texas labs are cropping up in rural areas, because of their remoteness and a ready supply of anhydrous ammonia fertilizer, a key ingredient.

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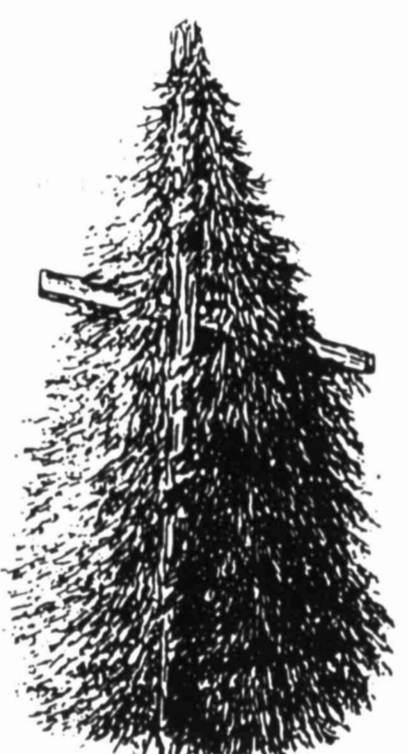
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### The Living Christmas Tree



**First United Methodist Church**  
December 2 & 3, 2000  
8:00 P.M. in the Sanctuary  
Tickets Available in Church Office  
(FREE) Limited Seating  
Nursery Available



We provide electricity. But it's not so much what we do, it's what you do with it. Go, world. Go. **TXU**

**2 For Tuesday**

**SUBWAY**

10th & Gregg  
Rip Griffin  
Truck/Travel Center

NOV 27 2000

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.

John H. Walker  
Publisher

Debbie Jensen  
Features Editor

John A. Moseley  
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan  
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Time now for votes to count

Most of us could never have imagined a presidential election so close, so contentious that even weeks after the polls had closed nobody could claim to be the clear winner.

Such things might occur in some banana republic somewhere ... maybe in some Third World nation struggling with its first halting steps toward democracy, but certainly not in the United States.

Here we are, however, almost three weeks past the Nov. 7 general election and none of us can be certain whether Texas Gov. George W. Bush or Vice President Al Gore will be take the presidential oath of office in January.

Florida Secretary of State Katherine Harris' certification of Bush's 537-vote margin of victory and the winner of that state's 25 electoral votes on Sunday should have solved the matter.

While Bush said Sunday night that he and Dick Cheney will serve as our next president and vice president, Gore and running mate Joseph Lieberman have declined to concede and vowed to contest Harris' certification in the courts.

As a result, the only thing that's clear is the American public must now endure what will surely seem countless legal challenges of the Florida vote.

Sadly, we have learned a great many things from this election, regardless of the final outcome.

A large number of young people who had their first opportunity to vote on Nov. 7 are now questioning why they bothered, frustrated by being effectively disenfranchised.

We have also learned that in virtually every election of this magnitude hundreds, sometimes thousands, of ballots cast by voters have not counted due to mechanical tabulation errors.

That's been considered acceptable in previous instances because elections of this sort haven't been so close.

In this race, however, it's plain we can no longer allow "acceptable error" in the counting of votes and a better system must be devised.

But perhaps the most troubling revelation from this election is how mean-spirited the American political scene has become.

The framers of our Constitution, believing that patriotism would outweigh politics, originally envisioned a system whereby the runner-up in the presidential election would serve as our vice president.

They were clearly mistaken, but for almost 200 years, the losers in our elections have been content to serve as the "loyal opposition" — a concept that obviously needs to be rekindled.

It's time now for us to end the rancor ... time to unify behind a new president.

As Gov. Bush put it so well Sunday night, now that the votes have been counted, it's time for the votes to count.

The alternative — having the leader of the world's most powerful nation selected by our courts — should be unthinkable.

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor. Please:

- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- Letters of a political nature will not be published.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- We do not acknowledge receipt of letters.
- Letters from our circulation area will be given preference.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721.

In midst of healing, old wounds remain

It was an odd thing to see in a newspaper editorial, an exhortation to end public discourse:

"Before someone gets hurt, the Mississippi flag commission should call off the remaining hearings it has scheduled to take public comments about a design for the official state banner," the Memphis Commercial Appeal wrote.

Before someone gets hurt? Talking about the design of a state flag? Is this the year 2000 or 1965?

I got one of those sinking feelings I get whenever the South I love insists on living up to its reputation, that anachronistic version that Hollywood and Northeastern limousine liberals refuse to let go. To move this region from the past to the present would inconvenience the broad-brush crowd; the truth of the South is far more complicated than the Big Print edition.

And yet here was a responsible, big-city newspaper that knows the region well (Memphis and New Orleans being the only real cities in Mississippi), suggesting that duels were about to break out and hair to fly. All this in the state, believe it or not, that has done more in recent years to improve race relations than any other.

Surely, I thought as I read, the state flag, that old chestnut of an issue, isn't enough to stir most Mississippians to the brawling point. They've been through too much, too long, to let a state banner or a bird or a flower rend the mends.

I've followed the Rebel flag ruckus in South Carolina, of course, and the perennial debate in Georgia. I know there are strong feelings on either side, and I understand both perspectives. I constantly get emotional e-mail on the subject, mostly from people with time on their hands.

Yet somehow I'd convinced myself that regular working people hadn't the time or energy to constantly rehash history. I even believed gentlemanly debate, scholarly thought, could probe the complexities of this hopeless division of opinion, if nowhere

else, in Mississippi. For in Mississippi, the state with the nation's largest percentage of elected black officials, there is, in recent years, an abiding desire to prove the world wrong about how the races coexist, an eagerness to showcase the respect people finally show one another.

Boy, was I wrong. "Before someone gets hurt ..." That's how bad things have gotten on a road show meant to solicit opinions about the Confederate battle flag in the state flag's corner. At public meetings around Mississippi, there have been shouting matches and watermelon jokes and endless bickering over the real cause of the Civil War. The news accounts are disturbing reading.

Those who would leave the flag the way it is — and has been since 1894 — have done their cause more harm than good, only reinforcing the opinion that the Rebel flag today is one under which only racists rally.

After what's happened, it would be hard to deny that race is the heart of the debate.

A heckler in Moorhead, for one sad example, said former Gov. William Winter should be tarred

and feathered. When I read that, I felt sick. Probably no single Southern politician has given more of his life to the cause of race relations than Winter. Now he must be wondering what he ever did to deserve the dubious honor of heading this gubernatorial advisory commission on the future of the flag. A quiet, scholarly, un-politician-like moderate, Winter gave Mississippi public kindergartens; it was the last state in the union without them.

Winter gave the state something more important, though, than education reform. He gave the state its start at a new image. He invited artists and writers to the Governor's Mansion and projected a progressive, even intellectual image.

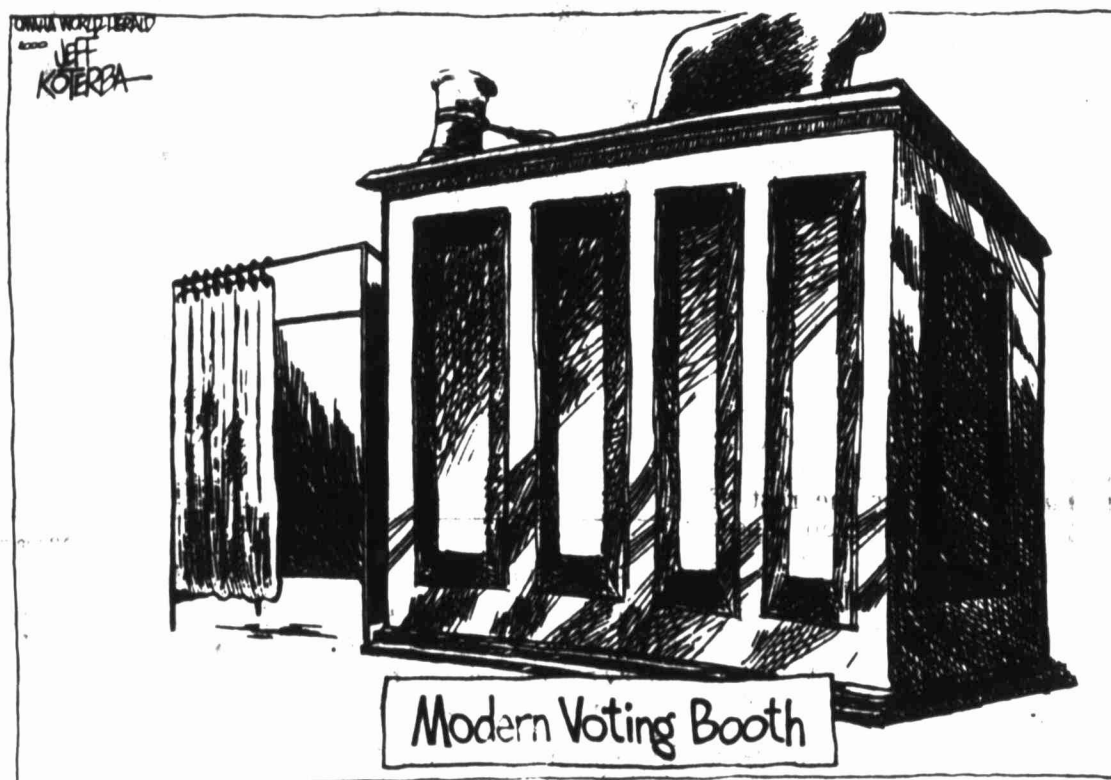
Now the Fergit Hell crowd has been aroused and found itself a new venue — and the undivided attention of the media. And poor William Winter is asked to preside over the unraveling of progress.

"Mr. Winter, you are despicable. ... You are sorry and gutless," a status quo flag man recently said. "You are worthy of being tarred and feathered."

Ah, now that's a reaction to record for posterity, one to make your ancestors proud.



RHETA GRIMSLEY JOHNSON



We're doing too much on too little sleep

Doctors and sleep experts have been saying for years that the ideal amount of sleep for a normal adult is eight hours every night.

In modern society, however, setting aside eight full hours can be quite a challenge. U.S. News and World Report recently found that Americans are getting an hour and six minutes less than eight hours every weekday and half an hour less each weekend night. This totals up to an average of 338 hours of sleep that people are missing a year.

On average, two-thirds of Americans suffer from long-term sleep deficit. According to David Dinges, the director of experimental psychiatry at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, "Society is being victimized by not getting enough

sleep. Our productivity, our safety, our health are at risk. Sleep resettles us emotionally, cognitively, immunologically. It's just good."

The National Sleep Foundation reports "a full 45 percent of adults agree that they will sleep less in order to accomplish more." Yet, skimping on sleep actually works against this goal. The Foundation also found that "one-half of the American workforce reports that sleepiness on the job interferes with the amount of work they get done (and that) 40 percent of adults admit that the quality of their work suffers when they're sleepy."

While there is still a small amount of information available on the health risks associated with lack of sleep, more and more studies are finding that the risks are grave. Lack of sleep weakens the immune system, causing colds and other illnesses. There is also growing evidence that lack of sleep is the leading cause of the nation's surge in diabetes and obesity. And lack of sleep is even being linked in some cases

to breast cancer. Other studies have found that those who do not get enough sleep score poorly on performance tests and alertness scales. One study found that those who lacked sleep scored worse than those with a blood-alcohol level of .08 percent.

Mark Rosekind, president of Alertness Solutions, says, "The 24/7 society is in direct opposition to how we're designed as humans."

Eve Van Cauter, a sleep researcher at the University of Chicago, conducted a study of healthy young men over a period of three weeks. The first week, the men were allowed to sleep eight hours a night. The second week that was reduced to four hours. And the third week, the men were allowed to sleep 12 hours. Cauter found that, "In healthy young men with no risk factor, in one week, we had them in a pre-diabetic state." Cauter also observed that a lack of sleep led to an accelerated rate of decrease in the secretion of growth hormones, which in turn causes a greater chance of obesity.

Moreover, it seems that children and teenagers need more sleep than adults. Researchers say that children from elementary school to high school need on average 11 hours of sleep a night.

The National Sleep Foundation, however, has found that only 15 percent of teen-agers are getting 8-1/2 or more hours of sleep on school nights. A full one quarter only sleep 6-1/2 hours or less. The Foundation reports that, "the most troubling consequence of sleepiness are injuries and deaths related to lapses in attention and delayed response times at critical moments, such as while driving."

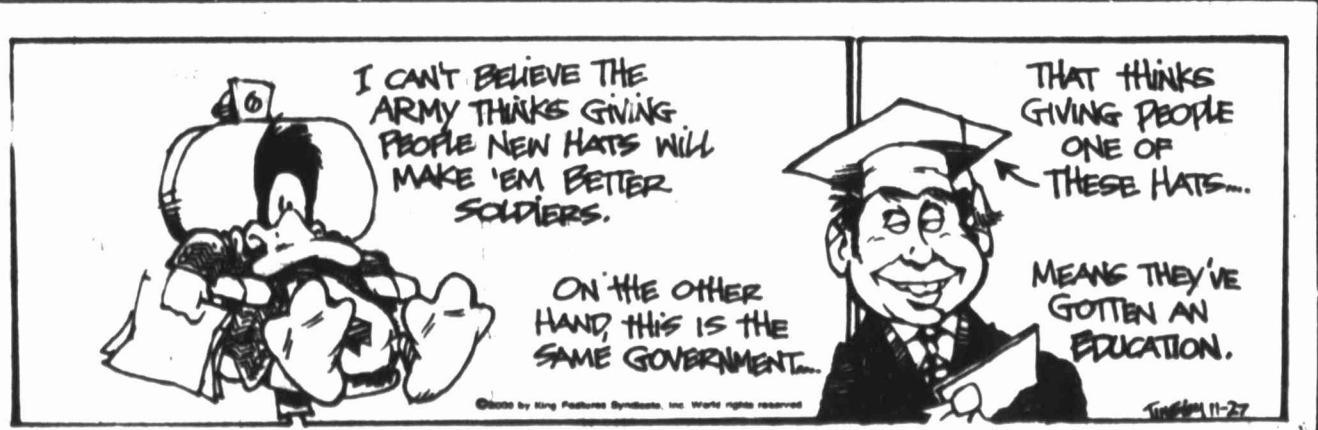
"Drowsiness or fatigue has been identified as a principle cause in at least 100,000 police-reported traffic crashes each year, killing more than 1,500 Americans and injuring another 71,000, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration."

"Young drivers age 25 or under are involved in more than one-half of fall-asleep crashes."



JACK ANDERSON

Mallard Fillmore by BRUCE TINSLEY



ADDRESSES

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# Sports

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

## IN BRIEF

### Tickets for playoff games now on sale

Advance ticket sales have begun for Saturday's 2 p.m. Class 4A, Division II regional semifinal playoff game between Big Spring's Steers and Wichita Falls' Coyotes at Shotwell Stadium.

Tickets purchased in advance are \$3 for students and \$5 for adults and will be available until noon Friday at the Big Spring ISD administrative offices.

Tickets purchased at the gate Saturday will be \$7.

### Quarterback Club to meet tonight

The Big Spring Quarterback Club will meet at 7 tonight in the Big Spring High School Athletic Training Center's meeting room.

Members will view videotaped highlights of the Steers' 46-12 win over El Paso Riverside look ahead to this week's regional semifinal playoff game against No. 1-ranked Wichita Falls.

Anyone interested in supporting the Steers football program is invited.

### Registration begins for YMCA basketball

Registration is now under way for the youth basketball program at the Big Spring Family YMCA.

Boys and girls between the ages of 5 and 12 are eligible to play. Fees are \$20 for non-members and \$15 for members, but scholarships are available and no youngster will be turned away due to an inability to pay.

The deadline to register is Friday, Dec. 22. Practices begin the week of Jan. 2 and games will be played on Saturdays beginning Jan. 20.

For more information, call the YMCA at 267-8234.

### CGA organizational meeting is Thursday

The Chicano Golf Association has scheduled an organizational meeting for 7:30 p.m. Thursday at the Sacred Heart Church's youth center.

All members are urged to attend.

For more information, call Willie Mendoza at 267-7977.

### Area coaches asked to transmit schedules

The Herald is asking all Crossroads area basketball coaches who have not provided copies of their varsity schedules and rosters for the 2000-2001 season to do so.

Rosters and schedules can be faxed to John A. Moseley at 264-7205.

### BSYBA extends registration period

The Big Spring Youth Basketball Association will conduct sign-ups for the 2001 basketball season at All Star Sports and the Big Spring Mall through Saturday, Dec. 9.

Registration at All Star Sports will be during business hours Monday through Saturday, and registration at the mall will be from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, Dec. 4-7, and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Dec. 9.

For more information, call Rick Watkins at 267-2358 or Charlene Hall at 263-0159.

## ON THE AIR

**Radio PRO FOOTBALL**  
8 p.m. — Green Bay Packers at Carolina Panthers, KBST-AM 1490.

**Television PRO FOOTBALL**  
8 p.m. — Green Bay Packers at Carolina Panthers, ABC, Ch. 2.

## A-Rod slated to meet with Rangers' players, management

ARLINGTON (AP) — One of baseball's biggest free-agent prizes, Alex Rodriguez, and his agent are getting red-carpet treatment from the Texas Rangers, with the Dallas Stars even helping to win over the All-Star shortstop.

Rodriguez and agent Scott Boras were expected to meet Monday with Rangers owner Tom Hicks. He will be joined by general manager Doug Melvin, manager Johnny Oates and several players.

The team's quest for Rodriguez hasn't been slowed by the expected demand of at least a 10-year contract in the range of \$20 million per year, also loaded with fringe benefits for the 25-year-old.

"We feel at the expense of last year, we have our roster where we don't have to trade people to make this work," Melvin told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram in Monday's edition. "I'm not saying we have all the money in the world, but we don't have to bust our budget completely. We're in a better position than most other clubs."

Stars center Mike Modano is being called in to help show Rodriguez, who hit .316 with 41 homers and 132 RBIs at Seattle last season, around the Dallas-Fort Worth area and tell him why it would be a great place to play.

Melvin said he doesn't expect the Rangers to make a formal offer until

they can gauge the level of interest from Rodriguez, who has also reportedly been targeted by other teams including the Chicago White Sox, Los Angeles Dodgers, New York Mets and Atlanta Braves.

Rodriguez's team for the past six years, the Seattle Mariners, also wanted to re-sign him.

The Rangers remain undaunted in their pursuit of Rodriguez.

"This gives us a chance to visit with him and Scott," said Melvin. "This gives us a chance to tell him about our organization and the direction we're going, answer any questions they might have about us."

Some even have a neighborhood

— the fashionable Dallas suburb of Highland Park — picked out for Rodriguez. Neighbors of one available residence — a five-bedroom spread worth \$11.95 million — would include Hicks, Modano and Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones.

"Alex needs to buy this house," Ronda Needham, a listing agent, said. "The people who own this house set it up around their two baseball-playing sons. It's a very sports-minded house."

The Mets, once considered the favorites to get Rodriguez, have slowed their chase. General manager Steve Phillips publicly criticized some of the demands supposedly being brought up by Boras.

## Eagles, Saints leaders; Chargers record a win

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Philadelphia Eagles and New Orleans Saints — a combined 8-24 last season and now each missing its top running back — are looking like strong playoff possibilities after picking up road victories over division rivals.

The San Diego Chargers accomplished a more modest achievement Sunday. They won a game.

The Eagles, who haven't won the NFC East since 1988 and lost Duce Staley to a foot injury in their fifth game, beat the Washington Redskins 23-20 to improve to 9-4. Donovan McNabb ran for 125 yards, the highest rushing total for an NFL quarterback since Chicago's Bobby Douglass had 127 against Oakland in a 1972 game.

The Saints, who have never won a playoff game and are without Ricky Williams and quarterback Jeff Blake for the rest of the regular season, upset Super Bowl champion St. Louis 31-24 to tie the Rams for first place in the NFC West at 8-4.

"Just looking at us on paper, it might not look like we have a lot of talent," said Jerald Moore, a Rams castoff who scored a second-quarter touchdown. "But we really do."

The Saints were 13-point underdogs at St. Louis, but quarterback Aaron Brooks made his first career start and was 19-for-27 for 190 yards. He threw a 4-yard pass to Brian Milne in the first quarter and scored on a 2-yard run in the second quarter to put the Saints ahead 21-7.

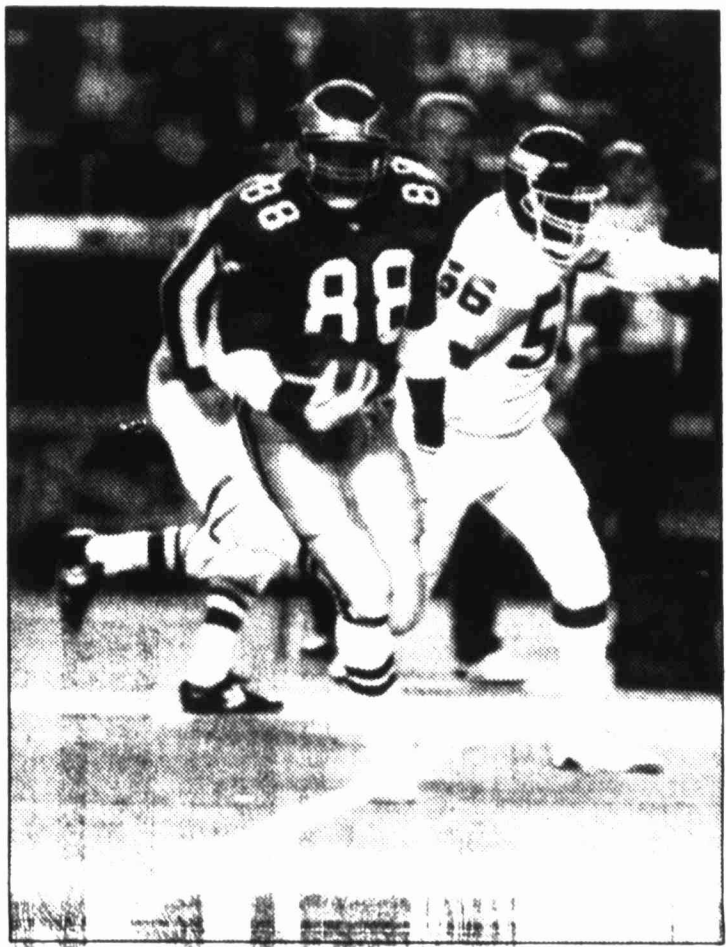
The Rams, meanwhile, have lost four of six games after a 6-0 start, and have dropped three in a row at their Trans World Dome following a 14-game winning streak there.

St. Louis couldn't overcome numerous mistakes, including two fumbles lost by QB Trent Green — who probably will give way to Kurt Warner next week — inside the Saints 20.

The teams meet again in the regular-season finale Dec. 24 in New Orleans.

"We can regroup," Rams coach Mike Martz said. "We have to."

San Diego opened the season with 11 straight losses.



AP file photo  
Not since the days of Philadelphia's Keith Jackson (88) and New York's Lawrence Taylor (56), pictured here during a 1988 game, have the Eagles won the NFC East. But following their win over Washington on Sunday, the Eagles own the conference's lead.

but edged the Kansas City Chiefs 17-16 when John Carney kicked a 52-yard field goal with 2:14 left.

Carney, who earlier this season became the first Chargers player to score 1,000 points, kicked the ball through the uprights, then leaped into the arms of holder Darren Bennett and head-butted his blockers.

In other games Sunday, it was Baltimore 44, Cleveland 7, the New York Jets 17, Chicago 10, Tampa Bay 31, Buffalo 17, and Pittsburgh 48, Cincinnati 28.

In late games, it was Oakland 41, Atlanta 14; Denver 38, Seattle 31; Miami 17, Indianapolis 14; and Jacksonville 16, Tennessee 13. The New York Giants beat Arizona 31-7 Sunday night.

Green Bay is at Carolina on tonight.

**Eagles 23, Redskins 20**  
McNabb scored on a 21-yard bootleg, scrambled 54 yards to set up the winning field goal, and completed passes to 10 receivers.

Washington (7-5) lost for

the third time in four games and fumbled twice deep in its own territory to set up Philadelphia's touchdowns. Eddie Murray had a chance to send the game into overtime for host Washington with 1:21 to play, but the 44-year-old kicker's attempt from 44 yards was wide.

### Chargers 17, Chiefs 16

When Chiefs QB Warren Moon's fourth-down pass sailed incomplete with 1:10 left — sealing the fourth straight loss for Kansas City (5-7) — Chargers linebacker Junior Seau sank to his knees at midfield before joining teammates in a hug.

San Diego's Ryan Leaf was 17-of-30 for 177 yards and two interceptions.

### Ravens 44, Browns 7

Rookie Jamal Lewis ran for 170 yards and two touchdowns, and Trent Dilfer threw for two scores as the Ravens (9-4) out-gained visiting Cleveland (3-10) 461-112 yards to clinch their first winning season in Baltimore.

## Still No. 2, Miami gets its first No. 1 votes in AP's poll

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Don't look back Oklahoma, Miami is gaining on you.

The unbeaten Sooners maintained the No. 1 ranking in The Associated Press Top 25 Sunday, but No. 2 Miami made a move upward by taking away a half-dozen first-place votes from Oklahoma.

The Hurricanes (10-1) completed their regular season with a 52-6 rout of Boston College (6-5), while the Sooners hung on for a 12-7 win over Oklahoma State (3-8) on Saturday.

In addition to moving closer to Oklahoma (11-0), Miami strengthened its lead over No. 3 Florida State (11-1) in balloting by the 71 sports writer and broadcasters on the AP panel.

Oklahoma received 64 first-place votes and 1,765 points, with Miami collecting six first-place votes and 1,696 points. Florida State, which completed its season last week, had one first-place vote and 1,640 points. The Sooners finish out next Saturday against Kansas State in the Big 12 title game.

For the past three polls, the Sooners had 70 first-place votes, the Seminoles one and the Hurricanes none. This is the first time this season Miami has received votes for No. 1. Miami now trails Oklahoma by 69 points and leads Florida State by 56; last week the Hurricanes trailed the Sooners by 93 points and led the Seminoles by 36.

In the USA Today/ESPN coaches poll, the top three were Oklahoma, Miami and Florida State.

Miami's move in the AP poll is significant since it sets up the possibility of split national champions. If the Hurricanes fail to get into the Bowl Championship Series' title game — the Orange Bowl on Jan. 3 — they can still become national champions in the AP media poll, in which sports writers and broadcasters vote independently of the BCS. The coaches' poll automatically crowns the winner of the Orange Bowl.

Currently, Oklahoma and Florida State are 1-2 in the BCS standings, which uses the AP media poll and the

AP Poll	
The Top Twenty Five teams in The Associated Press college football poll, with first-place votes in parentheses and records through Nov. 25.	
1	Oklahoma (64) 11-0
2	Miami (6) 10-1
3	Florida St. (11) 11-1
4	Washington 10-1
5	Oregon St. 10-1
6	Virginia Tech 9-2
7	Florida 9-2
8	Kansas St. 10-2
9	Oregon 9-2
10	Nebraska 9-2
11	Notre Dame 9-2
12	Texas 9-2
13	TCU 10-1
14	Purdue 8-3
15	Clemson 9-2
16	Michigan 8-3
17	Georgia Tech 9-2
18	Auburn 9-2
19	Northwestern 8-3
20	Ohio St. 8-3
21	Tennessee 8-3
22	Louisville 9-2
23	Colorado St. 9-2
24	Georgia 10-1
25	Toledo 10-1

Others receiving votes: Texas A&M 71, South Carolina 42, Mississippi 34, Wisconsin 27, Iowa St. 25, LSU 18, Mississippi St. 18, Air Force 11, W. Michigan 7, Boise St. 6, Pittsburgh 5, N.C. State 3, Arkansas 2, Syracuse 1.

coaches poll, eight computer rankings and schedule strength to determine who plays in its title game. Miami was third and expected to remain there when the updated BCS standings are released Monday.

Three teams cracked the AP Top 25 for the first time this season — No. 22 Louisville (9-2), No. 23 Colorado State (9-2) and No. 25 Toledo (10-1).

Washington (10-1) remained No. 4, followed by No. 5 Oregon State, No. 6 Virginia Tech, No. 7 Florida, No. 8 Kansas State, No. 9 Oregon and No. 10 Nebraska. The Huskers (9-2) dropped a spot after a last-second 34-32 win against Colorado.

Notre Dame (9-2), despite a 38-21 win over USC, remained No. 11, followed by No. 12 Texas, No. 13 TCU, No. 14 Purdue, No. 15 Clemson, No. 16 Michigan, No. 17 Georgia Tech, No. 18 Auburn, No. 19 Northwestern and No. 20 Ohio State.

Tennessee was No. 21, followed by Louisville, Colorado State, Georgia and Toledo.

Texas A&M, Mississippi State and LSU dropped out of the Top 25.

The last regular-season AP poll will be released next Sunday, as will the final BCS standings. The final AP poll will be released Jan. 4.

## Jazz's Stockton spreads credit for record-setting career

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

John Stockton continues to hand out assists, even when speaking about his record-setting career.

Stockton had 15 assists and broke John Havlicek's record for most games played with one team on Sunday as the Utah Jazz beat the Detroit Pistons 94-79.

Stockton, who has played in 1,271 games for the Jazz, was humbled by the record and, true to form, distributed the credit.

"The record means that I have been very fortunate," Stockton said. "A lot of things have to go right to do that. You have to be healthy, and you have to have a team that wants you and where you want to be."

In other NBA games: Vancouver beat Boston 98-87 and Toronto defeated Chicago 101-89.

Stockton has played 82 games in 13 of the past 16 seasons and averages 10.9 assists per game for his career.

Utah coach Jerry Sloan, who started with the Jazz as an assistant coach just a few weeks into Stockton's career in the 1984-85 season, is amazed at his longevity.

"It's quite an accomplishment in my opinion," Sloan said. "Few guys his size have been able to hold up that long. He just loves to play basketball."

Karl Malone scored 12 of his 24 points in the fourth period and the Jazz outscored Detroit 31-12 in the period for their third straight win.

"It's amazing when we start helping each other out on defense what happens on the other end," Malone said. "We started off really slow, but when you play like that at the end,

you are going to have an opportunity to win."

Jerry Stackhouse led Detroit with 37 points, while Joe Smith had 10 points and two rebounds in 17 minutes in his second game with the team.

"A lot of good things happened tonight, but things just ran out at the end," Stackhouse said. "We'll never be able to win every game, but if we keep playing this hard, we will win a lot."

### Raptors 101, Bulls 89

In Toronto, the Raptors lost NBA scoring leader Vince Carter to injury in the first quarter, but Mark Jackson filled the void with a triple-double.

Carter strained his left thigh in the first period and did not return. He will be re-evaluated Monday and

was listed as day-to-day.

Jackson had 11 points, 11 assists and 11 rebounds, scoring his final two points on free throws with 8.4 seconds left. Rookie Morris Peterson had a season-high 18 points. Antonio Davis also had 18 points, while Charles Oakley and Kevin Willis each contributed 16.

Toronto won its third straight game, while Chicago, which received a season-high 31 points from Elton Brand, lost its eighth straight.

### Grizzlies 98, Celtics 87

In Boston, Shareef Abdur-Rahim had 27 points and 21 rebounds, and Mike Bibby added 13 points and 12 assists as Vancouver snapped a seven-game losing streak.

The victory was Vancouver's first since Nov. 7.

# Herald Classifieds

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MONDAY

NOV. 27

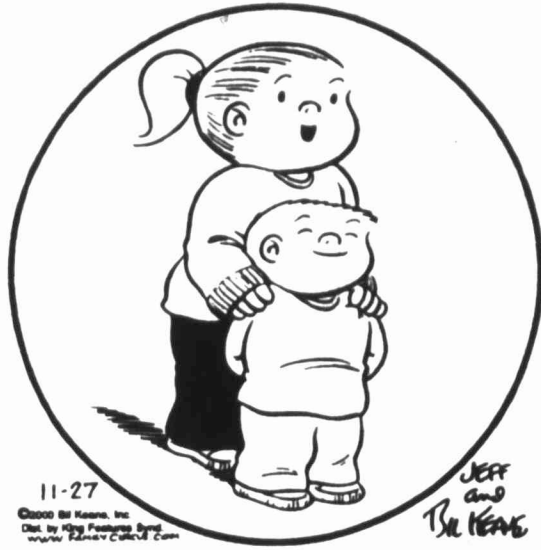
Table with 20 columns representing different TV channels (KMGH, KPEJ, KERA, etc.) and rows representing time slots from 6:30 AM to 12:30 AM, listing various programs and their genres.

DENNIS THE MENACE



\*BUT YOU JUST SAID TO CLEAN MY ROOM, NOT MY CLOSET, TOO!

FAMILY CIRCUS

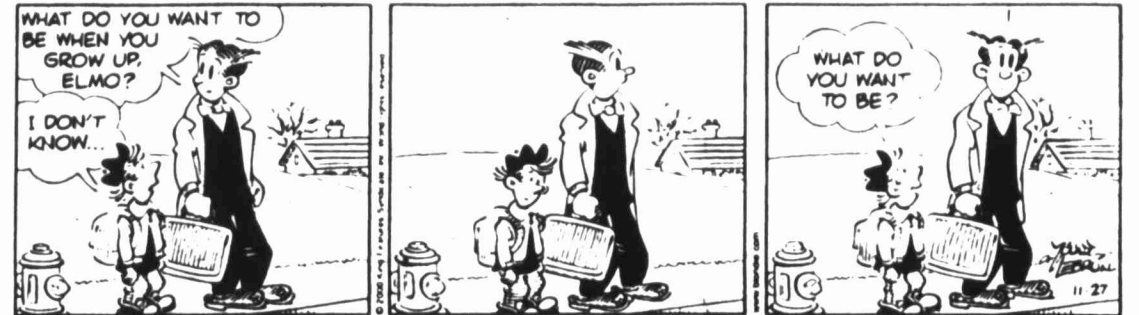


"PJ learned to say 'hello.' Now whenever our phone rings he can answer it."

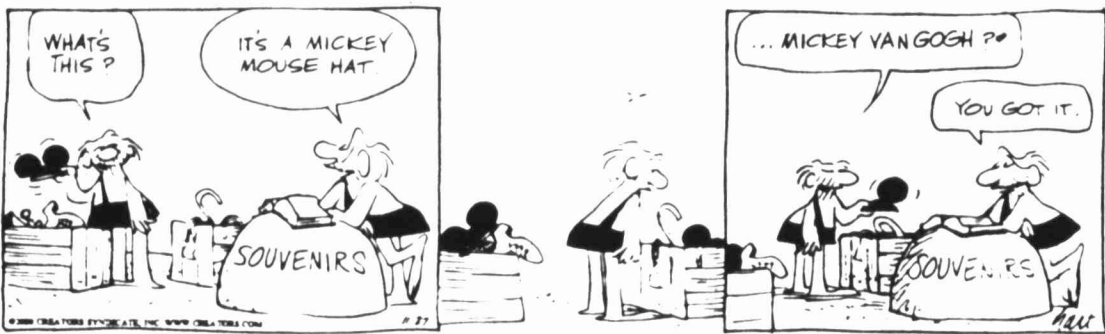
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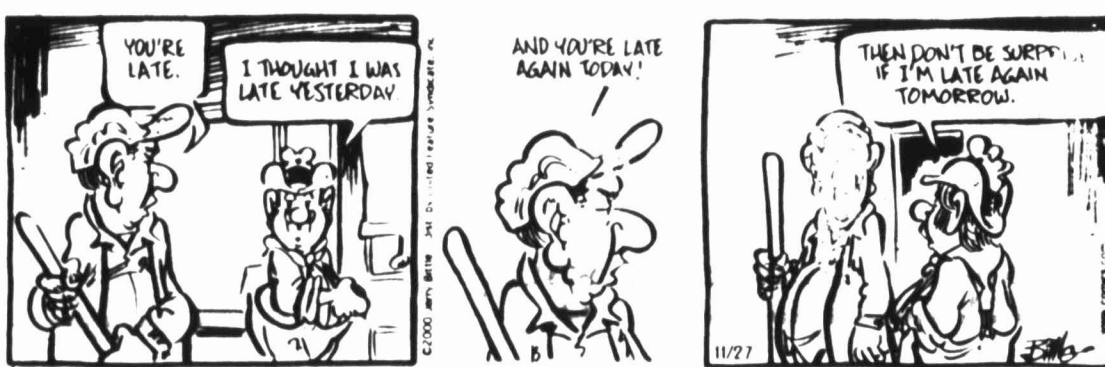
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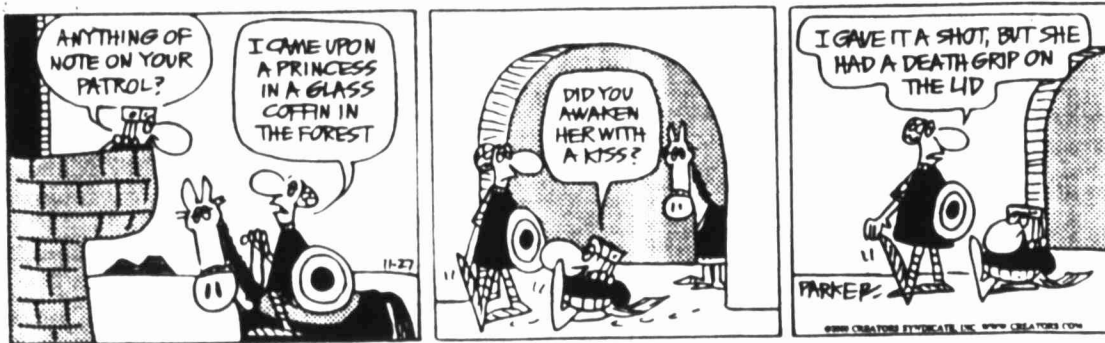
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GEECH



WIZARD OF ID



Hi AND LOIS



GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILY



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS Today is Monday, Nov. 27, the 332nd day of 2000. There are 34 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Nov. 27, 1973, the Senate voted 92-3 to confirm Gerald R. Ford as vice president, succeeding Spiro T. Agnew, who resigned. On this date: In 1901, the Army War College was established in Washington D.C. In 1910, New York's Pennsylvania Station opened. In 1942, during World War II, the French navy at Toulon scuttled its ships and submarines to keep them out of the hands of the Nazis.

In 1945, Gen. George C. Marshall was named special U.S. envoy to China to try to end hostilities between the Nationalists and the Communists. In 1953, playwright Eugene O'Neill died in Boston at age 65. In 1970, Pope Paul VI, visiting the Philippines, was slightly wounded at the Manila airport by a dagger-wielding Bolivian painter disguised as a priest. In 1978, San Francisco Mayor George Moscone and City Supervisor Harvey Milk, a gay-rights activist, were shot to death inside City Hall by former supervisor Dan White. In 1983, 183 people were killed when a Colombian Avianca Airlines Boeing 747 crashed near Madrid's Barajas airport. In 1985, the British House of Commons approved the Anglo-Irish accord, giving Dublin a consultative role in the governing of British-ruled Northern Ireland. In 1989, 107 people were killed when a bomb blamed by police on drug traffickers destroyed a Colombian jetliner. Ten years ago: Britain's Conservatives chose John Major to succeed Margaret Thatcher as party leader, paving the way for his appointment as prime minister. The Senate Armed Services Committee opened hearings on the Persian Gulf crisis. Today's Birthdays: Actor James Avery is 52. Caroline Kennedy Schlossberg is 43. Rock musician Charlie Burchill (Simple Minds) is 41. Rock musician Charlie Benante (Anthrax) is 38. Rock musician Mike Bord'n (Faith No More) is 38. Actor Fisher Stevens is 37.

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words.

By Stanley B. Whitten Highwood, IL 11/27/00

Sunday Puzzle Solved section containing a grid of words and their solutions.