

BIG SPRING HERALD

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

FRIDAY

December 22, 2000

WEATHER

Tonight:

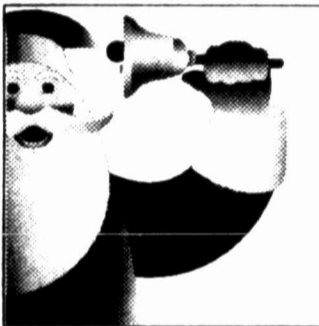


PARTLY CLOUDY

TONIGHT 29°-31° SATURDAY 57°-59°

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.

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3 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.

St. Mary's administrator Hanes returning to the classroom

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
Staff Writer

A local elementary school administrator is giving up administrative duties to head back to the classroom. Carol Hanes, head of school for St. Mary's Episcopal School, has accepted an English faculty position at Howard College. "It was a personal decision based on having more time and less responsibility," Hanes said. "I have taken a new full-time

English faculty position at Howard College." Hanes, who has been teaching part time at Howard College, said she was approached by school officials for the position after the college decided to advertise for a new English faculty member. "With the increase of enrollment, they needed another full-time person," she said. "I will teach everything from comprehensive

See **HANES**, Page 2A



Carol Hanes, head of school at St. Mary's Episcopal, reads to 10-year-old Emily Hanes among other fifth grade students during class. Hanes will step down as administrator to take a faculty position at Howard College beginning January.

HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody



Reece Albert construction employees Elizondra Mascorro, Wemeslao Chacon and Sylvester Antonio prepare gutters for pouring concrete as construction continues along U.S. Highway 87 from Fourth Street to Interstate 20.

Highway reconstruction nears midway point, project head says

By **CARL GRAHAM**
Staff Writer

Though rain and cold weather caused some setbacks, the reconstruction project of U.S. Highway 87 from Fourth Street to Interstate 20 is almost halfway complete.

According to Jimmy Marquez, project manager for the Texas Department

of Transportation (TxDOT), the project is still on target for completion around mid-April to early May.

"We have been playing catch-up lately trying to make up for some of our lost time," said Marquez. "But really, we are not too far behind schedule now and while everyone else will be enjoying some time off during the holiday, the construction crews will

only have off Christmas Day and be right back at it."

Marquez said crews would be pouring concrete pavement this week on the westside.

"We are looking at finishing up the pouring of the concrete pavement by the end of the week," said Marquez. "At the same

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Governor

Lieutenant Governor Perry moves up to complete final two years of Bush's term

AUSTIN (AP) — Rick Perry, a West Texas rancher and former Aggie yell leader, was sworn in as governor Thursday hours after President-elect Bush resigned from the office.

Perry moves up from lieutenant governor, a job he has held two years, to become the 47th governor of Texas. He will complete the final two years of Bush's term. Grinning widely, Perry looked out across the state Senate chamber at a sea of spectators, including lawmakers, former governors and other political players. Then he took the oath of office, administered by Texas Supreme Court Chief Justice Thomas R. Phillips.

A contingent from Texas A&M University formed the Honor Guard.

"Not only do I feel honored and blessed, but I am deeply humbled," Perry told the crowd. "It is an office that commands the deepest respect and the highest expectations of our people."

Perry praised Bush, who sat behind him.

"His shadow will loom large over this granite building, for it is the shadow of a great man," Perry said.

PERRY BIO

PARTY — Republican
AGE — 50
EDUCATION — Texas A&M University; animal science degree; 1972
EXPERIENCE — State representative, 1985-90; Texas agriculture commissioner, 1991-98; lieutenant governor, 1999 to present.
FAMILY — Wife, Anita; children Griffin, 17; and Sydney, 14.



PERRY

Perry told Bush he has governed with "civility and compassion."

"You have led by uniting and including. And you leave us with an enduring legacy that reminds me of another Texas legend, Sam Houston, who once said, 'Do right and risk consequences.'"

Perry promised he will press on with Bush's programs and that he shares his philosophy. He identified

See **GOVERNOR**, Page 2A

Bird count shows 106 different species in Howard County

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
Staff Writer

Volunteers for the 101st annual Audubon Christmas Bird Count for Howard County spotted more than 5,000 birds during the



SIMMONS

one day event.

Pat Simmons, coordinator, said the total bird count from the numbers received from 11 volunteers was 5,228 birds. Volunteers spotted 106 different species.

"I am pleased to see so many individual species," Simmons said. "It has been several years since we have reached the 100-mark count in species."

Volunteers working in five groups helped cover

Moss Creek Lake, the northeast area of Coahoma, Comanche Trail Lake, south of Big Spring and the Airpark.

"The birds were not very active for us in the Big Spring area; however, a few miles to the east, the volunteers from Midland sighted 72 species," she said.

The Christmas bird count is the longest running ornithological database. It continues to grow in impor-

tance as a means to monitor the status of residents and migratory bird populations across the western hemisphere.

"The bird count is very important because it lets the people mapping the migratory routes know what we have in this area," she said.

Simmons will submit the data collected from this year's count to the National Audubon Society. The group will use the informa-

tion for ornithological data books and to track migratory routes.

Birds are one of the first group of animals to be affected by environmental threats like pollution and habitat destruction, Simmons said.

The Big Spring volunteers for the bird count included Simmons, Beverly Taylor, Jane Jones, Michelle

See **BIRDS**, Page 2A

Motorcycle club reaches out to help needy families

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
Staff Writer

An area motorcycle club will be heading out on the road early Saturday to deliver toys, food and Christmas stockings to needy families.

"We are going to start out at 8 a.m. and will keep going until we finish handing out all the toys," said Jimmy Ruth, secretary of the Cossacks Motorcycle Club.

An annual event for the club, the group received the names of 16 area families from the Rev. Arnold Tonn of Spring Tabernacle. Members prepared Christmas presents for 47 children and baskets of food for the families.

Several club members spent Thursday night stuffing Christmas stockings

they made by hand with fruit, small toys, toothpaste, coloring books and crayons.

Along with turkeys donated by the American Legion, the club will hand out food baskets to the families this year.

According to Ruth, the club holds benefits during the year to raise funds to purchase the Christmas gifts for the area children.

Club member Ron Sawyer said that as children many of the members did not have much money. Although many of the members still don't have much extra financial resources, they believe kids deserve to get something for Christmas.

Members spend time putting together bicycles and other toys, even shopping at local retailers to

See **CLUB**, Page 2A



Edward Schlegel, left, Jimmy Ruth and Ron "Smurf" Sawyers of the Cossacks Motorcycle Club stuff Christmas stockings for area needy children on Thursday. The Cossacks Club will be delivering toys, food and Christmas stockings to 14 area families on Saturday.

HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

OBITUARIES

Frank Martinez

Rosary for Frank Martinez, 76, formerly of Big Spring will be at 7 p.m., Friday, Dec. 22, 2000, at Ellis Funeral Home Chapel with Deacon Jesse Guajardo officiating. Funeral service will be Saturday, Dec. 23, at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church with Father Jerome Burnet officiating. Rosary will be at 7 p.m., Friday, Dec. 22. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

Mr. Martinez died Wednesday, Dec. 20, in a local hospital.

He was born July 4, 1924, in Westbrook. He married Rachel Martinez in Big Spring on Oct. 31, 1949. He was a landscaper and bricklayer until his retirement. He was a Crusillistas and attended Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church.

Survivors include: his wife, Rachel Martinez of Midland; his four children; Margie Navarro, Gilbert Martinez, Raymond (Sammy) Martinez and Sylvia Cole, all of Midland; his sister, Carmen Carralez of Midland; his two brothers, Pat Martinez of Big Spring and Gilbert Martinez, of Odessa; 12 grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.

Latha Hill

Graveside funeral service for Latha Hill, 89, Big Spring, will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 23, 2000, at Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Dudley Mullins, Pastor of East Fourth Street Baptist Church, officiating.

Mrs. Hill died on Thursday, Dec. 21, at her residence.

She was born on Feb. 2, 1911, and married Reuben Hill on Nov. 20, 1929, in Clovis, N.M. He preceded her in death on Aug. 14, 1975. She was a longtime Big Spring resident. She had worked for Texas Electric for many years before retiring. She was a member of East Fourth Street Baptist Church.

Survivors included: one daughter, Carolyn Hanson of London; and one grandson.

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

HANES

Continued from Page 1A

English literature to technical writing."

For the past four years, Hanes has been responsible for running St. Mary's Episcopal School, managing

132 students and 30 employees, meeting with board members as well as taking care of all other aspects of the educational institution.

"If a leak springs from a pipe on Saturday, I get the call," she said.

Hanes said she accepted the new position to spend more time with her family as well as return to teaching.

"St. Mary's is a wonderful place with a great staff and teachers," she said. "It is my love of teaching taking me back to the classroom. I have a couple of children attending St. Mary's."

She will begin her teaching position at Howard College in January teaching in the mornings and then working at St. Mary's in the afternoons.

A 1981 graduate of Baylor University with a bachelor's degree in education, Hanes has spent almost 20 years in the education field teaching a wide variety of ages from fifth-grade to college-age students.

Hanes received her master's degree from the University of North Texas. Her husband, Stan, is minister of music at Big Spring's First Baptist Church.

HIGHWAY

Continued from Page 1A

time we are putting on a black base on the north end."

Barring any further delays due to inclement weather, Marquez said the west side should be complete soon.

"We are expecting to have the west side completed by the third week in January," said Marquez. "When we finish up the west side we will be able to switch traffic over to the other side. That will give us a chance to open access back up to some of the businesses along that side that have been hurting due to the construction."

Reece Albert Inc. of San Angelo is the primary contractor on the estimated eight-month project that carries around a \$3.2 million price tag.

When completed, the roadway will resemble reconstruction done several years ago along south 87 to FM 700.

GOVERNOR

Continued from Page 1A

fied education as a priority, and said he also wants to improve the state's highways and living conditions in colonias on the Texas-Mexico border.

Like Bush sometimes does, Perry peppered his speech with a little Spanish, to loud applause from the audience.

"Estamos unidos hacia un destino comun!" he said, which means, "We are one people with one common destiny."

Earlier at his resignation ceremony, Bush called Perry "a man of Texas roots and Texas values."

"I know him well. He'll be a fine governor, carrying on the tradition of bipartisanship, civility and fair dealing," Bush said.

A Republican like Bush, Perry, 50, was a state representative and agriculture commissioner before getting elected lieutenant governor in 1998. He was a

Democrat when he first went to the Texas House in 1985. He became a Republican in 1989, saying his views were increasingly more compatible with those of the GOP.

With an amiable style, Perry displays Texas country charm and often wears cowboy boots.

Like previous lieutenant governors, Perry hasn't enjoyed widespread name recognition. A Scripps Howard poll in August showed only 26 percent of Texans could even name him as lieutenant governor.

Perry shrugged it off and happily pointed out he could still slip into a favorite barbecue restaurant and be left alone to savor brisket, sausage and beans.

As lieutenant governor, Perry has filled in for Bush when he has been out of the state. He also presided over the Texas Senate, exercising power over committee appointments and controlling the flow of legislation. The lieutenant governor in Texas is arguably more powerful than the governor.

Now that Perry has moved up, the Senate plans to convene Dec. 28 and choose by secret ballot a new presiding officer from within its ranks. That person will have the duties but not the title of lieutenant governor, and will continue to be a senator.

Republicans hold a 16-15 majority in the chamber. At least six senators — mostly Republicans — have emerged as candidates.

Like Bush, Perry said he plans to work with Republicans and Democrats alike. The state House is controlled by the Democrats.

Max Sherman, a professor and former dean at the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin, said Perry might have more personal dealings with lawmakers than did Bush because of his ties to the Legislature. "Some of those people have been longtime friends," Sherman said.

But Perry may have an obstacle to overcome in his attempt at bipartisanship because he campaigned this fall against some Democratic incumbents in the Texas House, Sherman said.

Perry, a native of Paint Creek, Texas, near the town of Haskell, is married, with two teen-age children. He was a pilot in the Air Force in the 1970s before returning home to help with his family's farming and ranching operation.

He's had a few rocky moments this year.

In June, Perry and an aide who was driving his vehicle were stopped for speeding. An agitated Perry was caught on videotape urging a state trooper to let him and his driver go. Perry later said he did not try to use his political influence.

In July, he raised some eyebrows by sending a letter to lobbyists asking them to pledge specific amounts up to \$25,000 on behalf of their clients for a fund-raising reception for him. A government watchdog group criticized the move as an attempt to squeeze money from corporations and others who could affect the legislative session.

A Perry spokesman defended the letter and said Perry does not solicit corporate donations, which are

BIG SPRING
AROUND THE TOWN

prohibited by state law. There is definite purpose to Perry's big-money fundraising: He plans to run for governor in 2002.

BIRDS

Continued from Page 1A

Werner, D.W. Overman and Hayes Stripling Jr. Ethel Gunthrie of Coahoma counted parts of the Coahoma area and Midland volunteer's Don and Joann Merritt, Sybil Eberhart, Allen Wemple helped with the Howard County bird count.

The 11 volunteers from Howard County join 50,000 volunteers from all 50 states, every Canadian province, parts of Central and South America, Bermuda, the West Indies and Pacific Islands that participated in counting and recording individual birds and bird species encountered during one calendar day.

CLUB

Continued from Page 1A

find that right Barbie doll. "We are giving out bicycles, stuffed animals, skateboard, scooters and several toys," Ruth said. After delivering the gifts to the families, the Cossacks will return to their clubhouse and hold a pot luck dinner.

BRIEFS

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.

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TEXAS LOTTERY Pick 3: 3,2,4
Cash 5: 2,6,8,29,32
Lottery numbers are unofficial until confirmed by the state lottery commission.

SPRING TABERNACLE CHURCH, 1209 Wright, has free food for the area needy from 10 a.m. to noon every Thursday.	Texaco Inc 57 1/2 + 1/2 Texas Instrument 47% + 3 1/2 TXU 43% + 3 1/2 Total Fina 69% + 1 1/2 Unocal Corp 36% + 1/2 Wal-Mart 52% + 1/2 Wal-Mart/Mexico 19% - 20% AMCAP 17.03 + .15 Europacific 30.53 - .32 Prime Rate 9.50 % Gold 272.80-274.80 Silver 4.56-4.62
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SUPPORT GROUPS

TODAY
•Turning Point A.A., 8-9:30 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 10th and Goliad. Open to all substance abusers.
•AA, 615 Settles, noon open meeting and 8 p.m. Big Book Study.
•NA 8 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1001 Goliad. Call 268-4189 (pager no.).
•Al-Anon support group, noon, 615 Settles.

SATURDAY
•Family support group for current and former patients and their families, 1 p.m. weekly. Reflections Unit of Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Call Beverly Grant, 263-0074.
•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon, 8 p.m., 10 p.m. open meetings, 615 Settles.
•West Texans Living with NA 8 p.m., St. Mary's Church, 1001 Goliad. Call 268-4189 (pager no.).

SUNDAY
•AA, 615 Settles, 11 a.m. closed meeting and 7 p.m. open meeting.
•NA 8 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1001 Goliad. Call 268-4189 (pager no.).

MARKETS

Noon quotes provided by Edward Jones & Co.

AT&T	17 1/2 + 1/2
Archer-Daniels	13 3/4 - 1/2
Atmos Energy	23 1/2 + 1/2
BP AMOCO	46 1/2 + 1/2
Chevron Corp	78 1/2 + 1/2
Compaq	15.80 + 1.10
Cornell	3 1/2 - 1/2
Dell	18 + 1/2
Du Pont	46 1/4 - 1/2
Exxon Mobil	85 1/2 + 1/2
Halliburton	37 1/2 + 1/2
IFCO Systems	3 1/2 + 1/2
IBM	88 1/2 + 6 1/2
Intel Corp	34 1/2 + 1 1/2
NUV	8 1/2 + 1/2
Patterson Ener	34 1/2 - 1/2
Pepsico Inc	48 - 1/2
Phillips Petro	53 1/2 - 1/2
SBC Comms	45 1/2 + 1/2
Sears Roebuck	32.97 + 0.08

RITZ
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THE RITZ Theatre is now playing 1st run movies
The STAR Theatre has CLOSED for the season
*Cast Away (PG-13)
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Vertical Limit (PG-13)
Daily 1:30, 4:20, 7:10 & 9:40
The Grinch (PG)
Daily 1:40, 4:30, 7:20 & 9:30


CINEMA 4
*What Women Want (PG-13)
Daily 1:20, 4:10, 7:10 & 9:50
*The Emperors New Groove (G)
Daily 1:30 & 7:30
*Dracula 2000 (R)
Daily 4:20 & 11:20
102 Dalmations (G)
Daily 4:30 & 9:30
*Miss Congeniality (PG-13)
Daily 1:40 & 7:30
*Family Man (PG-13)
Daily 1:20, 4:00, 7:00 & 9:40
ADULTS: \$6.50
\$3.25 ALL MATINEES, CHILDREN & SENIOR CITIZENS

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL
24th & Johnson 267-8288
Elder Hosea Banks, 86, died Sunday. Services are 2:00 PM, Saturday at Mount Bethel Baptist Church. Burial will follow in Trinity Memorial Park.

NALLEY-PICKLE & WELCH Funeral Home
Trinity Memorial Park and Crematory
906 Gregg St. (916) 267-6331
Latha Hill, 89, died Thursday. Graveside services will be 2:00 PM Saturday at Trinity Memorial Park.

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Aint It Nifty? Gary Mayes is Fifty!

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Injunction lifted barring race-based admissions

DALLAS (AP) — Texas public universities won a slight legal victory Thursday when a federal appeals court ruled a judge made procedural errors and evidently contradicted a 1978 U.S. Supreme Court ruling when he issued an injunction barring race-based admissions.

The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals lifted U.S. District Judge Sam Sparks' 1998 injunction, ruling he violated civil procedure by not holding a hearing or supporting it in writing. The three-judge panel also said Sparks' injunction "on its face" conflicted with the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in Bakke vs. University of California. That ruling struck down the use of racial quotas in school admissions, but did allow schools to consider race in deciding which students to accept.

While ruling that Sparks' injunction, which barred "any and all use of racial preferences," violated Bakke, the panel said there was no legal reason to overturn a prior three-judge panel's ruling in the so-called Hopwood case.

The case is named for Cheryl Hopwood, one of four would-be University of Texas law students, who sued the university claiming the law school gave preferential treatment to less-qualified Hispanic and black applicants.

"This or other subsequent panels of our court may well disagree with the (first panel's) aggressive legal reasoning ... but it cannot be said that, as a matter of law, the panel's decision is 'dead wrong.'"

Also in review of the first panel's decision, the judges said, "We cannot today reconsider that decision

with an eye toward disregarding or reversing it." Reaction to the ruling, which did not affect how Texas colleges can recruit minorities, was more subdued than other decisions in the six-year-old case.

"For a while, we thought there may have been a major victory here, but it is just another development in a long legal road that will eventually go to the Supreme Court," said UT President Larry Faulkner.

In 1996, a separate panel of the circuit court ruled in favor of the plaintiffs and determined the UT policy discriminated against whites. That ruling was allowed to stand in 1996 by the U.S. Supreme Court.

The state is also still under a subsequent 1996 opinion by former Attorney General Dan Morales who interpreted the ruling to mean no college or universi-

ty in Texas can use race in admissions and financial aid decisions without first having the state Legislature determine that there are remaining effects of past discrimination.

Sparks issued the injunction after the 1996 case was returned to him so he could award damages to the four plaintiffs. Sparks awarded them just \$1 in damages and cut their attorney's legal fees in half, to about \$775,000.

The plaintiffs appealed to the 5th Court to restore their legal fees and increase the damages in the range of the \$5 million they originally requested, and two of the students, Kenneth Elliot and David Rogers, also sought to be admitted into UT's law school.

The state used the case to challenge the injunction and reopen the affirmative action issue.

TEXAS BRIEFS

Mom delivers baby, doesn't want it

HOUSTON (AP) — A woman finished giving birth Thursday at a Houston fire station and then said she didn't want the child and left it behind.

The 28-year-old woman, driving from Belleville, west of Houston in Austin County, rang an emergency bell at a southwest Houston station about 5 a.m. and asked for help with her delivery, which already was in progress.

Paramedics completed the delivery by cutting the umbilical cord.

When the woman told firefighters she didn't want the newborn, the baby girl was taken to Texas Children's Hospital. The infant was reported in good condition and has been named Noel.

Police were summoned to the fire station, but after a few questions, the woman was allowed to leave.

A law that took effect last year prevents women from being prosecuted for abandoning a child if the child is left with an emergency medical technician, like those at the southwest Houston fire station.

Harris County Children's Protective Services officials said the woman would not face prosecution for child abandonment because she complied with the law.

"The circumstances here are very admirable that this mother went for help," spokeswoman Judy Hay said. "She didn't leave her daughter in a dangerous place or exposed to the weather."

Girl recovering after attack by dogs

PLANO (AP) — A 7-year-old Plano girl attacked by four Rottweiler dogs is recovering in a McKinney hospital.

Catalina Guajardo was bitten nearly 50 times and received more than 600 stitches after the attack Sunday in the back yard of a relatives home in Princeton.

"She told me before going into surgery that she had a guardian angel watching over her, and that everything would be OK," said Catalina Vasquez, her mother. "I think she must have had a thousand of them with her."

The dogs were owned by Mireya and Jose Villanueva, the sister and brother-in-law of Vasquez.

"The dogs were sweet with the family before," said Jose Villanueva. "We don't know what happened or why they turned."

He said each dog weighed more than 110 pounds and that they "were very strong animals."

After the dogs were restrained, Guajardo was transported to North Central Medical Center in McKinney and taken into surgery.

"When he was done, the doctor told me that it was the worst case he'd ever seen," Vasquez told The Plano Star-Courier.

The youngster was in good condition Thursday, hospital spokeswoman Sandee Fulce said. She was able to sit up and eat oatmeal, Fulce said.

The dogs were euthanized along with three puppies.

Ship slams into bridge; channel crossing closed

HOUSTON (AP) — A crane atop an oceangoing freighter slammed into a bridge over the Houston Ship Channel, injuring at least three motorists who were driving across the waterway on the loop around the city.

The Ship Channel and some lanes of the Loop 610 bridge remained closed this morning.

The crane boom's impact with the underside of the bridge left a hole at its highest point, about 135 feet above the water, police commented.

A compact pickup and a sport utility vehicle apparently smashed into debris, including concrete, that was thrust up from the north-

bound lanes Thursday night, said Houston police Officer T.L. Burnett.

"(The ship) caused a huge hole, enough to swallow a vehicle," Burnett said.

One man and one woman were transported to Ben Taub Hospital but were later released.

Another woman was taken to Memorial Hermann Hospital, where she was being evaluated, according to the Houston Chronicle's Friday editions.

No injuries were reported aboard the ship. But the vessel, the Rickmers Tianjin, was damaged by falling debris.

"The Houston pilot reported they were not able to get the ship under control,"

said Rosie Barrera, Port of Houston Authority spokeswoman.

"Subsequently, they did and went to their destination, Dock 17."

Investigators were inspecting the boat and interviewing the crew to help determine the cause of the accident.

The northbound lanes of the bridge were closed shortly after the accident. Burnett said it was uncertain when the lanes would reopen.

Southbound lanes might also have to be closed while highway engineers inspect the bridge for safety purposes, he said.

The Ship Channel also was closed Thursday night,

and it was uncertain when it would reopen, Lt. Greg DeLong of the U.S. Coast Guard said.

The Port of Houston is the world's eighth largest, ranking first in the nation in foreign tonnage and second in total tonnage.

Port police were working early Friday to arrange alternate gates where trucks can enter.

DeLong said the vessel is a bulk freight ship equipped with a crane.

Built in 1978, it is more than 650 feet long, according to a ship's registry listing.

Usually, when freight ships with cranes move through the channel, the crew lowers the cranes, DeLong said.

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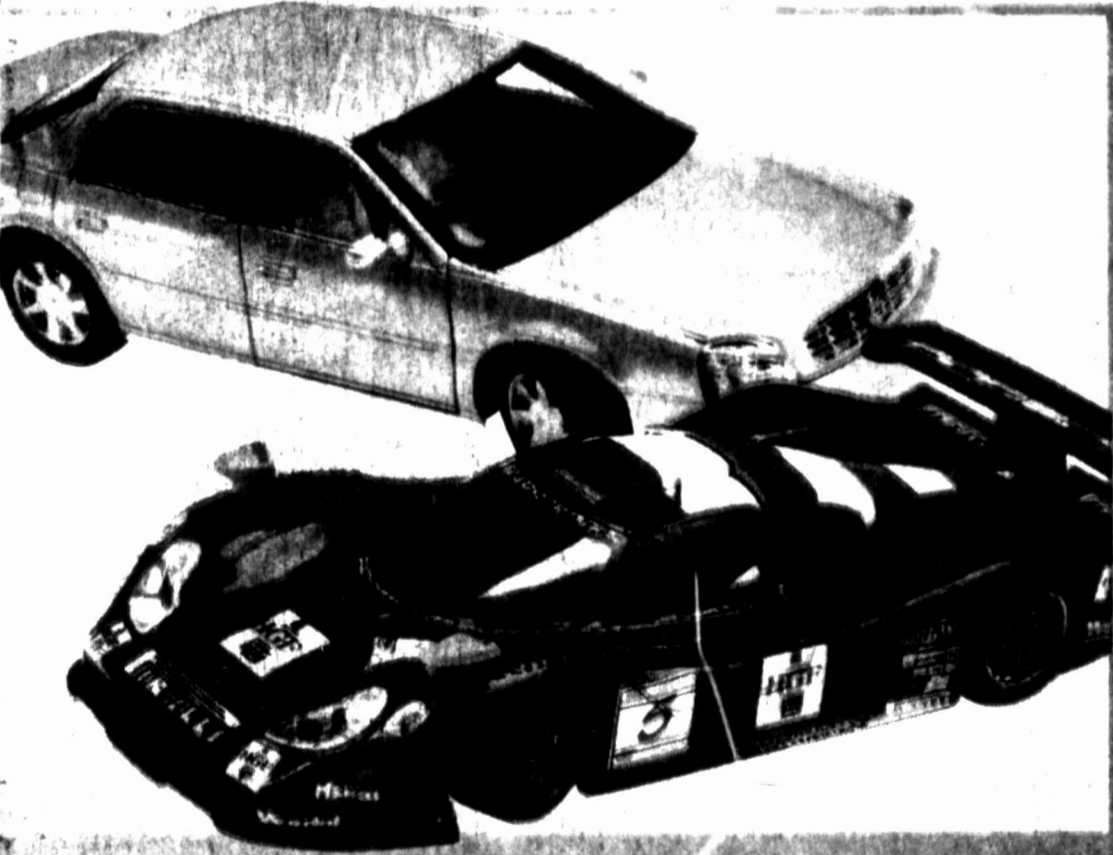


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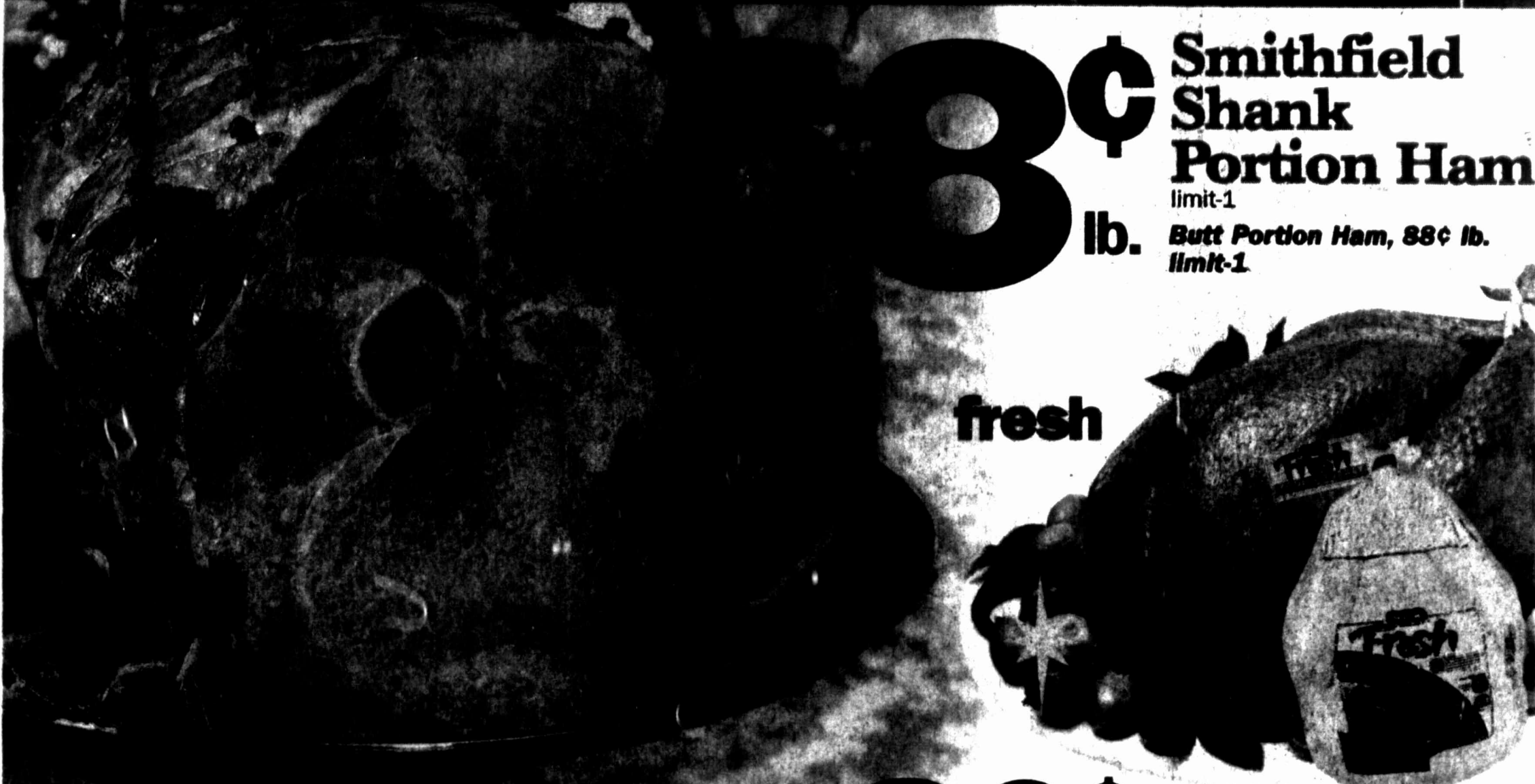
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We will be closed Christmas Day
All stores will close at 8:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve and re-open on Tuesday, December 26 at 6:00 a.m. or regular opening hours.

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 are those of the writers and those of the Editorial Board of the Big Spring Herald are those indicated.

John H. Walker
Publisher

Debbie Jensen
Features Editor

John A. Muscley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

We salute:

Each week, the *Journal* 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 our region a better place to live, work, and play.

This week we salute:

- **BOWEN HAYR**, Big Spring High School Senior named as Class 4A Defensive Player of the Year. **CLAY WHITE**, Stanton High School senior named Texas' Class 2A Defensive Player of the Year by the Associated Press.
- **SPRING TABERNACLE**, which handed out toys and clothing to approximately 30 needy families this week.
- **HARLEY** and **SCENIC MOUNTAIN MEDICAL CENTER**, which together are working to complete the Silver Jubilee project.
- **MITCHELL MOSS**, which without charge has provided a great pastor for individuals who have a hard time finding a safe place to worship on a Monday evening.
- **MEL PRATHER** and **COATS FOR KIDS** project, which has a lot of volunteers and donated clothing that has accumulated some 700 coats for the needy.
- **MOSS ELEMENTARY CHOIR**, for entertaining the community with carols last night.
- **JOAN ROOK**, elementary librarian who has served the community for many years.
- **BIG SPRING FIRE MARSHAL BURR LEA SETHLES**, who has served after 23 years with the fire department.

Is there anyone in our community that should be saluted? If so, please let us know and why you think they deserve it. We must have your name, address, phone number and you must provide a photo.

OTHER VIEWS

Secretary of State... It's clear enough that the new administration plans to engage with the world while taking care to commit resources more selectively than President Clinton did. Col. oleezza Rice, chosen by Bush as his national security adviser, has underlined that point along with Bush and Powell. But there will need to be more public discussion by administration spokesmen about U.S. means of engagement and the kind of thinking that should guide this country in determining when to take action and when not to.

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- By e-mail at either bsherald@xroadstx.com or jwalker@xroadstx.com
- By mail at P.O. Box 110, Big Spring, 79721

A little about that first Christmas

On Monday we celebrate the birthday of a man who had an

almost unimaginable effect on history. There have been other momentous figures — Alexander, Caesar, Washington, Napoleon — but their effect is nothing in comparison. And we have had great writers — Homer, Dante, Shakespeare, Proust, to name only a few. But as great as they are, their words do not have the power to dramatically change lives, as his did.



JEFFREY HART

the opening of John, which gains power from Greek philosophy, the gospel narratives are chronicles of fact, routinely set down, but his words leap from the page, a special unmistakable voice.

We know where at least some of this power comes from. Scholars have traced his phrases, a great many of them, to the prose of the Hebrew Bible, the text of which he had, by adulthood, made part of his mind. He thought, so to speak, in those texts. When he was 12, his parents, in Jerusalem for the Passover, accidentally left him in the great temple there. When they returned, they "found him ... sitting among the rabbis, at against that house; yet it did not fall because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great

crash." (Matthew 7:24-27).

While dying on the cross, for his last words, he returns to the Bible: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" This is the first line of Psalm 22, attributed to his ancestor King David.

A cry of despair? No. Those present and well-educated would have known what comes next, in Psalm 23: "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want ... Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me."

He himself does not speak these words. His witnesses there speak them silently, turning them into a prayer. By bringing David's two texts together, he has charged them with cosmic meaning.

He believed that in the texts of the Hebrew Bible, God spoke to him, and that through him, God speaks to us.

In the window of a local store here in New Hampshire, there stands a sign referring to that first Christmas. It shows Joseph

and Mary riding on two camels. It reads:

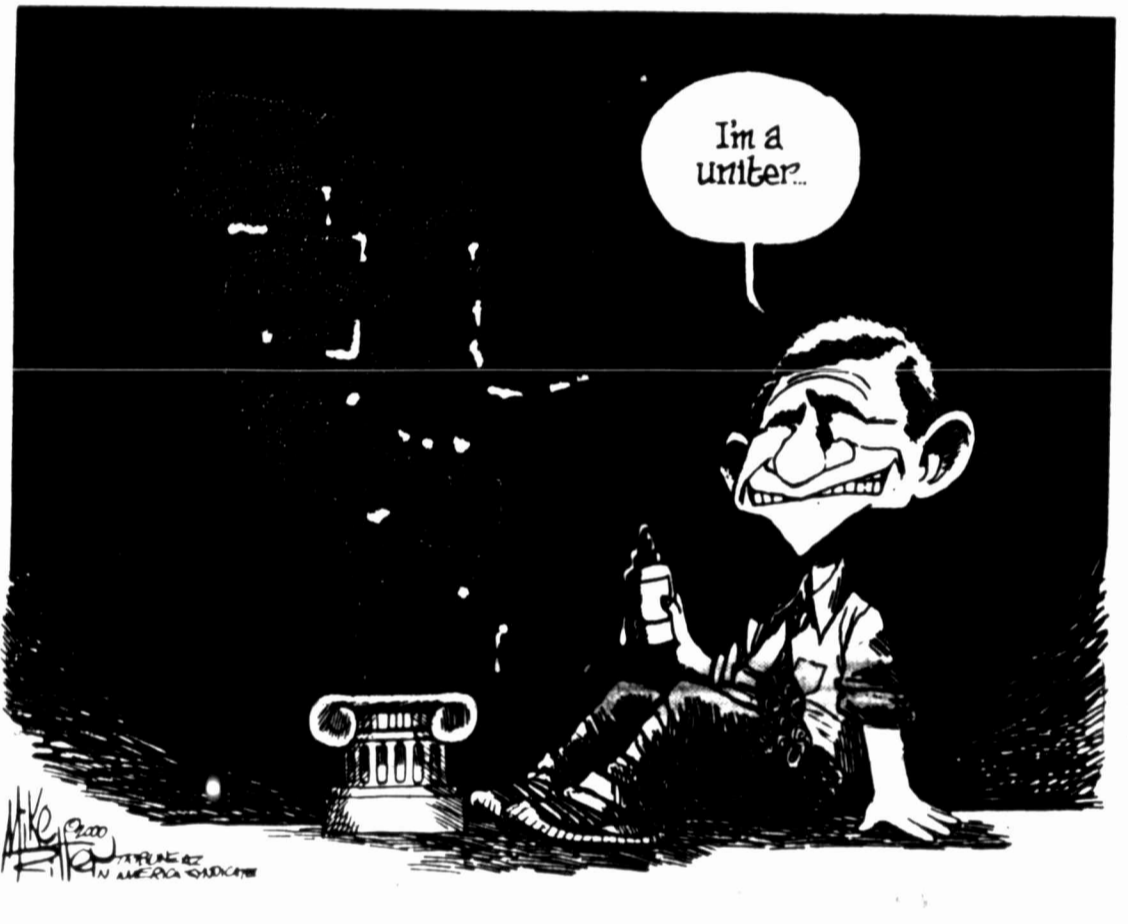
"They were poor. They were stranded travellers."

There was no room at the inn."

This is a common sentimental distortion. Joseph and Mary were not poor. He was a "carpenter" up in Nazareth, a craftsman. In those days, craftsmen were what you had, and there is no reason to think his work inferior. In Tarsus (now southern Turkey), Paul was a "tent maker" as well as a rabbi. Tents, very important on the caravan routes, could be elaborate and expensive.

Joseph and Mary were not "stranded travellers." They were exactly where they wanted to be — in Jerusalem for the census. As a descendent of King David, Joseph had to be there. The census was why the inn was full.

But they found the place, as did the Persian astrologers, who had noticed a strange conjunction of planets and stars in the sky over Bethlehem. Merry Christmas.



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- **KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON**
U.S. Senator
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Washington, 20510
Phone: 202-224-5922
- **CHARLES STENHOLM**
U.S. Representative
17th District
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Phone: Toll free 1-800-252-9600,
512-463-2000; fax 512-463-1849
- **RICK PERRY**
Lt. Governor
State Capitol
Austin, 78701 Phone: 512-463-0001; Fax: 512-463-0326
- **JAMES E. "PETE" LANEY**
Speaker of the House
State Capitol
Austin, 78701
Phone: 806-839-2478, 512-463-3000

Repercussions of Supreme Court decision

Over the years we have been asked which branch of government was the strongest, and we have answered the Supreme Court. The recent election once again proved the point, and it did so in more than one way.



JACK ANDERSON

The U.S. Supreme Court does not have the enforcement mechanisms of the executive branch, with its armed forces, FBI, etc., and it does not have the power bases of the legislative branch with its home-base constituencies. All it has are the Constitution and its credibility.

The constitutional aspect was challenged by President Andrew Jackson when he proclaimed, "Supreme Court Chief Justice John Marshall has made his decision, now let him enforce it."

This was a response to the 1832 Worcester vs. Georgia ruling in which the court declared that the state of Georgia "can have no force" on Cherokee

lands. It was a low point in American history for the executive branch. Jackson was intent upon removing Native Americans from their lands, and the Supreme Court, to its credit, tried unsuccessfully to stop him.

But the court's moral authority was sapped 25 years later by the Roger B. Taney court through its 1857 ruling on Scott v. Sanford. This was the famous Dred Scott decision, which effectively pronounced slavery to be legal throughout the nation, and that at a time when slavery was on the decline.

This decision alienated a majority of the nation and undermined the court's credibility. As a result, when civil war broke out four years later, President Abraham Lincoln assumed near-dictatorial powers (including imprisonment without evidence of suspected sympathizers with the South) because the Taney court was virtually ignored.

That moral authority was further undermined in the 1896 Plessy vs. Ferguson case, which pronounced the theory of "separate but equal" to be the law of the land, a pronouncement that legalized segregation. The decision was overturned by

the Earl Warren court in the landmark 1954 Brown vs. Board of Education case, which once again established the court as the credible conscience of the nation and defender of the Constitution.

Now the William Rehnquist court has once again undermined the Supreme Court's authority by deciding on a 5-4 vote who would become the next president. There is no debate that this was done, only why. But more important is what impact the decision will have on the future of the court, the Constitution and the country.

History will certainly not judge this as one of the court's finest hours. Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., said "At the end of the day, perhaps the greatest damage has been done to the Supreme Court ...". Indeed, the dissents of four justices were so stinging that there will be little doubt left in the minds of future generations that the court had degenerated into crass political partisanship. The nation most certainly will decide that it can never again risk such a decision.

What will the immediate impact be? A 50-50 Senate is empowered by the Constitution to consent to

any Supreme Court appointment, so Democrats are not likely to continue the tradition of allowing the president, within reason, to appoint justices who share his philosophy. And this is good. For too long the legislative branch has abrogated this constitutional power, so senators may yet turn the court back into a balanced institution.

Next, Justice Antonin Scalia may have to remain content not being the chief justice. As the most blatantly political of the justices during the Bush decision, it is unlikely that Senate Democrats would go along with his promotion.

Then there is the Constitution. Clearly, our election laws and the provisions in the Constitution need fixing. The Supreme Court's behavior has made it clear that judicial involvement in elections should be minimized. We have recommended retention of the Electoral College on the Maine-Nebraska basis, where electors are allocated by congressional districts, which would greatly reduce the likelihood of either an electoral tie or judicial intrusion, thereby forcing Congress and the Supreme Court to keep their distance.

Mallard Fillmore by BRUCE TINSLEY

More parting Christmas gift ideas for Bill!

"The Presidency, The Home Game"

"BOMB AFRICAN ASPIRIN FACTORY, MOVE FORWARD THREE SPACES... WOOOOO PIG SCOOOOOY!"

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S L I C E of l i f e !

God's unconditional love is His gift to all of the world

It's a familiar story. Caesar Augustus called a census. Everyone went to their home towns to register. Mary and Joseph made the difficult 90-mile trip from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Mary's due date drew near. Bethlehem was packed with people. There was no vacancy for the at the inn. So Mary delivers her child in a cave alongside the animals, wraps Him in strips of cloth and puts Him down to sleep in an animals' feed box. At that very moment the



STEVE STUTZ

fields of Bethlehem are lit with the glory of God. Angels from heaven appear. They proclaimed the good news of great joy and praised God. The shepherds left their flocks in the fields and ran to Bethlehem to see Him. They worshiped Him and told others about him. Mary ponders everything in her heart.

We are familiar with the contours of the story. We know most of its lines by heart. When we say "swaddling cloths" we automatically think Christmas. The story is retold year after year in Christmas carols and pageants and displays.

As familiar as the story is, it isn't necessarily central to Christmas, however. Although the story may be a familiar one, those tidings of comfort and joy aren't necessarily central in what many people celebrate

as Christmas. The birthday bash has become so big, we've largely forgotten whose birth it is we are celebrating.

Imagine a gift, lying under the Christmas tree, with a tag that reads simply, "To you." No name on it, just "to you." Anyone who saw it, bent down, and picked it up could say, "This one's for me." That's what the tag on this baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a Bethlehem manger reads. It says, "To you, from God."

Here, lying in the manger, is God's unconditional love for you. Before you knew to ask for a Savior, God sent one. Before you knew to ask for a Christ, He gave you one. Here is a Child conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary. Here, wrapped in swaddling

cloths, is God's gift to you.

It is a gift that will outlast all the others. This Child will give to you what you need, when you need it the most — when you are oppressed with guilt, when you are pressed down by your past, when you wonder who you are and why you exist, when you fear for your life, in the hour of your death.

This little One is born to save you from your sins, to deliver you from your death, to redeem you from the Law and the wrath of God.

We deserve hell, yet God brings down heaven. We deserve fire and brimstone, yet God sends a baby. Don't be afraid, says the angel. Look at this child's face, and see the face of God come down to save you.

The shepherds heard the preaching of the angel.

They heard the "to you" of the angel's announcement, left their work and ran to Bethlehem to worship at the manger.

We can't come to Bethlehem, but even if we could, we wouldn't find Christ there. But Bethlehem can come to us. The Church is the place where He makes His dwelling in a world that has no place for Him. The Word is His manger.

The One who slept in a manger, hung on a cross, rose from the dead and sits at the Father's right hand, is mangled for us in the mouth of His preacher, in the water of His Baptism, in the bread and wine of His Supper.

There you find Him, wrapped in the swaddling cloths of humility.

Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy

that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord."

The angel speaks to us today.

The angel speaks for God when he announces that the Messiah is now born among us.

God Says, "I made a promise to David long ago. I promised an everlasting kingdom. Today that promise is fulfilled. I have sent my Messiah among you as a diaper-clad king. Through my son I offer you my kingdom. I offer you rest from life's trials. I offer you life in my kingdom. I offer you, this day, eternal life. It is yours. Now. It's my Christmas gift to you."

Steve Stutz is pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church.

Survey shows churches are embracing the Internet

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Internet is often stereotyped as dehumanizing, solitary and secular, but don't tell that to the many churches that use mostly home-made Web sites to reach out to new members and keep their own congregations talking.

In the first study of its kind, the Pew Internet and American Life Project surveyed the online habits of over a thousand congregations to see to what extent they're using the Internet to further their religious work.

Project director Lee Rainie said he was surprised by the results, given the conventional wisdom that says the Internet caters to young, libertarian technophiles.

"We found the exact opposite," Rainie said. "These traditional faith-based organizations were embracing modern technologies for their own purposes. For these people, there was a quite joyous level of communication."

Just as consumers use the Web to shop for goods, Rainie found people were using the Internet to shop for churches, too.

Many of the sites feature virtual tours of the grounds. Webcast their services and post sermons and church bulletins.

"For strangers coming into a church," Rainie said, "it can sometimes be a daunting experience." He said the Web sites let new people into the communities, giving them a taste of what it's like to be there.

The Web site of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America caters especially to new members, letting visitors type in their ZIP code to find Lutheran churches in their neighborhood.

The St. Stephen Catholic Church in Valrico, Fla., has a Web site that features an e-mail directory of congregation members, a virtual tour and electronic religious

See INTERNET, Page 8A



Kenny Scott, left, Burr Lea Settles, fire marshal, and Cecil Cevallos of the Big Spring Fire Department visit at Settles' retirement reception held at the city council chambers on Wednesday. Settles is retiring after 23 years of service.

CHURCH NEWS

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Plan to take advantage of special holiday opportunities to share with others who Jesus Christ and His message of eternal life. In that stable almost 2000 years ago lay a baby; God became man to die for us. If God loves us that much, shouldn't we share that love with everyone, everywhere?

A special Advent Family Service will be held this Saturday evening, Dec. 23, at 5:30. The topic will be "ADVENT ANGELS-Heaven's Angle."

God's ways are not our ways. His plans are not our plays. A tiny baby. A small town. A manger. Heaven's glory revealed to shepherds. We may wonder, "What was God thinking?" God reveals Himself in unexpected ways to people we would not expect. Where has God revealed His presence in your life? God speaks through words written centuries ago. God is present in

bread and wine and water. During this Advent season we rejoice in the presence of the Lord Jesus in our earthly lives, and eagerly await His second Advent, when He will return and take us to heaven to live with Him for all eternity.

Refreshments will be served following the service. Everyone is invited! We also welcome you to join us this Sunday morning, Dec. 24, for worship at 10 a.m. (one service only and no Sunday School). Sunday evening is the annual Children's Christmas Worship service at 6 p.m.

Celebrate with us on Monday morning, Dec. 25, at the Christmas Festival Worship at 10.

The Festival of Carols was held this past Sunday evening. Thank you Angela and everyone who helped her make it a wonderful night of singing traditional Christmas carols along with other special music, readings, and skits that remind us the "reason for the season!"

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."

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

Baptist Temple Church

We would like to remind everyone that we will have one Christmas Eve service on Sunday, Dec. 24, beginning at 10 a.m. and no Wednesday evening services on Dec. 27. Services will resume at the normal time on Sunday, Dec. 31, this will be the fifth Sunday of the month which means we will have a lunch fellowship after the services and then our "Fifth Sunday Sing" will follow at 1:30. Please come and be a part of this fun time of fellowship.

If you are looking for a good Bible study come and join us on Sunday morning at 9:30. We offer classes for all ages as well as special interest groups. This fall we began new classes for college students and a class for single adults. A New Members class will begin in Jan. These are just a few of the good things that await

you at Baptist Temple as we worship the risen Christ together.

For more information on the church or any of these events, call 267-8287.

First Baptist Church

Sunday morning, Wade Cobb will be preaching for the morning worship service which begins at 10:45 a.m. You are welcome to come and worship with us at this time. Sunday evening, you are also invited to attend our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 6 p.m. Come celebrate the season with us at First Baptist Church, 705 W. FM 700. Merry Christmas to you!

Forsan Baptist Church

Merry Christmas from our family to yours. Join the Forsan Baptist Church family this Sunday morning for our Christmas Eve Service beginning at 10:50 a.m. We will have special music that will encourage and bless you. Pastor Jeff Janca will share a Christmas Message from God's Word.

Forsan Baptist Church is

located at 201 West Main Street in Forsan. If you would like more information about the church, or would like a free New Testament please call the church at 457-2342.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church Christmas Week activities at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1001 Goliad, will begin with an all-Parish Christmas Caroling and party following. We will meet at the Parish Hall at 5:30 on Friday, Dec. 22, for caroling. Everyone is invited.

St. Mary's will once more have a traditional candlelight Christmas Eve service. The service will begin with a special time of Lessons and Carols, and will include the Holy Communion. It begins at 10:30 p.m. on Dec. 24.

Guest musicians include Joyce Bradley-Soprano, and Mary Francis Malone-Harp. On Christmas Day Holy communion will begin at 10:30 a.m.

For more information, contact the Rev. James See CHURCH NEWS, Page 8A

CLUB NEWS

1948 Hyperion Club

The 1948 Hyperion Club had its annual Christmas luncheon in the beautiful mountain top home of Robert and Mary Miller. A lively gift exchange preceded the elegant seated luncheon prepared and served by co hostesses Mary Miller and Jan Foresyth.

Following the meal, the 18 guests in attendance were given a tour of the new home which was beautifully decorated for the holidays.

The Mighty Oaks

The Mighty Oaks Club met on Dec. 15, at the senior citizens center.

Pat Wyrick, president, opened the brief business meeting with pray. No dues were collected, instead \$1

donation by each member was given to the senior center.

Idabelle Bankston handed out new roosters that she had made showing current address and phone number of each member.

Amendments discussed at the last meeting were voted on an accepted. Names of new officers taken office in Jan. 2000 were read.

The minutes of the October and November meetings were read by the secretary and accepted as read. Latrice Davis read minutes of last executive board meeting and they were accepted.

Corrections for November meeting for date and time and amount for purchases of gifts were made. The telephone committee advised member of these changes.

Other business was mentioned but tabled until our January meeting.

Joy Fortenberry, treasurer.

SLICE of life!

RELIGION IN THE NEWS

CINCINNATI (AP) — Christmas as a legal holiday was challenged at a hearing in the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, which also heard arguments against Ohio's state motto, "With God All Things Are Possible."

In the Christmas case, Richard Ganulin, a city attorney filing as a private citizen, contended the national holiday violates the constitutional separation of church and state by giving government approval to a "sectarian celebration."

Boyce Martin Jr., one of three judges hearing the case, told Ganulin he must show how nonbelievers are harmed. "You don't have to celebrate Christmas. You can ignore it," Martin told Ganulin, who had a Jewish upbringing.

A U.S. Justice Department lawyer urged the judges to uphold a lower court decision that threw out Ganulin's suit.

In the state motto case, the full panel of judges is reviewing a three-judge decision last April that outlawed the God motto on church-state grounds.

COMBATING RACISM

WASHINGTON (AP) — A broad coalition of U.S. religious leaders has issued a statement calling racism "an evil that must be eradicated from the institutional structures that shape our daily lives, including our houses of worship."

The endorsers represented, among others, the Roman Catholic bishops, National Council of Churches, Southern Baptist Convention, Greek Orthodox archdiocese, National Congress of Black Churches, Judaism's three major branches, national Muslim organizations and Native American religions.

SEE IT AGAIN

THE 22ND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE of First United Methodist Church's Living Christmas Tree will be aired on Cox Cable channel 10 on Saturday at 7 pm.

CHURCH NEWS

Continued from Page 7A

Liggett, Rector of St. Mary's. The office phone is 267-8201.

First Presbyterian Church

First Presbyterian Church will hold morning worship service at 10 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 24. There will be no Sunday School or Take Ten this Sunday only. Diane Brown, minister, will speak on the topic entitled "A Time for Singing." The text will be taken from Luke 1:67-69.

A Candlelight Communion Service will be held at 7 p.m. Christmas Eve in the Sanctuary. The topic for the candlelight service is "Lessons, Carols, and Candles."

The whole community is invited to join us for this special day in our church year. Everyone is always welcome at First Presbyterian Church.

First Church of God

The First Church of God, 2009 Main in Big Spring, will have a Christmas Cantata at 10:45 a.m., Dec. 24.

The Christmas Eve Service will be held at 6:30 p.m. Come and hear Pastor Darrell Hendrickson read the Christmas Story.

First Assembly of God

First Assembly of God will have special "Christmas

Eve" services this Sunday. In the 10:40 a.m. service there will be a great celebration of worship honoring the Birth of the savior with special musical selections. Pastor Havener will bring a message on "The Wonderful Jesus". The Prophet Isaiah in chapter nine verse six speaks of Jesus 700 years before His birth and tells of the "Incarnation" and calls Him "Wonderful".

The evening service will be a "Candle Light Communion Service" from 6 to 7 p.m. The public is invited to these services at the First Assembly of God located at Fourth and Lancaster.

First Christian Church

First Christian will host a

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 6 p.m., this Sunday. Everyone is invited to come and share favorite Christmas stories and holiday traditions. Dr. Jimmy Watson will tell the Christmas story, "He'd Come Here." The communion table will be open for all.

On Sunday morning, Dr. Watson's sermon will be "The Fruit of the Womb." What would the world be like today without the fruit of Mary's womb? Likewise, what would the world be like without the fruit of your mother's womb? Come and enjoy the lighting of the Advent candles, inspirational music, and historical accounts of the beginnings of some of our favorite Christmas carols.

First Christian is in need of a nursery worker for Sunday morning. If you are interested please call the church office at 267-7851.

East Side Baptist Church

Merry Christmas from the East Side Baptist Church. Everyone is invited to attend our Christmas Eve services at 10:15 a.m. and 3 p.m.

We will be having a Christmas Day service at 10 a.m. Remember to include Jesus in your Christmas celebration, after all it is His Birthday!

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish

There will be no morning

masses for the fourth Sunday of Advent.

There will be two masses on Saturday, Dec. 23, at 4 and 6 p.m.

On Christmas Eve the Children's Nativity Pageant will be held at the 5:30 p.m. mass.

Midnight Mass begins with the Service of Carols at 11:25 p.m.

Christmas Day Mass will be at 10:30 a.m., and the New Years Day Mass will be at 10:30 a.m.

First United Methodist Church

The 22nd annual performance of First United Methodist Church's Living Christmas Tree will be aired on Cox Cable channel 10 on Saturday at 7 p.m.

INTERNET

Continued from Page 7A

greeting cards.

"I always just refer people to the site," said Bernadette Kalle, office manager at the parish near St. Petersburg, Fla.

Some congregations have stretched into realms that even large companies are hesitant to try, like live Webcasting.

The Kol Tikvah synagogue in Woodland Hills, Calif., broadcasts its services live on the Web and has a video archive of holiday sermons.

Rainie's group surveyed 1,309 wired congregations, with 83 percent of respondents saying their church's use of the Internet helped congregational life.

Ministers and rabbis were also contacted to see how they use the Web.

"A striking number of the clergy at these churches have turned to the Internet to get material for sermons, worship services, church-education programs and their own personal devotions," said Elena Larson, who wrote the report. "They use the Internet just as many others do — they treat it as a vast library in which to hunt for material that matters most to them."

Most of the sites are made by congregations members, Rainie said.

"It's pretty simple stuff," he said. "It's not real fancy, but it helps them stay connected with each other and extend their good works into the world."

The congregations responded to an e-mail request from the survey authors and filled out a questionnaire online.

On the Net: Pew Internet and American Life Project: <http://www.pewinternet.org>

Kol Tikvah synagogue: <http://koltikvah.org>



Kentwood students, from left, Aaron Arispe, Jennifer Castlaw and Zach Booth, visit with their principal Dee Owen as she sits on the back of a Harley Davidson with Mike Graves. Owen dressed in "biker gear" and rode a Harley around the schoolyard to reward the kids for meeting their accelerated reader goal of 5,000 points.

Muslims never sure what day to celebrate

CHICAGO (AP) — While others are relaxing over the Christmas holiday, 1,000-plus employees of a vast arena near Chicago's O'Hare Airport will be standing by in case of a last-minute telephone summons to report to work early the next morning. The reason: 20,000 Muslims will gather for a festival at the arena, and nobody will know until the night before whether it will happen Dec. 26 or 27 — all because of religious tradition.

"It's kind of a hassle," acknowledges Maureen Dieball of the Donald Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont, Ill., site of the biggest such festival ever organized by Chicago-area Muslims.

The Eid al-Fitr, or Feast of

Fast Breaking, is a community gathering that combines prayer with elements of Thanksgiving (banqueting) and Christmas (gift-giving).

One of two obligatory festivals established by the Prophet Muhammad, the Eid celebrates the end of Ramadan, the holy month when adult believers renew their devotion to God and abstain from food and drink from sunrise to sunset.

That much is certain; what's always a last-minute affair is fixing the Eid date. "The world laughs at Muslims. We cannot make a reliable calendar," laments a commentator on the www.ummah.net Web site.

North American Muslim leaders are determined to eventually change that and

fit the needs of modern life, applying science to ancient tradition. They made progress toward that goal at a summit meeting last month.

The date of the Eid is based on Hadith, authoritative traditions about Muhammad's practices. The prophet taught that the Eid comes the morning after the end of Ramadan has been confirmed by nighttime sighting of the new moon. The crescent eventually became a universal symbol of Islam.

Muslims traditionally follow that literally and recognize only actual visual sightings rather than astronomical calculations, so the date is not known in advance.

CLUB NEWS

Continued from Page 7A

er, gave the treasurer report and it was approved.

Eighteen members and two guest attended. Eileen Zant, guest of Joyce Walker, and Mamie Madry, guest of Leroy Day, were welcomed.

Our party and exchange of gifts while Helen Green played beautiful Christmas music was fun. Also Vera

Covington gave a rendition of a Night Before Christmas. Pat Wyrick gave a fun reading of things to be thankful for and the tables were beautifully decorated by Cletha Clanton.

A delicious turkey dinner and fellowship was enjoyed as we admired our gifts.

The meeting was adjourned and Pat Wyrick dismissed us in prayer.



Mary Christmas.

Celebrate the true spirit of Christmas by remembering that God's son was born to Mary. Such a marvelous gift Mary held in her arms and that we hold in our hearts. Mary Christmas. Merry Christmas.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

Christmas Eve Service
10:30 PM December 24

Christmas Day Communion—10:30 AM

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IN B

Sign-ups c for YMCA
Registrati under way basketball p Big Spring F Boys and the ages of eligible to p \$20 for non-\$15 for m scholarships and no you turned awa inability to The deadli is Friday. Practices week of Jan will be Saturdays b 20. For more call the YMC

Area coac to transmi
The Heral Crossroads ball coaches provided co varsity sche ters for the son to do so possible. Rosters a can be faxed tion of John 264-7205.

ACS now Texas Gol
The Ame Society is a the Texas C entitles hol than 680 rou 289 courses the state. The passe and procee program Cancer Socie education patient serv Both the Country Comanche Course are in the progr forms are av two courses. For more call 1-800- check the site at www

Fastpitch umpires n
Umpires a work high s games thro Texas, ad Permian B Umpires AS cials. Th use inte working gar Andrews, Coahoma, Fort Greenwood Kermit, Lan Monahans, and Snyder For more call Mack C 520-5961.

Alou says to stay w
HOUSTON Houston AS Moises Alou hoping for extension a the final ye rent deal w He told Houston th deal is his now. "I had t leave Hous for the wor last year, that down from his Dominican "That tells of commit with the AS Alou fini the Nation hitting last

ON T

Televisi COLLEGE B
Men 6 p.m. — Syracuse, E 8 p.m. — Kentucky, E Women 7 p.m. — Texas, FXS

IN BRIEF

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 Saturdays beginning Jan. 20.

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

Area coaches asked to transmit schedules

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

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

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 from the program 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 and order forms are available at the two courses.

For more information, call 1-800-ACS-2345 or check the society's web site at www.acs-tx.org

Fastpitch softball umpires needed

Umpires are needed to work high school softball games throughout West Texas, according to Permian Basin Softball Umpires Association officials.

If interested in working games in Alpine, Andrews, Big Spring, Coahoma, Colorado City, Fort Stockton, Greenwood, Hermleigh, Kermit, Lamesa, Midland, Monahans, Odessa, Pecos and Snyder.

For more information, call Mack Gipson at (915) 520-5961.

Alou says he wants to stay with Astros

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston Astros outfielder Moises Alou said he is hoping for a contract extension as he heads into the final year of his current deal with the club. He told KRIV in Houston that a long-term deal is his top goal right now.

"I had the chance to leave Houston and play for the world champions last year, and I turned that down," Alou said from his home in the Dominican Republic. "That tells you what kind of commitment I do have with the Astros."

Alou finished second in the National League in hitting last season.

ON THE AIR

Television COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Men
6 p.m. — Tennessee at Syracuse, ESPN, Ch. 30.
8 p.m. — Indiana at Kentucky, ESPN, Ch. 30.

Women
7 p.m. — Tennessee at Texas, FXS, Ch. 29.

UNLV rolls to 31-14 win over Arkansas in Las Vegas Bowl

LAS VEGAS (AP) — The last two years have been sweet for coach John Robinson at UNLV. Jason Thomas could make the next two years even better.

Thomas helped Robinson turn around a once hapless UNLV program in just Robinson's second year in this gambling city, finishing the season off Thursday night with three touchdown passes in a 31-14 win over Arkansas in the Las Vegas Bowl.

It was a near flawless performance for the sophomore quarterback, who only figures to improve as he gets more experience.

"Jason Thomas is on his way to being one of the great players," Robinson said.

Thomas passed only 17 times, but completed 12, including a 54-yard strike in the third quarter that put UNLV ahead for good in its hometown bowl. He was calm and efficient in running an offense that scored four touchdowns against a defense that hadn't allowed any in its two previous games.

It was almost enough to make Arkansas coach Houston Nutt wish his team hadn't scheduled UNLV for its opening game next year.

"We can't wait to continue it next

year, and we are looking forward to bigger and better things," Thomas said. "This is just the beginning for us."

UNLV dominated the second half, holding Arkansas (6-6) scoreless to win for the fourth straight game and finish the season 8-5.

Thomas threw only six passes in the second half, but one of them was the long touchdown pass that put UNLV ahead for good. He didn't need to throw much, since UNLV's speedy running backs were ripping off chunks of yardage through holes in the Arkansas defense.

Jeremi Rudolph ran for 92 yards,

and Kevin Brown rushed for 78 and a touchdown. UNLV had 259 yards rushing.

"They took over the second half," Arkansas quarterback Robby Hampton said. They had dangerous backs and created big holes in our line."

Fans who didn't go near the UNLV stadium when the team was in the midst of a 16-game losing streak tore down a goalpost as UNLV celebrated its turnaround in two seasons under Robinson.

"I'm not the guy who did this," Robinson said, pointing to his players. "It's them."

Steers' Bowe Butler tabbed 4A defensive player of year

Frenship's Briles top offensive pick again

From staff and wire reports

Just how good was the level of play in District 4-4A?

Associated Press Sports Writers seemed to think it may have been the state's best after tabbing Big Spring Steers linebacker Bowe Butler and Frenship Tigers quarterback Kendal Briles for the top individual awards in their balloting for the Class 4A AP All-State Football Team.

Butler, who singled out as Class 4A defensive player of the year and earned a first-team all-state berth, admitted being surprised by the honor.

Admitting that he'd personally set a goal to earn all-state honors, the 6-foot-1, 210-pound senior middle linebacker said he'd never expected to be named the team's defensive MVP.

"This is really a nice surprise," Butler said after being informed of the honor by his father, Dwight Butler, the Steers' head football coach. "I wasn't a high profile player on a high profile team, so I didn't expect to get that kind of recognition. But this is definitely nice."

Butler, who was named the defensive MVP on the District 4-4A all-district team, led the Steers in tackling with 240 stops to his credit. Of that total, 42 were solo tackles and 13 were for a loss. He also racked up three quarterback sacks, blocked three punts, caused five fumbles and recovered five fumbles.

"That's a pretty nice early Christmas present," Dwight Butler said. "This is not only great for Bowe and our family, but our football team and the entire community."

"We don't normally get this kind of attention in Big Spring," he explained. "This certainly is one of the most pleasant shocks I've had in a long, long time."



HERALD photo/Bruce Schooler

Big Spring linebacker Bowe Butler (9) fights off the block of a Canyon opponent and helps bring down an Eagles running back during the Steers' 35-14 bi-district playoff win on Nov. 18 in Lubbock. Butler, a 6-foot-1, 210-pound senior, chalked up 240 tackles and was named the Associated Press Sports Editors Class 4A defensive player of the year.

The elder Butler also acknowledged that Briles' repeat as offensive player of the year, coupled with Andrews defensive lineman Jayme Jackson's selection to the all-state team's first unit, reinforced his contention that District 4-4A was one of the toughest in the state.

"We knew all along that the quality in our district was very good from top to bottom... knew it long before the season ever started... this just bears that out," said Butler, whose Steers posted their best finish in a decade by reaching the Class 4A regional semifinals before being eliminated by then No. 1-ranked Wichita Falls.

"Come to think of it, I can't remember the last time the offensive and defensive players of the year both came from the same district," he added.

"And for both of them to be from West Texas... that may never have happened before."

Big Spring fullback Jason Woodruff earned honorable mention as both a running back and as a kicker.

Even though Briles wore a different uniform this season, the standout quarterback still stood out as the state's best.

Briles, who guided Stephenville to the Class 4A state championship as a junior, earned his second straight Class 4A offensive player of the year.

Briles completed 93 of 161 passes (58 percent) for 2,054 yards with 21 touchdowns and just three interceptions. He also had 91 rushing attempts for 765 yards (8.4 yards per carry) and 11 touchdowns.

"Kendal has a rare blend of quickness, speed and strength that is only found

in a few top athletes," said Frenship coach Bobby Davis.

Briles was also the only repeat player on the first-team 4A all-state team.

The 11th annual APSE team was chosen by sports writers around the state, based upon players' regular-season performance. Nominees were selected during the season, and balloting was conducted during the playoffs.

Three teams had more than one player make first-team all-state in 4A. They were Wichita Falls with four players — two senior offensive linemen and two defensive linemen — West Orange-Stark with two defensive players, and Bay City with one player on each side of the ball.

Wichita Falls made it to the Class 4, Division II

See ALL-STATE, page 2B

Moon brings remarkable career to end

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — After passing for more than 70,000 yards and helping erase the ignorant notion that black quarterbacks can't win, Warren Moon is bringing his remarkable career to a close.

Moon, a likely Hall of Famer, never got to play on a Super Bowl team — his biggest disappointment in a 23-year odyssey that spanned two countries, five franchises and a revolutionary change in attitude among the men who rule the NFL.

But at least a half-dozen young black quarterbacks around the league could be in the Super Bowl as early as next month. And many of them have sought out their aging idol to thank him personally for showing the world that nimble black men could make good leaders and sound decisions as well as nifty plays.

Tampa Bay had taken Doug Williams of Grambling in the first round in 1978, the year Moon graduated from Washington. But much skepticism remained, especially regarding black quarterbacks who scrambled around and threw on the run, like Moon.

"I think I had a hand in the change," said Moon, who spent the first six years of his career in Canada.

"I only feel that way because those guys have told me that. It's good to know I can take a little credit for that. You're seeing the emergence of the black quarterback today because teams want a more athletic guy who can move around against zone blitzes and the speed of defensive guys."

Moon's playing career will end Sunday perhaps without his even getting in the game.

The man who was always known for his quick release and beautiful tight spiral will be the third-string quarterback for Kansas City in Atlanta.

He's hardly played a lick these past two years after signing to be Elvis Grbac's backup. But the record book will show that in the history of the NFL, only Dan Marino (61,361) and John Elway (51,475) threw for more yards than Moon's.

See MOON, page 3B

Wake Forest extends Temple's early season spiral

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sixth-ranked Wake Forest gave Temple plenty of respect, then handed the Owls another loss.

Reserve Craig Dawson led a balanced attack as the visiting Demon Deacons extended their best start in four seasons and prolonged Temple's early season struggles on Thursday night.

Dawson scored a career-best 23 points in 23 minutes, one of three scorers in double figures, as the Demon Deacons beat undermanned Temple 73-65 and extended their winning streak to 15 straight, extending back to last season.

"I felt confident out there, and we approached it like they were Duke or Kansas," Dawson said.

Wake Forest is 10-0 this season for the first time since starting 13-0 in Tim Duncan's senior season four years ago. The Demon Deacons held

their 17th straight opponent to 40 percent shooting or less and extended the second-longest winning streak in the country, which dates back to last season's NIT championship run. Michigan State has won 20 in a row.

The Owls continued to struggle while playing one of the most difficult schedules in the country. Temple lost its seventh straight, the longest losing streak in coach John Chaney's 19 seasons.

In other games involving Top 25 teams, No. 3 Stanford defeated No. 1 Duke 84-83; No. 5 Illinois beat Missouri 86-81 in overtime; No. 13 Southern Cal defeated BYU-Hawaii 86-74; No. 17 Alabama topped Washington 69-60; No. 21 Notre Dame upended Vermont 96-86; No. 22 Cincinnati edged Clemson 38-30; and No. 24 Mississippi outlasted Southern Illinois 70-66.

Dawson, a junior, credits his

workouts with his uncle — NBA All-Star, Jerry Stackhouse — of the Detroit Pistons with his improved play.

"I worked out with Jerry in Detroit over the summer, and it really helped me prepare for this season," said Dawson, who leads the team in scoring with a 15.8 average, despite not starting. "He taught me there's a lot to learn in basketball."

Robert O'Kelley scored 20 points, Darius Songaila added 17 and Josh Shoemaker had 10 rebounds for Wake Forest.

Lynn Greer tied a career-high with 25 points for the Owls.

No. 3 Stanford 84, No. 1 Duke 83

Casey Jacobsen banked in a jumper with 3.6 seconds left and finished with 26 points as Stanford erased an 11-point deficit in the

final four minutes at the Pete Newell Challenge in Oakland, Calif.

Jason Collins had 10 points and 15 rebounds and his twin brother, Jarron, added 16 points and six rebounds for Stanford.

Shane Battier and Jason Williams each scored 26 points for Duke, which shot just 29 percent in the second half.

No. 5 Illinois 86, Missouri 81

Frank Williams got the last basket in regulation and scored six of his 18 points in overtime as Illinois won its fifth straight and ended Missouri's three-game winning streak in the annual neutral-site game played in St. Louis.

Brian Cook had a career-high 25 points and 11 rebounds for Illinois.

Clarence Gilbert had 23 points and Kareem Rush scored a season low 11 points for Missouri.

DECEMBER 22, 2000

Venus Williams inks richest endorsement deal with Reebok

NEW YORK (AP) — In April, when her five-year, \$12 million endorsement deal with Reebok expired, Venus Williams was struggling with a wrist injury, and the company was consolidating.

Shortly after that, things turned around for both of them. Williams embarked on a 35-match winning streak that included victories at Wimbledon, the U.S. Open and the Olympics, and Reebok rebounded.

That created the perfect environment for a new contract, a reported five-year, \$40 million deal believed to be the richest endorsement contract ever for a woman athlete.

"I won't deny the reports that have been put out there," said Angel Martinez, chief marketing officer for Reebok. "If the reports were far off base, I'd be jumping up and down and would let you know that."

Martinez was not jumping up and down.

Huge endorsement deals are rare in women's sports. Monica Seles signed a five-year, \$25 million deal with Nike after returning to the women's tennis tour in 1996. Martina Hingis has a six-year Nike contract that pays close to \$30 million.

Nike also has endorsement agreements with Mia Hamm, Lindsay Davenport, Lisa Leslie and

Marion Jones. All of them are substantially lower than the deals for male athletes. The company has a reported \$100 million deal with Tiger Woods, and Michael Jordan's annual endorsement income is about \$40 million.

Among women athletes, Anna Kournikova might have the richest deal of all, a six-year contract with Adidas worth \$50 million. But that agreement only guarantees about \$3 million a year and requires reaching many incentives, including Grand Slam victories and high rankings for a player who has yet to win her first tournament.

Donna Lopiano, executive director of the Women's Sports Foundation, congratulated Williams on the landmark deal.

"There is no doubt that this endorsement agreement represents the largest such commitment to any female athlete," she said. "This is an important precedent for women's sports that announces a new era in the corporate valuing of the female athlete."

David Bober, who represents Hamm, agreed.

"That's a pretty significant contract for a female athlete," he said. "It can only help shorten the gap between male and female athletes on endorsements."

Celtics no longer a walkover for Knicks

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

For the past 7 1/2 years, the New York Knicks could always count on one thing: Whenever the Boston Celtics came to Madison Square Garden, the Knicks would emerge with a victory.

Those days are over.

In another disheartening loss to one of the worst teams in the East, Paul Pierce scored 31 points and Antoine Walker added 23 points, 15 rebounds and five assists as Boston beat the Knicks 92-86 Thursday night to snap a 15-game losing streak in New York.

Not since Jan. 10, 1993, had the Celtics won at Madison Square Garden.

"It's my first win here, and it feels good," Walker said. "Hopefully, it's the start of a lot of them here."

In other NBA games, it was the Los Angeles Lakers 99, Houston 94; Orlando 99, Chicago 88; and Milwaukee 80, New Jersey 78.

Boston improved its road record to 2-8 and won for the first time in six tries on the second night of back-to-back

games. The victory was the second straight for the Celtics after four consecutive losses. Only an unlikely overtime victory over Milwaukee has kept New York from being in the midst of a five-game slide.

"It's bad, trust me, but it's hard to say how bad," Latrell Sprewell said. "It's not good, but it's not time to push the panic button just yet. We don't want to see that."

With Pierce and Walker dominating offensively, Boston opened a 14-point lead early in the fourth quarter. The Celtics let the Knicks creep within seven, but Walker scored twice in a row on layups and was fouled both times to give Boston a 77-65 lead.

A jumper by Pierce and a layup by Randy Brown with 5:31 left got the lead back to 14, and Pierce reached 30 points on a tough leaver that made it 85-71 with 3:17 left.

Sprewell and Rice hit consecutive 3-pointers with just under a minute left to get the deficit down to 87-81, but

Eric Williams grabbed an offensive rebound after Randy Brown missed the second of two free throws, and the Knicks then committed a turnover on an offensive foul by Houston after Pierce missed a pair from the line with 25 seconds left.

"They're putting a lot of pressure on themselves as a team," Walker said. "We knew if we could stay with them early, their confidence would go because of the way things have been going with them for the last few games."

The Knicks led 19-9 before Pierce scored 10 straight Celtics points midway through the second quarter as Boston took a 42-40 lead, and Boston had a 17-0 run bridging the second and third quarters to take a 54-40 lead.

Pierce scored 11 more in the third as the Celtics maintained a comfortable advantage, and it was 72-58 less than two minutes into the fourth after Adrian Griffin hit a 3-pointer.

"This was a confidence booster," Pierce said. "I was

surprised. I thought they would make a run. This shows the type of team we can be and what type of team we shouldn't be."

Lakers 99, Rockets 94

At Houston, Kobe Bryant scored 45 points, his fourth time over 40 this season, as Los Angeles won its fourth straight.

Bryant, who scored a season-high 51 points against Golden State on Dec. 6 against Golden State, had 26 points in the first half.

Shaquille O'Neal added 25 points and 12 rebounds for Los Angeles. Maurice Taylor led the Rockets with 19 points and 10 rebounds. Hakeem Olajuwon had 16 points.

Magic 99, Bulls 88

Tracy McGrady had 31 points and nine assists in Orlando's victory at home over Chicago.

McGrady was 10-of-16 from the field and 11-of-15 from the line as the Magic sent Chicago to its 23rd loss to 26 games.

Florida State receiver released for failing classes

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — One minute, Marvin Minnis is Florida State's All-American wide receiver, playing for another national championship. The next, he's out of school and off the team for failing three of four classes this semester.

"It's disappointing when a young person falls short," Florida State academic adviser Mark Meleney said

Thursday. "I think we all feel like we failed a little bit."

Although Minnis, a fifth-year senior, met NCAA eligibility requirements, Florida State requires athletes to meet additional standards. By failing short in three classes, Minnis didn't keep his cumulative grade-point average above the school-required 2.0 on a

4.0 scale.

Minnis, who caught 63 passes for 1,340 yards and 11 touchdowns, was Heisman Trophy winner Chris Weinke's favorite target. The third-ranked Seminoles play No. 1 Oklahoma in the Orange Bowl on Jan. 3.

Minnis took his finals earlier this month, then walked through graduation ceremonies last Saturday.

Grades were posted Tuesday and, under school rules, Minnis was dismissed.

He remains nine hours short of a degree in criminology, and will have to do correspondence work, then apply for readmission.

Meleney met Wednesday with Minnis and later spoke with the player's mother and uncle about getting the receiver back in school.

MOON

Continued from page 1

49,325. His 291 NFL touchdowns rank fourth behind Marino, Elway and Fran Tarkenton.

Add his six years in the CFL, where he led Edmonton to five league championships, and Moon is the most productive passer in professional football history with 435 touchdowns and more than 70,000 yards.

"I've been thinking about it all week," he said. "I think as I walk off the field Sunday is when it will really hit me."

An articulate speaker with a quick mind, Moon likely will have opportunities in television and radio. He might also become an investor in an NFL franchise.

He could become associated with the new team in Houston, where he finally arrived in 1984 when he

accompanying his CFL coach Hugh Campbell to the NFL.

The Oilers lost their first 10 games that year and Moon took a lot of blame, then he became one of Houston's most popular figures after the Oilers reached the playoffs seven straight years beginning in 1987.

From there he went to Minnesota for three years. Then came two years in Seattle before his final two, mostly idle, years with the Chiefs.

When the time comes to draw the grandkids around the fire and talk about the old days, grandpa will have much to say.

On a cold, overcast day in Kansas City in 1990, he experienced one of the most brilliant games ever, throwing for 527 yards in Houston's 23-7 victory over the Chiefs, coming within 27 yards of the NFL record Bob Waterfield set in 1951.

"It was just one of those rare days when everything you do is right. I seemed to put the ball in the perfect spot with every throw," he said.

"But," he added with a grin, "that was many moons ago."

Two years later he endured a loss that landed like a blow to the solar plexus: The Oilers were routing Buffalo 35-3 in a wildcard playoff game but

could not stop the Bills from catching up and winning 41-38 in the biggest comeback in league history.

"It was unbelievable," Moon said.

His greatest thrill?

A tie: leading Washington to a Rose Bowl victory over Michigan and quarterbacking the Oilers to their first playoff win.

"I will never, ever forget how the crowd was going wild when we came off the

field," he said.

Favorite receiver? Cris Carter.

Toughest cornerback? Another tie: Mike Haynes and Charles Woodson.

Last man he'd ever want to be sacked by again? Lawrence Taylor.

Biggest regret? None.

"At every stage, people had doubts about whether I could play, and I've had to prove them wrong," he said.

"I wasn't even invited to the (NFL scouting) combine (and) no one gave me an individual workout to see if I had the arm strength or whatever it was they said I was lacking. So I took the best opportunity I had in the CFL."

"I'm disappointed I never got to play in the Super Bowl. But I have no regrets about anything in my career. I think I've handled things pretty well."

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Whitman is EPA choice; Bush visits with agricultural officials

AUSTIN (AP) — George W. Bush has selected New Jersey Gov. Christie Whitman to head the Environmental Protection Agency, choosing a passionate outdoorswoman to safeguard the nation's land, air and water, officials said.

The president-elect was announcing the nomination and others at Friday ceremonies. He also was focusing on farming, meeting with state agriculture officials and industry leaders.

Another GOP governor, Tommy Thompson of Wisconsin, hopes to follow Whitman into the Bush administration. Senior

Republicans in Washington and Wisconsin said Thompson accepted Bush's offer in a Thursday morning telephone call to be Health and Human Services secretary. They said the announcement would be made next week.

However, two senior Bush advisers said the president-elect had not quite closed the deal with Thompson.

All the officials spoke on condition of anonymity.

In his presidential campaign, Bush faced criticism from Democrats and some conservationists for his stewardship of the environment in Texas, where he

had been governor since 1995 until his resignation Thursday.

Environmentalists argued he didn't fight pollution aggressively enough; During his second term, Houston became the nation's smoggiest city.

Indeed, the EPA itself intends to review clean-air plans the state was forced to submit earlier this month because of persistent smog.

Bush contended the state's air improved on his watch, and said he was behind major air-quality improvement initiatives.

Whitman, 54 and a Republican, championed

open-space preservation in New Jersey and refused to abandon an unpopular auto emissions test designed to reduce air pollution.

Critics said that to attract businesses, she compromised water pollution protections and cut spending for state offices that prosecute environmental abuses by industry.

Sierra Club Executive Director Carl Pope said Whitman has a "mixed record on the environment, but on balance we believe the Sierra Club could work with her."

As head of an agency created by President Nixon 30

years ago, Whitman would have to decide whether to pursue Clinton administration environmental initiatives.

For instance, the EPA currently is seeking substantial new pollution controls on coal-fired power plants in the Midwest that pollute the Northeast. She has supported the EPA position.

Bush is moving at a fast clip in filling out his administration, working against a clock that ticked through the five-week electoral dead-lock in Florida.

Former Sen. Dan Coats, R-Ind., long considered a sure bet for defense secretary,

remains a leading candidate, but Bush has told advisers he needs more time to consider his options. He was not expected to decide this week.

In other developments: —GOP sources said Virginia Gov. James Gilmore is Bush's pick to head the Republican National Committee.

—Republican consultant Rich Bond, a longtime ally of the Bush family, emerged as a candidate for labor secretary.

Rep. Jim Talent of Missouri, who lost a bid to become governor, said he's a candidate too.

New regulations being imposed fast and furious in Clinton's final weeks

WASHINGTON (AP) — New pollution controls on trucks and protection of coral reefs. Privacy safeguards for medical records and new rules to help victims of black lung disease.

They're all part of an avalanche of regulations, rule proposals and executive orders streaming from the White House and government agencies in the final weeks of the Clinton administration.

Experts on government policy say it's not unusual for a flurry of activity in the final weeks before a president leaves office. But rarely have the last-ditch

regulatory efforts involved as many issues with potentially far-reaching consequences.

Administration officials acknowledge that the 11th hour blizzard of rules reflects in part a determination by Clinton to fashion a legacy of major initiatives in areas of public health, the environment and worker rights.

But business groups already are preparing for a counterattack, hoping that the incoming Bush administration as well as Congress and the courts will soften some of the new regulations and roll back others.

"What Clinton is trying to do is put the next administration into a regulatory straight jacket."

—Bill Kovacs, U.S. Chamber of Commerce

"What Clinton is trying to do is put the next administration into a regulatory straight jacket," complained Bill Kovacs, vice president for environment and regulatory affairs at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. "Once these regulations are in effect, it's very difficult to change them."

Six years ago Congress enacted a law that allows Congress to overturn any rule by majority vote within 60 days of the rule being issued. But it has never been used on any of the thousands of regulations that have been issued.

The White House plays down the significance of the

late regulations, saying every president wants to close out unfinished business as his administration winds down. Many rules were in the works for months, even years in some cases, officials say.

"There's been ample time for the public to weigh in," White House press secretary Jake Siewert said.

Many of the regulations involve the environment including the one issued Thursday that requires pollution from heavy-duty trucks to be cut by 90 percent over the next decade and refiners to take virtual

ly all of the sulfur out of diesel fuel.

Among the areas affected by the recent regulations and executive orders: —privacy of health records.

—labeling standards for organically grown foods.

—coal miners' ability to get benefits for black lung disease.

—pollution from cattle and pig feedlots.

—mercury pollution from power plants.

—protection of Hawaiian coral reefs.

—protections for employees against repetitive-stress injuries.

Federal government concludes AT&T must shed Time Warner stake

WASHINGTON (AP) — AT&T failed to comply with conditions attached to its summer cable merger and now must shed its stake in Time Warner Entertainment, federal regulators concluded Thursday.

The decision by the Federal Communications Commission comes after days of back-and-forth between the government and the nation's largest cable company over how AT&T can comply with federal limits on the reach a

cable company can have.

Unsatisfied with AT&T's proposal for coming under this cap, the FCC determined that the company would have to get rid of its 25 percent interest in Time Warner Entertainment, a subsidiary that owns most of Time Warner's cable systems. That's unless AT&T can convince regulators it's in the public interest for the company to exercise another option before Jan. 15.

AT&T had hoped to spin off Liberty Media G.oup, a

programming interest, to come into compliance with the federal rules, which limit to 30 percent of the national total the number of satellite and cable subscribers a single company

can control. The FCC calculated that the summer acquisition of MediaOne made AT&T serve about 42 percent of the market.

The commission gave AT&T until May to come

under its limits, and last Friday was the deadline for the company to tell regulators how it would comply.

Regulators did not react favorably to AT&T's pledge to come into compliance,

saying it was not a firm commitment since it was dependent on a tax ruling. The company had said its intention to shed Liberty was contingent on a favorable tax ruling.

FDA to overhaul warnings for doctors

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hoping to combat the dangerous problem of doctors prescribing the wrong drug for the wrong patient, the government said Thursday it would overhaul the fine-print drug warnings doctors are supposed to read so they can quickly spot hazards and keep risky medicines away from people they might kill.

Admitting that too few doctors today even read vital drug warnings, the Food and Drug Administration said the change will let busy physicians spot in 30 seconds a medicine's

biggest danger.

"I think we'll see a real difference," said FDA Commissioner Jane Henney. Patients "will have a greater assurance that the drug prescribed will be the right one."

Every medicine, even aspirin, comes with side effects. A drug that's safe for one person can kill the next. Indeed, studies estimate 2 million Americans are hospitalized annually with drug side effects, and 100,000 die.

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Russia says Wallenberg a victim of 'political repression'

MOSCOW (AP) — Russia officially acknowledged Friday that Raoul Wallenberg, the Swedish diplomat who helped tens of thousands of Jews escape Nazi-occupied Hungary, was wrongfully imprisoned by Soviet authorities for political reasons until he perished.

The Russian prosecutor-general declared Wallenberg a "victim of political repression" — the latest step in the painful process of uncovering the circumstances of Wallenberg's disappearance more than half a century ago.

Wallenberg was arrested soon after the Soviet army entered Budapest, Hungary, in January 1945 and was taken to the Soviet Union. The last confirmed sighting of Wallenberg was on Jan. 17, 1945 in Budapest.

In a two-page statement, the prosecutor said Wallenberg and his driver, Vilmos Langfelder, were kept for more than two and half years in Soviet prisons on espionage charges until their death.

However, the circumstances of their death remained unclear, with the statement saying only they had died in Soviet prisons and that it had not been possible to clear up exactly where and how they had died.

"The investigation has failed to reveal the true reasons for the arrest and imprisonment of Wallenberg and Langfelder and the factual circumstances of their death, or locate materials of the criminal case or their personal dossiers," the statement said.

Russian Prosecutor General Vladimir Ustinov signed a verdict posthumously rehabilitating Wallenberg and Langfelder as "victims of political repression," the statement said.

It said they had been arrested without grounds — despite holding diplomatic immunity — as "socially dangerous" individuals and deprived of their freedom.

In Budapest, Peter Feldmajer, a Jewish Community leader, hailed the Russian prosecutors' declaration as a long-due victory of justice.

"This serving of historical justice was long in coming," he said. "Although it cannot bring Wallenberg back to life, it's a welcome gesture."

The statement was the latest in a series of small admissions and revelations from Russian officials about the case.

Wallenberg, who was 32 when he was last seen, was a member of one of Sweden's wealthiest and most prominent industrialist families. He had gone to Nazi-occupied Hungary in 1945 as a diplomat.

He distributed Swedish passports to Jews in deportation trains and on death marches, won diplomatic protection for whole neighborhoods in Budapest and organized food and medical supplies. His efforts are credited with saving at least 20,000 lives.

Moscow first said he was killed during fighting in Budapest, then declared he was taken under the protection of Soviet troops. Eventually, a memo from then-Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko said in 1957 that Wallenberg died of a heart attack in Soviet custody in 1947.

However, many former prisoners continue to claim Wallenberg was alive as late as the 1970s and 1980s.

Last month, Alexander Yakovlev, chairman of the presidential commission on rehabilitation of victims of political repression, said that his panel "had no doubt" that Wallenberg was shot at Lubyanka, the dreaded Soviet secret police headquarters.

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PRIMITIVE BAPTIST
201 East 24th

SALEM BAPTIST
I-20
TRINITY BAPTIST
810 11th Place 267-6344

FIRST Bank of West Texas
Big Spring - 267-113
Coahoma - 394-4256
Member FDIC

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

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Big Spring Mall 267-3114

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"Quality Is A Way Of Life"
207 Goliad
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BIG SPRING, TEXAS

Culligan New Location
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264-4444

Jack Sherman Mazda
4100 W. Wall • Midland, TX
915-694-9601
e-mail: sberman@jacksberman.com

WELLS FARGO
Mark Odle, President
Scott Nelson, Business Banking Mgr.
Joel De La Garza, Consumer Banking Mgr.
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Open 24 Hours
Hwy. 87 & I-20
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Financial Consultant
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Your Best Choice of Financial Institutions
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KRITH CHANEY 1706 Gregg
Diamond Setting Jewelry Repair Custom Designing Big Spring, TX

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• TIRE REPAIRS & BALANCING
BIG SPRING TIRE
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601 GREGG • BIG SPRING • 267-7021

FEED & SEED FERTILIZER
AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS
Big Spring Farm Supply, Inc.
Ronnie Wood
263-3382 Lamesa Highway

Herald Classifieds

AUTOS

1990 Camaro RS. V-8. Good school car. Asking \$1,600. Call 268-9820

PICKUPS

For Sale, (2) 1998 Z71 Chevy pickups. 2000 GMC 2500 pickup. Call 267-3126 or 238-7650.

SUVS

Citizen's Federal Credit Union is taking bids on a 1996 V6 Ford Explorer. Deadline is 12/22/00. For more info, call 267-6373 ext. 107 or 136.

2000 Ford Rangers

\$2,000 off & 3.9% APR

BOB BROCK FORD

500 W. 4th

PERSONAL

ATTN: I am looking for anyone who worked on the construction of Malone/Hogan Clinic in the late 60's early 70's. Please call 263-5818

BUSINESS OPPT.

WORK FROM HOME & GET UP to \$1,200-\$1,500/mo PT or \$6,000-\$8,000/mo FT. No experience needed. WILL TRAIN. FREE recorded info. 24 hrs. 1-888-456-4451

DRIVING SCHOOL

Next driving class for 2001 Class starts January 8th, 2001. Call 268-1023 or 270-4610 to register. C1200

ADULT CARE

Loving Home Care Give us a call and we can take care of your families needs. Call 915-268-1704 or 661-0682

HELP WANTED

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.

Drivers w/CDL choose from over 40 companies. We have 316 jobs avail. this month.

CDL DELIVERS

1-800-994-2896
Access to a computer? Put it to work! \$25/hr-\$75/hr PT/FT 1-800-335-9823

TRANSPORTATION

Major carrier has immediate openings at its Big Spring Terminal for experienced crane drivers. We will train.

CX offers sign on bonus \$200, group health insurance, retirement plan, paid vacation, paid company holidays, home most nights. CX requirements: 23 yrs. old, 2 yrs. verifiable road experience. CDL Class A License w/ Hazmat & Tanker.

Endorsements, good driving record, must pass DOT physical & drug screen.

Applicants can apply at 120 & Midway Rd Big Spring or Call 1-800-729-4645

HELP WANTED

Attn: Work From Home Earn \$1500-\$5000/mo or more Mail Order 800-394-8124

Child Development Specialist

Salary: \$1716.00-\$2161.00 DOE
Associate's degree (60 semester hours) from an accredited college or university with a major in child development, early childhood education, special education, child psychology, educational psychology, or elementary education. Related work experience may substitute for the required education on a year for year basis with a maximum substitution of 2 years. Will oversee purchased day care services by coordinating and implementing age-appropriate curriculum, making recommendations regarding the acceptability of a provider's services, ensuring an enriched environment, coordinating activities, and developing program objectives. May provide actual childcare as needed. Must have physical, mental, and emotional health necessary to carry out essential functions of this position.

Big Spring State Hospital

1901 N. Hwy 87, Big Spring, Texas 79720 (915)268-7260

Computer, Internet people wanted

\$25-\$75/hr, PT/FT. Free Booklet. (800)757-3749 (24hr) or go to wantbiz.com

SIGN ON BONUS NURSES UNLIMITED INC.

Needed PRN RN's and LVN's for STAFF RELIEF Competitive Pay 80 hr. Bonuses 41K Retirement Plan Professional Liability Insurance Workman's Compensation Claims EOE Applications accepted at 700 N. Grant, Suite 100 Odessa, Texas 79762

Dr. Pepper/Pepsi

3611 N. Hwy 87 Big Spring, Texas EEO/AA Employer 263-4186

HELP WANTED

Clinical Social Worker II or III Salary: \$2436.00 to \$2729.00 mo. (DOE)
Must be licensed by the Texas Professional Social Worker Examiners as a LWS or LMSW or ACP plus 2 years or related work experience. Acts as a liaison among Mental Health Authorities, patients, families and community agencies for the purpose of assessment, education and coordination of patient discharges. Must have physical, mental, and emotional health necessary to carry out essential functions of this position.

General Maintenance -

Minimum qualifications include a valid Texas driver license with dependable record. Transportation, and verifiable work experience in one more of the following areas: plumbing, electrical pump and motor repair, heating and air conditioning.

Salary is commensurate to experience and a full benefit package is available. Only qualified applicants need apply to the Personnel Office of Covenant Malone and Hogan Clinic, 1501 W. 11th Place, Big Spring, Texas 79720, or fax resume to

915-267-1137.

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/Pepsi

3611 N. Hwy 87 Big Spring, Texas EEO/AA Employer 263-4186

HELP WANTED

Covenant Malone and Hogan clinic has openings for the following positions:
LVN - Ideal candidate will have 3 to 5 years' clinical experience.

RELEVANT EDUCATIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE REQUIRED.

Master's degree preferred. Early Pre-K through sixth grade-130 students. Salary based upon qualifications and experience. Available March 1, 2001. Open until filled. Send cover letter and resume to: P. O. Box 1051, Big Spring, TX 79721.

IMMEDIATE OPENING

for clerk/cashier/cook. Apply at 3315 E. FM 700, Neighbors Convenience Store.

Key Energy Service Co.

Stanton, TX is seeking experienced welders. Benefits included. Call for more info. 8-5 M-F 915-756-2875.

Local company now hiring for nighttime work.

Some travel required. Must have valid driver's license. Will train. Call 267-5449.

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.

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 Runnels or by calling JOBLINE 800-687-2769. EOE

HELP WANTED

HEAD OF SCHOOL St. Mary's Episcopal School Big Spring, Texas

Domino's Pizza

Drivers needed. We pay hourly wages, mileage, and tips. 2202 Gregg, Big Spring, TX

Don's Tire & Truck Service

South Service Rd, I-20 & Hwy 350 Big Spring, TX 78721

Taking Applications:

Experienced Diesel & Gas Mechanic & Tire Repairman. Must Have Valid Texas Driver Lic. Full or part Time/Top pay for qualified person. Apply in Person Only.

Extreme People Wanted! Internet Business From Home \$25 - \$75/hr.

www.MakeWorkFun.com

Mitchell County EMS

is seeking a full-time paramedic. 24/48 shift work with competitive salary and benefits. Experienced preferred, but not required. Please contact Shane Terry, or Jason Cooper for an application (915) 728-3483 during regular business hours or e-mail mcoms@abi.tonline.net

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.

Own a Computer? Put it to work! Earn \$25-\$75/hr.

Call toll-free 1-866-832-0513

HELP WANTED

Physical Therapy Technician needed. Must be willing to do multiple tasks including PT technician, drug/alcohol screening, van driving and janitorial duties. Benefits include paid vacation, health insurance and retirement. Must be 25 or older due to vehicle insurance and clean driving record. Please call 915-267-3806 to set up appointment for interview or come by 306 W 3rd. to fill out application.

Position for LVN:

Vacation, sick time, holidays, health insurance, retirement. Contact Elia Gonzalez D.O.N.

Valley Fair Lodge

Colorado City, Tx 915-728-2634

Correction LVN needed at Ware Prison Medical Unit in Colorado City.

Fore more information contact Ms. Cogburn R.N., D.O.N. at (915) 728-2162 ext. 1236

Correctional Nurses needed at Wallace Prison Medical Unit in Colorado City.

Needed: 3-11 LVN, Day Shift RN, 11-7 LVN. For more information call Ms. Webster, R.N., D.O.N., at (915) 728-2162 ext. 4264

Wanted: One quick learning, self starting, friendly & reliable individual to work as an assistant with our dental team.

Experience a plus, but not required. Please mail resumes to: 1708 E. FM 700, Big Spring, TX 79720.

JOBS WANTED

Mowing, tree trimming, hauling, interior-exterior painting. Call 267-5460 v. message.

LOANS

NEED CASH NOW OPEN E-Z Cash \$100 to \$1000.000 No Credit Check. Required 263-4315

HELP WANTED

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Mowing, tree trimming, hauling, interior-exterior painting. Call 267-5460 v. message.

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DELTA LOANS

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

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Want to BUY: Irrigation - side roll & pivot. Call after 7PM 268-1888

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Great Christmas gift. Chocolate toy poodle puppies. Ready for Christmas. Males - \$250. 267-3933.

To Give Away: 2 Lab Puppies, a Border Collie and a Texas Heeler.

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1985 John Deere 410 Backhoe. Good condition. \$11,500 firm. Call 915-728-3713

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Lost: Female black & white cat. has extra toes. Lost from Texas RV Park. Reward offered. 601-605-1442

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E-Z Rentals 120 days same as cash! Name brand TVs, VCR's, furniture, appliances, etc. 263-4315

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Big Spring Herald

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1 month: \$43.26 • 2 Week Service Directory: \$25.75 • 6-mo Contract: \$38.63 per mo.
Call 263-7331 to place your ad today!!

Do you have a service to offer? Place your ad in the Herald Classified Professional Service Directory. Call 263-7331 Today!

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CLINE BUILDING MAINT. INC. (915) 263-0999 (800) 649-8374

Save Big Bucks Read Herald Classified Ads

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

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Four Seasons Insulation and Siding Inc. Custom built, thermal regulated windows. Don't see training available. 915-264-8610

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EARTHCO Dirt Construction & Paving Septic System Installation TX Lic # 01866
TIM BLACKSHEAR 915-263-8456 102 Wooten Rd Big Spring

Don't throw those unwanted items away! Sell them! Call 263-7331 and place your garage sale in the Herald Classified section and receive a Garage sale kit Free!

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

QUALITY FENCE
Terms available. Cedar, Redwood, Spruce, Chainlink. Day: (915) 267-3349 Nights: (915) 267-1173

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New-Remodeled-Plumbing-Electrical-Kitchen Remodel-Bath Remodel. Call 394-4805

We Can Save You Money By Advertising Your Business In Our Professional Service Directory! Call 263-7331 for more information.

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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
LRESTAR 268-8800 (fax) 258-8801 We make it EASY for YOU to get on the INTERNET BIG SPRING'S PATH TO THE INFORMATION HIGHWAY!!!

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SPRING CITY ROOFING Johnny Flores Shingles, Hot Tar & Gravel. All types of repairs. Work guaranteed!! Free Estimates 267-1110

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Four Seasons Insulation and Siding Inc. Locally owned. Big Spring's oldest full time siding company. We specialize in Custom vinyl and steel siding. •Overhang and trim siding. •Attic and wall insulation. •Thermo replacement windows. 100% no lien financing available. Our siding has a half warranty on labor and materials. 915-264-8610 no down payment required

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AFFORDABLE SEPTICS Distributor for Aerobic Systems *State Licensed *Install & Repair all types of systems * Site Evaluator Free Troubleshootin' 264-6199

EARTHCO
See our ad UNDER Dirt Contractors.

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Installation and Site Evaluations ROSE PLUMBING 106 N. 15th 806-872-3502 Lamesa, Tx 79331 Lic# 726

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TREE TRIMMING
Experienced TREE PRUNING & hauling Free Estimates PONDEROSA NURSERY 263-4441 GAIL HWY

We Can Save You Money by Advertising Your Business in our Professional Service Directory! Call 263-7331 for more info

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Sale. Sat. Dec. 23.
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FARM FOR SALE
100 acres more or less in Howard County, located 5 miles southwest of Big Spring, TX near the community of Elbow. The Farm Service Agency (FSA) has priced the property to sell at \$14,000. The property is being offered for sale to those individuals FSA considers to be qualified beginning farmers or ranchers and all prevailing claimants in the civil action Piford vs. Glickman. Beginning farmers or ranchers who are prevailing claimants will be given first priority consideration in the purchase of this property. If more than one beginning farmer or rancher who is a prevailing claimant submits an application, priority within this group will be determined by lottery. Qualified beginning farmers or ranchers must be in need of FSA credit assistance either in the form of direct FSA financing, a FSA guaranteed loan or a participation loan. For other requirements and information on how to qualify as a beginning farmer or rancher, you may contact your local FSA office. Financing may be subject to the availability of funds. If financing is not available at the time of sale, the selected applicant will be given the opportunity to lease the property for up to 18 months or until such time that Agency funds become available, whichever comes first. Applications can be picked up at the Martin County FSA office. Applications must be completed and received by January 31, 2001. The Government reserves the right to cancel the sale at any time and the right to reject any or all applications. For additional information contact FSA at P.O. Box 910, Stanton, TX 79782, 915/756-3308. The Federal Equal Credit Opportunity Act prohibits creditors from discriminating against credit applications on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, age (provided the applicant has the capacity to enter a binding contract), because all or part of the applicant's income derives from any public assistance program, or because the applicant has in good faith exercised any right under the Consumer Credit Protection Act. The Federal agency that administers compliance with this law is the Federal Trade Commission, Equal Credit Opportunity, Washington, DC 20580. USDA regulations prohibit discrimination in USDA programs because of your race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, marital status, familial status, sexual orientation, disability, or because all or part of your income is derived from any public assistance program, or because you have filed a program complaint, participated in any program complaint proceeding, or opposed a prohibited practice. If you believe that you have been discriminated against for any of the reasons stated above, you may file a complaint with the Director, Office of Civil Rights, United States Department of Agriculture, Room 326 W. Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W. Washington, DC 20250-9410.

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FURNISHED APTS.
Apartments,
Unfurnished homes,
Mobile Home
References required.
Call 263-6944,
263-2341.

OFFICE SPACE
Office space for rent. All
utilities paid. For more
info call 267-9455

UNFURNISHED
APTS.
1 bdr. apt. electric and
water fur. pay gas
\$300/mn. \$100/dep
HUD ok. Call 267-1352.

1 BR starting at
\$175.00
2 BR \$275
Central heat & air
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267-4217

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Water & gas paid
CH/A, playground
1 & 2 bdr apt homes
Heather Apartments
2911 W. Hwy 80
263-2292

UNFURNISHED
HOUSES
1115 Lloyd
1203 Ridgeroad
3BR 1 bath \$350/mo
Call American Realty
915-520-7577

1200 Grafia
\$275/mn. \$100/dep.
263-1792 or 264-6006

2 bd. 2 bath 2 la and
garage. Mother-in-law
suite in back. \$650/mn.
References required.
No indoor pets.
425-6601.

207 Jefferson
3 BR 2 bath,
CH/A, fireplace
Totally remodeled
\$600/mo plus deposit
You pay bills.
No HUD
267-2296

3 BR 1 bath, 2202
Runnels. Call 267-3841
or 270-7309

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Apartments
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\$199 Move In Specials"
All Bills Paid
338 Westover Rd. 263-1252

UNFURNISHED
HOUSES
3 bdr. 1 bth. CH/A,
washer, dryer &
dishwasher conn.
\$400/mn.+dep. and ref.
Good location. Near
school. 267-8434

3BR 2 bath, CH/A,
fireplace. 2500 Carlton.
\$550/mo. plus deposit.
Call 263-6997

712 Gollad
2 bdr. 1 bth house
CH/A w/d conn.
\$350/mn. + dep.
You pay bills. No HUD
267-2296

Abandoned homes:
Take up
remaining payments.
5 bdr. 2 bth. \$220/mn.
3 bdr. \$200/mn.
264-0510

Clean 1 bdr. house
stove & refrigerator
furnished. Good
location. \$225/mn. +
dep. & ref. Call
263-2382.

Executive 3 bdr. 2 bth
home in Highland.
\$400/dep. \$850/mn. Call
263-4521

For Sale or Lease
4304 Duke
3 bdr. 2 bth. 2 living
areas, fireplace, near
school. Sale @ \$56,900
will pay closing-lease
\$500/mn. \$500/dep.
Daytime 263-0844,
nighttime 263-0667.

For Sale or Rent
Owner Finance. 3 bd.
trailer. Inquire at 1213
Harding

Nice clean 2 bdr. 1 bth.
house. \$200/dep. \$200/mn.
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RENT OR SELL
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Sand Springs
4 BR 2 bath on 13
Acres Coahoma ISD
RENT \$450/mo. SELL
\$4,000 down \$620/mo
Owner Finance
915-696-6100

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Year! Ready to lose
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salary, and testing
information call
800-369-9375 ext. 881
8am-6pm 7 days

Looking for a
bargain? Call Doris at
263-6525 or Home
Realtors: 263-1284,
about price drops on
homes on Carol,
Larry, Rebecca, Robb,
and Vicky. \$63,000 to
\$89,900.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
Saturday, Dec. 23, 2000:

You have unusual drive
and direction this year. You
make what you want hap-
pen. You often have to
rethink your logic, as evi-
dence points you down the
wrong trail. Your ability to
revamp marks your suc-
cess. You see life with a
renewed perspective. If you
are single, you go in a new
direction. An important
relationship knocks on
your door next summer.
Anything is possible with
your increased popularity.
If you are attached, your
relationship warms up con-
siderably next summer. Be
open to changes from your
significant other. SAGIT-
TARIUS presents provoca-
tive thinking.

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

ARIES (March 21-April
19)
***** Someone goes on the
warpath when you least
anticipate it. You need to
let another have his way.
Complete any last-minute
spending. A call from a dis-
tance might cause you to
revamp plans. Make a loved
one your highest priority
for now. Tonight: Do what
others can't. Understand.
Detach.

TAURUS (April 20-May
20)
**** Deal with a problemat-
ic personality in your life
on a one-on-one level. You
might notice that this per-
son is unusually vocal dur-
ing the next few weeks.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
**** Some last-minute
changes seem inevitable.
Deal with an irate family
member head-on. Avoiding
this situation will not help.
Understand that another's
perspective could be quite
different than yours. Crea-
tivity and loving mix to
bring solutions. Tonight:
Let that flirtatious side
come out.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
*** Make family your high-
est priority. Touch base
with loved ones close to
you. Not everyone agrees
with you. Think about a

decision carefully rather
than rushing out and act-
ing. Indulge a family mem-
ber. Give up a tendency to
be critical. Tonight: Happy
at home.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
****Someone does his best
to let you know where there
is a problem. Do not take
this personally. Keep com-
munication flowing. Finish
up shopping. Another
might not agree with a sug-
gestion. Keep your priori-
ties in mind. Tonight: At a
favorite spot.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov.
21)
**** Mars in your sign ener-
gizes you just in time. It
appears that you have a lot
of last-minute errands to
complete. Work on getting a
project done. Others appre-
ciate your efforts. You do
not need to push in order to
have something happen
your way. Laugh and relax.
Tonight: Race around.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-
Dec. 21)
**** You beam into the
limelight. Others seek you
out to help them with last-
minute gift ideas. You
could be overwhelmed by
all the requests. Answers
don't come easily. Curb a
tendency to overreact dur-
ing the next few weeks.
Tonight: Do your own
thing.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-
Jan. 19)
*** You might need to care-
fully rethink a decision that
doesn't feel comfortable or
right to you. Stay goal-or-
iented with others. Your
drive can make a big differ-

ence. A friend pushes you
very hard in the next few
weeks. This person means
well. Your opinions reverse.
Tonight: Take your time.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb.
18)
****Stay focused. Join
friends only after you have
completed an important
errand. Clear out your
work effectively, as you
want to be free and clear
for the next few days. Share
your merriment over what
is happening. Others appre-
ciate your convivial spirit.
Tonight: Where the gang is.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March
20)
****Take off early if you
need to do some traveling.
Reach out for someone at a
distance and make sure he
is OK. Your efforts not only
touch another, but they also
could make a big difference
in the holiday. Pick up
someone's slack, even if it
means doing his work.
Tonight: Be the lead player.

BORN TODAY
Actress Susan Lucci (1946),
Mormon leader Joseph
Smith (1805), actor Corey
Haim (1971)

For America's best
extended horoscope, record-
ed by Jacqueline Bigar, call
(900) 740-7444, 99 cents per
minute. Also featured is
The Spoken Tarot. Callers
must be 18 or older. A ser-
vice of InterMedia Inc.,
Jenkintown, Pa.

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

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Stop and think about what
is going on. This person
might view the holidays
quite differently than you
do. Tonight: Be indulgent.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
****Let someone go with
an idea. You really don't
have control over this per-
son. Be realistic about your
expectations here. A last-
minute work problem could
cause you trouble. You a
might need to pitch in at
home with holiday prepara-
tions. Tonight: Go along
with another's plans.

CANCER (June 21-July
22)**** Keep communica-
tion flowing. Recognize how
many people depend on
you. Still, though you
might be busy and over-
whelmed by all you have to
do, make time for an ailing
child or loved one. It might
appear as if combativeness
covers some sadness with
this person. Tonight:
Continue with the prepara-
tion.

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changes seem inevitable.
Deal with an irate family
member head-on. Avoiding
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TEENAGE GIRL AFRAID TO DATE YOUNGER BOY

DEAR ABBY: I am a teen-
age girl, and there is this
guy at my school. He asked
me out on a date. I don't
know what to say. I really
want to go, but I'm
afraid that my friends
and others will make
fun of us because he's
a year younger than me.

And there is one more
problem: He is my best
friend's brother. I'm not sure — but
I "kinda know" — how
she's going to take it. But
what should I do about my
friends? I know my best
friend is going to take it
well, but I don't know how
my other friends are going
to take it.

So what should I do?
Signed... ONE OF YOUR
FANS (MANDY)

P.S. I read your column
every time it's in the paper.

DEAR MANDY: You must
decide what's more impor-
tant to you, pleasing your-
self or pleasing your other
friends. If the choice were
mine and I was teased
because I went out with
someone a year younger, I
would reply, "Well, I LIKE
him, and I think he's very
cute." There are times you
have to stand up for what
you believe in.

DEAR ABBY: After five
years of marriage, I find
myself in the middle of
divorce proceedings. I'll
spare you the gory details,
but suffice it to say that my

wife left me for a co-work-
er. Luckily there are no
children involved, so other
than the emotional pain,
the process is primarily
financial at this point.

As part of the proposed
settlement, I am responsible
for returning the personal
effects she left behind when
she abandoned our home.
Most items are easy to deal
with, such as clothing,
shoes, etc. However, other
things are causing a dilem-
ma for me. These are the
items that have a connec-
tion with our marriage. In
particular, I'm troubled by
what to do with our wed-
ding album.

In one sense it represents
a part of my life and my
family history, even though
it's been painful. On the
other hand, the album is a
reminder of the failure of
our marriage and the
promises that we made to
each other. Its financial
value is virtually nil, and
she has not explicitly
requested its return. I want
to do the right thing, but
not at the expense of my
own well-being.

Abby, can you please
offer your thoughts on how
to deal with this while still
remaining a gentleman? —
FEELING TORN IN PITTS-
BURGH

DEAR FEELING TORN:
With pleasure. If you want
the album, keep it. Your
(almost) former wife can
order copies from the pho-
tographer who took the pic-
tures.

DEAR ABBY: My mother-
in-law baby-sits my 2-year-
old son once a week. She is
a chain-smoker, smoking
one cigarette after another

while our son is there.
When he returns home, he
is saturated in smoke, and
I have to bathe him immedi-
ately and wash his clothes.
He has complained twice
that his eyes hurt. For obvi-
ous reasons, I do not want
him around all that smoke.

Unfortunately, in my hus-
band's eyes, his mother can
do no wrong. Abby, is there
anything I can do? —
HATES TOBACCO IN TEN-
NESSEE

DEAR HATES TOBACCO:
Talk to your son's pediatri-
cian and ask him to sched-
ule an appointment that
includes your husband.

Secondhand smoke IS
dangerous for babies and
small children, and your
husband should be made
aware of the risk that his

son is facing at the home of
his chain-smoking — and
obviously addicted —
grandmother.

CONFIDENTIAL TO
EDWARD JAY: Happy
birthday, son. Your father
and I are so very proud of
you.

For an excellent guide to
becoming a better conversa-
tionalist and a more attrac-
tive person, order "How to
Be Popular." Send a busi-
ness-size, self-addressed
envelope, plus check or
money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50
in Canada) to: Dear Abby
Popularity Booklet, P.O.
Box 447, Mount Morris, IL
61054-0447. (Postage is
included.)

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PRESS SYNDICATE

PALESTINIANS SAY PROGRESS
IN PEACE TALKS NOW STALLED

WASHINGTON (AP) —
Palestinian accounts of
Mideast peace talks took a
sudden downturn today as
two senior officials said
Israel had backtracked on

FRIDAY

DEC. 22

Table with 21 columns (KMID, KPEJ, KERA, FAM, KOSA, WFAA, KWES, WTBS, UNI, DISN, NASH, TMC, SHOW, HBO, KMLM, A&E, DISC, TNT, TLC) and 12 rows of program listings.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"Does Santa have an e-mail address in case I need to add some last-minute stuff to my list?"

FAMILY CIRCUS



"The three wise men brought gifts of Gold, Frankenstein and Mirth."

HAGAR



BLONDIE



B.C.



GEECH



WIZARD OF ID



HI AND LOIS



GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILY



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS Today is Friday, Dec. 22, the 357th day of 2000. There are nine days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Dec. 22, 1894, French army officer Alfred Dreyfus was convicted of treason in a court-martial that triggered worldwide charges of anti-Semitism. (Dreyfus was eventually vindicated.) On this date: In 1775, a Continental naval fleet was organized in the rebellious American colonies. In 1807, Congress passed the Embargo Act, designed to force peace between Britain and France by cut-

ting off all trade with Europe. In 1864, during the Civil War, Union Gen. William T. Sherman sent a message to President Lincoln: "I beg to present you as a Christmas gift the city of Savannah." In 1941, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill arrived in Washington for a wartime conference with President Franklin Roosevelt. In 1944, during the Battle of the Bulge, U.S. Brig. Gen. Anthony C. McAuliffe reportedly said, "Nuts!" when the Germans demanded the Americans' surrender. In 1963, an official 30-day mourning period following the assassination of President Kennedy came to an end. In 1971, the United Nations General Assembly voted to ratify the election of Kurt Waldheim to be secretary-general. In 1984, New York City resident Bernhard Goetz shot four black youths on a Manhattan subway, claiming they were about to rob him. In 1989, Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu, the last of Eastern Europe's hard-line communist rulers, was toppled from power in a popular uprising. In 1989, playwright Samuel Beckett died in Paris at age 83. Thought for Today: "Anger makes dull men witty, but it keeps them poor." - Attributed to Queen Elizabeth I of England (1533-1603).

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words.

Thursdays Puzzle Solved grid with words like ARBOR, WHEN, PIGS, SHADE, HERA, ASEA, SINES, EAST, RING, ANT, ODER, URANIA, YOUNG, ILDBRIDGES, ANNS, LAPEL, APHIDS, DEL, ADS, POUTS, YOU, POSIT, ELM, RAN, BRASSY, ASKEW, POET, CANKEEP, CROSSING, ADRIAN, ROSA, MOO, PLAN, ABET, GRATE, RICK, CAME, EAGER, ABES, THEM, SHEDS.