

BIG SPRING HERALD

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"Reflecting a Proud Community"

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

TUESDAY

December 19, 2000

WEATHER

Tonight:

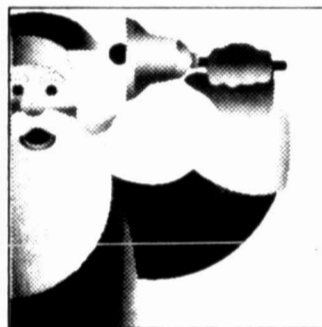


PARTLY CLOUDY

TONIGHT 27°-29° WEDNESDAY 55°-57°

HELPING OTHERS:

Each day through the holiday season, the *Herald* will publish locations where you might help others less fortunate. 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.



Salvation Army Kettles:

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

Giving Tree

- Wells Fargo

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

See **HELPING**, Page 2

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6 shopping days 'til Christmas

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

Baker's Chapel, others to bring back old tradition of caroling

By **DEBBIE L. JENSEN**
Features Editor

Many traditions mark the holiday season, and brightly dressed carolers, traveling together and singing the songs of Christmas are one of the favorites.

Friday evening, a group of churches are getting



KING

together for just such a fun, old-fashioned celebration.

"We all wanted to give something back for the season," said the Rev. Michael King, pastor of Baker's Chapel. "We are singing at several nursing homes and retirement homes, and then we will go to public sites and sing for the public."

Baker's Chapel AME, Mount Bethel Baptist and Northside Baptist churches have all planned to gather just after 5 p.m. Friday and board a flatbed trailer for a caroling trip throughout

FRIDAY'S CAROLING

6 p.m. Marcy House, followed by Comanche Trail Nursing Center, Big Spring Care Center and Mountain View Lodge.
8 p.m. HEB parking lot
8:30 p.m. Wal-Mart
9 p.m. Big Spring Mall

town. By 6 p.m., the group expects to be at its first stop, Marcy House, followed by

Comanche Trail Nursing Center, Big Spring Care Center and Mountain View Lodge. After singing for the residents of each nursing home or retirement center, the group will go to HEB, Wal-Mart and Big Spring Mall.

They expect to sing in the HEB parking lot about 8 p.m., followed 30 minutes later with a stop at Wal-Mart. About 9 p.m., they should be ready for a performance in the mall parking lot.

At each stop, the group —

bundled up against the chill — will sing a full selection of holiday music. Candlelight and bales of hay for seating will add to the ambience.

"We'll be singing along with a soundtrack furnished by the Rev. Walter Lyght," said King.

The group got special permission from the city to make the trip, and will be escorted along the way by the Big Spring Police Department.

See **CAROLING**, Page 2

Holiday mail keeps post office jumping

By **CARL GRAHAM**
Staff Writer

This is the time of the year that post offices everywhere are at their busiest but there is light at the end of the tunnel.

According to Big Spring interim Postmaster Michael Cox, Monday was probably the largest one-day mail handling of the year.

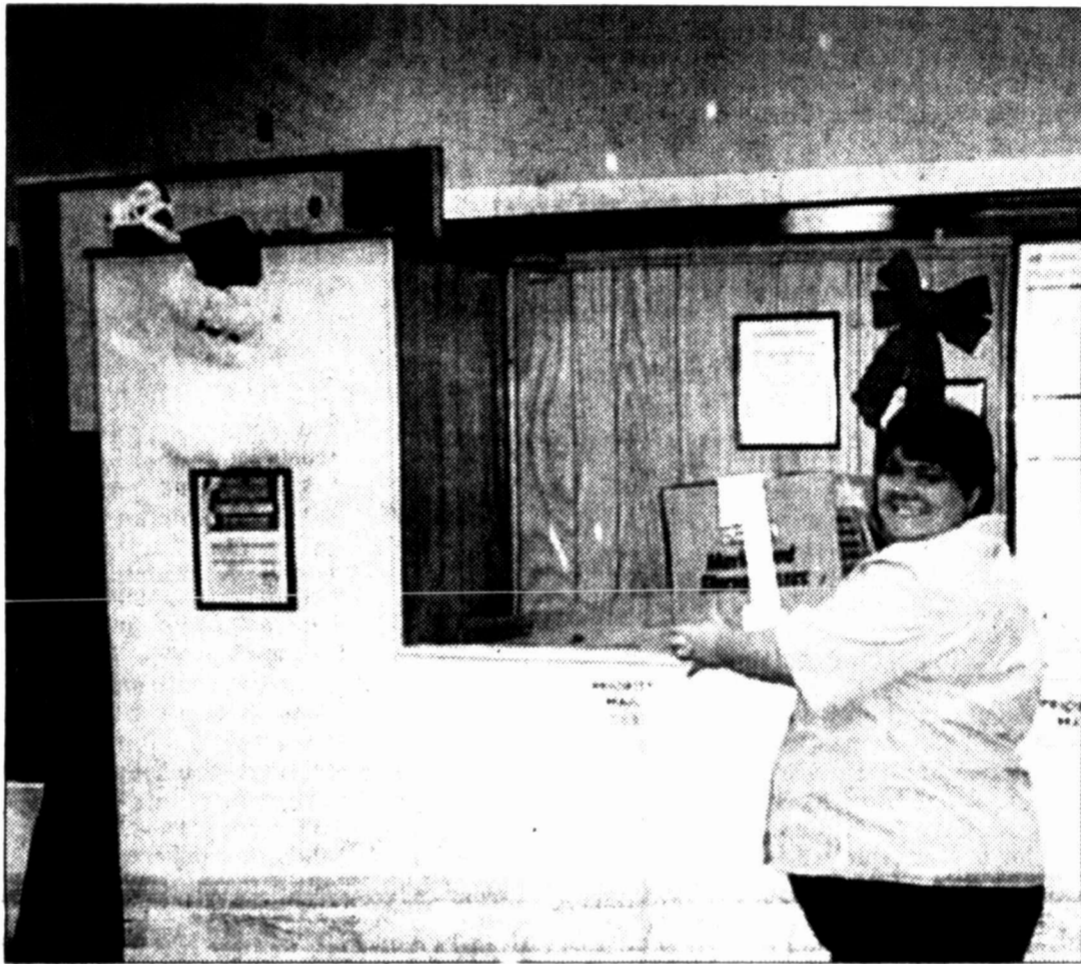
"Yesterday we were really busy handling about three or four times our normal mail," said Cox. "Things will begin to sort of taper off beginning Wednesday and Thursday, though we will still get some of the late mailers that realize they are too late to go out except by priority mail."

According to Cox, global priority will take about four or five days so it still would need to be mailed today. December 11 was the cutoff for any mail going overseas to APO and FPO mailing addresses.

"Global priority is not our most expensive mail," said Cox. "Express mail would be our most expensive mail, especially with packages and so forth, and that would be the best way to send it now if you anticipate getting it there by Christmas."



COX



Big Spring Post Office clerk Terry Seale puts another package in the bin Tuesday morning. It was just one of the thousands that have been sent out the last few days. Time is running out to get packages and cards mailed in time for Christmas.

Cox said consumers who haven't gotten those must-send cards or other items off by Wednesday can get them out by overnight express.

"If the date for mailing just slipped by, you can still get them out by overnight

express in a day or two," said Cox. "We will do our part on this end and make every attempt to get it out to the recipient."

Cox has been at the Big Spring Post Office since September, filling in for Richard Saxton, who in late

November took the postmaster's position in Denton. Cox said he has enjoyed his time here in Big Spring despite being here during the heaviest mail period of the year.

See **MAIL**, Page 2

Colder weather shouldn't stay around long

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
Staff Writer

Don't expect a white Christmas this year, but Crossroads residents may see some snow Thursday as the weather outlook for the area is forecast calls for a dip in temperatures.

"It looks basically like a dry week with a chance of a few snow flurries on Thursday," said Jack Siccone, meteorologist for the National Weather Service in Midland. "Temperatures today and Wednesday are forecast in

the high 50s.

"It looks like it will cool down on Thursday with temperatures warming back up for the weekend," Siccone continued. "It does not look good for a white Christmas."

Temperatures will dip into the 20s at night this week and early next week, so travelers should be advised to plan appropriately. Thursday's high will be between 35 and 40, warming back up to the mid 50s on Friday.

For those planning to travel to other parts of the state for the holidays, the weather across Texas is forecast

to be windy and a little chilly with very little precipitation.

"Wednesday looks like it will be a windy day across much of Texas with a slight chance of rain in East Texas," he said. "It looks like cool temperatures across the state on Thursday with a chance of a few snow flurries in Central Texas."

According to Siccone, the overall national weather outlook is relatively calm with the exception of a few areas.

"It looks like a cool day on Thursday in the Central and Northern Plains with tem-

peratures in the single digits and highs in the teens," he said.

Travelers to the New England area need to prepare for much colder weather than most of the United States.

"The weather looks messy today and Wednesday in the New England area with a mixture of snow, sleet and freezing rain," he said.

According to Siccone, snow is forecast for Friday and Saturday in the Northern New England area and the upper great lakes area may receive snow showers due to lake activity on Thursday.

Vets

Operator sought for state home

By **BILL MCCLELLAN**
News Editor

A near three-fold increase in liability insurance has placed the opening of Big Spring's Lusk-Sanchez-Lamun Texas State Veterans Home in under a cloud as the Texas Veterans Land Board struggles to find an operator.



COUNTS

Officials are calling it a temporary delay, though the home is expected to be completed in early January. "We are pretty confident we will have someone to operate it soon," said Paul Sturrock, a press secretary for the Texas General Land Office. "We are in the midst of negotiations."

The Park Associates was originally contracted to operate the four state veterans homes in Big Spring, Temple, Floresville and Bonham which have begun construction last year. However, that company pulled out of the contract after liability insurance witnessed a hike of \$800 to \$2,300 in the average annual rate per bed.

"The problem is these veterans are on a fixed income. They have their VA check and Medicaid. So when the rates go up so much, an operator can't make it work financially," said State Rep. David Counts.

Operation of the homes was re-bid, but that strategy got no takers. So, the Land Board relaxed the requirement and allowed companies to bid on one or more homes instead of all four. Still, no bids were received.

"We're running into a

Optimist tree sales to close shop Friday

By **CARL GRAHAM**
Staff Writer

There are only a few more days left before Christmas and even less time to purchase a tree from the Breakfast Optimist Club.

According to Jesse Looney, project co-chairman, only around 38 trees remained on the lot Monday evening.

"We didn't order as many trees as we have been getting because sales have been slow," said Looney. "But this is our largest fund-raiser of the year and we would just love to sell out before Friday which is our last scheduled day to be open."

The Christmas tree lot, located on the corner of 10th and Gregg Street and just across the street from Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home, is open from 1 until 9 p.m. daily through Friday, unless all the trees are sold before then.

According to Looney, monies raised throughout the year go to fund various youth activities in the community including Little League teams and youth appreciation week. They also support Special Olympics projects such as the bowling tournament held here every year.

The club orders its trees each year from a farm in

See **TREES**, Page 2



Nathan Ritz, left, helps Bruce Griffith load a Christmas tree into Griffith's pickup. Griffith, a member of the Optimist Club, buys a tree from the organization each year. Profits from the sales go back to the community in support of youth programs such as Little League baseball programs.

DECEMBER 19, 2000

No late surprises as Bush wins Electoral College majority

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

In the end, the Electoral College outcome may have been the one vote in election 2000 that could have easily been predicted — with a narrow but resounding victory for Texas Gov. George W. Bush.

The Republican president-elect's supporters maintained unwavering unity on Monday, with Nevada's four electors putting him over the top with a total of 271 votes, one more than the Constitution requires.

Now all that remains is for Congress to tally the votes on Jan. 6, and then the inauguration.

One "faithless elector" surfaced, but instead of damaging Bush's margin of victory, a District of Columbia Democrat left her Gore ballot blank. Barbara Lett-Simmons said it was a protest about the district's lack of representation in Congress.

The results, despite the remote possibility of rogue electors, were expected — unlike Election Day itself, the recounts that followed, or any of the contentious and complex decisions from the Florida Supreme Court and the U.S. Supreme Court.

"It's a little anticlimactic, but it's darn exciting," said Chuck Clay, Georgia's GOP chairman and a Bush elec-

tor. "I think we all felt pretty certain of the outcome. But you just want it over."

Usually, the Electoral College is a little-noticed hour or two of paperwork, ceremony and maybe lunch for the party faithful.

Not this year. The meetings in every state capital and the District of Columbia were swarming with reporters and cameras, students, color guards and visitors in costume.

"I just wanted to be able to say that I was there and I saw it happen," said Stewart Livingston, 13, who came with several classmates to watch the Georgia electors vote. A school-teacher showed up at

Florida's meeting dressed like Ben Franklin. And in Arkansas, the state Supreme Court chambers looked like a disco from the strobe lights of flashing news cameras. Others joked.

"Your guy is B-U-S-H. Push it all the way through," GOP Gov. Bill Owens told Colorado's electors as they cast their eight votes.

States out West saw snow storms delay some electors, while one North Dakota elector narrowly missed hitting three deer on his way to the capital.

And in some states there were tears.

"I wish it would have been

President Al Gore," said Nancy McGinnis, a Gore elector in Washington state, her eyes welling up.

In Gore's home state of Tennessee, all 11 electoral votes, as expected, went to Bush. And Florida — after five turbulent weeks of recounts and legal challenges — kept its promise and cast its all-important 25 votes for the Republican.

"It was like, finally, we did it," said Mel Martinez, an elector in Florida, where members hugged and high-fived after the vote. "It's like a close ballgame and the clock ticks and your team wins."

The vote took on added suspense because of the

closeness of the race, and the slim possibility that Bush's victory could be overturned.

As the day began, Bush held a 271-267 lead over Gore among the 538 pledged electors.

A switch by three Bush electors, along with the uncast Gore vote, could throw the election to the House. A switch by four Bush electors and the election was Gore's.

In many states, electors are bound by law to keep their pledge. But other states — like Florida — have no such law.

Some scholars say such laws probably are unenforceable.

Report shows more Americans with high school, college diplomas

WASHINGTON (AP) — American adults are getting better educated, new Census Bureau estimates show.

Of Americans age 25 and older this year, a record-high 84.1 percent had at least a high school degree, up from 83.4 percent in 1999 and 24.5 percent in 1940, the earliest records available, according to the Census report being released today.

In addition, 25.6 percent of those age 25 and older have graduated from college, also a new high. It was up slightly from 25.2 percent last year, and 4.6 percent in 1940.

The report is in line with other studies on Americans' educational attainment, advocates say. It typically shows about a 1 percentage point increase in degree holders

each year, Census analyst Eric Newburger said.

"It's largely because students realize that in order to exist in today's economy, they definitely have to a high school degree. And what's interesting is that while rates have gone up, the grade requirements are much stiffer," said Kathleen Lyons, spokeswoman for the National Education Association. "So it's good news all around."

The statistics were collected as part of a Census Bureau survey in March, but are not results from Census 2000. The first Census 2000 population numbers will be released late next week.

Education Secretary Richard Riley has said that his department has worked with local schools and

community organizations to help make college more affordable as more students recognize the importance of continuing their education beyond high school.

Aides to President-elect Bush says the incoming administration can do more. Bush has promised education reform will be the subject of one of the first bills he sends to Congress.

Proposals Bush put forward in his campaign included the expansion of the Pell Grant program for college students, and the expansion of education savings accounts that allow parents to withdraw money tax free to pay for expenses from kindergarten through college.

"President-elect Bush has laid out a comprehensive education

reform plan to improve our public schools so that every child can learn and succeed, as well as a detailed agenda to make high education more accessible and more affordable," Bush spokesman Scott McClellan said.

The Census report showed that 79.2 percent of people age 25 and older in Bush's home state of Texas graduated from high school this year, nearly 5 percentage points below the national average. The percentage of Texans age 25 and older with a college degree was 23.9 percent, down 1.7 percentage points from the national average.

A Bush education policy adviser said those figures did not give an accurate picture of what has happened in Texas since Bush became

governor in 1994. The effect of many of the policies put in place since taking office will be felt in years to come, his aides say.

Nationally, the report showed that education levels increased among whites, blacks and Hispanics, but a wide disparity still existed among the three racial and ethnic groups. This year, 88.4 percent of non-Hispanic whites graduated from high school, compared with 78.9 percent of non-Hispanic blacks and 57 percent of Hispanics, who can be of any race.

"In urban areas, often the students with the greatest needs have the least qualified teachers," the NEA's Lyons said.

"We have to make sure we have qualified teachers in each classroom."

Firestone links tire failures to design, plant

WASHINGTON (AP) — Bridgestone/Firestone Inc. has told government officials investigating 148 U.S. traffic deaths linked to its tires that the problem stems from a faulty design and unique manufacturing process at its Decatur, Ill., plant, The Associated Press has learned.

More than four months after beginning a recall of 6.5 million tires, the Nashville, Tenn.-based manufacturer was set to release its preliminary findings as early as today, two sources

said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Specifically, company officials told congressional investigators and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration that the Decatur plant uses a different process to mix rubber that has resulted in the tread peeling off the tire, causing the accidents, the sources said.

One of the sources works on Capitol Hill, the other is an official familiar with the report. Both spoke late Monday.

The tire maker also told investigators there was a problem with the wedge area of the tire, located near the shoulder where the tread meets the tire wall. And it continued to blame Ford Motor Co. for recommending a lower inflation pressure.

Bridgestone/Firestone officials were not available for comment Monday night, but the sources said the company was preparing to make the initial findings public as early as Tuesday.

The company's recall,

which began in August, is one of the largest in U.S. history. The tire problems have been subject to high-profile congressional hearings and investigation and prompted Congress to pass an overhaul of U.S. tire safety regulations.

As reports of traffic deaths mounted over the summer, the company was unable to explain why so many tires came apart on the road.

The report backs up the company's contention that the problem is concentrated in Decatur.

Randolph Hearst dead at 85

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Randolph Apperson Hearst, the newspaper heir whose daughter Patricia was kidnapped by the revolutionary Symbionese Liberation Army in 1974, died Monday at a New York hospital after suffering a stroke. He was 85.

Hearst was the last surviving son of the legendary newspaper magnate William Randolph Hearst.

Randolph Hearst was chairman of the family's media empire from 1973 to 1996. An heir to the fami-

ly's gold, silver and copper fortune who also earned millions each year from the Hearst Corp's media holdings, Hearst's personal wealth was recently estimated by Forbes magazine to be \$1.8 billion.

"He was a very bright, thoughtful, caring guy," said William Coblenz, a lawyer and friend for many years. "He was self-effacing, devoid of prejudice, and he cared for people. He had a desire to listen, which a lot of people in his position do not have."

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For Kids 7⁹⁹ Arizona 3 in 1 Layered Shirts Boys Sizes 7-14 Reg. 24.99	For Kids 13⁹⁹ Arizona 3 Piece Set Boys Sizes 4-7 Reg. 29.99	For Kids 9⁹⁹ Arizona Woven Zip Off Shirt Boys Sizes 7-14 Reg. 19.99	For Her 17⁹⁹ Selected Delicates Pajamas Reg. 36.00	For Her 13⁹⁹ Selected Animal Print Lingerie Reg. 28.00	For Her 9⁹⁹ Selected Bras Reg. 22.00	For Her 10⁰⁰ Sterling Silver Rings Reg. 20.00
For Her 11⁹⁹ 19⁹⁹ Selected Handbags Reg. 24.00-40.00	For Him 99⁹⁹ 149⁹⁹ Leather Jackets Reg. 199.00-300.00	For Him 15⁹⁹ St. John's Bay® Sweaters Reg. 32.00	For Him 15⁹⁹ Heavy Weight Flannel Shirts Reg. 32.00	For Him 14⁹⁹ J. Ferrar Dress Shirts Reg. 32.00	For Home 14⁹⁹ 29⁹⁹ Flannel Sheets Reg. 29.99-59.99	For Her 7⁹⁹ Selected Candles Reg. 16.00

Savings off original prices, as shown. "Original" prices reflect offering prices which may not have resulted in actual sales. Outlet stores are excluded from this event. Intermediate markdowns may have been taken on original-priced merchandise. Clearance items available while supplies last. Merchandise selection may vary from one JCPenney store to another.

ALL STORES OPEN EARLY! MONDAY - FRIDAY: 8 A.M. SATURDAY: 7 A.M. CHRISTMAS EVE: 8 A.M.*
*Except where restricted by law.

DECEMBER 19 2000

EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Wishing Mr. Settles all the best

Burr Lea Settles has seen it all. When he first hired on with the Big Spring Fire Department 23 years ago, he was handed his firefighting gear and told to get to work. He learned the hard way. "If you didn't get hurt, you were lucky," he says.

Today, testing and training of potential firefighting personnel is extensive.

We can thank Settles and men and women like him for those changes — changes that not only protected the firefighter, but made them more efficient, and thus better able to serve this community.

Through the years, Settles has been qualified as a master firefighter, master fire inspector, master fire and arson investigator and advanced peace officer. He has taught what he has learned to others, most notably as an instructor for Texas A&M University.

Settles began his career as a fire and arson investigator. In October of 1985, he was promoted to assistant fire chief and in 1989 was named fire marshal.

As fire marshal, Settles has taken on many responsibilities, including educating the public in fire prevention, being the fire and arson investigator and as a building inspector.

We at the *Herald* are aware of his many "hats." In pursuit of the news, we have relied on Settles for stories dealing with everything from arson to emphasizing the important of fire prevention to elementary school students. Whatever the task, he is both professional and compassionate.

That's no always easy. An arson investigator's job isn't a glamorous one, nor does it draw many accolades. After all, a ruling of arson is likely going to cost the owner of a business money and could lead to a criminal investigation as well.

It is with some regret that the latest article we've written about Settles is to announce his retirement. We will hate to see him leave public service.

Stop by city council chambers between 1 and 4 p.m. Wednesday and tell Settles how much you appreciate his 23 years of service to Big Spring.

Burr Lea Settles, we thank you for what you have done for this community. And we wish for you a very enjoyable retirement.

How To Contact Us

In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail at either bsherald@xroadstx.com or jwalker@xroadstx.com
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

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.

Too late for Gore to be statesmanlike

Whatever Al Gore has to say now, it's too late to be either gracious or statesmanlike. He blew that opportunity when he unleashed his army of lawyers and demagogues on Florida and dragged out the campaign for an additional 35 days.



CHARLEY REESE

About the only thing you need to know is that despite the demagoguery, every ballot in Florida was counted. The first count gave the election to George W. Bush. The automatic recount gave the election to Bush. When the last of absentees had been counted, Bush was still the winner.

Sam Francis, a columnist, likes to call the Republican Party the Stupid Party. Well, the Democrats have certainly earned the title of the Unethical Party. They

have clearly shown a rule-or-ruin attitude. No shyster-lawyer trick, no unconscionable demagoguery was beneath them. They were clearly determined either to defeat Bush or poison his presidency.

The liberal news-media pundits fare no better. In addition to providing a megaphone for every irresponsible and groundless allegation that assorted Democrat radicals wish to make, they immediately began to demand that Bush appoint a Democratic administration to "heal" the country. What a load of horse apples that is.

The burden is not on Bush, it is on the Democrats, who must decide whether they will help govern the country or continue the campaign, sabotaging everything Bush tries to do while pouring out an endless amount of poisonous rhetoric. If that's the course they choose, I hope the American people will have the good sense to punish such unpatriotic behavior at the next election.

As for the U.S. Supreme

Court decision, it had no choice but to stop a recount that was being done on the basis of God knows how many different standards for determining a voter's intent. Nor was it the U.S. Supreme Court's fault that the time ran out. The Florida Supreme Court bears that responsibility.

If the Florida court had responded to the first case that the Supreme Court sent back, and if, in ordering a recount, the Florida court had clarified a single standard by which to judge a voter's intent, then the U.S. Supreme Court would have stayed out. It was clearly reluctant to get involved in the first place, but it was Al Gore who forced the high court to do so.

I don't blame Gore for withdrawing his concession on election night. The TV networks had screwed up royally, but, after the first recount and the absentees had been counted, Gore should have conceded.

Instead, he sent his lawyers down to bend and warp the law so that unmarked ballots could, by some divine

revelation of Democrats, be construed as ballots on which people had really intended, after all, to vote for Gore. That was, from the start, absolute nonsense.

Forgotten in all this mess was the clear, unmistakable responsibility of the voter to mark his or her ballot correctly. In every precinct where punch cards are used, there is a sign that states in plain language that if the ballot is not punched clean through, the vote will not count. That should be the only standard for determining a voter's intent. After all, these infamous chads are not made of titanium.

Don't pay any attention to any of these groups that come in and count ballots and declare that Gore was really the winner. These ballots have been handled far too much by now. Don't be fooled by the phrase "undercounted ballots." All that means is that when the nonpartisan machines read the ballots, these particular voters had elected not to vote for any presidential candidate.



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If you're going to have cake, have cake

The line of school librarians winds through the old warehouse filled with books, past chef Greg Williams' feast of barbecued chicken, past the autographing table, out the door, into the cold.



RHETA GRIMSLEY JOHNSON

The librarians play a broken record. They love Selma

author Kathryn Tucker Windham. The children who use their libraries love Kathryn Tucker Windham. Herman Moore, the owner of Title Books Showroom and Warehouse in this tired part of the city, loves Kathryn Tucker Windham.

At the center of this love fest sits Kathryn, dwarfed by admirers, signing book after book. She has been signing steadily since 8:30 this morning. Her nearly untouched lunch plate is beside her, piled high with food made from her own recipes.

People keep coming, most carrying stacks of books. "If you sell books, you can eat later — and better," Kathryn says. "I have 13 copies of *Alabama Ghosts & Fairy*, and every one of them stays checked out," a librarian testifies.

Kathryn keeps signing. Her new book, "Common

Threads," is a collection of evocative essays alongside the Deep South photographs of Chip Cooper. The book is almost bigger than she is, and momentarily the writer disappears as she dips her white head toward the title page.

Kathryn Tucker Windham's parties at Title Books are always successful. There have been more than a few.

"They show up because they think this will be my last time," she says. At 82, she is practical about her age. A few years back she hired a craftsman friend, John Moss, to make her wooden coffin. In the meantime, she stores her Rose Point crystal in it, service for 12 including water pitcher and butter dish.

It takes me about five minutes to decide that I love Kathryn Tucker Windham, too. I love her sense of humor, her wise eyes, her necklace made of real wishbones.

I love the modest way she explains her success as a writer, photographer and oral storyteller who literally has traveled the country (and a few foreign countries) telling tales.

I love the fact that she spent 40 years working for newspapers and, despite that, still enjoys people and believes in their innate goodness.

Most of all I love her depth of understanding of that peculiarly Southern dichotomy surrounding race relations. She was a

reporter in Selma in 1965 when the billy clubs were swinging; she was a reporter in Selma in 1961 when white men maneuvered small boats through floodwaters to rescue black families.

I can't believe I haven't met her before. She is Alabama's Celestine Sibley, the two pioneering female journalists corresponded but never met.

And I grew up on Jeffrey, her ghost. She wrote about him and other Alabama ghosts in 1969. Eventually she would write about ghosts from Georgia, Mississippi and Tennessee, 13 from each state.

The ghost stories were enormously popular, and still are. She signs those books "Hauntingly yours" and puts Jeffrey's name in ghostlike letters beside her own.

The license plate on her car also says "Jeffrey." A friend, Aubrey "Brother" Vick, has been driving Kathryn to her appointments lately, "not because I can't drive," she insists, but because her children, Kitti, Ben and Dilcy, fret about her.

The children were only 9, 7 and 3 when Kathryn's husband, Amasa, died of a heart attack. She supported them with her newspaper work until they were grown and through college.

"Then I told them, 'I've been a good mother.'" And she quit the newspaper business and turned to writing books. It turns out

that it wasn't a bad professional move. Bookseller Herman Moore tells me that Kathryn once sold \$65,000 worth of books during a five-day library meeting.

There are the ghost books, and videos, cookbooks and several essay collections. "Odd Egg Editor" tells wonderful old newspaper war stories, and "The Bridal Wreath Bush" is a touching, true love story illustrated by John Solomon Sandridge.

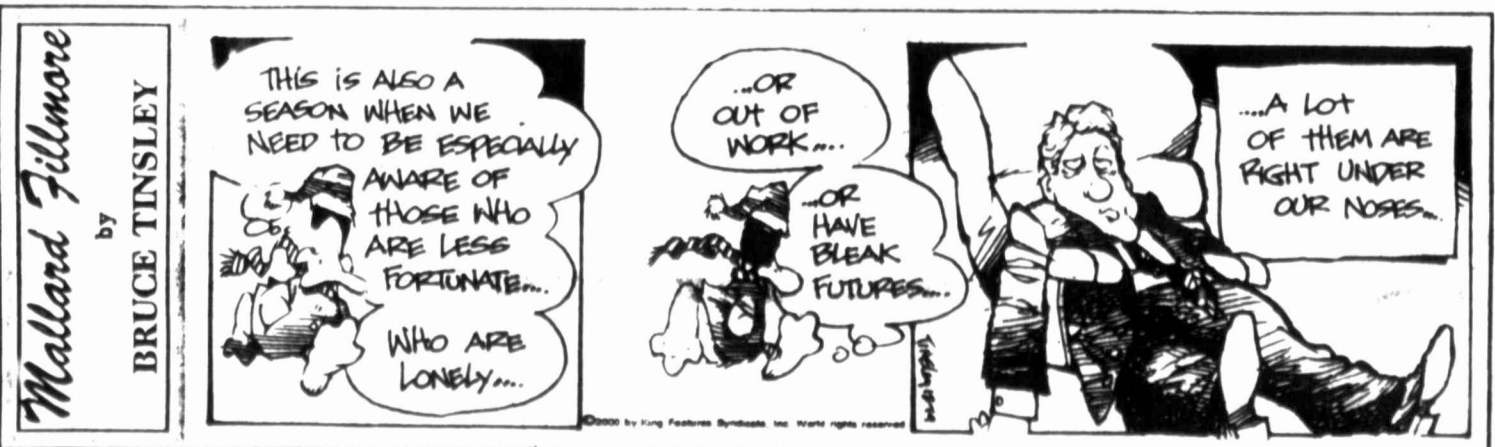
Kathryn began her storytelling in a modest way, giving book reviews at women's study clubs. But soon her natural storytelling ability burgeoned into a separate career. National Public Radio used her essays for a while.

In 1993, the photographs she had taken all her adult life were recognized as worthy of museum display. Most recently, some of her black-and-white images have been exhibited in France.

Kathryn seems to enjoy every minute of her phenomenal book-signing. For she remembers "one in Mobile, when nobody came." Except a relative, who didn't buy a book.

She speaks to each customer, counsels them on life, literature and corn bread.

"She doesn't put sugar in her corn bread, does she?" Kathryn asks when the subject comes up. "If you're going to have cake, have cake."



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Even Santas take sides in Maryland, where Civil War lives on

FREDERICK, Md. (AP) — This Santa Claus wears stars and stripes, that one a Confederate uniform. It's the Civil War, Christmas-style, in a border state where the North-South conflict seems as eternal as Old Saint Nick.

Robert W. Parker, proud descendant of a Confederate veteran, created his rebel Santa suit after seeing another Civil War history buff, Kevin Rawlings, in a costume with a distinctively Union cut several years ago.

Parker stitched together a bright red version of a Confederate lieutenant general's coat and started spreading a Southern version of the Santa Claus legend.

"We were brothers separated at birth. He was taken north and I was taken south

and that's how we can do the whole world in one night," Parker, of Brandywine, Md., tells curious children.

His outfit hardly needs explaining, though, in an area where battle re-enactments are as routine as county fairs and passions still simmer over Maryland's deep wartime division.

A slave state situated below the Mason-Dixon line, Maryland stayed in the Union with some reluctance as federal troops occupied Annapolis, the state capital. Had Maryland seceded, Washington would have been surrounded by Confederate territory.

Given that history, splitting up Santa Claus seems only natural to some.

"It's kind of appropriate

for this area. You couldn't get much closer to an area where the division actually took place," Michael Graves said as his daughters Michelle, 11, and Megan, 5, visited with Parker at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine.

Rawlings has stationed himself at the museum each of his 11 years as a Civil War Santa.

He and Parker, who both sport chest-length beards, occasionally bump into each other during the Christmas season.

"We're friendly. We haven't decided to go into the cage of death and duel," said Rawlings, 44, a Sharpsburg resident and author of a Civil War history book, "We Were Marching on Christmas Day."

He quibbles with Parker's costume, though.

Rawlings modeled his own star-spangled blue coat and red-and-white striped pants after a Santa Claus drawn by Thomas Nast for the Christmas 1862 issue of Harper's Weekly magazine. He contends Parker's outfit lacks authenticity.

"I have done my homework and there is no documentation for a Confederate Santa Claus," he said.

The Nast illustration shows Santa dangling a strangled puppet of Confederate President Jefferson Davis before Union troops.

It is a clearly partisan image, Parker said Rawlings' outfit is, too.

"In Richmond in 1860, he would not have been very popular," said Parker, 54, a

safety inspector.

He bases his schtick in part on a Louise Clack children's story, "General Lee and Santa Claus," published in 1867, two years after the war.

The story, aimed at appeasing deprived Southern children, has Lee ordering Santa to sell Christmas toys and buy medical supplies and food for wounded Confederate soldiers.

"Santa is Santa, and Santa loves children, so that part

is not political, per se,"

Parker said, "but the way he was drawn by Thomas Nast, giving toys and food to the Union troops, there were two different Santas."

Rawlings, who has worn both blue and gray in battle re-enactments, said he is only interested in historical accuracy.

Ultimately, though, he said the costume is less important than the generous spirit of Santa Claus, whose image has been evolving for centuries.

Black Santas, angels provide cultural identity

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — School teacher Scottie Caldwell had never really noticed it until one of her sixth-grade students asked the question.

Why didn't she ever see a black Santa Claus at the mall?

Caldwell didn't have a good answer, but she found a solution. She persuaded some black men at her church in Chattanooga, Tenn., to dress up as Santa and pose with children for Christmas photos.

For children who didn't relate to a white Santa, the response to a black Santa has been satisfying, she said.

"A lot of my children are from the inner city and you wouldn't think that some of them would want to sit in Santa's lap," Caldwell said. "But they did, and liked it."

That need for a cultural link to Christmas is creating a growing niche market for holiday themes and decorations depicting black Santas and Nativity scenes, said Terrie Williams, who owns a public relations and marketing company.

"It's important to celebrate our images. For those who celebrate the traditional kind of Christmas, you want to be able to see yourself," Williams said.

Karla Winfrey, a former

Nashville television reporter who is Oprah Winfrey's cousin, remembered her disappointment when she couldn't find a holiday tie featuring a black Santa.

"I wanted one that looked liked the friendly, brown face that came to my house when I was a child," Winfrey said.

Winfrey, now a free-lance journalist living in New York, decided to design Christmas ties herself and last month launched an Internet company called Colored Christmas that sells ties featuring a black Santa and black angels.

Winfrey will expand her

offerings based on the responses she's gotten from people of other races.

"They say, 'Oh, that's a black Santa. I've never seen anything like that before,'" she said.

Edward Lee, 52, is accustomed to that reaction. He is one of the few black Santas working in the Atlanta area.

"People passing by usually do a double take," said Lee, who has been working at the South DeKalb Mall for seven years.

What Lee loves most about the job is how the children's "faces light up when they see Santa and it's somebody their own color and they can relate to."

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IN BRIEF

Lady Steers softball boosters meet tonight

The Big Spring Lady Steers Softball Booster Club will meet at 7 tonight in the meeting room of the Big Spring High School Athletic Training Center. Members will review the Lady Steers schedule for the upcoming season, elect new officers and hear a presentation from guest speaker Dave George, the coach of Howard College's Lady Hawk softball program. Parents of all Big Spring softball players and others interested in supporting the Lady Steers program are urged to attend.

Moss Creek Lake a paradise for perch?

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TP&WD) officials have conducted electrofishing surveys at Moss Creek Lake that found a large population of sunfish, commonly known as perch or bream. Most of the fish were found along rocks near the dam. TP&WD officials noted that there are no size or bag limits for perch and are ideal for youngsters learning to fish. Sunfish are caught using baits like earthworms, crickets, grasshoppers and minnows, as well as small artificial lures.

Sign-ups continuing for YMCA basketball

Registration is now under way for the youth basketball program at the Big Spring Family YMCA. Boys and girls between the ages of 5 and 12 are eligible to play. Fees are \$20 for non-members and \$15 for members, but scholarships are available and no youngster will be turned away due to an inability to pay. The deadline to register is Friday.

Practices begin the week of Jan. 2 and games will be played on Saturday beginning Jan. 20. For more information, call the Y at 253-6241.

ACS now offering Texas Golf Pass

The American Cancer Society is again offering the Texas Golf Pass that entitles holders to more than 680 rounds of golf at 289 courses throughout the state. The passes are \$35 each and proceeds benefit the Cancer Society's research, education programs and patient services efforts. Both the Big Spring Country Club and Comanche Trail Golf Course are participating in the program. For more information, call 1-800-ACS-2345 or check the society's web site at www.acs-tx.org.

AREA GAMES

TONIGHT
H.S. BASKETBALL
5 p.m.
Coahoma at Sweetwater (VG)

6:30 p.m.
Snyder at Big Spring (VG, VB)
Grady at Loop (VG, VB)
Wellman at Sands (VG, VB)

ON THE AIR

Television
COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Men
6 p.m. — Jimmy V Classic, Tennessee vs. Virginia, ESPN, Ch. 30.
8 p.m. — Jimmy V Classic, Michigan State vs. Seton Hall, ESPN, Ch. 30.
NBA
7:30 p.m. — Los Angeles Lakers at Miami Heat, TBS, Ch. 11.

Buccaneers' 38-35 win endangers Rams' postseason chances

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Shaun King, while answering his own critics, might have kept the St. Louis Rams from making the NFL playoffs. The Tampa Bay Buccaneers won a rematch of last season's NFC championship game 38-35 Monday night, clinching a playoff berth and pushing the defending Super Bowl champions to the brink of elimination.

The win also clinched the NFC West for New Orleans. The Bucs (10-5) can still win the NFC Central with a victory at Green Bay on Sunday and a Minnesota loss at Indianapolis, but the Rams (9-6) need help to get back into the playoffs.

"We came in with a purpose and a mind set that we had to get it done," Bucs defensive tackle Warren Sapp

said. "We kept punching them and we finally got a knockout. They got loose, but we hung together as a team and we got it done. It's 'Bucsball,' baby. Whatever it takes." As the triggerman of Tampa Bay's much-maligned offense, King hadn't thrown a touchdown pass in nearly five games before he broke the drought with a pair of TD throws to Keyshawn Johnson. But it's what he did in the closing minutes that the Bucs will remember.

Their answer to what St. Louis dubbed the "The Catch" — Ricky Proehl's game-winning reception from Kurt Warner to give the Rams an 11-6 victory in the NFC title game — will be "The Lateral." The Bucs marched 80 yards for

the winning score, with 30 of them coming on one of the craziest plays of the season. Trailing 35-31 and seemingly headed nowhere against the Rams defense, King threw a swing lateral to Warrick Dunn. He was trapped far behind the line and, as he was being dragged down, suddenly pitched the ball back to King to avoid a 14-yard loss. King shook loose and streaked down the sideline for a 15-yard gain, and 15 more yards were tacked on for a late hit by linebacker Mike Jones. Four plays later, King scrambled for 6 yards on fourth-and-4, then threw 22 yards to Reidel Anthony at the 2.

Dunn, who rushed for 145 yards on 22 carries, scored his third

touchdown from the 1 with 48 seconds remaining.

King completed 18 of 38 passes for 256 yards, including TD throws of 8 and 17 yards to Johnson, who had seven catches for 116 yards. Dunn also scored on runs of 2 and 52 yards, finishing the day with 1,093 on the season.

"Our offense has taken a lot of criticism, but I think this game proved what we are made of," Bucs coach Tony Dungy said. "It feels good to be in the playoffs. I have a lot of confidence in our team. When we are playing good ball, we can do what it takes to win."

Faulk scored four touchdowns for the second straight week and third time this season, breaking the NFL record he shared with Jim Brown.



Luis Diaz (left) and Justin Nichols display the awards they received Monday night during the Big Spring Quarterback Club's annual football banquet. The two shared the academic award presented to the Steers player with the highest grade point average and Diaz was selected as the first recipient of the Antwoyne Edwards Memorial Award. Diaz received the new award, named in memory of the former Steers running back who drowned in an Arkansas boating accident in the spring, based on his hard work on the practice field, academic standing and solid citizenship.

Iraan duo heads up AP Class 1A all-state team

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Senior quarterback J.B. Stone and senior receiver Sean Smithson formed a good connection this season for Iraan. Stone was a model of accuracy, completing 61 percent of his passes (199 of 314) for 2,449 yards and 16 touchdowns, and just three interceptions. His main target was Smithson, who had 55 catches for 1,024 yards and 11 touchdowns. Stone and Smithson were named Monday to the Class 1A Texas all-state team chosen by Associated Press Sports Editors. In addition to his selection to the first-team offense, Stone was also named the 1A offensive player of the year.

Falls City senior defensive back Tanner Moy was chosen the 1A defensive player of the year. Moy had 110

tackles, along with 11 interceptions and seven pass breakups. The 11th annual APSE team was chosen by sports-writers around the state, based on players' regular-season performance. Nominees were selected during the season and balloting was conducted during the playoffs.

Stone edged out all-purpose Oakwood senior Undrav Savage, a first-team selection at running back, for offensive player of the year honors. Savage rushed 203 times for 1,883 yards and 22 touchdowns, had nine catches for 251 yards and four touchdowns, completed 12 of 27 passes for 185 yards and two more touchdowns and scored six times on kick returns (four kickoffs and two punts). The other all-state run-

ning backs were Rankin senior Ruben De La Paz (1,789 yards and 23 TDs) and Shiner senior Ray Gates (1,653 yards and 23 TDs). Dewan Lee, a junior from Crowell who caught 74 passes for 957 yards and eight touchdowns, was the other all-state receiver.

Wortham had four players named to the 1A all-state team, including senior offensive lineman Collin Barker, who was named to the team for the third straight year. The other offensive linemen were Petrolia senior Russel Foster, Paducah senior Stephen James, Celeste senior Edward Lipsey and Rankin junior Dustin Ratliff.

Like Iraan, Wortham was knocked out of the state playoffs in the quarterfinal

Cowboys suddenly seem overrun by their own emotions

IRVING (AP) — Suddenly, there's quite a spark running through the Dallas Cowboys. Maybe too much of one. The intensity that helped Dallas upset Washington last week went overboard Sunday against the New York Giants. The Cowboys were penalized four times for personal fouls during a second-half collapse that turned a 13-0 lead into a 17-13 loss.

"I like our fight, but we can't fight," coach Dave Campo said. "It's very simple. They've got to learn." In about a 3-minute span early in the third quarter, Erik Williams and Ebenezer Ekuban were flagged for unnecessary roughness and Darren Hambrick was flagged for unsportsmanlike conduct. Dexter Coakley racked up another unnecessary roughness penalty early in the fourth quarter. Ekuban, named for kicking a New York offensive lineman. His absence was felt the rest of the game as the Cowboys began to get

less pressure on Giants quarterback Kerry Collins. "He's got to understand that this is a team game and that hurts the team," Campo said. "What difference would it have made if Ekuban had been there in the fourth quarter?"

Ekuban, who had Dallas' only sack, said he was only retaliating for dirty play by the Giants and that he'd do it again if necessary. "I'm not sorry for kicking back. It's uncalled for what he did," he said. "I think the referee used me as a scapegoat." Ekuban told his teammates he was sorry that he wasn't around for the rest of the second half. "I thought once I got out of the game, a lot of the emotion left," he said. "That's what I apologized for." Alonzo Spellman said he hopes the league reviews what happened before fining Ekuban. "The guy was taunting Eb on the sidelines when he wasn't even in the game. The ref saw it, heard him

say it," Spellman said. "Then as soon as he gets in, Eb gets thrown out for attacking him." Campo called the team together on the sideline after Ekuban was tossed and told them not to beat themselves. They didn't listen, though, because at the end of the next series Hambrick was caught shoving down a Giant player on a pun return, giving New York an extra 15 yards.

When Hambrick went to the sideline, he ignored an irate Campo. The coach made up for it later. "He caught the full wrath of my disappointment," Campo said. Dallas is 5-10 and headed to Tennessee to close a disappointing season on Christmas night. There's a chance Troy Aikman could play, although it's more likely that Anthony Wright will make the second start of his career. His first was Sunday against the Giants and, in his words, he did OK. "I didn't expect to go out and be

perfect," said Wright, who was 13-of-25 for 119 yards with an interception and a fumble, was sacked five times and ran four times for 26 yards. "It was a learning experience, a good one."

Another possible change is in the secondary. Safety Greg Myers hurt a knee ligament and could be out. Either Phillip Spinks will take his place and rookie Kareem Larrimore will start at cornerback or rookie Dwayne Cochrine, who was drafted as a cornerback, could be used at safety.

The Titans may go into the game needing a victory to win the AFC Central and claim home-field advantage throughout the conference playoffs. That would put the Cowboys into a spoiler role again, and you know how they've reacted to that the last two weeks. "When you're letting everything go and playing for pride," Ekuban said, "it's hard to control your emotions."

Top 25 shakeup could be coming after Christmas

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

It was about as dull a new Top 25 as could be.

The same top six appeared in The Associated Press college basketball poll Monday. No new schools came in and nobody dropped out.

If you want changes, wait for next week's rankings because there are two games between Top Ten teams this week and three others between ranked teams — two of them involving No. 4 Tennessee.

Duke and Michigan State were 1-2 for the third consecutive week. The Blue Devils (9-0), who were off last week, received 63 first-place votes and 1,767 points from the national media panel to hold on to the No. 1 ranking for the fourth straight week.

Michigan State (8-0), which squeaked by Kentucky 46-45 Saturday to extend its winning streak to 19 games, was No. 1 on eight ballots and got 1,694 points, 74 more than Stanford (7-0), which was also off last week, then won on Monday night against Sacred Heart. Tennessee was ahead of Illinois, which beat then-No. 7 Arizona on Saturday in a rematch of the Illini's loss to the Wildcats in the championship game of the Maui Invitational, and Wake Forest stayed No. 6.

Florida, Seton Hall and Kansas each moved up one place to seventh through ninth, while Arizona dropped three places to round out the Top Ten. The Wildcats, who were the preseason No. 1, continued the nation's longest run of consecutive weeks in the Top Ten, with six polls this season and all 19 last season. Stanford is one week behind — the Cardinal were in the Top Ten every week last season after being No. 13 in the preseason poll.

Connecticut led the Second Ten for the second straight week, followed by Syracuse, Southern California, Virginia, North Carolina, Wisconsin, Alabama, Oklahoma, Iowa

AP Poll

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' men's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses and records through Dec. 17.

	Record
1. Duke (63)	9-0
2. Michigan St. (8)	8-0
3. Stanford	6-0
4. Tennessee	9-0
5. Illinois	8-2
6. Wake Forest	8-0
7. Florida	6-1
8. Seton Hall	6-1
9. Kansas	9-1
10. Arizona	5-3
11. Connecticut	11-1
12. Syracuse	12-0
13. Southern Cal.	7-0
14. Virginia	6-0
15. North Carolina	6-2
16. Wisconsin	7-1
17. Alabama	7-0
18. Oklahoma	7-1
19. Iowa	8-0
20. Maryland	6-3
21. Notre Dame	5-2
22. Cincinnati	5-2
23. Georgetown	9-0
24. Mississippi	8-0
25. Arkansas	6-2

Others receiving votes: Iowa St. 34; St. Bonaventure 32; Xavier 30; Missouri 29; Villanova 25; Oklahoma St. 22; Indiana 20; Penn St. 19; Utah 16; Charlotte 13; Marquette 12; Georgia Tech 10; LSU 10; Oregon 10; SMU 8; Georgia 6; Kentucky 6; Purdue 6; Vanderbilt 6; Col. of Charleston 5; Wyoming 5; Boston College 4; Richmond 4; Auburn 3; Dayton 3; Kent St. 3; Minnesota 3; Mississippi St. 3; George Washington 2; Ohio St. 2; Texas 2; Holy Cross 1.

and Maryland. The last five ranked teams were Notre Dame, Cincinnati, Georgetown, Mississippi and Arkansas. The ranked matchups start with Tuesday night's Jimmy V Classic at East Rutherford, N.J., when Tennessee plays Virginia and Michigan State faces Seton Hall. On Thursday night, Duke meets Stanford in the Pete Newell Classic in Oakland, Calif. Tennessee is at Syracuse on Friday, and Arkansas is at Oklahoma on Saturday. There could be another ranked matchup as Cincinnati and Alabama are in opposite brackets of the Puerto Rico Holiday Classic. Cincinnati, which sandwiched wins over Oakland and UNLV around a loss to city rival Xavier, dropped five places to 22nd for the week's biggest fall. The biggest jump was Iowa's move from No. 22 to 19th following a 99-94 victory over Missouri in double overtime.

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Malone receives release from Red Raiders basketball scholarship

LUBBOCK (AP) — The son of famed NBA player Moses Malone has been released from his scholarship at Texas Tech, ending his basketball career as a Red Raider and allowing him to transfer to another school.

ALL-STATE

Continued from page 6

The three Wortham defenders named to the all-state team were senior lineman Matt Singleton, senior linebacker Jamal Henry and senior defensive back Matt Dixon.

Roscoe, Springlake Earth and Wink each had a pair of players named to the all-state defense. Senior lineman Toby Nash and junior linebacker Jeffrey Lopez are from Roscoe, senior linebacker Weldon Thompson and senior defensive back Etham Hamm are from Wink, while senior lineman Ben Angeley and senior defensive back Quade Furr represent Springlake-Earth.

Filling out the first-team defense were Baird senior lineman Coleman Vestal and three more defensive backs. A three-way point tie for the final defensive back spot left six players among the four spots.

The other defensive backs were Wheeler senior Caleb Finsterwald, Lometa junior Mario Gamez and Moy, the defensive player of the year.

Moy's teammate from Falls City, sophomore Brian DeSpain, was the all-state kicker after making 34-of-37 extra points and all four of his extra-point attempts. All-state punter Chris Mendez, a senior from Rankin, averaged 43 yards on his 14 punts.

The Class 1A All-State high school football team, released Monday, as voted on by The Associated Press Sports Editors based on regular-season performance. Players are listed in alphabetical order at each position:

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE:
LINEMEN:
 — COLLIN BARKER, Wortham, Sr., 6-9, 325. Third straight all-state selection.
 — RUSSEL FOSTER, Petrolia, Sr., 6-2, 275. Graded more than 94 percent. Allowed 0 sacks.
 — STEPHEN JAMES, Paducah, Sr., 5-11, 220. Graded 88 percent.
 — EDWARD LIPSEY, Celeste, Sr., 6-0, 200. 23 punts. Graded out 90 percent. Allowed 1 sack in 150 pass attempts.
 — DUSTIN RATLIFF, Rankin, Jr., 6-1, 205. 108 knockdowns.
ENDS/RECEIVERS:
 — DEWAN LEE, Crowell, Jr., 5-11, 158. 74 catches for 957 yards and 8 touchdowns. Also ran for two TDs and scored two 2-point conversion scores.
 — BRIAN SMITHSON, Iraan, Sr., 5-11, 170. 55 catches for 1,024 yards and 14 touchdowns.
QUARTERBACK:
 — J.B. STONE, Iraan, Sr., 6-1, 195. 130-of-214 passing for 2,218 yards, 29 touchdowns and just three interceptions.
RUNNING BACKS:
 — RUBEN DE LA PAZ, Rankin, Sr., 5-9, 170. 163 carries for 1,789 yards (11.0 yards per carry) and 23 touchdowns.
 — RAY GATES, Shiner, Sr., 6-3, 200. 186 carries for 1,653 yards (8.9 yards per carry) and 23 touchdowns.
 — LINDRAY SAVAGE, Oakwood, Sr., 5-11, 185. 203 carries for 1,883 yards (9.3 yards per carry) and 22 touchdowns. Nine catches for 251 yards and four TDs. 12-of-27 passing for 185 yards and two touchdowns. Returned four kick-offs for TDs, and two punts for TDs.
KICKERS:
 — BRIAN DE SPAIN, Falls City, So., 6-0, 200. 34-of-37 extra points, 4-of-4 field goals.
DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR: J.B. Stone, Iraan.
FIRST TEAM DEFENSE:
LINEMEN:
 — BEN ANGELEY, Springlake-Earth, Sr., 6-5, 260. 86 tackles (25 solo), 23 for loss, 5 sacks. 1 caused fumble, 2 fumble recoveries.
 — TOBY NASH, Roscoe, Sr., 6-2, 200. 68 tackles (33 solo), 12 for loss, 9 sacks, 6 caused fumbles, 2 recovered fumbles (1 for TD) in 7 games.
 — MATT SINGLETON, Wortham, Sr., 6-0, 225. 112 tackles, 14 for loss, 1 fumble recovery.
 — COLEMAN VESTAL, Baird, Sr., 6-2, 220. 87 tackles, 18 for loss, 7 sacks, 4 forced fumbles, 2 recovered fumbles.
LINEBACKERS:
 — JAMAL HENRY, Wortham, Sr., 6-0, 205. 145 tackles, 29 for loss, 4 fumble recoveries.
 — JEFFREY LOPEZ, Roscoe, Jr., 5-9, 170. 133 tackles (96 solo), 12 for loss, 3 sacks, 2 ints. (1 for TD), 5 caused fumbles, 3 recovered fumbles (1 for TD).
 — WELDON THOMPSON, Wink, Sr., 6-1, 180. 181 tackles, 5 for loss, 2 QB pressures, 1 int. returned for TD, 3 fumble recoveries (1 for TD).
BACKS (8 due to three-way tie for fourth spot):
 — MATT DIXON, Wortham, Sr., 6-0, 175. 87 tackles, 8 for loss, 6 interceptions, 3 fumbles caused.
 — CALEB FINSTERWALD, Wheeler, Sr., 6-0, 195. 45 tackles (27 solo), 8 interceptions, 1 sack, 1 caused fumble, 1 pass breakup.
 — QUADE FURR, Springlake-Earth, Sr., 6-0, 180. 70 tackles (20 solo), 8 interceptions.
 — MARIO GAMEZ, Lometa, Jr., 5-8, 135. 11 interceptions.
 — ETHAN HAMM, Wink, Sr., 6-0, 170. 66 tackles, 6 interceptions (2 returned for TDs), 1 fumble recovery for TD.
 — TANNER MOY, Falls City, Sr., 6-3, 185. 110 tackles, 3 for loss, 11 interceptions, 7 pass breakups.
PUNTER:
 — CHRIS MENDEZ, Rankin, Sr., 5-8, 160. 14 punts for a 43-yard average.
DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR: Tanner Moy, Falls City.
SECOND TEAM OFFENSE:
LINEMEN:
 — NICK ASHLEY, Stratford, Jr., 6-2, 260.
 — ALXAN CUELLER, Roscoe, Sr., 6-0, 285.
 — JEREMY KINSLAW, Tolar, Sr., 5-10, 225.
 — WADE RUSSOM, Rankin, So., 6-1, 274.
ENDS/RECEIVERS:
 — ANDY JACKSON, Bosqueville, Sr., 6-0, 155.
 — ANDRE RECTOR, Celeste, Sr., 6-0, 180.
QUARTERBACK:
 — BRENT KING, Petrolia, Sr., 5-8, 160.
RUNNING BACKS:
 — SONNY AINSWORTH, Ranger, 6-0, 170.
 — ISRAEL JOINER, Chris., Jr., 5-11, 185.
 — SID RESENDES, Stratford, Sr., 5-10, 200.
KICKERS:
 — JACK PRIETT, Baird, Sr., 5-11, 190.
SECOND TEAM DEFENSE:
LINEMEN (8 due to tie for fourth spot):
 — SHAWN FLORES, Shiner, Jr., 6-3, 205.
 — RUSSEL FOSTER, Petrolia, Sr., 6-2, 275.
 — JOE ISBELL, Rotan, Sr., 6-6, 295.
 — WES HINDALL, Stratford, Jr., 6-2, 260.

Moses Malone Jr. has not played with the Red Raiders since the start of the season when he expressed disappointment with his role on the team. Malone played for Tech in 19 games last season, averaging 2.9 points per game.

Tech head coach James Dickey told the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal he met with Malone last week to discuss the player's future. "He wants to still play basketball," Dickey said. "We told him that we would help in any way that we possibly

could. He didn't indicate to us any schools that he might be leaning toward." The 6-foot-5 Malone was a high-scoring star at Friendswood High School in Houston. He originally signed with the University of Houston, but left during

his freshman season after averaging 3.4 points in nine games. Malone sat out a year to comply with NCAA transfer guidelines before starting his career at Tech. He was slowed by a foot stress fracture and shot only 23 per-

cent from the field. He averaged 13 minutes per game. "I'm always disappointed when a player leaves," Dickey said. "I understand in this business that everyone wants to play and these kinds of things are going to happen. You always hope

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LINEBACKERS (4 due to tie for third spot):
 — AUGIE BEREND, Windthorst, Jr., 6-2, 180.
 — SAM CHAWFORD, Bremond, Sr., 6-1, 212.
 — LEIFROY McMULLEN, Corsicana Mildred, Sr., 5-8, 180.
 — RAMON RODRIGUEZ, Dawson, Sr., 5-9, 180.
BACKS:
 — GARRETT BARKER, Simms Bowie, Jr., 5-11, 175.
 — JOSH BOYD, Itasca, Sr., 5-10, 150.
 — STUART HARRISON, Corsicana Mildred, Sr., 5-11, 185.
 — CHASE HOLLAND, Roscoe, Sr., 6-2, 180.
 — ERIC RICHARDSON, Paducah, Jr., 6-2, 177.
PUNTER:
 — SCOTT MACKAY, Cross Plains, Sr., 5-10, 185.
HONORABLE MENTION OFFENSE:
LINEMEN: Clay Albright, Milano; Derek Berg, Chico; Nathan Dagley, Meridian; Bret Goad, Wheeler; Sean Goodale, Harper; Derek Hoopman, Iraan; Kelly Ledbetter, Wheeler; Justin McBride, Burkville; Wray Moore, Corsicana Mildred; Michael Stahl, Bosqueville; Jordan Teichman, Windthorst; Matt Vega, Milano; Coleman Vestal, Baird; Thomas Wilke, Harper; Ruben Zarate, Ranger.
ENDS/RECEIVERS: Jason Barnett, Milano; Josh Curtis, Baird; Jonathon Dzik, Falls City; Adam Gonzalez, Petrolia; Ethan Hamm, Wink; Stuart Harrison, Corsicana Mildred; Josh Lockett, Frost; Tanner Moy, Falls City; Jordan Shipley, Josh Teffeller, Itasca.
QUARTERBACKS: Adam Bell, Stratford; Damien Dixon, Wortham; Chris Hanna, Bosqueville; Brent King, Petrolia; Jake McLean, Chico; Adam Sipes, Beckville; Dusty Wiatrak, Falls City.
RUNNING BACKS: Nick Anthony, Roscoe; Chris Brandma, High Island; Robbie Brown, Falls City; Joe Craig, Price Carlisle; Zack Dalrymple, Chico; Keith Finch, Hart; Caleb Finsterwald, Wheeler; Kyle Green, Windthorst; Ross Harrison, Petrolia; Patrick Hemphill, Paducah; Luis Madrid, Marfa; Chris Marshall, Itasca; Leifroy McMullen, Corsicana Mildred; Lance Moore, Roby; Roger Ross, Mount Enterprise.
KICKERS: Nick Anthony, Roscoe; Wesley Gosdin, Meridian; Jordan Shipley, Rotan; Erasmo Soto, Corrigan Garden.
HONORABLE MENTION DEFENSE:
LINEMEN: Bryan Eason, Meridian; David Garcia, Burton; Justin Glasscock, Celeste; Stephen James, Paducah; Quint Kuntz, Harper; Kelly Ledbetter, Wheeler; Matthew Poehmann, Burton; Bryce Pohmeier, Nazareth; Bucky Rivera, Baird; Marlon Sharke, Burkville; Donadon Thomas, Burkville; Shawn Yoder, Mount Enterprise.
LINEBACKERS: Joe Albanese, High Island; Justin Almand, Collinsville; Jim Ed Baugh, Falls City; Tony Beagles, Cross Plains; Bubba Courtney, Beckville; Ray Durham, Throckmorton; Bret Goad, Wheeler; Ross Harrison, Petrolia; Marco Joshua, Calvert; Matty McClain, Nazareth; Neil Ritchey, Chico; Billy Strona, Itasca; Chad Tute, Rotan; Skyler Walden, Stratford; Thomas Wilke, Harper.
BACKS: Garrett Barker, Simms-Bowie; Kersley Evans, Celeste; Rudy Flores, Itas; Alan Gawlik, Falls City; Daulty Gibbs, Harper; Cory Huggins, Rotan; Andy Jackson, Bosqueville; Chris Mendez, Rankin; J.D. Nolen, Collinsville; Andre Rector, Celeste; Chancey Servatze, Milano; Todd Teague, Burton.
PUNTERS: Nick Anthony, Roscoe; Wesley Gosdin, Meridian; Graham Miles, Harper.

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WEEK 17
Games of Dec. 23-25

HOW TO PLAY
Select a winner from each of the week's games, listed below. Select in descending order of your CONFIDENCE in your choices. Win points at left for each correct selection toward possible total of 136 points. See complete rules below. You must be at least 8 (eight) years old to enter. To enter, clip along dotted line, then place game entry in POWER POINTS container at co-sponsor's retail outlet(s). Entrants must list name, address and phone number below.

LIMIT: You may enter only once weekly

DEADLINE: 2 P.M. FRIDAY

TIEBREAKER 1: Total points scored (both teams) in COWBOYS game

TIEBREAKER 2: Total offensive yards (both teams) in this game

136 TOTAL POINTS

Name _____
Address _____
City, State(zip) _____
Day Phone() _____
Night Phone() _____

THIS WEEK'S GAMES

Jacksonville at NY Giants	Miami at New England
San Francisco at Denver	Minnesota at Indianapolis
Buffalo at Seattle	NY Jets at Baltimore
Arizona at Washington	Pittsburgh at San Diego
Carolina at Oakland	St. Louis at New Orleans
Chicago at Detroit	Tampa Bay at Green Bay
Cincinnati at Philadelphia	Indy at Tennessee
Kansas City at Atlanta	

POWER POINTS OFFICIAL RULES

- Object of the game is to amass as many of the 136 possible points as you can. Simply review the week's schedule of games, listed on entry form, and decide which game you are SUREST of picking a winner in. Write the name of your projected winner on the 16-point line. If that team wins the game that week, you win 16 points. Write the name of your second-surest winner on the 15-point line, and so on down to the 1-point line, which game you figure to be a long shot. Next, fill in the week's total points scored by both teams in the week's designated game. If this step fails to produce a winner, the judges will apply Tiebreaker 2, total offensive yardage from scrimmage in this game. If a winner still doesn't emerge, a drawing will be held among those contestants still tied. Decisions of the judges are final. The weekly statewide winner of the contest will receive \$1,000.
- Any entry form that does not contain a legible name, address, etc., will be disqualified.
- Entries that fail to forecast a winner from each and every game will be disqualified, as will entries that fail to distinguish between the Jets and Giants of New York and other similar teams.
- No points are awarded on tie games or in case any game is not played for any reason during its scheduled week.
- Entering POWER POINTS constitutes permission by contestant for his or her name and photograph to be used for news and reasonable promotional purposes at no charge.
- Employees of this newspaper and their immediate families are ineligible to participate.
- Any inquiry about or protest of weekly results must be made by noon on the Friday following the announcement of winners.
- No purchase necessary. Facsimile game entry forms will be accepted. Enter contest by dropping entry form into POWER POINTS container at participating co-sponsors.
- Weekly deadline for entry will be 2 p.m. Fridays, except when noted otherwise or weekly entry form.
- Neither this newspaper nor any co-sponsor will be responsible for illegible entry forms or those lost, stolen or damaged in any way.
- Limit one entry per person per week. Each entry must represent the original work of one entrant. "Group" entries, "systems" or other attempts to enter multiple entries will be disqualified. Filling out extra forms and cutting your hands and relatives' names on them violates this rule. Any such entries are destroyed prior to grading.
- Contestants must have reached the age of eight (8) years by the Sunday of any week's play.

D E C 1 9 2 0 0 0

TUESDAY

DEC. 19

	KMID (2)	KPEJ (3)	KERA (5)	FAM (6)	KOSA (7)	WFAA (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	UNI (13)	DISH (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)	Cosby (CC)	Wishbone	Every Day	News	News	News	Fresh Prince	Locura de	Movie: Johnny	Martial Law	(15) Movie:	(CC)	News	Law & Order	Bear Attack 2	Pretender	Learning Ch.		
7:30 PM	Be a Millionaire	70s Show	Scientific	All-Star Winter	JAG (CC)	Be a Millionaire	Michael	NBA Basketball	Mujeres	arni (CC)	Merry Christmas	Cigarettes	Movie: Double	Robert Klein:	Light of the	Biography	Beneath	Very Special	Trauma: Life	
8:30 PM	Dharma-Greg	Dark Angel	Nova (CC)	The Nobel	60 Minutes II	Dharma-Greg	Fraser (CC)	Los Angeles	Ernest Saves	Movie: Secret	Movie: With	Jeopardy	Movie: Galaxy	City Confiden-	New Detectives	FBI Files	Christmas-	Pyramid of		
9:30 PM	Once and Again	Arrest & Trial	Geisha	Early Edition	Judging Amy	Once and Again	Dateline (CC)	Miami Heat	A Million	(CC) My Date-	Friday the	Beggars and	Hour of Healing	Investigative	Justice Files	Christmas-	Life After			
10:30 PM	News (CC)	Jerry Springer	News-Lehrer	700 Club (CC)	News	News (CC)	News (35) Tonight	Movie: Gladiator	P. Impacto	President's	Martial Law	13th Part VIII:	Queer as Folk	Curb-Entham	News: Dr. Massey	Law & Order	Justice Files	Bull (CC)	Trauma: Life	
11:30 PM	Politically Inc.	Blind Date	Frontline (CC)	Who's Boss?	Show (CC)	Show (CC)	Show (37) Late	Ent. Tonight	Politically Inc.	Show (CC)	(12:05) Oprah	Night (CC)	Movie: A Bright	The Horse-	Remington	Pass	(12:05) Real	City Confiden-	New Detectives	Movie: Streets of
12:30 AM	Saturday Night	Judge-Brown	...	Paid Program	Street Smarts

DENNIS THE MENACE



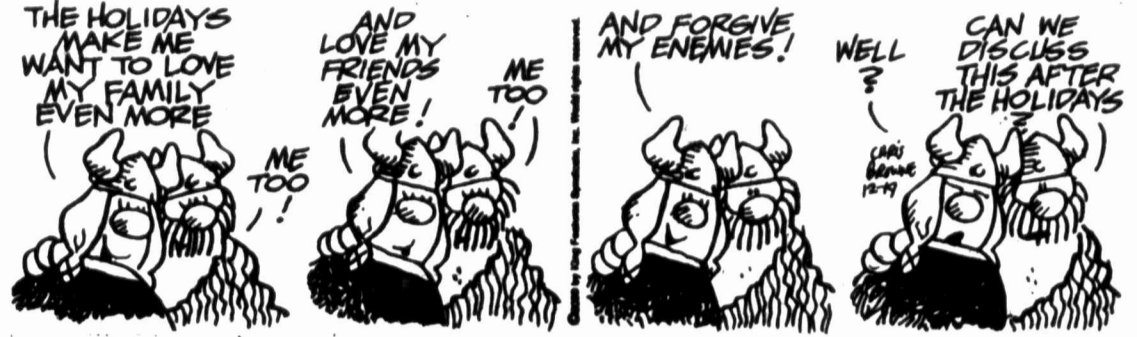
"CHECK THIS OUT, JOEY. IF YOU MIX IN THE CRANBERRY SAUCE, YOU GET PINK MASHED POTATOES."

FAMILY CIRCUS



"Your village is nice, Mommy, but those lots are zoned for Christmas presents."

HAGAR



BLONDIE



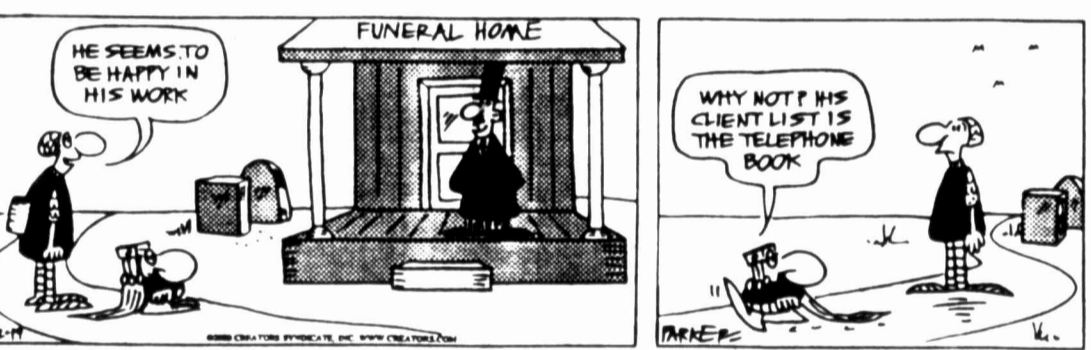
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THIS DATE IN HISTORY

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Tuesday, Dec. 19, the 354th day of 2000. There are 12 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 19, 1998, President Clinton was impeached by the Republican-controlled House for perjury and obstruction of justice, becoming only the second chief executive to be ordered to stand trial in the Senate, where, like Andrew Johnson before him, he was acquitted.

On this date: In 1732, Benjamin Franklin began publishing "Poor Richard's Almanac."

In 1776, Thomas Paine published his first "American Crisis" essay.

In 1777, Gen. George Washington led his army of about 11,000 men to Valley Forge, Pa., to camp for the winter.

In 1843, "A Christmas Carol," by Charles Dickens, was first published in England.

In 1907, 239 workers died in a coal mine explosion in Jacobs Creek, Pa.

In 1932, the British Broadcasting Corp. began transmitting overseas with its "Empire Service" to Australia.

In 1950, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower was named commander of the military forces of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Apollo program of manned lunar landings.

In 1974, Nelson A. Rockefeller was sworn in as the 41st vice president of the United States.

Today's Birthdays: Country singer Little Jimmy Dickens is 80. Actor James Booth is 70. Actress Cicely Tyson is 67. Rhythm-and-blues singer-musician Maurice White (Earth, Wind and Fire) is 59. Actor Tim Reid is 56. Paleontologist Richard E. Leakey is 56. Singer Alvin Lee (Ten Years After) is 56. Actress Elaine Joyce is 55. Musician John McEuen is 55. Actor Robert Urich is 54. Singer Janie Fricke is 53. Actor Mike Lookinland is 40. Actress Jennifer Beals is 37. Actor Robert McNaughton is 34. rock musician Kevin Shepard (Tonic) is 32.

THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS
- Dole (out)
 - "Harold and Maude" star Bud
 - Dispur's state
 - "Rhyme Pays" rapper
 - Pinocchio for one
 - Brandon de Wilde's cinematic cry
 - Place for liquid funds
 - Long, long time
 - Pen fills
 - Lots and lots
 - ...fi
 - Boozer
 - Carte blanche
 - Novelist Amelia
 - Indian cash
 - Spanish cheers
 - Tony's cousin
 - ...sanctum
 - "The Delta c Venus" writer
 - Ginger cookies
 - Boxer Max
 - Broadway beginning
 - Roast host
 - Paleozoic and Mesozoic
 - Charlie of Berlin, e.g.
 - In favor of
 - Glant Mel
 - Strive toward
 - Italian bell town
 - Shaquille O'Neal's org.
 - Marble-moving game
 - Mongrels
 - Flushing stadium
 - Give off
 - Cultural values
 - Actor Sean
 - Hindu discipline
- DOWN
- "Of ___ and Men"
 - Sound rebound
 - Adolescent
 - List-ending abbr.
 - Outpatient facility
 - Sty comment
 - Past of riches?
 - ...la-la
 - English racetrack
 - Like broken horses
 - Man of Tarsus
 - Actress Bancroft
 - Home team at 61A
 - Jan Stenerud or Jason Elam
 - Too many ___ spoil the broth
 - Dirty looks
 - Like a drive at Pebble Beach?
 - Example of graft
 - Part of LEM
 - Snorer's peril
 - Head cheese
 - Type type
 - Witticism
 - Early calculators
 - Age
 - Correct a clock
 - Kind of tank
 - Farm measures
 - Seoul resident
 - Fourth estate
 - Zenith
 - Close
 - Heart
 - Fascinated by
 - Persistent pa
 - ___ and there
 - Verne captain
 - Floating hoosegow
 - Nora's pouch
 - Kreskin's forte?
 - ___ Largo

TMS Puzzles@aol.com

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14				15				16					
17			18					19					
20				21				22					
			23					24					
25	26	27			28	29			30	31	32	33	
34					35						36		
37					38						39		
40					41						42		
43					44						45		
					46						47		
48	49	50	51			52	53				54	55	56
57						58					59		
60						61					62		
63						64					65		

By Randell J. Hartman
Escondido, CA

12/19/00

Monday's Puzzle Solved

A	B	B	E	M	A	M	M	A	M	A	R	S		
L	U	L	L	O	L	E	I	C	O	M	I	T		
F	L	A	K	L	I	C	I	T	R	A	C	E		
A	B	C	F	A	S	H	I	O	N	S	H	O		
	K	M	A	R	T		F	E	E					
I	O	W	A	N	S		M	A	G	E	L	L	A	N
S	M	I	T	S		B	I	P	O	D		O	B	I
L	E	D	A		W	I	N	E	D		K	N	O	X
E	G	O		P	I	K	E	R		S	E	G	U	E
S	A	W	B	O	N	E	S		C	L	E	F	T	S
				O	E	D			A	L	O	N	E	
S	T	O	R	M	W	I	N	D	O	W		L	A	D
C	A	R	R		A	D	A	M	S		C	L	O	E
A	L	S	O		R	E	N	E		B	O	D	E	
B	L	O	W		D	E	A	N	S		S	W	I	M

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