

BIG SPRING HERALD

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"Reflecting a Proud Community"

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

THURSDAY

January 4, 2001

WEATHER

Tonight:



CLEAR

TONIGHT 31°-34° FRIDAY 55°-60°

Volunteers sought for tax preparation

Volunteers are being sought for a program that offers free tax preparation assistance to local citizens.

Internal Revenue Service instructors will conduct a training session for Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) workers and other interested people at the Spring City Senior Center, 1901 Simler beginning Tuesday, Jan. 16.

The class continues until Friday, Jan. 19, with sessions from 9 a.m.-noon each day. Persons who take the classes must pass a test before they begin assisting taxpayers with their returns.

For information, call the senior center, 267-1628 or Dorothy Kennemur, 399-5522.

WHAT'S UP...

TODAY

Genealogical Society of Big Spring, 7:15 p.m., Howard County Library.

Masonic Lodge No. 1340, 7:30 p.m., 2101 Lancaster.

Masonic Lodge NO. 598 Meets at 7:30 p.m. at 219 Main.

FRIDAY

The Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.

AMBUCS meets at noon at La Posada. Spring City Senior Citizens country/western dance, 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. All seniors invited.

SATURDAY

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

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

Dance, 8:30 p.m., Eagles Lodge, 704 West Third.

The Potton House, 200 Gregg, a restored historic home, is open from 1 to 5 p.m.

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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.

Flu vaccine available throughout Big Spring, health experts say

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
Staff Writer

Flu shots are now available at area health agencies and officials say there is still time to benefit from it.

The Texas Department of Health (TDH) will be giving flu shots to



LOPEZ

people age 18 and over on Monday from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 4 p.m.

The department has a limited supply of flu vaccine and shots will be given on a first-come, first-service bases, said Chrissy Lopez, immunization nurse for the TDH.

According to Lopez, the cost is \$5 and TDH accepts Medicare.

"All they need is their Medicare card, and we will bill from there," she said. "We highly recommend

those who are 65 years and older to receive a flu shot."

The Texas Department of Health is in the College Park Shopping Center.

Leonard's Prescription Pharmacy is currently giving flu shots and recommends the public come between 10 a.m. to noon and 4 to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

According to Steve Corson, pharmacy manager, the public can receive shots any time during store hours but the above times are

best.

The cost is \$12 to the public and Corson said both the flu and pneumonia vaccines are covered by Medicare. Leonard's Pharmacy is at 308 Scurry.

According to Corson, flu shots are also available at most doctor's offices.

The flu vaccine is normally administered in October and November, Corson said, but because of a delay in the availability many people have not received it.

Corson said there is still

time for the vaccine to fight the flu virus even though the vaccine takes two months to be fully effective. A person who receives a shot should have some protection within two weeks, he said.

"In just about all cases the vaccine can have some effect," Corson said. "What it does is teach the body's immune system how to respond to the virus when it is contracted. There is a

See **VACCINE**, Page 2

First baby is Caleb Aaron Murphree

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
Staff Writer

Congratulations, it's a boy! At five minutes after midnight Wednesday, the first baby was born in Howard County in the new millennium.

Caleb Aaron Murphree, the son of Leigh Ann Murphree, was born at Scenic Mountain Medical Center; he weighed 6 pounds, 14 ounces and is 18 inches long.

"I was really scared when they first handed him to me because of the umbilical cord," Leigh Ann said. "I don't remember if I cried."

The new mother said she does not remember much of the events after the birth because she was exhausted from eight hours of labor.

The winner of the First Baby of '01 contest sponsored by the *Big Spring Herald*, Caleb will be receiving gifts from Casa Blanca Restaurant, T-N-T Bar-B-Que, Big Mike's Liquor Store, The Oasis Cafe, Halpmann's Creations, The Medicine Shoppe, Mitchem & Sons Wrecker Service and Gale's Sweet Shoppe.

Caleb's birth led the way for a bundle of babies rushing to welcome the new year locally. Hospital personnel were kept busy by four births on Wednesday.

Born earlier than his due date, Caleb was not expected to be in the running for



Leigh Ann Murphree holds her newborn son, Caleb Aaron. Caleb was the first baby born in Howard County this year. Born on Wednesday, Caleb weighed 6 pounds, 14 ounces and was 18 inches long.

the first baby of 2001. In fact, on Tuesday afternoon, Leigh Ann was not showing signs of impending labor when she saw Dr. Tom Phelps for a checkup.

"I went to the doctor's office for an appointment at 2 p.m.," she said. "On the way home, I started having contractions."

Leigh Ann and her mother went home after the appointment, but returned

to Scenic Mountain Medical Center at close to 8 p.m. with Caleb on the way.

Jeff Murphree, Leigh Ann's father, said he was very thankful to the medical staff at the hospital.

"The medical personnel at Scenic Mountain were very helpful," Jeff said. "They were so skilled and handled each situation as it came up."

Caleb is a third genera-

tion of Murphrees born in Howard County and his birth now gives the family five generations.

The name Caleb was a suggestion of his grandmother, Melinda Murphree.

"It came to me one day and I told Leigh Ann to look the meaning of the name up," Melinda said.

"Caleb means 'bold and strong one,'" said Leigh Ann.

Three blood drives coming to area in January

By **CARL GRAHAM**
Staff Writer

Though there are reports that blood supplies are at a critical low in some areas of Texas, that's not the case across most of West Texas, according to United Blood Services (UBS) community relations representative Johnna Pevey of San Angelo.

"We are in pretty good shape really," said Pevey. "Things have been relatively slow around here with the holidays and the

inclement weather we have had lately but I expect things to start picking up fairly soon."

Pevey said there are three blood drives scheduled for January in the Big Spring area and UBS is hoping to get good response from them.

"We will be coming to Big Spring, Coahoma and Forsan during January," said Pevey. "We would like to get the word out to everyone that though we are not in a critical situation at the moment, it doesn't take long

to change that status."

She said they have been staffing extra people in the hopes of getting extra donors. She also wanted to get word out that January is National Volunteer Blood Donor month.

"We are scheduled to be in Big Spring at the Malone-Hogan Clinic from 1 until 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 17," said Pevey. "We we also be in the Big Spring area on Wednesday, Jan. 24 at the Coahoma Community Center from 4 until 8 p.m. and then at the Forsan High

School Auditorium from 1 until 5 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 29."

Contact Russ Mullins at 394-4277 to schedule a time to give at the Coahoma blood drive or Jan Sims at 457-2223 for the Forsan blood drive. Though appointments are preferred, walk-ins are welcome.

Donors must be at least 17 years of age, in good health, weigh at least 110 pounds, carry proof of identification and know the names of the medications they have recently taken.

It's 'in the mail' — postage stamp increase will go into effect Sunday

By **CARL GRAHAM**
Staff Writer

"Dear Mom. Send Money. Add a penny." That letter back home will cost a little more beginning Sunday. That's the date that postage stamps will go up another penny.

According to Big Spring Post Office customer service supervisor Andy Lopez, the increase will actually take effect after midnight Saturday.

"Anything that is post-marked after Saturday should have a 34-cent stamp

on it," said Lopez. "There will be some grace period I'm sure but I couldn't say what that will be."

Lopez said the rate hike was long overdue as it has been four years since the previous increase.

"The last postal increase we had was in 1996," said Lopez. "It's like everything else though, when we get increases in costs we have to pass those increases on to our customers. We have to operate in the black like any other business."

For now the stamps customers purchase will not have the amount on them but Lopez expects post offices will start receiving them in a month or two.

"We will use these stamps until the post office receives the permanent ones," said Lopez. "That

will probably take a couple of months but even when the others came out you can still use up the old ones until they have been exhausted. Same thing on your 33-cent stamps. You can add a penny stamp to them and they will be sent out the same as if you had the 34-cent stamp."

Lopez said that the rumor of the postal system charging a nickel for e-mail that is sent out is strictly that — just a rumor.

"We have been hearing for years that there was going to be a charge for e-mails," said Lopez. "But that's all it is, just a rumor. It would be so hard to keep track of if not impossible."

Other increases beginning Sunday will be certi-



Big Spring Post Office clerk Brenda Willadsen shows the new 34-cent stamps that will be required for first class postage beginning Sunday.

Senate

Sen. Duncan appointed to several key committees

By **BILL MCCLELLAN**
News Editor

State Sen. Robert Duncan has been appointed vice chairman of the Natural Resources Committee and will serve on the Senate's Finance Committee, Jurisprudence Committee and Natural Resources Committee this legislative session.

"I'm looking forward to it. There are a lot of challenges to be faced this session," said Duncan, R-Lubbock.

Bill Ratliff, acting lieutenant governor, made the committee appointments Wednesday.

It will be Duncan's second straight session to serve on the Finance Committee. He served on the Jurisprudence Committee his first session in Austin, but not the most recent session. It will be his first time to serve on the Natural Resources Committee. He will also serve on that committee's Agricultural Subcommittee.

"I've had a lot of issues before the Natural Resources Committee but I've never served on the committee before," said Duncan, who commented briefly about each of the committees on which he will serve.

Finance Committee: "The finance Committee, of course, is charged with the budget and we have some tough issues there, particularly education and health care issues," said Duncan. "We don't have as big a sur-

See **DUNCAN**, Page 2

JAN 4 2001

OBITUARIES

J.D. Cauble

Memorial service for J.D. Cauble, 84, of Uvalde, formerly of Big Spring, will be 3 p.m., Friday, Jan. 5, 2001, at St. Phillip's Episcopal Church in Uvalde.

Mr. Cauble died Jan. 3 in a Uvalde hospital.

He was born Nov. 27, 1916, in Big Spring and married Dorothy Hill in Breckenridge on Oct. 2, 1939.

Survivors include: his wife, Dorothy Cauble of Uvalde; two daughters, Judy Tindol of Uvalde and Terry Carpenter of Weatherford; one sister, Jewel Anderson of Big Spring; five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials to St. Phillip's Episcopal School, St. Phillip's Episcopal Church or to the West Main Library Project.

Arrangements are under the direction of Rushing-Estes-Knowles Mortuary in Uvalde.

STAMPS

Continued from Page 1

ified mail up from \$1.40 to \$1.90 per ounce, priority mail up from \$3.20 to \$3.50 for the first pound, express mail up from \$11.75 to \$12.25 per ounce and insured mail up from 85 cents to \$1.10 for up to \$50 worth of coverage.

Postcard prices will remain the same while some others will actually go down. The second ounce of first class mail will go down from 22 cents an ounce to 21 cents an ounce. Also money orders will go down from 80 cents to 75 cents each.

VACCINE

Continued from Page 1

decrease in the severity and duration of the virus.

"It's relatively easy and inexpensive protection against a potentially serious threat," he added.

Corson warns the public to take the influenza virus seriously.

"Some people think when they catch a virus they have the flu," Corson said. "The actual flu virus is a very harsh disease that puts stress on the organs in the body, especially heart, lungs and kidneys."

According to information released from the Texas Medical Foundation, Nearly 20,000 Americans die from flu and its complications every year.

In 1998, The flu was the seventh leading cause of

death in Texas, claiming more than 4,600 lives. The flu vaccine can prevent up to 70 percent of hospitalizations and 85 percent of deaths from flu-related pneumonia.

People age 65 or older and people 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.

DUNCAN

Continued from Page 1

plus as we have had in past so have to meet the issues head on, very aggressively."

Natural Resources Committee: "That committee is over water, agriculture, air quality, gas regulation — things that are our bread and butter. West Texas is home to a lot of those resources. It is one of those committees that really matters."

Jurisprudence Committee: "I am always interested in ways to improve the judicial system. I've always carried legislation to this committee that calls from moving from a partisan system of determining our judges to a merit selection system."

Redistricting: "It's always a tough issue. West Texas has not grown as rapidly as the other areas of Texas. I think our (state) population is 20.7 million according to the 2000 Census, which makes our districts even bigger than we thought they were going to be from earlier predictions. It's going to be a challenge to draw logical districts."

Ratlift immediately came under attack because he did not name a Hispanic to the Redistricting Committee. He said that not factoring in race was an oversight, and added he will consider changing the composition of the committee.

Ratlift was elected acting lieutenant governor by the Senate to fill the post when former Lt. Gov. Rick Perry moved up to governor. Perry took over as governor after President-elect George W. Bush resigned.

Duncan represents District 28, which includes Howard, Glasscock, Martin, Sterling, Borden, Dawson and 15 other counties, as well as parts of five others.

Man charged with murder in mail-order bride's death

EVERETT, Wash. (AP) — A 39-year-old man has been charged with first-degree murder in the death of his mail-order bride, who came from Central Asia to marry him.

An informant said Indle King Jr. of Mountlake Terrace admitted he used a necktie to strangle Anastasia King, placed her in a dog blanket, then buried her in a shallow grave, authorities said in court papers.

A body found near the Tulalip Indian Reservation was identified Saturday as that of the 20-year-old woman from the former Soviet republic of Kyrgyzstan. The cause of death was still under investigation.

King was being held on \$500,000 bail.

His lawyers, Cyrus R. Vance Jr. and Jeffery P. Robinson, insisted he is innocent.

"While it is natural for

police to assume that the husband of a missing wife may be a suspect, in this case the facts will show that the assumption is incorrect," they said in a statement.

Police questioned the informant last week at the Snohomish County Jail because he was receiving numerous visits from King, authorities said. The informant formerly rented a room in King's home and is a registered sex offender facing a new indecent liberties charge.

The informant led police to Anastasia King's grave, authorities said in court papers obtained by The Herald of Everett. He said King told him he removed Anastasia King's jewelry and clothing and cut off her long, blond ponytail in an attempt to conceal her identity.

Anastasia King was reported missing in September when she didn't return after a three-week visit to her parents in Kyrgyzstan.

Indle King told police he and his wife had argued in the airport in Moscow and she told him she planned to stay in Russia.

Investigators say both fly to the United States on the flight and cleared Customs one minute apart.

He filed for divorce on Aug. 21. According to court documents, he claimed his wife was hiding from him to avoid being served with divorce papers and being deported.

Court documents say Anastasia King claimed she was the victim of domestic violence and had taken steps to obtain a divorce.

The young woman was Indle King's second mail-order bride.

Mountlake Terrace Police Cmdr. Stephen Foster said he had spoken to King's first mail-order bride. She is still in the country, but Foster wouldn't say where she lives.

"This is fairly traumatic to her," Foster said.

Fire on Bush boat ruled arson

AUSTIN (AP) — A blaze that destroyed a motor boat owned in part by President-elect George W. Bush resulted from arson, fire investigators said.

Last month's blaze, previously considered an accident, was set on board the 22-foot Harris Kayot cabin cruiser, the state fire marshal's office said Wednesday.

Fire marshal spokesman Mark Hanna said whoever set the fire knew the boat belonged to the president-elect.

The co-owner of the boat is commerce secretary nominee Don Evans, Bush's former campaign chairman and a longtime friend. Evans had registered the boat and the two shared an insurance policy.

"Both families used the boat," Bush spokesman Dan Bartlett said.

The fire marshal's office is investigating. The U.S. Secret Service has been notified.

"The president-elect and Mr. Evans are anxious to learn of the findings of the investigation," Bartlett said.

Firefighters responded to the fire at Yacht Harbor Marina at about 10 p.m. Dec. 16, just four days after Bush won the presidency when the U.S. Supreme Court reversed Florida's court-ordered recount of

BIG SPRING AROUND THE TOWN

presidential election ballots. The blaze spread to three neighboring boats before firefighters were able to control it.

The 300-horsepower boat, which can accommodate up to 14 people, sells for \$30,000 to \$40,000, according to dealers. It had not been driven in about a year, according to the marina's manager.

"It was charred, ruined and destroyed," Hanna said.

Investigators have not determined what was used to start the blaze, which Bush's office at first thought accidentally began while someone was winterizing the boat.

"We checked into that, and we have determined that there was no way that could have happened," Hanna said. "The fire started somewhere in the center of the boat away from any possible source of accidental ignition."

Inmate charged after taking two people hostage at Lubbock hospital

LUBBOCK (AP) — A prison inmate at a South Plains hospital for treatment held at least two people hostage for as many hours before being apprehended by police early Thursday.

No injuries were reported in the confrontation with law officers that began about 10:30 p.m. Wednesday at University Medical Center. The standoff lasted for about two hours, police said.

About 15 patients who were being treated in the emergency room were moved to another part of the hospital during the standoff. Patients coming into Lubbock were diverted to other hospitals, according to police reports.

Dekanya Nelson, 25, had been taken to the hospital for treatment of internal bleeding from the Texas Department of Criminal Justice's Preston Smith unit at Lamesa, officials said.

Although Nelson had apparently led police to believe he was wielding a handgun, he did not have a weapon, Lubbock police Sgt. Jeff Davis said. The alleged assailant faces two charges each of aggravated kidnapping and aggravated sexual assault, Davis said.

BRIEFS

THE NEXT MEETING OF the Howard County Library book club is Monday at 7 p.m. in the library. The book that will be discussed this month is "A God in Ruins" by Leon Uris. Any interested readers are welcome to attend the meeting.

For more information about this meeting or a list of books to be discussed in later meetings, call the library at 264-2260.

THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH will be giving flu shots on Monday from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 4 p.m. The department has a limited supply and will be giving shots to those who are age

TEXAS LOTTERY Pick 3: 7,7,3

Lotto: 2,7,24,30,33,54

Lottery numbers are unofficial until confirmed by the state lottery commission.

18 and over. The cost is \$5 or may be covered by medicare.

BIG SPRING AND SURROUNDING counties are in critical need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers of the children in the community who have been abused and neglected.

For more information on becoming foster/adoptive families call Children's Protective Services office at 263-9669 or 1-800-233-3405.

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

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

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

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

SUPPORT GROUPS

TODAY •Al-Anon support group, 8 p.m., 615 Settles.

FRIDAY •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, 1091 Goliad. Call 268-4189 (pager no.).

•Al-Anon support group, noon, 615 Settles.

IF YOU HAVE A SUPPORT GROUP LISTING, PLEASE SUBMIT IT IN WRITING.

MARKETS

Noon quotes provided by Edward Jones & Co.

Table with market data including AT&T, Archer-Daniels, Atmos Energy, BP AMOCO, Chevron Corp, Compaq, Cornell, Dell, Du Pont, Exxon Mobil, Halliburton, IFCO Systems, IBM, Intel Corp, NUV.

Table with market data including Patterson Ener, Pepsico Inc, Phillips Petro, SBC Comms, Sears Roebuck, Texaco Inc, Texas Instrument, TXU, Total Fina, Unocal Corp, Wal-Mart, Wal-Mart/Mexico, AMCAP, Europacific, Prime Rate, Gold, Silver.

SHERIFF

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activities between 8 a.m. Wednesday through 8 a.m. today:

•KELLEIGH JAY SMITH, 18, of 538 Westover, was arrested on a charge of driving while license suspended. (BSPD)

•JOE OLIVAS, 36, of 1407 Hearn, was arrested on a charge of aggravated assault causing bodily injury. (BSPD)

POLICE

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activities between 8 a.m. Wednesday through 8 a.m. today:

•ELAINE SUMPTER, 31, no address given, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.

•KELLEIGH SMITH, 18, of 538 Westover, was arrested on a charge of driving while license suspended.

•ASSAULT/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 400 block of E. 4th.

•BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in the 600 block of Gregg.

•CRIMINAL MISCHIEF TO A VEHICLE was reported in the 3300 block of E. I-20.

•LOUD PARTY/NOISE was reported in the 1600 block of Kentucky Way.

•THEFT was reported in the 100 block of Canary, in the 1800 block of Gregg, in the 900 block of Willia and in the 1100 block of N. Lamesa.

RECORDS

Wednesday's high 59
Wednesday's low 26
Average high 53
Average low 26
Record high 79 in 1956
Record low 0 in 1947
Precip. Wednesday 0.00
Month to date 2.24
Month Normal 1.02
Year to date 17.84
Normal for the year 18.12
Sunrise Friday 7:48 a.m.
Sunset Friday 5:55 p.m.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL. 24th & Johnson 267-8288. Denby L. Greene, 85, died Thursday. Services are pending.

NALLEY-PICKLE & WELCH Funeral Home. Trinity Memorial Park and Crematory. 906 Gregg St. (915) 267-8331.

George Grimes, 94, died Sunday. Services will be 10:00 AM Friday at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park. The family will receive friends Thursday from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the funeral home.

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Fed c WASHINGTON The Federal R the ailing econ ing tonic of an cpt, aiming to t more serious recession. Ana more of the ss needed to keep t healthy. Fed Chairr Greenspan an leagues, in a conference call to the interest committee, pr half-percentage tion to a key i the biggest cut i eight years. T

Cabine WASHINGTON Scrubbing to r lost time, Pre Bush is hopin Senate approv Cabinet selectio rival is helping approval proc way. Sen. John McI man of th Commerce Com lost to Bush last Republican pris holding the fir today on Bush's Cabinet — the of Bush's longt Texas oilmar Evans, to be s commerce. Bush's selectio was expected to

Federal DALLAS (AP tense search escaped prison b tinued Thurs autopsy report s a North Texas p they are accuse suffered 11 gunst Irving Office Hawkins was sh in the head responded to a Eve robbery at a Super Sports l according to t released Wednes

WEDNESDAY

Fed cuts interest rate by one-half point to head off recession

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Reserve gave the ailing economy the bracing tonic of an interest rate cut, aiming to head off a far more serious sickness, recession. Analysts expect more of the same may be needed to keep the economy healthy.

Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan and his colleagues, in an emergency conference call Wednesday to the interest rate-setting committee, prescribed a half-percentage point reduction to a key interest rate, the biggest cut in more than eight years. That pushed

down the federal funds rate, the interest that banks charge each other, to 6 percent.

The half-point rate cut triggered similar reductions in some commercial banks' prime lending rates, from a nine-year high of 9.5 percent to 9 percent. The prime rate is the benchmark for millions of personal and business loans.

"The economy was suffering and the momentum was snowballing on the downside," said Stuart Hoffman, chief economist for PNC Financial Services Group. "The medicine is being

administered, so as we go through 2001 the economy's health should improve and we'll see stronger economic news in the spring and summer." Economists said the rate cut will take months to work its way through the economy and energize growth.

Analysts predicted Wednesday's action would be followed by further reductions as the Fed acts to ensure the current economic slowdown doesn't deteriorate into a recession.

Some believed an additional rate cut, probably of a quarter-point, could come at

the Fed's regularly scheduled meeting Jan. 30-31, with another rate reduction at the March meeting.

The decision for the Fed to act Wednesday without waiting for its next regular interest-rate meeting, and the size of the cut at one-half point instead of a quarter-point, underscored the seriousness with which Greenspan and his colleagues viewed the threats facing the economy, analysts said.

"The Fed won't permit the U.S. economy to go down the tubes and will do whatever it takes to keep growth

moving ahead," said Merrill Lynch's chief economist, Bruce Steinberg.

The rate cut is designed to lower borrowing costs, thus spurring business and consumer investment, which eventually should bolster economic growth.

The surprise rate reduction came against the backdrop of stock market volatility, lower consumer confidence and a report Tuesday showing that manufacturing activity fell in December to its lowest point since 1991, providing more evidence of a seriously weakening economy.

Wall Street investors were buoyed by the Fed's move, sending stocks soaring Wednesday.

Cabinet hearings begin with Commerce nominee

WASHINGTON (AP) — Scrambling to make up for lost time, President-elect Bush is hoping for swift Senate approval of his Cabinet selections. A former rival is helping to get the approval process under way.

Sen. John McCain, chairman of the Senate Commerce Committee, who lost to Bush last year in the Republican primaries, was holding the first hearing today on Bush's prospective Cabinet — the nomination of Bush's longtime friend, Texas oilman Donald Evans, to be secretary of commerce.

Bush's selection of Evans was expected to win Senate

approval with little opposition, even though the selection continues a tradition of installing close presidential friends and experienced money-raisers at the Department of Commerce.

Evans raised more than \$100 million for his friend's race for the White House.

Evans has pledged to promote "free enterprise" both at home and abroad. The Commerce Department serves as the government's chief liaison to the business community and plays a major role in setting trade policy.

The new administration will be confronted with a number of politically divisive trade issues, leftovers

from the Clinton administration, which found its efforts often stymied by a GOP-controlled Congress.

These include already negotiated trade pacts with Jordan and Vietnam and the need for the new administration to win authority to push ahead with more sweeping trade deals to set up a free trade area covering the Western Hemisphere and another in the Pacific.

Clinton sought to include environmental and labor standards as part of his negotiating goals in an effort to answer complaints from labor unions and environmental groups that countries with lax standards

were gaining unfair advantage over American workers.

Republicans balked at those attempts. But if Bush should drop the demand for labor and environmental provisions, which he has signaled he would do, it is unclear whether he can prevail in the closely divided Congress.

Also expected to be a factor in Evans' confirmation were Democrats' questions about how the new Republican administration will handle the politically touchy issue of whether to use population totals derived from sampling for redrawing congressional district boundaries.

Federal charges filed against seven escaped convicts

DALLAS (AP) — The tense search for seven escaped prison inmates continued Thursday as an autopsy report showed that a North Texas police officer they are accused of killing suffered 11 gunshot wounds.

Irving Officer Aubrey Hawkins was shot six times in the head after he responded to a Christmas Eve robbery at an Oshman's Super Sports USA store, according to the report released Wednesday.

He was shot once in the back, and four of the medium-caliber bullets struck his left arm. A bulletproof vest protected his chest from two other shots.

The shots were fired from different directions, but the report doesn't identify whether investigators think more than one gunman fired or which of the escapees are suspected. Hawkins also was run over by a vehicle, the autopsy showed.

Meanwhile, federal weapons charges were filed against the seven, who broke out of prison more than three weeks ago.

The charges brought by the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms signaled a broadening federal role in the manhunt. FBI agents in the Dallas area planned to file separate federal charges of unlawful flight to avoid federal prosecution.

The charges would "make it a nationwide manhunt rather than a state and local manhunt," said Dallas-based FBI Special Agent Lori Bailey.

Officials said the search spread across the Southwest before concentrating in the Dallas area. All seven men are believed to be together.

Police have increased their firepower, and the escapees were believed to be using stolen police scanners to stay a step ahead of their pursuers.

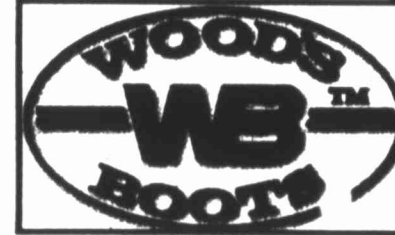
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JAN 04 2001

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

January shaping up to be busy

Here's hoping you got some rest during the holiday season. It's common that community activities slow down as family commitments and seasonal responsibilities increase.

But as we said, here's hoping you got to enjoy at least a little "down time," because the Crossroads area is getting ready to shift back into high gear.

And it is wasting no time in doing so: The folks in Garden City are busy today and will remain that way throughout the weekend with their Glasscock County Junior Livestock Show. Howard and Martin counties will stage similar events next week, so moms and dads, get ready.

These annual shows each involve dozens of local young people and their families. No time to rest after the holidays — livestock shows take plenty of work from everyone involved.

But don't stop there. The Harley Owners Group (HOG) is warming up for its annual chili cook-off scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 13. Cooks from all over the area and several other Texas cities are expected to descend on our community, chili pots and spoons in hand for this popular event.

The following week, works of functional art will be on display as the Heritage Museum opens a quilt show that will feature the work of local crafters. This educational exhibit continues throughout the month.

The next week, the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce brings out the movers and shakers of our community with its annual banquet. Highlighting the event will be the announcement of the group's Man and Woman of the Year.

And before we know it, January is coming to a close and we are looking forward to the Feb. 3 performance of the Big Spring Symphony. Featuring some of our best high school singers, this concert will include the Richard Strauss' work titled, "Also Sprach Zarathustra," otherwise known as the music from the movie "2001: A Space Odyssey."

As you can see, there's hardly time to catch our breath before we go speeding off into another busy year throughout the Crossroads area.

Perhaps we have just long enough to take a moment to say, "Boy am I glad I live in the Crossroads of West Texas!"

How To Contact Us

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

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

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor. Please:

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

Hype is benchmark of new millennium

OK, now you can celebrate the new millennium. The 21st century began one second after midnight Dec. 31.

It's a telling comment on the power of commercial interests in the United States that they simply decided — irrespective of reality, tradition and the calendar — to proclaim falsely that last year marked the new millennium. Apparently, they thought the year 2000 was a more marketable date than 2001.

Alas, what is, is, even if nobody chooses to recognize it. All dates are meaningless in the sense that they are arbitrary and are based on whatever calendar that people choose to keep. It is somewhat unusual, however, for people who have used a calendar for centuries to decide sudden-

ly to disregard it. That's what happened last year: The traditional Western calendar starts new centuries with the 01 year, not the 00 year.

Nevertheless, people simply decided to disregard that and celebrate the new millennium a year ahead of time.

Changes in dates don't mean anything, really, and I've never been one to celebrate even the new year, much less the new millennium. The world is the same on Jan. 1 as it was on Dec. 31, and so are we.

Many people are calendar-conscious because they measure their age by the calendar. That, too, is a human convention. Our biological clocks, which determine our biological age, don't pay any attention to paper calendars. If you lined up a lot of people who were the same age according to the calendar, you would see that they age biologically at different rates. That's genes, not Day-Timers.

Whether "senior citizens" lead "active lives" in their "golden years" (all three phrases are marketing

terms) depends on their genes and their general health, not on where they live or who handled their investment plans.

Some years ago, a 107-year-old man filed a workers' compensation claim. He had hurt his back unloading a freight car. This man was poor, not very well educated and apparently oblivious to his age.

He just went on living his life as he always had, and good fortune and good genes had kept him in remarkable health without benefit of an investment counselor, a senior-citizens retirement home or a wellness spa.

Probably the best thing we could do for ourselves would be to emulate him — eat less and worry less and stop thinking of ourselves in categories dreamed up by advertising copywriters who are trying to sell us something.

And remember all that hype and hoopla last year about how the world was going to come to an end as computers crashed and then crashed planes, trains and elevators? A good les-

son. The truth is getting as hard to find as a camel with three humps.

My own city, Orlando, Fla., is all in a dither over a "drought" even though nearly 30 inches of rain have fallen, everything is still green that's supposed to be green, and cacti and tumbleweeds have not sprouted in front of City Hall.

Drought, you see, is a relative term. Normal rainfall here is about 50 inches. Hence, we're 20 inches short. Of course, the 30 inches we have gotten would seem like a deluge in some areas and a great blessing in others.

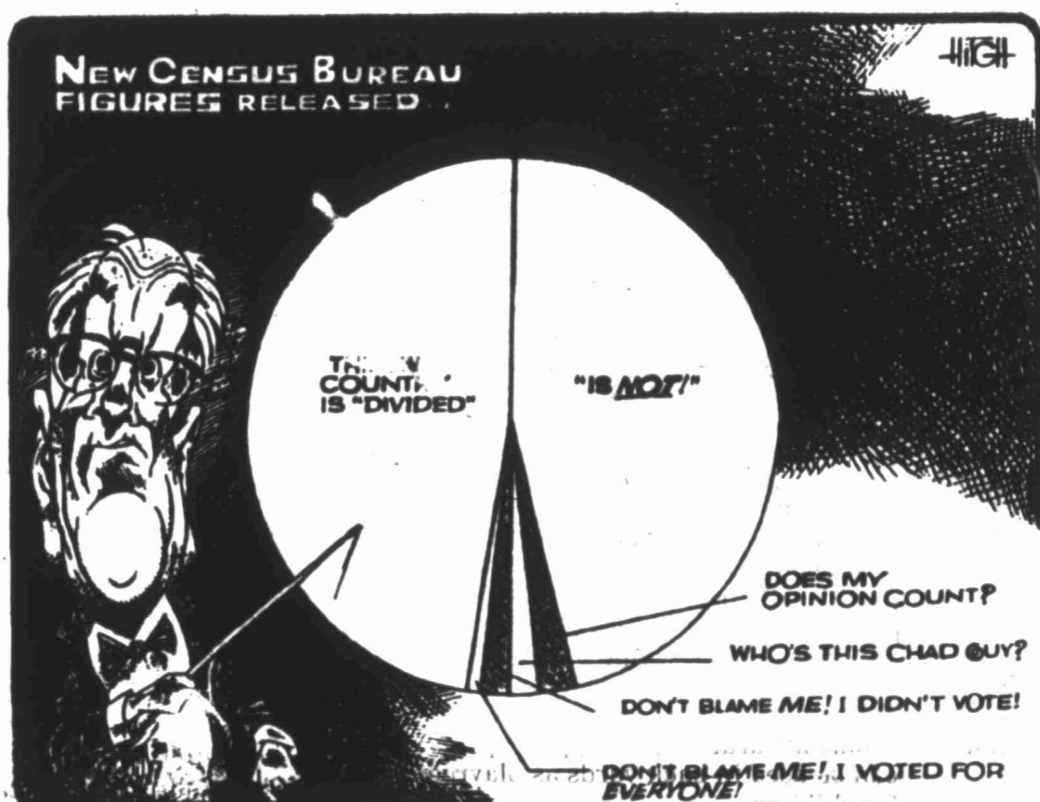
Andrew Lytle, a Southern writer, once said that he had moved to a mountain, had no television or radio sets and subscribed to no newspapers or magazines. "If anything really important happens," he said, "I figure I'll hear about it by rumor."

Maybe that's not such a bad idea.

We could at least escape wrong millenniums and wet droughts, not to mention all the commercial hype aimed at our wallets.



CHARLEY REESE



The really important things

On the hour and its half, a new cuckoo clock on the wall offers commentary on the holiday.

The yellow bird of wood pushes its way from a small closet to declare what we already know. Life is relentlessly passing, and often it doesn't make much sense.

Again and again the bird states the obvious, and I rue the day I settled on the clock as a gift for parents who have everything. Cuckoo. I was far away from that clock, gone for a Christmas getaway, when I got the word that brought me home. My mother was headed for the hospital. The person who gave me life could not get her breath.

On the way home, rushing to get there, I am not alone. Everyone on the interstate seems to be on an urgent errand somewhere. Fires to fight in both directions. Where the limit is 70, we push 80.

On secondary roads, the children of the South ride their Christmas scooters. Boxes are piled high on the curb-side, proof of America's affluence. Trees still twinkle in windows, but now, after the fact, they look like

fire hazards. By the time I make it to Montgomery, Ala., Mother is out of intensive care, if not the woods. I walk by the hospital's designated smoking area and see the thousands of crushed butts on the grass.

Nervous people have stood here and done what they could for the health of a loved one. Exactly nothing. I've always envied smokers that. They have something to do when there's nothing to be done.

Mother looks small and vulnerable, the way people always do in hospital beds. She desperately wants news of Christmas. Nobody loves Christmas like my mother does. She wants to know if her grandson Ben mentioned the harmonica she mailed, if little Will said anything about his toy monkey. What cards came since she's been gone? Did we water the poinsettia?

In fine Southern lady fashion, Mother directs me to call two friends who brought food to the house before she got sick. I must tell them the thank-you note will be late. For her, being late with a thank-you is a great and unpardonable breach of personal code.

It's easy to get aggravated with my mother, who tends to obsess on meaningless and obscure details when the roof is falling.

"Put the big Bible under the coffee table," she says. "I left it on the dining room table. And put the

cover back on the book I was reading."

What possible difference can all that make, I think but do not say.

But, then, lately I don't know. I've been asking myself, why worry about international affairs and domestic politics when there's nothing you can do about them? Maybe habits and small courtesies are the only threads that hold this crazy world together. Maybe they are a nonsmoker's long draws on an unfiltered Camel.

Besides, what chaos would ensue without "please" and "thank you"? And if we can't have perfect order in the Grand Scheme, we can at least have some semblance of order in our own homes.

I sit up late and think about how our mothers influence us more than anyone else does. We either embrace a mother's values or run in the opposite direction. But either way, hers is the personality forever fixed in our minds and emotions.

By the same token, the child is the mother's responsibility, not relinquished easily. A mother pleading for her son on death row must know, deep down, that she had a little something to do with his sins.

Once more the maudlin bark of that yellow bird tells me I'm not making a lick of sense, and neither is anyone or anything else. Cuckoo, it says. Cuckoo.



RHETA GRIMSLEY JOHNSON

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— 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.
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- GREG BISHOPP** — Home: 267-6009; Work (Ponderosa Restaurant): 267-7121.
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Mallard Fillmore by BRUCE TINSLEY

Mallard's 2001 New Year's Predictions:

Unclear on the marketing concept behind Prunes changing their name to "DRIED FRUITS," SPAM will change its name to "GROUND-UP PIG PARTS."

lit

Expen

By DEBBIE L-JEN
Features Editor

It's the time of resolutions, and most common is get out of debt in a year.

What better time than as Nation Awareness Month educate consumers on credit, debt and issues. iPlace.com al information si Web, is offering a services and prog month.

And workers at Credit Counseling non-profit agency to helping peop debt, are bracin onslaught of ne once the Christ start rolling in.

"We will star from people onc come in," sai Williams, in the cations departr CCCS, which has office to serve Spring area. "It c a splash of cold w face to find out really owe."

Lawyer urban

HOUSTON (AP) most unusual law being developed Houston.

"It's sort of a lawyer Timothy his desk in an in "It's an unusual Hootman, 3 as n't decided wh scheme for the c

There's also a l will be carved w probably will be identifies Hootm He has been w about four years \$100,000.

The 180,000-pou about \$12,000 and Houston from Mi another \$10,000 to seven blocks to h where Enron Fie picked up by a c axles with truckl

The \$6,000 box transported metal commercially, ar were transported trucks with over Hootman, a for state's 1st Court use the caboose which already is law books, is a st

Report:

WASHINGTON One in 10 childr from mental illne enough to impac ment, the surge said in urging c flix what he term

A report Wednesday says children who win had mental health that went unu untreated until Fewer than one ir dren get treatme mental health pro report adds.

"If children ca can't develop app then it's going to with their whole Surgeon Gener Satcher. "Clearly

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DALLAS town hou His futu intends t vision sta No date DotCon pletely f www.DotD DotCon tions from The livi its depen for the st He mov As the c away on

Experts say resolve to reduce your debt in the new year

By DEBBIE L. JENSEN
Features Editor

It's the time of year for resolutions, and one of the most common is a wish to get out of debt in the new year.

What better time to designate as National Credit Awareness Month, a time to educate consumers about credit, debt and financial issues. iPlace.com, a personal information site on the Web, is offering a variety of services and programs this month.

And workers at Consumer Credit Counseling Service, a non-profit agency dedicated to helping people reduce debt, are bracing for an onslaught of new clients once the Christmas bills start rolling in.

"We will start hearing from people once the bills come in," said Kevin Williams, in the communications department for CCCS, which has a Midland office to serve the Big Spring area. "It can be like a splash of cold water in the face to find out what you really owe."

The average client of CCCS owes at least \$15,000 on credit cards, Williams said. And most of them don't contact the agency until they realize they can't make even the minimum payments on their credit cards.

The problem is widespread, according to iPlace, which released these statistics:

- In the U.S., the average balance on a credit card is \$7,000.

- The average interest rate is 18.9 percent.

- Late fees average \$29 for payments not received by the due date.

- The average household, meanwhile, has 10 credit cards.

- Almost half the households in the U.S. report having trouble making just the minimum payments.

Consider this: If you have a credit card balance of \$8,000 and you make the monthly minimum payment at 18 percent interest, it would take you 25 years, seven months to pay off the debt. You would actually pay an extra \$15,432 in interest,



HERALD photo/Debbie L. Jensen

Money owed on credit cards is one of the most common types of debt, and one of the most difficult to manage, experts said.

est, making your total payment on the debt \$23,432.

"We recommend that the first thing people do is get an idea of exactly how much they owe," Williams said.

he said.

"People need to realize credit is not income," Williams said. "Unfortunately, many people use credit to afford a lifestyle that they couldn't otherwise support."

Sometimes sale advertisements only add to the problem, he said, with deals like "no interest for 12 months."

"If you can't afford it now, will you be able to afford it in 12 months?" Williams asked.

The smart consumer, he added, can use special offers like that to his advantage, but it means paying off the debt before the interest kicks in. And without missing a single payment along the way.

"If you miss a payment or don't pay off that balance, a lot of times all the interest is going to be added to that balance," he said.

Williams said consumers should avoid using credit for things like groceries and gasoline.

"When the bill comes, you have nothing to show for it," he said. "Try not to use credit where you could pay

cash."

He said counselors with CCCS don't sugar-coat the situation for their clients. Those who can no longer afford the minimum balance on their credit cards are urged to join the agency's debt management program.

Those who can still manage their debt, but want to get out of it quicker, are given tips to help accomplish that goal. CCCS charges its clients a fee, but only if they join the debt management program.

Williams said the key is keeping your debt down at a manageable level.

"It doesn't happen overnight, but it won't help to just put your head in the sand and hope it goes away," he said.

iPlace.com is offering a number of special programs on its Internet site this month, including free credit reports. A special Web site has been set up for a variety of credit-related information. Check out www.credit-month.com.

Discuss your debt with a counselor from CCCS at 1-800-374-2227.

Lawyer turns railroad cars into urban works of art, office space

HOUSTON (AP) — Probably one of the most unusual law offices in the world is being developed on the edge of downtown Houston.

"It's sort of an art project," said trial lawyer Timothy A. Hootman, as he sat at his desk in an insulated railroad boxcar. "It's an unusual project."

Hootman, 3, isn't decided what will be the final color scheme for the cars.

There's also a large slab of stone that will be carved with the site's address and probably will be part of the shingle that identifies Hootman's law firm.

He has been working on the project for about four years and has spent more than \$100,000.

The 180,000-pound, passenger car cost about \$12,000 and was pulled by train to Houston from Michigan. Hootman spent another \$10,000 to have it transferred seven blocks to his lot from an area near where Enron Field is located. The car was picked up by a crane and put on a set of axles with trucklike tires and rolled.

The \$8,000 boxcar, which may have transported meat products when used commercially, and the \$15,000 caboose were transported to the location behind trucks with oversized transport trailers.

Hootman, a former staff attorney for the state's 1st Court of Appeals here, plans to use the caboose as an office. The boxcar, which already is lined inside with rows of law books, is a study. Hootman probably

will use the passenger car for an entertainment and conference room.

Hootman, reared in La Porte, said he has long been fascinated by railroads.

As a youngster, he first became interested in Pullman business cars, with their unique place in the history of commerce and, of course, with presidents standing at the rear campaigning.

The lawyer said he wants to encourage the preservation of railroad cars.

Otherwise, they may be cut into scrap. For example, they can be used as guest rooms in rural areas. Or, perhaps, they can be used in back yards as playrooms for children.

"Your imagination is your limit on what you can do with railroad cars," Hootman said. "I just think that cutting them up is a dirty shame."

Local sculptor Ben Woitena was hired to make the fence out of railroad rails and wheels that will surround the law offices. "This fence is going to weigh in the tons," Woitena said. "We're having to use chain hoists and all kinds of stuff."

"The wheels weigh 700 pounds apiece," he said. "It's going to be quite heavy."

Woitena said Hootman has a "unique concept" for his offices.

"I don't know if it's art or not," Woitena added. "But, for an office situation, he's combining function with some form of aesthetics. It's probably going to be quite handsome when he's finished — and unique."

VQT goes off the air

After 16 years, TV watchdog cancels itself

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Anyone who appreciates how good television can be when it's at its best owes a thank you to Dorothy Collins Swanson. And now is the time to say it.

Since 1984, as the founder and head of the grassroots group Viewers for Quality Television, Swanson has pushed and prodded networks to value the medium and viewers by offering worthwhile series.

She and her dedicated band of VQT members have focused attention on outstanding creative fare — from "Designing Women" to "China Beach" to this season's "Gilmore Girls" — and demanded more of the same.

They left it to politicians and others to debate the appropriate level of violence or sex or profanity on television. For VQT, the picture tube was half-full, offering enough absorbing dramas and comedies to prove that intelligent work could be done in Hollywood.

Now, 16 years after Swanson's lobbying efforts for the cop drama "Cagney

"What they wanted — to make television an environment with many more good shows, to protect those shows, to make television better, to somehow give viewers a role in that — has basically been accomplished."

Robert Thompson

& Lacey" led to the creation of VQT, she's pulling the plug. Her Fairfax, Va.-based nonprofit group is being dissolved; its December newsletter highlighting the best of the current TV season was its last.

The decision was tough but inevitable, Swanson said, and the timing is bittersweet. Her book, "The Story of Viewers for Quality Television: From Grassroots

to Prime Time," is just out from Syracuse University Press in New York.

Swanson, who was a 44-year-old Michigan homemaker when she stumbled into her role of advocate for TV excellence, hasn't tired of the battle. But the money and membership levels she needs to keep VQT alive just aren't there anymore.

"Rather than let the organization become a shadow of its former self, whether under my direction or somebody else's, we thought it was better to stop now and be remembered with the credibility that we worked so hard for the organization to have," Swanson said in a telephone interview.

Much has been accomplished, she said. She recalled the 1992-93 season when VQT efforts helped extend the life of (if not save) several outstanding series, including "I'll Fly Away," "Brooklyn Bridge" and "Homefront."

And VQT helped make viewers, traditionally seen as passive couch potatoes,

See TV, Page 6A

Report: Many children untreated for mental illness

WASHINGTON (AP) — One in 10 children suffers from mental illnesses severe enough to impair development, the surgeon general said in urging changes to fix what he termed a crisis.

A report released Wednesday says too often children who wind up in jail had mental health problems that went unnoticed or untreated until too late. Fewer than one in five children get treatment for any mental health problems, the report adds.

"If children can't learn, can't develop appropriately, then it's going to interfere with their whole life," said Surgeon General David Satcher. "Clearly it is a cri-

Fewer than one in five children get treatment for any mental health problems.

sis."

Satcher's newest call adds to his report a year ago declaring mental disorders a major undertreated problem for adults and children. It comes amid a recent backlash against one prominent childhood problem: attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. Lawsuits charge ADHD is overdiagnosed to push the drug Ritalin to children who merely are rambunctious.

There is some overtreatment, but also "there are

many children who could benefit from medications as well as behavioral treatment," Satcher said, identifying ADHD and depression as leading mental disorders affecting children.

According to the report: —Regular pediatricians treat most affected children and report difficulty referring serious patients to mental health specialists, including appointment waits of three to four months. Some communities offer no child mental health

services at all.

—In one study, some children with emotional disorders didn't get proper school services until age 10.

—Just as for adults, insurance coverage for children's mental health is spotty. Advocates told of parents who gave up custody so their children could receive welfare-funded therapy.

—One juvenile detention center study found over two-thirds of detainees had a psychiatric disorder. Yet the juvenile justice system seldom screens children.

The report urges mental health training for doctors, teachers, welfare and juvenile justice workers, and better access to care.

Where are y'all from? Census estimates 28.3 million living in U.S. were born in foreign country

WASHINGTON (AP) — America's foreign-born population swelled to more than 28.3 million last year, with the majority arriving from Latin America and Asia, new Census Bureau estimates being released Wednesday show.

The number of foreign-born residents in America was up from 26.4 million in 1999, the report said. About 1 of every 10 persons in America last year was born outside the country.

The estimates released Wednesday were based on

an annual survey taken last March by the statistical agency, and were not results from Census 2000. Official Census 2000 numbers on foreign-born residents could be released by the end of this year.

A separate survey released Tuesday by the Center for Immigration Studies, based on census figures, found that while the biggest immigrant populations were in California, New York and Florida,

See FOREIGN, Page 6A

SLICE of

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

DALLAS (AP) — DotComGuy, who legally changed his name to reflect his online life, emerged from his Dallas town house early Monday after a year of self-exile.

His future plans include changing his name back to Mitch Maddox. The computer systems manager also intends to wed Crystalyn Anne Holubeck, whom he met in a chatroom on DotComGuy's Web site, Dallas television station KDFW reported.

No date has been set.

DotComGuy, who never ventured past his tiny backyard for a year, bought all his necessities online and completely furnished the home. His daily life was recorded by 20 cameras that broadcast to the world at www.DotComGuy.com.

DotComGuy said he was bored at times, but that the year passed quickly as he answered e-mails and questions from reporters.

The living arrangement had corporate sponsorship from online interests that hoped DotComGuy's life — and its dependence on the Internet — would encourage others to use cyberspace for transactions normally reserved for the storefront.

He moved into the then-empty house on Jan. 1, 2000.

As the clock struck midnight Sunday, DotComGuy said goodbye to Web site viewers, walked outside and drove away on a small motorized scooter.

HEALTH NEWS

CHICAGO (AP) — Some strains of the common sexually transmitted disease chlamydia appear to raise women's risk of cervical cancer as much as sixfold, researchers say.

Another common sexually transmitted disease, human papillomavirus, or HPV, is known to be the leading cause of cervical cancer, but the risks of chlamydia have been much less clear.

The new findings, based on 128 women with advanced cervical cancer in Finland, Sweden and Norway, appear in Wednesday's Journal of the American Medical Association.

The findings "suggest that cervical malignancy should be added to the complications and costs associated with genital chlamydial infections," Dr. Jonathan Zenilman of Johns Hopkins School of Medicine wrote in an editorial.

Chlamydia is the most common bacterial STD in the United States, with between 4 million and 8 million new cases reported yearly. It can be treated with antibiotics.

JAN 4 2001

FOREIGN

Continued from Page 5

states with fast-growing populations overall like Colorado, North Carolina and Nevada each experienced jumps of more than 180 percent since 1990.

The percentage of immigrants among Americans has increased steadily since 1970, from 4.7 percent to 10.4 percent in 2000, according to the center, a Washington-based think tank that supports stricter controls on immigration.

Mark Mather, an analyst with the Population Reference Bureau, a non-profit Washington research group, said that states along the coasts and with big urban centers continue to attract the most newcomers to America.

But, "the foreign-born population is increasing everywhere," Mather said. "They are moving out of the coastal areas, but it's a slow process."

About 37 percent of foreign-born residents were naturalized citizens, the Census Bureau said in its report.

More than 30 percent of those naturalized citizens over age 25 had at least a bachelor's degree, more than the roughly 26 percent of native-born Americans over 25 with a college degree. However, only 22 percent of immigrants over 25 without citizenship graduated from college.

Foreign-born residents, regardless of citizenship, were less likely to have a high school diploma: about 87 percent of U.S.-born residents graduated from high school in March 2000, compared with 76 percent of naturalized foreign-born residents, and nearly 60 percent of those without citizenship.

TV

Continued from Page 5

understand the power of letters and phone calls to networks and producers in support of a series.

"I felt we had accomplished our goal in that viewers knew how to make their voices heard," Swanson said.

She may have done more than that, suggested Robert Thompson, director of the Center for the Study of Popular Television at Syracuse University. Thompson, who encouraged Swanson to document VQT's history, said the group blossomed at a time when television was entering a golden age and helped define it.

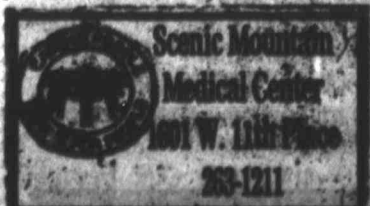
"They announced that the television drama was emerging into a new era of respectability and that the old stereotypes and old saws of 'boob tube' and 'idiot box' were beginning to collapse in some areas," he said.

"What they wanted — to make television an environment with many more good shows, to protect those shows, to make television better, to somehow give viewers a role in that — has basically been accomplished," he said.

Trying to keep VQT on a growth track was always difficult. Participation would swell when a cult favorite such as "Beauty and the Beast" or "Quantum Leap" faced cancellation, and then ebb when the danger of the show ended.

More recently, technology became a foe, with fan Web sites proliferating that allow viewers to bond and vent.

"There was a time when campaigning for a show had meaning, but because it can now be done with a click of a mouse it really has lost its specialness," Swanson said. "Someone actually got press notice for her campaign to save 'The Nanny.' I said, 'Well, it's come to that.'"



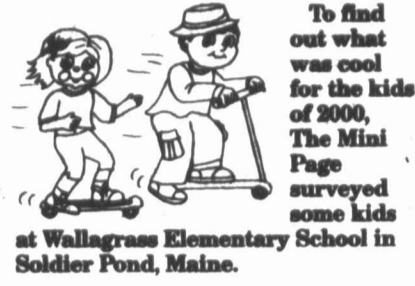
The Mini Page

Especially for kids and their families

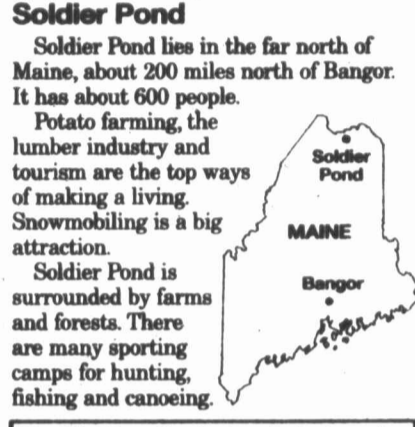
By BETTY DEBNAM

Hello, Soldier Pond, Maine!

The Kids of 2000



To find out what was cool for the kids of 2000, The Mini Page surveyed some kids at Wallgrass Elementary School in Soldier Pond, Maine.



The Mini Page thanks the students and Mr. Bert Levesque, fourth-grade teacher, at Wallgrass Elementary School for their help with this issue.



Wallgrass Elementary School in Soldier Pond, Maine, was chosen to be The Mini Page 2000 survey school.

These fads are popular in Soldier Pond, Maine. Put a check if these are "in" where you live.

- Soldier Pond**
Soldier Pond lies in the far north of Maine, about 200 miles north of Bangor. It has about 600 people.
Potato farming, the lumber industry and tourism are the top ways of making a living. Snowmobiling is a big attraction.
Soldier Pond is surrounded by farms and forests. There are many sporting camps for hunting, fishing and canoeing.
- Favorite authors**
- Beverly Cleary
 - Gertrude Chandler Warner
 - E.B. White
 - Mark Twain
 - J.K. Rowling
 - Shel Silverstein
- Favorite athletes**
- Vince Carter
 - Tara Lipinski
 - Michelle Kwan
 - Tim Duncan
 - Michael Jordan
 - Kristi Yamaguchi
 - Sammy Sosa
 - Ken Griffey Jr.
 - Larry Bird

Can you identify these faces of 2000?



Answers: 1. John Travolta, 2. Halle Berry, 3. Halle Berry, 4. Halle Berry, 5. Halle Berry, 6. Halle Berry, 7. Halle Berry, 8. Halle Berry, 9. Halle Berry, 10. Halle Berry, 11. Halle Berry, 12. Halle Berry, 13. Halle Berry, 14. Halle Berry, 15. Halle Berry, 16. Halle Berry.

Gus Goodsport's report

Supersport: Troy Aikman
Height: 6-4 Weight: 220 Birthdate: 11-21-66 College: UCLA
One of the best quarterbacks in the NFL is Troy Aikman of the Dallas Cowboys. He joined the team in 1989 and was the first player chosen in that year's draft.
He is one of only three quarterbacks in NFL history to lead the team to three Super Bowl championships. He holds or is tied for 45 team passing records.
He was also a top high school and college player. He went to high school in Henryetta, Okla. He studied sociology in college.
Troy works with many charities, including those that help children. In his free time he likes playing pool, basketball and golf, watching movies and hosting barbecues. He also likes Italian and Mexican food and country music.

Fads from A to Z

- Here are some "in" things from around the country. Circle the fads that are big where you are.
- A** American Girl dolls
 - B** bell-bottoms, bleached hair, board shorts, body glitter, break dancing, Britney Spears dolls, bucket hats
 - C** capri pants, carpenter's pants, chokers
 - D** Digimon, Discovery Channel, dyed hair
 - E** e-mailing friends
 - F** fingerboards, friendship bracelets
 - G** gel pens
 - H** hair extensions, hair jewelry, Harry Potter books, hats worn sideways, Hawaiian shirts
 - I** ice skating, in-line skating
 - J** jeans
 - K** key chains

Go dot to dot and color:

Do not color the numbers.

The Mini Page Map of the U.S.A.

LEARN THE STATES... and each state's capital, flower and bird

- multi-colored
- large (25 x 23 inches)
- perfect for the classroom or a child's room

Address: _____

MIGHTY FUNNY'S Funny Phonics

It's fun to learn phonics, or the way letters sound. This week's target sound is the one made by the ER blend, as in the word fern.

Q: Why must a doctor keep his temper?
A: He can't afford to lose his patients!

Q: What is the best material for making a kite?
A: Flypaper!

Q: Why did the baseball player marry the baker?
A: Because they wanted a better batter!

Go on an ER word hunt. What other words can you find that use the ER blend? What sound do you hear?

Basel Brown The News Howard's YEAR 2000 TRY 'N FIND

Words that remind us of the year 2000 are hidden in the block below. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally. See if you can find: SEUSS, OLSENS, N SYNC, DISNEY, CAPRIS, SOSA, WYN, STINE, RUGRATS, NICKELODEON, BASEBALL, SHIBONE, ARTHUR, BLUME, COSBY, SABRINA, FAVRE.

I LOVE HARRY POTTER BOOKS!

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

Mini Spy ...

Mini Spy and Basel Brown are enjoying their new scooters. See if you can find:

- fish
- snailboat
- exclamation mark
- ruler
- word MINI
- safety pin
- caterpillar
- cat's face
- man's face
- number 3
- heart
- letter O
- bucket
- letter Y

More favorites from around the country

Athletes	Fads	Authors	Favorite TV shows	Musical artists
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Michael Jordan Mia Hamm Tiger Woods Shaquille O'Neal Lisa Leslie 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pokémon Beanie Babies Tamagotchi Game Boys Crazy Bones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Seuss Marc Brown Beverly Cleary J.K. Rowling Mary Pope Osborne 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Keenan and Kel" "The Parkers" "Smart Guy" "Everybody Loves Raymond" "Moesha" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> T'N Sync Britney Spears TLC Will Smith 98 Degrees

More Favorites From Soldier Pond

- Nintendo
- Furbies
- Beanie Babies
- PEZ Dispensers
- Britney Spears
- T'N Sync
- Dixie Chicks
- Backstreet Boys
- Pokémon

The Mini Page/NIE

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Tomorrow's workforce is in today's classrooms.

Sponsored by: ATS Telecom, Bob & Susan Lewis, Myers & Smith Funeral Home & Chapel, Myra Robinson, Alon-Big Spring Refinery, John Rheinsheld

IN BR

Hawks suffer loss to W. Ariz.

Howard Hawks saw the dip to 6-10 W. Ariz. night, as they su 85-73 loss to Arizona at Yuma.

Zach Moss Hawks with 26 p 10 rebounds.

The Hawks ow 37 lead during but Howard sim n't keep pac Western Arizon shot 82 percent field in the secur

The Hawks r action Jan. 15, Western Junio Athletic Confer taking on New Military Insti Roswell.

Bulldogs resc game for toni

Coahoma's Bul play their no basketball gam Hamlin's Pied originally sche Tuesday, at 6:30 the Coahoma El School gym.

Junior varsit will begin at 5 p.

Bulldogs coac noted that the will play host to Christian at an time than norma in order to let fa the Bulldogette 3-3A opener at F

Friday's JV ga for a 4 p.m. start varsity tip set fo

Baseball boos meeting for Tr

The Big Sprin School Baseball Club will meet Tuesday at the Athletic Training

Parents of a school baseball are urged to att those who have o program and sig asked to turn the

For more info call Jim Clemm 1089 after 6 p.m.

Area coaches to transmit sc

The Herald is a Crossroads area ball coaches who provided copies varsity schedules ters for the 2000-son to do so as q possible.

Rosters and s can be faxed to tion of John A. M 264-7205.

ACS still offers Texas Golf Pas

The American Society is again the Texas Golf entitles holders than 680 rounds 289 courses thr the state.

The passes are and proceeds f program bene Cancer Society's education progr patient services.

Both the Big Country Club Comanche Tra Course are part in the program, a forms are availa two courses.

For more info concerning the call 1-800-ACS- check the soci site at www.acs-t

ON THE

Television COLLEGE BASKET

Men

6 p.m. — In Wisconsin, ESPN, 9:30 p.m. — W State at Southern Ch. 29.

GOLF

9 p.m. — PGA Match Play Cham third round, ESPN,

at New York Kn Ch. 28.

IN BRIEF

Hawks suffer 85-73 loss to W. Arizona

Howard College's Hawks saw their record dip to 6-10 Wednesday night, as they suffered an 85-73 loss to Western Arizona at Yuma, Ariz. Zach Moss led the Hawks with 26 points and 10 rebounds. The Hawks owned a 43-37 lead during halftime, but Howard simply couldn't keep pace with Western Arizona, which shot 82 percent from the field in the second half.

The Hawks return to action Jan. 15, opening Western Junior College Athletic Conference play taking on New Mexico Military Institute in Roswell.

Bulldogs reschedule game for tonight

Coahoma's Bulldogs will play their non-district basketball game with Hamlin's Pied Pipers, originally scheduled for Tuesday, at 6:30 tonight in the Coahoma Elementary School gym.

Junior varsity action will begin at 5 p.m.

Bulldogs coaches also noted that the Bulldogs will play host to Midland Christian at an earlier time than normal Friday in order to let fans attend the Bulldogettes' District 3-3A opener at Forsan.

Friday's JV game is set for a 4 p.m. start with the varsity tip set for 5:30.

Baseball boosters set meeting for Tuesday

The Big Spring High School Baseball Booster Club will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the BSHS Athletic Training Center.

Parents of all high school baseball players are urged to attend, and those who have completed program and sign ads are asked to turn them in.

For more information, call Jim Clements at 267-1069 after 6 p.m.

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

ON THE AIR

Television COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Men
6 p.m. — Indiana at Wisconsin, ESPN, Ch. 30.
9:30 p.m. — Washington State at Southern Cal, FXS, Ch. 29.

WOL
9 p.m. — PGA Accenture Match Play Championship, third round, ESPN, Ch. 30.

WOL
10 p.m. — Orlando Magic at New York Knicks, TNT, Ch. 26.

Schottenheimer goes from Snyder critic to an employee

WASHINGTON (AP) — For the past two years, Marty Schottenheimer got paid to say what he thought of Washington Redskins owner Dan Snyder. Now, Snyder will be the one signing Schottenheimer's checks.

Having dispensed a few thoughts about Snyder — most of them very negative — as an analyst for ESPN, Schottenheimer admitted to a change of heart as he prepared to take over Thursday as the head coach and director of football operations of the Redskins.

"At first, I felt our management styles were not similar," said Schottenheimer, who had successful runs in Cleveland and Kansas

City before leaving the Chiefs in January 1999. "But when I met him, I found him to be a very engaging guy and totally committed to recapturing the winning tradition of the Washington Redskins. He has a tremendous passion for this organization."

Schottenheimer gets a four-year, \$10 million contract and will be answerable only to Snyder. He replaces Terry Robiskie, who coached the final three games after Norv Turner was fired.

With Snyder's meddlesome practices providing fodder for critics such as Schottenheimer, the Redskins finished the year as the most expensive disappointment in

NFL history: 8-8 and out of the playoffs despite a record \$100 million player payroll.

In the studio, Schottenheimer was not shy about his feelings about Snyder, particularly after the rookie owner dressed down Turner just outside the locker room immediately after a loss in Dallas last season.

This season, Schottenheimer mellowed somewhat, saying he came to respect Snyder's willingness to spend money to win. However, when asked on the air last month about the possibility of working for Snyder, Schottenheimer said: "I don't think that our management styles are similar enough that we could coexist effectively."

Now, Schottenheimer feels otherwise.

"Daniel Snyder is the owner of this football team," Schottenheimer said. "But he has afforded me the opportunity to be involved in all the important decisions that affect the on-field success."

Having bought the best players his money could buy, Snyder opened his pocketbook again and went after the most successful available coach he could find. Bill Parcells, Steve Spurrier and Butch Davis made it clear they weren't interested, so Snyder hired a coach whose .630 regular-season winning percentage is seventh best in NFL history.

Lady Steers, Steers split with Lake View

By KAMILAH WARD
Sports Writer

SAN ANGELO — Big Spring's Lady Steers proved to be more than a mere contender for the District 4-4A playoff race Wednesday night, as they routed Lake View's Maidens 56-22 at San Angelo Central's gym.

Latrisha Rollins led all scorers with 11 points as the Lady Steers improved their record to 15-3 overall and 3-1 in district play.

"We just play hard, that's what we know how to do," said Lady Steers head coach Jimmy Avery following the win. "We try to teach the girls-if you play hard good things will happen."

Sure enough, good things did happen as the Lady Steers nearly shut out the Maidens in the first quarter — allowing only two points during the 8-minute stretch.

The Maidens didn't get the ball into their front court until the 6:44 mark on the clock.

"We play very aggressive," Avery said in a clear understatement.

That aggressiveness paid off as the Lady Steers again only allowed two Lake View points in the final quarter.

All told, the Lady Steers came up with 25 steals — more than double Big Spring's entire number of turnovers (11).

Wednesday's varsity nightcap was a different matter, however.

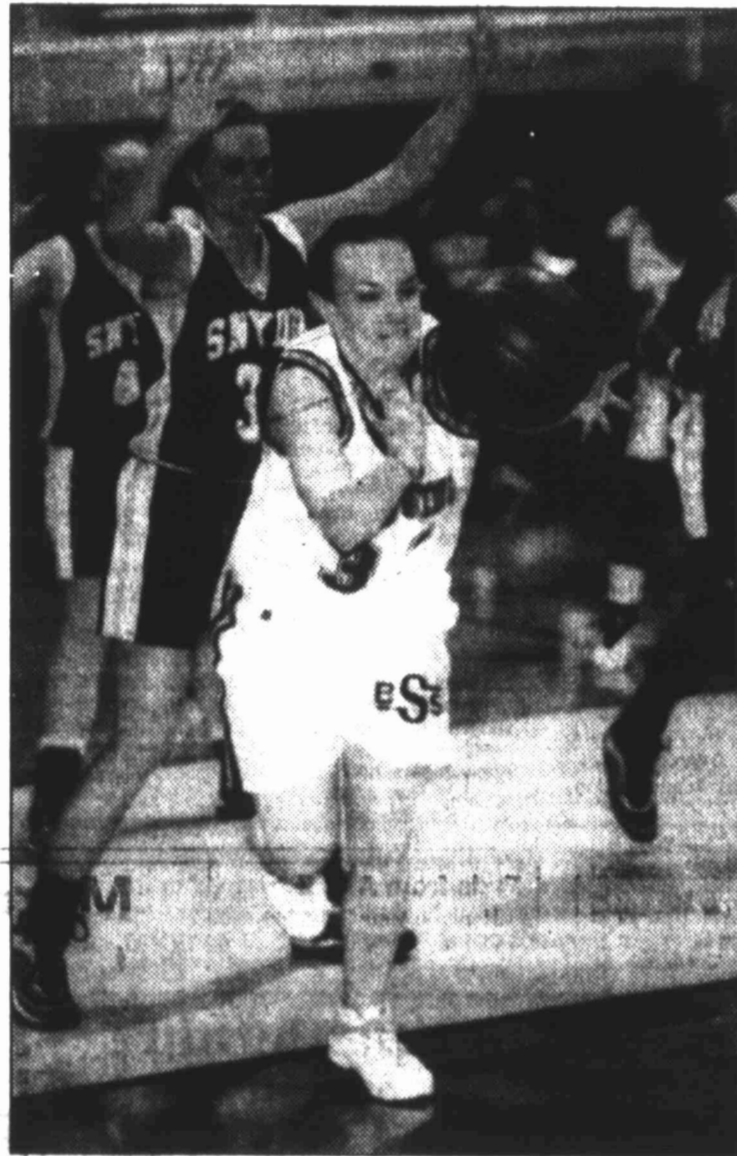
In what has become a somewhat familiar pattern of late, Big Spring's Steers fell behind early, but mounted a surprising fourth-quarter rally, only to fall just short at the final buzzer.

As a result, the Lake View's Chiefs were able to post a 50-48 win in the second 4-4A outing for both boys teams.

The score somewhat told the story as the Steers came close to forcing overtime, embarking on an 8-1 run during the final few minutes.

The run started with a free throw by Jason Watson. Seconds later, Watson swiped an errant Chiefs pass and dished off to Clarence Wilkins who was fouled as he attempted a layup.

The lead was cut to four at the 3:02 mark with a jumper from Watson, but a



HERALD photo/Jim Fiero

Big Spring's LaTrisha Rollins, pictured here grabbing a loose ball in the Lady Steers' loss to Snyder prior to the Christmas break, led her teammates in scoring Wednesday night. Rollins had 11 points in a 56-22 win over Lake View's Maidens.

free throw by Tim Abbott put the Chiefs up by five.

The Steers had one more chance to close the margin but a missed one-and-one opportunity by Allen Jackson allowed the Chiefs a chance to again extend their lead from three to five with eight seconds remaining on the clock.

That 5-point Lake View cushion proved to be all-important when the Steers' Mic Flemming drained a 3-pointer at the buzzer.

Steers head coach Brian Ellington praised his team for competing well, especially during crunch time.

"This game was a tale of two halves," the first-year Steers boss noted following the defeat. "If we played by halves we would've won the game. We talked about playing consistent, playing for four quarters."

The Lady Steers and Steers resume play on the road Friday traveling to Andrews where they'll face the Lady Mustangs and Mustangs beginning with

girls' action at 6 p.m.

LADY STEERS 56,
LAKE VIEW 22

BIG SPRING — Kim Wrightall 1-5 2-2 4, Leona Braxton 2-4 0-3 4, Christine Gwyn 1-3 0-0 2, Krystal Long 2-3 4-4 8, LaTrisha Rollins 4-8 0-0 11, Brittny Bryant 2-4 0-0 5, Melissa Forth 1-2 1-8 9, Melissa Flemming 3-6 0-2 6, Megan Puddiner 1-1 0-0 2, Chelsea Churchwell 1-4 2-2 3, Totals — 18-40 15-19 56.

LAKE VIEW — Jennifer Hill 1-8 2-2 4, Teri Russell 2-7 1-7 6, Lacey Lefelste 1-7 0-2 2, Amanda Phillips 0-1 0-4 0, Cassandra Sanders 0-0 0-0 0, Dasha McDonald 0-2 0-0 0, Liz Gould 2-9 0-4 4, Ashley Reynolds 0-2 0-0 0, Kristi Caples 3-7 0-2 6, Totals 9-43 3-12 22.

Score by Quarters

BIG SPRING 10 15 18 18 — 56
LAKE VIEW 2 10 8 2 — 22

3-point goals — Big Spring 5-15 (Rollins 3, 4, Bryant 1,2, Churchwell 1,3, Braxton 0-1, Gwyn 0-1, Wrightall 0-2, Flemming 0-2); Lake View 1-5 (Russell 1-3, Lefelste 0-1, McDonald 0-1).

Penalty out — Caples, Reynolds — Big Spring 15-3, 3-1; Lake View 8-13, 0-4.

LAKE VIEW 50,
STEERS 48

BIG SPRING — Brandon Greenhouse 0-1 2-2 2; Michael Martinez 1-3 0-0 2; Allen Jackson 0-1 0-1 0; Clarence Wilkins 5-9 1-4 11; Arthur Babin 2-8 3-8 7; Mic Flemming 3-5 2-7 7; Gary Harris 2-3 0-0 4; Jason Watson 4-4 1-3 9; Mike Smith 3-8 0-0 3; Austin Nutting 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 19-43 9-20 48.

LAKE VIEW — Robert Robinson 0-0 0-0 0; Jimmy Cortez 2-6 2-3 7; Thomas Pans 0-1 0-0 0; Tim Walker 6-12 2-3 15; Ernest Duran 6-9 3-4 15; Demetric Hallman 1-5 0-1 2; Cole Boswell 0-1 0-2 0; Tim Abbott 2-7 3-13 7; Brand Dendle 0-1 0-0 0; Erik Fowler 2-4 0-0 4; Michael Mason 0-0 0-2 0. Totals 19-46 10-26 48.

Score by Quarters

BIG SPRING 10 13 12 15-48
LAKE VIEW 10 13 10 9-40

3-point goals — Big Spring 1-9 (Martinez 0-1, Jackson 0-1, Babin 0-3, Flemming 1-3, Harris 0-1; Lake View 2-7 (Cortez 1-1, Walker 1-3, Duran 0-1, Abbott 0-1, Fowler 0-1). Total fouls — Big Spring 22, Lake View 18. Fouled out — Watson, Abbott, Reynolds — Big Spring 5-10, 0-2; Lake View 10-10, 2-0.

Sooners defense leads the charge to national title

MIAMI (AP) — Torrance Marshall and top-ranked Oklahoma made their statement real early.

"I tried to intimidate from the coin toss," the Sooners linebacker said. "I told Chris Weinke that he stole my boy's trophy."

By the end of the Orange Bowl, as Heisman runner-up Josh Heupel stood in the end zone and led the school band in the fight song, all the hardware belonged to Oklahoma.

Marshall earned the MVP award for leading a defense that denied No. 3 Florida State a share of its second straight national title, and the Sooners seized the top prize with a 13-2 win Wednesday night.

Oklahoma (13-0), 10-point underdogs against the Seminoles (11-2), also made the issue of the split title a moot point. They were a unanimous No. 1 in The Associated Press media poll and were automatically crowned in the coaches' poll under the Bowl Championship Series format.

"Our players recognize that the history of Oklahoma is winning championships," Sooners coach Bob Stoops said. "We already had six, now we have seven."

Oklahoma won its first title since 1985, smothering a team that led the nation in total offense and averaged 42 points per game.

The Seminoles wound up at No. 5 — the first time since the 1987 season they finished out of the top four spots.

"When I look at it now, I think it should have been Miami and Oklahoma," Seminoles coach Bobby Bowden said. "We didn't look like we belonged here."

Miami (11-1), which beat Florida a day earlier in the Sugar Bowl, had hoped a win by the Seminoles would give it the AP title.

Instead, Hurricanes coach Butch Davis watched the Sooners win the lowest-scoring Orange Bowl since Penn State beat Missouri 10-3 in 1970.

"Give Oklahoma credit," said Davis, whose team finished No. 2. "To finish 13-0 against a strong schedule and to perform the way they did this evening is highly commendable."

Only a bad snap over punter Jeff Ferguson's head in the final minute, which resulted in a safety, pre-

AP Poll

The Top Twenty Five teams in The Associated Press final college football poll, with first-place votes in parentheses and final records:

	Record
1. Oklahoma (71)	13-0
2. Miami	11-1
3. Washington	11-1
4. Oregon St.	11-1
5. Florida St.	11-2
6. Virginia Tech	11-1
7. Oregon	10-2
8. Nebraska	10-2
9. Kansas St.	11-3
10. Florida	10-3
11. Michigan	9-3
12. Texas	9-3
13. Purdue	8-4
14. Colorado St.	10-2
15. Notre Dame	9-3
16. Clemson	9-3
17. Georgia Tech	9-3
18. Auburn	9-4
19. South Carolina	8-4
20. Georgia	8-4
21. TCU	10-2
22. LSU	8-4
23. Wisconsin	9-4
24. Mississippi St.	8-4
25. Iowa St.	9-3

vented Oklahoma from handing the Seminoles their first shutout since 1988, a 31-0 loss in the season opener.

"I think we had confidence right from the get-go, right when we found out who we were going to play," co-defensive coordinator Brent Venables said. "We just did a variety of things."

As expected, the Seminoles came out throwing. And when Heisman winner Weinke hit Atreus Bell for a 35-yard completion on the first play of the game, Florida State fans started shouting, and the Seminoles' band began blaring the school's famous war chant.

It would be the last time all night they would be so loud.

By the time Oteji Jones picked off Weinke's pass in the end zone with 16 seconds left, it was all over and the Sooners' band had struck up several choruses of "Oklahoma."

Marshall wound up as the Orange Bowl MVP after making six tackles and coming up with an interception.

"Everybody doubted us all year, but this is a great group of football players here," he said.

Weinke finished 25-for-51 and threw two interceptions. Star running back Travis Minor was reduced to 20 yards on 13 carries.

"We couldn't seem to click or get on a roll," Weinke said.

The Seminoles were minus their top receiver, All-American Snoop Minnis, who was academically ineligible.

Boston College upsets UConn following soft season start

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Boston College is right on schedule.

Coach Al Skinner lined up nine soft games for his Eagles to start the season — all with confidence and Connecticut in mind.

Skinner's scheme was successful as Boston College is off to its best start since its Sweet 16 season of 1984-85. On Wednesday night, the Eagles got rid of their nagging losing streak against the Huskies.

Troy Bell scored 27 points and Xavier Singletary had 23 as BC snapped a 23-game losing skid against Connecticut by beating the

10th-ranked Huskies 65-68 in the Big East opener for both teams.

The victory was Boston College's first over a ranked opponent in two years.

"It's a big confidence booster, even though our confidence is sky high right now," Singletary said. "I felt we would win this game, but to other people it shows we're a pretty good team."

UConn's dominance over BC (10-0) matched the longest winning streak for one Big East team against another in league history. Syracuse beat Seton Hall 23 consecutive times from 1982-92.

"At least that part, you can put to

rest," said Skinner, who was a part of the last five losses in a streak that dated to BC's last victory on Feb. 23, 1988. "But we still have a long way to go to catch up. We're not even close to the talent that they have."

In other games involving Top 25 teams, No. 1 Michigan State beat Penn State 99-73; No. 9 Illinois defeated Minnesota 80-64; No. 11 Seton Hall topped Providence 67-60; and No. 19 Georgetown bested West Virginia 90-66.

Boston College, coming off an 11-19 record last season, was a lot better than Connecticut on Wednesday night.

The Huskies did not score for seven minutes in the second half, and Boston College seized control of the game with a 23-5 run for a 16-point lead with just over seven minutes remaining.

The Huskies had 22 turnovers and shot only 37 percent in the second half.

Freshman Caron Butler had a career-high 29 points and 13 rebounds for UConn.

"Their purpose was to beat Connecticut and our purpose was to play. That just isn't how the game works," coach Jim Calhoun said. "I have a great admiration for how they played. I'm a BC fan tonight."

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Herald Classifieds

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We need over 300 entry-level drivers this month. NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED. We represent over 40 trucking companies. You choose which one. Tuition assistance available for inexperienced. **COL DELIVERS 1-800-260-0294**

2000 Ford Rangers

\$2000 off & 3.9% APR. BOB BROCK FORD 500 W. 4th

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONCEALED HANDGUN CLASS Sat., Sept. 9. One Day Class, contact Tommy Scott, 394-4492.

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

Caseworker needed. Must have computer knowledge, High School Diploma. Applications taken Jan. 5th, 1pm at Salvation Army, 511 W. 5th.

"COME GROW WITH US"

Texas Star Stops are now taking applications for full and part time help. Apply at 2501 S. Gregg, 800 E. I-20, 400 S. Gregg & 4806 W. Hwy 80, between 8am & 2pm M-F. We are a drug free work force.

Computer, Internet people wanted \$25-\$75/hr. PT/FT Free Booklet. (800)757-3749 (24hr) or go to wantebiz.com

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

General Maintenance - Minimum qualifications include a valid Texas driver license with dependable 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.

Day & Night dispatchers needed. FT/PT. No smoking while on duty. Apply at 700 W. 4th.

Gills Fried Chicken has immediate openings for day & evening shifts. Must be able to work weekends. Apply in person: 1101 Gregg St.

Key Energy Service Co. Stanton Tx is seeking experienced welders. Benefits included. Call for more info. 8-5 M-F 915-756-2875.

HELP WANTED

Entry level or experienced full-time soft drink route person needed. Requirements include being 18 or older, completion of high school or GED, good driving record, capability to perform physically demanding labor, ability to meet people and communicate effectively, and a willingness to work till the job is done.

Applicants with Class A-CDL and route sales or commercial driving experience preferred, but the company is willing to train the right person.

Dr. Pepper/Peppi 2611 N. Hwy 87 Big Spring, Texas EEO/AA Employer 263-4186

Full time cashier needed by Mr. Payroll. Competitive salary and benefit package. Apply in person at AVIS LUBE, 4th & Goliad.

Local company now hiring for nighttime work. Some travel required. Must have valid driver's license. Will train. Call 267-5448.

Now hiring waitresses. Apply in person to 1702 Gregg. No Phone Calls Please.

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 Or Fax Resumes to (915) 580-2033 Attn: Arlene Pradon

MIDWEST FINANCE Part time help needed. Apply in person at 672 Gregg St.

HELP WANTED

MOUNTAIN VIEW LODGE is now hiring RN/Floor Supervisor to assist with Quality Assurance. Excellent starting Salary, 7 paid holidays, 2 weeks vacation after 1 year, insurance and retirement plan available, excellent work environment and much, much more.

Inquire in person at 2008 Virginia for our complete benefit package

Newspaper carrier needed in Big Spring for Lubbock Avalanche Journal. Great part-time job for someone willing to get up early. Looking for honest, dependable person with good transportation. Call Michael Cardenas at (806) 766-8763 or 1-800-692-4021 Ext.8763

Now hiring full time RN and LVN with experience in Home Health in Stanton. Salary based on experience. Good benefits. Call 756-3259

Part-time Social Worker needed. Long term care experience preferred. Apply in person at Big Spring Care Center, 801 Goliad.

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. 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.

Rip Griffin Travel Plaza is now taking applications to hire cashiers for the diesel fuel islands. P.d. vacation, 401K plan, health ins., top pay. Apply in person @ 1-20 Hwy 87 to Katy Martin. EOE

Taxi driver, FT/PT. No smoking while on duty. Clean driving record. Apply at 700 W. 4th.

HELP WANTED

West Texas Centers for M-HMR has an opening for a Payroll Clerk. Position requires high school graduation/GED + 3 years experience performing bookkeeping and accounting functions. Prefer experience in Microsoft Excel. Salary \$8.20 to \$12.09 hour DOE. Applications may be obtained at 409 Funnels or call JOBLINE 800-687-2769. EOE

Tax preparer need for 2000 tax season. 3-5 yrs. tax exp. necessary. CPA preferred. Send resume and ref. to PO Box 718/1431 Big Spring, Tx. 79721.

JOBS WANTED

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

LOANS

DELTA LOANS Loans from \$50-\$450. Se Habla Espanol. Phone Apps. Welcome. 115 E. 3rd. 268-8090.

MIDWEST FINANCE Loans \$100-\$430. Open M-F 9-6pm. 612 Gregg. 263-1353. Phone app's welcome. Se Habla Espanol.

NEED HELP WITH HOLIDAY BILLS & INCOME TAXES Come see us. No Credit - No Problem. Loans \$100-\$450. Apply by phone 267-4591 or come by **SECURITY FINANCE** 204 S. Goliad - Big Spring

DOGS, PETS, ETC.

Free to good home. 3 yr. old dog neutered, sweet, intelligent pit bull/lab mix. 264-0195.

Puppies to give away. Half wolf. Call 268-1470

GARAGE SALES

Baby items, home decor, clothes, tools of misc. 2512 Central, Sat. 8-7. 1-800-406-5126

MISCELLANEOUS

GET YOUR DRIVERS LICENSE AT THE MALL! REGISTRATION THIS WEEK! CALL 266-1023 OR 270-4610. C1200

Restaurant Equipment Sale: Fryers, freezers, all types of dishes, cookware, etc. Sat. 8AM, 1211 Gregg St.

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

ACREAGE FOR SALE

FARM/RANCH/RECREATION PROPERTIES 60 acres in Brown County on Jim Ned (live water) complete with 120 acre feet irrigation rights. 187 acres Brown County, live oak country w/ rural water and two stock tanks. 291 acres Brown County. Rolling hills, plenty of water, live oak and elm country. Small house. 312 acres Brown County. Two stock tanks and lots of cover. 400 acres Fisher County (near Blackwell). Remodeled house, pens, barns, good water, plenty of cover. 980 acres Mitchell County, 1 mile Colorado River (live water), stock tanks, 400 acres cultivation, good cover and small, but livable house. We have more listings, but if we don't have it we will find it for you! **STEPHENS RANCH REAL ESTATE** 1-888-646-1229

BUILDINGS FOR SALE

Steel Buildings, new, must sell 30x40x12 was \$10,200 now \$6,990 40x60x12 was \$16,400 now \$10,971 50x100x16 was \$27,590 now \$19,990 M A B 60x200x16 was \$58,760 now \$42,990 1-800-406-5126

OFFICE SPACE

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

RENT TO OWN HOMES

2 BR mobile home on large lot. Rent to own. Lots of trees & fenced yard. Midway area. Call 263-2929

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BUILDINGS FOR RENT

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

Small building w/lot on 4th st. \$150/mo + deposit. Call Westex Auto 263-5000.

HOUSES FOR SALE

1609 Sycamore Nice 3/2 home. Corner lot CHVA, new paint & carpet. Owner financing possible. 915-683-5962.

MOBILE HOMES

ARBALLO!! I have put over 100 families in homes and you could be next!! Just ask for Armando 1-800-755-9133

Christmas in your own home! Beautiful 3 bedroom only \$19,900. 1-800-755-9133

Cute 2 bedroom, very nice, only \$6,500. Ask for Jerrod 1-800-755-9133

SI ESTA CANSADO de pagar Renta. Pero su credito esta mal, o no tiene credito. Venga a verme en A-1 HOMES - MIDLAND, TX. O hableme al telefono 1-800-755-9133 y pregunte por Armando Abballo, para ayudarle en su casa mobil nueva o usada.

Why pay rent? Own your own home Today! Approval on all types of credit (A,B or C). phone applications welcome. Call 1-800-755-9133 ask for David

FURNISHED APTS.

Furnished 1 BR trailer. Large utility room, washer & dryer connections. No pets. Inquire at 1213 Harding.

Large cozy 1 BR apt. 110 E. 17th. \$250/mo. \$150/dep. Water paid. Call 267-5420

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BIG SPRING HERALD Advertising Department

Is looking for an Account Executive and telemarketer for outside and telephone sales. Hourly wage plus commission. People oriented person is a must.

Send Resume to: Edwin Vela Advertising Manager P.O. Box 1431 Big Spring, Tx. 79721 No phone calls please

HERALD

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2 BR mobile home on large lot. Rent to own. Lots of trees & fenced yard. Midway area. Call 263-2929

Barcelona Apartments

"Call Us For Our \$199 Move In Specials"

601 Webster Rd. 263-1333

LOVELY NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLEX

Swimming Pool
Carports,
Most Utilities Paid,
Senior Citizen Discounts,
1 & 2 Bedrooms & 1 or 2 Baths Unfurnished

KENTWOOD APARTMENTS

1904 East 25th Street
267-5404
263-13000

NEEDED: patient Screener

Ophthalmologist office. H.S. Diploma required. Will train. Apply at 2 E. 7th

Estate Sale

505 Scott Dr. Fri. - Sat. 10-7 or by appt. 263-204

HELP

The Big Spring looking for a clerk in the cement. 25-30 hr Monday-Frid Position available. This person will be driven and provide qual computer kn telephone et All interested bring resum application at 710 Scurry The Herald i opportunity provides a d

Big Spring Herald BUSINESS SERVICES

Let us put you in touch with the best stores and services in town. 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!!

APPLIANCE REPAIR A-2-Z Service washers & dryers ranges refrigerators microwaves heater service Call 393-5217 for appointment 25 Years Exp.	CUSTOM BUILT WINDOWS Four Seasons Insulation and Siding Inc Custom built thermo replacement windows 100% no lien financing available 915-264-8610	F
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UNEMPLOYED
HOURS

3 BR 1 bath, 2202
Runnels. Call 267-3841
or 270-7308.

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

634 Tulsa, 2 BR, \$300.
3702 Hamilton, 3 BR,
\$400. Call after 4pm
661-6721 or 264-0793.

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

College Park 3/1/1,
appliances. NO Pets.
\$485. Call 267-2070.

Executive 3 bdr. 2 bth
home in Highland.
\$400/mo. \$850/mo. Call
263-4528

For Sale or Lease
3304 Duke
3 bdr. 2 bth. 2 living
areas, fireplace, near
school. Sale @ \$95,900
will pay closing. Lease
\$200/mo. \$500/dep.
Daytime 263-0844,
nighttime 263-0667.

House for lease.
Kentwood, 2513 Carol.
3BR 2 bath. \$850/mo.
\$400/dep. 263-3436

Unique 2BR 1 bath,
lovely yard. No pets.
Call 263-1054 or
267-2005 for appt.

TOO LATES

Comanche Trail
Nursing Center needs
nurses aides for 2-10
and 10-6 shifts.
Experienced CNA's, but
will train. Paid vacation,
paid holidays, health
insurance available.
Apply in person 3200
Parkway.

95 Ford F150 Extended
Cab Long Wide XLT.
Towing Pkg.
Immaculate cond. 63k.
\$12,500. 267-6845

Needed: patient
Screeners for
Ophthalmologist office.
H.S. Diploma required.
Will train. Apply at 207
E. 7th.

Estate Sale
505 Scott Dr.
Fri. - Sat. 10-7
or by appt. 263-2045

TOO LATES

OilField Hands
AAA Tubing needs
tubing tester operator.
Will train, but must have
oilfield exp. Good
wages, must be drug
free & have good driving
record. Call Jesse
631-3128 anytime.

In Coahoma, 3BR 1
bath. Deposit &
references required.
Call 267-5952

Midway area. 2BR 1
bath mobile home.
Deposit and references
required. Call 267-5952

97 Nissan Pickup. XE
pag. 1 owner, 16,000
actual miles. Like new.
\$7,950. 87 Auto Sales.

Inventory blow out, 10
models at must go
prices. Cut
\$2,500-\$10,000. Call
1-800-698-8003. See
Habla Espanol
www.palmharbor.com

Free electric bill for 1
yr. 1-800-698-8003 See
Habla Espanol

3 bedroom 2 bath ready
to move in. Call for
private viewing.
915-653-7800.

Land for manufactured
homes. Call for more
information.
1-800-698-8003.

REPO Super Center
over 200 Repo's & Used
homes to choose from.
Homes from \$1000 &
Up. Hurry call now!
1-800-698-8003.

Inside Sale 2210 Main
Fri. & Sat. Couch,
recliner, kitchenware,
lots of misc.

ATTENTION CLASSIFIED
CUSTOMERS
IF YOU NEED TO CANCEL
OR MAKE CHANGES IN
YOUR AD, PLEASE CALL BY
8:00 AM THE DAY
THE CHANGE IS TO
OCCUR.
OUR OFFICE HOURS ARE
7:30 AM-5:00 PM

Do you have a
house for sale? A
car? Let the Herald
Classified section
help you.
Call us Today!
263-7331

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR FLUID INJECTION
WELL PERMIT

Anadarko Petroleum
Corporation is applying to the
Railroad Commission of Texas
for a permit to inject fluid into a
formation which is productive
of oil or gas.
The applicant proposes to
inject fluid into the San
Angelo/Clearfork Granville M.
Dodge Estate Well Number
1809W, 209W, 207W. The proposed
injection well is located 5
miles East of Coahoma in the
Iatan East Howard, in
Howard County. Fluid will be
injected into strata in the sub-
surface depth interval from
2400 to 2875 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY:
Chapter 27 of the Texas
Water Code, as amended,
Title 3 of the Texas Natural
Resources Code, as amended,
and the Statewide Rules of the
Oil and Gas Division of the
Railroad Commission of
Texas.

Requests for a public hearing
from persons who can show
they are adversely affected, or
requests for further information
concerning any aspect of
the application should be sub-
mitted in writing, within fifteen
days of publication, to the
Environmental Services
Section, Oil and Gas Division,
Railroad Commission of
Texas, Drawer 12967, Capitol
Station, Austin, Texas 78711
(Telephone 512-463-6792).
3035 January 4, 2001

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The applicant proposes to
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Dodge Estate Well Number
147 W. The proposed injection
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Coahoma in the Iatan East
Howard, in Howard County.
Fluid will be injected into strata
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val from 2350 to 2875 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY:
Chapter 27 of the Texas
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Station, Austin, Texas 78711
(Telephone 512-463-6792).
3035 January 4, 2001

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS
HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST
THE ESTATE OF
ILA MARIE NICHOLS

Notice is hereby given that
original Letters of
Testamentary for the Estate of
ILA MARIE NICHOLS were
issued on December 20, 2000
in Cause No. P-12738 pend-
ing in the County Court of
Howard County, Texas, to:
MARGIE MARIE SHAW
STRICKLAND.

The residence of such
MARGIE MARIE SHAW
STRICKLAND is Big Spring,
Texas, the post office address
is: P.O. Box 88, Big Spring,
Texas 79721.

All persons having claims
against this Estate which is
currently being administered
are required to present them
within the time and the man-
ner prescribed by law.
DATED the 20th day of
December, 2000.
MARGIE MARIE SHAW
STRICKLAND.
3036 January 4, 2001

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for

Friday, Jan. 5, 2001:

Don't hold back. Let others
see the real you. You
often don a mask and pro-
ject something different
from the real you. Express
your integrity and personal-
ity. You bring others
together. You draw the
financial wild card, and
you need to keep your
spending under control this
year. If you are single,
romance knocks on your
door. Others find you
appealing. If you are
attached, your sweetie finds
you unusually alluring. A
child could be a source of
stress. TAURUS tests your
limits.

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)

**** You have a tendency to
go overboard. Unexpected
events mark your friend-
ships as well as your pro-
jects right now. Keep com-
munication flowing with
someone you respect enor-
mously. This person knows
how to help you make
money. Tonight: Pay bills.
TAURUS (April 20-May
20)

**** Your smile wins

HOROSCOPE

friends and draws others
toward you. Note your
tendency to indulge others and
go overboard. You might
not understand what another
is doing, as his behavior
might seem off the wall.
Take information with a
grain of salt. Tonight: You
get what you want.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
*** Take a deep breath and
think through unexpected
developments. The more
distance you gain, the bet-
ter your perspective will be.
You will tend to go over-
board with others and enjoy
every moment. Talks
include personal feelings.
Please don't hide out.
Tonight: Take a deep
breath.

CANCER (June 21-July
22)
***** Seek out friends and
get together with others.
Allow your gregarious spir-
it to come out with a part-
ner. You might want to dis-
cuss some special plans
with a loved one during the
next few days. Others
express their feelings and
are unusually verbal.
Tonight: Where the gang is.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

**** Stay in charge of your
life. You could easily just
let go and frolic. Of course,
this might not be a bad
thing if you have completed
your must-dos for the day.
A conversation with an
associate sheds light on
more efficient ways to
approach your day-to-day
life. Tonight: Make a must
appearance.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
**** Make calls to someone
at a distance. You might
not be comfortable with
what you are hearing — or,
rather, not hearing. Don't
stand on ceremony. Ask
questions. Seek another
out, and you'll get news,
especially in the profession-
al arena. Others admire
you. Tonight: Take off
ASAP.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
***** Discussions need to be
quiet and calm, especially
after recent events and
talks. Relating on a one-on-
one level gives you a new
understanding. Nurture
another, but give him free-
dom of expression. Express
the same freedom for your-
self. Tonight: Make nice.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov.
21)
**** Others take a strong
stand. A partner comes
through big-time. Thank
this person for all he adds
to your life.
Communication flourishes,
and you get to see another
side of a loved one. The
unexpected occurs from out
of the blue, especially with
family. Tonight: Say yes to
an invitation.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-
Dec. 21)
**** Get into a project or
hobby. Listen to your inner
sense about a financial mat-
ter. You see many inroads
and possibilities that others
don't. Another's optimism
is contagious. Someone
goes out of his way to help
you feel comfortable — not
that you need that help!
Tonight: Clear your desk.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-
Jan. 19)

**** Allow your imagina-
tion to rock and roll. You
are quite lively and talka-
tive. Exchange ideas with a
loved one you usually find
provocative. Together, you
make the day far more
enjoyable and a lot more
rewarding. Splurge a little
on a loved one. Tonight: A
midwinter romp.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb.
18)
**** Sometimes others find
you a bit austere. Right
now, express your naturally
gregarious personality and
make yourself more
approachable. You still stun
others with unexpected
actions. Don't hold back.
Share what is on your
mind. You make others
comfortable that way.
Tonight: Head home for a
quiet night.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March
20)
**** Reach out for someone
and ask more questions.
What you're not sure of
turns out to be A-OK. You
might be overly sensitive or
uptight. Think about your
feelings. You could be mak-
ing mountains out of mole-
hills. Go out of your way
for a friend. Tonight: With
favorite people, at a favorite
spot.

BORN TODAY
Actress Diane Keaton
(1946), actor Robert Duvall
(1931), musician Marilyn
Manson (born Brian
Warner, 1969)

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-
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Jenkintown, Pa.

Jacqueline Bigar is on the
Internet at
http://www.jacquelinebigar.com.
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Y2K bug infected us
with too much bad TV

NEW YORK (AP) — This
time last year, we were still
aglow from the splendor of
a new millennium as deliv-
ered by TV from around
the globe.

Of course, the glow was
almost as short-lived as
those glorious fireworks
framing the Eiffel Tower,
or the correspondents' lofty
one-world talk. With blind-
ing speed, TV crashed back
down to earth, leaving that
day and night of millennial
pageantry seeming like it
had happened, well, a thou-
sand years ago.

The Y2K bug we all
thought we'd avoided last
Jan. 1 took its mischievous
toll throughout 2000. Just
consider the stuff that
infected us on TV.

Postelection coverage was
one notable example. For
us viewers, tracking that
chadadelic ballot brawl in
Florida was like a fever
dream blending C-SPAN
with the Weather Channel.

Day after day, drama
somehow raged from mind-
numbing minutiae that
kept the network pundits
guessing. And hoarse.

Day after day, we fol-
lowed this battle of apoca-
lyptic politics as we might
fix our sights on a TV
weather map during hurri-
cane season.

No wonder comedians
had a field day. We need
only recall Jon Stewart of
Comedy Central's "The
Daily Show," whose solu-
tion for the recount debacle
was inviting Bush and Gore
to "stand in opposite cor-
ners of the country, call to
Florida in a soothing voice

and see which one the state
comes to."

At their best, TV
humorists were the voice of
reason in a year of foolish
abundance and abundant
foolishness. When all was
said and done, this was the
unifying theme of TV 2000:
People doing stupid things
for money.

And who among us can
forget "Who Wants to
Marry a Multimillionaire?"
last February? Aired by
Fox, this was TV at its
crassest as nurse/health-
club habitue Darva Conger
was chosen from 50 comely
misses by Rick Rockwell, a
show-biz wannabe with an
iffy bank account and a
crocodile grin.

Now flash forward to
November. For the big fin-
ish of his ABC special
"Frozen in Time," illusion-
ist David Blaine gained
release from the midst of a
6-ton block of ice in
Manhattan's Times Square
after 62 hours' entombment.

It was not exactly a
Houdini-caliber escape.
Blaine's egress was more
like a package of peas get-
ting chipped out of a freez-
er no one bothered to
defrost.

During his 2-1/2 days on
ice, Blaine took sustenance
through a plastic tube as he
watched the world go by
beyond his reach. It would
seem that Blaine chose this
stunt not because it was
easy but because it was
dumb but paid well.

And, unaccountably, mil-
lions of us shared with
Blaine his silly exercise in
passive suffering.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

PALM SPRINGS, Calif.
(AP) — Bob Hope had three
televitions tuned in to the
Tournament of Roses
parade, and there were
tears when a float rolled by
with a familiar face.

Hope was saluted by the
Veterans of Foreign Wars
with a flowery depiction of
the entertainer.

"He truly enjoyed it. It
was the greatest thing,"
publicist Ward Grant said.
"(Hope's wife) Dolores had
tears in her eyes the whole
time; tears of joy."

When Hope learned the
VFW's "On the Road to
Freedom" float was featur-
ing him riding a jeep deco-
rated with American flags,
he cracked: "I'm thrilled
about it as long as I don't
have to push it down the
street."

The float had an animated
arm bringing a microphone
to Hope's mouth, cuing a

recording of jokes he has
told to troops over more
than a half-century. It won
the Judges' Special Trophy
for dramatic impact.

Hope has been grand mar-
shal of the Rose Parade
twice.

NEW YORK (AP) — So
maybe you don't want to be
a millionaire. Maybe you
just want to sit on the set of
"Politically Incorrect With
Bill Maher" and spout your
opinions for a half-hour.

Well, here's your chance.
Fans can bid for a spot on
the late-night talk show
starting Jan. 12.

Would-be pundits can
place bids through a Web
site, http://www.abctvauc-
tions.com. A joint effort of
the ABC Television
Network, eBay and Walt
Disney Internet Group, the
auction is the first of its
kind.

Tips for students to get
good recommendations

DEAR ABBY: I must dif-
fer with something you
stated in a recent column.
For high school teachers
and some counselors, being
asked to write a letter of
recommendation is not
always a compliment.

There are many stu-
dents (and parents!) who
think that teachers OWE
them a letter.

Around college
application time, teachers
are flooded with requests.
The result is that teachers
write generic letters that
often have little bearing on
the true abilities of the stu-
dents, simply because of the
volume of letters requested.

Students are not always
thoughtful in making their
requests, so please allow me
to offer a few suggestions
that will guarantee worth-
while teacher recommenda-
tions.

(1) Teachers are very
busy. Don't leave your
request for the last minute
and expect it to be accom-
modated.

(2) Provide the teacher
with all of the relevant
information about your
high school career, such as
student activities, work
experience, future plans for
study and career, and why
you're applying to a partic-
ular school.

(3) Provide a stamped,
addressed envelope if the
recommendation is to be
mailed.

(4) Write a thank-you note
to the teacher for taking
valuable personal time to
help you. This is good prac-
tice for job applications
later on.

(5) Parents, this is your
child's job, not yours.
However, if a teacher has
played a significant role in
your child's life, a hand-
written note from you is
more precious than any
"teacher-themed" trinket
gift, and appropriate at any
time of the year.

Most teachers want to see
their students succeed. A
little planning and good
manners make all the dif-
ference. — A POPULAR

TEACHER, MINNEAPOLIS
DEAR POPULAR
TEACHER: Your sugges-
tions are excellent. I hope
that students will take note
of them and do some
advance planning before
asking their teachers for
letters of recommendation.
That way everyone will be
a winner.

DEAR ABBY: My ex-wife
and I divorced several
years ago. After a three-
year court fight, I was
awarded custody of our two
daughters. In spite of this,
my ex and I are on friendly
terms. I have remarried
and have a stepchild. My ex
had a baby by a man who is
now locked up for two
years in a drug rehab facil-
ity. She has just informed
me that she's planning on
moving in with another
man and wanted me to
know he is a registered sex
offender. I looked it up on
the Internet and learned he
committed aggravated
assault on a 10-year-old
child.

Abby, I am concerned
about sending my girls over
to stay with their mother
on weekends. I want to
trust her judgment, but not
at the risk of jeopardizing
my children. I went to my
mom for advice. All she
could say was, "I know you
will do the right thing."

I don't know what to do. I
want my ex to be happy.
Maybe this is the soul mate
she's been looking for, but I
can't help being concerned
about my children's safety.
What should I do? — A
DAD IN A DILEMMA

DEAR DAD: Your ex-wife
told you about her
boyfriend's criminal record
to give you the opportunity
to call the shots — so do it.
Since her taste in men is so
poor, you must safeguard
your daughters' welfare.
Tell her for the children's
safety, they will not be stay-
ing at her house.

To order "How to Write
Letters for All Occasions,"
send a business-sized, self-
addressed envelope, plus
check or money order for
\$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to:
Dear Abby, Letter Booklet,
P.O. Box 447, Mount
Morris, IL 61054-0447.
(Postage is included.)
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PRESS SYNDICATE

HELP WANTED
The Big Spring Herald is
looking for a customer service
clerk in the circulation depart-
ment. 25-30 hours a week,
Monday-Friday and Sunday.
Position available immediately.
This person must be customer
driven and have a desire to
provide quality service. Good
computer knowledge and
telephone etiquette is a must.
All interested parties should
bring resume by or pick up job
application at our office located
at 710 Scurry. No phone calls.
The Herald is an equal
opportunity employer and
provides a drug-free workplace.

You say you
didn't notice
until it was too late to do
anything about it?

Probably, if you aren't checking the
Public Notices columns of this newspaper
regularly.

Public Notices are required by state
law to protect your rights and to help you
function more effectively as a citizen. Access
to information about what government agen-
cies are doing is what makes the American the
most powerful citizen in the world.

The Public Notices give you access to
information you need... about new local laws
that will affect you... about plans for major
land use changes... about where roads will go
... whose land will be condemned... how
your tax dollars will be spent... about court
actions that could be important to you, or just
plain interesting.

Whether you know them as Public
Notices or as "the legals", it pays you to check
the Public Notice columns in this newspaper
each issue. What you don't know might cost
you!

GARAGE SALES
Hidden treasures? Junk?
Recycle your unwanted items!
Call 263-7591 today. A friendly Classified Consultant
will help you create an ad that gets results!

J
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THURSDAY

JAN. 4

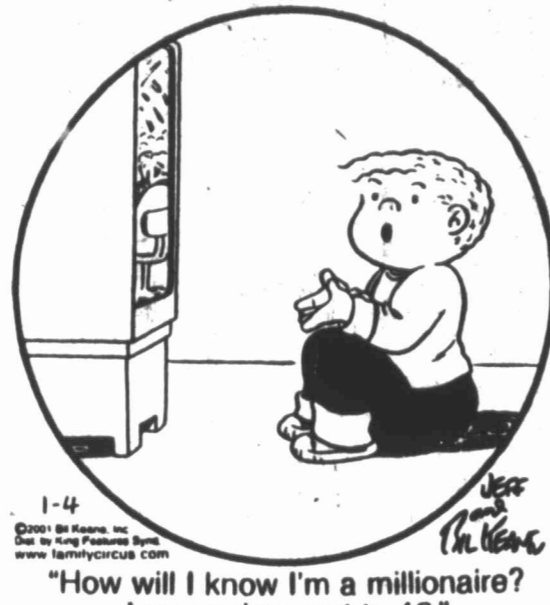
Time	KMD (2)	KPEJ (3)	KERA (5)	FAM (6)	KOSA (7)	WFAA (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	UNI (13)	DISH (14)	NASH (16)	TMC (18)	SHOW (20)	HBO (22)	KMLM (23)	A&E (25)	DISC (28)	TNT (29)	TLC (31)
6:30 PM	News (CC) Fortune	Cosby (CC) Spin City (CC)	Wishbone Zoboomatoo	Early Edition (CC)	News Erit. Tonight	News (CC) Fortune	News Seinfeld (CC)	Fish Prince Fresh Prince	Louise de Amor	Honey, We Shrink Our	Marital Law (CC)	(15) Movie: Hudson	Insurrection (CC)	Saz (CC)	News John Hages	Law & Order (CC)	Wild Discovery	Prender (CC)	48 Hours
7:30 PM	Whose Line? Whose Line?	Movie: Money Train (CC)	Alexander the Great	Borrowed Hearts: A	Diagnosis Murder (CC)	Whose Line? Whose Line?	Friends (CC) Weber (CC)	(35) Movie: The Game	Mujeres Enganadas	sebes (CC) (25) Movie: The Love Bug (CC)	18 Wheels of Justice (CC)	Hawk (CC)	Bill & Ted's Excellent	Inside the NFL (CC)	Light of the Southwest	Biography (CC)	On the Inside	NBA Basketball: Orlando	Paramedics
8:30 PM	Be a Millionaire	Mystery! (CC) (DVS)	Holiday Romance	Diagnosis Murder (CC)	Be a Millionaire	Will & Grace Just Shoot Me	ER (CC)	El Gran Blabazo	Musketiers (CC)	Marital Law (CC)	(40) Movie: Brain Dead	Control (CC)	G-String Divas Inside the NFL	News Nathan Knight	Investigative Reports (CC)	Justice Files	Beyond Bizarre	Magic at New York Knicks	Manhunt in the Heartland
9:30 PM	PrimeTime Thursday	Arrest & Trial Nanny (CC)	Nova (CC) (DVS)	Early Edition (CC) (DVS)	48 Hours (CC)	News (CC) Nightline	News (CC) Nightline	Movie: For Your Eyes	P. Impacto Noticias Univ.	Zorro (CC)	Starkey and Hutch	(10) Movie: Killer Tongue	Beverly Hills (35) Movie: The Affair	(CC) Movie: Faith Pleases God	Biography (CC)	On the Inside	Movie: King Kong	Manhunt in the Heartland	
10:30 PM	News (CC) Nightline	Jerry Springer (CC)	News-Lehrer (CC)	700 Club (CC)	News (35) Late	Ent. Tonight Thursday	Show (CC) (37) Late	Only	Viviana a la Medianoche	For the Love of Wiladean	Movie (CC)	(43) Movie:	Hidden Agenda	Behind Closed Doors (CC)	Beyond Bizarre	Justice Files	Bull (CC)	Paramedics	
11:30 PM	Politically Inc. Cheers	Blind Date Suddary	Battlefield (CC)	Who's Boss? Who's Boss?	Show (CC) (37) Late	Ent. Tonight Thursday	Show (CC) (37) Late	Only	Viviana a la Medianoche	For the Love of Wiladean	Movie (CC)	(43) Movie:	Hidden Agenda	Behind Closed Doors (CC)	Beyond Bizarre	Justice Files	Bull (CC)	Paramedics	
12:30 AM	AM Cheers Paid Program	Judge-Brown Cops (CC)	Paid Program	Paid Program	Street Smarts	Street Smarts	Street Smarts	Street Smarts	Street Smarts	Street Smarts	Street Smarts	Street Smarts	Street Smarts	Street Smarts	Street Smarts	Street Smarts	Street Smarts	Street Smarts	Street Smarts

DENNIS THE MENACE



"WHAT DO YOU MEAN HE'S TAKIN' A BATH? HE'S TAKIN' A LICKIN'!"

FAMILY CIRCUS



"How will I know I'm a millionaire? I can only count to 12."

HAGAR



BLONDIE



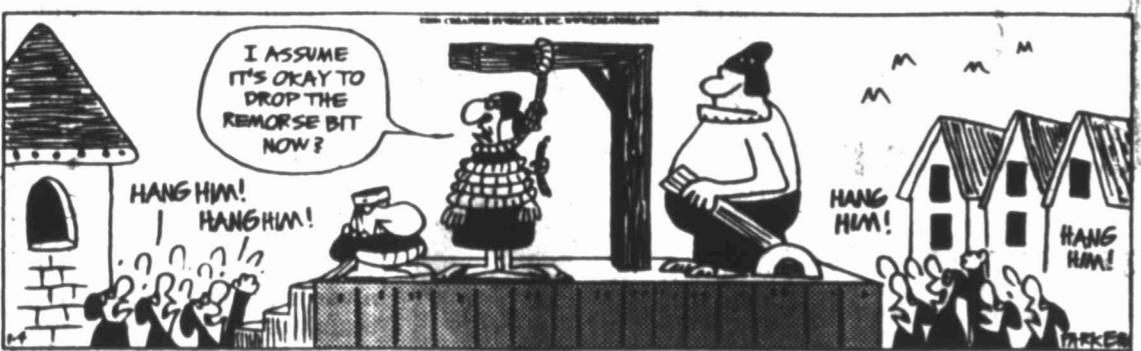
B.C.



GEECH



WIZARD OF ID



HI AND LOIS



GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILY



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Thursday, Jan. 4, the fourth day of 2001. There are 361 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 4, 1951, during the Korean conflict, North Korean and Communist Chinese forces captured the city of Seoul.

On this date:

In 1809, Louis Braille, inventor of a reading system for the blind, was born in Coupvray, France.

In 1821, the first native-born American saint, Elizabeth Ann Seton, died in Emmitsburg, Md.

In 1885, Dr. William W.

Grant of Davenport, Iowa, performed what's believed to have been the first appendectomy. The patient was 22-year-old Mary Gartside.

In 1896, Utah was admitted as the 45th state.

In 1948, Britain granted independence to Burma.

In 1960, French author Albert Camus died in an automobile accident at age 46.

In 1965, President Lyndon Johnson outlined the goals of his "Great Society" in his State of the Union address.

In 1965, poet T.S. Eliot died in London at age 76.

In 1974, President Richard Nixon refused to hand over tape recordings and documents subpoenaed by the Senate Watergate Committee.

In 1995, the 104th

Congress convened, the first entirely under Republican control since the Eisenhower era; Newt Gingrich was elected speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Today's Birthdays:

Actress Jane Wyman is 87. Actress Barbara Rush is 74. Football Hall-of-Fame coach Don Shula is 71. Former heavyweight boxing champion Floyd Patterson is 66. Actress Dyan Cannon is 64. Opera singer Grace Bumbry is 64. Maureen Reagan is 60. Country singer Kathy Forester (The Forester Sisters) is 46. Actress Ann Magnuson is 45. Rock musician Bernard Sumner (New Order) is 45. Country singer Patty Loveless is 44. Rock singer Michael Stipe (R.E.M.) is 41. Actor Dave Foley is 38. Actress Julia Ormond is 36.

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS

- Endures
- "_ Here to Eternity"
- Junk mail, online
- Accustom
- Dalai _
- Singer Guthrie
- Pewter mug
- Folk singer Burl
- Kampuchea's neighbor
- JFK
- Before, to Burns
- Phoenix cager
- Author of "The Daughter of Time"
- Shade tree
- Served perfectly
- Sound rebound
- Aloha in Genoa
- "Exodus" writer
- Tackle-box items
- JFK
- SF gridded
- Sicilian erupter
- Charlatan
- Uppity one
- Mythical monster
- Once called
- Type of grass
- Expected
- Le Gallienne or Gabor
- JFK
- Unencumbered
- Midday
- Lid
- Latin & others
- Montreal ballplayer
- Inter-team action
- St. Louis pros
- Hair colorings
- Reason

DOWN

- "Mona _"
- Opposed to
- One pressing a suit?
- Nonsense
- Lady of Spain
- Flutter about
- Sitarist Shanker
- Foretokens
- "The _ of the Red Death"
- Cause of a Macy's riot?
- Of a Roman guard
- Solo
- Lichen-covered
- Happen again
- Napoleon
- Solo's org.
- MBA class
- Leslie Caron role
- Prevailing current of thought
- Gaelic tongue
- Same again
- Snit
- Klin
- Going for a _
- Screen siren Sommer
- Hook's right-hand man
- Wear away
- Nostrils
- Torchad
- Ouets
- Bid
- Way from a man's heart
- Adhesive substance
- Love deeply
- Gibson and Tills
- Ladco
- Son of Seth
- Writer Hunter
- Beatty and Buntline
- Thicket unit

By Randall J. Hartman Escondido, CA 1/4/01

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

COBS	AGAPE	CARE
OPAL	DAMON	UNIT
SPRY	DUELS	POST
TOR	LARRY	CSONKA
ASYLUMS	NOEL	
REBELS	PENTAGON	
OIL	BOSCH	ARA
ETNA	RETIE	PROP
TED	DELTA	NOR
CASUALLY	POLYPS	
PLAT	SEISMIC	
HARRY	POTTER	ORE
OLIO	SWIRL	JOAN
OTTO	EERIE	ARTE
POET	TIBET	DREAD
BEEB		

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