

BIG SPRING HERALD

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"Reflecting a Proud Community"

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

FRIDAY

January 12, 2001

WEATHER

Tonight:



PARTLY CLOUDY

TONIGHT 38°-39° SATURDAY 52°-55°

New student orientation set for college

New student orientation for the spring semester at Howard College has been set for 2 p.m. Sunday in the Dora Roberts Student Union.

The orientation is an opportunity for students to familiarize themselves with the campus as well as receive important information about the various departments and procedures.

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.

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, 398-5522.

WEEKEND TICKET

TODAY

□ 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. Breakfast served.

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

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

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Chili heads to converge in Big Spring for Boss HOG Cookoff

By DEBBIE L. JENSEN
Features Editor

There's a chance of chili in the forecast for Saturday — a very good chance.

That's when the Harley Owners Group will stage its annual Boss HOG Chili Cookoff at the Davidson Shop, 908 W. Third.



METCALF HOG Chili at the Harley

Anyone is welcome to cook at the event by paying a \$15 entry fee per team; each team can have a maximum of four members. After a cook's meeting at 9 a.m., the grills will be fired up as each team begins to make at least 5 pounds of their favorite chili recipe. "The main factor is the weather," explained Ruel Metcalf, new president of HOG. "If it's cool, that's good chili weather. But we don't want it to be too cold."

Rain may figure in to the mix this year, as the National Weather Service reported Wednesday that Saturday offered a chance of precipitation. But Boss HOG goes on no matter what, organizers said.

People who want to eat chili pay \$5 a person to try any or all of those available. Serving begins after the judging, which starts about 1 p.m.

Chili fanatics from all over West Texas and the surrounding area are expected to join the event. A

group of at least 30 HOG members from Amarillo are expected to show if weather permits.

Live music will be provided by The Marauders from 1-5 p.m.

Money raised by the event goes into HOG's bank account for use during several service projects throughout the year.

"This is the only thing we keep all the profits from," said HOG officer Barry Barnett. "This is the way we operate throughout the year. We have to make

money for ourselves before we can make it for other people."

The service and riding club's 55 active members are a local fixture in such projects as the Muscular Dystrophy Telethon, Veterans Day activities and the Salvation Army Angel Tree project during the Christmas holidays.

But HOG members like to take one project at a time and right now, that means chili.

"This is a neat event," Metcalf said.

Stock show kept hoppin' Thursday

By LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer

The Howard County Junior Livestock Show jumped ahead on Thursday with almost 150 area youth exhibiting fryer rabbits at the fair barns.

Randy Gillum, an agricultural teacher from Abilene Wylie High School, methodically and carefully judged four classes of rabbits.

"You look for the loin and the back of the rabbit," said David Kight, Howard County extension agent—agriculture. "These rabbits are born two or three days from each other."

Because rabbits grow so quickly, Kight said, the youth are required to use ones of approximate age to ensure the competition is equal for each contestant.

"It is up to the child who takes the best care of the animal to finish in the top," Kight said.

Seventeen-year-old Kali Froneberger, a Big Spring FAA student who showed a New Zealand White medium heavyweight rabbit said it is important to give the animal daily attention and let it out of the cage for exercise.

"Basically I exercise them by putting them on the floor or sitting them on a table so they can stretch their legs," she said.



KIGHT



Kali Froneberger, left, 17, and Heather Houston, 16, both Big Spring FAA members, prepare their New Zealand White medium heavyweight rabbits for exhibition at the Howard County Junior Livestock Show. The show continues through Saturday.

This is the first year Froneberger is exhibiting rabbits but she has been showing other animals since she was a pre-teen.

"I did not have the time

this year," she explained. According to Kight, many youth choose to show rabbits because of the cost.

See RABBITS, Page 3A

Stock shows promote responsibility, friendship

By LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer

The Howard County Junior Livestock Show is not only about competition but teaches youth responsibility and helps them make life-long friends.

"I have been involved with 4-H and FAA from exhibiting to teaching for 40 years," said Lynn Walling, Howard County Livestock Show Association president. "The young people interested in feeding and working with the animals develop a lot of responsibility."

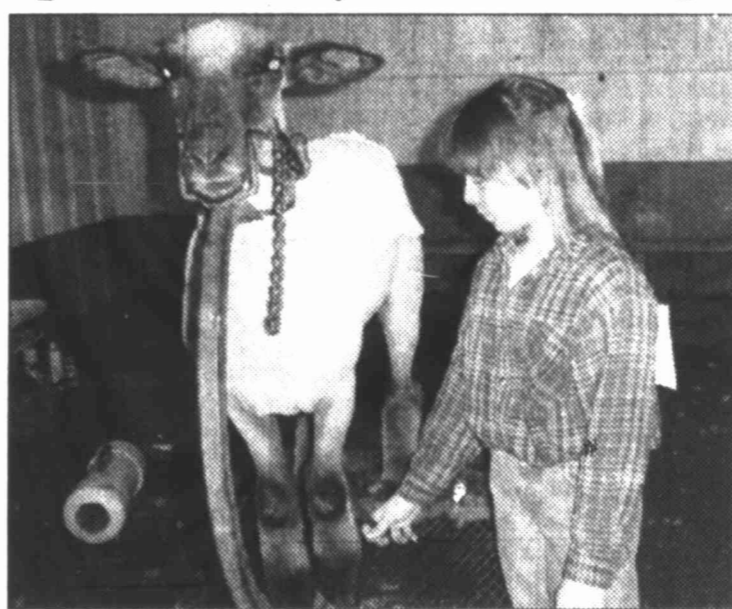
"They feel pride and

friendship with their animal," he continued. The exhibition also allows the youth to meet others their age.

"They meet many young people not only locally, but throughout the state that could be life-long friends," Walling said. "Many of them don't realize it now but that person next to them may eventually be their neighbor, banker or lawyer. It is important to teach them to work together to develop leadership skills for the future."

Approximately 400 4-H and FAA members from Howard County are exhibiting animals in the show this week with participants ranging from 8 years old and in third grade to high school seniors.

According to Walling, all the animals have the same genetic capabilities to grow



Ten-year-old Keisha Yarbor prepares her fine wool cross sheep for contest at the Howard County Junior Livestock Show.

to the full body size and muscle but the care determines how it develops.

See SHOW, Page 3A

Runaway girl located, brought home, mom says

By DEBBIE L. JENSEN
Features Editor

Twelve-year-old Stefanie Gonzales was back at home with her family Thursday after being picked up by a Big Spring Police officer.

Belinda Gonzales said her daughter, who had been missing since Tuesday afternoon, was found thanks in part to an alert Big Spring Herald reader.

"She saw it in the paper and remembered her friend had given a girl a ride and thought it might be Stefanie," said Gonzales.

The tip was enough to lead authorities to a house on the west side of town where the girl had been staying.

She was picked up by a police officer and taken to the police station where her family came to retrieve her. Gonzales said her daughter was remorseful and anxious to get back to a normal life when she came home.

"She was scared and it was just a bad experience for her," she said. Gonzales said the girl was grounded as punishment and would

See FOUND, Page 3A



Sophia Casey, left, a member of the Friends of the Library, visits with Loraine Redman, director of the Howard County Library, and Robin Redman during Loraine's going away reception on Thursday. More than 70 people attended.

HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Crime

Transient who gave murder confessions is extradited

By CARL GRAHAM
Staff Writer

A 42-year-old transient arrested Dec. 27 in Big Spring for aggravated assault has been extradited to California where he is wanted for parole violation and questioning in a double murder.

While in the Howard County Jail, Devon Stewart Olson confessed to the 1986 murders of Roy Len Saechao and Choy Fow Salle near Sacramento, Calif. Records show the two Yuba City, Calif., residents were shot and killed in a car found on the shoulder of State Highway 99. Olson also confessed to other murders in Missouri and South Texas. Law officers are checking to see whether he might be linked to any deaths in those areas.

Olson was arrested in Big Spring for beating Alan DeAx with a baseball bat. DeAx had allowed Olson to stay at his residence during the holidays. DeAx was treated at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for a split ear and broken nose.

Meanwhile, law enforcement officials are expected to arrive in Big Spring in the next couple of days to take a 20-year-old Connecticut man to Arlington, where he is wanted for questioning in a bank robbery.

Horace Loman was arrested here on Jan. 5 on charges of reckless driving and possession of marijuana.

According to Howard County Sheriff Dale Walker, Loman drew the attention of local law enforcement when he got into a dispute with another man at a Big Spring convenience store. When Loman left the store he apparently chased the other man in the westbound lane of Interstate 20. The man, not identified, called 911 on his cellular phone when Loman allegedly pointed a gun at

See CRIMES, Page 3A

JAN 12 2001

OBITUARIES

Aurora Sanchez

Funeral service for Aurora Sanchez, 62, of Stanton, was held 10 a.m., Friday, Jan. 12, 2001, at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Stanton with Father Arturo Pestin officiating and Deacon Ernie Sanchez assisting. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery.

Mrs. Sanchez died Tuesday, Jan. 9, in a Lubbock hospital following a lengthy illness.

She was born Oct. 30, 1938, in Stanton, attended Stanton High School and Howard College where she studied Business Administration. She married Nick Sanchez on July 22, 1956, in Stanton. She served as the director of West Texas Opportunities in Stanton for 20 years. She was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Stanton.

Survivors include: her father, Manuel Brito of El Paso; her husband, Nick Sanchez of Stanton; one daughter, Regina Thomas of Stanton; one son, Ruben

Sanchez of Stanton; one brother, Eleno Brito of Stanton; two granddaughters; four grandsons and two great-grandchildren.

Arrangements are under the direction of Stanton Memorial Funeral Home & Chapel.

Odessa Jane Kennedy

Odessa Jane Kennedy, 95, of Big Spring, died on Thursday, Jan. 11, 2001, at her residence. Graveside funeral services will be at 2 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 14, at Bovina Cemetery, Bovina, with the Chaplain Walter McCall with Community Care Hospice in Big Spring, officiating.

Mrs. Kennedy was born on Oct. 31, 1905, in Comanche County, and married Rufus A. Kennedy on May 12, 1922. He preceded her in death on Dec. 18, 1972.

She was a longtime resident of Amarillo and moved to Big Spring in 1993. She was a loving wife, mother and grandmother.

Mrs. Kennedy was a member of Southlawn Baptist Church in Amarillo.

Survivors include: one daughter and son-in-law, Jeannette and James L. Householder of Big Spring; one son, John A. Kennedy of San Antonio; three grandchildren, James D. Householder and wife Denise and Alan Wayne Householder and wife Debbie all of Big Spring, and Linda Gale Putnam and husband Carroll of San Antonio; two step-grandchildren, Sharon Haas and Gary Denson both of San Antonio; four great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren, and three brothers, Garland Potts and Herbert Potts both of Amarillo and John A. Potts of Enterprise, Ala.

She was also preceded in death by one son, Donald R. Kennedy.

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

Paid obituary

Wendell Joe Anderson

Wendell Joe Anderson, 54, of Coahoma, died on Thursday, Jan. 11, 2001, in a Lubbock hospital. Funeral service will be at 3 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 13, at the Coahoma Church of Christ with Russ Mullins, minister, officiating. Interment will follow at Coahoma Cemetery.

Joe was born on Aug. 17, 1946, in Big Spring and married Laura Ward on April 17, 1970, in Big Spring.

He grew up in Coahoma and attended Coahoma schools graduating from Coahoma High School in 1965, and then attended Howard College. Joe worked for Arco Oil and Gas as a gang pusher for 16 years. He was a member of the Coahoma Church of Christ and had served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam.

Survivors include: his wife, Laura Anderson of Coahoma; one son, Phillip Anderson of Coahoma; two daughters, Latisha Hill and husband, Jackie of Coahoma and TaNeal Richardson and husband Brad of Sand Springs; two grandchildren, Alex and Kaylee Hill of Coahoma and a step-grandson, Gary Brito of Big Spring; his mother, Vera Anderson of Coahoma; two brothers, Lonnie Anderson and Buddy Anderson both of Coahoma; two sisters, Phyllis Scroggins of Big Spring and Wanda Davis of Casper, Wyo.

He was preceded in death by his father, Bud Anderson and one sister, Linda Dell Anderson.

Palbearers will be: Eddie Wolski, Eddie McHugh, Robert Longnacker, Wibby Millican, Juan Reese and Juan Molina.

The family suggests memorials to the National Kidney Foundation, 116 E. 27th Street, New York City, New York 10016, or the American Diabetes Association, Texas Affiliate, Western Regional Office,

8008 Slide Road, Lubbock 79424.

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

Paid obituary

Rowena M. Mattingly

Graveside services for Rowena McWhirt Mattingly, 46, of Lubbock, formerly of Big Spring, will be at 2 p.m., Monday, Jan. 15, 2001, at Trinity Memorial Park at the Chapel of Peace, with Dr. J i m m y W a t s o n, pastor of F i r s t C h r i s t i a n C h u r c h officiating, assisted by E m o r y C a s s e l l.

Mrs. Mattingly died Thursday, Jan. 11, in a Lubbock hospital.

She was born on July 24, 1954, in Big Spring. She had been a lifetime resident of Big Spring until she moved to Lubbock where she had lived for the past 15 years. She married Bob Mattingly on Nov. 2, 1975, in Big Spring. She was employed by Lonestar Cotton Company in Lubbock.

The family will receive friends and family at the funeral home from 5-7 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 13.

Survivors include: her husband, Bob Mattingly of Lubbock; her mother Zeanna McWhirt of Big Spring; two sisters, Deanna Watson of Slaton and Lynda Bright of Big Spring; four step-daughters and 13 grandchildren.

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

James B. Armstead

Funeral service for James B. Armstead, 78, of Big Spring, will be 2:30 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 14, 2001, at Harkey Funeral Home Chapel in Monahans. Burial will be in Monahans Cemetery.

Mr. Armstead died Thursday, Jan. 11, in Big Spring.

He was born on May 20, 1922, in Elk City, Okla., and married Maxine McDaniel, on July 4, 1942. He was a World War II veteran, serving in the U.S. Army. He was employed by Texas Electric Service Company and retired after 42 years.

Survivors include: his wife, Maxine; two sons, James Mac Armstead and W. Kim; one daughter, Randi Kay; one brother Paul Armstead of Houston; one sister, Joann Rusk Sloan of Los Gasos, Calif.; 11 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Arrangements are under the direction of Harkey Funeral Home in Monahans.

Chester Selman

Graveside service for Chester R. Selman, 75, of Big Spring, will be 11 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 13, 2001, at

Mount Olive Memorial Park with the Rev. Michael Willard, officiating.

Mr. Selman died Wednesday, Jan. 10, at a local hospital following a long illness.

He was born May 13, 1925, in Jewett. He had been a resident of Big Spring for over 50 years and was a Baptist. He had worked at Rip Griffins Truck Stop.

Survivors include: two sisters, Daisy Mae Houston of Houston and Freddie Mae Selman of Austin.

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

BIG SPRING AROUND THE TOWN

TEXAS LOTTERY Pick 3: 0,9,6

Cash 5: 3,16,24,36,39

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

High School in 1938 and worked for Bell Telephone Company in Abilene and Denver, Colo.

Survivors include: one sister; Betty Franklin of Big Spring; two nephews and two nieces.

The family suggests memorials to Midway Baptist Church Building Fund, 6200 S. Service Road, Big Spring 79720.

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

Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Mrs. Miller died Friday Jan. 12, 2001, in a local nursing home.

Alvis Townley

Funeral service for Alvis Townley, 81, of Stanton, formerly of Paducah, is pending with Gilbreath Funeral Home.

Mr. Townley died Thursday, Jan. 11, 2001, in a Stanton nursing home.

George W. Bair

Graveside funeral service for George W. Bair, 80, of Big Spring, will be at 4:30 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 13, 2001, at Peace Chapel in Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Walter Lee, pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Coahoma, officiating.

Mr. Bair died Wednesday, Jan. 10, in a Lubbock hospital.

He was born on May 25, 1920, in Berryville, Ark., and married Frankie Blackburn on Oct. 5, 1939, in Ada, Okla. Mr. Bair served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He came to Big Spring in 1950 and established and operated the General Welding Supply until retiring in 1975. He was a Presbyterian.

Survivors include: his wife, Frankie Bair of Big Spring; one son, Max Bair of Sand Springs; one daughter, Judy Bair of Boulder, Colo.; two sisters, Frances Myatt of Annapolis, Md., and Exilee Adamo of Florida, Texas, and several nieces and nephews.

The family suggests memorials to the Shriners Burn Institute, 610 Texas Ave., Galveston 77550.

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

Juanita Miranda

Rosary for Juanita Miranda, 86, of Big Spring, will be at 7 p.m., Friday, Jan. 12, 2001, at Nalley Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Funeral mass will be at 11 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 13, at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church with the Rev. Jeremiah McCarthy, pastor, officiating.

Burial will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

Mrs. Miranda died on Wednesday, Jan. 10, in a local nursing home.

She was born on Feb. 21, 1914, in Mexico and married Matilde Miranda on April 26, 1930, in El Centro, Calif. He preceded her in death on May 10, 1984. She was a former employee of the Garrett Ranch. She was a homemaker and a member of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church.

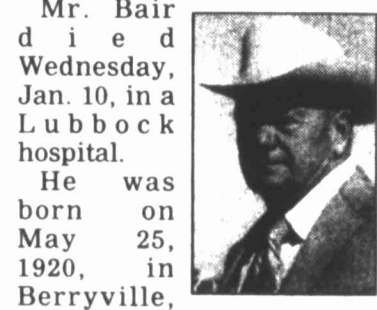
Survivors include: two sons, Antonio Miranda and Matilde Rodriguez both of Big Spring; 12 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; five great-great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

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

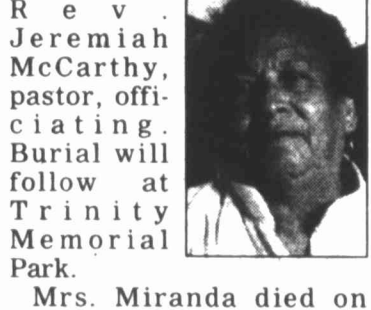
Clara Smelser
Funeral service for Clara Lee Smelser, 83, of Big Spring is pending with Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Mrs. Smelser died Friday, Jan. 12, 2001, in a local nursing home.

Merle S. Miller
Funeral service for Merle S. Miller, 90, of Big Spring is pending with Nalley



Mr. Bair died Wednesday, Jan. 10, in a Lubbock hospital.



Mrs. Miranda died on Wednesday, Jan. 10, in a local nursing home.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288
Chester R. Selman, 75, died Wednesday. Graveside services are 11:00 AM Saturday at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Rowena McWhirt Mattingly, 46, died Thursday. Graveside services are 2:00 PM, Monday at Trinity Memorial Park. The family will receive friends at the funeral home from 5-7 PM Saturday.

James B. Armstead, 78, died Thursday. Services are 2:30 PM Sunday at Harkey Funeral Chapel in Monahans.

Clara Lee Smelser, 83, died Friday. Services are pending.

NALLEY-PICKLE & WELCH Funeral Home

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

James Whitcomb Haynes, 85, died Tuesday. Graveside services will be 11:00 AM Saturday at Trinity Memorial Park.

Juanita Miranda, 86, died Wednesday. Funeral services will be at 11:00 AM Saturday at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

Doris Wozencraft, 79, died Tuesday. Graveside services will be 2:00 PM Saturday at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Wendell Joe Anderson, 54, died Thursday. Funeral services will be at 3:00 PM Saturday at Coahoma Church of Christ. Interment will follow at Coahoma Cemetery.

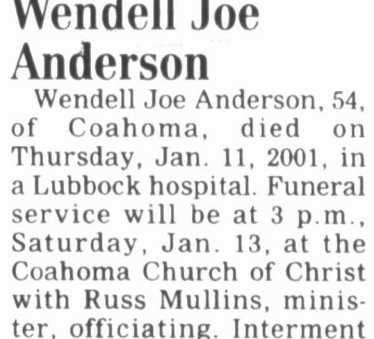
George W. Bair, 80, died Wednesday. Graveside services will be at 4:30 PM Saturday at Trinity Memorial Park.

Odessa Jane Kennedy, 95, died Thursday. Graveside services will be 2:00 PM Sunday at Bovina Cemetery, Bovina, Texas.

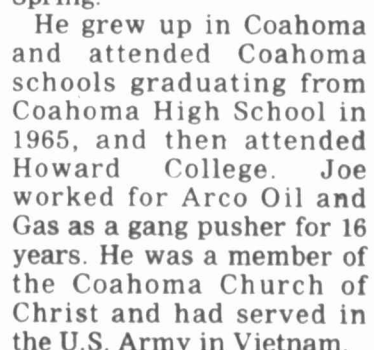
Merle S. Miller, 90, died Friday. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Wavie O. White, 91, died Thursday. Graveside services will be 1:00 PM Saturday at Trinity Memorial Park.

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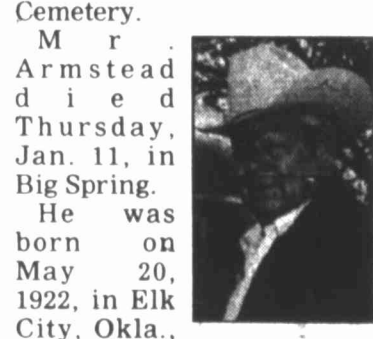
Wendell Joe Anderson, 54, of Coahoma, died on Thursday, Jan. 11, 2001, in a Lubbock hospital.



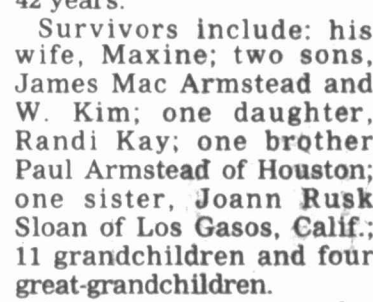
Doris Wozencraft, 79, of Denver, Colo., will be 2 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 13, 2001, at Mount Olive Memorial Park with the Rev. Walter McCall of Community Care Hospice officiating.

Mrs. Wozencraft died Tuesday, Jan. 9, in a Denver nursing home.

She was born on Sept. 29, 1921, in Hastings, Okla. She graduated from Midland



James B. Armstead, 78, of Big Spring, will be 2:30 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 14, 2001, at Harkey Funeral Home Chapel in Monahans.



Merle S. Miller, 90, of Big Spring is pending with Nalley

Doris Wozencraft

Graveside funeral service for Doris Wozencraft, 79, of Denver, Colo., will be 2 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 13, 2001, at Mount Olive Memorial Park with the Rev. Walter McCall of Community Care Hospice officiating.

Mrs. Wozencraft died Tuesday, Jan. 9, in a Denver nursing home.

She was born on Sept. 29, 1921, in Hastings, Okla. She graduated from Midland

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Daily: 7:10 & 9:40 Sat. & Sun. 1:30 & 4:20
Dracula 2000 (R)
Daily: 7:20 & 9:30 Sat. & Sun. 1:40 & 4:30

CINEMA 4
What Women Want (PG-13)
Daily: 6:20 & 7:10 Fri. & Sat. 9:30 Sat. & Sun. 2:20
Anti-Trust (PG-13)
Daily: 6:40 Fri. & Sat. 9:20
The Emperors New Groove (G)
Daily: 6:50 Sat. & Sun. 2:30
All The Pretty Horses (PG-13)
Daily: 7:20 Sat. & Sun. 2:00
102 Dalmations (G)
Daily 6:50
Miss Congeniality (PG-13)
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Corr

AUSTIN (A to after he knocked prison wo Burgess felt behind his ne his back and his armpit. And he hear threatening w "This is no said. "We go go home, or you." The voice to inmate G believed to be a seven-ma escaped conv ried out a escape Dec. Connally Ur Texas. Before rac prison gates truck, the inn hostages pro that trouble

Auth

CORPUS C manhunt fo victs now inc up in South Mexican bor While a T Public Saf overhead, he County sher assault rifle lined a che

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Correctional officers get blame in Texas prison escape report

AUSTIN (AP) — Coming to after he had been knocked unconscious, prison worker Mark Burgess felt a sharp point behind his neck, another in his back and another below his armpit.

And he heard frightening, threatening words.

"This is no joke," a man said. "We go home and you go home, or not, it's up to you."

The voice was attributed to inmate George Rivas, believed to be the leader of a seven-man band of escaped convicts who carried out a well-planned escape Dec. 13 from the Connally Unit in South Texas.

Before racing through prison gates in a pickup truck, the inmates and their hostages provided signals that trouble was brewing.

But guards and employees missed the warnings, according to a Texas Department of Criminal Justice report released Thursday.

"The system has failed," said Gary Johnson, director of the TDCJ institutional division. "It is our responsibility to discover how and why this tragedy occurred."

The gang of convicts remains on the loose and is charged in the Christmas Eve murder of Irving police officer Aubrey Hawkins.

The inmates were able to break out of the maximum-security prison southeast of San Antonio because of mistakes by employees, including an officer who ignored a silent fire alarm tripped by guards being held hostage, the state report said.

Another prison employee at one point noticed the

TDCJ RECOMMENDATIONS

Among the recommendations contained in a Texas Department of Criminal Justice report released Thursday about the Dec. 13 escape from the Connally Unit were:

- Revise gate procedures posted at the Connally Unit to more specifically address rules requiring identification at gates and pickets.
- Ensure that vehicles are inside the prison compound only as long as necessary for a specific job.
- Make sure all prison employees are aware of their responsibility to alert security staff if they notice unsupervised inmates.
- Ensure that only prison employees or authorized inmates have access to tool rooms.
- Make sure picket officers immediately notify a security supervisor of a fire alarm.
- Review the feasibility of discontinuing outside calling capabilities to telephones in areas frequented by inmates.
- Review policies governing inmate movement in prison compound.

inmates were unsupervised but didn't report it, also a violation, the report said.

Some prison employees may face disciplinary

action, including dismissal, Johnson said. Warden Tim Keith also may be disciplined.

Calls to Keith were

referred to state prisons spokesman Glen Castlebury, who said all prison staff must stay alert to prevent mistakes "such as the series of errors that led to this escape."

Johnson, addressing TDCJ board members Thursday, explained the breakout took place from 11:20 a.m. to 1:58 p.m., much of it during the quiet lunch period.

Armed with knives made from screwdrivers and flat pieces of metal, the inmates subdued prison guards and maintenance employees practically one by one, often after distracting them.

Eleven employees and three other inmates were held in an electrical room in the maintenance department, gagged and bound in duct tape.

Most of the hostages man-

aged to untie themselves and barricade the door. They set off a fire alarm.

But an officer at the central control picket turned off the alarm signal on her control panel after calling the maintenance department and getting no answer.

Some inmates shed their prison clothes and disguised themselves as maintenance workers. Then they gained unchecked access into the prison's exit area.

Once there, an inmate was allowed into the back gate picket tower, where he grabbed a gun and threatened an officer as he demanded to know how to open the prison gates. The inmate also took other weapons from the tower, including a 12-gauge shotgun, an AR-15 rifle and 11 .357-caliber revolvers.

Authorities are eyeing roadways, putting up roadblocks in South Texas

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — The manhunt for seven escaped convicts now includes roadblocks set up in South Texas and near the Mexican border.

While a Texas Department of Public Safety helicopter flew overhead, heavily armed Nueces County sheriff's deputies with assault rifles and body armor lined a checkpoint along U.S.

Highway 77 near Driscoll and several other areas.

Law officers also checked vehicles near Robstown, where reports but no confirmed sightings of the fugitives were received. As officers examined driver's licenses and insurance papers, K-9 unit dogs stood by at the roadblocks.

At a checkpoint in Kingsville,

about 100 miles from the Texas-Mexico border, U.S. Border Patrol agents also are on the lookout for the convicts who escaped from the Connally Unit on Dec. 13, said Ricardo Lopez, a supervisor at the checkpoint.

Pupils at the Calallen Independent School District were kept inside their class buildings for about 20 minutes while school

officials spoke with sheriff's department officials about reports that the fugitives were seen near Odem in two suspicious vans heading toward Corpus Christi.

"It's better to be safe than sorry," James Warlick, Calallen ISD superintendent, said.

But San Patricio County Sheriff Leroy Moody said that when the vans were checked, nothing out of

the ordinary was found in them or the families traveling in them.

The roadblocks that went up Thursday will continue for the next few days along U.S. 77 and U.S. 281 in Nueces County.

"This sends a message to the convicts that if they're going to come this way, we're ready and we're looking for them," Sheriff Larry Olivarez said.

FOUND

Continued from Page 1A

not be allowed to use the phone for a while.

"I am so thankful to so many people who helped us during this time," she said. "So many mothers were staying in contact with me, trying to help any way they could. And the radio and newspaper helped us get the word out."

What surprised Gonzales, though, was that at least one adult knew where her daughter was and didn't tell the family. The mother of a boy Stephanie knew admitted she was aware of the girl's whereabouts.

"I don't understand any-

body who is a mother not doing the right thing," Gonzales said. "It would have saved a lot of trouble."

CRIMES

Continued from Page 1A

him. Loman lost control of his vehicle, which hit a dirt embankment along an I-20 service road.

According to sheriff's office reports, Loman came out of the car with a large amount of marijuana in one hand and a bag of cash containing around \$46,000 in his other hand. The money is believed to have been taken in the bank robbery.

The gun was discovered to be a plastic toy.

SHOW

Continued from Page 1A

must be attentive to feeding the animal properly," he said. "The animal must be fed two times a day. If they are not fed enough, they will be too thin and if they are fed too much, they will be too fat."

Waling said the youth must pay attention to the watering, sheltering and protection of the animal and take time to train the animal for exhibition.

"This takes many hours of work," he said. "From a spectator's standpoint you can tell which youth has spent the most time with their animal."

Youth must also be academically acceptable and disciplinary eligible at their schools in order to participate in the livestock show.

"We believe in the no-pass, no play-rule," Walling said. "These young people are all passing school and and disciplinary eligible"

RABBITS

Continued from Page 1A

shelter and upkeep is less than other animals.

"The rabbits are a little smaller this year than the past couple of years," Kight said. "Much of it is due to the colder weather from the last two months in relationship to the weather we have

had the last two years. "An ideal temperature for rabbits is about 60 degrees," he added.

The livestock show continues today with the heifer show beginning at 3 p.m.

followed by the steer show.

They are open to the public. The buyer appreciation luncheon begins at 11:30 a.m. Saturday with an awards program at 1 p.m. and the premium auction at 1:30.

BIG SPRING HERALD

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

John H. Walker
Publisher

Debbie Jensen
Features Editor

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

We salute:

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

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

This week we salute:

• **HOWARD, GLASSCOCK and MARTIN COUNTY 4-H and FFA YOUTH**, who have been participating in junior livestock shows the past two weeks.

• **MIKE PEARSON**, on being designated as the new postmaster in Stanton.

• **PATSY BLEVINS**, who is serving as the officer in charge at the Ackerly Post Office.

• **VENECIA RIVAS**, consul to Nicaragua from the Dominican Republic and her husband Carlos, who recently visited relatives in Big Spring.

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

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR,

On behalf of the members of the Big Spring Kennel Club, I would like to thank all of the people and businesses who so willingly supported our pet portrait project in the Big Spring Mall in November.

Special thanks to Cathy Lusk for making it possible for us to bring dogs into the mall. Thanks to the following for supporting us with items: Dr. Debra Hill, Suggs Hallmark, La Posada Restaurant, Blum's Jewelry, On Cue, Koshmore Kasuals, Nicole's Baskets and More, Mojo's Flaming Grill, The Byrd House, Could Dancer Dog Obedience, Regis Stylists, Regis Hairstyles, The Pet Connection and Wreaths For All Occasions by Diane.

We would also like to thank everyone who came to support our project by purchasing photos of their dogs, buying raffle tickets, and learning more about the Big Spring Kennel Club. Your support enabled us to raise funds to place the American Kennel Club Best Friends Teaching Kit and The AKC "Complete Dog Book For Kids" in each elementary school in Howard County.

Owning a dog is a big responsibility and the AKC Best Friends program helps take this important message into the classroom by exploring the role dogs play in our lives as companions and helpful members of the community. The AKC "Complete

Dog Book For Kids" provides students and teachers with fun and important information, adding greater understanding about responsible dog ownership.

Again, we thank everyone for their support.

EMMA JENKINS,
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY
BIG SPRING KENNEL CLUB

TO THE EDITOR:

With the support of our principal, administration and staff combined with the selling efforts of our students and their parents, our Christmas tree selling project at Big Spring Junior High School was a great success.

We appreciate all of the local individuals and businesses who helped us attain our goal of selling 1,900 mini-trees. The super coverage from the Herald boosted our students excitement about the project.

We felt that this worthwhile project would not only add beauty and joy to the holiday season, but in conjunction with our science studies of the plant kingdom, it would also reinforce the importance of plants to our environment.

A big thank you goes out to our city of Big Spring for the support of our student's endeavors.

BSJHS SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT
DEANNA ADAMS
LINDA BATTLE
SHEILA HALL
TRAVIS OLIVER
SARAH ROBERSON

If the boom goes bust, so does the surplus

George W. Bush continues to push his tax cut proposal, claiming that the weakening economy justifies a substantial tax cut to get the country back on track. Both sides agree that the economy could be in some danger and that corrective measures are in order. Democrats are willing to go along with a modest tax cut, but they think the surplus would be better spent paying down the debt than cutting taxes for people who are already prospering.



JACK
ANDERSON

It makes sense for Bush to stick by his principles in the early jousting, but his presidency will be defined by his ability to find a compromise that can bridge the ideological differences on Capitol Hill.

Much of what Bush does

can be explained in the context of his father. Former President Bush lost his bid for re-election chiefly because he had broken faith with the right wing of his party by increasing taxes when he had pledged "no new taxes." The younger Bush came away from that experience with a visceral understanding of the importance of maintaining his resolve on the tax front. The danger for Bush is that he may be fighting the last war.

Most economists today think interest rate cuts are more effective than tax cuts to stimulate the economy. As if to underscore that, Alan Greenspan, the nation's chief monetary officer, recently announced an interest rate cut designed to shore up the faltering stock market and consumer confidence.

Nobody wants to be likened to Herbert Hoover, whose name is synonymous with economic disaster. Hoover took the oath of office as president after having pledged to balance the budget and raise tariffs.

As history showed, that was the wrong course; the economy went into free fall. He should have increased, not decreased, government spending to stimulate the economy. So the economy did not begin to recover until the New Deal, with its array of federal programs funded by deficit spending, was put into place. Indeed, it was massive deficit spending during World War II that finally brought the nation out of the Great Depression.

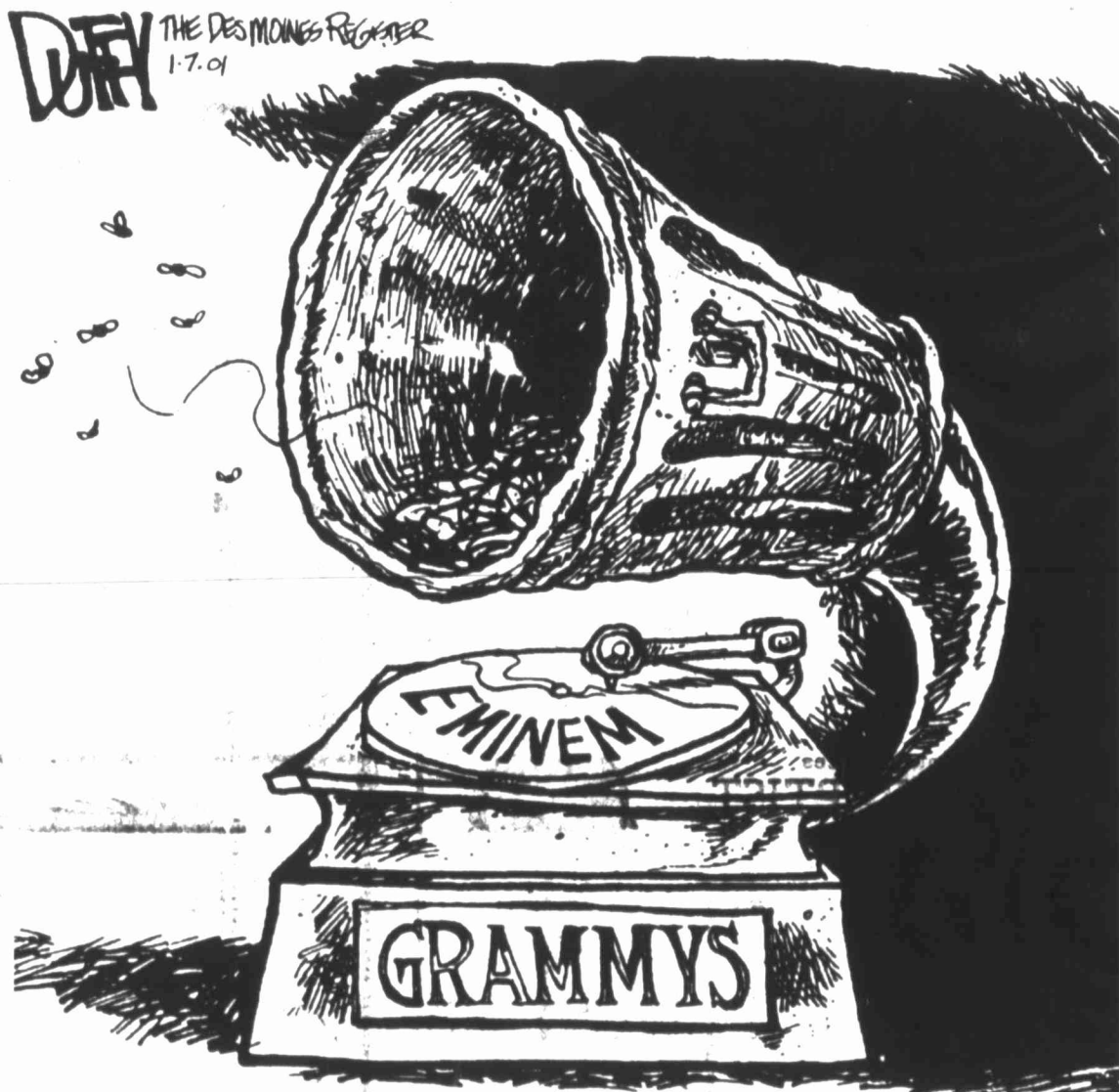
Bush could turn out to be Hoover in disguise, championing an economic remedy destined to fail when staying the course and paying down the debt would reap more economic benefits for a greater number of people. The key is to do what is necessary to put more money into more hands quickly.

The Bush tax cut is actually quite small for the first two years — only a fraction of 1 percent, too small to make much of an impact on the overall economy. But its total cost, reported now by the *New York Times* to be \$1.9 trillion

(not the \$1.3 trillion Bush estimated during the campaign), would consume so much of the anticipated surplus that Bush would have difficulty funding his other promises, which include prescription drug coverage for seniors, boosting military pay and improving public education and health-care coverage.

There is an obvious compromise, and that is for Bush to move up the rate cuts and to make them smaller, especially in future years. The overwhelming bulk of his proposal as originally conceived returns money from the third year on, long after any downturn currently on the horizon.

Bush got through the campaign without being challenged on his economic assumptions. Now he's saying he needs the tax cut because the economy is weaker, but the nation can afford it because the surplus is bigger. Somebody should point out to Bush that the surplus reflects a booming economy. If the boom goes bust, so does the surplus.



Let's calculate just what America owes me

By MICHELLE MALKIN
Guest Columnist

O.J. Simpson lawyer Johnnie Cochran and friends want to file a big-bucks, class-action lawsuit seeking reparations for slavery. On what legal grounds, against whom, on behalf of whom, and in which court? The attorneys haven't figured out those pesky details yet. But not to worry: When it comes to cashing in on the shrunken glove of racial resentment, you can count on Cochran to make it fit.

The reparations-seekers argue that America owes black citizens for the continued suffering they endure as a result of their ancestors being enslaved centuries ago. Martin Luther King Jr., the forward-looking civil rights leader whose holiday we celebrate next week, must be rolling in his grave. One legal activist, Robert Brock, has priced the pain at \$500,000 in special tax rebates for every black American in the country. Others, inspired by Randall Robinson, author of a book titled "The Debt: What America Owes to Blacks,"

have called for reparations of up to \$8 trillion.

Never mind that not all blacks are descendants of slaves. Never mind that many blacks traded and owned slaves. Never mind that countless white families died trying to free black slaves. And never mind that most of the taxpayers who would be forced to pony up for such a reparations scheme have no ancestral link to slavery whatsoever because their families didn't move to this country until after the Civil War. "We're glad to be in America," a black minister named Gary Grant told the *Washington Post* last month. "But the white man has been taking advantage of the black man all our lives. Now, we want to get paid."

Hey, who doesn't? Maybe Cochran and Co. are onto something here. My ancestors from the Philippines were enslaved by Spain and forced to build and man the galleons that brought Hispanic explorers to America. During World War II, my relatives were subjected to extreme physical and economic oppression under Japanese occupation. During the 1920s,

the states of California and Hawaii imported 50,000 laborers from my ancestral homeland to toil on American farms. Filipinos also worked on agricultural fields in Oregon, Washington, Arizona, and Montana. In addition, my people built levees in the San Joaquin Delta and slaved away in fisheries and lumber mills up and down the West Coast in horrid conditions.

During that time of servitude, Filipinos faced rampant societal and governmental discrimination. They were barred from voting, owning land, or starting businesses of their own in California. Anti-miscegenation laws in 16 states kept my ancestors from legally marrying white women.

Until 1947, it was illegal in California for Filipinos to marry whites. In Alaska, cannery workers from the Philippines were segregated and barred from many establishments that hung signs like "No dogs or Filipinos allowed."

So, let's see. If my racial resentment calculator is correct, every American of Spanish descent owes me \$514,000 plus compound

interest. Adjusted for inflation, every fellow countryman of Japanese descent owes \$750,222. California residents owe my family an even \$300,000. Alaskans, Hawaiians, Oregonians, Washingtonians, Arizonans, and Montanans must pay \$75,000 to atone. And anyone else — white, black, or otherwise — whose family members ingested Filipino-harvested asparagus, peas, cauliflower, onions, tomatoes, grapes, or fish, or who burned Filipino-cut firewood, or who lived in homes built of Filipino-sawed lumber from 1923-1947, can settle their debt by sending me a check for \$999.99.

I'm still reeling from years — no, centuries — of crippling psychological damage caused by your ancestors' enslavement, colonization, occupation, and victimization of my ancestors.

Your reparations will help pay for a new leather sofa, a personal masseuse, and a hot tub to melt away the chains of oppression.

No apology necessary. Just fork over the money and let freedom ring. Ka-ching. Ka-ching.

ADDRESSES

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- **KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON**
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Phone: 202-224-5922
- **CHARLES STENHOLM**
U.S. Representative
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- **DAVID COUNTS**
Representative
Texas 70th District
P.O. Box 338
Knox City, 79529
Phone: (940) 658-5012.

Report

WASHINGTON — The shopkeeper boots are in store. Texans are back in party.

With one of about to take up White House, scripping on the been and continuing summate Texas guration — the Boots Ball.

Phones haven't with calls from since the Supreme the White House W. Bush. And ring even though has been sold out "When it (the

Survivor Army's

WASHINGTON — The Army's that no orders to American so civilians at No ing the Kore being challenge Korean survivor ily member denounced the "whitewash."

Rejecting Clinton's exp regret and offer lion memorial arship fund, su they would tak for compensati U.S. governm International Justice in T Netherlands. "Clinton wan end to the No

California blackout

SACRAMENTO (AP) — Calif pushed to the rolling blackou state's biggest three years cut generation at a plant.

The storm Ti as other electric stations shut maintenance, pled with the nuclear plant cu power output by Regulators decl 3 alert as reser below 1.5 percent.

Officials from grid manager, nia Independence Operator, credit of power from Washington stat ing off outages Davis planned Friday with th of the two state the energy crisi

Electricity linked to botched deregul power industry duced soaring sporadic threa outs in California June.

"We can ex alerts daily," Detmers, the IS manager.

The governo managers are enough to find spokesman, Ste said the power on the ISO be from the high electricity prie on by the power

"They have conflict of Maviglio said.

Detmers said "not crying wol the alerts. He that the board include state of with people ir industry.

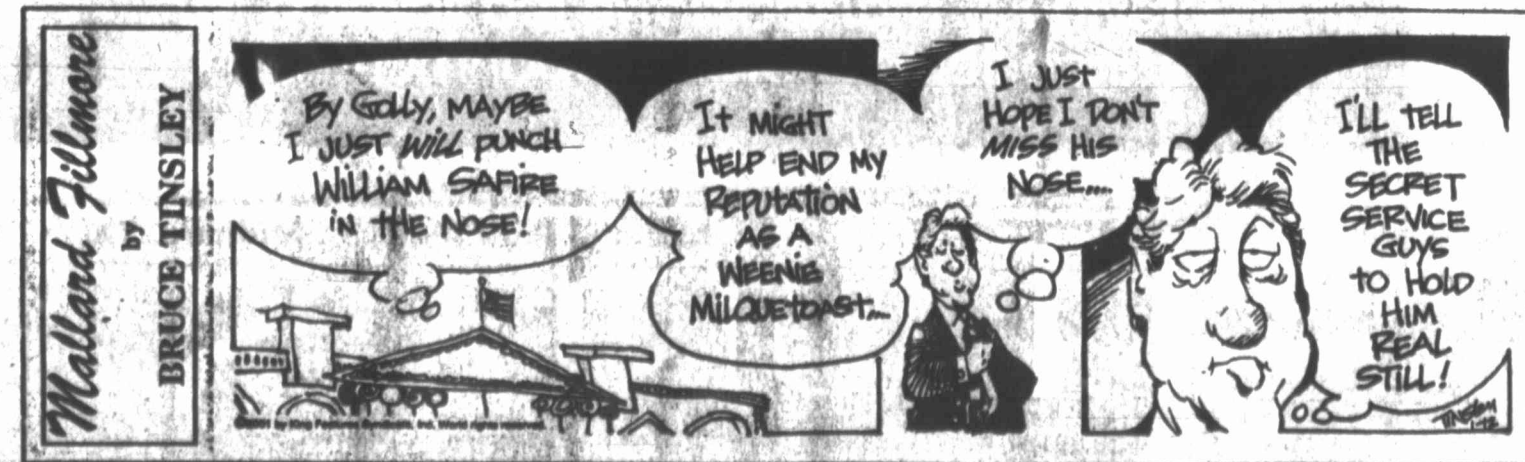
A state Assen tee, urged by administration approved a bil the ISO board member panel the governor, the new board no ties to the industry.

California's p tion fell more megawatts — power 15 milli

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 jmoseley@bigspringherald.com or johnwalker@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721



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Report: Bush's inaugural ball will be definitive Texas excess

WASHINGTON (AP) — Pardon the shopkeepers if the cowboy boots are in short supply. The Texans are back and fixin' to party.

With one of their own kind about to take up residence in the White House, there's been no scrimping on the shindig that has been and continues to be the consummate Texas event during inauguration — the Texas Black Tie & Boots Ball.

Phones haven't stopped ringing with calls from ticket hunters since the Supreme Court opened the White House door for George W. Bush. And they continue to ring even though the Jan. 19 ball has been sold out for weeks.

"When it (the election) was real-

ly official, the ball just took on a whole new life," said Rick Meyers, the Texas State Society's ball co-chairman. "Everybody wanted to come to this party. It's always been a hot ticket but this year it is the hot ticket."

It would be redundant to say this party put on by Texans is big, but it is big enough to meet the definition of Texas excess?

You bet.
— This party is so big the door prize is a Chevy Suburban — the so-called Texas Cadillac — valued at more than \$40,000.

— It's so big that a pair of tickets that would cost \$175 each were auctioned on eBay for \$3,650.

— It's so big that 6,000 pounds of brisket, 6,000 pounds of smoked

ham and 60,000 pieces of jumbo shrimp have been ordered as food for the masses.

"Tickets are very, very hot. I think I could finance my son's college if I could lay my hand on some extra ones," joked Rep. Kevin Brady, R-Texas, the society's second vice president. "This is the election night victory party that no one had."

Corporate sponsorships offered at \$50,000 came with 50 ball tickets. They were sold out by the time order forms were mailed. The society also sold \$25,000 and \$10,000 sponsorships, which came with 25 and 10 tickets each. The society got so many calls it expanded its corporate sponsorships, which sold out again.

The society's Web site, last updated in October, lists seven \$50,000 sponsors, 39 at \$25,000 and 43 at \$10,000. That would total \$1.755 million. But more have been added.

Watchdog groups have been critical of the donations, saying corporations make them to get close to people in power.

But Meyers and Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Texas, counter that the society's lineup of entertainment including Texas swing band Asleep At the Wheel, country stars Tanya Tucker, Clint Black and Gary P. Nunn, mixed with the scheduled appearance of Bush and first lady Laura Bush have made the event popular.

"This has become traditionally

the most fun event of the whole inaugural weekend," said Hutchison, society president. "It's just an integral part of inaugural weekend and it's our time to be outrageously Texan."

Corporate sponsors and other VIP's also will get a sit-down dinner an hour before the ball. Texas musician Lyle Lovett is the featured entertainment and prime, grain-fed beef ordered from Texas will be served. The guest list includes Dallas Cowboys quarterback Troy Aikman and former Cowboys' quarterback Roger Staubach. Actors Chuck Norris, Robert Duvall, Bruce Willis and Arnold Schwarzenegger, golfer Ben Crenshaw and some of Texas' political glitterati.

Survivors demounce Army's No Gun Ri report

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Army's conclusion that no orders were given to American soldiers to kill civilians at No Gun Ri during the Korean War is being challenged by South Korean survivors and family members, who denounced the finding as a "whitewash."

Rejecting President Clinton's expression of regret and offer of a \$1 million memorial and a scholarship fund, survivors said they would take their case for compensation from the U.S. government to the International Court of Justice in The Hague, Netherlands.

"Clinton wants to put an end to the No Gun Ri inci-

dent, but it's not over," Chung Eun-young, chief spokesman for the survivors' group, said in Seoul.

"Any final report that does not deal with the responsibility of commanders has a serious defect," Chung Koo-do, another spokesman for the survivors' group, said.

Reversing its previous stance that U.S. troops were not involved at No Gun Ri, the Army acknowledged Thursday that "an unknown number of Korean civilians were killed or injured" by small-arms fire, artillery and mortar fire and strafing by U.S. warplanes at the hamlet in late July 1950.

Bush urges Democrats to 'tone down rhetoric'

WASHINGTON (AP) — President-elect Bush, his Cabinet selections complete, is urging Senate Democrats critical of some of his choices to "tone down their rhetoric."

Bush rushed to the defense of two embattled proposed nominees on Thursday, former Missouri Sen. John Ashcroft as attorney general and former Colorado Attorney General Gale Norton as interior secretary.

At the same time, the president-elect announced he would nominate former Peace Corps Director Elaine Chao to be secretary of labor. The wife of Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., Chao was not expected to generate even a fraction of the controversy that Bush's first choice, Linda Chavez, did.

Chavez withdrew from consideration in a dispute over disclosures that she provided shelter and cash to an illegal immigrant who performed household chores.

Rounding out his economic team, Bush also announced his selection of Robert

Zoellick, a close associate of former Secretary of State James A. Baker III, as U.S. trade representative.

Bush said he would give Zoellick full Cabinet rank, ending speculation that the president-elect was considering downgrading the post.

Keeping the position Cabinet-level "should confirm our nation's commitment to free trade," Bush told a news conference as he ended a two-day visit to Washington.

Bush said Zoellick, in par-

ticular, would be aggressive in representing the interests of U.S. farmers. "It's important for us to be opening up markets around the world so our farmers can be selling into open markets," he said.

Meanwhile, on another economic issue, Bush transition spokesman Ari Fleischer suggested that Bush was open to discussions with congressional Republican leaders who have asked him to support making his proposed tax cut

retroactive to this past Jan. 1 to help revitalize the economy.

Most recently, the Senate's top Republican, Trent Lott, R-Miss., joined a growing Republican chorus demanding that the tax cut be speeded up.

Bush was back on his 1,600-acre Texas ranch today, where he will spend most of the coming week. He will return to the nation's capital in the middle of next week to await his Jan. 20 inauguration.

California narrowly avoids blackouts in wake of storm

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — California was pushed to the brink of rolling blackouts after the state's biggest storm in three years cut electricity generation at a key nuclear plant.

The storm Thursday came as other electric generating stations shut down for maintenance, which coupled with the crippled nuclear plant cut the state's power output by one-third. Regulators declared a Stage 3 alert as reserves dropped below 1.5 percent.

Officials from the state's grid manager, the California Independent System Operator, credited an influx of power from Oregon and Washington state with fending off outages. Gov. Gray Davis planned to meet Friday with the governors of the two states to discuss the energy crisis.

Electricity shortages linked to California's botched deregulation of the power industry have produced soaring prices and sporadic threats of blackouts in California since last June.

"We can expect these alerts daily," said Jim Detmers, the ISO's general manager.

The governor says ISO managers aren't doing enough to find energy. His spokesman, Steve Maviglio, said the power generators on the ISO board benefit from the higher wholesale electricity prices brought on by the power alerts.

"They have an inherent conflict of interest," Maviglio said.

Detmers said they were "not crying wolf" in calling the alerts. He also noted that the board's members include state officials, along with people in the power industry.

A state Assembly committee, urged by the Davis administration, has approved a bill to replace the ISO board with a three-member panel appointed by the governor. Members of the new board could have no ties to the electricity industry.


California's power production fell more than 15,000 megawatts — enough to power 15 million homes —

as Thursday's storm arrived with high winds and heavy rain, and plants were struck by unrelated mechanical problems.

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55 Alive aims to keep seniors safe on the road

By DEBBIE L. JENSEN
Features Editor

J.C. and Emma Ringener have been driving for decades.

But the local senior citizens were surprised by how much they learned in a "55 Alive Mature Driving Program" sponsored by the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP). They took the class at the Spring City Senior Citizens Center last summer.

"It really helped us renew things we had forgotten," said J.C.

"There were things we really didn't think about until we took the class," added Emma. "It has definitely made a difference."

Taking 55 Alive also made a difference in their auto insurance bill; completion of the course usually means a discount of 10 percent off the cost. The Ringeners will be eligible to take the class again in just over two years and they plan to do so.

"By then, there will be more things we'll want to remember," J.C. said.

And chances are by then, the class will contain even more new information. Ruth Ann McKay of Big Spring, who volunteers as assistant state coordinator for 55 Alive, said it is updated frequently to keep up with changes in laws and trends in driving.

For instance, the class now covers issues like "road rage" and the importance of using child safety

DRIVING CLASS

55 Alive Mature Driving, a class from the AARP, will be offered Jan. 30-31 at the Spring City Senior Center.

Participants must attend both days, but completing the class can result in a 10 percent reduction in insurance rates.

Cost is \$10. To register in advance, call 267-1628.

seats correctly.

"We have added a lot of emphasis on the ABS brakes, which more cars have now," McKay added.

Information from AARP calls the class "a classroom refresher especially designed to meet the needs of older drivers." Some of the topics it covers include age-related physical changes, declining perceptual skills, rules of the road, local driving problems and requirements for license renewal.

Emma Ringener said she was surprised by some information she got from the class. For instance, she learned it is safer to speed up while entering FM-700 from an access road.

"You are supposed to speed up, not slow down," she said. "You are supposed to flow in with the traffic already there."

Students who must be at least 50 years old pay a nominal fee to take 55 Alive, usually \$10. It usually



HERALD photo/Debbie L. Jensen

J.C. and Emma Ringener took the 55 Alive Mature Driving class last summer at the senior citizens' center. The couple agreed some tips they picked up in the class were useful in everyday driving situations.

takes place over two days, and is scheduled at various locations, including local hospitals, churches and community centers.

AARP says 55 Alive is the nation's first and largest classroom driver-education course for older drivers. Students receive information for them to keep, which many say they refer to after finishing the course to keep their mind on the rules of the road.

Two local teachers offer classes as many times as they have students throughout the year. McKay said none of those working for 55 Alive are paid.

"We just do it because we think it is a good program that can help people," she said. "If it can prevent one accident, that's worth it."

For more information about 55 Alive, call McKay at 267-1729 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.

Where are we focusing our energy?

For the last year and a half I have been the pastor of First Christian Church here in Big Spring. In that time I have written several articles for this column and have read all the other articles written by many of my local colleagues. Some I agree with, some I don't.

From reading our articles, it should be evident to those outside of the church that Christians are not all cut from the same mold.

However, on certain issues there seems to be a lot of agreement among many of the local pastors.

For example, a good percentage of the articles have been devoted to exposing the abomination of homosexuality. If one did not know better, one would think that this is the primary mission of the Christian faith.

This has always baffled me because with all the problems going on in the world and in our own community, I hardly think the sexual preferences of a small percentage of the population is cause for so much anxiety. Not only that, but I seriously doubt that Jesus envisioned his followers to be "sin warriors" on the scale we are seeing today.

Not that I claim to be an expert on what Jesus would say or do today, but I don't recall him saying in his Sermon on the Mount, "Blessed are those who hate homosexuality."

As a Christian ethicist I am well aware, of course, of the biblical references to this great dilemma. Certainly the biblical writers were against sexual perversion in all its many forms. I don't think there is any doubt that homosexual acts such as gang rapes were considered sinful.

Certainly, sexual behaviors that did not lead to procreation would have been considered taboo in ancient times because societies needed population growth in order to be militarily strong. In other words, the anti-homosexual bias in the Bible made sense for ancient people.

Today, however, I'm not so sure we should be using our precious time and energy combating an issue that seems to be going nowhere in terms of consensus or a solution.

The various explanations that have been proposed for the phenomenon of a homosexual orientation among a small percentage of the world's population are many and varied. Many Christians want to argue that gays and lesbians are simply making a "choice" (a sinful choice!), but in light of the hostility and even abuse that has been

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JIMMY WATSON

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Mr. Teague al the importance ship records a used sup International State, District projects spons Lions Clubs.

Dr. Clark M be the guest sp next meeting Monday, Jan. 1

The Sand Sp Club meets th third Monday month at the S Community Ce p.m.

The Center i Scout Hut Ro Springs. All in sons are enco welcome to atte

For more please call Be Big Spring or in Sand Spring

Mighty Oa Senior Ad

The Mighty Adult Club m Jan. 9, 2001, a Citizens Center business meetin ebrate club mer McMullan's 90 and had 12 cl attending. Open and a prayer f was given Clayton.

January clu birthdays were and among the birthdays was Ola Lee McM the club honc 90th birthday c tificate and b plus birthday each club mem

The Mighty has several cl who have cele 90th birthdays honorees inclu Barnfield, Lee Mamie Madry McMullan.

Next club me Tuesday Jan. 1 louship hall of Baptist Church day of games, fellowship and comes visitors: tive club memb

Million in India wash a their s

ALLAHABAD — Millions plunged into the of the Ganges l dawn Tuesday wash away the first day of a re val that occurs 12 years.

Masses of n and children t the riverside, f folded hands i ness before rusl water near abou 360 miles New Delhi. As with bright sun tees con nue toward the w te estimated 100 people had b first six hours. ed 5 million to end of the day.

Priests wrapp and orange t into the wate v ith shaved brightly colore their children's rushed forward

Priests arrive tival on chario folks came fr India and arou carrying their f vessels and b their backs. F thousands of readit over radus along banks of the Ga

Thousands of police guarded rorist attacks, and crime am grims crowding

CLUB NEWS

Staked Plains Lodge No. 598

Staked Plains Lodge No. 598 has five brothers eligible for the Fifty Year Masonic Service Award, Brothers Jack R. Alexander, George C. Franklin, Fred I. Franklin, James A. Hopton and Cotton O'Brien. These awards were presented at open lodge on Jan. 9. All masons and friends are encouraged to attend. Dinner will be at 6 p.m. with the presentation shortly afterward.

Order of the Eastern Star

Big Spring Chapter No. 67 Order of the Eastern Star meets Tuesday, Jan. 16, 7:30 p.m. at the Masonic Lodge.

Art Association

Judy Gibbs will be the speaker for the Big Spring Art Association meeting in the county library, Jan. 16, at 7 p.m.

Gibbs will present information on color values and other art related subjects.

People who are interested in art will be welcome to attend.

Club president Bonita Lygh. will be hostess.

Sand Springs Lions Club

The Sand Springs Lions Club met in business session Monday with President Ben Boadle presiding.

The resignation of Secretary/Treasurer, Dolores Hurlburt was accepted with regrets. The

See CLUB, Page 8A

Poll: Most say religion strengthens U.S. society

NEW YORK (AP) — A post-campaign poll from a secular think tank found that Americans are wary of religion in the political arena but want more of it in public schools and think U.S. society would benefit if more people became devout.

Religion is the best way to strengthen moral behavior and family values, 69 percent of those polled said. Decreasing greed, materialism and crime, increasing volunteering and charity work, and better child-rearing are likely if "many more Americans were to become deeply religious," participants said by majorities ranging from 69 percent to 87 percent.

The November poll of 1,507 U.S. adults was conducted Public Agenda, a nonpartisan New York-based policy research agency founded by former Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and pollster Daniel Yankelovich. The margin of error was plus or minus 3 percentage points. A report on the poll was being released Wednesday at a Brookings Institution forum in Washington.

Fully 74 percent agreed that "it's a bad idea for families to raise children without any religion." Seventy-four percent said school prayer teaches children that belief in God is important, and 56 percent consider it an effective means of improving youngsters' behavior.

But majorities said school prayer can be unfair to some families and students.

See POLL, Page 7A

CHURCH NEWS



Don Gibson, with his wife, Terri, and son, Michael.

Seventh Day Adventist Church

Don Gibson has accepted the invitation of the Texico Conference of Seventh-day Adventists to take up the responsibilities of pastor at the Big Spring Church.

Pastor Gibson spent 8 1/2 years of his 13 year ministry in the state of Alaska where, most recently, he pastored in the city of Ketchikan.

Gibson completed his theology studies at Walla Walla College, College Place, Washington. He and his wife Terri, a licensed practical nurse, work together as pastor, pastoral counselors and health educators.

The Gibsons have one son, 6-year-old Michael.

First United Methodist Church

"Who Wants To Win The Best" (John 1:43-49) is the title for Dr. Ed Williamson's message on Sunday, Jan. 14, 2001, at the First United Methodist Church. Join us in church at 8:30 and 10:50 a.m. A special service for kids age 4 to the fifth grade

is held every Sunday on the third floor immediately following the children's corner in the 10:50 a.m. service. This special service gives children an opportunity to memorize scripture, do arts and crafts and learn more about God's love for them.

The youth have a busy schedule at FUMC. Genex band from Odessa is coming on Sunday from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Partee Youth Building. Bring a friend and enjoy the music and pizza.

Jan. 19 - 21 senior high youth will have a Mid Winter Retreat at CETA Canyon. Jan. 23, at 7 p.m. Anyone interested in going on our spring break trip to Mexico we will have a meeting in the Partee Youth Center (parents are welcome).

Feb. 2-4 there will be a Mid High Retreat at CETA Canyon. Feb. 8-11 the youth will be going on a ski trip to Ruidoso. The cost is \$230 and it is not too late to sign up.

On Tuesday, 3:45 - 5:15 p.m. our church will be launching a wonderful new ministry to children — the children of our church family and the children of the community.

Kids Club, a Tuesday afternoon activity program for children kindergarten through fifth grade, will provide rich opportunities for learning, fellowship and service. More volunteers are needed to help with this terrific outreach.

East Side Baptist Church

Come join us at the East Side Baptist Church. Services at 10:15 a.m. Sunday morning, Sunday School at 9 a.m. and Sunday evening services at 6 p.m. Wednesday services are at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcomed at the East Side Baptist

Church.

Hillcrest Baptist Church

Hillcrest Baptist Church will be hosting a free concert featuring harpist Greg Buchanan on Jan. 16 at 7 p.m.

Buchanan is a dynamic Christian, professional musician and accomplished solo harpist who has performed with Billy Graham crusades, visited Robert Schuller's Hour of Power and was a member of the Navy Concert Band.

He will bring three harps, including a Davidic harp like the psalmist played.

Hillcrest Baptist Church is located at 2000 West FM 700 in Big Spring. For more information call 267-1639.

First Presbyterian

"Procedures manual for Churches: Gift-giving" is the title of the Rev. Dianne Brown's sermon on Sunday at First Presbyterian Church. This is the first in a series based on 1 Corinthians, using the text of 1 Corinthians 12:1-11.

Worship begins at 11 a.m. with Take Ten refreshment time at 10:40 and Sunday school at 9:45. Join us at Eighth and Runnels for all church activities.

First Christian

First Christian Church will recognize "Baptism of Jesus" Sunday.

Dr. Jimmy Watson will preach the sermon, "What can be said about baptism that hasn't already been said?" Chi-Ro and JYF youth groups will meet with Ricky Simpson, youth director, at 4 p.m.

On Wednesday night, First Christian will begin a weekly series of food, fun and fellowship beginning at 5:30 p.m. Youth activities will be included.

See WATSON, Page 7A

COMMUNITY NEWS

HOWARD COLLEGE WILL OBSERVE Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Monday at 11:45 a.m. with a special presentation beginning at the campus flagpole. After a brief ceremony there, a silent march to the Dora Roberts Student Union Building will be followed by an inspirational reading by Derek Clapp, Howard College speech instructor. The public is invited to attend.

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 must pass a test before assisting taxpayers with their returns.

For information, call the senior center, 267-1628 or Dorothy Kennemur, 398-5522.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

RAPE CRISIS/VICTIM SERVICES is seeking volunteers to start in a training program on Feb. 5. Volunteers, who must be 18 years old, undergo 40 hours of training and an interview process before they can begin to assist local victims of violent crime.

RCVS advocates are available 24 hours a day to provide crisis intervention or accompaniment to the hospital and law enforcement agencies. The non-profit agency also provides follow-up services with victims and refers them for further services, and gives educational programs for the community.

Training will be Feb. 5-10, and 12,14,15 and 16. Call Linda Perez, 263-3312, for more information.

WELL SAID

The mind is like a parachute — it doesn't work unless it is open.

Anonymous

It often requires more courage to dare to do right than to fear to do wrong.

Abraham Lincoln

CLUB

Continued from Page 6A

Hurlburts will be leaving the area soon.

Guy Teague, a former District A-1 officer, was guest speaker. Mr. Teague helped the Club to understand the duties of the Secretary/Treasurer and the reports required of this officer.

Mr. Teague also explained the importance of membership records and the continued support of International, National, State, District and Local projects sponsored by the Lions Clubs.

Dr. Clark McDaniel will be the guest speaker for the next meeting to be held Monday, Jan. 18.

The Sand Springs Lions Club meets the first and third Monday of each month at the Sand Springs Community Center at 6:30 p.m.

The Center is located on Scout Hut Road in Sand Springs. All interested persons are encouraged and welcome to attend.

For more information please call Ben Boadle in Big Spring or Phillip Reid in Sand Springs

Mighty Oaks Senior Adult Club

The Mighty Oaks Senior Adult Club met Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2001, at the Senior Citizens Center for a called business meeting and to celebrate club member Ola Lee McMullan's 90th birthday and had 12 club members attending. Opening prayers and a prayer for the meal was given by Cletha Clayton.

January club members birthdays were recognized and among those January birthdays was club member Ola Lee McMullan whom the club honored with a 90th birthday card, gift certificate and birthday song, plus birthday cards from each club member.

The Mighty Oaks Club has several club members who have celebrated their 90th birthdays and those honorees include: Katheran Barnfield, Lee Ray Day, Mammie Madry and Ola Lee McMullan.

Next club meeting will be Tuesday Jan. 16 in the fellowship hall of East Fourth Baptist Church with a fun day of games, visiting and fellowship and the club welcomes visitors and prospective club members.

Millions in India wash away their sins

ALLAHABAD, India (AP) — Millions of Hindus plunged into the icy waters of the Ganges River before dawn Tuesday, hoping to wash away their sins on the first day of a religious festival that occurs once every 12 years.

Masses of men, women and children gathered by the riverside, praying with folded hands in the darkness before rushing into the water near Allahabad, about 360 miles southeast of New Delhi. As dawn broke with bright sunshine, devotees continued to surge toward the waters. Officials estimated nearly 2 million people had bathed in the first six hours. They expected 5 million to bathe by the end of the day.

Priests wrapped in yellow and orange robes walked into the waters. Women with shaved heads and brightly colored saris took their children's hands and rushed forward, too.

Priests arrived at the festival on chariots. Ordinary folks came from across India and around the world, carrying their food, cooking vessels and blankets on their backs. Hundreds of thousands of tents are spread over an 18-mile radius along the sandy banks of the Ganges.

Thousands of soldiers and police guarded against terrorist attacks, stampedes and crime among the pilgrims crowding in tents.

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Proverbs 24:3

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JAN 12 2001

Lost and found: Minister's identity revealed after 16 years

By APRIL CASTRO
Associated Press Writer

A former San Antonio minister missing for more than 16 years and presumed dead told family and friends after he was recognized last month that he knew nothing about his past and had picked a new name and birth date after he emerged from a coma.

But the name, birth date and Social Security number used by James Simmons, formerly known as Wesley Barrett "Barre" Cox, are the same as those of a Clarendon rancher, the *San Antonio Express-News* reported in a copyright story for Thursday's editions.

Rancher James Simmons told the newspaper that he had since been audited by the Internal Revenue Service in 1987 and 1989 and had gotten calls from the FBI. He was told to put a notice in his credit file explaining that someone was using his Social Security number.

The minister was recognized Dec. 10 by a former parishioner as he preached in a Texas church.

Beth Cox, the minister's former wife, said he apparently remembered nothing of his life before 1984, when he said he was brutally beaten and left for dead in the trunk of a car in a Memphis, Tenn., junkyard. At the time, he and Beth had a 6-month-old daughter and he was a family minister at MacArthur Park Church of Christ in San Antonio.

Law officers haven't been able to confirm the description from Abilene Christian University, which publicized Beth Cox's account, of how Cox was found beaten and left with amnesia.

Mary Cox, his sister-in-law, told *The Associated Press* late Wednesday that he was reunited with his mother and brother on New Year's Day. She said the minister did not recognize his 80-year-old mother or his 54-year-old brother, George. He spent a few hours with the family at their home in Frankston in East Texas.

Cameron Crabtree, director of public relations at

Cox, 49, disappeared July 12, 1984, when his car was found abandoned and ransacked on a farm road in Jones County north of Abilene.

Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in Mill Valley, Calif., confirmed Wednesday that Barre Cox and Simmons were the same person, the Abilene Reporter-News first reported in a copyright story in its online edition.

The rancher, who goes by the name Jem, said he had never known Cox.

Both men were students at Texas Tech, but not at the same time, the *Express-News* said.

The minister has not been available for comment. Mary Cox declined Wednesday to tell the AP where he was. She said he was trying to get settled with his new congregation before talking to the media.

The minister was employed as director of housing at the seminary, but resigned last week when reports of his identity began surfacing, Crabtree said.

Cox, 49, disappeared July 12, 1984, when his car was found abandoned and ransacked on a farm road in Jones County north of Abilene. He was traveling between Lubbock and Abilene after finishing work on his doctoral dissertation for Texas Tech University.

Three attempts by the AP to reach a Memphis police spokeswoman for comment Wednesday were unsuccessful, but Memphis police told the newspaper that they have been unable to confirm the minister's account and are researching microfilm from the summer of 1984 to try to verify it.

Mary Cox said she immediately recognized her brother-in-law from "his looks, from his voice, his writing, his demeanor."

"It was just a blessing to see him and to hug him," she said. "It was just the

answer to our prayers." "We're happy for (his mother) because she never did give up on the fact that he was alive," she said. "It's more like a closure for her and she knows that he's doing well and is healthy. He has had some rough times but is doing well now."

His marriage to Beth Cox was dissolved after he was never found. Neither remarried.

The news that Barre Cox had been located began circulating after Beth Cox, who now lives in Franklin, Tenn., notified Abilene Christian University that she had spoken with her missing husband. Both had worked at the university, and Beth Cox wanted to notify former colleagues that he had been found, an ACU spokeswoman said.

"Barre remembers nothing from before he was beaten, and we may never know exactly what happened all those years ago," Beth Cox said in a release through the university. "It doesn't really matter now. But I know God has been with him and with us. He brought Barre back to the ministry, and he watched over him when he was all alone in Memphis. No matter what happens now, God will help us through it."

Contacted at her home in Franklin, Tenn., Cox referred questions to a Tennessee attorney.

"I'm really just trying to grasp the situation now," she told the AP.

Crabtree said Simmons said he awoke in a Memphis hospital in July 1984 and was told that he had been in a coma two weeks.

Beth Cox said in the release that Simmons was put in contact with a senator in Virginia who helped him get a Social Security number. "He chose a name, began working at a J.C. Penney store, and worked his way up through the ranks," she said.

The *Express-News* said Cox has told family members and others that he was given the name James by the Tennessee family that took him in and that he took the name Simmons from a

hardware sign when he went to work as a busboy for a restaurant in Charlottesville, Va.

George Cox told the *Express-News* that his brother chose March 21, 1955, as his birth date because it was the International Day of Remembrance.

Simmons ended up at Golden Gate seminary, where he earned a master of divinity degree in 1994 and a master of theology degree in 1999.

Crabtree told the AP that Simmons was upfront about his lack of a past when he arrived at Golden Gate in 1991 as a student.

"The admission committee had to deal with a number of unknowns. But in his case, I think Golden Gate was willing to take a risk on

Church of Christ, said church members had sent out thousands of fliers trying to locate Barre Cox after his shocking disappearance. He said he had notified parishioners of the developments, but had not spoken to Simmons.

Wesley Cox Sr., a prosperous Canyon rancher and oilman, traveled more than

10,000 miles looking for his son in the year after he vanished.

He never lost hope that his son would be found. "I still think he's out there, he's healthy and someday he will have to come back home," his father, who has since died, told the *San Antonio Express-News* at the time.

January 16th, 7 p.m.

Free Concert!

Hillcrest Baptist Church
2000 West FM 700
Information • 267-1639



Grey Buchanan
Dynamic Christian, professional musician and accomplished solo harpist. Played with the Navy Concert Band.

The minister was recognized Dec. 10 by a former parishioner as he preached in a Texas church.

this individual. It certainly is an unusual story. The other aspects of the application process were positive. The reference checks were good," Crabtree said.

Herb Smith, associate minister of MacArthur Park

Howard House.

Coming Sunday! The old hotel just ain't what it used to be, a look back at the Howard House.

1912 Scurry Big Spring
Picante
Everything Must Go!
Clearance Sale
Your Saving Starts At
40% off
We're Preparing For Our Seasonal Closing
Additional Items Marked
50% to 75% Off
Sale prices good thru January 20th
Our season will be ending soon!
Hurry for best selection
Hrs. Monday-Saturday 9 am-6 pm
267-7281

POLL

Continued from Page 6A

which apparently explained why there was far more support for a nonsectarian "moment of silence" in classrooms (53 percent) than prayers addressed to God (20 percent) or to Jesus (6 percent). Nineteen percent opposed all such observations.

Public Agenda President Deborah Wadsworth said the results show Americans "believe religion has enormous power to elevate peoples' behavior and address many societal problems."

Religious themes were unusually prominent during the 2000 campaign, in part because Democratic vice presidential candidate Joseph Lieberman, an Orthodox Jew, spoke openly of his faith.

Seventy-four percent in the poll thought politicians who talk about their faith "are just saying what people want to hear." Only 26 percent said they would be more likely to vote for a candidate who always decides on the basis of religious convictions.

Sixty-four percent expressed dissatisfaction with mass media treatment of religion, and 56 percent thought too many journalists are biased against believers.

Such feelings were even more marked among evangelicals, who made up 24 percent of those surveyed.

Jews (2 percent) and agnostics, atheists and other non-religious citizens (13 percent) generally took a dubious view of any higher profile for religion in public life.

WATSON

Continued from Page 6A

heaped upon gays and lesbians, one wonders why any rational person would deliberately make that choice.

Other explanations make more sense in light of what we know today about genetics and psychology. In my opinion, the explanation for homosexuality is probably multidimensional.

Biological (genetic), psychological, and sociological factors may combine with individual experience to bring about a homosexual orientation.

However we explain it, I hardly think we should be reductionistic and claim that people are simply

"choosing" to be that way. I dare you to find a gay person and ask them why they have "chosen" their lifestyle.

In light of what I'm saying, I would implore my local colleagues in the ministry to refocus their concerns on issues that are more in tune with the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. There are plenty of opportunities out there to help people who are in need.

We don't need to be wasting our time showing wrath when we could be fulfilling our time showing love.

Jimmy Watson is pastor at First Christian Church.

remember
martin luther king jr. day
january 15, 2001
These Financial Institutions will observe the following Holiday Hours...
First Bank West Texas American State Bank The Electric Utilities
Closed Monday, Jan. 15 Closed Monday, Jan. 15 Credit Union
Big Spring Banking Center State Hospital Federal Credit Education Employees Federal
Closed Monday, Jan. 15 Union Credit Union
Citizens Federal Credit Union Closed Monday Jan. 15 & Friday, Jan. 19 Open Monday, January 15
Closed Sat. Jan. 13 & Mon. Jan. 15th
Cosden Federal Credit Union Government Employees Federal Credit Union T & P Federal Credit Union
Open Monday, Jan. 15 Closed Monday, Jan. 15 Closed Monday, Jan. 15

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

CHURCH AND CLUB NEWS APPEAR EVERY FRIDAY IN THE BIG SPRING HERALD.
CONGRATULATIONS
to
Anne Read
Accounting Supervisor
Upon her
25th Anniversary
with
Citizens Federal Credit Union

JANUARY CLEARANCE!!
Starts Friday At
ELROD'S
40% Off
Suggested List
Broyhill
Broyhill
13 mos. No Interest
125 Miles Free Delivery
Store Hours
9:00-5:00
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ELROD'S FURNITURE
BIG SPRING'S OLDEST-LARGEST-FINEST FURNITURE STORE
2309 Scurry 267-8491

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YMCA to ol coach's cli
The YMCA free basketb training cli p.m. to 3 p.m the YMCA gy
The clinic planning to r recreation le ball teams thi
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Former Big Steers coach will lead the
For more call the YMCA
Sign-up for volleyball le
An organiz ing will be Monday, Jan YMCA for ad ed in register: play volleybal
Two league offered — League whi on Tuesday r Ladies Pow which will Thursday nig Registration available at t League play to begin the 29. Registratio per team.
For more call the YMCA
Baseball bo to meet Tue
The Big S school baseb Club will me Tuesday in Athletic Train Those with program or should turn t ing the meeti Plans will work day curr Saturday, Jan For more i call Jim Cler 1069 after 6 p.
Quarterback offers highl
The Big Quarterback continue takit the 2000 Steers light film thro Each video \$15.
To order, ca Sheri Nichols after 5 p.m.
ACS still of Texas Golf I
The Ameri Society is ag the Texas Go entitles holde than 680 roun 289 courses the state.
The passes and proceeds program be Cancer Society education pro patient servic
Both the l Country C Comanche Course are p in the prograr forms are avai two courses.
For more i call 1-800-A check the so site at www.ac
AREA C
TODAY
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4 p.m.
• Borden Cou Sands (VG, VB)
8 p.m.
• Levelland a (VG, VB)
6:30 p.m.
• Coahoma a (VG, VB)
• Colorado C (VG, VB)
ON TH
Television
Golf
2 p.m. — LF first round, ESP
6:30 p.m. Mercedes Chan round, ESPN, C

IN BRIEF

YMCA to offer coach's clinic

The YMCA will offer a free basketball coach's training clinic from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at the YMCA gymnasium. The clinic is for those planning to coach youth recreation league basketball teams this year. The clinic will include organizing a practice session and coaching drills. Former Big Spring Lady Steers coach Kathy Loter will lead the clinic. For more information, call the YMCA at 267-8234.

Sign-up for adult volleyball league

An organizational meeting will be held on Monday, Jan. 22, at the YMCA for adults interested in registering a team to play volleyball. Two leagues are being offered — a Co-Rec League which will play on Tuesday nights and a Ladies Power League which will play on Thursday nights. Registration forms are available at the YMCA. League play is expected to begin the week of Jan. 29. Registration fee is \$100 per team. For more information call the YMCA at 267-8234.

Baseball boosters to meet Tuesday

The Big Spring high school baseball Booster Club will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the BSHS Athletic Training Center. Those with completed program or sign ads should turn them in during the meeting. Plans will be made for a work day currently set for Saturday, Jan. 20. For more information, call Jim Clements at 267-1069 after 6 p.m.

Quarterback Club still offers highlight video

The Big Spring Quarterback Club will continue taking orders for the 2000 Steers video highlight film through Jan. 15. Each video is priced at \$15. To order, call Darrell or Sheri Nichols at 263-2917 after 5 p.m.

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

AREA GAMES

TODAY
H.S. BASKETBALL
4 p.m.
• Borden County at Sands (VG, VB)
8 p.m.
• Levelland at Big Spring (VG, VB)
6:30 p.m.
• Coahoma at Stanton (VG, VB)
• Colorado City at Forsan (VG, VB)

ON THE AIR

Television
Golf
2 p.m. — LPGA Classic, first round, ESPN, Ch. 30
6:30 p.m. — PGA, Mercedes Champs, second round, ESPN, Ch. 30.

Vick, Fletcher, Booty among those declaring for NFL draft

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Michael Vick, the most exciting quarterback in college football, is turning pro, heading an all-star roster of underclassmen taking an early shot at the NFL. "This has been one of the hardest decisions I've ever had to make," the sophomore said Thursday. Also declaring for the draft were All-American cornerback Jamar Fletcher and tailback Michael Bennett of Wisconsin; LSU quarterback Josh Booty; tailback Rudi Johnson and fullback Heath Evans of Auburn; and Texas A&M receiver Robert Ferguson. Northwestern running back Damien Anderson, fifth in voting for the Heisman Trophy after rushing

for 1,914 yards in 2000 as a junior, will announce Friday whether he'll enter the draft. Friday is the deadline for underclassmen to declare their draft intentions. Considered a possible No. 1 pick, Vick, who helped build the Hokies into title contenders, said he wanted to take care of his family. The riches of the NFL will help him do that. "It's a big relief," Vick said of making up his mind. "I'm just hoping and praying I made the right decision." San Diego owns the first pick after finishing 1-15 this season. Vick led the Hokies to consecutive 11-1 records, a berth in the 2000 national championship game and a Gator Bowl berth this season.

The lure of being the top draft pick probably convinced him it was time to go. "He's going to be one of the great ones in the NFL," former NFL coach and current TV analyst Mike Ditka said this season. "If I had any draft picks, I'd give them up for the next couple of years to get him." In last season's Sugar Bowl, Vick accounted for 322 total yards. In this season's Gator Bowl, he threw for 205 yards and a touchdown, rushed for one touchdown and earned team MVP honors as the Hokies beat Clemson 41-20 to finish No. 6 in the final Associated Press poll. Last year, defensive end Courtney Brown of Penn State received a six-year, \$45 million contract as the first pick overall from Cleveland.

The deal also included a \$10.9 million signing bonus. Booty is skipping his senior season at LSU. "After the season, I went home and questioned what I want to do," Booty said. "I felt next year I wanted to be in an NFL uniform. ... If I came back (to LSU), there's a lot of things that could happen. I felt like this was the best time for me to go and I felt like I'm leaving LSU in good hands." Booty, 25, the high school player of the year in 1993, set national prep records by passing for 11,700 yards and 126 touchdowns. After high school, he opted for pro baseball, spending five years with the Florida

See PLAYERS, page 3B

Lady Steers set for Levelland

Both BSHS squads hope large crowd will be advantage

By KAMILAH WARD
Sports Writer

Big Spring's Steers and Lady Steers will take to the floor tonight against Levelland teams they know little about. The last time the Lady Steers squared off against the Lady Lobos was an area playoff game in 1997 — one Levelland won somewhat handily.

Since then, however, a few changes have been made. Levelland, currently ranked No. 5 in the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches (TABC) Class 4A girls' basketball poll, along with No. 1-ranked Plainview, Frenship and Lubbock Estacado have merged with Big Spring, Andrews, Snyder and San Angelo Lake View to form an incredibly strong District 4-4A.

For the Lady Steers, the changes have been made within the infrastructure of the team. They return six players from last year's squad, four of whom are starters — Christina Gwynn, Meghan Pudliner, Melissa Forth and LaTrisha Rollins.

Two of those starters, Forth and Rollins, lead the team in more ways than scoring. The new addition to the starting lineup is freshman guard Kim Wrightsil who is an outside threat and one of the sparkplugs in the Lady Steers' pressure defense. If there is one aspect of basketball the Lady Steers have a clear understanding of, it's how to hustle.

The Lady Steers are a team to watch even after absorbing a 98-47 loss Tuesday in Plainview. In the first minutes of that game, Big Spring was able to keep the game close, even grab a brief 14-13 in the first few minutes.

But even with their defensive intensity, the Lady Steers just couldn't keep pace with a Lady Bulldogs team that many consider the best team in the state regardless of classification.

The rigorous practices, hustle and extreme road play like Tuesday night's match up, according to Lady Steers head coach Jimmy Avery, will contribute to the team's success throughout the remainder of the season.

The Lady Steers currently share second place in the 4-4A standings with Snyder. But after tonight's game, the rankings will change.

"Tonight's game and every game in district count a great deal," Avery said. "From here on out, everybody's scrambling for a playoff berth."

The Lady Lobos, currently 17-4 overall and 3-3 in district, suffered a 54-52 loss to Frenship last week, but still managed to move up one spot in the TABC polls.

Led by first year head coach Terri White, the Lady Lobos' top players include Mika Robertson and Tawanna



HERALD photo/Jim Fierro
Big Spring's LaTrisha Rollins (34) and teammate Melissa Flenniken (50) apply pressure defense against a Lamesa guard in the Lady Steers' 76-40 win over the Lady Tors on Dec. 5. The same defensive effort and pressure will be needed on the Lady Steers tonight at 6 when they face Levelland's Lady Lobos in Steer Gym.

Flowers, both of which were all-district selections last season.

While tonight's 6 p.m. girls' game figures to be a tightly-contested showdown to stay in contention for a playoff berth, the same cannot be said for the boys' finale.

The Steers, winless in four district outings, hope to take advantage of a homecourt crowd. That 0-4 record doesn't tell the true effort Steers head coach Brian Ellington has gotten from his players.

In two of those four losses, the Steers have fallen to teams in the closing seconds of play.

The Lobos who are also playing under the leadership of a first-year coach, Gary Bridges, and have gotten off to a slow start in 4-4A play.

If the game is close in the fourth quarter, having the homecourt advantage could make the difference for

both Big Spring teams.

Currently 15-5 overall and 4-2 in district, the Lady Steers will try to control the game from the start, Avery said.

"We look to out work and out hustle them, that's what we do best," Avery said. "(Levelland) is a very good team," he added. "I've scouted them this season and I've seen some video of them."

Tonight marks the first home game for both the Steers and Lady Steers since Dec. 19, meaning a large hometown crowd could be a huge advantage.

The Big Spring booster clubs are playing their part, sponsoring a "Steers Black Attack" that encourages Steers and Lady Steers supporters to take advantage of free admission to anyone who is wearing black clothing.

Cone inks deal with Red Sox

BOSTON (AP) — The Boston Red Sox have another rehab project.

Boston signed free agent David Cone to a one-year deal Thursday, hoping the former Yankees ace can rebound from his four-win season and recover his Cy Young Award-winning form.

"He's got something to prove," Red Sox pitching coach Joe Kerrigan said. "He said he was embarrassed with his performance last year. He has a lot of pride and he wants to show the world he's not a four-game winner."

With the Red Sox hoping to challenge New York in the AL East next season, Cone could find himself pitching in important games against his former teammates.

"It gets my juices flowing just thinking about it," Cone told The New York Times. "There's a passion for baseball in Boston, with all the history in Fenway Park. This will be a chance to see the other side of a great rivalry."

Cone, who has five World Series rings, has a 184-116 record and a 3.40 ERA in a 15-year career, but struggled last season, going 4-14 with a 6.91 ERA in 155 innings. He made only two relief appearances in the Series last year, delivering a key out when he induced Mike Piazza hit a fly ball in the fifth inning of Game 4.

"Obviously, we still think he has a lot left to offer," Kerrigan said. "He's one of those class pitchers of the last decade, one of the clutch pitchers over the last decade."

The deal is not guaranteed, meaning Boston could release him during spring training and owe just termination pay. If he makes the roster and pitches regularly during the season, he could make between \$4 million and \$5 million.

The Red Sox announced the signing at the 62nd annual dinner of the Boston chapter of the Baseball Writers' Association of America. The crowd of almost 1,200 roared — but not nearly as loudly as following the introduction of Manny Ramirez, Boston's new \$160 million outfielder.

Cone will compete for a fifth spot in the rotation

See CONE, page 3B

It all began with Giants' win streak and Vikes' losing streak

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — The New York Giants' surprising surge to the NFC championship game is rooted in a guarantee and a winning streak.

The impetus for the Minnesota Vikings' appearance in the title game is a losing streak and the belief that the December version of the team wasn't the real Vikings.

Clearly, the Giants have taken the more conventional route. New York was 7-4 following a poor performance in a home loss to Detroit when coach Jim Fassel issued a guarantee that his team would make the playoffs. He didn't mention the upcoming schedule featured such weaklings as Arizona and Dallas and such mediocrities as Pittsburgh, Jacksonville and fading

Washington. But the Giants beat all of those teams, and the Vikings faltered in December. Suddenly, it was New York that held the home-field advantage in a conference where no road team has won a playoff game in four tries. Minnesota will try to break that trend on Sunday.

"I think the Detroit loss was the lowest point," Fassel said. "I wasn't depressed over it. As much as anything, it challenged me, I was mad. I was angry."

"But I didn't look at other people and say, 'Well, you've got to do this better, coaches; you've got to do this better, players.' It's up to me. I've got to get this thing changed around. I'm not going to stand for this."

And what did the players think when Fassel stood before the media and declared his team a postseason qualifier with five weeks left in the season?

"I tell you what we were thinking: Is this guy crazy?" defensive tackle Keith Hamilton said with a chuckle. "When you start looking at what he did, he took a lot of pressure off of the young guys that we had here, just allowed us to go out and play football."

"I think that was the biggest thing he did. The media was all on us. He took a lot of pressure off us by saying what he did, just allowed us to go out and play football, what we do best. It's paid off."

Sure has. The Giants (13-4) are one victory from their first Super Bowl

trip in 10 years.

The Vikings (12-5) got this close in 1998, then lost the NFC title game at home to Atlanta, blowing a late lead and falling in overtime. They claim that game is a distant memory, but the three-game slide to conclude the 2000 schedule is very fresh.

By dropping those games — albeit to three winning teams, the Rams, Packers and Colts — the Vikings nearly threw away the NFC Central crown. They did force a road trip to a cold locale this week, something dome teams prefer to avoid in January.

But they also learned something from that December flop, and their 34-16 victory over New Orleans last week indicates that the real Vikings are the ones who were 11-2.

JAN 12 2001

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SPORTS EXTRA

TOP 25 - MEN

Table with 2 columns: Rank and Team. Lists top 25 men's college basketball teams.

TOP 25 - WOMEN

Table with 2 columns: Rank and Team. Lists top 25 women's college basketball teams.

NBA STANDINGS

Table with 4 columns: Division, Team, W, L, Pct. Shows NBA standings for Eastern, Central, Western, and Pacific Divisions.

Table with 4 columns: Team, W, L, Pct. Shows NBA standings for Thursday's Games and Today's Games.

Transactions section listing various player movements and team news.

senior vice president for administration. GREEN BAY PACKERS—Signed TE Adam Newman.

MIAMI DOLPHINS—Signed WR Brian Alford, WR Albert Johnson, RB Jay Johnson, RB Vaughn Sanders, OT Dan Palmer and DT Lamin Rucker.

NEW YORK JETS—Named Terry Bradway general manager.

WASHINGTON REDSKINS—Named Michelle Tessier public relations director.

HOCKEY National Hockey League NHL—Reduced the 10-game suspension of Buffalo RW Rob Ray to seven games.

BUFFALO SABRES—Assigned C Chris Taylor at Rochester of the AHL.

COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS—Assigned D Mike Gaul to Syracuse of the AHL.

MINNESOTA WILD—Recalled D J.J. Daigneault from Cleveland of the IHL.

NEW YORK ISLANDERS—Acquired LW Craig Berube from Washington for a 2001 ninth-round draft pick.

NEW YORK RANGERS—Recalled F Derek Armstrong and G Vitali Yaremchuk from Hartford of the AHL.

VANCOUVER CANUCKS—Recalled C Josh Holden and RW Jariko Rutu from Kansas City of the IHL.

WASHINGTON CAPITALS—Recalled C Glen Metropolit and C Jan Bulis from Portland of the AHL.

Reassigned C Terry Yake to Portland.

FLORIDA STATE—Named Daryl Dickey quarterbacks coach.

PORTLAND STATE—Named Tara Bilinski women's soccer coach.

SOUTHWEST TEXAS—Signed Bob DeBesse, football coach, to a three-year contract.

NHL

Thursday's Games Calgary 2, Nashville 1 Los Angeles 3, Buffalo 2 San Jose 6, St. Louis 3

Today's Games Phoenix at Toronto, 6:30 p.m. Montreal at Atlanta, 6:30 p.m. Chicago at Columbus, 6:30 p.m. Philadelphia at Tampa Bay, 6:30 p.m. Toronto at New Jersey, 6 p.m. Pittsburgh at N.Y. Islanders, 6 p.m. Atlanta at Washington, 6 p.m. Philadelphia at Florida, 6:30 p.m. St. Louis at Los Angeles, 8:30 p.m. Nashville at San Jose, 9:30 p.m.

Saturday's Games N.Y. Rangers at Boston, Noon Phoenix at Montreal, 6 p.m. Toronto at New Jersey, 6 p.m. Pittsburgh at N.Y. Islanders, 6 p.m. Atlanta at Washington, 6 p.m. Philadelphia at Florida, 6:30 p.m. St. Louis at Los Angeles, 8:30 p.m. Nashville at San Jose, 9:30 p.m.

PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES—Designated RHP Jason Boyd for assignment.

NEW YORK YANKEES—Named Gary Denbo batting coach, and Tom Nieto catching instructor.

TEXAS RANGERS—Agreed to terms with RHP Pat Mahomes on a minor league contract and assigned him to Oklahoma of the PCL.

HOUSTON ASTROS—Promoted Rob Matlock to senior vice president of operations and communications.

DETROIT LIONS—Named Kevin Palmer head coach.

DETROIT LIONS—Named Kevin Warren senior vice president of business operations. Promoted vice president of communications for broadcasting and new media Bill Keenest to

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FISHING REPORT

Here is the weekly fishing report as compiled for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for Jan. 10. (Report also available on Web as www.tfwishing.com.)

CENTRAL BROWNWOOD: Water murky; 45 degrees; 3.4 below spillway; No report on black bass. No report on striped bass. White bass to 12 inches are fair on live minnows and white jigs in 12 to 20 feet. Crappie to 10 inches are slow on minnows in 8 to 14 feet. Channel and blue catfish to 16 pounds are fair on chicken livers and Canadian night crawlers in 15 to 25 feet. No report on yellow catfish.

BUCHANAN: Water stained; 48 degrees; 10:13.30; black bass are fair on pumpkin Terminator jigs with matching Jig Claw trailers, Smokin Green Devils Tongues and black/chartreuse Creme Super Tubes along 10 to 15 foot breaklines in creeks and pockets. Striped bass are fair drifting live bait or cut shad across deep points and channels at midlake. White bass are slow to fair vertically jigs 1/4 oz. Horizon Pirk Minnows in creek mouths in 18 to 24 feet. Crappie are slow on live minnows and Curbs crappie jigs in 18 to 22 feet over brushpiles.

PROCTOR: Water murky; 48 degrees; 11 low; black bass are slow. Striped bass are slow. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs behind the dam in 10 to 15 feet. Channel, blue and yellow catfish are slow.

SOUTH AMISTAD: Water clear; 55 degrees; 38 low; black bass to 10 pounds are fair on deep-diving crankbaits and 10 inch power worms on Carolina jigs. Striped bass are fair on slabs in Castle Canyon and the mouth of Evans Creek. White bass are fair on slabs and spoons under birds. Crappie are slow. Channel, blue and yellow catfish are slow.

ALAN HENRY: Water clear; 44 degrees; No fishing report winter storm.

ARROWHEAD: 43 degrees; No fishing report winter storm. West Arrowhead.

BRADY: No fishing report winter storm.

BROWNWOOD: Water stained;

47 degrees; No fishing report winter storm.

COLORADO CITY: Water clear; 58-60 degrees on main lake; black bass and crappie are slow. Channel and blue catfish are fair. Redfish are good on live shad.

FT. PHANTOM HILL: No fishing report available.

HUBBARD CREEK: Boat ramps out of water - no fishing report available.

KEMP: No report available.

NASWORTHY: Water clear; 44 degrees. No fishing reports.

NOCONA: No report available.

OAK CREEK: No boat ramps open; no fishing report available.

OH. IVE: Water clear; 44 degrees; 14.6 low; black bass are good on Carolina-jigs w/ 10" power worms or slabs in 35-60 feet on deep main humps. Crappie are fair on jigs tipped w/minnows in 45-50 feet in main channel trees. White bass are good on chrome or white slabs and tail spinners schooling all over channels (birds working schools somewhat but schools are visible on the surface). Channel catfish are fair in 65 feet on cheesebait. The road to Concho Park is under construction but the roads to Elm Creek have a new black top.

POSSUM KINGDOM: Water clear; 42 degrees; 4.63 low; black bass are slow on jigs in 10-20 feet. Crappie slow on minnows up the river. Striped bass are good on live shad on flats in early morning and in 30-40 feet in channels later in day. Blue catfish good on cut baits or big shad in 40 feet at edge of channels.

SPENCE: Water slightly stained, 42 degrees; Catfish and stripper are fair on cut baits suspended in 10-15 feet. No black bass reported.

STAMFORD: Water clear; 44 degrees; boat ramp out of water; No fishing report available.

SWEETWATER: Water slightly stained; 45 degrees; Few fishermen out; crappie and catfish are fair on minnows, worms and doughbait. White bass are fair near the dam on shallow running crankbaits.

TWIN BUTTES: Lake is less than 10% of capacity reports temporarily discontinued.

WHITE RIVER: 46 degrees; water 18 low; No fishing report winter storm.

RODEO LEADERS

Table listing rodeo leaders in various events: Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association, Women's Professional Rodeo Association, Barrel Riding, Steer Wrestling, Barrel Racing, Saddle Bronc Riding, Bull Riding, and Calf Roping.



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Knicks set record on defense, but offense lets down against Rockets

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Houston Rockets didn't need to score 100 points to beat the New York Knicks.

On a night that New York set an NBA record by holding its 29th consecutive opponent under 100 points, the Knicks' offense wasn't up to the moment.

Cuttino Mobley drove around Latrell Sprewell for a layup with 8.7 seconds left to complete a game-ending 7-0 run as the Rockets beat the Knicks 76-75 on

Thursday night.

"I don't care if those guys have the record, that's not the issue," Rockets coach Rudy Tomjanovich said. "The issue is winning the game."

The Knicks failed to score during the final 3:20 and had to improvise their final shot after Allan Houston failed to run into the backcourt to receive an inbound pass. Houston later admitted that he was unaware of a rule change effective this season that allows players to go into the

backcourt to receive the ball when it's inbounded from midcourt.

Instead, Larry Johnson got the ball and missed an 18-footer just before the final buzzer.

"We deserved to lose," Knicks coach Jeff Van Gundy said.

In other NBA games, Portland beat Charlotte 83-70; Atlanta defeated Golden State 107-96; Orlando topped New Jersey 101-87; Milwaukee got past Dallas 102-94; and Phoenix beat Indiana 93-85.

The Knicks held their opponent under 100 points for the 29th consecutive time, breaking the record set by the Fort Wayne Pistons in 1954, but it was of little consolation as they had their winning streak snapped at seven games.

The Rockets improved to 9-1 against the East; 9-16 against the West.

"I'm happy we're 9-1 against the East, but this was just a stepping stone for us," said Steve Francis, who had 22 points, nine assists, eight rebounds and three of

Houston's 12 3-pointers. Shandon Anderson had 17 points and Mobley 16 for the Rockets, who hoisted up 30 3-pointers and made 12.

Johnson had 18 points and Houston added 13 for the Knicks, who missed their final six shots. As a team, New York shot 31 percent.

Anderson's free throw with 45.7 seconds left pulled Houston to 75-74, and Houston missed on a drive with 20 seconds left. The Rockets rebounded and called timeout, then isolated Mobley against Sprewell on

the right side for the game-winning basket.

"Coach picked me to take the isolation, and I said if they double-team then we're going to kick it out for an open shot. They didn't double and my shot went in," Mobley said.

Trail Blazers 83, Hornets 70

Steve Smith scored 16 points, including nine in the fourth quarter, as Portland pulled away in the final period for its 10th straight victory.

CONE

Continued from page 1E

with Tomo Okha, Paxton Crawford, Tim Wakefield, Pete Schourek and Sun-Woo Kim. Boston's first four starters are Pedro Martinez, Frank Castillo, Rolando Arrojo and Hideo Nomo.

Cone had been with the Yankees since 1995, but he wasn't interested in returning to New York as its fifth starter next season. The

Yankees wanted to cut his salary, which was \$12 million last season, and offered a guarantee of only \$500,000.

"He wants to beat the Yankees," Boston general manager Dan Duquette said. "Why else would he sign with the Red Sox?"

He lost eight straight decisions during a 15-start winless streak last season and just seemed to be regaining some of his form when he

dislocated his left shoulder on Sept. 5 at Kansas City. Before last year, Cone had six straight winning seasons and had not had an ERA above 3.60 since 1987.

He threw last week for Duquette and manager Jim Williams in Florida.

"He looks fine to me. He definitely looked good," Williams said.

"His delivery looked cleaned up to me."

Cone won the AL Cy Young Award with the Royals in 1994, and has also pitched for the New York Mets and Toronto Blue Jays. He had been courted by Texas, Kansas City and Montreal, with the Royals proposing to convert him to a reliever.

"It was the comfort level of the manager and the

pitching coach, which was a major part of the decision," his agent, Steve Fehr said. "He turned down more guaranteed money elsewhere. This is where he wanted to be."

Cone is the latest reclamation project for Duquette, who also signed two-time Cy Young winner Bret Saberhagen when he was

recovering from surgery.

Cone was a leader on the Yankees as they won four World Series titles in the last five seasons, including the last three.

"I never heard him alibi one time," Williams said. "He probably could have had more wins, but I've never heard him complain about one thing."

PLAYERS

Continued from page 1B

Marlins. After failing to get to the majors, he returned to LSU.

Fletcher, winner of the Jim Thorpe Award as the nation's top defensive back, had seven interceptions this season, including a last-minute pickoff that preserved the Badgers' 21-20 victory over UCLA in the Sun Bowl.

He intercepted 21 passes in 32 games, returning five for touchdowns.

Bennett began the season as an unknown commodity trying to replace Heisman Trophy winner Ron Dayne. The four-time Big Ten sprint champion ran for 1,598 yards — third-best in the nation — and 10 touchdowns in 10 games.

Bennett acknowledged he could have used another year at the college level because of his inexperience.

but said the money was too good to pass up.

"I have a chance to establish myself financially," he said. "And there's always the chance of injury if I come back."

NFL scouts and general managers are enamored with Bennett's speed and several draft publications project him as a first-round pick.

Johnson and Evans, both juniors, became the second and third underclassmen to leave Auburn after being a major part of the Tigers' offense.

Leading receiver Ronney Daniels previously announced he would skip his final two seasons.

"I think this is my time to go on and take my playing career to the next level," Johnson said.

Johnson led the SEC in rushing with 1,652 yards, second on the school's all-

time list. He was selected SEC player of the year on offense by The AP.

Evans, who helped pave the way for Johnson with his blocking, rushed for 260 yards, averaging 6.2 yards per carry, and caught 19 passes for 158 yards.

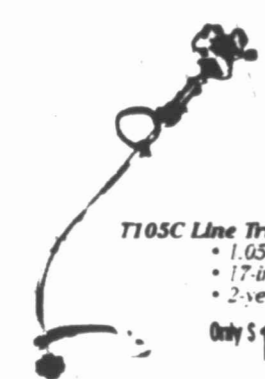
"My dream has always been to play in the NFL," Evans said. "This is all I've ever wanted to do."

Ferguson will skip his senior year after setting a Texas A&M record with 885 receiving yards last season. He was an All-Big 12 selector in his first season with the Aggies after transferring from Tyler Junior College.

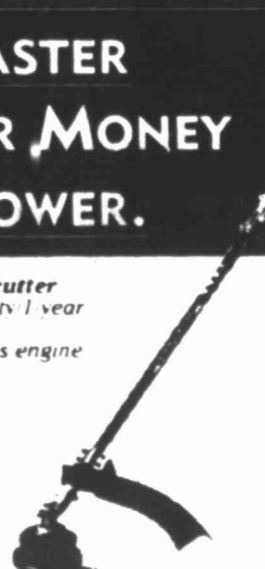
Meanwhile, North Carolina defensive end Julius Peppers, who led the nation with 15 sacks last season, said he will return for his senior year, as did All-Big 12 cornerback Quentin Jammer of Texas.

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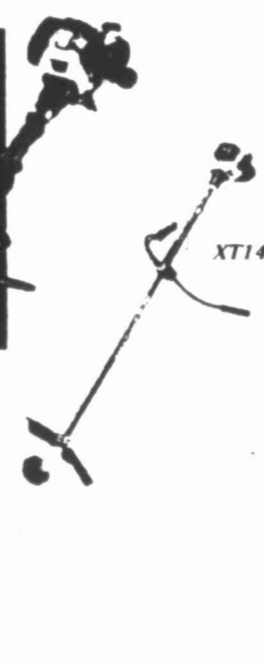
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BOOKKEEPING HONEY TAX SERVICE, INC. 1010 Main St. 915-263-7373 Bookkeeping, Payroll, & Fax Preparation for individuals. Partnerships & small Corporations. www.taxbeacon.com/honeytax	DIRT CONTRACTORS EARTHCO Dirt Contracting & Paving Septic System Installation TX Lic# 01866 TIM BLACKSHEAR 915-263-8456 102 Wooten Rd. Big Spring	MARQUEZ FENCE COMPANY All types of Fences Fence Repair and Concrete Work All Work Guaranteed 267-5714	Ron Hodges General Contractor Commercial Residential Cons. Repairs, Remodeling Painting Tile, Wallpaper & more. 268-9389	CRESTAR 268-8800 (fax) 268-8801 We make it EASY for YOU to get on the INTERNET BIG SPRING'S PATH TO THE INFORMATION HIGHWAY!!!	RENTALS VENTURA COMPANY 267-2655 Houses duplex 1, 2, 3 bedrooms. For rent & for sale.	SIDING Four Seasons Insulation and Siding Inc Locally owned. Big Spring's oldest full time siding company. We specialize in Custom vinyl and steel siding. *Overhang and trim siding. *Attic and wall insulation. *Thermo replacement windows. *Storm windows and doors. 100% no lien financing available. Our siding has a hail warranty on labor and materials 915-264-8610 no down payment	EARTHCO See our ad UNDER Dirt Contractors.	LUPE'S TREE TRIMMING More than 20 years of experience. Stump grinder available. For Tree Trimming and removal. Call Lupe 915 267-8317
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CELLULAR SERVICE LONE STAR PAWN Prepaid Cellular & home phone service. No contracts, credit check, deposit. Good Rates. 1601 E. FM 700 263-4834	B&M FENCE CO. All types of fences & repairs. Free Estimates! Phone DAY: 263-1613 NIGHT: 264-7000	HOME IMPROVEMENT GIBBS REMODELING Kitchen & bath remodels, ceramic tile, painting, sheet rock repairs & all textures door & ceiling fans. Free Estimates Call 263-8285.	LAWN CARE B & R LAWN SERVICE Weeding, edging, hedge trimming, trees & stump removed. Free Estimates. All work guaranteed. 264-8284	PAINTING For Your Best House Painting & Repairs Interior & Exterior * Free Estimates * Call JOE GOMEZ 267-7587 or 267-7831	FULLMOON ROOFING, INC. Big Spring & Surrounding areas Bonded & Insured FREE ESTIMATES No Money down COMPETITIVE PRICES 915-267-5478	H&S CONST. SIDING & WINDOWS Steel & Vinyl siding soffit & fascia custom windows Mobile 664-6113 Business 264-1138	WALL INSULATION Four Seasons Insulation and Siding Inc. Wall Insulation. All types of walls done from the outside with no structural damage 915-264-8610	

Big Spring Herald Friday, Jan 12, 2001

BUILDINGS SALES Steel buildings, n sell 40x60x12 was now \$10,871 50x100x16 was now \$19,990 80x135x16 was now \$44,990 100x175x20 \$129,650 now \$180-400	BUILDINGS RENT For lease, building on Hwy with overhead \$200/mo + \$1 Call Westex Au 263-5000	HOUSES SALES For sale by Lynn. 3 bdr. completely ren. Kentwood a 263-0786.	FOR SALE BY OWNER 2 bdr. 2 car carport, fireplace. 505 W. Drive. Call 268-1526	FOR SALE OR LEASE first Street, Coes bdr. 1 bth. 2525, 235-8257.	FOR SALE OR RENT 2 bdr. house with 2 acres. 3209 O. 263-4694. See Kathy Christensen	IN COLORADO CITY bth, brick carport, private storage shed, shop bldg, local park and dog center. 728-8811	MAD? Banks & mortgage loans credit problems? D Kirk 254-9 Texas Fair Rat	1999 Ford V-8, white, with leather.	1999 Ford V-8, amber, One owner.	1998 Ford Green/silver Boy. 36,900	1999 Ford Sporty and	1995 LI SIGNATURE EXCELLE	When BO LIN P CO
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BUILDINGS FOR SALE
Steel buildings, new, must sell
40x60x12 was \$17,500 now \$10,975
50x100x16 was \$27,850 now \$19,990
80x135x16 was \$79,850 now \$44,990
100x175x20 was \$129,650 now \$84,990
1-800-406-5126

BUILDINGS FOR RENT
For lease, small building on Snyder Hwy, with overhead door, \$200/mo + \$100/dep. Call Westex Auto Parts, 263-5000
Small building w/out on 4th st. \$150/mn + deposit.
Call Westex Auto 263-5000.

HOUSES FOR SALE
For sale by owner. 2602 Lynn. 3 bdr. 2 bth. completely remodeled, Kentwood addition. 263-0786.
For Sale By Owner: 3 bdr. 2 bth. 2 car garage, carpet, fireplace, & more. 505 Highland Drive. Call Tom @ 268-1526

For sale or lease. 409 first Street, Coahoma. 3 bdr. 1 bth. \$25,000. Call 728-8257.

For Sale or Rent to own. 2 bdr. house with app. 4 acres. 3209 Oasis Rd. 263-4694 See Ray or Kathy Christian.

In Colorado City 3 bdr. 1 bth. brick, C/H/A, carport, privacy fence, storage shed, metal shop bldg. Located near park and day care center. 728-8816.

MAD? Banks don't give mortgage loans due to credit problems. I Do! L D Kirk 254-947-4475 Texas Fair Rates

MOBILE HOMES
2 months Free Rent, Nice location w/pool, 30 ft. trailer, AC, awning, sewer, cable included. \$5,800. Call 267-1679
3 bedroom 2 bath ready to move in. Call for private viewing. 915-653-7800.
Free electric bill for 1 yr. 1-800-698-8003 See Habla Espanol

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

FURNISHED APTS.
Furnished efficiency, utilities paid. \$225/mo., \$100/dep. 267-8876 days, 267-5857 evenings.

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Swimming Pool
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Most Utilities Paid,
Senior Citizen Discounts,
1 & 2 Bedrooms & 1 or 2 Baths
Unfurnished
KENTWOOD APARTMENTS
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Office space for rent. All utilities paid. For more info call 267-9455
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1 bdr. apt. electric and water fur. pay gas. \$300/mn. \$100/dep. HUD ok. Call 267-1352.
Move In Special Water & gas paid. C/H/A, playground. 1 & 2 bdr. apt. homes starting as low as \$275
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Spacious, delightful 1 BR. C/A, super size closets, w/d connections, refrig. & stove, Non smoker, no pets. \$250/mo. Lease/references. See 611 Runnels. McDonald Realty.

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"Call Us For Our \$199 Move In Specials"
All Bills Paid
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263-5555 263-5000

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, Jan. 13, 2001:

You will be unusually creative with your management of funds. You make money with great ideas and precision. Others frequently seek you out for advice. Be courageous and break through self-imposed barriers. You gain because of your ability to move out of yourself. If you are single, romance flourishes because of your willingness to see others in a different light. Walk in someone else's footsteps. If you are attached, the two of you plan something you have dreamed about for a long time. You create something reflective of your union. VIRGO understands you.
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 might be disturbed by news. Make plans with a special friend, especially if it involves the arts. Opt for the nontraditional, and you'll certainly enjoy yourself. Tonight: Don't push yourself.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
**** You could be disappointed by another's reaction. Could this be mutual? Think about a key partner in your life and what you expect from him. A parent or someone you consider wise shares some unusual ideas. Do yourself a favor: listen. Tonight: Be as frisky as if you were a teen-ager.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
**** Deal with basics right away. If a friend or loved one is in a bad mood, help him as much as you can. Detach and don't take comments personally. Make plans for a movie or for something that helps everyone escape the moment. Tonight: Don't be hard on yourself if you can't turn another's mood around.
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
**** Listen carefully to someone who cares a lot about you. This person has many wild ideas that could take you in a different direction. Pace yourself, as you might be tired. Do only what you want to do. A friend will understand if you need to adjust your plans. Tonight: At a favorite spot.

UNFURNISHED APTS.
1 BR starting at \$175.00
2 BR \$275
Central heat & air \$99 Deposit
267-4217

UNFURNISHED HOUSES
2BR, 1 bath., CH/A, \$250/dep., \$325/mo. Also, detached large 1BR 1 bath apt. \$200/dep., \$225/mo. Lease & credit references required. Call after 5PM 267-5330 & leave message.

UNFURNISHED HOUSES
For Sale or Lease 3304 Duke
3 bdr. 2 bth. 2 living areas, fireplace, near school. Sale @ \$56,900 will pay closing-lease \$600/mn. \$500/dep. Daytime 263-0844, nighttime 263-0667.

UNFURNISHED HOUSES
Large 3 bdr. house & 1 bdr. duplex. For more info. call 267-1867.

TOO LATES
607 Elgin
Nice 3BR 1 bath, carport, CH/A \$415/mo. \$260/dep. 263-3689

607 Holbert
3BR 1 bath, garage. Newly remodeled. \$370/mo. \$260/dep. 263-3689

For Lease 4 room house with all furniture \$200/mn. You pay the bills. Call 263-3855 or 263-7648

Service master has a job opening. Janitorial position in Big Spring, 5-9, M-F. Call 915-685-3121

This land is for sale without mineral rights. The North 66 2/3 acres of the North 200 acres of the w/2 of section 49 block a. Bauer & Cockrell Survey, Howard Co. Texas. \$600 per acre. Close to Knott, Texas. Call 915-263-7648 or 915-263-3855.

Large farm house to be moved, 2 baths, hardwood floors, painted & paneled, built-ins. \$17,000. 915-699-2545.

Extra nice 95 Ford Explorer XLT, 4wd, leather, sunroof, CD changer, new Pirelli tires. Call 236-2616

1, 2 or 3 Bdrm Homes Sell Or Rent Owner Finance Consider Rent to Own 267-3905

PUBLIC NOTICE
ORDINANCE 58 AMENDMENT
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF COAHOMA, TEXAS DESIGNATING THE INTERSECTION OF CULP AND MAIN AS A FOUR-WAY STOP INTERSECTION, DIRECTING THE ERECTION OF THE PROPER STOP SIGNS (STATE LAW PROHIBITS THAT IT IS A MISDEMEANOR OFFENSE TO VIOLATE ANY SIGN PUNISHABLE BY A FINE OF UP TO \$200.00 UPON CONVICTION) AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION
3040 JANUARY 12 & 14, 2000

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Big Spring Herald Classifieds
Definitely Worth A Look
To place your classified ad, call
(915) 263-7331

HOROSCOPE

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
**** Curb any risks, both financial and emotional. You might not exactly be sure of what you want from a partner, but discussions help you see eye to eye. Make a must appearance, more for someone else than for yourself. Tonight: Your treat.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
**** You make everything seem easy. You could draw someone's jealousy if you're not careful. Take another in hand and help him through a difficult project or two. Reach out for someone at a distance. You might have been avoiding a discussion. Tonight: Your smile saves the day.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
*** Take a step backward. You might want to observe rather than tossing yourself in the middle of the day's happenings. You have recently pushed very hard. You could be exhausted. A partner chips in and does what you don't feel like doing. Tonight: Make it easy.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
**** Join friends and get together with loved ones. You could be disappointed by a financial matter. You might not be as direct as you need to be with a family member. What you think you say might be quite different than what is heard. Tonight: Where your friends are.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
*** You might wake up out of sorts. Think about what you want from someone who sometimes pressures you. Discussions about special plans, perhaps involving a sport of the season, lead to fun and frolicking. Let go of worries and invite others to join you. Tonight:
BORN TODAY
Actress Julia Louis-Dreyfus (1961), actor Charles Nelson Reilly (1931), writer Horatio Alger (1832)
For America's best extended horoscope, recorded by Jacqueline Bigar, call (900) 740-7444, 99 cents per minute. Also featured is The Spoken Tarot. Callers must be 18 or older. A service of InterMedia Inc., Jenkintown, Pa.
Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>.
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DEAR ABBY: I am the mother of two daughters, one of whom is 9 years old. The other passed away eight years ago just before she turned 3.
My daughter who died had Down syndrome and many other health problems. However, that is not the reason for this letter.
My other daughter is in fourth grade, and at open house for her class, her teacher used a word in her talk to parents that I found deeply offensive. She used it not once, but twice. Demonstrating to the parents a stretching exercise she has the children do midmorning to break the monotony in their routine, she said, "I know this makes me look retarded, but this is the way to stretch." My daughter reports that this teacher uses the word "retarded" often, as if it were an adjective.
I am unsure how to handle this. I don't want whatever I say to be used against my daughter in the classroom, and yet I feel strongly about the poor example this teacher is setting for the children. I considered sending an anonymous letter to her with a copy to the principal of the school, but I would like you to address this subject in your column. If you print this, I just might mail her a copy. — TWICE A MOTHER IN SOUTH DAYTONA BEACH, FLA.

DEAR MOTHER: It is deplorable that the word "retarded," as a synonym for "dumb" or "stupid," has become common slang (i.e., "That is so retarded!"). It shows a lack of respect for those who are challenged, and the person to whom the remark is directed may have a sibling or relative who is developmentally or mentally disabled.
Rather than anonymously mailing this to the teacher or penning an unsigned letter, I urge you to meet with the teacher and tell her

All eyes turn to you.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
**** Gather friends and loved ones for a mini-adventure. The distraction makes you feel good and allows you to recycle. Make your day's budget, and stick to it. You might feel like someone is going overboard. Worry less and enjoy more. Tonight: Try a new restaurant.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
**** Build on a partnership and share some of your special ideas. Someone demonstrates unusual caring. This adds to your sense of well-being and security. Stop and think about your limits. Another cares a lot. Discuss a potential change. Tonight: Opt for romance; opt for togetherness.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
**** Defer to another. Consider what is going on with a friend or loved one. Your sense of humor comes out with a child, but you might opt to keep your thoughts to yourself. Caring draws another toward you. Express your deeper feelings. Tonight: You're happier than you think.

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DEAR ABBY: I have been married to "Milton" for two years. Actually, we've been together for six years. We have two beautiful daughters, ages 2 and 4. Milton works full time during the day. I work full time at night. We hardly see each other.
I am at a crossroads because I think I am in love with Milton's best friend, "Herb." Herb and I have slept together, and I can't get him out of my mind. He has a girlfriend and two children.
I feel Herb is the person I have waited my whole life to be with. I know what I have done is wrong; however, I ache for him. I am torn between the two men, but I know we can ruin a lot of lives if we pursue this relationship. Therefore, I recently made up my mind to live my life with Milton and my kids.
Abby, please help me to stick with the right decision. — IRIS IN ILLINOIS

DEAR IRIS: Actually you didn't "wait your whole life" for Herb. You made a sizable emotional investment when you had the children with Milton and married him. I'm pleased you made the mature decision to stick with your husband. It is going to take time to get over this — but it was the right choice.
Another big step in the right direction will be to avoid Herb and his girlfriend or get them out of your life entirely. Also, you and your husband must get on the same work schedule and get marriage counseling. Marriages die from lack of communication, and unless you act immediately, there won't be much life left in yours. Trust me.
To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-size, 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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1999 Ford F-250 Supercab Lariat - White, V-10, all power super truck with leather. One owner. 53,395 miles. \$22,995
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1997 Ford F-250 Supercab XLT - Green/white, all power, one owner. THE HOSS. \$18,995

1999 Chevrolet Silverado Ext. Cab - V-8, white. Priced to move. 28,000 miles. \$20,995
1999 Ford Flareside Sport - V8, black, Lots of fun left. 17,500 miles. \$17,995

1998 Ford F150 Supercab XLT - V-8, Green/silver. Come drive this Bad Boy. 36,900 miles. \$18,995
1998 Ford Expedition XLT - V-8, maroon, 50,400 miles. !!! NICE !!! \$24,995

1999 Ford Ranger XLT - Green. Sporty and affordable. 44,902 miles. \$10,995
1996 Nissan King Cab XE - Silver, automatic, Great Economy. 69,912 miles. \$8,995

1995 Lincoln Town Car Signature - Green, all power. EXCELLENT CONDITION. \$9,995
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Teacher's use of hurtful words sets bad example

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DEAR MOTHER: It is deplorable that the word "retarded," as a synonym for "dumb" or "stupid," has become common slang (i.e., "That is so retarded!"). It shows a lack of respect for those who are challenged, and the person to whom the remark is directed may have a sibling or relative who is developmentally or mentally disabled.
Rather than anonymously mailing this to the teacher or penning an unsigned letter, I urge you to meet with the teacher and tell her

how hurtful her comments were to you and the reasons why. If that doesn't teach her a lesson she'll never forget, nothing will.

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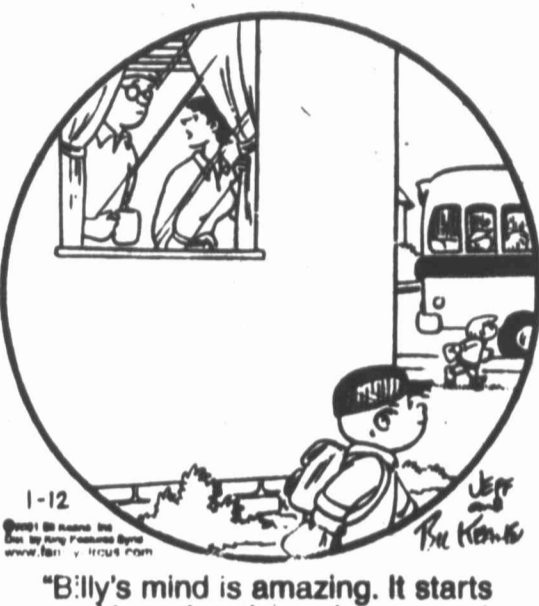
Table with 20 columns representing different TV channels (KMGD, KPEJ, KERA, etc.) and rows representing time slots (6:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:30, 11:30, 12:30) with program titles and durations.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"DAD SAID TO TELL YOU THAT YOU LOOK BETTER WITH LESS MAKE-UP, AND THAT THE CAR'S RUNNING."

FAMILY CIRCUS



"Billy's mind is amazing. It starts working when he wakes up and never stops 'til he's at school."

HAGAR



BLONDIE



B.C.



GEECH



WIZARD OF ID



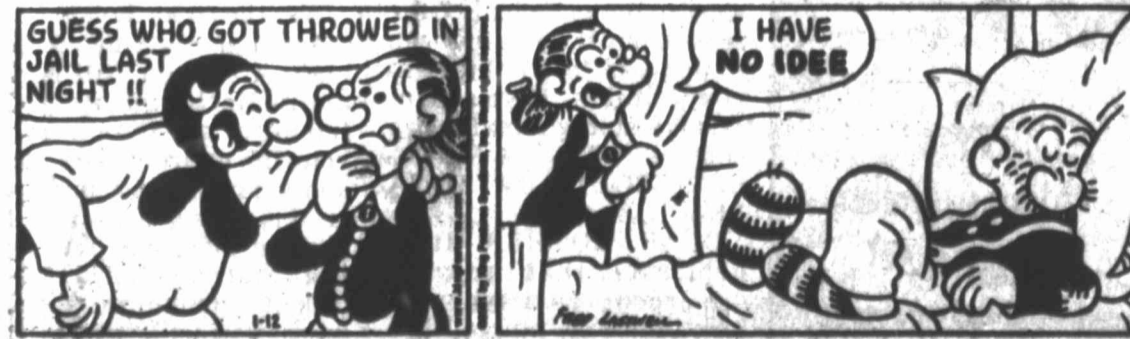
HI AND LOIS



GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILY



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

By The Associated Press Today is Friday, Jan. 12, the 12th day of 2001. There are 353 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Jan. 12, 1971, the ground-breaking situation comedy "All in the Family" premiered on CBS television. On this date: In 1519, Holy Roman Emperor Maximilian I died. In 1773, the first public museum in America was established, in Charleston, S.C. In 1915, the U.S. House of Representatives rejected a proposal to give women the right to vote. In 1932, Hattie W...

Caraway became the first woman elected to the U.S. Senate. In 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt created the National War Labor Board. In 1945, during World War II, Soviet forces began a huge offensive against the Germans in Eastern Europe. In 1948, the Supreme Court ruled that states could not discriminate against law-school applicants because of race. In 1964, leftist rebels in Zanzibar began their successful revolt against the government. In 1966, President Lyndon Johnson said in his State of the Union address that the U.S. should stay in South Vietnam until Communist aggression there was ended. In 1986, the shuttle Columbia blasted off with a crew that included the first Hispanic-American in space, Dr. Franklin R. Chang-Diaz. Today's Birthdays: Actress Luise Rainer is 91. Former South African President P.W. Botha is 85. Country singer Ray Price is 75. Singer Ruth Brown is 73. Singer Glenn Yarborough is 71. The Amazing Kreskin is 68. Country singer William Lee Golden (The Oak Ridge Boys) is 62. Former heavyweight boxing champion Joe Frazier is 57. Singer-musician George Duke is 55. Rock musician Cynthia Robinson (Sly and the Family Stone) is 55. Actor Anthony Andrews is 53. Movie director Wayne Wang ("The Joy Luck Club") is 52. Political commentator Rush Limbaugh is 50. Country singer Ricky Van Shelton is 49.

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Clues include: 1 Pacific Ten sch., 5 Indian corn, 10 Yearning, 14 Symbolic cross, 15 Dancer de Mille, 16 En-lai, 17 Acts mulish, 20 Craft of sci-fi, 21 Demands payment, 22 Green spot in sand?, 23 Join the band, 24 Offspring, 26 Go lucky-spilt, 29 Hanker for, 30 Buckeye State, 31 Dunne of "Magnificent Obsession", 32 Affirmative in Yokohama, 35 Stands firm, 39 Cereal grass, 40 Natalie and Paula, 41 "Do... others as...", 42 Eye shade, 43 Ciam's cousin, 45 Nightclub, 48 Held back, 49 Baker or Ekberg, 50 Aware of, 51 Was left idle, 54 Remains unmoved, 58 Verge, 59 Part of RFD, 60 Pocket change, 61 Stag, for example, 62 Requirements, 63 Candid, 8 Alphabet conclusion, 9 Seven before 8D, 10 Time of glacial dominance, 11 "We hold... truths...", 12 Bush appointee Powell, 13 Strumpet, 18 Wait on a red light, 19 Former FBI head, 23 Goad, 24 Fourth estate, 25 Chimed, 26 Danish physician Niels, 27 Sailor's shout, 28 Enrage, 29 Angler's basket, 31 Cove, 32 Attila's horde, 33 Pot contents, 34 Religious statue, 36 Beetle type, 37 Percolate, 38 Kick out, 42 Tea-party host, 43 Ore products, 44 Current, 45 Made crow sounds, 46 Cathode's counterpart, 47 Spree, 48 Stretch and pound, 50 Grimm beast, 51 Use scissors, 52 Zenith, 53 Afterwards, 55 Samovar, 56 Owed, 57 Bridal vow.

Thursday's Puzzle Solved grid with words filled in: RUSSO, ROAM, ALMA, OPTIC, IOLA, BEET, MOUNT, THERE IS NO, ENDGAME, GIVES UP, EVA, CANE, REASON FOR ANYONE, UTA, SOAR, SERIN, NHRA, NASAL, ABET, ANGLE, IDES, ICE, TO HAVE A COMPUTER, ELLA, ORR, PIERROT, SNUBBED, IN HIS HOME, CAINE, ARUM, IN IT, ENDOW, FEDS, MASH, SASSY.