

# BIG SPRING HERALD

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"Reflecting a Proud Community"

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

FRIDAY

December 8, 2000

## WEATHER

Tonight:



CLEAR

TONIGHT 30°-35° SATURDAY 65°-67°

### HELPING OTHERS:

Each day through the holiday season, the *Herald* will publish locations where you might help others less fortunate, including the Salvation Army Angel Trees and Salvation Army Kettles. If your organization has an established program to help others and would like to be included in this list, call Lyndel Moody at 263-7331, ext. 234.



#### Angel Tree locations:

- Big Spring Herald (seniors)
- Gale's Sweet Shop
- Big Spring Mall
- Wal-Mart
- Scenic Mountain Medical Center
- Community Care Hospice.

#### Salvation Army Kettles:

- Big Spring Post Office
- Wal-Mart
- Big Spring Mall

#### Giving Tree

- Wells Fargo

See **HELPING**, Page 2A

### INSIDE TODAY...

Abby	5B
Classified	4-5B
Comics	6B
Features	7A
Horoscope	5A
Life	8-9A
Nation	5-6A
Obituaries	2A
Opinion	4A
Sports	1-3B
Texas	3A



17 shopping days 'til Christmas

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Find us online at: [www.bigspringherald.com](http://www.bigspringherald.com)

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

## Annual lighting contest planned next week in Big Spring

By **BILL MCCLELLAN**  
News Editor

Got lights? Homeowners and merchants who have decorated for the holidays may want to enter the annual Christmas lighting con-



VALVERDE

test, sponsored by the Spade and Hoe Garden Club, KBST and the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce.

"We encourage everyone who has decorated their home or business to enter," said Debbye Valverde, chamber secretary.

Entries are due by 3 p.m. Monday and judging will take place Tuesday. There is no entry fee and a registration form can be obtained at

the chamber, local florists, Ace Hardware, Higginbotham or Johansen's Nursery.

No prizes are awarded.

"The winners are recognized through the local media," said Valverde. "It's a fun thing we do every year."

In fact, one of the categories is "non-judged" for anyone who wants to be on the list of homes and busi-

nesses, but isn't interested in being part of a contest.

"We have some people who just want to let everyone know they have lights up and can come by and see them. They're not really interested in the contest itself," said Valverde.

All those who register are placed on a list after the judging. The list and a city map are handed out at the chamber to those who

request them.

Other than non-judged, there are two judged categories with three types of entries each.

Residential display entries can be either religious, lights only or original homemade. Commercial display entries can be show windows, inside display or lights only. For more information, contact the chamber at 263-7641.



Three-year-old Sunil Athyal tells Santa he wants a scooter for Christmas. Santa visited with more than 100 children on Thursday during Howard College's annual luminaria celebration. The campus was aglow with candlelight. Entertainment and refreshments were a part of the event.

HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

## American Legion Christmas shop ready to open at VA Medical Center

By **LYNDEL MOODY**  
Staff Writer

A local veteran auxiliary organization will open a Christmas Gift Shop for patients at the VA Medical Center (VAMC) on



REDMAN

Monday.

The shop, located in the VAMC recreational room 219 on the second floor, will be open for patients to browse for gifts on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

"Patients come down and pick out a present for their family," said Evelyn Redman, VA hospital representative for the American Legion Auxiliary. "The present is free to the veteran,

and we mail it to anywhere it needs to go."

Patients will have a chance to browse through a number of items donated from the American Legion Auxiliary and various organizations throughout the 46 counties in Texas and one county in New Mexico the VAMC serves.

After making their choice, they can have their present

See **VAMC**, Page 2A

## Help available for those grieving during the holiday season

By **DEBBIE L. JENSEN**  
Features Editor

During the holidays, grief over the loss of a loved one can be especially hard to bear.

"This is a time we're all expected to be happy," said Nancy Schraer, community liaison for Community Care Hospice. "But it's hard to feel thankful and joyous if you have just lost a loved one."

With that in mind, Community Care is sponsoring a workshop on Thursday for those experiencing grief. "An Empty Place At the Table" will give tips for coping in the weeks ahead.

Dinner will be provided for the workshop, set from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the hospice office, 1510 S. Gregg. Those who want to attend should call 263-5999 by Wednesday to reserve a place.

"This is for anyone who

has lost someone," Schraer said. "Even if it has been a while, and maybe they haven't really dealt with their grief. We find it kind of hits them at this time of year."

Schraer said those suffering with grief may avoid family gatherings for fear of "ruining Christmas" for others.

Those who attend the workshop can get some tips for handling the holidays, but they don't have to share

their own feelings or thoughts if they don't want to, Schraer said.

"People are welcome to talk, but they don't need to do that in order to get something out of this," she said.

The workshop will also serve as an overview of a planned six-week course to begin after the first of the year. "Life After Loss" will be sponsored by Community Care Hospice and the American Cancer Society, with Schraer as one of the

trained facilitators. While families of hospice patients have been invited to join the workshop, Schraer said anyone in the community is welcome.

"We hope anyone who feels like they could benefit from this will come," she said. "Or perhaps they feel like they have been through it, and could possibly help someone else. That would be wonderful."

Call Schraer at 263-5999 for more information.

## Miniature trees being sold to grow science field trip funds

By **DEBBIE L. JENSEN**  
Features Editor

Sometimes, holiday cheer comes in small packages. That is especially true this year for Big Spring Junior High School students.

About half the students at BSJHS are selling miniature Christmas trees, hoping to raise money for the school's science department. The 1-foot tall living trees, priced at \$6 each, are hoped to bring in enough cash to fund a field trip next spring.

"This is something we are doing to try to give the kids something extra," said Linda Battle, one of six science teachers at BSJHS. "We have all the things we need, but we want to try to do something special if we can."

Science teachers got the idea from a conference they attended this summer, where a teacher from Midland told of a successful tree sale. The idea drew support from administration, and the science teachers put it into action.

Among ideas for spending the money are a trip to Sibley Environmental Center in Midland, or some other science-related trip, along with a science fair. To boost sales, teachers have offered the kids some incentives that are hoped to get those trees moving.

Teacher Sarah Roberson, for example, has promised to eat a "taco" filled with real bugs. Battle will allow her students to tape her to her chair, even if it means missing her morning coffee.

See **TREES**, Page 2A



Jonathan Wegner, left, and Shay Long, Big Spring Junior High students, pose with some of the miniature Christmas trees for sale at the school for \$6 each. The tree sale will benefit the science department, which hopes to take students on a field trip in the spring.

HERALD photo/Debbie L. Jensen



**OBITUARIES**

**Minnie Cannon**

Minnie Cannon, 94, of Big Spring, died on Thursday, Dec. 7, 2000, in a Midland nursing home. Graveside funeral services will be at 3 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 9, 2000, at Trinity Memorial Park with Chaplain Skip Hedgepeth of Home Hospice officiating.



She was born on Nov. 5, 1906, in Athens. Ms. Cannon came to Big Spring in 1941 from Wichita Falls. She had worked as a counter clerk for Ideal Cleaners for 25 years.

She was a member of Birdwell Lane United Methodist Church. Survivors include one son: Don Cannon of Midland; her twin sister, Vinnie Tomlinson of Tyler; eight grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by one daughter, Jean Massey; one son, Kenneth Cannon, and seven brothers.

The family suggests memorials to: Home Hospice of Midland, 1802 W. Wall, Midland.

The family will receive friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday at the funeral home.

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

*Paid obituary*

**Albert W. Balzer**

Funeral service for Albert W. Balzer, 91, of Big Spring, will be at 10 a.m., Monday, Dec. 11, 2000, at Stricklin-Snively Mortuary in Lakewood, Calif., with burial to follow at Forest Lawn Memorial Park-Hollywood Hills, Los Angeles. Officiating will be Jerry Giles, the pastor of the Grace Brethren Church in Long Beach, Calif., assisted by Dr. Wayne Beaver, retired missionary.

**NALLEY-PICKLE & WELCH  
Funeral Home**

Trinity Memorial Park and Crematory  
906 Gregg St.  
(915) 267-6331

Sue Ann Bowman Meyers, 54, died Wednesday. Services will be 11:30 AM Saturday at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Big Spring. Interment will follow at Resthaven Memorial Park, Midland.

Minnie Cannon, 94, died Thursday. Graveside services will be 3:00 PM Saturday at Trinity Memorial Park.

**MYERS & SMITH  
FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL**

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Albert W. Balzer, 91, died Monday. Funeral services are 10:00 AM Monday, Dec. 11, 2000 at Stricklin-Snively Mortuary in Lakewood, California. Interment will be in Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Hollywood California.

Louise Porter, 91, of Kerrville, formerly of Big Spring, died Thursday, December 7, 2000 in Kerrville. Services are pending with Myers & Smith Funeral Home & Chapel.

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Mr. Balzer died Dec. 4 in a local hospital, following a brief illness.

He was born on March 1, 1909, in Bingham, Minn., and came to Big Spring in January of this year, moving here from Laguna Hills, Calif. He was a retired, self-supporting builder/contractor of churches, hospitals, and missionary residences on the mission fields of Central Africa for 32 years, retiring in 1976. He was of the Brethren faith.

Mr. Balzer married Elsie Ramsier on Dec. 31, 1935, in Los Angeles and she preceded him in death on April 27, 1978. He later married Eulah Page in Laguna Beach, Calif., on Jan. 26, 1980. She preceded him in death on Dec. 27, 1999.

Survivors include: his son, Cliff Balzer and his wife Sue, of Big Spring; four grandchildren; Susan Neves, Janet Rebhan, Clifford (Chip) Balzer and Al Devlin; four stepchildren; 12 step-grandchildren and 29 grandchildren.

The family suggests any memorials to their favorite charity or to the Building Fund at Midway Baptist Church, 6200 South Service Road, Big Spring.

Arrangements are under the direction of Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

*Paid obituary*

**Sue Ann  
Bowman Meyers**

Funeral service for Sue Ann Bowman Meyers, 54, of Odessa will be 11:30 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 9, 2000, at the St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Big Spring with the Rev. Jim Liggett, pastor, officiating. Burial will follow at Resthaven Memorial Park in Midland.



Mrs. Meyers died Wednesday, Dec. 6, in an Odessa hospital.

She was born on July 7, 1946, in Roanoke, Va. She was raised in Midland and attended Midland schools. She graduated from Howard College in Big Spring with an associate degree in nursing in 1990. She had worked as a director of nursing homes in the West Texas area and had also worked in home health care. She had lived in Odessa for the past seven years.

She was a member of St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Big Spring.

Survivors include; two sons, Mark David Meyers of Albuquerque, N.M., and Edward Glenn Meyer of Bullhead City, Ariz.; one daughter, Michelle Lynn Meyers of Odessa; her mother, Elizabeth Bowman of Big Spring, and five grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials to St. Mary's Episcopal Church, P.O. Box 2949, Big Spring.

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

**HELPING**

Continued from Page 1A

**Coats For Kids**

- Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce
- Big Spring Herald
- Comet Cleaners on FM 700
- Klassic Kleaners on Gregg Street

**American Cancer Society  
Memorial Tree:**

- Merle Norman, Big Spring Mall
- For more information, call (915) 683-6374.

**Prison Fellowship**

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

**Angel Tree**  
Providing Christmas presents for children of inmates  
• Cookie Elliot, 263-3326

**VAMC**

Continued from Page 1A

wrapped and sent to the their family member for free, she said.

"We have from 120 to 130 patients each year, about 300 gifts," she said.

According to Redman, the American Legion Auxiliary has a Christmas Gift Shop at every VAMC, and the shop is an annual program.

She said many patients cannot leave the hospital to shop or do not have enough money. The shop lets them purchase gifts for their family members.

"Some of the patients don't have money or can't leave the hospital to shop," she said. "I still see some of the patients two or three years later who thank me. Everyone seems to appreciate the effort."

According to Redman, it takes five days to set up the shop and many of volunteers will participate, some coming from Midland and Odessa.

**TREES**

Continued from Page 1A

A male teacher has agreed to dress as a woman, and each teacher in turn has come up with a unique, outrageous idea.

"We really want these trees to sell," Battle said. The festively-decorated trees also serve as a science lesson for the kids, who are currently studying plants. The trees are conifers, or cone-bearing plants, part of the curriculum. They are in 4-inch pots, but are still growing and could be transplanted later.

The trees, already hung with colorful ornaments, would make good table decorations, or perhaps an office or desk Christmas tree, Battle said.

The science department hopes to make about \$5,000 off the sale. About 70 percent of the trees have already been sold, but several hundred are still waiting for new homes.

Ashley Barnett, a seventh grader who has sold 39 trees, said they have been going fast.

"They are really cute," she said. "And people like the fact that they will keep growing, that they are alive."

Kids who wanted to sell the trees got a signed permission slip from their parents, and set their own sales goals.

"They have been excited about doing it, and it's been a lot of fun for all of us," Battle said.

Anyone who wants to purchase miniature trees can stop by the junior high at 624 E. Sixth, or call for more information 264-4135.

**ELECTION**

Continued from Page 1A

talk of a concession by Gore. And with Florida Democrats battling to give Gore advantage in two lower court cases, Klain would not commit Gore to

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**BIG SPRING  
AROUND THE TOWN**

bowing out if he loses in the state Supreme Court. "We think we'll win," he said.

Across the street from the Supreme Court building in the state Capitol, members of the Republican-controlled legislature were gathering for a special session.

The courts aside, the Republican-dominated legislature was beginning a special session in Tallahassee, ready by all accounts to appoint a slate of electors loyal to Bush. The Legislature's heavily outnumbered Democrats charged the Bush campaign was pulling the strings from Texas, but conceded they were powerless to prevail.

The speaker of the Florida House, Tom Feeney, acknowledged he has received advice from Bush intermediaries but denied the campaign was calling the shots. Such allegations from Democrats were "out of touch" with reality, he said.

Depending on the outcome of Gore's appeal, the legislation contemplated by GOP leaders could set up a contest between two rival Florida slates when the Electoral College votes are cast on Dec. 18 and then counted in Congress on Jan. 6. That, in turn, could ratchet up the controversy even further in the contest to pick a president.

Pressing ahead with presidential transition plans, Bush spoke of the legal battle with a seeming nonchalance that belied the stakes. "We'll see what happens there," he said Thursday.

In Thursday's hearing, Gore lawyer David Boies implored the court to grant the selective manual recounts that could yet revive the vice president's hopes of winning the White House.

The Florida high court offered no hint of when it would rule, although the seven justices moved with unusual speed a little more than two weeks ago in an earlier recount-related case. This time, if anything, the time pressure is even greater, since Dec. 12 is the deadline for appointment of the state's 25 presidential electors.

At the same time, two other judges in the state capital of Tallahassee weighed Democratic requests to throw out thousands of absentee votes, a move that also could tip the balance to Gore. Republicans made clear that they were ready to appeal any unfavorable ruling, possibly returning to a federal appeals court in Atlanta.

"We have always had to prepare for every contingency.... We're prepared to file appeals and briefs," Bush attorney Barry Richard said late Thursday on CNN.

**BRIEFS**

**THE BIG SPRING EVENING** Lions Club will have free eyeglasses for all adults Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon at the Big Spring Evening Lions Club bingo building, 1607 East Third.

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Big Spring, Texas

**TEXAS LOTTERY** Pick 3: 5,9,9

Cash 5: 4,5,9,14,35  
Lottery numbers are unofficial until confirmed by the state lottery commission.

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

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

**THE BIG SPRING EVENING** Lions Club will have free eyeglasses for all adults Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon at the Big Spring Evening Lions Club bingo building, 1607 East Third.

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

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

**THE MOBILE MEALS PROGRAM**, which delivers to the elderly and homebound, needs volunteers to deliver meals.

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

**SENIOR CITIZENS WHO HAVE** witnessed the effects of childhood diseases are needed to staff a new volunteer program that will promote immunizations.

Volunteers 55 and older are sought for the effort, to be known as the Seniors for Childhood Immunization Program. RSVP volunteers will visit new mothers at Scenic Mountain Medical Center and remind them of the importance of the immunizations.

To find out more about the program or to volunteer, call 264-2397.

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

**Residents of  
space station  
meet shuttle  
astronauts**

**SPACE CENTER**, Houston (AP) — The three residents of the international space station finally greeted their first visitors on Friday, after flying side by side for almost a week. Station commander Bill

Shepherd and his Russian crew swung open the hatch, and space shuttle Endeavour commander Brent Jett Jr. floated inside — after requesting permission to come aboard.

"Permission granted," Shepherd replied. Both he and Jett are Navy officers. The eight men shook hands and hugged one another inside space station Alpha's American-made Unity module.

The visit came one day after shuttle astronauts Joe Tanner and Carlos Noriega tightened a new solar wing on the space station. That operation unexpectedly required only the first 1 1/2 hours of a five-hour space-walk.

**POLICE**

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activities from 8 a.m. Thursday until 8 a.m. today:

• **MELISSA BRADBERY**, 31, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.

• **LARRY WATKINS**, 51, was arrested on a county warrant.

• **ROBERT EDWARDS**, 46, was arrested on a charge of failure to identify.

• **JUDY ESTES**, 38, was arrested on a charge of failure to identify.

• **LORENZO YANEZ**, 26, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.

• **UNAUTHORIZED USE OF A MOTOR VEHICLE** was reported in the 3200 block of Cornell.

• **INTOXICATED SUBJECT/DRIVER** was reported in the 1600-block of Harding.

• **BURGLARY OF A HOUSING** was reported in the 1400 block of Stadium where a TV and VCR were reported stolen.

• **THEFT** was reported in the 200 block of W. Marcy and the 1700 block of E. Marcy.

• **CLASS C ASSAULT/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported in the 100 block of Carey.

• **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 500 block of State.

**RECORDS**

Thursday's high 65  
Thursday's low 33  
Average high 60  
Average low 31  
Record high 80 in 1966  
Record low 9 in 1917  
Precip. Thursday 0.00  
Month to date 2.11  
Month Normal 0.84  
Year to date 17.71  
Normal for the year 17.94  
Sunrise Saturday 7:35 a.m.  
Sunset Saturday 5:41 p.m.  
Sunrise Sunday 7:36 a.m.  
Sunset Sunday 5:41 p.m.

**CINEMA 4**  
Remember The Titans (PG)  
Daily: 4:40 & 7:20 Fri. & Sat. 9:30 Sat. & Sun. 2:00  
\*Proof Of Life (R)  
Daily: 4:20 & 7:00 Fri. & Sat. 9:40 Sat. & Sun. 1:40  
The Grinch (PG)  
Daily: 4:50 & 7:30 Fri. & Sat. 10:00 Sat. & Sun. 2:10  
\*Vertical Limit (PG-13)  
Daily: 4:20 & 7:10 Fri. & Sat. 9:50 Sat. & Sun. 1:30  
ADULTS: \$5.50  
\$3.25 ALL MATINEES,  
CHILDREN & SENIOR CITIZENS  
\*PASS RESTRICTED

**RITE**  
191 E. 5th  
CHILDREN \$3.25 ADULTS \$5.50  
263-7480  
THE RITE Theatre is now playing  
1st run movies  
The STAR Theatre has CLOSED for the season  
Rugrats In Paris (G)  
Daily: 7:20 & 9:00 Sat. & Sun. 2:50-4:30  
Charles Angels (PG-13)  
Daily: 7:10 & 9:10 Sat. & Sun. 2:40-4:40  
\*Dungeons & Dragons (PG-13)  
Daily: 7:00 & 9:20 Sat. & Sun. 2:40-4:50

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# VP candidate Cheney wins residency question at appeals court

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — The question of whether Dick Cheney is a Wyoming resident and qualified to serve as George W. Bush's vice president is heading to the U.S. Supreme Court.

After losing a bid before a federal appeals court to have Cheney declared a Texas resident, lawyers for three Texans said they would file a final appeal with the high court by Monday.

The Texans' lawsuit cites the 12th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which says if the president and vice president are inhabitants of the same state, both cannot earn that state's elec-

toral votes. In a strongly worded ruling, a three-judge panel of the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said Thursday that Cheney is a Wyoming resident.

The ruling from the bench came after an hourlong hearing in which a lawyer for the Texans claimed Cheney was from Texas because he loved to Bush's home state after buying a house in Dallas in 1993.

Judges Patrick E. Higginbotham, Rhesa H. Barksdale and Jacques L. Wiener Jr. sat on the appeals court panel. Higginbotham was appointed by former President

Ronald Reagan, the other two by former President George Bush.

The judges took a short recess after arguments, then Higginbotham returned to say the panel agreed that Cheney, secretary of defense under former President George Bush, is a Wyoming resident.

"It is clear beyond a reasonable question to us that Secretary Cheney was at all relevant times an inhabitant of Wyoming," Higginbotham said. He did not elaborate.

The Texans want the Supreme Court to order that the 32 Texas electors cannot vote for both Bush and

Cheney, said Charles McGarry, one of their lawyers.

"They can't choose both," McGarry said.

Texas' 32 electors are vital for Bush who, if he remains the winner of Florida's disputed election, would likely eclipse by only one vote the minimum 270 electoral college votes needed to be elected president.

If the Texas electors were forced to choose between Bush and Cheney, a selection of Bush would leave the selection of a vice president up to the U.S. Senate. A selection of Cheney would send the selection of the president to the House of

Representatives. McGarry said he wasn't disappointed by the decision announced by Higginbotham less than five minutes after the court heard arguments.

"We understood from the beginning that this was just an intermediate step on the way to the final decision," he said.

But Texas Attorney General John Cornyn, who argued on behalf of the Texas electors, characterized the decision as a "slam dunk" for his fellow Republicans and predicted it would be upheld by the high court.

"This was an attempt to

disenfranchise the 32 electors of Texas," he said.

The decision upheld a ruling by U.S. District Judge Sidney Fitzwater, a Republican appointed by President Reagan. He ruled Friday in Texas that Cheney has proven he "has both a physical presence within the state of Wyoming and the intent that Wyoming be his place of habitation."

Cheney, a former Wyoming congressman, lived in Dallas while he was chairman of Halliburton Co. until he changed his voting registration to Teton County, Wyo., on July 21, four days before becoming Bush's running mate.

## 141,000 students eligible to transfer, TEA says

AUSTIN (AP) — The number of students at low-performing schools who will be eligible to transfer next year under the state's school choice law has grown by 22,000, according to the Texas Education Agency.

This week the agency mailed districts across the state a list of 207 low-performing schools. It also indicated that students in the low-performing schools have the right to transfer to a better school.

More than 141,000 students will be eligible to make the switch next year. There were 119,000 students in 198 low-performing schools in 1999.

Schools on the list were either rated low-performing in one of the past three years or had more than 50

percent of their students fail the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills in two of the past three years.

TEA officials estimated about 500 students, from 281 schools, statewide took the transfer option last year.

"We are sending out the list of schools now so that families will have plenty of time to make a decision and apply for a transfer in the spring," TEA spokesman Debbie Ratcliffe said.

Forty-two of the low-performing campuses were in Dallas County, where officials blamed changes to standardized test rules for the rise. Incoming superintendent and former state Education Commissioner Mike Moses "is going to be concerned with these low-performing campuses," said

Dallas school board President Roxan Staff.

The Legislature created the transfer program in 1995, but participation was limited because school districts initially were not required to notify parents of the option. Also, there were no financial incentives to accept the students.

The TEA now offers money to districts that take students transferring under the program, but under the law the districts are not required to provide transportation.

The Public Education Grant program is similar to one proposed on the national level by presidential candidate Gov. George W. Bush, who has supported the state program.

"In the best case, failing

schools will rise to the challenge and regain the confidence in parents," Bush said of his proposal. "In the worst case, we will offer scholarships to America's neediest children, allowing them to get the emergency help they should have."

"In any case, the federal government will no longer pay schools to cheat poor children," the Texas governor said.

In Texas, the education grants can only be used at public schools but some Democrats have criticized Bush's federal proposal as a voucher program in disguise, or allowing the use of public money to fund private school enrollment.

Voucher proposals in the Texas Legislature have failed in recent years.

## Church severs ties with Southern Baptist Convention

WACO (AP) — A second Waco Baptist church has severed ties with the Southern Baptist Convention, which critics say has been losing support because of its increasing conservatism and fundamentalist views.

Lake Shore Baptist Church split from the denomination Wednesday night by a 99-1 congregational vote.

The Rev. Brett Younger, Lake Shore Baptist's pastor, said church members have contemplated splitting with the SBC for several years.

The church hasn't supported the convention financially since 1993. Lake Shore Baptist's only alignment with SBC is through its church constitution.

"That was our last official connection," Younger told the Waco Tribune-Herald in Friday's editions. "I guess

we were dealing with how best to be Baptist."

Seventh and James Baptist Church of Waco voted to split from the SBC almost two months ago.

Both churches echo an increasing controversy among Texas Baptists, some of whom identify themselves as more moderate. Others are aligned with the more conservative SBC.

The friction has been triggered by recent changes to the SBC's Baptist Faith and Message. Among other things, the doctrine states that women cannot be ordained as pastors and that wives should "submit graciously" to their husbands. The doctrine has also condemned homosexuality. Also alienating more moderate members is the recently deleted premise that Jesus Christ is the ultimate interpreter of scripture.

"I think that the difference is the SBC is trying to take the Bible literally and that's different from taking the Bible seriously," Younger said. "If you take the Bible seriously, it will lead you to the same openness that Jesus had."

But William Merrell of the SBC's executive committee defended the SBC's theology.

"We are not politically correct," he said. "There

are some denominations that feel they ought to change what the Bible says."

Many Texas Baptist churches have been moving in the same direction as Lake Shore Baptist.

In October, the Baptist General Convention of Texas met in Corpus Christi and agreed to cut \$4.3 million from the funds it annually contributes to SBC member seminaries.

## Appeals court upholds nudist park ban on kids

AUSTIN (AP) — Parents who sued for the right to take children to the popular nudist park Hippie Hollow on Lake Travis were rejected by a state appellate court Thursday.

The Third Court of Appeals upheld a lower court ruling that sided with Travis County and the Lower Colorado River Authority, saying prohibiting anyone under 18 from the clothing-optional park is constitutional.

Bob and Christine Morton, the parents who filed the lawsuit in association with the Central Texas Nudists, describe themselves as "naturists" who have wholesome attitudes about the human body and one's physical well-being.

"We think that these are pretty outstanding values," said Bob Morton.

The couple argued in court that they have parental rights and First Amendment rights to convey their naturist beliefs to their children through social activities.

"A very important component of that is being in the nude and being in public," said their attorney, Pamela McGraw of Austin. "Parents have a fundamental constitutional right to

instill their values in their children."

The Mortons have a 20-year-old son who is now in college, a 17-year-old daughter and a 13-year-old son. All the children believe in the naturist philosophy, their father said.

Hippie Hollow, a rocky, skinny-dipping haven since the 1960s that is formally called McGregor Park, is the only government-operated nudist park in Texas, McGraw said.

In 1995, the rule banning minors was imposed. The Mortons filed suit a short time later.


The Morton family plans to appeal the case further, first to the full Third Court then, if necessary, to the Texas Supreme Court and the U.S. Supreme Court. Nudist and naturist groups are helping to pay for the lawsuit.

"We couldn't afford this out of our own pockets," Bob Morton said. "Naturists don't have pockets, anyway."

The Mortons contend the government has the right to ban unaccompanied minors from the park but say children who are with their parents should be allowed in and would be protected.

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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.

John H. Walker  
Publisher

Debbie Jensen  
Features Editor

John A. Moseley  
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan  
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

We salute:

Each week, the *Herald* salutes individuals and groups from our community and area who have been recognized for special achievements or accomplishments.

We recognize these special people for working to help make our region a better place to live, work and play.

This week we salute:

- Big Spring High School seniors ANNA McLAUGHLIN and TORYN HAYNES, who have earned a trip to the state forensics meet.
- THEATER STUDENTS at Big Spring High School and Big Spring Junior High School, who staged successful performances of "Antigone" and "Alice in Wonderland," respectively, this week.
- THE CREATIVE AND INNOVATIVE WINNERS in the Salvation Army doll festival.
- PECAN SHOW AND PECAN FOOD SHOW WINNERS and others who participated in this annual Howard County event.
- HOWARD COLLEGE, on another entertaining luminaria Thursday night.

*Is there an individual or organization in our community that you feel should be saluted? If so, please send us their name and why you think they should be recognized. We must have your name and telephone number and you must provide it in writing.*

OTHER VIEWS

You can't blame the English for thinking that Americans have hijacked their language, but it was going to happen some time.

There are about 270 million people in the United States, compared with only about 50 million people in England proper. And since the United States is the world's leader in science, technology and economic affairs, it's not surprising that American spellings of technical terms are gaining acceptance all around the world.

Some Britons recognize that and are trying to adjust. The Qualifications and Curriculum Authority, a government agency that oversees academic exams, recently asked schoolchildren to use "internationally standardized" — which is to say, American — versions of scientific words. Instead of writing "foetus" and "sulphate," British students will be asked to write "fetus"

and "sulfate."

Even though children won't be penalized if they continue using the British spellings, the reaction in the British press has been furious.

"We now find an American fifth column in our own midst," the Independent lamented. "It's nonsense," one British science professor told the Telegraph. "It's more to do with cultural imperialism by America than wanting to standardize."

In other words, the country that just about invented imperialism is complaining about being on the business end of it.

If America's position in the world is a form of imperialism, it's certainly a gentler kind than the British ever practiced.

When the sun never sets on areas covered by American telecommunications networks, is that really so bad?

THE TIMES-PICAYUNE,  
NEW ORLEANS

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 during an election.
- 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.

The furies of liberalism are evident

I think I understand why there is a marked difference between the rhetoric of the liberals supporting Al Gore in Florida and that of the Republicans backing George W. Bush. But before I give the reasons for this, let us sample a bit of work by Paul Begala.



JEFFREY HART

He first appeared on my radar screen during the Monica Lewinsky scandal as one of the most zealous spokesmen defending President Clinton. For example, going way out on a limb, he famously declared that Clinton had "looked the American people in the eye and said he did not have an improper physical relationship, that he did not ask anyone to lie." Begala summed it up by saying: "That's enough. I believe in this man."

Ahem. What emerges is that Begala is a fierce partisan who believes that the liberal side is right and moral, and that its opponents are wrong and immoral. As I understand it, he is some kind of wacko leftist Catholic. Which brings us to the extravagance of an essay he wrote for the MSNBC Web site on Nov. 13. The title of his essay was "Banana Republicans," and in it he reflected on the electoral

map of America as it appeared in the recent presidential voting. The states supporting Gore were colored blue; those supporting Bush were red. Most of the map was red.

"If you look closely at that map," Begala observed, "you see a more complex picture." (He means a more complex picture than just supporting Gore or Bush.) "You see a state where James Byrd was lynch-dragged behind a pickup truck until his body came apart — it's red. You see the state where Matthew Shephard was crucified on a split-rail fence for the crime of being gay — it's red. You see the state where right-wing extremists blew up a federal office building and murdered scores of federal employees — it's red. The state where an Army private who was thought to be gay was bludgeoned to death with a baseball bat, and the state where neo-Nazi skinheads murdered two African-Americans because of their skin color, and the state where Bob Jones University spews its anti-Catholic bigotry: They're all in red too."

This hate-filled diatribe is indeed a collector's item. Begala wants to believe that those "red" states that went for Bush are full of bigots and murderers — and that's why they supported Bush and voted against the virtuous champion of tolerance and all good things, Al Gore.

Consider for a moment the extreme character of the attacks by Gore

supporters on Florida's secretary of state, Katherine Harris.

She actually had the temerity to behave in conformity with Florida's election laws when doing so inconvenienced the liberal candidate, Gore. She actually certified the result on the designated due date. She played by the rules.

Former Secretary of State Warren Christopher called this "arbitrary." It was anything but. Chris Lehane of the Gore campaign compared her to a Soviet commissar. Our good friend Paul Begala, on NBC-TV, thought she resembled Cruella De Vil, the Disney villain who wants to kill Dalmatians. Numerous feminists went after her makeup, said she "looked old" at 43, disapproved of her clothes, called her a zealot. (The same crowd had exco-riated men who had joked about Hillary Clinton's many hairdos.)

In fact, Harris, though a Republican, is an elected state official. In fact, her politics are moderate-to-liberalish. She supports affirmative action. In fact, she has served without stain. And far from being a witch, she is rather good-looking and dresses well. Her problem is that she threatened the Forces of Light, represented by Gore.

Republicans do not use the extreme language of a Paul Begala, and they do not indulge in the kind of character assassination targeted on Harris.

Journalist John Podhoretz explains this behavior by saying that

these liberals believe they won in Florida, might be cheated out of the victory and are angry and desperate. Maybe so, but the Bush people also are certain they won, and they are not behaving like the liberals.

I believe something profound is involved. Liberals believe the liberal world view is true. It is decent. It is written in the stars. If you oppose it, then you must be wrong and morally impaired. Evil, even.

Because the liberal considers his heart so pure, he can engage in any extravagance, like Begala. Conservatives are more relaxed, skeptical, various.

Gore has taken to talking about the "will of the people," which he thinks will support him if all the votes are counted "correctly." But the "will of the people" is a myth. People under 18 don't vote. Half the eligible voters don't vote. People who do vote spoil their ballots. Others vote for Bush or Gore for all sorts of reasons, often trivial. There is no "will of the people." It's a pleasant but dangerous fiction.

What we do have is an Election Day, laws and regulations, a count, a cutoff date and a certification. What we get is a number composed of individual votes. In Florida, Gore and his people are contemptuous of all that. They want one law and another regulation set aside so that somehow the "will of the people" will emerge. In the real world, Bush won the count and the legal recount.



Supreme Court has been vindicated

The United States Supreme Court is believed to have ducked the disputed presidential election results, but the matter is far more complex. It is often forgotten that the Court, not having been elected, has no power base of voters, and unlike the executive branch, it has no ability to enforce its rulings. So the Court's only power lies in its credibility, which is why on the momentous 1954 Brown vs. Board of Education decision outlawing school segregation it was unanimous, even though a number of justices initially intended to dissent. Important Supreme Court decisions need to be definitive to be credible.



JACK ANDERSON

and that is why the recent Election 2000 decision was handled as it was. Here is what we have been able to discern and surmise:

Chief Justice William Rehnquist, along with Justices Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas, are considered to be the right wing of the Court. Justices Sandra Day O'Connor and Anthony Kennedy are the swing members. Justices John Paul Stevens, Ruth Bader Ginsberg, David Souter and Steven Breyer represent the moderate wing. (Some would say the left wing, but the reality of their votes does not support that view.) Only Ginsberg and Breyer are Democratic appointees. During the election hearing, the right and the swing wings clearly leaned toward the view that the Florida Supreme Court exceeded its authority by extending the deadline for counting votes. The moderates disagreed, setting the stage for a 5-4 vote that would decide a national

election.

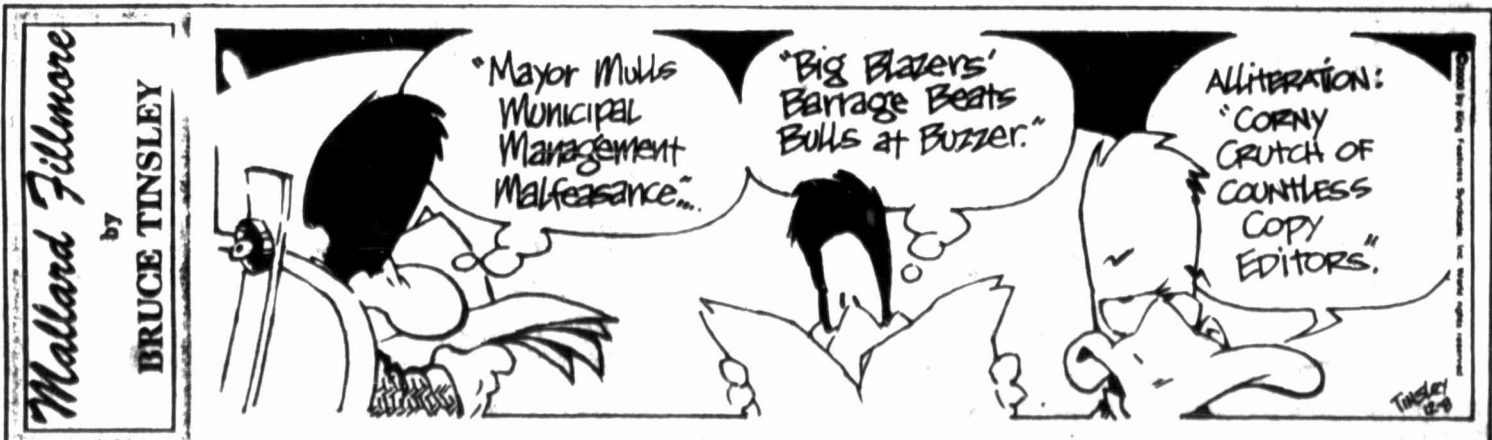
Breyer and others quickly sought a consensus compromise along the lines of what Ginsberg had suggested. The Florida court had relied upon both legislative and Florida constitutional foundations. It was the Florida Constitution that posed the problem and formed the basis for the five justices' leaning, because the U.S. Constitution provided authority for state legislatures to elect electors or provide the laws under which electors could be chosen. In other words, the U.S. Constitution bypasses state constitutions by vesting electoral authority directly in the state legislatures.

So, the moderates posed, it was not clear whether the Florida Supreme Court was relying upon laws passed by the state legislature or whether it was relying solely upon the Florida Constitution. Therefore, they convinced the right

and swing wings to ask the Florida court. The effective result was a decision to remand the issue back to the Florida Supreme Court. No justices dissented, so the decision — although in strictly legal terms it was not a "decision" — was viewed as unanimous.

What actually happened was that the moderates won because the remanded decision communicated to the Florida Supreme Court the way to make its decision in such a way as to avoid U.S. Supreme Court interference.

The U.S. Supreme Court did not duck. To the credit of all of its members, it ruled properly, separating that which is in the province of federal consideration from that which is in the province of the states. In so doing, the Court's non-decision became an important decision, setting a precedent about when there should be federal review of state voting procedures.





# Palestinian jailed on undisclosed evidence denied his freedom again

BRADENTON, Fla. (AP) — A Palestinian who has been jailed for three years on evidence the government won't disclose was denied his freedom again Thursday when an immigration panel blocked a judge's order releasing him.

U.S. Immigration Judge R. Kevin McHugh had ordered Mazen Al-Najjar's release on \$8,000 bond, saying the government failed to give him enough information to defend himself.

But the Immigration and Naturalization Service successfully blocked his release when the Board of Immigration Appeal in Washington said the case needed further study by a three-judge immigration panel.

Rep. David Bonior, D-Mich., responded by calling for Attorney General Janet Reno's resignation. He cited government decisions to keep in jail both Al-Najjar and Anwar Haddam, who has been held on secret evidence for four years in Fredericksburg, Va.

"In my 25 years in Congress, I have never seen such an act of injustice," Bonior, the minority whip, said from his Washington office. "This is an absolute outrage. These are Gestapo-like tactics."

Justice Department spokesman Charles Miller

**"In my 25 years in Congress, I have never seen such an act of injustice," Bonior, the minority whip, said from his Washington office. "This is an absolute outrage. These are Gestapo-like tactics."**

— Rep. David Bonior, D-Mich.

declined to comment.

Al-Najjar is among about 20 immigrants, mostly Arab-Americans, held in U.S. jails without criminal charges on classified evidence.

His cause has been championed by local lawyers, civil rights groups and members of Congress who say Al-Najjar's detention without charges, based on evidence to which he has no access, is unconstitutional.

"The immigration judge has already reviewed both public evidence and secret evidence and clearly ordered that he doesn't pose any threat whatsoever to the community or national security," said Martin

Schwartz, one of Al-Najjar's lawyers.

The Palestinian has been in the United States since 1981. His student visa expired years ago. The INS contends he has been living in the country illegally for more than 15 years.

Al-Najjar, who was raised in Saudi Arabia and Egypt, is married and has three American-born daughters. His parents are naturalized U.S. citizens.

Al-Najjar and his brother-in-law, Sami Al-Arian, were associated with the World and Islam Studies Enterprise, an academic think tank affiliated with the University of South Florida, and the Islamic Committee for Palestine, a group which said its mission was fostering better understanding of Muslim issues.

Former think tank director, Ramadan Abdullah Shallah, spent four years with the organization, then assumed command of the terrorist Islamic Jihad in October 1995, six months after leaving Tampa for the Mideast.

The government maintained the Florida organizations fronted for the Islamic Jihad, which has claimed responsibility for terrorist bombings.

Al-Najjar has denied ties to terrorists.

# Senate OKs bankruptcy overhaul bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defying President Clinton's veto promise, the lame-duck Senate has sent him a bankruptcy overhaul bill that would make it harder for people to erase credit card and other debts in court.

Senators, by a 70-28 veto-proof vote, on Thursday approved the most sweeping bankruptcy law changes in 20 years. Supporters, including the banking and credit card industries, have pushed for the changes over the past three years.

Clinton favors overhaul of the bankruptcy laws in principle but thinks the current bill is unfair to ordinary debtors and working families that fall on hard times.

"President Clinton is disappointed that the Senate failed to pass balanced

bankruptcy reform that addresses real abuses without tilting the playing field against those who turn to bankruptcy as a last resort." White House spokesman Patrick Dorton said after the lopsided vote.

Voting for the bill were 53 Republicans and 17 Democrats; all the opponents were Democrats, including Connecticut's Joseph Lieberman, the vice presidential candidate.

Sen. Peter Fitzgerald, R-Ill., voted present to avoid a potential conflict of interest because his family owns a bank. Sen. Mary Landrieu, D-La., was absent.

The House and Senate passed competing versions of the legislation, both by veto-proof margins. The current compromise measure cleared the House by

voice vote on Oct. 12.

For much of the year, lawmakers have sought to reach a deal on the legislation, which has divided Democrats. Supporters in both parties have received millions of dollars in political contributions from banks and credit card companies this election year.

In the final hours of Senate debate on Thursday, one longtime opponent, Sen. Paul Wellstone, said the bill was "harsh" and he accused the banking and credit card industries of "blatant hypocrisy" for aggressively soliciting new business.

Wellstone, D-Minn., cited an academic study published in the spring that found medical bills accounted for about 40 percent of personal bankruptcy filings in 1999.

# Up With People quits in wake of financial woes

BROOMFIELD, Colo. (AP) — The curtain is closing for Up With People, but many cast members who toured the world to spread the group's musical message of peace and understanding remained hopeful it would rise from financial collapse.

The nonprofit organization decided on Wednesday to shut down because of its \$7.3 million debt. It lost \$3.2 million in the fiscal year that ended in June and \$860,000 in the previous year.

"This is one of the steps you have to take to make it to the next generation," said Scott Nelson of Denver, who toured with the group in Australia and New Zealand in 1985.

The organization, which left open the possibility of a reorganization, will lay off its 262 employees in 10 offices around the world and sell its main building north of Denver.

Nelson said Up With People was born out of a dream and not a business plan. He said part of the group's recent trouble might have been trying to appeal to too many types and ages of people.

Up With People was founded in 1965 by Blanton and Betty Belk of Tucson, Ariz., who challenged a group of college students to find an upbeat message amid student unrest, the Vietnam War,

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, Dec. 8, 2000:

Realize what it is that you want from situations surrounding you. You have the appeal and charisma to draw others to you, but your need for freedom often tosses you into chaos. Your intuition might not lead you in the right direction; an even and steadfast approach will. If you are single, you easily meet others, but you might not always be sure about what you want in a relationship. You will have an opportunity to settle down. If you are attached, you certainly add snap, crackle and pop to your relationship. TAURUS helps you center.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

\*\*\* Your enthusiasm encourages you to spend in order to clear out obligations and holiday errands. Do not forget a special friend. Call this person and make plans ASAP. You find that the two of you have a lot of news to catch up on. Tonight: Go with the unexpected.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

\*\*\*\*A boss or someone in charge favors you. Something unexpected will force you to adjust to others. Dig into work, with an eye to clearing out your work. Be more social and happy with others. You're personality plus. Tonight: Go for what you want.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

\*\*\*Take a deep breath and think twice about unexpected news. Listen carefully to someone who might jolt you. Though you might not need to make an adjustment, you do gain from the present situation. Tonight: Take needed downtime.

# CANCER (June 21-July 22)

\*\*\*\* You draw others toward you. You work well in groups and maximize the unexpected. Though you could be pleased by what another offers, you might not expect the terms or strings that come with it. A meeting proves to be an eye-opener. Work with facts. Tonight: Get into the holiday spirit with friends.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22)

\*\*\* Realize how much others depend on you. You might be pushed a little by a loved one who plays hot and cold. You might want to toss your hands in the air and scream and yell. Tonight: It could be a late night.

VIRGO (Aug 23-Sept 22)

\*\*\*\* Work proves to be an endless source of ideas and information. You gain because of your efforts. Use unexpected information to revive or tighten up a project that might have fallen to the wayside. Seek out experts. Tonight: Wherever you can get into the holiday spirit.

LIBRA (Sept 23-Oct 22)

\*\*\*\* Reach out for another. Work with others one-on-one. Take nothing and no one for granted. A child or loved one who often delights you could also upset you. If single, someone you meet could be most enticing, yet not what he appears. Be careful. Tonight: Be with a favorite person.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

\*\*\*\* You get unusual pleasure from family and home. Emphasize interpersonal dealings with others rather than details and paperwork. Choose holiday gifts that

incorporate an experience rather than those that represent a thing. Surprises happen when you least expect them. Tonight: Go along with another's plans.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

\*\*\*\* You have an especially nice way of communicating what you think and feel. Others respond to your inquiries, but you could be jolted by another's response. Focus on objectives and what you need to get done. Stay centered. Tonight: Join co-workers for holiday cheer.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

\*\*\*\* What you think might be an asset turns into a problem. You mean well and want to indulge another or a loved one. Consider what is going on with a child or loved one who might be encouraging a risk. Use your ingenuity to get past an immediate problem. Tonight: Let it all hang out.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

\*\*\* Make an extra effort. The fact that you care so much comes across loud and clear. You might not understand what is going on with a loved one who seems to be demanding. Avoid being erratic; rather, focus on your objectives. Another disagrees, and he lets you know. Tonight: Cocoon.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

\*\*\* What you don't express or something that you keep to yourself could cause you a problem. Don't assume that another understands where you are coming from. You might have a sudden insight. Tonight: At a favorite spot.

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# Clinton postpones federal execution for at least six months

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton on Thursday postponed for at least six months what would have been the first execution of a federal inmate in 37 years, leaving the fate of Texan and convicted murderer Juan Raul Garza for the next president to decide.

In deciding to stay Garza's execution until June 2001, Clinton said he wanted to give the Justice Department more time to gather and properly analyze information about racial and geographic disparities in the federal death penalty system.

"In issuing the stay, I

have not decided that the death penalty should not be imposed in this case, in which heinous crimes were proved," Clinton said in a statement.

"Nor have I decided to halt all executions in the federal system."

Clinton concluded that examining the possible racial and regional bias should be completed before the United States moves forward. "In this area, there is no room for error," Clinton said.

Clinton, who earlier postponed the inmate's scheduled execution from Aug. 5 to Dec. 12, has received a flurry of requests from here and abroad to spare Garza, a

44-year-old marijuana-ring boss convicted in Texas of three murders in 1990 and 1991. French President Jacques Chirac appealed in his role as president of the European Union, whose members generally oppose capital punishment. Pope John Paul II also sent a letter.

Gregory Viercioc, Garza's attorney, told the Houston Chronicle in Friday's editions he was "relieved in one sense that the president acknowledged the serious problems with the federal death penalty system."

But the Houston lawyer said more study will not change the unfairness of

how the federal government sentences people to death.

"I don't believe further studies will ever give the next president, whoever it may be, the assurance that race and geography did not play a role in the government's decision to seek the death penalty against Juan Garza," Viercioc said.

Garza received the latest news in a phone call from one of his lawyers.

"Juan is indeed relieved. His family is overjoyed," said Bruce Gilchrist, a Washington attorney who also represents Garza.

He said Garza and his lawyers do not see how further study will change Garza's case, yet they hope

to get favorable treatment from the next president.

"We hope that whoever is the next president will share Mr. Clinton's concern about the federal death penalty system and also recognizes that given the uncertainties that exist that it would be inappropriate to allow an execution," Gilchrist said.

Garza, a Hispanic from Brownsville, Texas, asked Clinton in September to commute his sentence to life in prison because of "long-standing racial bias" in capital punishment sentencing. Of the 19 men under death sentence at the U.S. Penitentiary in Terre Haute, Ind., only four are

white; the rest are minorities.

In 1993, Garza was convicted of ordering three murders to further control over a drug-smuggling organization that allegedly moved more than 7,000 pounds of marijuana through South Texas from 1982 to 1992.

The president had unlimited power to act in the Garza case.

He could have commuted the sentence to life in prison, issued a moratorium on all federal death sentences or refrained from acting at all. The latter would have allowed the lethal injection to proceed as scheduled on Tuesday.

## California taps power from huge pumps

FOLSOM, Calif. (AP) — California's strained electric grid tapped enormous water pumps for emergency power and was able to avert blackouts, but authorities worry an expected cold snap could push energy demands beyond the system's capacity.

State officials declared a Stage Three alert Thursday because as utilities struggled to meet evening demands, the state's electricity reserves dipped to critical levels.

The unprecedented emergency followed hours of increasing stress on California's electricity grid, which has been strapped by cold weather, power plants idled for maintenance and repairs, and dwindling imports. The alert allows operators to obtain emergency power and ask certain customers to curtail usage and warns of the possibility of blackouts.

Officials with California Independent System Operator, which controls the power grid for much of the western United States, said coming days won't get easier.

"The Northwest is also expecting cold weather, and a lot of power we use is from there and won't be coming down here," said

Jim McIntosh, director of scheduling for the ISO. "Monday is going to be a really big challenge."

If enough power can't be found when demand peaks, the ISO could order rotating blackouts in which blocks of up to 100,000 customers would be without power for up to an hour. In the winter months, that's especially dangerous, because the peak is about 6 p.m., said Jim Detmers, managing director of operations at ISO.

"It's dark, it's foggy. The last thing I want to have happen is to have a school bus go through an intersection where the lights have just gone dark," he said. "What do I tell those parents? That we didn't do enough here to keep the lights on?"

Though power demands usually lessen over the weekend when commercial customers don't need it, Detmers said a large transmission line and a power plant will both be down for repairs this weekend, making those days critical.

The power grid managers were able to avoid blackouts Thursday by tapping electricity intended for the pumps that push water from Northern California to the central and southern regions of the state.

By temporarily halting the two-story pumps that suck water from the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta east of San Francisco, authorities obtained an additional 500 megawatts.

Demand on the grid reached 31,600 megawatts Thursday evening, nearly the maximum available. Reserves dipped below 1,000 megawatts, prompting the alert. One megawatt powers 1,000 homes.

"If we're short by 500 megawatts, that's 500,000 people affected (by blackouts). If we're short 1,000 megawatts, that's a million people," said ISO spokeswoman Stephanie

McCorkle.

Hundreds of companies cut their electricity usage, and others awaited notification to do likewise. Computer chip maker Intel said it was prepared to turn off 50 percent of the lights at its 6,500-employee Folsom campus if necessary.

"If that's not enough, we'll take the lights down 100 percent and work in the dark," said Bill Mueller, Intel's director of communications.

Gov. Gray Davis said the problems stemmed in part from flaws in California's newly deregulated electricity system, including huge increases in the cost of wholesale power.

## Five people reported dead in Providence triplex fire

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP) — Fire swept through a wood-frame triplex early today, killing two adults and three children.

Several others were hurt, some seriously.

Fire Chief James Rattigan said he did not know the relationships among those killed in the building, which is near Providence College. He said four were pulled from one floor and one from another.

"There was such a volume of fire we had to back off and regroup and knock

some of the tense fire down and re-enter the building," Rattigan said.

It was not immediately clear how many people were hurt. Rattigan said eight people were injured. Rhode Island Hospital spokeswoman Linda Shelton said 10 people were treated at her hospital's emergency room.

Among those seriously hurt were a mother and her three children, a firefighter and a passer-by who tried to pull people from the burning building, Shelton said.

## Oxygen system mix-up suspected in deaths of nursing home residents

BELLBROOK, Ohio (AP) — A mix-up in an oxygen-delivery system is suspected of causing the deaths of two nursing home residents and the hospitalization of eight others.

An in-house oxygen system at the Carriage-by-the-Lake nursing home in this Dayton suburb might have accidentally been hooked to a nitrogen tank Thursday, a fire official said.

The nitrogen tank was labeled as containing nitrogen, but looks much like an oxygen tank, said Bob Miles, an assistant fire chief from nearby Washington Township.

"We don't suspect any criminal intent here. We feel at this time, it was an accident," he said.

A spokesman for Integrated Health Services Inc., which owns the nursing home, told the Dayton Daily News that the tank taken for testing was labeled as oxygen.

"The facility has only received, for years and years, only oxygen tanks," said IHS spokesman Robert Gill. "There is no nitrogen at the facility as a matter of practice."

Officials at the nursing home declined comment Thursday.

Greene County authorities said Pauline Tays, 70, died at the nursing home, and Helen Tomlin, 76, was

pronounced dead after being transported to a hospital.

Eight other residents were taken to hospitals, and four were treated and released. The other four remained hospitalized in critical or serious condition Friday, hospital officials said.

Authorities said full toxicology studies on the deceased residents may take several days.

The affected residents had all been on an oxygen system in the same wing of the 84-bed nursing home, Miles said.

Miles said the tank was included in a delivery of oxygen to the nursing home on Nov. 30. Medical facilities sometimes use nitrogen to purge lines used to carry air, he said.

Gill said only nurses and nurse's aides, and sometimes the suppliers themselves, are allowed to connect the tanks into the in-house delivery system.

Firefighters were called to the nursing home Thursday on the report of an illness, and soon found themselves treating several residents.

Sugarcreek Township Fire Chief Randy Pavlak said he was the first to arrive to treat a resident whose heart had stopped.

"As we were working the cardiac arrest, they came in and said they had one more," Pavlak said.

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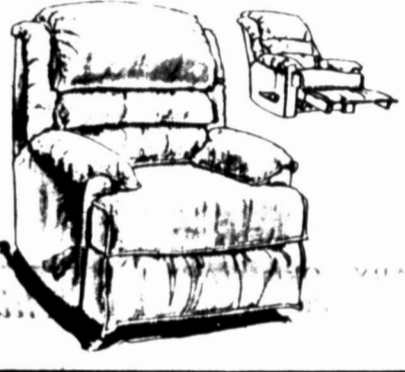
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*Candy Cane Lane*




Presented by  
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6 p.m.

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**Service**  
Sunday,  
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# Despite moody economy, charities report steady donor support

NEW YORK (AP) — The markets are erratic, the economy is slowing. But America's charities say donors generally are maintaining and even exceeding the pace of last year's record-setting generosity.

"As of now, our responses are up to expectations," said John Shima, development director for Catholic Charities of New York. "We're keeping our fingers crossed."

Shima's organization raised more than \$18 million in the last fiscal year and is on track to equal or surpass that performance.

Other charities are faring significantly better than a year ago, ranging from the American Cancer Society and the Volunteers of America to the 54 nonprofit groups represented by the National Alliance for Choice in Giving.

"Our members are experiencing another year of

steady growth, by and large — 10 to 20 percent growth,"

said the alliance's executive director, Matt Howe. The alliance promotes donations through payroll deductions to organizations focusing primarily on social justice and the environment.

Mary Rossick Kern, a Denver-area philanthropist, said she and other donors she knows are monitoring long-term economic trends. But "I haven't heard anybody else doing anything drastic in terms of cutting back."

Last year, according to the Trust for Philanthropy, charitable giving in the United States surpassed \$190 billion for the first time. Contributions were up from individuals, corporations and foundations.

Eugene Tempel, executive director of the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University, said numerous charities nationwide are

heading toward another record fund-raising year.

In his own area around Indianapolis, Tempel said the Salvation Army's donations are up 2 percent, while the local United Way set a record.

Many wealthy donors have been amassing investment gains over several years, Tempel said, and are likely to feel generous even if some holdings dip. He said the increased use of electronic stock transfers has benefited charities, making online donations quick and efficient.

Internet technology has helped Volunteers of America: Their familiar sidewalk Santa Claus has opened an online operation, and spokesman Carl Ericson said overall donations are running 25 percent ahead of last year.

Some charities are lagging behind last year, but in one notable case there is an

upbeat reason for the drop. The American Red Cross has collected only \$11.3 million so far this year for its disaster-relief fund, compared with \$56 million at this date last year.

Red Cross officials noted that the organization responded to three major catastrophes in 1999 — the Turkish earthquake, Hurricane Floyd and the Kosovo refugee crisis. This year, they said, there have been no comparable catastrophes and, for the first time in several years, no hurricane hit the U.S. coast.

"We don't want to give the impression that Red Cross doesn't need your gifts this year," said spokesman Chris Paladino. "We're responding to disasters everyday — whether it's a wildfire in the West or a house fire in Paterson, N.J. They just don't make the front page."

Jennifer Dunlap, Red

Cross senior vice president for development, said non-disaster donations to the organization's annual fund are up 27 percent this year, but donations to most local chapters are down slightly.

"There are some things distracting folks right now, like the election," she said. "But I believe that by year's end, donors will respond."

On the West Coast, some charities attribute a dip in donations to the shakeout in the high-tech and Internet sector.

"Some dot-com donors have taken some real hits, but they're still being real generous," said Jack Shakely, president of the California Community Foundation.

"Most West Coast nonprofits are probably down 5 or 10 percent."

He added: "We've had such enormous growth, and there's no way the charities could sustain that growth.

There has to be a little breather, and this might be that year."

Computer networking giant Cisco Systems Inc. is one of the high-tech companies whose stocks have dropped this year. But executives said Cisco plans to expand corporate giving in 2001, and employees at its San Jose, Calif., headquarters have increased donations to the food bank Second Harvest from \$1.3 million last year to \$1.5 million this year.

"We're here for the long haul, and the charitable programs we design have to have that long-term view," said Matt James, a Cisco spokesman. "For some individuals, when stock goes down, it affects how you view your personal finances. But we haven't seen that translating into people saying, 'Gee, I'm not going to give as much this year.'"

# White patient requests no black men in the operating room

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Surgeon Michael R. Petracek faced an ethical dilemma: grant a white patient's request to keep black men out of the operating room during open-heart surgery, or risk her refusing the potentially lifesaving procedure.

Petracek wanted to make sure his patient got the care she needed, so he asked a black male technician to leave the operating room during the Oct. 9 surgery — a move he now calls "a bad mistake."

Word slowly spread throughout the Catholic hospital and complaints by employees finally made

their way to the hospital's executive committee, which took no disciplinary action.

Petracek is a highly regarded surgeon best known for having developed a way to conserve blood during heart operations so that Jehovah's Witnesses, who oppose transfusions on religious grounds, could still have surgery.

He briefly spoke to two Nashville newspapers this week about his decision. He did not return a phone call Thursday to The Associated Press.

Petracek told the hospital, however, that the woman's husband did not want black men looking at his wife's

nude body, hospital spokesman John Mays said Thursday. He noted that a black woman was on the surgical team without any objection.

"The husband was very overbearing and told the doctor he was pretty much their last hope," Mays said. "Basically, he was saying if Dr. Petracek did not do it they were just not going to seek any other care."

The woman and her husband, who have not been identified, first went to Dr. John Austin at Baptist Hospital and made the same request of him in August. He said no and asked them to reconsider.

"She really did need an operation for something that was ultimately life-threatening, so I didn't want to send her away after one conversation," Austin said. "I saw her about a week later and they were still just as adamant, so I told them I could not alter our personnel according to their racial bias."

Petracek took the opposing view. "I was trying to find a way to get the woman the medical care she needed," he told The Tennessean.

He told the couple he would do his best to honor their request. As fate would have it, on the day of the

operation a black male perfusionist was assigned to operate the heart-lung machine. Petracek quietly asked him to leave and replaced him with a white technician.

"I'm solely responsible for what happened," Petracek said. "It was not done maliciously. It was done in ignorance."

The perfusionist, who was not named by hospital officials, declined to be interviewed. "As far as I'm concerned, it's done. It's in the past. Dr. Petracek apologized to me," Mays quoted him as saying.

The decision was reviewed by the physician

performance and medical executive committees of St. Thomas. No disciplinary action was taken, although hospital executives made it clear they did not agree with Petracek's decision and they encouraged him to apologize publicly.

Vanderbilt University medical ethicist Stuart Finder said Petracek should have sought the advice of his colleagues or the hospital's ethics board before asking the black employee to leave.

"It's about finding the balance between the obligation to the patient, regardless of their background or creed, and the obligation to the community," Finder said.

# Chunk of Route 66 Washington bound

GEARY, Okla. (AP) — Visitors to the nation's capital may soon get a chance to do something geography always prevented — getting their kicks on Route 66.

Workers on Wednesday pried up a dozen 9,000-pound slabs of the fabled roadway known as "The Main Street of America" for what will become an exhibit at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History.

"We're just glad to be a part of history," said George Tomek, director of the Oklahoma Trucking Association, which volunteered to carry the slabs some 1,400 miles to a Smithsonian warehouse in Maryland.

U.S. Route 66 spanned 2,400 miles between Chicago and Santa Monica, Calif., connecting eight states. Oklahoma has more miles of Route 66 than any other state.

William Withuhn, curator of transportation for the Smithsonian, said the museum will reassemble the 20-foot wide section of roadway for an exhibit called "America on the Move."

The display, scheduled to open in the fall of 2003, likely will feature photographs of roadside stops, clips from the 1960s TV show "Route 66" and Bobby Troup's song, "(Get Your Kicks On) Route 66."

The Smithsonian requested a piece of the highway two months ago when officials learned the Oklahoma Department of Transportation was removing it for a five-mile safety

*"This slab has borne the wheels of commerce for over 65 years and is still functional..."*

— Neal McCaleb, Secretary of Transportation

improvement project.

"This slab has borne the wheels of commerce for over 65 years and is still functional, as are the 400 miles of Route 66 that remain a part of the fabric of our state highway system," said Oklahoma Secretary of Transportation Neal McCaleb.

The section running through central Oklahoma was built in 1931-32, specifically for early Ford cars, said Bo Hodges, the transportation department's project manager. The slab that left Oklahoma is four feet narrower than today's highways, he said.

Michael Wallis, author of "Route 66: The Mother Road," said that while he hated to see the road disturbed at all, its pieces are better in the Smithsonian than in a rubble pile.

"I'm delighted that if anything happens to that road, that at least we'll have actual, tangible pieces of the road that carried people through a time of war and depression and it will be on display for the world to see," he said.

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## CHURCH NEWS

### First Church of the Nazarene

Two seasonal musical presentations are planned Sunday, beginning with a performance by the adult choir, Rejoice, in both the 8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m. services.

This musical drama, directed by pastor Roger Huff, gives a perspective on the Christmas story as seen by a Roman tax collector and a Jewish innkeeper. A choir of 28 voices, along with six actors, will present the drama.

That evening at 6, the Kids Khor will present "Candy Cane Lane," a fun holiday musical. About 30 children are involved in the presentation, which is directed by Herbert Moor and Kim Shafer.

### First United Methodist Church

"The Shepherds knew Something was Strange" (Luke 2:8-12), is the title for Dr. Ed Williamson's message on Sunday, Dec. 10, 2000, at the First United Methodist Church.

Join us in church at 8:30 and 10:50 a.m., and hear how believers in Jesus Christ recognize the shepherds, lowly people, came to him.

We are on the Internet now with a "home page" at <http://www.xroadstx.com/> and we think you will like it.

Dec. 6 there will be no Senior High Bible Study because we are having a city wide youth event. Jarred Douglas and wife Amy will be coming. Jarred uses stunts such as breaking bricks, tearing phone books, and other things to convey a powerful message.

Dec. 9, the youth will be attending the Odessa Jackalopes game. Meet at the Pardee Building at 5:30 p.m. The cost will be \$7.

Youth Workers/Parents Christmas Party will be from 7 to 9 p.m., at One Courtney Place Apt. 707. Bring a nice gift (\$10 to \$20 range).

### Calvary Baptist

The sermon by Bro. Herb McPherson will be, "Jesus' Growth as a Child." Scripture will be from Luke 2:39-40. This is a part of a continuing series of expository sermons from the Gospel of Luke.

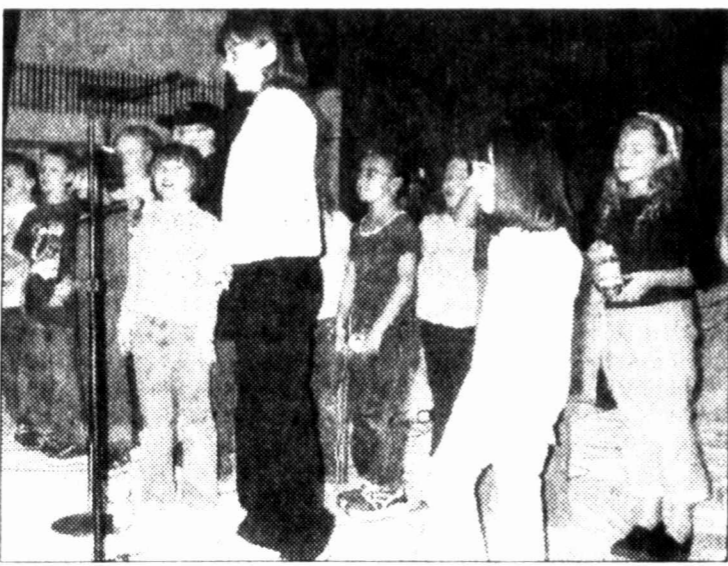
Thought for the day: If you are disenfranchised or a church drop out, you can start over again at Calvary.

Services are at 11 a.m. and 5 p.m., on Sunday; and 5 p.m., on Wednesday.

### St. Mary's Episcopal Church

The Inquirer's Class is meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 13, 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

St. Mary's invites the public to attend the Advent Concert being held on Thursday, Dec. 14, at 12:05 p.m. at the church. The concert will include carols for cello, flute, guitar, voice and keyboard. Guest musicians include Vilha Walter, Gloria Steelman, Scott



Courtesy photo

The King's Kids of College Baptist Church are presenting "The Don't Be Afraid Brigade" this Sunday, Dec. 10 at 6 p.m. in the Auditorium at 1105 Birdwell Lane. The musical presentation begins with a brigade of angels, led by Gabby (Gabriel), trying to get ready to announce the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ. They find out that they have to continually work, there's never a rest. They have to "Hearse and Rehearse" to get it right. Eventually, they become "The Host with the Most" wonderful news for these "pesky earthlings." King's Kids is a music and drama ministry for children Kindergarten through grade 6. They work every Wednesday evening at 7 preparing productions and learning the Bible truths that accompany them.

McLaughlin Joyce Bradley, and Linda Hill. The concert will be about 30 minutes long. You are invited to bring a sack lunch and join us in the Parish Hall after the concert. Tea, coffee, and dessert will be provided.

There is no admission charge. St. Mary's is located at 10th and Goliad.

### Forsan Baptist

The Forsan Baptist Church Family would like to invite you to come and worship with us. Come and join us as we celebrate our Savior's birth. Pastor Jeff Janca will be sharing messages from God's Word each Sunday morning and evening on the true meaning of Christmas.

Our services include: Sunday School 10-11 a.m.; Sunday Morning Worship Service 10:50 a.m., and the Sunday Evening Service 6:00 p.m.

On Wednesday Evenings Forsan Baptist offers at 6 p.m., a Children's Meeting, a Youth Meeting, and an Adult Bible Study and Prayer Meeting.

Forsan Baptist Church is located at 201 W. Main St., in Forsan. For more information please call 457-2342.

### St. Paul Lutheran Church

You are welcome to attend our special Advent Family Services on Saturday evenings at 5:30 p.m. This Saturday, Dec. 9, the topic will be "Joseph's Angle."

When was the last time you faced a difficult situation? Were you anxious or uncertain, fearful of the outcome? Joseph was greatly troubled when he learned Mary, his betrothed, was pregnant. But God sent an angel to Joseph in a dream to bring him words of comfort and assurance.

These words also give us great joy in this Advent season: the child to be born would be named Jesus, "because He will save His people from their sins!"

The Festival of Carols will be held on Sunday evening, Dec. 17, at 7:30 p.m. This is a worship service for all ages with congregational singing of traditional Christmas carols along with

other special music and readings. Join us for this Christmas carols along with other special music and readings. Join us for this Christmas celebration.

The mission of St. Paul Lutheran Church is "to serve Jesus Christ in word and deed, through the power of the Holy Spirit, proclaiming the love of God so that everyone may have eternal life." We welcome you to join us for Sunday morning worship at 8 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. and Sunday School at 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Call 267-7163 for more information on what's going on at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 810 Scurry.

### Trinity Baptist

The wonder of Christmas is found in a story, a timeless story, one that never grows old whether we're telling it or hearing it. We would like to invite the Big Spring community to come hear the Adult Choir of Trinity Baptist Church as they present the musical "The Wonder of Christmas."

You are invited to join with us on Dec. 10, at 6 p.m. We are located at 810 Eleventh Place, and there will be a nursery provided for those 3 years old and under.

Come join our 60 voice choir as they tell that wonderful, timeless story once again... that beautiful story of our Savior's birth. A very merry Christmas to you and yours from the congregation of Trinity Baptist Church!

### First Christian

First Christian will host an "International Tea" immediately following the worship service Sunday, Dec. 10. The Moss Elementary School Honor Choir will perform during worship. Dr. Jimmy Watson will preach the sermon, "Why the Message of Christmas Gets Lost."

Dr. Watson's Roundtable group will meet at noon on Wednesday, Dec. 13. They will view a film on Islam. Everyone is invited.

First Christian is in need of a nursery worker for Sunday mornings. If you

See CHURCH, Page 9A

## 'Tis the season to be ...

Because today is Friday, many of you will be rushing around trying to accomplish that last little bit of shopping before Christmas finally arrives.

The old tune gleefully pronounces "tis the season to be jolly" followed by multiple fa-la-las. As I, too, have a little extra shopping to be accomplished, I'm right there with you in the stores. Upon careful examination, I don't think "Jolly" is the word I would use to describe most of us. "Stressed; but still smiling" might be more appropriate. Sometimes, attempting to achieve what we believe is expected of us can become burdensome. As with many things in life, a real breakdown occurs between perception and reality. Often, attitudes are affected by "our view" of circumstances.

Let's talk about your disposition! What word or words might you plug in to describe yourself in this holiday season? 'Tis the season to be ...

Your final conclusions will tell a lot about who you really are, and how you choose to celebrate the birthday of our LORD. This is obviously not a quiz to be turned in, but one to help in self examination.

That, by the way, is always healthy. Let's examine a few of the many possible answers. 'Tis the season to be

Worried? Scripture clearly teaches us not to worry. With Christ in charge, there is no reason to fret over the stuff of life.

Jesus said that nothing is added to your life through worry. Though we may be genuinely founded in our reasons for worry, it only serves to steal our Joy.

Therefore, it's wrong! Stop Worrying!

'Tis the season to be Hurried? I can't even imagine Jesus being in a hurry. You might even say He was late to His best friend's funeral. A careful reading, however, reveals His plan. He knew His time frame. He knew His Purpose. He knew His Priorities. There is a difference between being busy and hurried.

Continual hurrying steals our Peace! Slow down! It is the Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom. Allow His perfect Peace to settle you down.

'Tis the season to be Hostile? There are many "Grinches" among us. You continually complain about everything. The "Grinch" has come to believe that life

should be centered on him. When you fail to get your own way, we all hear the roar.

The cure? Major heart surgery! Hostility steals our ability to love. The best way to become compassionate is to recognize your own imperfections, and the Love with which God loves YOU!

'Tis the season to be JOYOUS. In 1719, Isaac Watts penned the words to his, now famous, Christmas carol. His conclusions go considerably deeper than "Jolly," for he had obviously discovered the true sense of Christmas.

Christ has come to Earth to fulfill His plan for mankind. LISTEN!

"Joy to the world! The Lord is come, Let earth receive her King, Let every heart prepare Him room, And heav'n and nature sing. "Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns; Let men their songs employ, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy.

"He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove The glories of His righteousness, And wonders of His Love."

What a great view of Life! No doubt, this writer knew how to enjoy Christmas. After all, "Tis the Season ... I hope you have a JOY FILLED Christmas! I'll see you in the stores."

Ken McMeans is pastor at College Baptist Church.



KEN McMEANS

## Mormons will educate about their faith during 2002 Olympic games

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Mormon church leaders know misconceptions persist about their religion and want to seize on the 2002 Winter Games as a way to educate hundreds of thousands of visitors.

Will the church known for sending missionaries abroad try to proselytize when the world comes to its headquarters city?

"We don't want to bang anyone over the head with the Book of Mormon," said Marjorie Draper Conder, curator of Salt Lake City's LDS Museum of Church History and Art. "But we ought to at least tell them about it and then let them make up their own minds."

Conder says she's met outsiders who thought it was impossible to buy coffee in Utah or believed Mormons still dressed like the 19th-century pioneers who settled Utah.

While members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints are taught to shun caffeine, there's no shortage of java in Utah. Mormons also have no particular style of dress, although they wear special undergarments bestowed during temple rituals.

State officials also eased some of Utah's arcane liquor laws in anticipation of the Olympics, a decision the church did not oppose.

"I would hope non-LDS visitors leave after the Olympics with a better understanding of who we

are socially, culturally and religiously," Conder said.

Touring the museum, which hosts a permanent Mormon exhibit and is preparing several others for the Olympics, will help visitors get a feel for what the church is about. The Mormon Tabernacle Choir will be staging concerts throughout the games, and church President Gordon B. Hinckley has promised to throw an "extravaganza," the details of which the church has so far refused to reveal.

Hinckley has instructed his flock not to bank on the Olympics as a way to boost proselytizing, a core Mormon teaching. Each year, thousands of young Mormons embark on two-year missions to try to recruit new followers in the United States and abroad.

The only place where missionaries will continue to hand out pamphlets and other church material during the games is in Temple Square, Salt Lake City's biggest tourist attraction. That decision was also made by Hinckley.

Janette and Ray Beckham, members of the church's Olympic Coordinating Committee, said they'd been instructed by church leaders to train all Mormons who volunteer at Olympic venues not to proselytize. The Beckhams also sit on an interfaith council and

See OLYMPICS, Page 9A

## CLUB NEWS

1944 Study Club members will be celebrating their 56th anniversary with a special Thanksgiving dinner on Nov. 11. We invited our spouses to join us for a delicious meal at the Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall.

Our December meeting was Dec. 4 in the home of Sue Tindol. We were joined by Sandy Wallace and nine of her Coahoma school students: Courtney Bridges, Renae Hills, Haley Butts, Tiffany Paige, Chelsea Griffin, Lauren Yeater, Callie Price, Natasha Tucker, and Marianne Mullins. Tammy Price helped with the music.

Mrs. Wallace told us about some of the activities the girls participate in. They sang several songs to entertain us and help us get into the holiday spirit.

The final number was about the 12 Days of Christmas. Sue Tindol, Helen Shive, Eloise Davis and Joan Daniels served refreshments. Our next meeting will be Jan. 8, 2001.

### Retired Teachers

The Big Spring-Howard County Retired Teachers Association will meet Monday, Dec. 11, in the Fireplace Room at Howard College. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m.

The Moss Singers, under the direction of Julie Shirey, will present a program of Christmas music.

All retired school personnel are invited to attend.

## RELIGION IN THE NEWS

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Christmas Eve Mass will go on as scheduled at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church — no thanks to the National Football League.

Prompted by the prospect of heavy traffic and parking congestion, the church's pastor had asked the NFL to move up the scheduled 4:15 p.m. kickoff of the Christmas Eve game between the Indianapolis Colts and the Minnesota Vikings.

That way, about 1,000 parishioners could make their way to the church — which sits across the street from the RCA Dome where the Colts play — for its 5:30 p.m. family Mass, one of its best attended of the year. The NFL said no.

"You have to understand that the schedule is like a giant jigsaw puzzle," league spokesman Greg Aiello said Monday. "Making what might seem a small change in one game could have a ripple effect that makes the entire schedule unplayable."

The church had considered canceling the Mass, the Rev. Thomas Murphy said. Then business leaders stepped in with a plan to reserve 400 nearby parking spaces for the churchgoers. Murphy is grateful for the compromise, but doesn't like scheduling sporting events on religious holidays — it keeps fans, players and team employees away from their families.

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

THE BIG SPRING EVENING Lions Club will have free eyeglasses for all adults Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon at the Big Spring Evening Lions Club bingo building, 1607 East Third.

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

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

## WELL SAID

A pure and spotless life is a source of real welfare in the world. When such a life is actually lived, there is no need for oral teaching. Example is more potent than precepts.

Swami Shivananda

Not any man can teach, but only he can give, who has; he only can create, who is. The man on whom the soul descends, through whom the soul speaks, alone can teach.

Ralph Waldo Emerson



# Parents find ways to teach spiritual values. OLYMPICS

DALLAS (AP) — Michael Ball was 5 years old when images of the federal building bombing in Oklahoma City flashed across a television screen. He absorbed everything — the rubble, the carnage, the tear-streaked faces of grief.

When a tornado rumbled near his Texas home that night, Michael asked his mom, "Is it a bomb?" He became terrified of death, to the point of crying when flowers wilted. He wanted to know, "What happens when we die?"

Linda Ball of Garland didn't rely on the answers given by the world's religions to help her son. She's part of a burgeoning segment of the U.S. population that defines itself as "spiritual but not religious."

Dr. Robert Fuller of Bradley University in Peoria, Ill., said that 20 percent of Americans identify themselves in that way, according to sociological studies. Many care deeply about raising spiritual children but want to do it outside a structured religion.

"Spirituality means all kinds of different things to these people," said Mr. Fuller, who has a forthcoming book on the topic. "For some, spirituality remains more philosophical. For others, it means being actively involved in a meditation group. Or it could be nothing more than pausing occasionally and reflecting on whether they are living their lives the best they can."

Organized religions offer seemingly unlimited resources and programs to help foster a child's spirituality. But parents outside the structures are often left to their own devices.

Ms. Ball tells Michael, now 10, stories about Jesus, the Buddha and other religious figures. Sometimes they pray and meditate together. But rather than indoctrinate Michael into any religion, she tries to foster the spirituality that she feels is already within him.

"You give children a chance and they have beautiful perceptions about what they believe and where they come from," said Ms. Ball, 38, who leads workshops on nurturing children's spirituality.

After the bombing, Ms. Ball told her son that people die, but their spirits live on. But it wasn't until watching a television show on dinosaurs that Michael understood what she meant.

"Something clicked for him," Ms. Ball said. "He saw the dinosaurs' bones and said, 'Everything else must go somewhere else.' After that, he wasn't afraid of dying."

**Spiritual parenting**  
Barbara Bianco, the New Age guide for the Internet site About.com, explains the difference between spirituality and religiosity this way:

"Spirituality is really a state of being that comes from the inner core of a person," she said, "whereas religion is the kind of code that people agree on to be spiritual."

Her advice to parents who don't want to raise their children in a religion is to trust the "innate spirituality" of the children.

"That's a very difficult thing for people conditioned in a religion to do," she said. "But the goal is to allow your child to experience a lot of different things and trust that their natural spirituality can guide them without harm." Karla

Marie, a feng shui consultant from Dallas, helped to develop a coming of age ceremony for her nephews and nieces to honor "the spirit within them." The ceremony is held for the children as they're becoming teens.

"People are led to believe that the only place they can find God is in a church," said Ms. Marie, 52. "That's just not true. God is already in our hearts, and most people are too busy to listen."

At Ms. Marie's family reunion in California last summer, the men in the family held a ceremony for her nephew, while the women held one for her niece, 13-year-old Becca Krauss of Minnetonka, Minn.

Becca was taken to a room where her mom and three aunts painted her fingernails, gave her a massage and braided her hair with flowers symbolizing love, passion and joy. They shared stories of their childhood.

"The whole thing was pretty cool," Becca said. "My mom said they were honoring me becoming a woman. I felt honored. But I'm still sort of getting to the being a woman part."

Becca also was taken to a vineyard, where each woman presented her with a gift, told her how special she was and shared their wisdom about being a woman. Her Aunt Karla Marie gave her a tiny rosary that belonged to Becca's deceased grandmother, who was a Catholic.

"I wanted to pass on the feminine lineage in some way," Ms. Marie said. "My point to her was there is tremendous spiritual guidance for us and it's always there and it's always available to us."

**Finding spirituality**  
Ms. Marie doesn't adhere to a religion, but prays and meditates daily. Her niece, who's a Catholic, describes her aunt as spiritual but "unorthodox," a word that Becca said she learned only a few days ago.

"She's different from other people because she wants to be her own person," Becca said. "She's very spiritual, but carries herself in a different way than people in a religion."

Children learn about spirituality mostly by example, Ms. Bianco said. It's not just what their parents do, but also how they respond to life.

"If you're doing yoga and your child starts imitating you, then invite them to participate," she said. "If you're meditating and they ask about it, then explain it at their level. But to force a child to do things almost always backfires and certainly doesn't respect their own inner spark."

Because of public demand, Hampton Roads Publishing Co. in Charlottesville, Va. recently introduced a line of children's books catering to "spiritual but not religious" readers. It's called their "young spirit" line of books.

"Our books are about being kind, finding your own path and being true to yourself," said Grace Pedalino, the children's book editor. "It's the kind of message people not locked into a tradition want to pass onto their children."

One of the color-illustrated books tells the story of Obo, a spot-nosed monkey who roams the jungle in search of paradise. He finds it after an encounter with an owl.

"Have you heard of a place called Paradise?"

asked Obo. "Of course I have," answered the Old Wise One. "Well," gasped the excited monkey, "I must find it. Please, ma'am, tell me where it is."

The Old Wise One laughed and said, "Why it's here. This is Paradise. Didn't you know? Paradise is exactly where you think it is."

The book helps children identify different animals and instills them with a spiritual message about appreciating the world around them, Ms. Pedalino said.

"Small children need to start simply," she said. "You don't want theology or anything that's heavy-handed."

**In the world**  
Ashley Shores, 14, of The Colony, said that the hardest thing about not having a religion is dealing with students who try to convert her to a religion.

"It can be really annoying," said the eighth-grader. "I tell them it's OK if they want to believe in a religion, but that I'm already spiritual."

Ashley's mom, Leann Shores, grew up in foster homes and was shuttled from church to church as a child. She didn't feel comfortable in any of them and

today is carving her own spiritual path.

"What I teach my daughter is that God is not somebody making a checkmark every time we mess up," she said. "God is like inner goodness."

When Ashley asked about heaven, Ms. Shores told her it's a spiritual place within her soul.

When Ashley asked about God, she told her not to think about a supreme being, but everything that is living and good.

And when Ashley asked about death, she told her about reincarnation. Every life provides a new lesson to learn, Ms. Shores said.

"I like not having a religion," Ashley said. "My mom always tells me that's what important is who you are on the inside and how you show that on the outside."

**Spirituality trends**  
Mr. Fuller said many "spiritual but not religious" people, including himself, were part of religious institutions at one time and got turned off.

"They are deeply interested in religious issues and revere the sacredness of life," he said. "But they do not believe organized religion has any monopoly on truth."

Continued from Page 8A

said it has developed an Olympic code of ethics that includes a pledge to refrain from proselytizing.

"I think the opportunity of helping people understand and overcome their misconceptions is surely a good one," said Janette Beckham. "But we need to

do it in an appropriate way, and that won't be through members proselytizing or imposing themselves."

In an effort to educate non-Mormons before they converge in Salt Lake City, the church has launched a media campaign on its Web site.

## CHURCH

Continued from Page 8A

are interested please call the church office at 267-7851.

### East Side Baptist

Tonight at 7, East Side Baptist will present The Toney Brothers in concert. The Toney Brothers have been singing gospel music since 1955, and one of the original members still travels and performs with the quartet. Everyone is welcome to come to 1108 E. Sixth; a nursery will be provided. Doors open at 6 p.m.

Thanks to all who participated in and helped with our Children's Christmas Craft Fair on Saturday.

We had a large number of children, several parents, and a good time was had by all.

### First Presbyterian

"Crying in the Wilderness" is the topic for the sermon of Dianne Brown, minister, on Sunday at 11 a.m. The text is taken from Luke 3: 1-9. Sunday School begins at 9:45 and Take Ten is at 10:30. A nursery is provided for small children.

Opportunities for the week include: Soul Food Dinner on Wednesday featuring the Children's Christmas Pageant. The Christmas Pageant will be at 5:30 p.m. with the Soul Food dinner at 6:15. Choir practice will follow at 7 p.m.

Women's night circle meets at the manse on Thursday at 7 p.m.

Members may make donations to an Angel Tree at the church and a sock tree for the local nursing homes.

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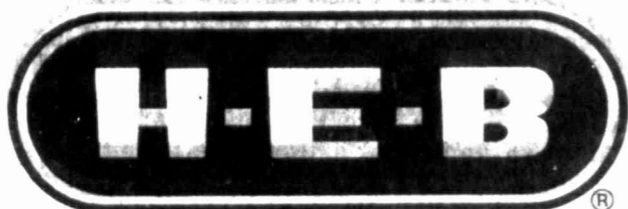
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Pastor

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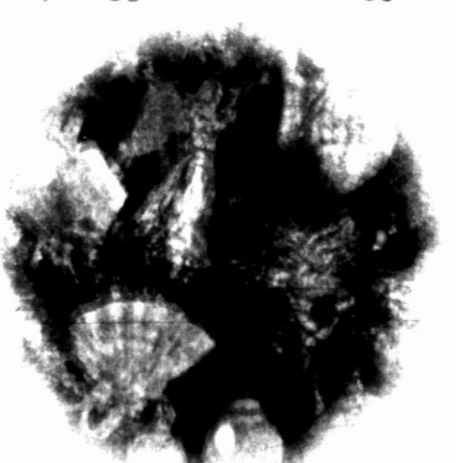
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Proceeds to the Ice' benefit the Big Spring County.  
Tickets a... \$8 and \$10... chased at t... office at 80...  
For more... call Carro... 267-5201.

**Quarterba**  
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To purch... for more in... Darrell or... at 263-2917.

**Coahoma**  
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**AREA**

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**TOURNAMENT**  
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**RODEO**  
11 p.m. —  
Finals Rodeo... (same-day ta... 30.



### IN BRIEF

#### Jackalopes schedule Howard County Night

The Odessa Jackalopes will observe Howard County Night on Friday, Dec. 15, when they host the El Paso Buzzards at the Ector County Coliseum.

Game time will be 7 p.m.

Proceeds from the "500 to the Ice" promotion will benefit the United Way of Big Spring and Howard County.

Tickets are priced at \$6, \$8 and \$10 and can be purchased at the United Way office at 808 Scurry.

For more information, call Carrol Jennings at 267-5201.

#### Quarterback Club schedules banquet

The Big Spring Quarterback Club will hold its annual football banquet at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 18, in the Big Spring High School cafeteria.

Tickets will be \$10 each.

To purchase tickets or for more information, call Darrell or Sheri Nichols at 263-2917 after 6 p.m.

#### Coahoma youth hoops sign-ups under way

Registration for the Coahoma Youth Basketball Association's upcoming season is currently under way.

Youngsters can sign up from 6 to 8 tonight and from 10 a.m. until noon Saturday at the Coahoma Junior High School gymnasium.

The girls' draft will begin at noon Saturday and will be followed by the boys' draft.

#### BSYBA to continue registration efforts

The Big Spring Youth Basketball Association will conduct sign-ups for the upcoming 2001 basketball season at All Star Sports, 1901 Gregg St., and the Big Spring Mall through Saturday.

Registration at All Star Sports will be during regular business hours through Saturday. Mall registration will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

Teams will draft on Saturday, Dec. 16, at Trinity Baptist Church.

Cost to participants is \$20 per player.

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

#### 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.

The deadline to register is Friday, Dec. 22.

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

### AREA GAMES

#### TONIGHT H.S. BASKETBALL

6:30 p.m.

• Big Spring Lady Steers at Sweetwater.

#### TOURNAMENTS

• Big Spring (VB) in Spring City Crossroads Classic.

• Coahoma (VG, VB), Colorado City (VG, VB), Stanton (VG) and Sands (VG, VB) in Hooptown Classic at Midland Christian.

• Grady (VG, VB) at O'Donnell Invitational.

• Forsan (VG, VB) at Borden County Invitational.

### ON THE AIR

#### Television RODEO

11 p.m. — PRC National Finals Rodeo, eighth round (same-day tape), ESPN, Ch. 30.

## Brees wins Maxwell Award, Tomlinson gets Walker Award

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. (AP) — Purdue quarterback Drew Brees, believed to be an also-ran behind Josh Heupel and Chris Weinke in the Heisman voting, was out in front for the Maxwell Award.

Brees received the Maxwell as the nation's best all-around player during college football awards ceremonies Thursday night.

Brees passed for 3,393 yards and 24 touchdowns in leading the Boilermakers (8-3) to their first Rose Bowl berth in 34 years.

The Big Ten career passing leader edged Florida State's Weinke and Oklahoma's Heupel in voting by Division I-A coaches, the Football Writers Association of America and

members of the Philadelphia-based Maxwell Football Club.

"It's a very, very big surprise," Brees said. "Coming here, I said I was going to have a good time and cherish the moment. It means a lot. I'm going to take it home and share with my teammates. They deserve it."

Brees led the nation in total offense with 358.2 yards a game, threw more touchdown passes than Heupel and his rating of one interception every 39.42 passes ranks ahead of Heupel and Weinke. Brees also ran for 546 yards and five TDs.

Although Brees is a Heisman Trophy finalist, Heupel and Weinke are the favorites to win college foot-

ball's top individual prize when it is awarded Saturday night in New York.

In other awards, Texas Christian's LaDainian Tomlinson won the Doak Walker Award as the top running back; Tennessee defensive lineman John Henderson won the Outland Trophy as the best interior lineman; and Weinke took the Davey O'Brien Award as the top quarterback.

Tomlinson led the nation in rushing with 2,158 yards — the fourth-best single-season rushing total in Division I-A history — and scored 22 touchdowns. The senior edged a pair of Big Ten backs — Northwestern's Damien Anderson

and Michigan's Anthony Thomas.

"I went in anxious with anticipation," Tomlinson said. "I kind of went from, 'Yes I deserve it' to 'I don't know.'"

"The thing is, I knew I was the favorite during the offseason. I was fourth last year and all (three) seniors graduated. So I knew I was the favorite and I didn't think I did anything to change it, but you never know."

Henderson, a 6-foot-7, 290-pound junior, was selected over Texas' Leonard Davis and Nebraska's Dominic Raiola.

Henderson said he would stay for

See AWARDS, page 2B

## Steers fall in tourney opener

### Seminole, Merkel, Dimmitt and Clyde advance with wins

JOHN A. MOSELEY  
Managing Editor

For Big Spring' Steers, it was a case of too little coming too late to make a difference in Thursday's opening round of the second annual Spring City Crossroads Classic basketball tournament at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

After trailing Clyde's Bulldogs by 21 points with six minutes left to play, Big Spring mounted an all-out attack down the stretch and managed to pull within eight points with a couple of minutes left.

But that would be as close as the Steers could get, as they suffered a 57-48 loss and dropped into the tournament's consolation bracket where they'll face Sweetwater' Mustangs today at 4 p.m.

The Big Spring-Clyde game proved to be the most competitive of the tournament's four openers, as Seminole's Indians rolled to an 86-57 win over Fort Stockton in the first game of the day; Merkel's Badgers followed with an 83-81 drubbing of Tahoka's Bulldogs; and Dimmitt's Bobcats romped to an 81-55 win over Sweetwater.

Fort Stockton and Tahoka were scheduled to play today's first game, a consolation semifinal at 2:15 p.m. Seminole and Merkel will square off at 5:45 p.m., while the evening's 7:30 finale will pit Clyde and Dimmitt.

Even after seeing his team drop to 2-7 on the season, first-year Big Spring head coach Brian Ellington found positives his team can build on.

"Right now we're still in a learning process and have everything we're doing geared to being ready to play four quarters like we did down the stretch tonight," Ellington said after having watched the Steers outscore Clyde 17-4 during a five-minute stretch of the fourth quarter.

"Clearly we've got to be aggressive and use our natural athletic talent," he added. "Once we started attacking and making the most of what we have, we were able to really come back on them (Bulldogs)."

But Ellington made it clear he believed the Bulldogs deserved plenty of credit for taking the Steers out of their game until it was too late for the comeback effort to make a difference.

"They were very disciplined offensively and that kind of lulled us to sleep defensively," Ellington explained. "They basically took us out of our game ... slowed us down and took us out of our rhythm. As a result, we didn't do a very good job of attacking in the first three quarters."

The Bulldogs' deliberate style resulted in a somewhat slow start for both teams, but Clyde was able to take a 13-8 lead after the first quarter. That methodical pace continued until Big Spring guard Arthur Belvin nailed a 3-pointer to trim the Clyde lead to 16-13 with 5:19 remaining in the first half.

At that point, however, the Bulldogs rattled off nine unanswered points —



HERALD photo/Jim Fierro  
Big Spring guard Heath Gregory (20) drives past Clyde's David Bailey on the baseline as he looks for an open teammate the pass the ball to during Thursday's opening round of the Spring City Crossroads Classic basketball tournament at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Clyde posted a 57-48 win over the Steers.

guard Cody Caperton stealing a pass and streaking to a layup that turned into a three-point play when he was fouled on the shot.

Post Jamie Robinson hit a pair of free throws seconds later and Bulldogs teammate David Bailey added a putback. Robinson then completed the run with a steal and break-away dunk to make it a 25-13 lead.

Only a technical foul assessed against Clyde coach Marc Case ended the run. Mic Fleming nailed both technical free throws and Clarence Wilkins flashed into the paint for a short jumper with 30 seconds remaining to make it an 8-point Bulldogs lead.

Clyde would take a 10-point edge into intermission, however, as Bailey hit a short baseline jumper just before the buzzer.

Caperton and teammate Sam Vinson did most of the damage in the second half for Clyde. Caperton scored 10 of his team-topping 17 points down the stretch, while Vinson, who finished with 16, hit three crucial 3-point shots that continually stretched the Bulldog lead.

The best the Steers could muster in the third quarter, was eight points from swingman Jason Woodruff and a three-point buzzer-beater by Gary

Harris that trimmed the Clyde lead to 16, 45-29, going into the fourth quarter.

A 3-pointer by Vinson and a short baseline jumper from Robinson, who would finish the night with 13 points, provided the Bulldogs with their biggest lead, 50-29.

But that's when the Steers made their final push.

Brandon Greathouse began the Steers' 15-3 run with a 3-point bomb, Arthur Belvin added a pair of layups in transition and Woodruff completed the sprint with a 3-pointer, a pair of free throws and a layup.

Big Spring simply had too far to go and not enough time to do it in, however, and the Bulldogs iced the win with solid ball handling and three free throws in the final two minutes.

Woodruff finished as the Steers' only player in double figures, scoring a game-high 19 points, while Belvin added nine.

#### Seminole 86, Fort Stockton 57

Class 3A powerhouse Seminole got off to a quick start and never looked back in rolling to an easy win over

See TOURNEY, page 2B

## Wake Forest posts upset over Kansas

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Kansas players don't know what's worse — a 31-point loss to No. 11 Wake Forest or spending the next few days in practice with an angry Roy Williams.

"I've had one of those practices before," Drew Gooden said following an 84-53 loss Thursday night to the undefeated Demon Deacons. "Whatever it takes for us to get better. We just have to go out there and show that we're tough."

Wake Forest (7-0) got a career-high 21 points from Josh Howard, and Craig Dawson added 20 as Wake Forest beat No. 3 Kansas (7-1) without leading scorer Kenny Gregory, who didn't play because of a stress fracture in his right foot.

"What you saw was an excellent basketball team that was well off their game," Wake Forest coach Dave Odom said of the Jayhawks. "Did we have something to do with that? I would like to think so."

"Nobody needs to feel sorry for Kansas. Roy Williams is as good a coach as there is in the game today. He'll take his team home and whip them where they need to be whipped and coddle them where they need to be coddled. They'll come out of the chutes blazing again."

That wasn't the case Thursday night as one of the nation's best offenses looked lost without its star, matching the fourth-worst loss in school history and second worst under Williams.

"They kicked our tails every which way it can be kicked," Williams said.

In other games involving Top 25 teams, No. 6 Tennessee beat Southern Methodist 85-76 and No. 23 Alabama edged Wofford 68-64.

Kansas came in averaging 92.1 points and shooting 55.4 percent — third-best in the nation — but couldn't get its offense clicking without its senior leader in its first road game.

Gregory was off to a great start, averaging 17.9 points and 7.7 rebounds, but missed his first start of the season.

"I think that is using an excuse," Williams said. "We've had guys be out before and we talked about it in the locker room. When an important guy is out, everybody has to elevate their play a little bit. We did not do that."

See NCAA, page 2B

## Bulldogs open Hooptown Classic with win over Robert Lee

HERALD Staff Report

MIDLAND — Coahoma's Bulldogs got off to a good start Thursday in the opening round of the Hooptown Classic Basketball Tournament with a 59-54 win over Robert Lee's Steers.

Traditionally hosted by Stanton, the Hooptown Classic is being staged at Midland Christian High School because Stanton's Buffs are still playing in the Class 2A, Division II football playoffs.

While the Bulldogs advanced to a 1:30 p.m. game winner's bracket game today against Ira's Bulldogs, Coahoma head coach Kim Nichols

### AREA ROUNDUP

admitted to being somewhat frustrated after seeing his team squander almost all of what was a 25-point lead early over Robert Lee in the third quarter.

"We didn't do a very good job of protecting the lead, but we managed to hold on," Nichols, the only Crossroads area coach to call in his team's results from the tournament, noted. "The important thing is that we managed to do what it took to hold on, though."

Coahoma broke open a tit-for-tat

game in the second quarter, expanding a 13-9 edge into a 38-20 advantage at intermission. But once the Bulldog lead got to 25, the Steers mounted an impressive comeback.

As a result, Robert Lee outscored Coahoma 23-12 in the third quarter and trailed by just seven going into the final eight minutes of play.

Coahoma's lead proved too much to overcome, though, as the Bulldogs limited Robert Lee to just 11 points down the stretch to preserve the win.

Brandon Haile paced the Bulldogs with a game-high 20 points, while Chase Ward added nine more.

The Bulldogs will advance to a

7:30 game tonight against Midland Trinity should they knock off Ira. Trinity advanced to the winner's bracket with a 58-56 win over Sands' Mustangs, while another opening-round game saw Colorado City's Wolves take a 63-31 win over San Angelo Central's junior varsity.

In girls' division action Thursday, Stanton's Lady Buffs got 14 points from Jessica Thompson in rolling to a 44-35 win over Sands' Lady Mustangs.

Coahoma's Bulldogettes suffered a two-point loss in their opening-round game Thursday.

The Hooptown Classic continues through Saturday.

DECEMBER 2000



SPORTS EXTRA

TOP 25 - FOOTBALL

Table listing top 25 football teams with columns for rank, team name, and record.

TOP 25 - MEN

Table listing top 25 men's basketball teams with columns for rank, team name, and record.

TOP 25 - WOMEN

Table listing top 25 women's basketball teams with columns for rank, team name, and record.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL American League ANAHEIM ANGELS - Agreed to terms with RHP Tim Lincecum on a one-year contract.

NFL STANDINGS

NFL Standings table with columns for conference, team, W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA.

San Francisco 49ers - clinched playoff spot Sunday, Dec. 10.

MILWAUKEE BREWERS - Agreed to terms with RHP Raul Casanova on a one-year contract.

NEW YORK METS - Agreed to terms with LHP Scott Fischer on a minor league contract.

NEW YORK YANKEES - Agreed to terms with RHP Tim Lincecum on a one-year contract.

PHOENIX SUNS - Activated C Chris Dudley from the injured list.

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS - Signed WR Drew Haddock to a one-year contract.

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS - Placed G Joe Andruzzi on injured reserve.

NEW YORK JETS - Signed WR Malcolm Johnson to the practice squad.

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES - Claimed RB Chris Warren off waivers from the Dallas Cowboys.

NEW YORK YANKEES - Agreed to terms with INF Luis Sojo on a one-year contract.

SEATTLE MARINERS - Agreed to terms with OF Jay Butler on a one-year contract.

ATLANTA BRAVES - Signed RHP Jason Jarama to a one-year contract.

FLORIDA MARLINS - Announced the resignation of Lou

CLASS 4A DIVISION II

Region I Wichita Falls (13-0) vs. Southlake Carroll (9-4) 2 p.m. Saturday, Memorial Stadium (Wichita Falls).

Region II Jacksonville (11-2) vs. Ennis (11-2) 4 p.m. Saturday, Texas Stadium.

Region III La Marque (10-3) vs. West Orange Stark (13-0) Time TBA Friday, Houston Astrodome.

Region IV CC Calallen (12-1) vs. Rockport Fulton (13-0) 2 p.m. Saturday, Memorial Stadium (Victoria).

Region I and II Abilene (13-0) vs. Everman (12-1) 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Fine Arts Complex (Birdville).

Region III and IV Galvestone (13-0) vs. Bandera (11-2) 2 p.m. Saturday, Leander.

Region I and II Commerce (11-0) vs. Frenship (9-4) 7:30 p.m. Friday, Texas Stadium.

Region III and IV Marlin (13-0) vs. Conango Camp (11-3) 7:30 p.m. Friday, Bowers Stadium (Huntsville).

Region IV Aquila (11-3) vs. Rogers (12-1) 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Alamo Heights HS (San Antonio).

Region I and II Waco (11-1) vs. Highland (11-0) 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Burden County High (Burden).

Region III and IV Aquila (11-3) vs. Panther Creek (13-0) 7:30 p.m. Friday, Camanche.

Region I and II Phoenix (10-2) vs. Westbrook (10-2) 2 p.m. Saturday, Burke Fine Arts Complex.

Region III and IV Phoenix (10-2) vs. Westbrook (10-2) 2 p.m. Saturday, Burke Fine Arts Complex.

Region I and II Phoenix (10-2) vs. Westbrook (10-2) 2 p.m. Saturday, Burke Fine Arts Complex.

Region III and IV Phoenix (10-2) vs. Westbrook (10-2) 2 p.m. Saturday, Burke Fine Arts Complex.

Region I and II Phoenix (10-2) vs. Westbrook (10-2) 2 p.m. Saturday, Burke Fine Arts Complex.

Region III and IV Phoenix (10-2) vs. Westbrook (10-2) 2 p.m. Saturday, Burke Fine Arts Complex.

TOURNEY

Continued from page 1B

the Panthers. The Indians owned a 26-15 lead after the first eight minutes, led 43-29 at half-time and continued to pull away in the second half.

Seminole was paced by Eric Sheets' 23 points, while Seth Nichols had 14, James Rafech chipped in 12 more and Rusty Chile contributed another 10.

The best the Panthers could muster was Justin Brians' 10 points.

Merkel 83, Tahoka 31

Any doubts as to how Class 3A Merkel would fare against Tahoka, the only Class 2A team entered in the tournament, were answered early as the Badgers raced to 30-9 lead in the first quarter and added all the scoring they'd need in the second period, rolling to a 51-16 halftime advantage.

AWARDS

Continued from page 1B

his senior year at Tennessee, ending speculation that he would leave early for the NFL. "I felt it was the right time to come out with it and get it off my chest," Henderson said. "I wanted to get it over with and get

From there it was just a matter of coasting into the winners' bracket behind the scoring lead of Michael Qualls. The 5-foot-11 senior guard paced the Badgers with 19 points and was joined in double figures by three teammates.

Wes Jordan added 15 points for Merkel, while Keith Darby and Justin Foss added 10 apiece.

Josh Thompson was Tahoka's only player to reach double digits with 11 points.

Dimmitt 81, Sweetwater 55

Three-point shooting from swingman Michael Norman and guard Austin Sherman allowed Dimmitt to race to a 27-6 lead in the first period and effectively ice away a win for the Bobcats early.

Norman, a 6-foot junior, hit eight of the 3-point shots en route to a spectacular 38-point performance, as the Bobcats recorded a total of

13 long-distance bombs. Sherman added 18 points for Dimmitt.

The Mustangs managed to mount more offense in the second half, thanks to the 3-point shooting of Ricky Thompson, but never seriously threatened to take the lead.

Thompson paced Sweetwater with 14 points, while Marcus Dawes added 12 and John Soto chipped in 10 more.

The tournament continues through Saturday.

CLYDE 57, BIG SPRING 48. CLYDE - Cody Caperton 6 0 5 7 17, Drew Thompson 0 2 0 0 6, Charlie Speckels 0 0 0 0 0.

BIG SPRING - Brandon Greathouse 1 1 1 4 6, Allen Jackson 0 0 0 0 0, Heath Gregory 0 0 0 0 0.

Score by Quarters: CLYDE 13 14 18 12 - 57. BIG SPRING 8 9 12 19 - 48.

Three-point goals: Clyde 5 (Thompson 2, Vinson 3), Big Spring 4 (Greathouse, Belvin, Woodruff, Harris). Total fouls: Clyde 10, Big Spring 17. Fouled out: Greathouse. Technical fouls: Clyde bench. Records: Clyde 7-2, Big Spring 2-7.

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Advertisement for 87 AUTO SALE'S Holiday Savings. Text includes: 'Continued from page 1B', 'Kenny Gregory was not the story of this game, it was Wake Forest kicking Kansas and kicking us as badly as it can be done', 'The Demon Deacons, shooting 68 percent in the second half, won their 12th straight dating to last season and are off to their best start since Tim Duncan's senior season of 1996-97', 'We felt that we could beat them,' Robert O'Kelley said. 'But it's important for us not to be a big head.', 'The Jayhawks failed to start 8-0 under Williams for just the fifth time in his 13 seasons, shooting a season-low 38 percent and turning it over 20 times without Gregory in the lineup.', 'Gooden led Kansas with 13 points.', 'No. 6 Tennessee 85, SMU 76. Reserve Ron Slay scored 22 points as Tennessee overcame a nine-point deficit in the second half to beat Southern Methodist.', 'Slay made his only 3-point attempt, and Isaiah Victor made one free throw for a 73-69 lead with 4:41 left, and the Volunteers (8-0) never trailed again.', '263-2382 210 GREGG 111 GREGG'.

Big Friday... Here report Texas Depart also i www.tx CEJ BROV 55 deg; we be aware slo in 4 to 20 in... Ret-L-Tr White I slow ( Traps li to 11 i minov Channe pounds 2 to 10 18 pou and stir BUC- 50 def bass a oz. golk purple black/r Tubes i ets holc 12 feet to fair c Morgan 20 to 3 action c ing Shc baits a shallow bass ar oz. H through feet or 1/8 oz. plastic slow or Creme 1 fisher are large m nels. SOU AMIS2 degrees report a WES ALAN clear: 5 are fair spinners black jii trailers I ARRO! No rep Crappie Channel nightcra accessit Arrowhe: BRADY BROW stained; black b rolled s on main nels. COLO clear: 5 bass a slow. Ch are fair. are good FT. Pl low no fi HUBB out of v available KEMP: NAMP water le fishing r NOCO CAK ( ramps c availabl OH. IV degrees on Can spoons main tal edges. t tipped v White b chartreu jiggling s ing all o the bird: POSSI clear: 5 are slo crankba Crappie and jigs Striped shad in schoolir good on feet. SPENI degrees report. STAM water ic 52 degr SWEE water ic 51 degr TWIN reports tinued. WHITE stained; few fish availabl To



FISHING REPORT

Here is the weekly fishing report as compiled for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for Dec. 6. (Report also available on Web at www.txparks.com.)

**CENTRAL**  
**BROWNWOOD:** Water muddy; 55 degrees; 3.5 below spillway; black bass to 16 inches are slow on model A bombers in 4 to 10 feet. Striped bass to 20 inches are slow on white Rat-L-Traps in 4 to 12 feet. White bass to 13 inches are slow on black/white Rat-L-Traps in 2 to 12 feet. Crappie to 11 inches are slow on live minnows in 3 to 6 feet. Channel and blue catfish to 7 pounds are slow on stinkbait in 2 to 10 feet. Yellow catfish to 18 pounds are slow on live bait and stinkbait in 2 to 22 feet.  
**BUCHANAN:** Water cloudy; 50 degrees; 1013.15; black bass are fair to good on 1/8 oz. gold Titanium spinnerbaits, purple Scoundrel worms and black/red flake Creme Super Tubes in clear creeks and pockets holding tight to cover in 6 to 12 feet. Striped bass are slow to fair drifting live bait between Morgan and Beaver Island in 20 to 30 feet. Some topwater action on small fish dead-sticking Shootin' Shad plastic jerkbaits and 1/2 oz. Rat-L-Traps in shallow water of creeks. White bass are fair vertically jigging 1/2 oz. Horizon Pirk Minnows through schools in 15 to 25 feet or casting Spin Traps or 1/8 oz. white bucktail jigs with plastic trailers. Crappie are slow on minnows and pearl Creme Tiny Tubes. Channel catfish are fair on cutbaits and large minnows in 12-foot channels.

**SOUTH**  
**AMISTAD:** Water murky; 66 degrees; 35 low and rising; No report available.

**WEST**  
**ALAN HENRY:** Water fairly clear; 53 degrees; black bass are fair on slow rolled white spinners and slow swimming black jigs with white stripper trailers in 15 to 20 feet.

**ARROWHEAD:** 50 degrees; No reports of black bass. Crappie are fair on minnows. Channel catfish are fair on nightcrawlers. Water level low - accessible boat ramp is West Arrowhead.

**BRADY:** No report available.  
**BROWNWOOD:** Water stained; 53 degrees; 4 low; black bass are fair on slow rolled spinners and crankbaits on main lake points and channels.

**COLORADO CITY:** Water fairly clear; 58-60 degrees; black bass are slow. Crappie are slow. Channel and blue catfish are fair. Redfish to 27 inches are good on live shad.

**FT. PHANTOM HILL:** Water low no fishing report available.  
**HUBBARD CREEK:** Ramps out of water no fishing report available.

**KEMP:** No report available.  
**NASWORTHY:** Water clear water level low; 52 degrees. No fishing reports.

**NOCONA:** No report available.  
**CAK CREEK:** Water low no ramps open; no fishing report available.

**OH. RIVE:** Water clear; 53-54 degrees; black bass are good on Carolina-rigs and jigging spoons in 25 to 35 feet on main lake points and channel edges. Crappie are fair on jig tipped w/minnows in 30 feet. White bass are very good on chartreuse, chrome and white jigging spoons fish are schooling all over the lake (watch for the birds).

**POSSUM KINGDOM:** Water clear; 56 degrees; black bass are slow on jigs and small crankbaits down to 20 feet. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs fished in 10 to 15 feet. Striped bass are good on live shad in 20 to 40 feet (fish are schooling). Blue catfish are good on cut shad in 20 to 40 feet.

**SPENCE:** Water murky; 51 degrees water low; No fishing report.

**STAMFORD:** Water clear water low; ramp out of water; 52 degrees. No fishing reports.

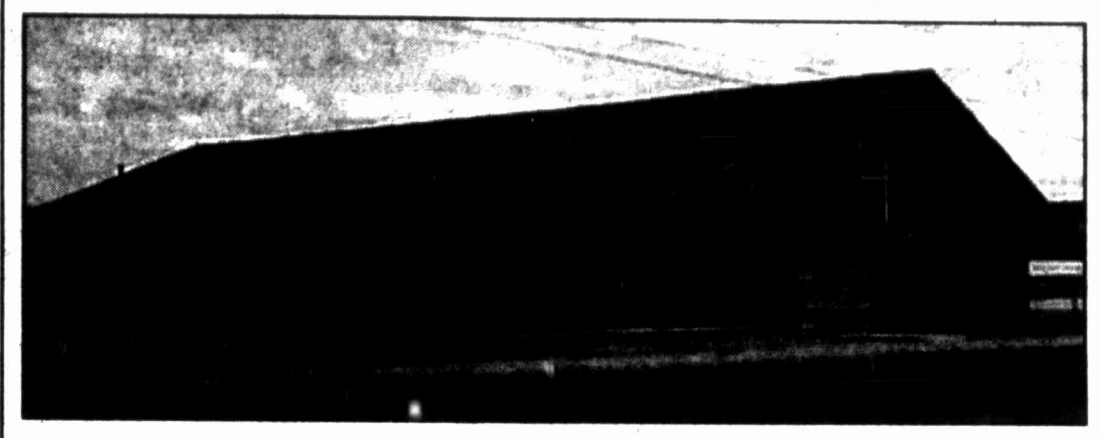
**SWEETWATER:** Water clear water low; ramp out of water; 51 degrees. No fishing reports.

**TWIN BUTTES:** Water low reports are temporarily discontinued.

**WHITE RIVER:** Water lightly stained; 53 degrees; 17 low; few fishermen out no report available.

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WEST HIGHWAY 80 CHURCH OF CHRIST  
3900 W. Hwy. 80 267-6483

CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY  
15th & Dixie

COLLEGE PARK CHURCH OF GOD  
603 Tulane Avenue 267-8593

FIRST CHURCH OF GOD  
2009 MAIN 267-6607

MCGEE MEMORIAL CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST  
1000 N.W. 3RD 267-6605

AMAZING GRACE MINISTRIES  
Days Inn Patio Room

BIG SPRING GOSPEL TABERNACLE  
1905 Scurry

CORNERSTONE CHURCH  
309 Benton 263-3072

LIVING WATER MINISTRIES  
1008 Birdwell 263-3113

MIRACLE REVIVAL CENTER  
600 East FM 700

SPRING TABERNACLE  
1209 Wright St.

CHURCH OF THE HARVEST  
1311 Goliad 267-6747

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS  
1803 Wasson 263-4411

EPISCOPAL  
ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL  
1001 Goliad 267-8201

JEHOVAH WITNESS  
KINGDOM HALL JEHOVAH WITNESS  
1500 Wasson Rd.

LUTHERAN  
ST. PAUL LUTHERAN  
810 Scurry 267-7163

METHODIST  
BAKERS CHAPEL AME METHODIST  
911 North Lancaster 267-7158

COAHOMA UNITED METHODIST  
Main at Central  
FIRST UNITED METHODIST  
400 SCURRY 267-6394  
w.s. 10:50 a.m.

IGLESIA METHODISTA Unida Northside  
Goliad & NE 6th St.  
NORTH BIRDWELL LANE UNITED METHODIST  
2702 N. Birdwell 263-2536

WESLEY UNITED METHODIST  
1206 Owens 263-2092

NAZARENE  
FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE  
1400 Lancaster

PENTECOSTAL  
JESUS NAME PENTECOSTAL CHURCH  
1004 Locust

PRESBYTERIAN  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
701 Rannels 263-4211  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
205 N. 1st Coahoma

OTHER  
GOOD SHEPHERD FELLOWSHIP  
Abrams & 7th St.  
POWERHOUSE OF GOD IN CHRIST  
711 Cherry  
THE SALVATION ARMY  
811 West 5th 267-8239  
TOLLETT ALL FAITH CHAPEL  
Big Spring State Hospital  
FRIENDS OF UNITY  
303 E. 5th St.  
(915) 263-6311

Knowlton Automotive  
Complete Car Care  
Foreign & Domestic  
267-5738  
306 State St. Big Spring

Shery Wegner Agency  
Life & Health • Farm & Ranch • Commercial Ins.  
267-2555  
2121 Lamesa Hwy • Big Spring

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Big Spring - 267-113  
Coahoma - 394-4256  
Member FDIC

Quality Glass & Mirror Co.  
The Finest In Your Glass Needs  
Residential-Commercial  
Automobile  
263-1891  
506 E 2nd

Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established.  
Proverbs 24:3

Santa Fe Sandwiches  
Hamburgers - Buy One Get One FREE  
Big Spring Mall 267-3114

Big Spring Collision  
Quality Is A Way Of Life  
207 Goliad  
263-7306

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KLEANERS  
2107 S. GREGG ST. 263-7004  
BIG SPRING, TEXAS

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Suggs Hallmark  
Big Spring Mall  
10-2 Mon-Sat.  
Sun. 1-5 264-4444

Jack Sherman Mazda  
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915-694-9601  
e-mail: sherman@jacks Sherman.com

WELLS FARGO  
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# Herald Classifieds

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1986 Isuzu Impulse Turbo. \$2,700.00. Call 264-0126.

1997 Ford Thunderbird LX Coupe, V-8, black w/tan, leather interior, 68K miles, excellent condition. \$9,800. 267-5065

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1987 F-350 Flat bed dually... 2WD. New paint, new transmission. \$4,995 OBO. Call 267-7424 & ask for Randy. After 6pm Call 263-1889

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19 ft. Ebbtide with 250 HP Evinrude outboard motor. \$1,750 OBO. Call 267-5646

**2000 Ford Rangers**  
\$2,000 off & 3.9% APR

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I am no longer responsible for any debts incurred by Thad Keith Sneed after Oct. 21, 2000. I am only responsible for debts of my own. Janet Sneed.

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**WORK FROM HOME & GET UP TO \$1,200-\$1,500/mo PT or \$6,000-\$8,000/mo FT**  
No experience needed WILL TRAIN  
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People just like you read the Big Spring Herald Classifieds. Call us today at 263-7331 and place your ad

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Next driving class for 2001 starts January 9th, 2001  
Call 268-1023 or 270-4610 to register C1200

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Opening Soon! Small in home day care. Loving, caring & learning environment. New born & up. Located near Moss Elm. 263-2259 for info.

**HELP WANTED**

American Dream. Work from home. Intl. Company needs help immediately. We train. 1-800-873-7666

**Domino's Pizza**  
Drivers needed. We pay hourly wages, mileage, and tips. 2202 Gregg, Big Spring, TX

Domino's Pizza needs a part time person to work weekends and night's inside. Apply in person @ 2202 S. Gregg.

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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 Spring, Texas  
EEO/AA Employer  
263-4186

**Extreme People Wanted!**  
Internet business From Home \$25 - \$75/hr.  
www.MakeWorkFun.com

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Local agency needs licensed insurance salesperson to sell all types of insurance. Must have two years experience. Compensation is based on commission. Send resume to E. P. O. Box 2007 Big Spring, Tx. 79721.

**RN Travel Assignments**  
4 mos. Top \$\$\$  
Call Mon. - Fri.  
800-788-0279

**START WORKING IMMEDIATELY!!**  
We have three permanent, full-time manufacturing positions in Big Spring. Must be able to pass a drug test and lift up to 50 lbs. Will be doing inspection, assembly, etc. Pay starts at \$6.50-\$6.85/hr. plus full benefits package. Training provided. Advancement opportunity!!! To apply, call Manpower at 915-682-2119

**HELP WANTED**

Now accepting applications for RETAIL SALES PERSON. Computer cash register. Able to lift 100 pounds. Neat and clean appearance. Monday - Saturday Paid vacations, holidays, and group insurance. HARRIS LUMBER AND HARDWARE, INC. 1515 East FM 700

**HELP WANTED**

Comanche Trail Nursing Center has opening for Dietary Aide. Apply in person 3200 Parkway.  
Computer Internet People  
Up to \$25-\$75/hr PT/FT Full Training-Free Booklet  
Toll-Free 877-967-5712  
www.CreateCash4U.com

**HELP WANTED**

**CORNELL CORRECTIONS**  
Recreational Aide needed \$8.11/hr. Apply in person. 1701 Apron Drive. From 8-11 & 1-4. No Phone Calls Please. EOE M/F/V/D.  
Own a Computer? Put it to work! Earn \$25-\$75/hr. Call toll-free 1-866-832-0513

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Pre-employment Drug Test Required. Equal Opportunity Employer M/F/V/H

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- **Sports Editor** - The successful applicant will coordinate the Herald's coverage of eight Crossroads area high schools and Howard College sports programs. Knowledge of Baseview and Quark Xpress a plus.

The Herald offers an excellent benefits package. Please send resume and clips to John A. Moseley, Managing Editor, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, Tx. or schedule an interview, call 263-7331.

The Herald is an equal opportunity employer and provides a drug-free workplace.

**HELP WANTED**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**  
Responsibilities include inventory tracking, shipping and receiving, labor hour and expense tracking, maintenance of vendor files and service reports. Successful candidate will be self-motivated, detail oriented, organized and honest. Skills include MS windows/office 98 and ability to learn Navision inventory and accounting software.

**INVENTORY COORDINATOR & SHIPPING COORDINATOR**  
Responsible for the accurate tracking of all shipments and receipts of stock inventory. Coordinate freight shipments and deliveries. Daily input for all inventory transactions. Must be self-motivated and able to impress: the importance of accurate inventory to others. Experience with accounts payable/receivable a plus.

**ASSISTANT REGIONAL SITE SUPERVISOR**  
Reports directly to the Regional Supervisor and perform all essential duties in his absence. These duties include, but are not limited to, the overseeing of all construction, installation, warranty, service, and maintenance of turbines within the region; the supervision of all technicians and office personnel; interviewing, hiring, and training of new personnel; and the interaction with customers to maintain positive business dealings.

Please send resumes to:  
Vestas-American Wind Technology, Inc.  
Rebecca Lewis  
PO Box 278  
North Palm Springs, CA 92258  
Fax: 760-329-5558  
Email: rlewis@vestas-awt.co m

**IMMEDIATE OPENING**  
for clerical/book. Apply at 3315 E. FM 700. Neighbors Convenience Store.

**Lamesa Freight**  
needs an OTR driver with one year's experience. Call 806-872-9133.

**Texaco Star Stop #14**  
Looking for new team members. Full / Part time open. Drug test required. Drug free environment. Apply in person between 5am-12noon weekdays, 400 S. Gregg, 4806 W. Hwy 80, 2501 Sth. Gregg, 800 E. I-20.

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The Colorado River Municipal Water District has an immediate opening for a maintenance worker for the Stanton area. A CDL license and mechanical experience helpful. Company benefits include paid vacation, sick leave, retirement plan, group insurance, and paid holidays. The District is an equal opportunity employer.

Applications are available at the District's office at 400 E. 24th. St., Big Spring, TX or call (915) 267-6341.

**Big Spring Herald**

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Bookkeeping, Payroll, & Tax Preparation for individuals. Partnerships & small Corporations. www.taxbeacon.com/honeytax

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Prepaid Cellular & home phone service. No contracts, credit check, deposit. Good Rates. 1601 E. FM 700 263-4834

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Custom built thermo replacement windows 100% no lien financing available  
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102 Wooten Rd. Big Spring

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All types of fences & repairs. Free Estimates! Phone DAY: 263-1613 NIGHT: 264-7000

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Quality Handyman Service  
Minor plumbing & electrical, dry wall repair & all types textures. We install... Ceiling fans, s/c units, light fixtures, faucets, commodes, mini blinds, etc 267-1363 or 268-9820

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Kitchen & bath remodels, ceramic tile, painting, sheet rock repairs & all textures door & ceiling fans. Free Estimates Call 263-8285.

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THREE GENIE SPEED CLEANING  
Honest Dependable Will Furnish Basic Supplies References Furnished Bernetta Gaston 263-0070

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B & B HOUSELEVELLING & Foundation Repair  
Specializing in Solid Slab & Pier & Beam Foundations. FREE ESTIMATES 10 Year Guarantee 915-264-6178 Visa MC accepted

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Local Unlimited Internet Service No Long Distance No 800 Surcharge All services on Internet Available Web Pages for Business & Personal Use  
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AFFORDABLE SEPTICS Distributor for Aerobic Systems \*State Licensed \*Install & Repair all types of systems \* Site Evaluator Free Troubleshooting 264-6199

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**SEPTIC SYSTEMS**  
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Four Seasons Insulation and Siding Inc Wall Insulation. All types of walls done from the outside with no structural damage 915-264-8610



**HELP WANTED**  
**ATTN:WORK FROM HOME!**  
\$500-\$4500/mo PT/FT  
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**NEEDED IMMEDIATELY:**  
Experienced "A" operator for gasoline plant northeast of Big Spring, Texas. Must have 15 years experience with compressors, lean oil gas plants, and amine units and be willing to work (4) 12 hour shifts per week. pay rate averages \$3,300 per month. Fax resume to (915) 682-4024 or mail to 211 Colorado, Midland, Texas 79701

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Best Home Care has an RN position open. Apply in person at 1710 Marcy Drive.

**BLAST MASTERS, INC.**  
**STEAM CLEAN RESTAURANT EQUIPMENT NOW HIRING MALE/FEMALE WILL TRAIN, NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED - MUST HAVE CLEAN, VALID DRIVERS LICENSE**  
REQUIRES OUT OF TOWN TRAVEL  
DRUG TEST REQUIRED  
CALL FOR INFORMATION @ (915)267-5449  
1711 SNYDER HWY

**HELP WANTED**  
Local agency needs licensed insurance salesperson to sell all types of insurance. Must have two years experience. Compensation is based on commission. Send resume to E, P.O. Box 2007, Big Spring TX 79721

**LONG JOHN SILVERS**  
Day and Evening Shifts Available. Must be energetic. Apply in person, 2403 S. Gregg. No phone calls please.

**A TRUCK'S DREAM**  
Do you need a CDL? A better job? We can help. CDL training with \$0 down is available for the inexperienced.

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**MOUNTAIN VIEW LODGE**  
is now hiring RN/Floor Supervisor to assist with Quality Assurance. Excellent starting Salary, 7 paid holidays, 2 weeks vacation after 1 year, insurance and retirement plan available, excellent work environment and much, much more.  
Inquire in person at 2009 Virginia for our complete benefit package

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WEDDING CAKES!! Arches, silk bouquets, catering. Order now to reserve your date. The Grishams 267-8191

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Garage Sale: 612 Tulane. Sat. 8-12. Lot's of stuff come see.

**Yard Sale:**  
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Delivered to your location 915-520-5999

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Pay back taxes and assume my 15 year mortgage. 915-520-6098

(Renters Wanted) for new home programs 915-520-6098NO CREDIT NEEDED.

### Wife feels neglected due to lack of praise from husband

DEAR ABBY: I have been married for 17 years. My husband never tells me I look pretty. I know some women reading your column will think, "Who cares what somebody else thinks of you?" He tells my daughter she looks pretty — and the girls in his office — so I know he knows how to give a compliment. Abby, I am not overweight. I wear make-up and get my hair cut every six weeks. I am not homely. I shower twice a day.

A year ago I told my husband how I felt. Now the only time he says anything complimentary to me is when we are in bed. Too late! I need to hear encouraging words. Every woman needs to hear that she's attractive.

If you print this, maybe it will alert some nice husband out there who has been withholding to say, "Honey, you look pretty today." It'll sure go a long way with his wife. — DESPERATE FOR A COMPLIMENT

making gizmos; they certainly make it difficult for folks in THIS world!

Please, Abby, ask your readers to keep such items INSIDE their homes for their own enjoyment. Then maybe the rest of us can have a "silent night." — BAH HUMBUB IN COLUMBUS, OHIO

DEAR HUMBUB: Your suggestion seems reasonable to me. A silent night is a necessity before a constructive work day. And most of us have to work — even during the Christmas season. Ho! Ho! Ho!

DEAR ABBY: You recently printed a letter about automobile safety. The reader recommended that everyone should install a "back-up beeper" on their cars. The cost would be less than \$50.

Abby, every automobile manufactured in the United States already has a working beeper — it's called a horn!



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

When I worked for the post office, we were trained to "beep more than once" when we backed up our vehicles. I have been retired for 15 years and still automatically honk my horn every time I put my car in reverse. Everyone should try it! — PETER IN TAMPA, FLA.

DEAR PETER: Several readers wrote to tell me my response to that letter left a lot to be desired. If that safety tip is good enough for the U.S. Postal Service, it's good enough for me. (Not to mention a great way to save \$50!)

And while I'm on the subject, another reader pointed out that when a driver is too old and stiff to turn around and check to see if someone is standing behind the car before backing up, that person should no longer be driving.

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

DEAR ABBY: Our neighbor has a wi-fi antenna in their door with a motion sensor that plays Christmas music whenever someone comes to the door. Unfortunately, it is also activated by the wind, so that it plays endlessly, over and over, day and night on breezy days.

There should be a unique hell for people who invent those little electronic noise-

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There should be a unique hell for people who invent those little electronic noise-

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**West Texas Centers for MHMR** Now hiring full-time and part-time Direct Care Staff in Big Spring. High School Diploma/GED required. Salary \$6.47 per hour (\$13,464 annually for full-time) plus benefits. Part time salary \$7.28 per hour. Applications may be obtained at 409 Rannels or by calling JOBLINE 800-687-2769. EOE

**BURGER KING NOW HIRING**  
Flexible hours, full or part-time hours available. Competitive wages. Excellent training. Excellent opportunity for advancement. Great working environment. APPLY IN PERSON 1-20 and Hwy 87

**CDL DELIVERS**  
1-800-994-2896

**NEEDED: Two-Way radio technician/installer.** experience preferred. Salary based on experience. Petro Communications is an authorized Motorola Sales and Service Company & has been in business 40 years. Please call 1-800-463-4786 for appointment. Petro Communications Inc. 2425 E. Hwy 80 Midland, Texas 79706

**BUILDINGS FOR RENT**  
For lease, small building on Snyder Hwy. with overhead door. \$300/mo + \$100/dep. Call Westex Auto Parts, 263-5000

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Will Pay Top \$\$\$\$. No less than \$5,000. Call for details 1-800-698-8003 www.palmharbor.com Se Habla Espanol

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**1999 Ford F150 Supercab XLT 4-DR.** - Green w/tan bottom, tan fiber-glass running boards, tan 60/40 bench seat, all power, 5.4 V-8, all power, AM/FM, C.D., one owner w/26,000 miles. **\$19,995**

**1998 Ford F150 Supercab XLT 3-DR.** - Green w/silver bottom, gray captain chairs in cloth, 4.6 V-8, all power, power driver seat, AM/FM cassette, one owner w/37,000 miles. **\$18,995**

**1997 Ford F150 Supercab XLT 3-DR.** - Black/red cloth, captain chairs, one owner w/26,000 miles, power driver seat, 5.4 V-8, all power, 6 disc C.D. changer. **\$16,995**

**1997 Ford F150 Supercab XLT 3-DR.** - White, gray cloth, captain chairs, 4.6 V-8, AM/FM cassette, all power, power seat driver, one owner w/only 22,400 miles. Fiberglass running boards. **\$16,995**

**1997 Ford F250 Supercab XLT** - Green/white tune, 460 V-8, gray 40/20/40 Bench Seat, all power, one owner w/75,000 miles, AM/FM cassette, chrome nerf bars, chrome grill guard, alum. wheels. **\$16,995**

**1997 Ford F150 Supercab XLT** - Red w/black bottom, red captain chairs, console, all power, 4.6 V-8, one owner w/76,000 miles, chrome wheels, bedliner, 6 Disc C.D. changer, power seat driver. **\$14,995**

**1997 Ford F150 Supercab XLT** - Blue, blue cloth, split bench, AM/FM cassette, 302 V-8, all power, one owner w/76,000 miles, new tires. **\$10,995**

**1997 Ford F150 Supercab XLT** - Silver/white, gray cloth, all power, 302 V-8, AM/FM cassette, all power, one owner w/only 50,700 miles. **\$11,995**

**1995 Ford F150 Supercab XL** - Blue w/cloth bench, 6 cyl., 5 speed, 63,400 miles, one owner, AM/FM cassette, chrome wheels, sport stripe, grilled guard. **\$9,995**

**1994 Ford F150 Supercab XLT** - Green/tan tune, tan cloth bench, 6 cyl., 5 speed, AM/FM cassette, tilt/cruise, one owner w/78,000 miles. **\$8,995**

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300 tons of peanut hay. Call 915-758-6285

**FOUND/LOST PETS**  
LOST: Two blue heeler puppies, in the Pennsylvania St. area. One with red flea collar. Call Andrea 267-2711 or (n) 353-4487.

**DOGS, PETS, ETC.**  
Beautiful Siberians, irresistible Blue eyed puppies. Wonderful Christmas Gifts. All shots given (806) 758-4397

**FREE TO good homes.**  
Cute cuddly puppies, part Blue Heeler/whatever. 4 female-black in color. Call 394-4459 after 6pm.

**GARAGE SALES**  
Estate Sale Fri., Sat., Sun. 600 Driver Rd. Space #6, Country Club Trailer Park.

**Large Family Sale.**  
Fri & Sat 9-4. Lots of everything & everything must go! 1500 Cole Lane

**PJ's Inside Sale,**  
2210 Main. Sofa table, queen and full mattresses, lots of Christmas decorations. Fri. & Sat. 10-5.

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FRIDAY

DEC. 8

	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)	TLC (41)	
6:30 PM	News (CC) Fortune	Cosby (CC) Spin City (CC)	Clifford the Big Red Dog	Christmas Elves	News Ent. Tonight	News (CC) Fortune	News Seinfeld (CC)	Fresh Prince	Locura de Amor	In a Heartbeat	Martial Law (CC)	Movie: Ernest	Movie: The Princess and the Pea	Inside the NFL (CC)	News John Hagee	Law & Order (CC)	Wild Discovery	Pretender (CC)	48 Hours	
7:30 PM	Two Guys-Girl	Police Videos (CC)	Wash. Week Wall St. Week	Pinochio's Christmas	Fugitive (CC)	Billy Graham (CC)	Providence (CC)	(05) Movie: The Hand That Rocks the Cradle	Mujeres Enganadas	Saves Christmas (CC)	Championship Rodeo	Movie: The Barrio Boy	Movie: Beverly Hills Cop II (CC) (45) Movie:	Light of the Southwest	Biography (CC)	On the Inside	News Science Myst.	Movie: A Christmas Carol (CC)	Unwrapped	
8:30 PM	Norm (CC) Madigan Men	World Records	How to Get What You Want	Cricket on the Hearth	CSI: Crime Scn	Norm (CC) Madigan Men	Dateline (CC)	That Rocks the Cradle	Laberintos de Pasion	(15) Movie: Uncle Buck	Rollerjam	Movie: Eyes (CC) (45) Movie:	Stargate SG-1 (45) Outer	Guilty as Charged	Hour of Healing	Poirt (CC)	Hospital	Movie: A Christmas Carol (CC)	Unwrapped	
9:30 PM	20/20 (CC)	Mad Abt. You Nanny (CC)	Really, Really	Early Edition (CC) (DVS)	Nash Bridges (CC)	20/20 (CC)	Law & Order (25) Movie:	Malice	P. Impacto Noticiero Univ	In a Heartbeat So Weird (CC)	Martial Law (CC)	Cherry	Limits (CC) Beggars and	Movie: Chill Factor (CC)	News Life in Word	Law & Order (CC)	Justice Files	Movie: The Fog	Unwrapped	
10:30 PM	News (CC) Nightline	Jerry Springer (CC)	Really, Really	700 Club (CC)	News (35) Late	News (CC) Nightline	News (37) Tonight	Malice	Que Nos Pasa	Zorro (CC)	Championship Rodeo	(15) Movie: Every Breath	Cherry	Choosers Rude Awaken	Prompison Church	Life in Word	Biography (CC)	On the Inside	Movie: The Fog	Unwrapped
11:30 PM	Politically Inc. Cheers	Blind Date Suddenly	Life Using the Wisdom of	Fearing Mind (CC)	Show (CC) (37) Late Late	Ent. Tonight Politically Inc.	Show (CC) (37) Late	Que Nos Pasa	Que Nos Pasa	Zorro (CC)	Championship Rodeo	(15) Movie: Every Breath	Cherry	Choosers Rude Awaken	Prompison Church	Life in Word	Biography (CC)	On the Inside	Movie: The Fog	Unwrapped
12:30 AM	AM Paid Program	Judge-Brown Cops (CC)	The Ages (40) Great	Pad Program	St. (CC) Street Smarts	(12:08) Oprah Winfrey (CC)	Night (CC) Frasier	(11:55) Movie: The	Marimar	Walt Disney Presents	Starsky and Hutch	(45) Movie:	Red Shoe Movie: Mutual	(12:15) Inside the NFL (CC)	Faith Pleases God	Competition (CC)	News Science Myst.	News Science Myst.	Unwrapped	

DENNIS THE MENACE

FAMILY CIRCUS

HAGAR



"IT CAN'T BE A COWLICK! I DON'T KNOW ANY COWS THAT WELL!"



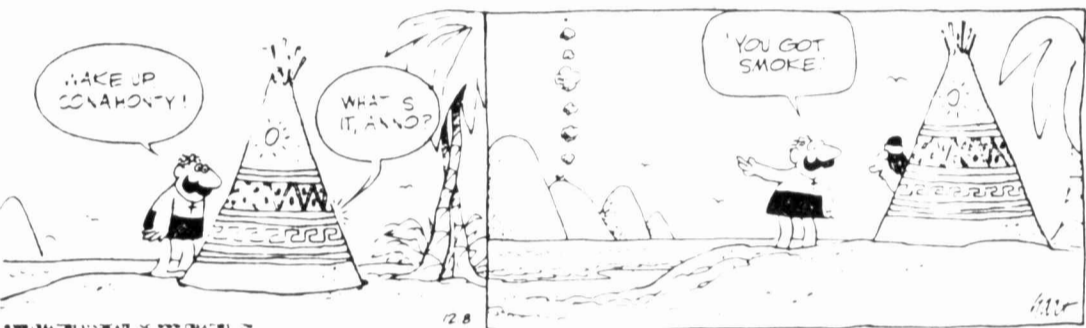
"SOMETIMES GOD ANSWERS OUR PRAYERS 'YES' AND SOMETIMES IT'S 'NO'."



BLONDIE



B.C.



GEECH



WIZARD OF ID



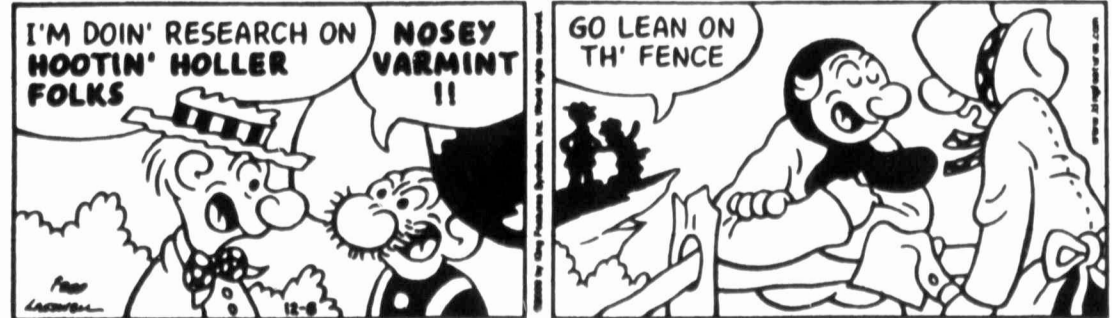
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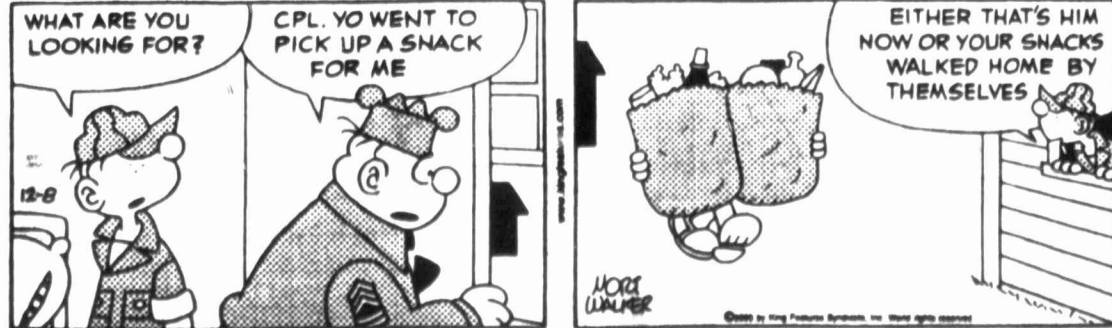
GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILY



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Friday, Dec. 8, the 343rd day of 2000. There are 23 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 8, 1941, the United States entered World War II as Congress declared war against Japan, a day after the attack on Pearl Harbor.

On this date: In 1776, George Washington's retreating army in the American Revolution crossed the Delaware River from New Jersey to Pennsylvania.

In 1854, Pope Pius IX proclaimed the dogma of the Immaculate Conception.

In 1863, President Lincoln announced his plan for the Reconstruction of the South.

In 1886, the American Federation of Labor was founded in Columbus, Ohio.

In 1914, "Watch Your Step," the first musical revue to feature a score composed entirely by Irving Berlin, opened in New York.

In 1949, the Chinese Nationalist government moved from the Chinese mainland to Formosa as the Communists pressed the attacks.

In 1978, former Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir died in Jerusalem at age 80.

In 1980, rock star John Lennon was shot to death outside his New York City apartment building by an apparently deranged fan.

In 1987, President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev signed a treaty calling for destruction of intermediate-range nuclear missiles.

In 1993, President Clinton signed into U.S. law the

North American Free Trade Agreement.

Ten years ago: As former American hostages began leaving Iraq and occupied Kuwait, President Bush — wrapping up his South America tour in Caracas, Venezuela — said the evacuation made for "one less worry I've got" in deciding whether to go to war against Baghdad.

Today's Birthdays: Singer-songwriter Floyd Tillman is 86. Movie director Richard Fleischer is 84. Actor-director Maximilian Schell is 70. Actor David Carradine is 64. Actor James MacArthur is 63. Flutist James Galway is 61. Singer Jerry Butler is 61.

Thought for Today: "So long as governments set the example of killing their enemies, private individuals will occasionally kill theirs." — Elbert Hubbard, American author (1856-1915).

THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS
- Off-the-cuff comment
  - Church area
  - Belly problem
  - Lane or Keaton
  - Mariana island
  - Earsplitting
  - Let us forge ahead!
  - Stiller or Vereen
  - Trunk artery
  - Leniently
  - Bad imitation
  - Waiter's aid
  - Philippines island
  - In a class by
  - Fit
  - Give feedback
  - Grande
  - Have high hopes
  - Dog tags, e.g.
  - Sound
  - Money everything!
  - Toward the tail-end
  - Glowing coal
  - Genres
  - Applications
  - Snapshot
  - Armed robbery
  - In the manner of
  - Landon TV series
  - Run in neutral
  - Robert Warren
  - Kick out
  - Lascivious look
  - Historic periods
  - Marine ray

TMSpuzzles@aol.com

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
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By James E. Buell  
Edgewater, FL

12/8/00

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

C	U	B	E	C	L	A	R	A	D	A	T	A		
O	R	A	L	L	O	C	A	L	E	W	E	S		
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H	E	W	S	S	U	E	R	S	W	H	O	A		

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- DOWN
- Sun-dried brick
  - Greasy spoon
  - Cut grasses
  - Bain or Claire
  - Reprimand
  - Gelling agent
  - Football kick
  - Nasser successor
  - Cassowary's cousin
  - Forever
  - "Hell's Angels" star
  - Depressed mood
  - Oscar-winner Sorvino
  - One or the other
  - "Everything Zen" group
  - Look up to
  - Less outgoing
  - Rossdale of 50D
  - Choose
  - Fe, NM
  - Collins or Hartman
  - Sweep under the rug
  - Eye flirtatiously
  - Volcano near Messina
  - Charged particles
  - Imitator
  - Gardner of "The Barefoot Contessa"