

BIG SPRING HERALD

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

FRIDAY

December 29, 2000

WEATHER

Tonight:



PARTLY CLOUDY

TONIGHT 23°-26° SATURDAY 43°-46°

Many offices to be closed New Year's Day

Federal, county and city administration offices will be closed on Monday to celebrate the New Year.

The Howard County Courthouse will not be open on Monday except the Howard County Sheriff's Office. Other offices will reopen on Tuesday.

City of Big Spring offices will be closed on New Year's Day except for emergency departments.

Federal offices will be closed on Monday resuming operations on Tuesday.

The post office will not be delivering mail on Monday. Mail service will resume on Tuesday.

Due to the holiday, the city will not have a trash collection on Monday. Monday's trash collection will be picked up on Tuesday.

The city will resume trash collection for the rest of the week.

WEEKEND TICKET

TODAY

Spring City Senior Citizens country/western dance, 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. All seniors are invited.

SATURDAY

Dance, 8:30 p.m., Eagles Lodge, 704 West Third. Members and guests welcome.

Howard County Scottish Rite Club, 7:30 a.m., Masonic Lodge, 21st & Lancaster. Breakfast served.

The Heritage Museum, 510 Scurry, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Potton House, 200 Gregg, a restored historic home, is open from 1 to 5 p.m. A one-time admission fee of \$2 for adults and \$1 for children and senior citizens are encouraged.

Big Spring Squares. Call 267-7043 or 263-6305 for more information.

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Vol. 98, No. 50

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Sen. Duncan: Ratliff will make a great lieutenant governor

By BILL McCLELLAN
News Editor

White he cast his ballots for another man, Sen. Robert Duncan, (R-Lubbock) said he's pleased with the choice of Sen. Bill Ratliff as the man to take over the post of lieutenant governor.



"Bill Ratliff DUNCAN

is very principled. He has an even-handed, good temperament and he is loyal not just to his district, but to the state of Texas," Duncan said.

"He has been a leader in education reform for our state. Everything admires him. And while it was a close vote, afterward there was a unanimous happiness. Everyone was pleased with the results. No one was against the outcome," said Duncan, who has worked

Related story, 3A

closely with Ratliff on the Senate Finance Committee.

The 64-year-old Ratliff was chosen over Sen. David Sibly, a Republican from Waco, by a 16-15 margin.

Duncan had supported Sibly.

"I thought there were several candidates who were very well qualified. Actually, they all were,"

said Duncan. "But there were three — Bill Ratliff, Teel Bivins (R-Amarillo) and David Sibly who had more seniority and higher leadership experience. And ultimately, of course, you have to go with just one person. I thought any of the three would have made a good lieutenant governor."

The somewhat-controversial secret balloting process took eight tries before Ratliff got his one-vote margin.

"Essentially what you had was a series of elimination ballots where the candidates getting the lowest number of votes were tossed out. And if there were tie votes for those, then we had a runoff," Duncan explained.

Ratliff will give up chairmanship of the finance committee, he said. His position is actually of interim lieutenant governor. He will take on the duties until the post comes up for re-election in 2002.

Elected officials take oath of office early

By CARL GRAHAM
Staff Writer

Howard County Clerk Donna Wright administered the oath of office to newly-elected County Sheriff Dale L. Walker in a short ceremony held today in the courthouse.

Walker was able to be sworn in before Monday, the first day of the year, because that day is a holiday.

He will officially take office at midnight Sunday.

Others who were in uncontested races in their respective offices and sworn in were Hardy Wilkerson, district attorney; Kathy Sayles, tax-assessor collector; Teresa Thomas, county treasurer; Bennie Green, Pct. 1 justice of peace; and Emma Puga Brown, Pct. 1 county commissioner.

Others to be sworn in later will be Bill Crooker, Pct. 3 county commissioner; Mike Thomas, county attorney; and deputy Gary Pritchett, who will serve as Walker's chief deputy.

Walker, who wasn't even a candidate in the March primary, defeated incumbent Sheriff William "Bill" Jennings on Nov. 7 by a count of 5,287 to 4,296, a margin of 991 votes.

Jennings was only behind nine votes after the early tally came in but Walker,



Donna Wright, Howard County clerk, administers the oath of office to Dale Walker, newly-elected sheriff. Walker will officially take office Monday but because of the holiday, he and other elected officials were sworn in early.

who carried 18 of the 21 boxes, gathered momentum as the boxes began to come in one by one.

Walker was appointed by the Howard County Democratic Party executive committee to replace Javier Becerra who eliminated himself from contention for the office by voting for Republican candidate David Mohn in the March primary.

Walker, who has 16 years

of law enforcement experience, ran on the motto of restoring the "Spirit of the Law" to the Howard County Sheriff's Office.

"I felt when I started the campaign and still do now that we got away from the spirit of the law in the present administration," said Walker.

"It is my goal to restore that spirit to the office and get away from so much of the letter of the law that we

currently have. I plan to be accessible to all the people and will be open to their suggestions."

Pritchett comes to Howard County from Upton County where he served as the training coordinator with the Upton County Sheriff's Office the past 12 years. He is a certified instructor and served two years with the Big Spring Police Department prior to moving to Rankin.

Trash

Garbage collection to get back on schedule

By CARL GRAHAM
Staff Writer

With the Christmas holiday and icy weather this past week, city garbage pick-up got off track but by the end of today, things should be back to normal, according to Howard Shivers, Big Spring solid waste superintendent.



SHIVERS

"We ran a 10-hour shift yesterday and another 10-hour shift today and by 5 p.m., we should be pretty well caught up with what wasn't picked up due to the missed days," said Shivers. "We were out Monday and Tuesday due to the Christmas holiday and then on Wednesday we weren't able to run due to the weather being so bad."

Shivers said that he will have some trucks out Saturday to catch any trash that wasn't picked up the last couple of days.

He said a revised schedule would be in operation next week due to New Year's holiday on Monday.

"Instead of our normal pick-up days of Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday we will be doing pick-up on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday," said Shivers. "Hopefully we will get things back on a regular schedule once again by the end of next week."

Shivers added that live Christmas trees will not be picked up by the collectors.

See GARBAGE, Page 2A

Dry but cold weekend in store for Howard County

By Herald Staff Report

A dry weekend is predicted for the Permian Basin with wind and chilly weather rolling in on New Year's Day.

"It looks like it will turn cold on Monday," said Greg Murdock, meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Midland.

A front moving its way through the Permian Basin from the northeast on Monday is forecast to bring strong winds and tempera-

tures in the 30s.

According to Murdock, holiday travelers planning to visit relatives and friends New Year's Eve should expect a dry weekend with the temperatures ranging in the high 40s and low 50s.

Clouds should roll in New Year's Day with continued cloudiness through Tuesday, Murdock said.

Across the state for the weekend, the weather is forecast to be dry although west of the Pecos River and the deep South Texas may have potential for precipita-

tion, he said.

Those traveling in the areas of Wyoming through Arkansas may need to be cautious. Murdock said those areas may have potential snowfall.

The weather forecast this weekend is much different from earlier this week as an ice storm that fell on Christmas Day stranded many area travelers.

Travelers found few vacant rooms in Big Spring hotels and many had to find alternative lodging while waiting out the icy weather

that lasted for almost three days.

A thick layer of ice on the roads caused numerous automobile accidents, slowing travel and caused portions of several highways throughout Texas to close.

Weather cleared up on Thursday, allowing holiday travelers to resume their journeys.

Those traveling this weekend may want to contact the Texas Department of Transportation at 1-800-452-9292 to learn about current road conditions.

Flu vaccine shortage should be temporary, officials say

LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer

A shortage of the flu vaccine is causing many area health agencies to restrict

their supply to high-risk patients only, but those who receive shots in January and February may still be protected for the flu season.



RICH

"The flu season in Texas usually peaks in March and April," said Terese Foran, community outreach specialist for the Texas Medical Foundation. "If you get a flu shot before those months, you should be fine."

Many area health agencies are currently out of the vaccine or limiting the shots to staff and those who need them the most.

"We have some flu shots available but they are reserved for high-risk

patients," said Amber Rich of the Family Medical Center. "The flu can be fatal to some of those in the high-risk groups so it is really important they receive the vaccine."

According to Foran, people age 65 or older and those with serious medical conditions such as heart or lung disease, diabetes or weakened immune systems are considered high risk and more likely to get the flu.

Nearly 20,000 Americans die from flu and its complications every year, she said. In 1998, the flu was the seventh leading cause of death in Texas, claiming more than 4,600 lives, Foran said.

According to Rich, those high-risk patients needing a flu shot who do not have a physician can call Family Medical Center physician Dale Bradley at 267-5531 for an appointment.

Many of the public might have to wait until more vaccine is delivered before receiving the shot.

See VACCINE, Page 2A



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Registered Medical Assistant Tracie Watson gives Annetta Montgomery a flu shot while Dr. Dale Bradley of Family Medical Center watches. As a health care worker herself, Montgomery receives a vaccine shot every year. People age of 65 and older and those with chronic health conditions are at high risk to contract the flu.

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U.S. population soars, with biggest gains in Southeast, West

WASHINGTON (AP) — America's population soared past 281 million as explosive growth provided Arizona, Texas, Florida and Georgia two more House seats each and cut into the political clout of the Northeast and Midwest, the Census Bureau reported Thursday.

The first numbers from 2000 national count provided a few surprises — North Carolina picked up a House seat while Indiana and Michigan unexpectedly lost representatives. And Florida and Georgia fared better than some experts had predicted.

But the figures otherwise confirmed a decade-long

trend of a population shift from the North and Midwest to the South and West.

Overall, the U.S. population rose to 281,421,906, up 13.2 percent from 1990.

"Never have we been so diverse, never have we been so many and never have we been so carefully measured," Census Director Kenneth Prewitt declared in releasing the numbers that will reshape America's political boundaries for the next decade.

Pennsylvania and New York lost two seats apiece, with a total of eight other states losing one seat apiece.

"It's more than just losing seats," said Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Ridge, whose

CENSUS 2000 STATS ABOUT TEXAS

- Almost one of every eight persons added to the U.S. population in the past decade was added in Texas.
- Texas had 16 House members in 1990. In 2000, the number doubled to 32.
- Texas' population increase of about 3.86 million during the 1990s is roughly the equivalent of adding the city of Dallas, the city of Houston and the city of San Antonio as they existed in Texas in 1990 to the state's population.
- In the past century, Texas' population grew almost seven-fold, from roughly 3 million to nearly 21 million.

Source: Steve Murdoch, director Texas State Data Center

state's delegation will shrink to 19.

"It's also a financial loss because so much of the money is tied to the dis-

tricts."

Many of the changes were predicted months ago, as experts examined 1999 estimates, but there were some

surprises.

Florida's population shot up 23.5 percent, while Georgia's grew by 26.4 percent.

"Now, we're where we ought to be and it is a tremendous gain for Georgia," said Linda Meggers, director of the Georgia Legislature's redistricting office, which will now have 13 congressional districts to reshape.

Texas and Arizona also reported huge gains as expected — sparked in part by booming immigrant populations.

Every state increased its population, though many not enough to maintain their congressional repre-

sentation.

Pennsylvania's population increased 3.4 percent.

New York's population jumped 5.5 percent.

Prewitt declared the decennial count to be a success but said he still was concerned that the government did not account for every resident.

Historically, minorities, rural residents, children and the poor are undercounted. Prewitt's agency is in the midst of a politically sensitive task — adjusting the headcount using scientific sampling methods.

Democrats generally support the adjustment, while many Republicans prefer the actual headcount.

Texas Senate picks Ratliff for lieutenant governor post

AUSTIN (AP) — Even though he has been chosen by his colleagues to take over the post of lieutenant governor, state Sen. Bill Ratliff says his agenda is no more important than those of the 30 other lawmakers in the state senate.

"This role is considerably different than a lieutenant governor's job which is elected by 20 million people," Ratliff said.

"I've been elected by my peers to preside over this session over the next two years and that is a different situation. I am still the senator from the First District and because of that, it is my philosophy that my agenda is no more important than 30 other agendas," he said.

That's the kind of attitude that has guided Ratliff, chosen Thursday by his colleagues in a secret vote to take over the post of lieutenant governor, through his 11 years as a state senator.

Ratliff, a Republican from Mount Pleasant, replaces Rick Perry, who was sworn in as governor last week when President-elect Bush resigned. He will take on the duties but not the title of lieutenant governor until the 2002 election. Ratliff said he was unsure if he would run then.

"I may not even like the job," said Ratliff, who

spoke to Perry by telephone after the election. The governor offered congratulations and help with the transition, Ratliff said.

As the state's second-highest ranking officer, Ratliff will keep his vote as a lawmaker as well as control the flow of legislation while presiding over the Senate.

Ratliff, 64, was chosen over Sen. David Sibley, R-Waco, in a 16-15 vote.

The vote came after the Texas Supreme Court ruled unanimously that the Senate could choose an interim lieutenant governor by secret ballot, overturning a lower court decision.

The justices decided that the courts had no jurisdiction in the matter. Some of the largest newspapers in the state had sued the senators to get them to hold the vote in public.

Now the senate president, Ratliff said he will give up his chairmanship of the senate's powerful finance committee, which helps guide the allocation of state dollars. He says his new role will be one of an "implementer and an expeditor."

"I think my role is to maintain order, maintain efficiency and provide leadership," said Ratliff, a civil engineer who has served in the senate since 1989.

Bush fills more Cabinet slots with naming of Paige, Norton

WASHINGTON (AP) — President-elect Bush chose Rod Paige, the Houston superintendent of schools, to be secretary of education today, and named former Colorado Atty. Gen. Gale Norton to be secretary of the interior.

He nominated Anthony Principi to be secretary of veterans affairs, the department in which he once served as deputy.

As expected, Bush named Wisconsin Gov. Tommy Thompson to become secretary of health and human services.

Paige becomes the second black member of the Bush Cabinet. The other is Colin Powell, the designated secretary of state.

Thompson, in his fourth term in Wisconsin, is the nation's longest-serving Republican governor, and was an early leader in the reform movement to cut welfare rolls.

Norton served eight years as Colorado attorney general.

On Thursday, Bush nominated Donald Rumsfeld, 68,

to be his defense secretary, picking a man who held the post a generation ago. Rumsfeld was the youngest defense secretary when President Ford named him to the job at 43, late in 1975.

Thompson, 59, will head one of the government's largest departments, one that comprises the Food and Drug Administration, the National Institutes of Health, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, among other agencies.

HHS also oversees the Medicare and Medicaid health insurance programs for elderly, disabled and poor, and the Head Start program for children.

Since 1986, when Thompson first was elected governor, the number of welfare families in Wisconsin has fallen from more than 98,000 to just over 16,000.

Paige is widely credited with making the Houston district, the seventh largest in the nation, one of the country's finest urban school districts.

Philadelphia shooting leaves seven people dead

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Six men and a woman were shot to death by four mask-wearing assailants who opened fire in a dilapidated row house known for drug activity, police said.

Three others were wounded during the shooting Thursday night in the ramshackle home, which one nearby resident described as a "drug house."

No suspects had been immediately arrested and

no weapon had been recovered.

Deputy Police Commissioner Sylvester Johnson said two of the victims had been selling drugs, and a small amount of crack cocaine was found in the house.

Six of the victims were found dead at the home and another died at a hospital.

One of the wounded was in critical condition early Friday, according to a

spokeswoman at the University of Pennsylvania hospital. A second was in serious condition and the third was listed as stable.

"It's sad," said Eugene Whitters, who lives a block away from the building surrounded by a dozen dilapidated homes with boarded-up windows, sagging awnings and overgrown lawns littered with fallen bricks.

Tina Washington, 44, said

she had often pulled young adults off the corner to get them away from drug activity.

"You pray, and you talk to them, and you keep talking to them until you're blue in the face," she said.

It was the nation's second multiple shooting in two days. On Tuesday, seven people were slain at a Massachusetts Internet company, allegedly by a co-worker.

One last chance to indulge before the resolutions kick in.

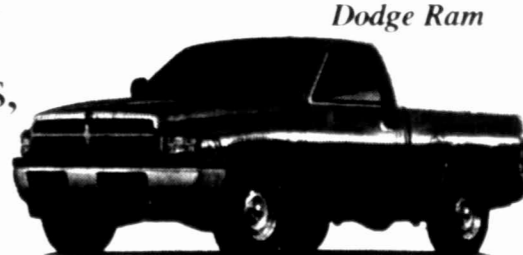
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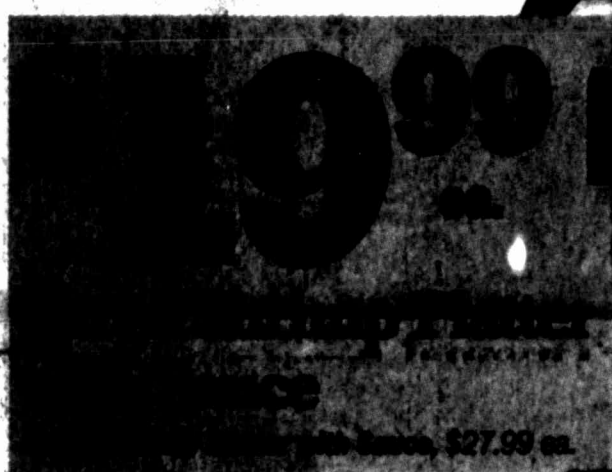
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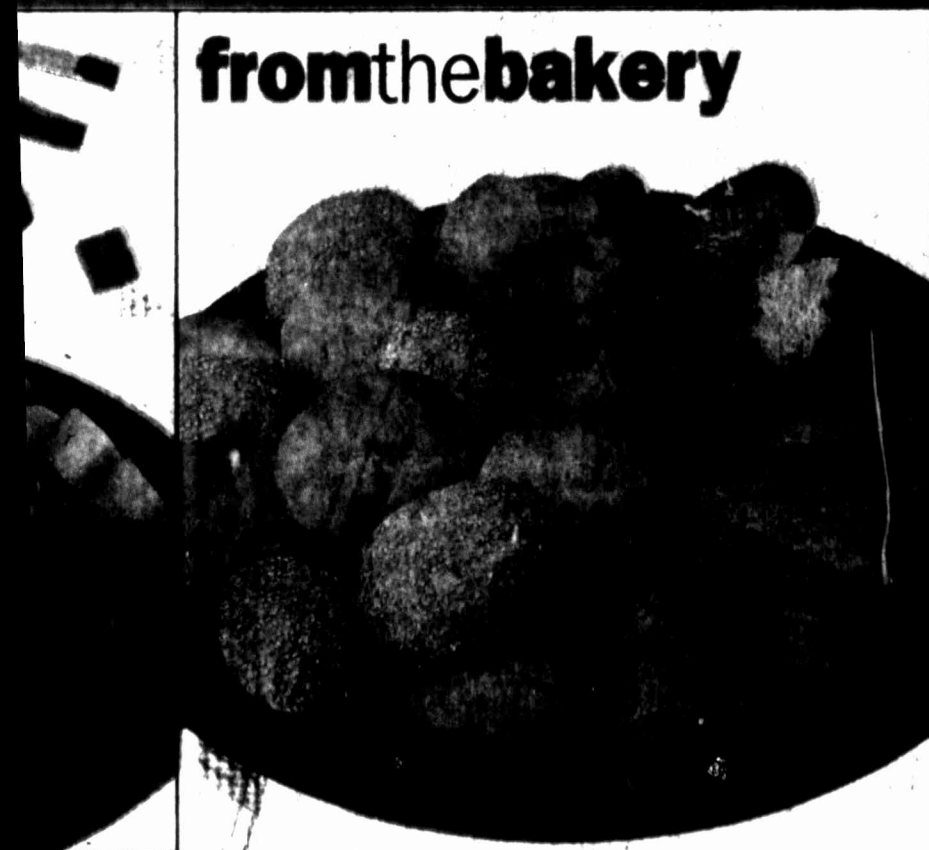


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EDITORIAL

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

FIRST AMENDMENT

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

John H. Walker Publisher John A. Moseley Managing Editor

Debbie Jensen Features Editor Bill McClellan News Editor

We salute:

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

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

This week we salute:

BOWE BUTLER, Big Spring High School senior, who was selected as a nominee to the U.S. Naval and Air Force academies.

VALERIE GARCIA and her neighbors who may have saved a residence in the 1400 block of Mt. Vernon by alertly notifying authorities.

Members of BAKER'S CHAPEL A.M.E., MOUNT BETHEL BAPTIST AND NORTH-SIDE BAPTIST who banded together to sing Christmas carols across Big Spring last week.

CITY OF BIG SPRING WORKERS, who are toiling around the clock to repair water line breaks which occurred after the latest cold snap.

AREA LAW ENFORCEMENT, who handled more traffic accident calls and stranded motorist reports over the past few days than anyone wants to think about.

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

OTHER VIEWS

With the end of the year approaching, people are making routine plans to spend the holidays traveling, celebrating and taking time off from work. It is easy to forget that just as we begin the routine of our post-holiday routine, that should have been a happy occasion.

The arrival of a new year, a new century and a new millennium was shadowed by a serious fear that computer break downs brought on by the Y2K problem would cause power outages, communications failures, banking disruptions, shortages of basic commodities and, in the worst scenarios, rioting and social chaos.

Overnight, doomsayers predicted, the 20th Century would give way to the Dark Ages.

Some people bought portable generators and laid in supplies of bottled water and canned goods. Some canceled travel plans, fearing that planes would drop out of the sky at the stroke of midnight. College football fans worried that some big bowl games might not even take place as planned.

the plant on New Year's Eve — to head off any computer-related problems that might arise. As the last seconds of 1999 ticked away, many Americans were not sure if they'd soon be drinking toasts to the new millennium or freezing in the dark.

As it happened, the Y2K problem turned out to be largely a phantom. This year, the world can anticipate the new year without the nagging dread that civilization is about to come to a nasty, chaotic end. People who got to spend the last New Year's Eve at work, waiting for computers to go haywire, will get to be at home, out on the town or in some vacation spot with family and friends. Everyone will get to savor the luxury of normality.

And if it bugged you that you couldn't fully enjoy the advent of a new millennium, remember that some people insist that it really doesn't arrive until Jan. 1, 2001. So maybe this is the perfect time to celebrate the event the way it deserves to be celebrated and couldn't really be last year. After all, the chance won't come again for 1,000 years — or at least 999.

THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Bush team shaping up very well

No one expects a president to be an expert on all matters touching government. There really are only two broad requirements for a successful presidency. First, he must have a firm sense of the "big picture" and know where he wants to go, and second, he should be a big-enough man to select Cabinet members and other advisers who are of proven stature.



JEFFREY HART

Harry Truman is an example of an unexpectedly successful president. When he succeeded Franklin Roosevelt in 1945, he was widely disdained. He was considered to be a Kansas City hack who had come up through the corrupt Pendergast machine. He had little education and had failed as a haberdasher. He didn't have a middle name — the "S" stood for nothing. No one expected much from Truman. He was the Little Man.

Only he wasn't. He had a great deal of common sense

and no patience with pretense. He had the self-confidence to have men of great stature like Dean Acheson and George Marshall on his team. He respected them, but they did not intimidate him.

And so Truman, in Acheson's phrase, was "present at the creation," when the foundations were laid down that would contain the Soviet Union and win the Cold War: the Marshall Plan to rebuild Europe, and NATO to block a Soviet tank attack on West Germany.

Winston Churchill delivered his famous "Iron Curtain" address in Fulton, Mo., with Truman seated behind him on the platform. This amounted to virtually an official declaration of Cold War. When the Soviets blockaded Berlin, Truman's airlift fed the city. When North Korea lunged south, Truman did his duty.

And, of course, the Soviets were aware every waking moment that Truman was the only man in the world who had ever dropped "the bomb" — in fact, two of them. Asked in later years whether he had second thoughts about that, Truman replied that he acted on the basis of the best information then avail-

able, that other information might come out later, but he never looked back, and he never lost sleep.

Jack Kennedy, who knew much less than he thought he did, deliberately chose a weak secretary of state in Dean Rusk. The idea was that Jack would be his own secretary of state.

With his brother Bobby at his elbow, he gave us a feckless invasion of Cuba that never had a chance, crazy plots to assassinate Fidel Castro and a weak performance with Nikita Khrushchev at Vienna. He managed to maneuver us to the brink of nuclear war, and his national security adviser, McGeorge Bundy, a Harvard dean, thought that a couple of American battalions would settle things with Gen. Vo Nguyen Giap in Vietnam.

Kennedy's administration consisted of know-it-alls who in fact knew little and had even less judgment. So far, George W. Bush has had the wisdom and confidence to choose serious people for his major posts.

Colin Powell, Bush's pick for secretary of state, brings more experience and gravitas. He is a Republican because he doesn't trust liberals with national security. If you think back on the major

secretaries of state, Powell brings a stature comparable to that of Acheson, John Foster Dulles, Henry Kissinger, George Shultz and James Baker. Bush is content to sit across the table from that.

If you think about President Clinton's Cabinet, the only first-rate figure has been Bob Rubin as Treasury secretary. Warren Christopher and Madeleine Albright had little stature. The attorney general, for some reason, had to be female, so Zoe Baird and Kimba Wood had "nanny tax" problems, and so we got Janet Reno. The Cabinet had to "look like America," so we got Ron Brown and a lot of other forgettable people.

Bush's selection of Condoleezza Rice for national security adviser continues Bush's choosing such high quality. A Stanford professor and expert on Russia, she has the stature for the job.

The important post at defense remains unfilled. Perhaps it is a good sign that Bush is being careful.

There will be a fight in the Senate over John Ashcroft, former Missouri senator. But Ashcroft is meticulously honest. After Reno, he should fumigate the office before moving in.



ADDRESSES

- HOWARD CO. COMMISSIONERS Office: 264-2200. Ben Lockhart, county judge — Home: 263-4155; Office: 264-2202. Emma Brown — Home: 267-2649. Jerry Kilgore — 263-0724; Work (Jerry's Barbers): 267-5471. Bill Crooker — Home: 263-2566. Gary Siner — Home: 263-0269; Work (Ponderosa Nursery): 263-4441. BIG SPRING CITY COUNCIL Russ McEwen, Mayor — Home: 263-0907; Work (Russ McEwen Insurance): 267-1413. Greg Biondini — Home: 267-6009; Work (Ponderosa Restaurant): 267-7421. Oscar Garcia, Mayor Pro Tem — Home: 264-0026; Work (Cornell Corrections): 268-1227. Stephanie Horton — Home: 264-0306; Work (VA Medical Center): 263-7361. Chuck Cawthon — Home: 263-7490; Work (Chuck's Surplus): 263-1142. Tommy Tune — Home: 267-4652; Work (Howard College): 264-5000. Joann Smoot — Home: 267-6965; Work (BSISD): 264-3600.

Senate's dilemma: What about Ashcroft?

An early test for Democrats in the newly aligned 50-50 Senate will be the confirmation of Missouri Senator John Ashcroft as the nation's top law enforcement official. An unyielding supporter of the death penalty and opponent of abortion rights, Ashcroft chills the blood of liberals and has moderates wondering why President-elect Bush picked a man so polarizing when he had other more qualified conservatives to choose from. Democrats will use the confirmation process to embarrass Bush, and make him spend valuable time and political capital defending the nomination.



JACK ANDERSON

If Ashcroft weren't a former senator, he'd be an easy target for Democrats to defeat. But the betting is that in the end Democrats will vote to confirm Ashcroft as Attorney General just as they confirmed Clarence Thomas for the Supreme Court despite grave reservations about his far-right ideology. Senators are traditionally reluctant to oppose a presidential nominee on ideological grounds. When Republican Senator John Tower lost out as Secretary of Defense, it wasn't because his colleagues on the other side of the aisle disagreed with him. Allegations brought to light about Tower's drinking and womanizing served to discredit him in the eyes of influential conservatives, and they torpedoed his nomination with Democrats happily joining the throng. It is unlikely that information about Ashcroft's private life will prove his undoing. Devoutly religious and known for his abstemious ways, Ashcroft appears every bit the role model he claims to be. Besides, after the revelations of the last few years, from the impeachment of President Clinton to the extramarital misdeeds of leading members of

Congress, the era when scandal could bring down a nomination may be over.

That's why Democrats need to do some soul-searching. If they're opposed to Ashcroft because they don't trust him to enforce the nation's civil-rights laws, or protect women who seek an abortion, why not take a principled stand and vote against him on those grounds? If Democrats think Bush is trying to re-make America through the courts, and that Ashcroft will be his tool, shouldn't Democrats stand up against his nomination?

For those Americans who support a more conservative agenda, and who would like to see Roe v. Wade overturned, Ashcroft is an excellent choice for Attorney General. It's up to the Democrats in the Senate. Are they more interested in preserving the goodwill within their club? Or do they see their role as protectors of hard-won rights? The fight over Ashcroft is but a trial run for what lies ahead. Bush is likely to get two, three, perhaps even

four Supreme Court appointments to fill. Four of the current justices are over the age of 65, and some, like Chief Justice Rehnquist and Justice O'Connor, might retire knowing their successors are safely in the hands of a Republican president.

There are four votes in the current court to overturn Roe, the 1973 decision legalizing abortion, and Bush may wish to strengthen the conservative faction on this and other issues.

One name that has been floated as a possible Bush appointee is Utah Senator Orrin Hatch.

An unabashed conservative, his nomination would satisfy the Republican Right and paralyze the Democrats.

A warm and gregarious man, he enjoys collegial friendships with many Democrats, including Massachusetts Senator Ted Kennedy. Would Kennedy vote against his good friend knowing that Hatch could well be the fifth vote to overturn Roe? That is the dilemma Democrats in a divided Senate must confront.

How To CONTACT Us In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us: • In person at 710 Scurry St. • By telephone at 263 7331 • By fax at 264 7205 • By e-mail at either bsherald@xroadstx.com or jwalker@xroadstx.com. • By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

Mallard Fillmore by BRUCE TINSLEY MORE! Mallard's Last Look at the year 2000... In New York's World Series, the favorite team of the city's Yuppies, celebrities and elitist urban sophisticates beat Joe Six-Pack's team. INCIDENTALLY, The same thing happened in New York's Senate Race.

IN Lady H... opene... Howa... Hawks... loss to... during... ing r... Scottsd... Scottsd... Karm... the Lad... points a... while I... added 1... the losin... Now 6... the Lady... ed to pl... tonight a... Scottsda... Hawks... in tour... Thursday... to Utah... opening... Dixie To... George, U... Zach M... while De... 14 and... added 10... Now 5-8... the Hav... Western... Athletic C... Midland... consolatio... YMCA s... basketba... Element... dents may... take part... ketball ca... by forme... Lady Stee... Loter. The cam... 3-5 with... grades K-2... 9:15 a.m... grades 3-6... 10 a.m. to... The camp... ed to 40 y... age group... Fees are... members... and no fee... of members... For mor... call the YM... Area coa... to transm... The Hera... Crossroads... ball coache... provided... varsity sch... ters for the... son to do s... possible. Rosters... can be faxe... tion of Joh... 264-7205. ACS still... Texas Go... The Am... Society is... the Texas... entitles ho... than 680 r... 289 cours... the state. The pass... Both th... Country... Comanche... Course are... For mor... call 1-800... check the... site at ww... Fastpitch... umpires... Umpires... work high... games thr... Texas, a... Permian... Umpires A... cials. For mor... call Mack... 520-5961. ON T... Televisi... COLLEGE... 4 p.m. -... LSU vs... ESPN, Ch... 7:30 p.m... Bowl, Tex... ESPN, Ch... HOCKEY... 7:30 p.m... Kings at D... Ch. 29.

IN BRIEF

Lady Hawks drop opener at toumey
Howard College's Lady Hawks suffered a 79-55 loss to Central Arizona during Thursday's opening round of the Scottsdale Classic in Scottsdale, Ariz. Karmica Freeney led the Lady Hawks with 11 points and 14 rebounds, while Latonya Jackson added 10 more points in the losing effort. Now 6-6 on the season, the Lady Hawks were slated to play Phoenix College tonight and then face host Scottsdale on Saturday.

Hawks absorb loss in tournament opener
Poor shooting doomed Howard College's Hawks Thursday in an 80-56 loss to Utah Valley in the opening round of the Dixie Tournament in St. George, Utah. Zach Moss paced the Hawks with 15 points, while Derrick Tarver had 14 and Darius Mattear added 10 more. Now 5-8 on the season, the Hawks will face Western Junior College Athletic Conference rival Midland College today in consolation bracket play.

YMCA schedules basketball camp
Elementary school students may now register to take part in a YMCA basketball camp conducted by former Big Spring Lady Steers coach Kathy Loter. The camp is set for Jan. 3-5 with students in grades K-2 attending at 9:15 a.m. and those in grades 3-6 meeting from 10 a.m. to noon. The camp will be limited to 40 youngsters per age group. Fees are \$10 for non members of the YMCA and no fee will be charged of members. 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 still 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. Both the Big Spring Country Club and Comanche Trail Golf Course are participating. 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. For more information, call Mack Gipson at (915) 520-5961.

ON THE AIR
Television COLLEGE FOOTBALL
4 p.m. — Peach Bowl, LSU vs. Georgia Tech, ESPN, Ch. 30.
7:30 p.m. — Holiday Bowl, Texas vs. Oregon, ESPN, Ch. 30.
HOCKEY
7:30 p.m. — Los Angeles Kings at Dallas Stars, FXS, Ch. 29.

Texas, Oregon looking to make more Holiday Bowl magic

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Put Texas and Oregon on the same field, and a classic Holiday Bowl might break out. Comeback wins in the fourth quarter or overtime? Oregon had plenty of those this year. Score lots of points? Texas averages almost 40 a game. Yes, the Holiday Bowl might live up to its wild reputation when No. 8 Oregon and No. 12 Texas, both 9-2, play Friday night. "I'd like that," said coach Mike Bellotti, whose Ducks were part of a Pacific Northwest uprising in the Pac-10 this season. "I think it can be a great football game. Texas' ability level is greater

than ours, so we're going to have play better, play harder. If we can do that, and we match up, that'll be to our advantage." The Ducks, of course, would be playing in the Rose Bowl if not for their devastating 23-13 loss to rival Oregon State on Nov. 18, when quarterback Joey Harrington committed six turnovers. Oregon was the only team to beat No. 4 Washington, which earned the Pac-10's Rose Bowl berth even though the Huskies, Ducks and Beavers tied at 7-1 in the conference. While Harrington and Bellotti say the Oregon State loss will stick with them forever, they don't look at the Holiday Bowl as a consolation prize.

If the Ducks win, they'll have the first 10-win season in their 105-year history. "There was a mourning period," Harrington said. "But now everybody's got a spring in their step. I think it's a great chance to go out on top against one of the best teams in the country." Besides playing a big-name program, the Ducks get valuable exposure to the fertile Southern California recruiting scene. And Bellotti said this is Oregon's biggest challenge since playing Penn State in the Rose Bowl after the 1994 season. He's not just butting up his opponent, either. The Longhorns have an edge with two

mammoth All-American linemen — 365-pound offensive tackle Leonard Davis, whose nickname is "Dancin' Bear," and defensive tackle Casey Hampton. And the Longhorns' six-game winning streak — which started a week after they lost 63-14 to Oklahoma — makes them one of the nation's hottest teams. "If Washington and Oregon State are Top 10 teams, this is a Top 10 team," Bellotti said of the Longhorns. "They possess as many or more weapons than anybody we've played this year. In fact, they are the best team we've played this year. Hands down, no question."



HERALD photo/Jim Fierro

Big Spring freshman Kim Wrightsil (24) applies defensive pressure during the Lady Steers win over Lamesa on Dec. 5. Wrightsil and LaTrisha Rollins led the Lady Steers in scoring Thursday in a 64-55 loss to Corpus Christi Ray at the Texas Invitational Basketball Tournament in Austin.

Lady Steers' rally falls short in tournament opener

By VALERIE AVERY
Herald Correspondent

AUSTIN — Big Spring's Lady Steers dropped their opening game Thursday at the Texas Invitational Basketball Tournament at Austin Westlake, suffering a 64-55 loss to class 5A Corpus Christi W.B. Ray. Ray jumped out to a 16-8 first-quarter lead and led by as many as 19 points in the third quarter before Big Spring began hippping away. Kim Wrightsil's three-pointer late in the fourth period closed the gap to 54-52 before Ray stalled and iced the win going 5-for-6 from the charity stripe.

Wrightsil and LaTrisha Rollins led Big Spring's scorers with 12 points apiece, while Melissa Forth rounded out those in double figures with 11. Big Spring will face Harlingen South today.
Corpus Christi Ray 64.
Lady Steers 55.
CC RAY — Mata 9, Fowler 2, Davis 17, Hosey 4, Head 5, Perry 17, Robertson 4, Reyes 6. Totals 23 19-27 64.
BIG SPRING — Bryant 2, Long 2, Wrightsil 12, Forth 11, Gwyn 6, Rollins 12, Braxton 7, Pudliner 2, Henniken 1. Totals 18 15-32 55.
Score by Quarters:
CC RAY 16 21 6 21-64
BIG SPRING 8 15 11 21-55
Three-point goal.: Ray 1 (Head), Big Spring 4 (Wrightsil 2, Rollins, Braxton). Total fouls: Ray 24, Big Spring 22. Fouled out: None. Technical fouls: None. Records: Ray 14-3, Big Spring 11-4.

Florida's Donovan disagrees with poll despite Gators' win

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

When a college basketball coach disagrees with the Top 25, it's usually because he feels his team isn't as high as it should be. Florida's Billy Donovan is arguing the other way. "In my opinion, we are the most underrated fifth-ranked team in the nation," Donovan said Thursday night after Florida's 103-85 victory over Tulane in the Sugar Bowl Classic in New Orleans. "I don't even think we should be in the Top 20. I'm not saying that just based on today's performance. It's based on the entire year." The Gators' current ranking is the first Top 5 appearance in school history and it comes off last season's national runner-up finish. Donovan wasn't thinking about any of that after Teddy Dupuy's career-high 28 points, including seven 3-pointers, led the Gators (9-1) to their sixth straight win. Florida's press forced 25 turnovers, but that didn't satisfy Donovan, either. He was convinced Florida would have lost had it not hit a season-high 13 3-pointers and shot 57 percent from the field in the first half. "If we didn't shoot the ball particularly well from the 3-point line, they would have absolutely destroyed us," Donovan said. "They outplayed us, they outthusted us, they outworked us." In other games involving ranked teams Thursday, it was: No. 6 Tennessee 92, George Washington 81; No. 8 Virginia 99, Bucknell 49; No. 10 Connecticut 67, Stony Brook 58; No. 12 Arizona 72, Butler 60; No. 15 Syracuse 61, Columbia 47; No. 19 Cincinnati 65, North Carolina-Wilmington 55; and No. 23 Iowa 69, Detroit 68.

"A win is a win," Dupuy said. "We're satisfied, but we always want to play better." Brent Wright scored 20 points for Florida and Udonis Haslem added 15. Linton Johnson was 10-for-13 from the field and had 22 points for the Green Wave (5-5). "They're an excellent team," Tulane coach Shawn Finney said. "There are so many 3-point weapons. When you can score inside and out, that's what makes you dangerous. They're definitely one of the best teams in the country."
No. 6 Tennessee 92.
George Washington 81
Tony Harris scored half of the points in a 20-4 run that let the Volunteers (11-1) erase a 64-57 deficit with 12 minutes left. Tennessee's last field goal came with 5:33 to play and it went 23-of-27 from the free throw line the rest of the way.
Chris Monroe led the Colonials (5-5) with 27 points, but SirValian Brown, who had been averaging 20.7 points, finished with 17 on 4-for-19 shooting.
No. 8 Virginia 99.
Bucknell 49
Travis Watson had 14 points and 11 rebounds as the Cavaliers (9-0) continued their best start in eight years. Virginia's man-to-man defense held Bucknell (5-5) to 33 percent shooting and forced 27 turnovers, while the Cavaliers finished with a 52-36 rebound advantage.
No. 10 Connecticut 67.
Stony Brook 58
Tony Robertson had 14 points as the Huskies (11-1) continued to struggle from the outside, going 3-for-10 from 3-point range after missing all nine shots from beyond the arc in Tuesday's win over Rhode Island.
Josh Little was 6-of-7 from 3-point range and had 22 points for the Seawolves, who shot 75 percent in the second half and were within 56-53 with less than five minutes left at the Hartford Civic Center.

West Virginia's Nehlen wraps up career with bowl victory

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Don Nehlen and Dirk Koetter took care of some unfinished business. Nehlen closed his 21-year run at West Virginia on Thursday as the Mountaineers ended an eight-game bowl losing streak with a 49-38 victory over Mississippi in the Music City Bowl. "We're pleased as the devil. We've had a long dry spell," Nehlen said. "If nothing else, the jokes will disappear in Morgantown for a while. This game was something." Koetter, coaching Boise State for the final time before taking over at Arizona State, directed the Broncos to a 38-23 victory over Texas-El Paso in the Humanitarian Bowl. "There's a lot to be proud of, and not just in terms of wins and losses," Koetter said. "We improved the infrastructure. We recruited a lot of good, young talent. I think you'll see Boise State be a factor for years to come." In other games Thursday, Iowa State beat Pittsburgh 37-29 in the Insight.com Bowl, and North

Carolina State rallied to edge Minnesota 38-30 in the Micronpc.com Bowl. Brad Lewis threw five touchdown passes and finished with 318 yards passing in West Virginia's victory in Nashville, Tenn. "I wanted to walk off this field knowing I played 100 percent for coach Nehlen and myself," Lewis said. West Virginia needed just 18 plays to score five first-half touchdowns, and led 49-9 midway through the third quarter. Mississippi's Eli Manning, the redshirt freshman son of Archie Manning and brother of Peyton Manning, threw three TD passes in the fourth quarter. Both teams finished the season 7-5. Nehlen, 202-128-8 in 30 seasons as a head coach, had not won a bowl game since the 1984 Bluebonnet. That also was the final game as a player for his replacement, Rich Rodriguez. Today, it is Texas vs. Oregon in the Holiday Bowl, Colorado State vs. Louisville in the Liberty Bowl,

UCLA vs. Wisconsin in the Sun Bowl, and Georgia Tech vs. LSU in the Peach Bowl. On Saturday, Nebraska will face Northwestern in the Alamo Bowl.
Humanitarian Bowl
Boise St. 38,
UTEP 23
At Boise, Idaho, Bart Hendricks ran for two touchdowns, threw for another and caught a late scoring pass for Boise State. Hendricks was 17-of-29 for 247 yards and ran for another 57 yards. The two-time player of the year in the Big West was selected the game's most valuable player for the Broncos (10-2). Boise State extended its home winning streak to 14 games with its second straight victory in the bowl game. Last year, the Broncos beat Louisville 34-31.
Insight.com Bowl
Iowa St. 37,
Pittsburgh 29
At Phoenix Sage Rosenfels completed 23 of 34 passes for 308 yards

and two touchdowns, both to Chris Anthony, as Iowa State beat Pittsburgh for its first bowl victory. Iowa State (9-3), 0-4 in bowl games entering the contest, had its first nine-win season since 1906. Pittsburgh's Antonio Bryant, the winner of the Biletnikoff Award as the nation's top receiver, caught five passes for 155 yards, including touchdowns of 72 and 44 yards.
Micronpc.com Bowl
NC State 38,
Minnesota 30
At Miami, North Carolina State spotted Minnesota a 24-point lead, then roared back behind Philip Rivers and Koren Robinson. Robinson scored on a 19 yard reverse in a 17-point third quarter, then scored the go-ahead touchdown on a 23-yard pass from Rivers with 11:01 left. The Wolfpack (8-4) rallied for five fourth-quarter wins during the regular season. Minnesota (6-6) led 24-8 at the half, but wasted a Micron Bowl record 246-yard rushing performance from Tellis Redmon.

DEC 29 2000

SPORTS EXTRA

TOP 25 - WOMEN

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

TOP 25 - MEN

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

FINAL NFL STANDINGS

Table showing final NFL standings for American and National Conferences, including team names, records, and playoff status.

COLLEGE SCORES

Table listing college basketball scores for men's and women's games, including team names and final scores.

TRANSACTIONS

Text detailing various player transactions, trades, and signings across different sports leagues.

NFL PLAYOFFS

Text providing details on NFL playoff games, including matchups, times, and broadcast information.

BOWL SCHEDULE

Text listing the schedule for various college football bowl games, including dates and participating teams.

Advertisement for 'FIRST BABY' featuring a baby and text about the contest rules and prizes.

Advertisement for Casa Blanca Restaurant celebrating its 23rd anniversary with a birthday message and gift basket offer.

Advertisement for T-N-T BAR-B-QUE offering a New Year's celebration with BBQ dinner and gift basket.

Advertisement for Big Mike's Liquor Store featuring liquor, beer, and wine, with a New Year's Eve promotion.

Advertisement for The Oasis Cafe offering a variety of food items like hamburgers, tacos, and salads.

Advertisement for Halfman's Creations offering party supplies, balloons, and gift baskets.

Advertisement for The Medicine Shoppe offering a 'Holiday Prescription' with a gift basket.

Advertisement for Mitchem & Sons Wrecker Service offering towing and wrecker services.

Advertisement for Gale's Sweet Shoppe offering cookies and a baby gift basket.

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It's time to start looking for a few tax tips

By BETH MITCHELL Correspondent

Tax season is just around the corner, and local experts say preparation and education are the keys to maximizing your refund and putting it back to work for you.

Charitable contributions are on many minds around the holidays, when people often give to the favorites charities and causes. But how do those contributions figure in to your taxes?

Janice Grifford of Honey Tax Service said, "Charitable contributions are deductible on your income tax. However they may not be usable. There is a big difference in deductibility and usability."

"Charitable contributions are part of Schedule A. A taxpayer would deduct the larger of Schedule A or the

standard deduction. Therefore, if the Schedule A is less than the standard deduction, then the charitable contribution will not be usable."

Next, the taxpayer has to determine exactly what qualifies as a charitable contribution. Grifford compiled a list.

Money or property given to:

- Churches, synagogues, temples, etc.
• Federal, state, and local governments, if solely for public purposes.
• Nonprofit schools, hospitals, and volunteer fire companies.

- Salvation Army, Red Cross, United Way, Boy/Girl Scouts, Boys/Girls Clubs of America, etc.
• War veterans groups
• Documentation for any deduction is essential," Grifford said. "If you are ever audited, organized doc-

TIPS
• Charitable contributions are deductible, but they may not be usable.
• Remember to check and see if your contribution qualifies as charitable for tax purposes.
• Invest your tax refund: Try a Tax-Managed Mutual Fund.

umentation goes a long way to add to your credibility."

What you might think would qualify as a deduction may not. So here is a list of gifts not deductible:

- Money or property given to:
• Civic leagues, social and sports clubs, labor unions, or the chamber of commerce.
• Foreign organizations.
• Groups that are run for

personal profit.

- Groups whose purpose is to lobby for law changes.
• Homeowners' associations.

- Political groups or candidates for public office.
• Costs of raffle, bingo or lottery tickets.

- Dues, fees, or bills paid to the country club.
• Lodges, fraternal orders or similar groups.

- Tuition.
• Value of blood given to a blood bank.
• Value of time or services rendered by the taxpayer.

So take your deductions and enjoy the tax savings and know that not only are you a charitable soul but you are a tax savvy individual.

Do you have plans for your tax refund? Forrest Wester, a Big Spring financial planner, suggests a Tax-Managed Mutual Fund. "Tax Managed funds buy

investments that aren't the type you would sell but hold for your heirs or your favorite charities without having to pay high capital gains - more taxes!" Wester said.

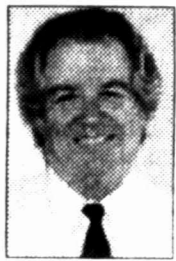
To illustrate his point, Wester told of a young couple who recently came to him with \$250 in hand, asking what should they do to create wealth. He directed them to a mutual fund and they agreed to a withdrawal of \$50 a month from their checking account to go in the fund.

"They can expect to see their money double every five years," Wester said. "It's a wonder that (a department store) can announce a sale of 30 percent off and we all run to the store to buy, but when the market drops 30 percent, everyone runs away. Now's the time to jump in!"

What a difference a child can make!

Forty-three hours and 1,800 miles after leaving Rainier, Ore.,

we arrived at my parents' home. We had made one brief stop at my wife's parents, but other than that, the five of us had lived in the car.



DWAYNE WHEAT

Our 9-month-old daughter had fared the best a n d arrived rested and full of energy that Christmas morning so many years ago.

After what seemed like a very brief sleep break, we were awakened for Christmas dinner.

When I walked into the living room, I realized how much difference a child can make - especially a first grandchild. On arriving, we discovered that my dad could hardly move and walk because of the problems that he was having with his arthritis.

Now to my complete amazement, I saw him stretched out on his back with our small daughter beside him.

Their heads were together (under the Christmas tree) as they watched the Christmas lights blink. Their mutual fascination and satisfaction were obvious. He who could hardly move a scant five hours earlier, now seemed able to do whatever our daughter required. It was truly an awesome transformation.

The Christmas season tells us what a difference a child has made in the lives of people all over the world. The coming of the Christ child revealed God's great love for people, and His readiness to go to extreme lengths to demonstrate that love.

Paul, in his letter to the Philippians, tells us just who that baby is, when he wrote of Christ:

"Who, being in the very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death - even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name." [2:8-9, NIV]

What a wonderful difference a child makes in our lives. And what an extraordinary difference it made when God chose to come as a child on that first Christmas morning.

Dwayne Wheat is pastor at Berea Baptist Church.

Authors ask how we can do good wisely

DALLAS (AP) - The title of a new book sounds like an attack on the year's most generous season: The Ethics of Giving and Receiving: Am I My Foolish Brother's Keeper?

The first essay, by University of Chicago philosophy professor Leon Kass, does read a little like "how the Grinch studied Aristotle." Dr. Kass' answer to the title question is a qualified "no."

Philanthropy, he asserts, should be linked with justice. And justice, he writes, creates standards for wise giving.

People responsible for their own misfortune drug addicts, for instance should get bumped to the end of the line. And help should generally be issued with strings attached, such as requiring someone on welfare to eventually get a job.

But the point of the book is really to find an intelligent way to answer the title question with a qualified "yes," said the book's co-editor, Southern Methodist University philosophy professor William May.

"After all, no single one of us is exempt from being foolish," he said. The book, published this month by Southern Methodist University Press, tries to make philosophy practical. Using academicians and philanthropy professionals, it brings the tools of philosophy and ethics to bear on the question of how to do good wisely.

Mostly, it suggests that we err on the side of basic benevolence, while admitting that there must be standards set to divide limited resources.

The first section consists of competing essays by Dr. Kass and three SMU ethics professors. But most of the book is about and by people who do philanthropy for a living through foundations, voluntary organizations or faith-based agencies.

While many of the essays are about large-scale giving, the discussion also applies to smaller donations. This is a season when most people's mailboxes are stuffed with requests for donations from a wide spectrum of seemingly worthwhile causes. So anyone but a complete Scrooge gets a daily pang wondering which if any causes are worth supporting.

"We're publishing in a part of the country where many people may not state the argument as well as Leon Kass, but a lot of people are thinking it," Dr. May said.

So what kinds of answers does the book offer? Mostly, it suggests that we err on the side of basic benevolence, while admitting that there must be standards set to divide limited

resources.

For instance, it's pretty hard to decide who is and is not deserving, suggests SMU ethics professor Steven Sverdlid. The close calls would require an unwieldy, courtroom-like, adversarial system.

Robin Lovin, dean of the SMU theology school, is concerned about the physical and emotional distance between the wealthy and the needy in America. He fears more that potential donors will lose the empathy needed for compassion than that they will apply too-strict standards of justice to their charity.

And Charles Curran looks at giving through a Christian lens. The SMU ethics professor suggests that God's expansive compassion, as set forth in Christian Scriptures, offers a model for people to view their obligations to the poor.

The writing is high-minded but readable. And that, too, was a goal of the book, Dr. May said. He wanted the writers to avoid the pitfalls of academic jargon and too-simple popularizing.

"I wanted to encourage a kind of writing that goes out and over to an audience of intelligent inquirers," he said.

Most of the experts in the book have some connection to the Dallas See GOOD, Page 2B

CHURCH NEWS

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Start the new year with us at our special services on Sunday, Dec. 31. We have one morning service at 10 a.m. and a special New Year's Eve service at 7 p.m. Bring a friend and join us.

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 about St. Paul Lutheran Church, 810 Scurry.

First Assembly of God

First Assembly of God will be celebrating the New Year this Sunday in a very unique way. In the morning service at 10:40 Pastor Havener will speak on the subject, "My Predictions for the Future." Each year the National Tabloids are filled with articles predicting the future. It is interesting, however, that in a recent survey they found that on average the Tabloid Predictions were only about 3 percent right. Pastor Havener will be giving three predictions in this message that will be 100 percent right.

The evening service will begin at 8 p.m. with a great two hour sing. The sing will be followed by a time of refreshments and fellowship. Then at 11 p.m. there will be an outstanding "Watchnight" service to close out the old year and bring in the new.

Pastor Havener and congregation invite the public to join them for this unique day of worship at First Assembly located at Fourth and Lancaster.

Baker's Chapel AME

A New Year's Eve service is planned at Baker's Chapel AME Church, beginning at 10 p.m. A dinner will follow for all in attendance. The public is welcome to attend.

Catholic hierarchy asks for forgiveness

BALTIMORE (AP) - The cardinal himself stood before the racially diverse congregation to make a confession.

"Among the sad facts of our own early history is that religious communities, Catholic laity and even our first bishop had slaves," Cardinal William Keeler said from the pulpit of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

"The slave of Bishop (John) Carroll was set free in the end, but the Catholic slaves and free blacks were required, when they came to the Basilica in the early days, to take their places in the galleries in the rear of the church."

Keeler asked forgiveness from fellow Catholics for the church's legacy of slavery and segregation, calling racism "a spiritual malady that gnawed at the moral fiber of our nation, our community and our church."

Following the lead of Pope John Paul II - who in March asked forgiveness from God for wrongs committed by the Catholic Church over the centuries,

including those inflicted on Jews, women and minorities - church leaders around the world have been delivering messages of regret and reconciliation this year.

It's all part of the church's observance of a Jubilee year, meant to coincide with the 2,000th anniversary of the birth of Christ. Taken from a Jewish tradition, jubilee years were marked by acts of grace such as forgiving debts and releasing prisoners.

John Paul built on that tradition with his apology and calls to renew faith, reduce Third World debt and abolish capital punishment.

At what he called an "extraordinary service," Keeler tailored his message to the history of Maryland's church, specifically its imperfect record on race relations. Baltimore was the first Catholic archdiocese in the United States.

Earlier, Cardinal Roger Mahony of Los Angeles and Cardinal Bernard Law of Boston apologized on the church's behalf for sexual abuse, racism, anti-Semitism and mistreatment of women and homosexuals.

"We turn to God and acknowledge

our sins, the sins which obscure the holiness of the church today and the sins which have obscured that holiness in years past," Law said in July at Encuentro 2000, a national gathering of Catholics in Los Angeles.

Bishops in Colorado and Oakland, Calif., similarly apologized and Santa Fe, N.M., Archbishop Michael Sheehan sought pardon from American Indians, among others, for the church's uneven record as missionaries during colonization.

Even three orders of nuns in Bardstown, Ky., apologized for the use of slave labor by their predecessors.

"What I see is, in each setting, there is a different set of problems, a different set of challenges," Keeler said before his service. "We're responding to the challenges in this setting."

In the past, the church has deflected responsibility by simply acknowledging that its members are sinners, said Rev. Thomas Reese, editor of America, a weekly magazine published by the Jesuits.

"In church terms, it's a pretty big See CATHOLIC, Page 2B

SLICE of

CLUB NEWS

The Mighty Oaks Club met on Dec. 15, at the senior citizens center. No dues were collected, instead \$1 donation by each member was given to the senior center. IdaBelle Bankston handed out new rosters 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 as for date and time and amount for purchases of gifts were made.

Eighteen members and two guests 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.

RELIGION NEWS

NEW YORK (AP) - A church women's group committed to interdenominational harmony sounded a note of discord when it fired half its staff before Christmas. Now at least two of its member organizations are considering withdrawing funds.

Earlier this month, the board of the New York-based Church Women United abruptly fired or asked for the resignations of executive director Kathleen Hurty and six other employees.

In a letter to the group's more than 100 members, Hurty said that she had resigned under duress. "It was in reality not a resignation but a termination," she wrote.

Last week, United Methodist Women, Church Women United's largest contributor, decided to suspend its \$32,525 annual contribution "until there is

See NEWS, Page 3B

WELL SAID

I can't imagine a person becoming a success who doesn't give up this game of life everything he's got.

Walter Cronkite

Shoot for the moon. Even if you miss, you'll land among the stars.

Anonymous

DECEMBER 29, 2000

GOOD

CATHOLIC

Continued from Page 1B

Continued from Page 1B

area. That connection was by design, to demonstrate the quality of local thinking about this subject, Dr. May said.

"Dallas is given to an inferiority feeling and brings its celebrities in from elsewhere," he said.

The book grew out of conferences held at in 1996 and 1997 by SMU's Cary M. Maguire Center for Ethics and Public Responsibility, where Dr. May served at the center's first director. One of the center's goals is to find ways to move its work beyond the campus, he said.

"A book converts a conference into an extended public conversation," he said.

Dr. May chose Dr. Kass to "keynote" the book partly because the two are friends and partly because Dr. Kass is a particularly articulate advocate of the conservative position on giving, Dr. May said.

"Given finite resources, how should we be good stewards in their use?" he said. "Liberalism, in the past, insufficiently attended to that challenge."

The timeliness of the book, published during the pre-Christmas rush of shopping and charity appeals, was not part of a plan, though.

"The gestation period for books is so long and so erratic," Dr. May said. "I can't claim some mastermind was in the background planning this."

Steeple chase

Churches sought for cell phone antenna sites

NEWBURY, Vt. (AP) — If God calls, the members of the First Congregational Church will be ready — especially if the deity uses a cell phone.

High up on the sides of the 144-year-old church's steeple, barely perceptible from the quiet main road of the village, are two white plastic panels, one facing up the Connecticut River valley and the other facing down.

Hidden behind those panels, invisible to anyone gazing toward the spire of the traditional white New England church, are two antennas installed about a year ago by Cellular One, a wireless phone company serving the area.

"I've had people riding in the car with me as we come by and they say, 'I thought you were going to put an antenna in your steeple,'" said Marlene Gilson, chairwoman of the church's trustees.

The 80-member congregation had fallen on lean times as the new millennium approached. Members were finding it a burden to maintain what the National Register of Historic Places has called "an outstanding example of Greek revival ecclesiastical architecture." A century and a half of Vermont winters had taken their toll. Paint was peeling, the steeple had been patched numerous times, but still was being invaded by pigeons. The bill for fixing the steeple was expected to be more than \$20,000.

"We're like every other church," said church moderator Bill Ellithorpe. "We have special funds for the carpet, a fund for the stained glass. We had a steeple fund, which didn't have a lot of money in it, compared to what needed to be done."

It was in 1998 that a marriage of needs was proposed. Holly Ernst Groschner, then a Newbury resident, church member and lawyer representing Cellular One, approached church leaders.

Why not put the cellular antenna her client wanted to build in Newbury in the church spire, and have the church collect enough rent to shore up its steeple and its finances?

deal," Reese said. "What's different this year is we're doing this as a community, as an institution, and that's something that's hard for institutions to do."

The church itself has long been a minority in America. Government leaders and the elite rarely were Catholics, so the church here "couldn't do as much damage," Reese said.

Still, the church admits it did not lead the way in social justice at times when slavery, segregation and gender inequality were sanctioned by the government, he said.

"When you go to confession, you confess your sins. You don't try to make excuses," Reese said.

Lawrence Cunningham, a theology professor at the University of Notre Dame, said such apologies are uncommon throughout history.

Yet popes and, more typically, saints in the Middle Ages "would talk about faults in the church and the need to correct them," he said.

The cultivating of "inter-

religious and ecumenical relationships" in the 20th century paved the way for the collective introspection that has helped the church confront its historical legacy, Cunningham said.

"I think there has arisen in the church, at the intellectual and hierarchical levels, a greater historical conscience," he said.

Although some say the apologies are too little, too late, Annette Kane, executive director of the Washington-based National Council of Catholic Women, welcomed them.

"It's not just a matter of saying, 'Sorry,' but saying, 'We're going to do business a different way.'" She urged that women should be given greater roles in the church.

Hilbert Stanley, executive director of the Baltimore-based National Black Catholic Congress, said the church has made "some progress" in the past 30 years, but he doesn't expect racism to be eliminated overnight.

The apologies were positive steps, he said, as were the canonization of

Josephine Bakhita, from Sudan, as a saint in October and appointment of Edward Braxton, who is black, as bishop of Lake Charles, La. But those big changes are


easier to make than subtler ones, such as changing the attitudes of local parishioners.

"There are still some pockets in this diocese and in the

country where blacks are not welcome," he said. "When you go to church, you ought to feel comfortable when you're there."

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TRAVER (AP) — A celebrated Christmas couple th \$100. On C Melissa B she heard door here find the co the front s handed wished Christmas

"Actual skipped a to their v wondered on."

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NEWS

Continued from Page 1B

a clear direction set for the national organization and the justice issues regarding the firing of seven staff is resolved."

United Church of Christ leaders have also expressed concern about the basis and suddenness of the action.

Church Women United leaders say it includes 500,000 Protestant, Roman Catholic and Orthodox women. Ongoing programs include World Day of Prayer and an anti-violence campaign.

A call to the organization's office, seeking comment, was not returned.

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — The Rev. Billy Graham has announced a June 21-24 revival meeting in Louisville, and also plans to preach in Fresno, Calif., next October.

Last month, after preaching to 242,000 in Jacksonville, Fla., the 82-year-old evangelist turned administration of his organization over to his son Franklin.

Following a meeting in Nashville, Tenn., last June, he was hospitalized with fluid on the brain. He suffers from Parkinson's disease.

NASHUA, N.H. (AP) — A man charged with molesting three girls argues that meetings where he discussed the accusations with his Jehovah's Witness elders were confidential and can't be used as evidence.

Gregory Blackstock, 45, of Hollis, faces eight counts of rape, punishable by up to 20 years in prison. He is scheduled to be tried in late January.

Before then, however, Judge Bernard Hampshire must determine whether church elders who met with Blackstock to discuss the accusations involving the sisters can be made to testify about their conversations.

By court rules and state law, church ministers can't be made to disclose confessions.

Hillsborough County Attorney Roger Chadwick argues that Blackstock's discussions with the elders does not qualify under the confessional privilege, because the elders also discussed Blackstock's statements with the girls' mother.

Blackstock and his lawyer, Richard Monteith, argue the meetings were confidential, and to intrude on that privacy violates his constitutional freedom to practice his religion.

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. (AP) — A man and woman celebrated the spirit of Christmas by giving to a couple they didn't know \$100.

On Christmas Eve, Melissa Bronikowski said she heard a knock on her door here and opened to find the couple standing on the front step smiling. They handed her the card, wished her a merry Christmas, and left.

"Actually, they sort of skipped and giggled down to their van," she said. "I wondered what was going on."

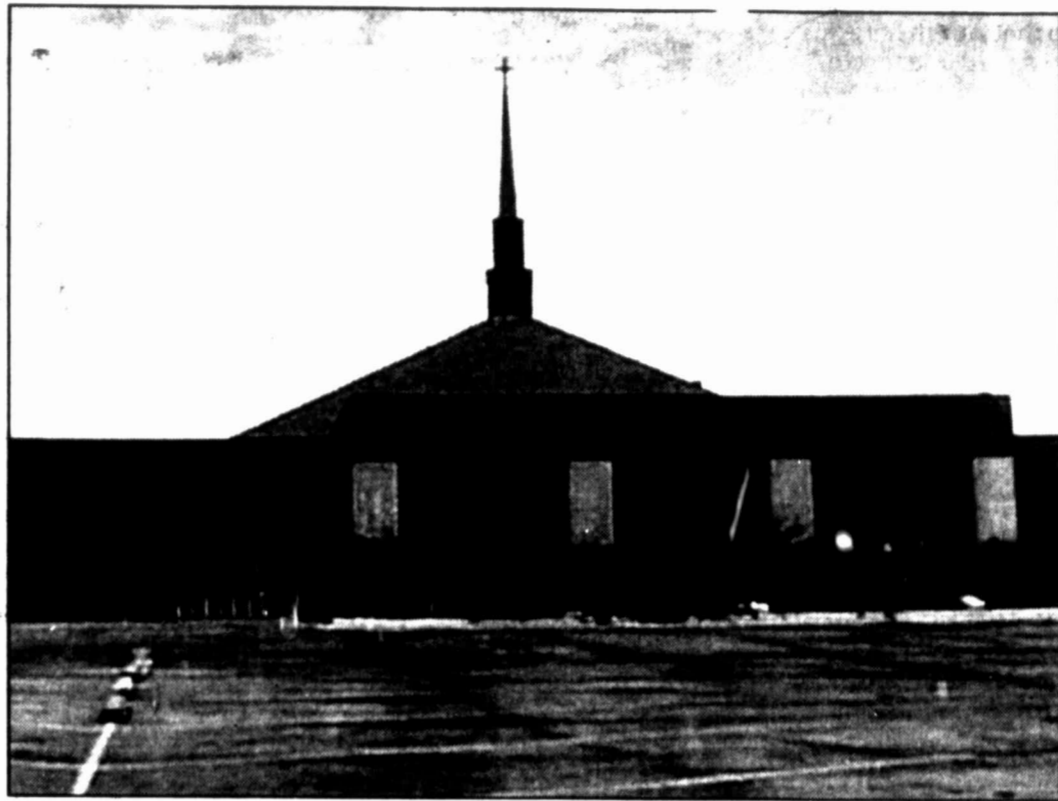
Bronikowski opened the card to find a \$100 bill in it. It also included a handwritten note that read: "Please accept this as a gift from God to celebrate the birth of His son, Jesus Christ, who loves you. Thank only Him. Merry Christmas."

When she ran back to the door to thank the couple, they had already driven off. "I don't get it," she told the Traverse City Record-Eagle for a story Monday. "It didn't seem church-related or anything. I don't even have any kids. It's just me and my boyfriend living here, going to school, going to work, you know. And I wanted to thank them and say Merry Christmas back. I wonder if they were doing this to lots of people."

Bronikowski plans to pay it forward next Christmas. "I'm going to do the same thing," she said. "I'll even use the same card."

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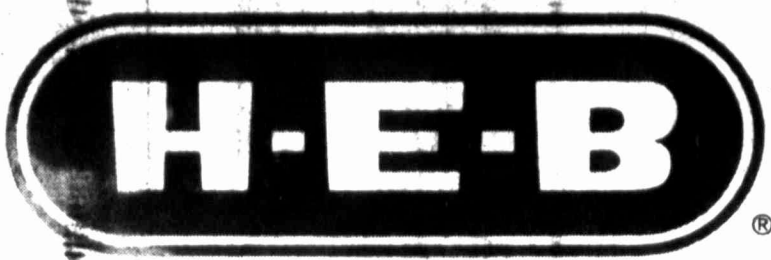
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ea.

Sutter Home Wine
1.5 l. btl.
white zinfandel



\$8⁹⁹
ea.

Martini & Rossi
750 ml. btl.
Asti Spumante
or Asti-Perugina



\$9⁹⁹
ea.

Korbel Champagne
750 ml. btl.
brut, extra dry,
brut rose or
blanc de noir
Mainline



\$14⁹⁹
ea.

Fetzer Wine
1.5 l. btl.
merlot,
Valley Oaks
cabernet,
sauvignon,
sundial
chardonnay
or Home Ranch
Zinfandel



2 \$7
for

Sparkling Celebrations
750 ml. btl.
sparkling
fruit beverage
Tribute, Ovation
or Applause
non-alcoholic

perfect
for kids



\$7⁷⁹
ea.

Freixenet Champagne
750 ml. btl.
blanc de noir,
cordon negro
brut or
cordon negro
extra dry



\$6⁴⁹
ea.

Motif Sparkling Wine
750 ml. btl.
classic
peach or
raspberry



\$5⁴⁹
ea.

Ballatore Gran Spumante
750 ml. btl.
or Tott's Spumante
750 ml. btl.



\$4⁴⁹
ea.

Cook's Champagne
750 ml. btl.
assorted varieties



\$19⁴⁷
ea.

Cuvée Mumm Brut Prestige Champagne
750 ml. btl.



\$11⁹⁹
ea.

Chandon Brut Fresco
750 ml. btl.



\$16⁹⁹
ea.

Piper Sonoma
750 ml. btl.
brut or
blanc de noir



\$37⁹⁹
ea.

Veuve Clicquot Brut Champagne
750 ml. btl.



\$6⁹⁷
ea.

Vendange Wine
1.5 l. btl.
cabernet
sauvignon,
merlot,
chardonnay,
pinot noir
or malbec



\$5⁹⁹
ea.

Arbor Mist or Wild Vines Wine
1.5 l. btl.
assorted varieties



\$32⁹⁷
ea.

Moet & Chandon White Star Extra Dry Champagne
750 ml. btl.

Cuisinart Vino Nobile
12 Pc. Wine Glass Set
\$19.99 ea.



\$8²⁹
ea.

Meridan Wine
750 ml. btl.
Cabernet Sauvignon,
Merlot or
Chardonnay



\$8⁴⁹
ea.

Almaden Wine
5 l. box
blush chablis,
burgundy,
mountain chablis,
gold chablis,
mountain rhine
or white grehache

Which Wine?

let us help you choose the perfect bottle

- Motif** - If you like Arbor Mist and Wild Vines, you will love the fresh bubbly taste of Motif.
- Sparkling Celebrations** - A light and fruity non-alcoholic beverage that is perfect for all ages.
- Brut** - A very dry Champagne or sparkling wine with little residual sugar.
- Freixenet Brut** from Spain - it's crisp and refreshing.
- Extra Dry** - A very dry Champagne with some residual sugar.
- These Champagnes, like Korbel Extra Dry Champagne, are not too sweet and not too dry.
- Blanc de Noir** - "White of blacks." A white wine or champagne produced from black or red grapes. This Champagne is made exclusively from Pinot Noir grapes. Try Piper Sonoma Blanc de Boir with appetizers and hors d'oeuvres.
- Cremant** - A creamy style Champagne with typically less atmosphere (bubbles).
- Sec** - A slightly sweet Champagne with 17-35 grams per liter of residual sugar.
- Demi Sec** - Sweet Champagne with 33-40 grams per liter of residual sugar.
- Asti** - A sparkling wine made from Muscato grapes in the Asti region of northern Italy.
- Martini & Rossi Asti is the sweetest of all Champagnes and sparkling wines.
- Spumante** - Made from Muscato grapes and tastes just like Asti.
- Ballatore Gran Spumante is the best selling and best value Spumante.
- Cuvée** - A blend of sparkling wines that makes a specific Champagne. Try Mumm's Napa Cuvée.
- Cuvée de Prestige** - This is a Champagne producer's top "luxury" Champagne.
- Try Veuve Clicquot Gran Dame.
- Non-Vintage** - A Champagne or sparkling wine containing blends of more than one vintage. This allows the producer to keep a consistent style from year to year. The most recognized non-vintage Champagnes are Moet Chandon White Star and Veuve Clicquot.
- Vintage** - A wine or Champagne made from a single year's harvest with date on the label.
- Try Don Perignon 1983.
- Dosage** - Sugar added to Champagnes to attain the required sweetness or roundness.
- Residual Sugar** - The sugar left in Champagne following the addition of the dosage.

Alcoholic Beverages May Not Be Available At All Stores

Prices Good Friday December 29, 2000 Through Tuesday, January 2, 2001

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- Self-rising crust that bakes up light and airy

Deep Dish

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- Pepperoni, combo, cheese or sausage
- Fizzeria Style, thick traditional crust

Thin Crust \$3.49

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- Deli Style, classic crispy crust

pizza! \$3.99

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Pizza
11 or 12 inch, assorted varieties

R24683

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HOROSCOPE

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
All eyes look to you. Get into a project that helps you relax. You get a lot done very quickly. You're full of energy. Take time for an older relative or boss. You might need to work and get the job done. Stay upbeat. Put your full effort into whatever you do. Tonight: In the limelight.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
Stretch and do something adventurous that you might have been putting off. You really feel good about yourself as a result. Don't do anything halfway. You get a change of perspective because of new scenery. A child or loved one expresses his feelings. Tonight: Take in a movie.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
Deal with others closely. Even when you're with a group of friends, you do better if you focus on one person. Laughter and lightness mix. You do make a big difference to a special friend. Express your feelings. Tonight: Go for atmosphere and caring.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Defer to others and think about your choices. Make a call that you have been postponing for a while. Get over your discomfort. Let someone in on what you are thinking. Make a must appearance. Don't walk away from an opportunity. Another admires you. Tonight: Where the crowds are.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
Put your feet up and relax. Make phone calls and use the yellow pages rather than hopping in your car. Slow down the pace. Some Libras might need to get a little work done in between a snooze or two. Curb spending. Make money instead. Tonight: Rent a movie.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Expense: go way overboard. Be conscious of your feelings toward an older relative or boss. Don't let your emotions sway a decision. Someone could push your limits. Say no to additional spending. Be more creative with plans. Tonight: Fun doesn't have to be expensive.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Your emotions run high. Make an effort to reach out to someone at a distance. Others might not agree, but you'll find a middle ground. Listen carefully to a family member. This person is in touch with your feelings. Tonight: Whatever makes you happy.

BORN TODAY
Actress Tracey Ullman (1959), baseball legend Sandy Koufax (1935), TV host Matt Lauer (1957). For America's best extended horoscope, recorded by Jacqueline Bigar, call (900) 740-7444. 99 cents per minute. Also featured is The Spoken Tarot. Callers must be 18 or older. A service of InterMedia Inc., Jenkintown, Pa.

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>.
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Teen's sexually active friends hard to ignore

DEAR ABBY: I have a problem. All my friends have started having sex, and I haven't even been kissed yet.



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

I'm beginning to think that maybe I should tell guys I'm experienced, so I can have sex and be like my friends. What do you think?
OUT IN THE COLD UP NORTH
DEAR OUT IN THE COLD: I think it's a bad idea. You should thank your lucky stars you haven't been subjected to the pressure that your friends have. Being a teen-ager is tough enough without worrying about getting a sexually transmitted disease or accidentally becoming pregnant.

age girls who drink are more likely to have unprotected sex than those who do not drink.

Sexually active teens who average five or more alcoholic drinks daily are three times less likely to use condoms - placing them at greater risk for sexually transmitted diseases including AIDS. Binge drinkers appear to engage in more unplanned sexual activity than students who do not binge-drink.

Researchers estimate that alcohol use is involved in up to two-thirds of cases of sexual assault and acquaintance or date rape among teens and college students. A survey of high school students found that 18 percent of females and 39 percent of males (a frightening statistic) say it is acceptable for a boy to force sex if the girl is stoned or drunk.

A Centers for Disease Control study analyzed changes in gonorrhoea rates among teens 15 to 19 and young adults 20 to 24 in the year following an increase in the state beer tax or a raising of the drinking age. States that changed policy were compared with those that didn't. Among states that increased the tax on beer, two-thirds showed a decrease in gonorrhoea rates for teens and three-fourths showed a decrease for young adults.

I can think of no worse reason to have sex than the fear that you're being left out. While we're on the subject of sex, read on for an eye-opener.

DEAR ABBY: After reading the letters in your column concerning teens and safe sex or abstinence, I sometimes chuckle at the naivete of parents.

Yes, it's mandatory to have frank discussions with your children about sex, birth control, abstinence all of it. Sharing whatever moral values you want to pass on to them is extremely important. However, having been a teen-ager and then a college student, I think it is naive to think that young adults make important decisions about sex only when they are sober.

The truth is, many of my friends lost their virginity at a party and barely remembered the experience. When alcohol or drugs are introduced into a social situation, a normally mature young adult may not make decisions wisely.

Abby, please remind parents how important it is to talk to their sons and daughters about alcohol, drugs, and finding themselves in party situations. The combination of alcohol and sex really can be dangerous. — REALISTIC IN MAINE

DEAR REALISTIC You're absolutely right. American culture abounds in images that link alcohol with romance and celebration, from movies to television shows to romantic images portrayed in alcohol advertising.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS, and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-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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According to the National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information, teen

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Senior Citizen Discounts.
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304 Duke 3 bdr. 2 bth. 2 living areas, fireplace, near school. Sale @ \$56,900 will pay closing, lease \$600/mn \$500/dep. Daytime 263-0844, nighttime 263-0667.

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TOO LATES
634 Tulsa, 2 BR, \$300
3702 Hamilton, 3 BR, \$400. Call after 4pm 661-6721 or 264-0793.
2 Bdr., bath & a half, 304 E 5th. Call 267-3841 or 270-7309.

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OF
ANY PERSON WHO HAS
COMMITTED A FELONY CRIME:
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264-TIPS

Howard County Sheriff's Office
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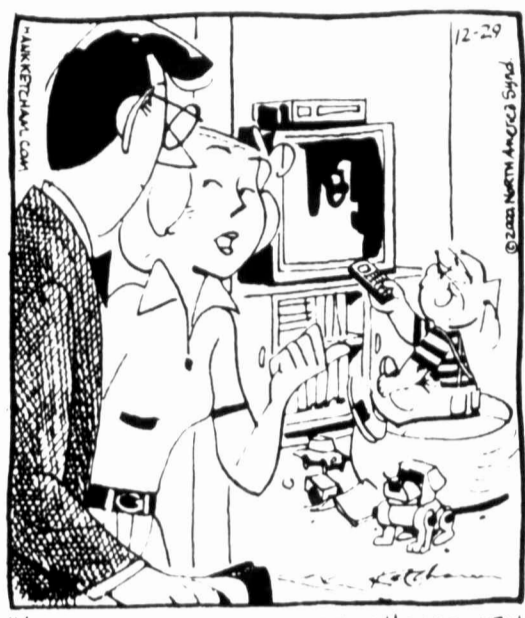
TAKE TIME OUT FOR YOURSELF READ THE BIG SPRING HERALD

FRIDAY

DEC. 29

	KMID (2)	KPEJ (3)	KERA (5)	FAM (6)	KOSA (7)	WFAA (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	UNI (13)	DISN (14)	NASH (15)	TMC (16)	SHOW (20)	HBO (22)	KMLM (24)	A&E (25)	DISC (26)	TNT (28)	TLC (41)																		
6 PM	News (CC)	Fortune	Cosby (CC)	Wishbone	Spin City (CC)	Zoboomatoo	News	Ent. Tonight	News (CC)	Fortune	News	Sentfield (CC)	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	Lucura de Amor	In a Heartbeat	Movie: Rent	a-kid (CC)	Championship Rodeo	My Blue Heaven (CC)	Rollerjam	The Out-of-Towners	Motor Madness	Killer Christmas	Friday the 13th Part VIII: Jason Takes Manhattan	Starz and Hutch	Walt Disney Presents	Motor Madness	Killer Christmas	Friday the 13th Part VIII: Jason Takes Manhattan	Starz and Hutch	Walt Disney Presents	Motor Madness	Killer Christmas	Friday the 13th Part VIII: Jason Takes Manhattan	Starz and Hutch	Walt Disney Presents

DENNIS THE MENACE



"YOU SHOULD BE PROUD OF YOUR SON. HE SET A NEW RECORD... 49 CHANNELS IN 20 SECONDS."

FAMILY CIRCUS



"Daddy, instead of earmuffs, I need a NOSEmuff!"

HAGAR



BLONDIE



B.C.



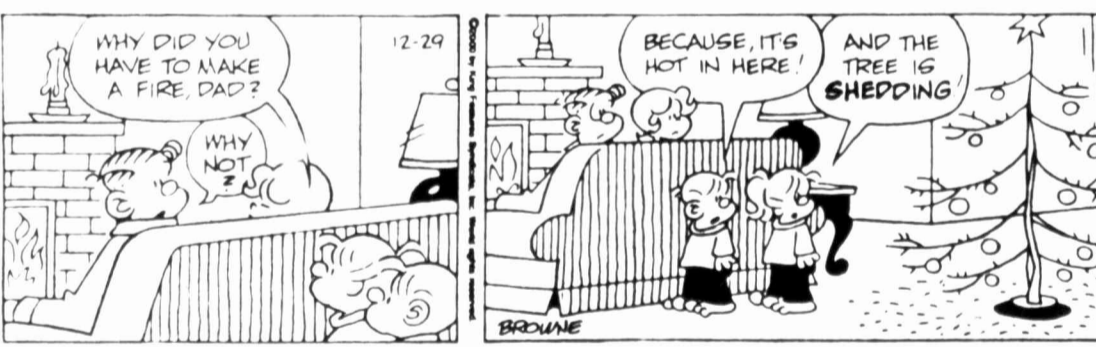
GEECH



WIZARD OF ID



HI AND LOIS



GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILY



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

Today in History
By The Associated Press
Today is Friday, Dec. 29, the 364th day of 2000. There are two days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
On Dec. 29, 1890, the Wounded Knee massacre took place in South Dakota as some 300 Sioux Indians were killed by U.S. troops sent to disarm them.

On this date:
In 1170, Archbishop Thomas Becket was murdered in Canterbury Cathedral in England.
In 1808, the 17th president of the United States, Andrew Johnson, was born in Raleigh, N.C.

In 1813, the British burned Buffalo, N.Y., during the War of 1812.
In 1845, Texas was admitted as the 28th state.
In 1851, the first American Young Men's Christian Association was organized, in Boston.
In 1934, Japan renounced the Washington Naval Treaty of 1922 and the London Naval Treaty of 1930.
In 1940, during World War II, Germany began dropping incendiary bombs on London.
In 1957, singers Steve Lawrence and Eydie Gorme were married in Las Vegas, Nev.
In 1975, a bomb exploded in the main terminal of New York's LaGuardia Airport, killing 11 people.
In 1996, war-weary guerrilla and government leaders in Guatemala signed an accord ending 36 years of civil conflict.
Ten years ago: Iraq denied a report that it was engaged in secret contacts with the United States to avert war, and might withdraw from Kuwait before the Jan. 15 United Nations deadline.
Five years ago: Japan's finance minister, Masayoshi Takemura, announced the resignation of the deputy finance minister, Kyosuke Shinozawa, over several scandals, including the ministry's cover-up of trading losses at Daiwa Bank's New York office.
One year ago: The Nasdaq composite index closed above 4,000 for the first time, ending the day at 4,041.46.

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

TMS Puzzles@aol.com

ACROSS

- Floating vessel
- Hollywood statuette
- Swing around
- First name in mysteries
- Raccoonlike carnivore
- Heavy weights
- 2000 Woody Allen film
- Hog haunch
- Corn unit
- Mountain laurel
- Faulty
- Lamb's mom
- Wee
- up (restrained)
- Pac. pact
- Toothy deg.
- Employ
- Belt
- 1955 Hitchcock film
- Now talking!
- Well, I'll be
- Pointed tool
- Alegre, Brazil
- Barreled (along)
- Ecru
- Greek letter
- Carpathian range
- Spanish lady
- Govt. power grp.
- Make free (of)
- Slots
- Fruit's coat
- Disc jockey's cue
- Dueling sword
- Mrs. Truman
- Jeff and Rockwell
- Greek peak

DOWN

- Form anew
- Military strength
- Large wading bird
- Part of GTE
- 80-year-old prefix
- Evening party
- Machine part
- Consumed
- Moranis or Mears
- Lifted with light fingers
- Appeared threateningly
- Not nice
- Compositions
- Whitten or Brown
- Stoolie
- Dreglia or Keach
- Laundromat appliances
- Blues singer James
- Establish
- Correct: Pref.
- D.C. auditors
- Exclamation of discovery
- Nina's sister
- ship
- Field yield
- Self-indulgent spree
- Compounds with high reactivity
- View from Mount Plegah
- Soak up
- Ineffectual man
- Tablecloths and sheets
- Gossip unit
- Prods
- Go wrong
- Decimal base
- In a frenzy
- Galley tools
- Compass pt.
- Marino or Fouts
- volente

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

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

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