

Merry Christmas!

BIG SPRING HERALD

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CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24, 2001

WEATHER

Today:



PARTLY CLOUDY

TODAY TONIGHT
30°-34° 20°-23°

Ho ho ho! Santa headed to Big Spring

In a press release Saturday, Santa Claus announced that he will make his annual Christmas Eve stop in Big Spring around 1:30 a.m. this year. Santa advised all children to be in bed asleep before that time.

In a surprise announcement, Claus promised that if he has any Christmas snow left over from supplying the ski slopes at the Salt Lake City Olympic venues, he'll bring a scattering with him to the West Texas area.

In related news, expect lows near 20 and partly cloudy skies with a slight chance of snow Christmas Eve, with highs in the low 30s and a slight chance of snow early Christmas morning.

WHAT'S UP...

TODAY

□ Senior Circle, 4 p.m., SMMC. Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. People 50 and over invited to participate. Call 268-4721.

TUESDAY

□ Intermediate Line Dance classes, 9 a.m., Senior Citizens Center. Call 267-1628.

□ Big Spring Evening Lions Club meets Tuesday at noon at Senior Citizens Center.

WEDNESDAY

□ Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. at the Howard College Cactus Room.

□ Senior Circle Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics meets at the SMMC cafeteria at 10 a.m.

□ Big Spring Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room.

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Volunteers from area churches entertain Wal-Mart employees and customers with Christmas carols. Pictured are Gladys King, left, Velmer Cooper, Jimmy Futrelle Chavon Jackson, Linda Walker and Kathryn Wiseman playing guitar. The group went to several businesses and nursing homes spreading the yuletide cheer. This is the second year for the Baker's Chapel AME Church's Christmas Caroling and Hayride. More than 50 carolers traveled in cars or on flatbeds to each stop.

HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody



Three-year-old Garrett Brownfield of Big Spring takes a few minutes to tell Santa what he wants for Christmas at the Big Spring Mall Saturday. The mall was full of last minute shoppers attempting to find that perfect Christmas gift before the holiday.

HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Codes

BSISD drops requirement for only clear or mesh type backpacks

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

Shopping for backpacks this Christmas? Many parents of school-aged children may be — the selection of backpacks available has increased.

Big Spring Independent School District administration will drop its policy of allowing only clear or mesh backpacks for the 2002-2003 school year and will allow solid backpacks on school grounds.

The spring 2002 semester will be a transition time for the policy, said BSISD Superintendent Murray Murphy, and students will be allowed to bring solid backpacks on school grounds.

"Students replacing backpacks at this stage can replace them with a backpack of their choice," Murphy said.

The policy, which has been in place for the past two years, came about as a proactive measure resulting from discussions and school safety concerns after the shooting rampage at the Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo., administration officials said.

Murphy and district's principals reviewed the issue of safety concerning



MURPHY

See BSISD, Page 3

It was a 'Classic' victory, all in good fun

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

When a group of handsome boys challenged a bunch of strong-willed girls to a contest the result was a win for the whole community.

Once again, the Goliad Cavaliers issued a challenge to the Classics to see which

group could collect the most goods for the Salvation Army's canned food drive and once again the boys fell to the girls' dogged persistence.

"Kids at this age have a giving spirit and when they are challenged by a group of good-looking boys you have a winning combination,"

said Gail Berringer, sponsor of the Goliad Classics.

By a slim margin of 27 cans, the Classics took the win by raising 628 to the Cavaliers 601, but both Berringer and Pasty Sanchez, sponsor for the Cavaliers, said the real winners are the people the students have helped.

"They are a great group," Berringer said. "We feel like in the competition we do great things for our community and that is what these groups are for."

Last year's competition brought in a little more than 1,300 cans and the boys

See CANS, Page 3

Cossacks take to the streets to help good boys and girls for a ninth straight season

By ROGER CLINE

Staff Writer

"And I heard them exclaim as they roared out of sight... 'Merry Christmas to all and to all a good ride!'"

The Cossacks Motorcycle Club played Santa again Saturday in their ninth annual food and toy drive, and this year the bikers gave away about \$3,500 worth of Christmas food packages, toys and bicycles, said club secretary/treasurer Jimmy Ruth.

"Turkeys, boxes of food, poinsettias, and of course stockings and toys for the kids," Ruth said.

The club collected 33 bicycles ranging from big 15-

speed adult bikes to miniature toddler models, scooters and skateboards, he added.

The club planned to deliver to about 30 families including 64 children Saturday, Ruth said. A few of the families chosen to receive gifts were not at home when the Cossacks showed up, but club members said they'd keep trying.

The families were very grateful to the self-appointed St. Nicks.

"Wonderful, wonderful," Ruth said of the recipients' responses. "Everyone's just real thrilled with us bringing the toys for the kids."

See COSSACKS, Page 3



Members of the Cossacks Motorcycle Club Big Spring chapter deliver food and toys to needy families Saturday. This year marks the ninth annual toy drive by the Cossacks, who have about 20 members locally. About \$3,500, including 33 bicycles, was donated to the cause this year.

HERALD photo/Roger Cline

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INS stops processing adoptions of Cambodian infants

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Immigration and Naturalization Service has suspended the processing of adoption petitions in Cambodia, citing concerns over bought or stolen babies being sold to American parents.

"INS' responsibility to determine that a child is truly an orphan must never be tainted by any action that results in the exploitation of innocent children by separating them from their biological families as a result of fraud, trafficking in human beings or other criminal activity," INS Commissioner James Ziglar said in a statement late Friday.

The agency is also reviewing the adoption process for Vietnamese children.

A spokesman said the INS has been concerned about these adoptions for some time.

"We want to be sure that we are not facilitating baby-selling or kidnapping to provide children to American couples," INS spokesman Bill Strassberger said.

In November, the United States refused to give visas to 12 Cambodian infants and one Vietnamese baby who had been adopted by American parents. U.S. Ambassador Kent Wiedemann cited an investigation that found the babies may have been bought or stolen from their biological parents.

The INS said Friday that the 13 families currently involved in disputes will be allowed to bring the adopted children to the United States if they agree.

"To obtain a legal U.S. adoption within two years and report their progress to the INS.

"To return the child to its country of birth if it is proven not to be an orphan, or if the family is unable to secure a legal adoption.

While Cambodian adoptions are in limbo, Ziglar said the INS will work with the State Department, adoption agencies and advocacy groups to ensure the legitimacy of international adoption procedures.

"I would also like to take this opportunity to remind families considering adoption that there are many deserving children who are U.S. citizens that are in need of loving homes," Ziglar said.

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Most of North America's

largest theme and amusement parks suffered declines in attendance this year, hurt by fears of air travel after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and a slowing economy.

Many smaller regional parks, however, held their own or had increases in attendance, due in part to their accessibility by car, according to Amusement Business, a trade publication.

"As far as the big parks, it was not a banner year by a longshot," said Tim O'Brien, a senior editor at Amusement Business. "The regional parks always say, 'We'll do all right in a recession or when the economy is bad.' That kind of was proven this year."

Overall attendance at the 50 most popular theme parks in North America dropped by 2 million visitors in 2001, to 173 million. The 10 largest parks — seven of which are located in Orlando — lost more than 7 million visitors from the previous year.

Epcot at Walt Disney World in Orlando recorded the largest drop in attendance, 15 percent, followed by Disneyland in Anaheim, Calif., down 11 percent. The Walt Disney Co. owns or operates five of the best-attended parks in North America.

The fallout from Sept. 11 could have been much worse, O'Brien said. Many regional parks close or remain open only on weekends in September.

Knott's Camp Snoopy in Bloomington, Minn., saw a 7 percent decrease in attendance, a drop attributed in part to news reports that said the Mall of America, where Knott's is located, was a possible terrorist target.

Busch Gardens in Williamsburg, Va., saw a 17 percent jump in attendance, to 2.7 million visitors, partly fueled by a new Ireland-themed section.

Overall attendance at theme and amusement parks will likely be flat next year, but regional parks should be able to build on their success, O'Brien said.

"A lot of the parks are spending money on creature comforts, nicer restaurants, shade, more park benches," O'Brien said. "The regional parks are looking for a hit next year at the gate."

Flight diverted to Boston after passenger tries to ignite "improvised explosives"

BOSTON (AP) — A passenger on a jetliner bound from Paris to Miami tried to ignite an "improvised explosive" in his shoe Saturday, but the crew and fellow passengers subdued him, authorities said. The plane, escorted by military jets, landed safely in Boston.

The suspect, identified as Richard Reid, was taken

into custody by the FBI. Officials said he was alone traveling on a British passport, which may have been fake.

"I'm told the flight attendant was drawn to him by the smell of sulfur from a lit match, and then challenged him as to what he was doing," said Thomas Kinton, interim executive director of the Massachusetts Port Authority, which runs the airport.

The flight attendant intervened after the man tried to light his shoe on fire, and the 6-foot-4 Reid resisted and bit her, Massport spokeswoman Laura White said.

Passengers subdued him, belting him into his seat. Two doctors used the airplane's onboard medical kit to sedate him, and the man's shoe, which had protruding wires, was removed.

Two F-15 fighter jets escorted the plane, American Airlines Flight 63, to Logan, where it landed at 12:50 p.m. with police, fire and bomb squads standing by. The 185 passengers and 12 crew members were taken off safely.

"They X-rayed the shoe and found that in the heel, there were holes drilled, and there looked to be a detonator wire, and the substances consistent with (the explosive) C-4," White said.

The shoe was taken from the plane, rendered harmless and taken to an FBI laboratory for analysis, White said.

White House officials monitored the situation throughout the afternoon and President Bush received two briefings, spokesman Scott McClellan said. Administration officials also consulted with acting Gov. Jane Swift's office.

White said Reid's passport, issued in Belgium three weeks ago, was "questionable." He boarded the plane without luggage or additional identification.

Reid was being interrogated at the airport by the FBI. The other passengers were also being questioned, White said.

The intervention on the flight "appeared to have prevented something very serious from occurring," Kinton said.

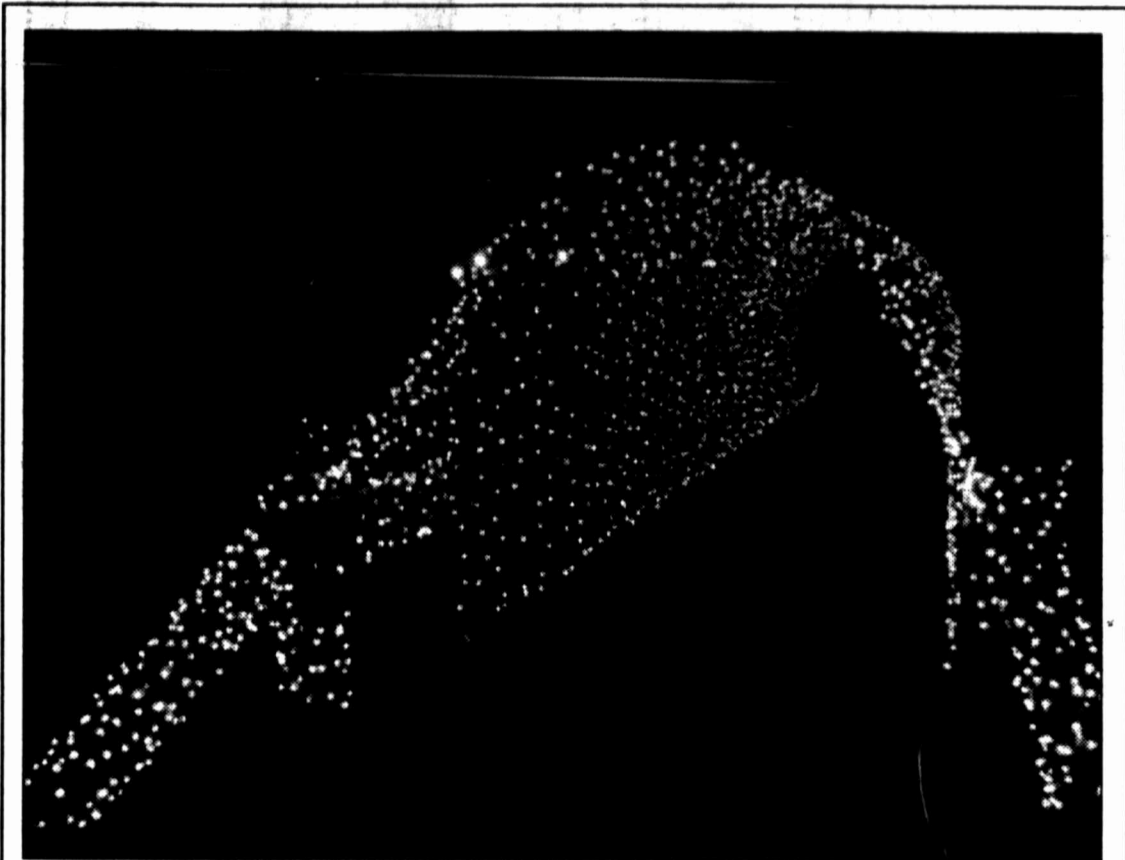
The FBI's Kim McAllister confirmed that one man was in FBI custody for "interference with a flight crew," but had not been arrested.

A spokeswoman for Britain's Foreign Office, speaking on customary condition of anonymity, said, "We are seeking normal consular access as we would with any U.K. citizen."

C-4 is a military plastic explosive. Its main ingredient is RDX, which is also used in fireworks. The whitish, puttylike substance can be easily molded by hand, and can be detonated if burned.

The explosive was used in the October 2000 bombing of the USS Cole in Yemen, killing 17 U.S. sailors and wounding 39.

A BIG SPRING AROUND THE TOWN



Bridges such as this one at Comanche Trail Park are included among the many displays at the Festival of Lights, which continues nightly through Dec. 31.

Pennsylvania antiques dealer pleads guilty to staging fake appraisals for TV show

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — An antiques dealer pleaded guilty Friday to staging phony appraisals of Civil War-era artifacts on the PBS program "Antiques Roadshow."

Russell Pritchard III, 38, of Bryn Mawr, also pleaded guilty to stealing a uniform from a Civil War museum in Harrisburg, Pa., where he worked, and defrauding Civil War collectors by giving them low appraisals on artifacts, then reselling them at much higher prices.

In one case, Pritchard and his business partner, George Juno, bought military antiques from the family of Confederate Gen. George Pickett for \$87,000, then sold them to the Harrisburg museum for \$870,000, prosecutors said. "Antiques Roadshow," produced by WGBH-TV in Boston, has people bring in their old or unusual items and get on-the-spot appraisals. Often, people are surprised to learn their item is extremely valuable.

In a segment shown in 1997, Pritchard and Juno staged an appraisal in which a man who claimed to have found a Civil War sword in his attic was told the weapon was worth \$35,000. WGBH said Pritchard and Juno knew

the man beforehand and had arranged for him to bring the sword onto the show.

Prosecutors said Pritchard and Juno staged the appraisal to get publicity and attract customers.

Juno pleaded guilty to similar charges in May. Pritchard could get as many as 135 years in prison and \$5.3 million in fines at his sentencing in April.

He has agreed to cooperate in a related case against his father, Russell Pritchard Jr., 61, the former director of the Civil War Library and Museum in Philadelphia. That trial is scheduled for Jan. 14.

The elder Pritchard, who is charged with theft from a museum and being an accessory after the fact, plans to defend himself at trial, said his lawyer, Thomas Bergstrom.

Prosecutor says two men charged with killing 33 mustangs in 1998 will plead guilty

RENO, Nev. (AP) — Two men accused of shooting 33 wild horses to death three years ago in Nevada will plead guilty to a misdemeanor charge involving one horse, a district attorney said Friday.

A lawyer for a third suspect plans to meet with prosecutors Monday.

The trial had been scheduled to begin Jan. 7 after more than two years of legal wrangling that included a change of venue and an appeal to the Nevada Supreme Court.

"It's a little bit frustrating because I wish the evidence would have tied them more directly to the shootings," prosecutor Sharon Claassen said Friday.

The mass slaughter of the mustangs in the hills east of Reno sparked international outrage at Christmastime 1998.

Two former Marines, Lance Cpls. Darien Brock, 23, and Scott Brendle, 24, and Anthony Merlino, 23, were arrested in January 1999. The two Marines were given less-than-honorable discharges while awaiting trial.

The three former high school buddies from Reno admitted they were in the canyon shooting guns on Dec. 27, 1998, but said most of the horses had already been slaughtered when they came upon them.

Merlino, a construction worker, admitted he shot one injured horse to put it out of its misery but insisted he played no role in the slaughter. He intends to plead guilty to the misdemeanor, said his lawyer, Scott Freeman.

"We were extremely confident about the trial, but ... it's difficult to risk life and liberty and freedom if the offer seems fair under the circumstances," Freeman said.

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Gollad Classic this year's ca Brittany Rosa Morgan Marti Phillips, Lance

CANS

Continued from

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Cavaliers we their parents' and one young with his motho to door with hi lecting cans.

Even with port and lots o Cavaliers faile more cans out thropic pocke boys showed t

Corps

By ROGER CLIN

Staff Writer

Having just stockings of needy children annual Angel Th the Salvation turns their atte ing the belli Spring's hunger annual Christmas Dinn The dinner, se to 1 p.m. Chris the Salvation Ar 308 Aylesford,

Christmas and "B to All!
Thanks for dining wi a most delightful—a delectable!—holiday
Santa Fe Sandwich

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HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody
Goliad Classics show a little attitude to the Cavaliers after the girls beat the boys in this year's canned food drive. Classics pictured are Samantha Whitehead, front left, Brittany Rosales, Desiree Yanez, Samantha Boehringer, Veronica Bravo, back left, Morgan Martindale and C.J. Nanny. Cavaliers pictured are Jason Walker, left, Hadden Phillips, Lance Gross and Thomas Canales.

CANS

Continued from Page 1

were determined to take back the contest. "What made this competition even more interesting was that there were actually some girls (non-Classics) who brought in cans to support the Cavaliers," said Sanchez. "When I asked them why they were supporting us they said some of last year's Cavaliers were friends of theirs and this year they wanted to help the Cavaliers win." Even former Cavaliers were ready to pitch in to stack the contest in the young men's favor, Sanchez said. Cavaliers were emptying their parents' cupboards and one young competitor with his mother went door to door with his wagon collecting cans. Even with outside support and lots of banter, the Cavaliers failed to pull 28 more cans out their philanthropic pockets, but the boys showed themselves to

be gentlemen after the totals were finalized. "In one class some of the Cavaliers stood up and applauded the Classics for a job well done, (after the announcement)" Sanchez said. Now its time to pay up. Quiche anyone? The Cavaliers will have to serve the Classics breakfast at a date to be set in January. "This year the girls want quiche and they want the boys to wear pink aprons," said Sanchez. Also on the menu, according to the girls: Homemade biscuits and, of course, would any good day begin without a glass of fresh squeezed orange juice? All is not lost for the for the dashing young men, who as part of their duties, will escort the young ladies to the breakfast table. "They guys seem to be really excited about that," Sanchez said. The Classics are sponsored by the Big Spring Women's Club. The

Morning Optimist Club sponsors the Cavaliers. Goliad Elementary collected more than 5,000 cans of food to replenish the Salvation's Army's shelves, adding to the more than 20,000 cans collected by area schools, said Capt. Russ Keeney of the Salvation Army. Individual school totals provided by the Salvation Army include approximately: Kentwood Elementary, 1,000; Moss Elementary, 700; Washington Elementary, 1,000; Bauer Elementary, 700; Big Spring Junior High, 2,800; Big Spring High School, 3,200; Anderson Kindergarten Center, 500; Marcy Elementary, 1,000; St. Mary's Episcopal School, 550; Sands schools, 500; Elbow Elementary, 2,000; Forsan schools, 1,000; and Coahoma schools 2,700. In addition, several schools donated money or toys, or adopted angels from the Salvation Army Angel Tree project, Keeney added.

Corps to host Christmas dinner

By ROGER CLINE
Staff Writer

Having just filled the stockings of the area's needy children through its annual Angel Tree program, the Salvation Army now turns their attention to filling the bellies of Big Spring's hungry with their annual Community Christmas Dinner. The dinner, set for 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Christmas Day at the Salvation Army's Lodge, 308 Aylesford, will include

ham and all the trimmings, said Capt. Russ Keeney. The annual event is usually a bit smaller than the corps' annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner, he said. "The Christmas dinner usually draws about 175 people, where we had more than 300 for the Thanksgiving Dinner this year," he said. Keeney added that the community is invited, either to partake in the meal or to help serve.

For more information call the Salvation Army at 267-8239.

BSISD

Continued from Page 1

the clear and mesh backpacks and the monetary burden on parents to replace them. "We are constantly evaluating school safety and evaluating things we have done," said Big Spring Junior High School Principal Rey Villarreal. "That is very important to us." The administration decided the clear and mesh packs do not necessarily deter students from bringing in items not allowed on school grounds. "The mesh and the clear backpacks was a proactive move made by the district toward school safety," said Mike Ritchey, high school principal. "Students can still find

ways to conceal items not allowed at school in the clear and mesh backpacks," he added. Elementary Principal Dee Owen and Villarreal both agree. "If a child wanted to bring something that is against school policy, they can find a way," Owen said. "I don't see it as a safety issue." "When you put something in a clear backpack like a book or sweater it is no longer clear," Villarreal said. "We still are very safety conscious," Ritchey said. "We have a strict dress code, we are constantly monitoring the school hallways and all visitors who are not a part of the school system are made to follow the proper procedures." "We feel that we can still

maintain a safe environment," said Murphy. Another aspect prompting the decision is the lack of durability of the clear packs. "We have found that the clear backpacks cause a monetary hardship on some parents having to replace the backpacks," Owen said. "Having to replace a backpack two or three times a year is quite a burden on some parents." Villarreal can empathize. As a parent of a high school freshman, his daughter's backpacks hardly stand up for a semester. "The most we have had to purchase is two in a year but sometimes the backpacks are at the point we are taping it so we don't have to buy another one," he said.



HERALD photo/Roger Cline
Cossacks Motorcycle Club members were out in force Saturday, delivering goodies to a number of local families.

COSSACKS

Continued from Page 1

The event, a joint effort with the local American Legion post, included donations from Wal-Mart, Harley-Davidson of Big Spring and Four Seasons Insulation and Siding, he said.

"The American Legion donated the turkeys," said "Cossacks" Road Captain Greg Bodin. "The Legion donated about \$1,000 worth of food." Bodin said the drive began nine years ago when the club members gathered 20-30 junk bicycles and recycled them for children.

"This year we have new and used bikes," he said. "Mostly new ones." Ruth said the Cossacks got lists of needy families for the event from two local churches. "Spring Tabernacle and First Methodist," he said. "They gave us the lists."

Christmas Wishes and "Bon Appetit" to All!
Thanks for dining with us. Have a most delightful—and delectable!—holiday season.
Santa Fe Sandwiches Big Spring Mall

SEARS CORRECTION NOTICE
On the cover of the Sears Hometown preprint dated 12/26/01-12/29/01, the #66165 Maytag range was incorrectly pictured. The correct range has only a single oven and not the double oven as shown. Also, the speakers on page 3, next to the #54611 Projection TV, are not included in the \$1699.99 price. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused our customers.

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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 A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Ken Dulaney
Publisher

Bill McClellan
News Editor

Is there a Santa Claus?

This famous editorial first appeared in The New York Sun, Sept. 21, 1897

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus

We take pleasure in answering at once and thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of The Sun:

"Dear Editor:

I am 8 years old.

Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Clause.

Papa says 'If you see it in the Sun it's so.'

Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?
Virginia O'Hanlon,
115 West 95th Street"

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, and ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies. You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you every see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what make the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, not even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

"Is there a Santa Claus?" is the question Virginia, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Phillip F. O'Hanlon, put to the editor of the (New York) Sun in September, 1897. Her Letter was received by Edward P. Mitchell, who turned it over to his associate, Francis Pharcelius Church, to answer.

With some reluctance Mr. Church undertook the assignment. The product of his fine nature, mellow wisdom and sound craftsmanship was the editorial article "Is there a Santa Claus?" - the most famous editorial article that has ever been written. It first appeared in the New York Sun in 1897 and has since been produced in every conceivable form, in every quarter of the globe.

The publication of Virginia's question and Francis Pharcelius Church's response is an annual tradition at the Herald. We hope you enjoy it.

World is a better place because of Jesus

If religiosity offends you, perhaps you better not read any further. This is a Christmas column, with no apologies. I've been thinking a lot about religion lately, trying to understand what it is about Islam that motivates so many Muslims to want to kill those who do not share their beliefs. I've spent hours reading the Koran, and that, in turn, has prompted me to think more about the Bible - the Old and the New Testament, especially the Gospels. And the more I think about it, the more in awe I am of what happened 2,000 ago, how the birth of a single child transformed the world.

The birth of Jesus of Nazareth could not have been more inauspicious. Forced by the Roman governor to participate in a census so that officials in Rome could levy taxes; His parents traveled to Bethlehem, a town far from their home, for His birth. There being no room at the inn, He was born in a hovel used to shelter animals and placed in a manger to keep warm. When He was still an infant, He fled with His parents to Egypt, to avoid the slaughter of all male children under 2 years of age ordered by King Herod, who feared that a Jewish child had been born in Bethlehem who would one day challenge his rule. Jesus, Mary and Joseph returned to Nazareth after Herod died, and the Boy led a quiet, uneventful life, becoming a carpenter, like Joseph.



LINDA CHAVEZ

He spent only three years in public life, preaching, tending to the sick, caring for the poor, gathering round Him an odd assortment of men - and women - fishermen, prostitutes, housewives. He spoke well of Samaritans, a group much reviled by the Jews of His time, and of tax collectors, enjoining His followers to "render, therefore, to Caesar the things that are Caesar's; and to

God, the things that are God's." He spoke out against revenge, "if someone strike thee on the right cheek, turn to him the other also; and if anyone would go to law with thee and take thy tunic, let him take thy cloak as well; and whoever forces thee to go for one mile, go with him two."

He urged His followers to be observant in their religious duties, but not to be "like the hypocrites, who love to pray standing in the synagogues and at the street corners, in order that they may be seen by men." Rather, He instructed: "Go into thy room, and closing thy door, pray to thy Father in secret; and thy Father, who sees in secret, will reward thee."

Jesus abhorred sin, but loved sinners, recognizing that all men are frail and easily led astray. When the Pharisees, a group of learned and pious Jews, tested Jesus by bringing to Him a woman who had been caught in adultery, saying "in the Law Moses commanded us to stone such persons. What, therefore, dost thou say?" Jesus replied: "Let him

who is without sin among you be the first to cast a stone at her."

Jesus' message was one of forgiveness and redemption: "Go thy way, and from now on sin no more." He made redemption possible - by His words and His deeds, giving His life to expiate the sins of all men. Jesus did not become King of the Jews, as some feared.

He did not seek to lead armies or rule nations, but His life revolutionized the history of the world.

His ethics - of forgiveness, tolerance and universal redemption - advanced the concept of justice, previously rooted in the dictum of "an eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth."

He taught us to love, not only our neighbors as ourselves, but "Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you. Bless those who curse you, pray for those who calumniate you."

The world is a better place - not just for believers, but un-believers as well - because Jesus Christ was born in Bethlehem that day so long ago.

He did not seek to lead armies or rule nations, but His life revolutionized the history of the world.

His ethics - of forgiveness, tolerance and universal redemption - advanced the concept of justice, previously rooted in the dictum of "an eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth."

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The world is a better place - not just for believers, but un-believers as well - because Jesus Christ was born in Bethlehem that day so long ago.

ADDRESSES

- **GEORGE W. BUSH**
President
The White House
Washington, D.C.
- **PHIL GRAMM**
U.S. Senator
370 Russell Office Building
Washington, 20510
Phone: 202-224-2934.
- **KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON**
U.S. Senator
703 Hart Office Building
Washington, 20510
Phone: 202-224-5922
- **CHARLES STENHOLM**
U.S. Representative
17th District
1211 Longworth Office Bldg.
Washington, 20515.
Phone: 202-225-6605.
- **HON. RICK PERRY**
Governor
State Capitol
Austin, 78701
Phone: 1-800-252-9600.
- **BILL RATLIFF**
Lt. Governor
State Capitol
Austin, 78701
Phone: 512-463-0001
; Fax: 512-463-0326.



War goes on: We must not harden our hearts

Who would have guessed in October that we would greet this holiday season with such a military rout in Afghanistan?

Remember the experience of the Soviets, cited over and over as a cautionary tale?

Remember the endless references to Vietnam and the warnings that a quagmire lay just on the other side of Peshawar?

What few understood then is how out-of-gate the Saigon analogy is by now. The Persian Gulf War, Kosovo and Afghanistan have proved how very smart these new weapons are. It's not just the precision of the bombs. The equipment for night vision, reconnaissance in caves and cold-weather warfare has made the United States

not only hegemonic but close to invincible in the air and able to fight on the ground with shockingly few casualties, especially when surrogates can be mustered.

Even so, we face this season devastated by loss and vulnerability and shattered innocence. On the offensive, we cannot be stopped. But our defenses are alarmingly fragile because, so often, we protect against the wrong things.

But it's hard to know where to look for trouble. In 1941, many in the Roosevelt administration expected the worst from Japan. None of them, however, could predict the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Three bloody years later, on Maui, not that far from the original catastrophe, a young lieutenant junior grade wrote this for the Naval air station newspaper, The Island Breeze: "How many would still cling to the long-cherished hope for 'peace on earth and good will among men'? How many millions in the shadows would listen to a philosophy of kindness and

mercy? Would the time ever come again when they would beat their swords into plowshares?"

"All of these questions lay heavily upon the conscience of Western civilization...."

"...out of sorrow and suffering emerges a larger strength, that out of darkness shines a new light, that the ideals of your youth can never die, that peace on earth is a real possibility, that good will among men is the earth's new hope."

That editorial was written by the father of Lee Cullum, Charles G. Cullum, then 28 years old. He has lived to see all the wars of the 20th century and now, Sept. 11 and its angry aftermath, replete with infuriating wonders: Whatever did Osama bin Laden imagine we would do after such an outrage? Did he suppose we would drop a few weapons on Sudan and Afghanistan and let it go at that, as we did once before? He believed, so he said, drawing on his knowledge of the construction industry, that the World Trade Center

towers would not collapse. Did he look instead for the disintegration of the American spirit, the dissipation of our will to fight back?

He misjudged us. Now we must not misjudge ourselves or our situation. We must not assume that our mission is complete once we have installed a new government in Kabul and dispatched Osama bin Laden however we can. Other work awaits us in other lands. We cannot cancel our commitments and return to the world we knew. That world is no longer available to us.

But we cannot embrace Sparta at the expense of Athens either. That Navy editorialist of 1944 put at the center of his thinking ideals, American ideals - freedom, democracy, constitutional law, peace. As we stiffen our spines, we must not harden our hearts. The war on terrorism must be won to preserve our hopes, calm our fears and make the world safe for decent enterprise, honest creativity, sacred expression and love.



Lots

HERALD Staff R

The Big Spring Chamber of Commerce has some helpful suggestions for those driving through neighborhoods neighborhoods neighborhoods Christmas decorations.

The Chamber's annual Christmas decorations contest is now open for residential and commercial entries in Howard County.

"It is worth the time to come a decorations," Johansen, K and Nancy Spun tough job of judging plays gracing arhoods and bu Johansen has a picks.

"Citizen's Federation has Workshop displaying moving figures or eight-foot-tall Johansen said will have a blast.

And don't forget the children to Christmas tree in Howard County that has snow orating the bo tree, Johansen

"Gail's Sweet fun and smells said. "The Texas Network is displaying patriotic colors.

Johansen is visiting Wells elegant holiday For the res test, Johansen's Cindy Longo

Craigmont was the best. L. D. carousel Christmas Princeton is a n said, along with Libby Uribe at whose patriotic honor of a brot

Those going Festival of L Comanche Trail

Ho, Ho, For You de 13ka Original

Open 9:30 997 E FM

Ma

Celebrate remember Such her an Mar

St. Ma

Ch 10: 1001 h

Lots of highlights in this year's chamber lighting contest

HERALD Staff Report

The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce has some helpful suggestions for those driving through neighborhoods looking at Christmas decorations.

The Chamber held its annual Christmas Decorating contests with 25 residential and five commercial entries throughout Howard County.

"It is worth taking the time to come and see these decorations," said Terri Johansen of the Chamber of Commerce board. "They are beautiful."

Johansen, Kelsey Battle and Nancy Spurgin had the tough job of judging the displays gracing area neighborhoods and business and Johansen has a few favorite picks.

"Citizen's Federal Credit Union has a Santa's Workshop display with moving figures and a seven- or eight-foot-tall Grinch," Johansen said. "The kids will have a blast."

And don't forget to take the children to see the huge Christmas tree at the Howard County Courthouse that has snow children decorating the bottom of the tree, Johansen said.

"Gail's Sweet Shoppe is fun and smells so nice," she said. "The Texas Workforce Network is decorated with patriotic colors."

Johansen recommends visiting Wells Fargo for its elegant holiday display.

For the residential contest, Johansen said Don and Cindy Longorio at 700 Craigmont was the best of the best. L. Dale Worthan's carousel Christmas at 1402 Princeton is a must see, she said, along with Arnold and Libby Uribe at 4009 Vicky, whose patriotic display in honor of a brother.

Those going through the Festival of Lights at the Comanche Trail Park might

want to top off the experience by driving by Stan and Sue Partee's home at 711 Belvedere. It features an impressive display of patriotic flavor.

Jesse Mince, at 907 E. 13th, has a gingerbread house display while Betty and Ricky Cain, at 2506 Carol, remind us of what the true gift of Christmas, she said.

In Sand Springs, George and Lola Sloan, 6013 E. Midway Road, have a helicopter display that is a must see. Frances Wiseman of 204 W. Main in Forsan has lights, lights, lights and Santa decorating her yard, Johansen said.

Its worth a trip to see Larry Bennett's display at 308 Echols in Coahoma at S. Service Road by the Quail Dobbs water tower.

Johansen said this year's entries were impressive as everyone received top honors.

The commercial inside display entries are Gale's Sweet Shoppe, 1706 E. Marcy; Workforce Network, 310 Owens; Howard County Courthouse, 300 S. Main; Wells Fargo, 400 Main; and Citizens Federal Credit Union, 701 E. FM 700.

Residential displays include from Big Spring: C.A. Harris, 308 Richie Rd; Stan and Sue Partie, 711 Belvedere; Arnold and Libby Uribe, 4009 Vicky; Patsy Self, 2408 Allendale; Robert and Wilda Langford, 1609 S. Main; Don and Retta Caldwell, 2807 E. Highway 350; Randy and Katy McKinney, 1314 Monmouth and Don and Cindy Longorio, 700 Craigmont.

Also Louis Valasquez and Melisa Limon, 906 Debra Lane; Jimmie and Kim Long, No. 2 Craigmont Court; Brian and Kristi Fontana, 719 Craigmont Ave; L. Dale Worthan, 1402 Princeton; Gwen and Arnold Collins, 806 San Antonio; Dan Lusk, 705

Highland Dr.; Mike and Amanda Blissard, 1716 Yale and Flora, Josh, Valerie and Aurelio, 907 E. 14th Charles and Marian Buzbee, 1504 Mesquite; Jay and Cathie Hildebrand, 2604

Ent; Kerry Fryar, No. 28 Brackeen; Jesse Mince, 907 E. 13th and Betty Cain and Ricky, 2506 Carol From the Coahoma community: Larry Bennett, 308 Echols (S. Service Rd. by

Quail Dobbs' water tower.) From Forsan: Van and Susan Gaston, 307 W. Fourth (next to Van's Well Service) and Mrs. Frances Wiseman, 204 W. Main (across from Forsan Baptist

Church.) From Sand Springs: Brad, TaNeal and Hannah Richardson, 8206 S. Service Rd and George and Lola Sloan, 6013 E. Midway Rd.

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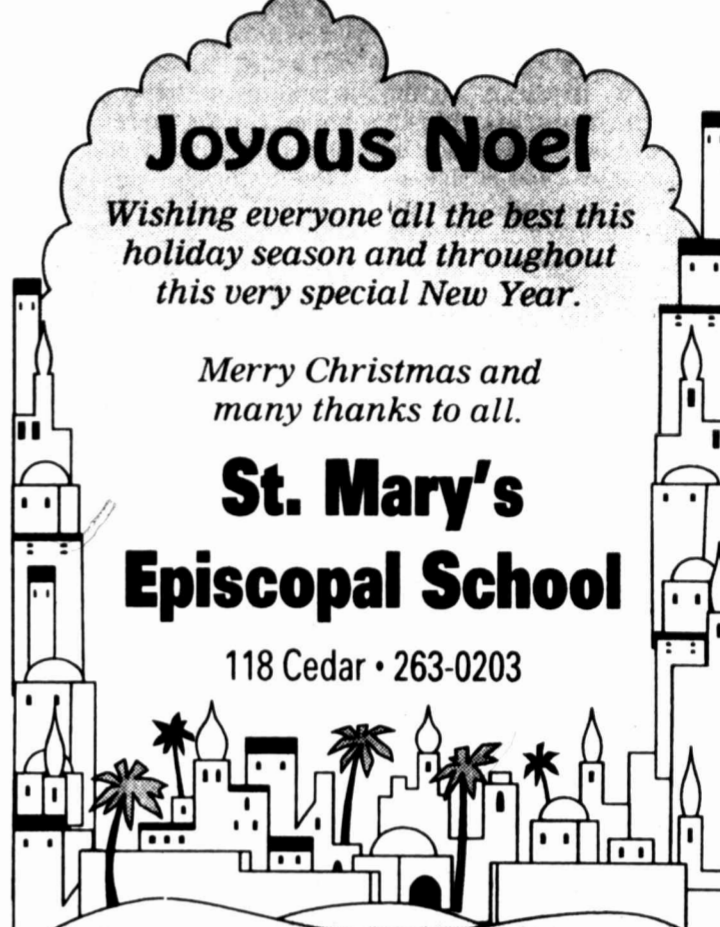
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915-263-0436 Steve Link

Joyous Noel
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Merry Christmas and many thanks to all.

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Episcopal School**
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<p style="text-align: center;">Save 50% Men's Long-sleeved Knit & Woven Shirts</p> <p style="font-size: small;">When you take an EXTRA 33% OFF already reduced styles. Orig. 20.00-42.00, then 14.99-29.99. SALE 10.04-20.09.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Save 50% Juniors' Knit & Woven Tops</p> <p style="font-size: small;">When you take an EXTRA 33% OFF already reduced styles. Orig. 14.00-32.00, then 8.99-21.99. SALE 6.02-14.73.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Save 50% Misses' Casual & Career Coordinates</p> <p style="font-size: small;">When you take an EXTRA 33% OFF already reduced styles. Orig. 30.00-60.00, then 20.99-41.99. SALE 14.06-28.13.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Save 50% Young Men's Ocean Pacific Tees</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Choose from a variety of styles, colors and designs. M, XL. Reg./Orig 18.00. SALE/NOW 8.98.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Save 50% Selected Handbags for Ladies</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Choose from a selection of hobos, satchels, drawstrings & more. Orig. 12.00-67.00. NOW 5.99-32.99.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Save 50% Misses' Velour Separates</p> <p style="font-size: small;">When you take an EXTRA 33% OFF already reduced styles. Orig. 30.00-40.00, then 20.99-27.99. SALE 14.06-18.75.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Save 50% Boys' 4-20, Girls' 4-16 Separates</p> <p style="font-size: small;">When you take an EXTRA 33% OFF already reduced tops & pants. Orig. 14.00-34.00, then 9.99-24.99. SALE 6.69-16.74.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Save 50% Ladies' Fashion Accessories</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Choose from a collection of scarves, hats, gloves & belts in a variety of styles & colors. Orig. 8.00-34.00. NOW 3.99-16.99.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Save 50% Misses' & Juniors' Dresses & Pantsuits</p> <p style="font-size: small;">When you take an EXTRA 33% OFF already reduced styles. Orig. 28.00-38.00, then 19.99-29.99. SALE 13.39-46.89.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Save 50% Misses', Juniors' & Men's Outerwear</p> <p style="font-size: small;">When you take an EXTRA 33% OFF already reduced styles. Orig. 40.00-160.00, then 29.99-119.99. SALE 19.80-79.20.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Save 50% Entire Stock Fine Jewelry</p> <p style="font-size: small;">14K gold & sterling silver earrings, rings, necklaces, bracelets & more. Selection varies by store.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Save 50% Ladies' Flannel Sleepwear</p> <p style="font-size: small;">When you take an EXTRA 33% OFF already reduced styles. Orig. 12.00-29.00, then 8.99-20.99. SALE 5.99-13.99.</p>

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Austrian village gets letters from children to Christ child

CHRISTKINDL, Austria (AP) — Thousands of children depositing their Christmas wishes at a post office in an Austrian village are going way above Santa Claus' head — appealing right to the Christ child.

In many European countries and elsewhere the infant Jesus, not Santa Claus, brings presents at Christmas. In the Austrian alpine town of Christkindl, or "Christ child" in German, the post office is buried in thousands of letters each year from all over the world addressed to the child in the manger.

But this year, more letters than ever go beyond asking for Harry Potter books, mobile phones or clothing under the tree.

"There is war between

Afghanistan and the United States," writes Laura, an Austrian, in fastidious but childlike letters, "That leaves me terrified."

The Sept. 11 terror attacks and their aftermath also weigh heavily on the mind of Markus, 11, from Germany.

"Dear Christ child," he writes. "This Christmas I wish an end to the war, that nobody else goes hungry that there is an end to all catastrophes!"

First opened for the Christmas season 52 years ago, the post office at Christkindl, about 100 miles west of Vienna, was originally meant to bring cheer to postwar Austria.

The post office received more than 40,000 letters back then, most of them

from adults seeking the special postmark — and in later postwar years, a special stamp bearing a Christkindl motif.

Since then, about 72 million letters from just about every country in the world have gone through the festively decorated Christkindl post office, housed near the village's looming Gothic cathedral. While the bulk of them are from souvenir hunters, the office in recent years also has received about 5,000 annually with Christmas wishes, mostly from children.

In a similar Christmas tradition, children send as many as 60,000 letters to Santa each year in the small Alaska town of North Pole.

In the initial postwar years, as Austrians rebuilt

the rubble, requests were few and simple — a cheap toy, a chocolate bar, a warm cap. The wishes got more elaborate as Austria prospered — as did the anxiety level of children writing about the world becoming a more dangerous place.

"Now about 20 percent of the letters we get express worries about war and terror," says postmaster Alfred Steinbach.

"It's clear that the vivid images generated by the Sept. 11 attacks and their aftermath are preying on kids' minds."

All letters get replies, most of them preprinted forms in English, French, German, Italian, Spanish or Dutch, saying the post office hopes the wishes will be answered.

But sometimes that just isn't enough.

Steinbach, 46, remembers a letter last year from a 12-year-old whose mother had cancer, asking the Christ child for help. He wrote back promising to pray daily for her. A new letter came shortly afterward, with the girl thanking him but saying his prayers came too late — her mother was dead.

"I waited that night till everyone went home, then lit a candle, sat down at my desk and grappled for the

right words," he says. "I told that girl that I would pray for her mother's soul daily — and it's something I still do today."

Postal worker Sylvia Breuer says calls are increasingly less requests for gifts and more cries of angst about a dangerous, unpredictable world.

"Particularly older kids say they are concerned about terrorism, war, famine," she says.

"All I can do is tell them to be brave — things are bound to get better."

Santa letters take a more serious, selfless tone

NORTH POLE, N.Y. (AP) — "Mommy lost her job after Sept. 11, 2001," 6-year-old Paris wrote to Santa Claus. "Daddy works two jobs now. Please help."

In another note, another tall order: "My daddy just died and I am so sad," wrote a girl named Lorie. "Could you please help us this year and make us happy again? I don't want any presents."

Organizations across the country that accept letters to Santa are seeing the effect of the Sept. 11 attacks on the Christmas wishes of America's children. Requests are pouring in for intangible gifts like safety, world peace and happiness, and some writers don't ask Santa to leave anything at all under the Christmas tree.

So says Ron Wood, a white-bearded Plattsburgh, N.Y., resident and the star attraction at the Santa's Workshop theme park in the town of North Pole in the Adirondack Mountains.

This Christmas, children's requests are taking "a more serious tone," said Wood, who has played Santa at schools and private parties for 41 years.

Andy Lambros of Santa Claus Online, a Southern California-based company that accepts e-mails to Santa, said about 70 percent

"I'm glad that I'm American and have a warm place to live. ... My wish this year is for all children to have peace and all the presents that they want."

— Jenny

of this year's letters feature selfless, intangible wishes.

"Less kids are thinking 'Me Me Me,' while the majority of children are thinking of the world as a whole," said Lambros, whose company receives thousands of Santa e-mail messages daily.

One girl, identified only as "Jenny," wrote: "I'm glad that I'm American and have a warm place to live. ... My wish this year is for all children to have peace and all the presents that they want."

The letters reflect children's "overwhelming need" to feel safe and secure

in an uncertain post-Sept. 11 world, said Albany-area social worker Vibetta Sanders.

"They are concerned for their entire family, especially if a child has a parent living in the city or working in possible target jobs, like with the state," she said.

Lorie, who was only identified by that name, was also among the children who sent e-mails to Santa Claus Online. Paris, who also didn't give a last name, wrote a letter the Santa's Workshop — one of more than 1,000 received.

Lynn Gaffney, a secretary at the theme park, said more of the letters than usual include a return address, perhaps because of awareness of anthrax scares.

Gaffney said fire trucks and rescue figures are popular items on kids' wish lists.

Lindsay Seymour doesn't want any gifts left under the tree. To her, Christmas normally means "love, joy and hope" — but this year, she writes, "it also means sadness."

"Sadness that some children don't have parents because of the World Trade Center (terrorist attacks)," explained her mother, Amy Seymour.

LeAdelle Phelps, a psychology professor at the

University of Buffalo, believes children's heightened concern for others and worry over their safety "is probably very short-lived," although that varies by kids' age and how people around them were affected by the attacks. She predicted that by next Christmas, Santa letters will be back to normal.

Sanders, the social worker, isn't so sure.

"Being in New York state takes on a different dynamic. Even in the upstate, the possibility of someone knowing someone (that's a victim), by however many degrees of separation, is pretty significant," she said.

Drunk drivers face higher fines in Corpus Christi

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — In Corpus Christi, there's a holiday special for anyone caught driving while intoxicated.

Instead of the usual \$500 fine for first-time offenders, prosecutors will recommend that drunk drivers caught between now and Jan. 2 be assessed fines of \$2,000 and more than \$1,000

in court costs and program fees, District Attorney Carlos Valdez said.

The district attorney will recommend the maximum fine of \$4,000 for second-time offenders and \$10,000 for third-time offenders.

Flanked by law officers of various agencies at a news conference, Valdez said he hopes the increased fines

will convince people to plunk down \$20 for cab fare instead of driving drunk.

Most DWI arrests end with a plea agreement, Valdez said. Normally his office offers a fine of less than the maximum of \$2,000 for first-time offenders.

That will change for those caught during this holiday season.

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Big Spring Independent School District
Financial Statement for the Year Ending August 31, 2001

	Governmental Fund Types			Totals
	100-199 General Fund	200-499 Special Revenue Fund	500-599 Debt Service Fund	August 31, 2001
REVENUES:				
Local and Intermediate Sources	\$10,064,699	\$ 477,106	\$ 505,388	\$11,047,193
State Program Revenues	11,951,341	455,201	443,126	12,849,668
Federal Program Revenues	109,822	3,182,547		3,292,369
Total Revenues	\$22,125,862	\$ 4,114,854	\$ 948,514	\$27,189,230
EXPENDITURES:				
Current:				
Instruction & Instructional Related Services	\$13,662,293	\$ 2,339,165	\$	\$16,001,458
Instructional and School Leadership	1,741,631	20,324		1,761,955
Support Services - Student (Pupil)	2,359,750	1,740,678		4,100,428
Administration Support Services	885,444			885,444
Support Services - Nonstudent Based	3,655,345	55,926		3,711,271
Debt Services	212,350	20,254	979,023	1,211,627
Capital Outlay	1,123,667			1,123,667
Total Expenditures	\$23,640,480	\$ 4,176,347	\$ 979,023	\$28,795,850
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	\$ (1,514,618)	\$ (61,493)	\$ (30,509)	\$ (1,606,620)
Other Financing Sources:				
Proceeds from Sale of Fixed Assets	279			279
Operating Transfers In		80,000		80,000
Total Other Financing Sources	\$ 279	\$ 80,000		\$ 80,279
Other Financing Uses:				
Operating Transfers Out	80,000			80,000
Total Other Financing Uses	\$ 80,000			\$ 80,000
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	\$ (79,721)	\$ 80,000		\$ 279
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues and Other Resources Over (Under) Expenditures and Other Uses	\$ (1,594,339)	\$ 18,507	\$ (30,509)	\$ (1,606,341)
Fund Balance - September 1, 2000 (Beginning)	4,456,916	67,083	147,120	4,671,119
Increase (Decrease) in Fund Balance	39,258	(805)		38,453
Fund Balance - August 31, 2001 (Ending)	\$ 2,901,835	\$ 84,785	\$ 116,611	\$ 3,103,231

My Favorite Christmas Memory

By Britanni

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My Favorite Christmas Memory from the fifth graders at Kentwood

Christmas Memory
By Brittani
My very favorite Christmas memory is when I was about 5 years old. The night of Christmas Eve my aunts were in the dining room with my grandma and mom they had a huge pigs head on the table so they could make tamales for our diner. While the ladies were in the kitchen cooking the guys were in the living room joking around. All my cousins and I were in on of the extra bedrooms in my grandma's house playing.

My favorite Memory!!!
Chelsea #3
My favorite Christmas memory is when I went to spend Christmas in Dallas with my sister. On Christmas Eve all of us kids were in the living room watching t.v. When our mothers told us to go to my nephew's & niece's room for a surprise!! So we went. And when we came out there was a knock on the door!! My sister opened the door and it was Santa Claus!! I knew it was my uncle but didn't want to ruin the surprise so didn't say anything!!! He gave us each a present!! And that is my favorite Christmas memory!!!

My Favorite Christmas Memory
Chris Brooks
My favorite Christmas memory is when I went to California. I got alot of good stuff like basketball cards and money. I went to California to see my mom's side of the family and all my little cousins. It was really fun!

Cameron Hughey
My favorite Christmas memory is when I was spending the night at my Great Grandma's house and I kept wishing that it would snow. And when I woke up to run for the presents I looked out the window and it was it was snowing. That's my favorite Christmas memory!

My favite Christmas Memory
Brianna
My favite Christmas memory is the first time I rode in the prade. I invted a friend her name is Saige. We rode in the firetruck it was called tina. We had a great day. We also got to through candy. The prade went on for ever. It was geting cool! The front seat were empty so Saige and I moved up front to get warm. So that is my favite Chistmas memory.

My Christmas Memory
My favorite Christmas memory was last year. It was at my Mam-maw and Pappaw's house in Lindale. My whole family was there. Aunt Jill, who lived in Louisiana, was there. Everybody came a couple days after Christmas and we opened presents. After that everybody, except for the Elliots who lived 30 minutes away stayed to celebrate New Year's Day too.

My favate Christmas memory is when I got my rats. We drove to Milland's Pet's Mark and wanted to get hamsters. When we asks the assiant she said rats are better than Hamsters so, we got rats. And thier Birthday is December 26. I love them so much. Nellie and Shelby.

Kaci Woolf
My favorite Christmas Memory is when I was little my Memaws friend Joe dressed up like Santa Clause. She made me cry at first because I did not know who she was. Then when I got to know she made me

Lanny
My favorite Christmas My favorite Christmas was when I was about 3 or 4. I got a big balloon bell and a dog chair. Me and Papaw were sitting by the tree opening presents. I was sitting in my dog chair. I would rock in my dog chair. I would fall backwards and I couldn't get up. I did that a bunch. I called the big bell Misser Bell. I would say "I love mama, daddy, papaw and Misser Bell. I was opening one present and it was a shirt in a camera box and I said "I got a camera!!!" that was my favorite Christmas

laugh a lot.
Cade
My favorite Chritmas memory was when my forein exchanged student from Germany came. We stuck our shoe outside the door. When we woke up there was candy & toys in it. My brother aslo opened all his presents when my mom & dad were gone and he got in big trouble.

M'Lyn Swinney
My favorite Christmas memory is when my family went to Ruidoso, New Mexico we went skiing and it was my first time to even put on a pair of skies. I was so afraid I might fall head first down a mountain like on TV.
So Mom and Dad got me a skiing instructor. He was so fun I learned how to ski and I also made new friends to I can ski without poles now. And I haven't been skiing since. Our cabin was right next to another cabin they were all together. We never stayed in our cabin we always were outside skiing

Stephen
My Christmas Memory I am going to tell you about my Christmas memey.
In 1997 I went to hofmans candie shop with a freind. I saw Santa and a cool christ-

mas display. One of the displays was a large model train display. It had pine trees, a bale, and a train. It was fun.
I hope you liked that story. I liked the trip that I had.

Tyler Chesworth
My favorite Christmas memory is when I was in the second grade and I sent Santa claus a christmas letter and I asked for a playstation and I got a playstation from santa claus and my grandparents game me some playstation games and it was really cool.

Ariel Johnson
My favorite Christmas memory is when I got my dog Sassy. I saw the box move and I got kind of scared so I asked mom to open it for me and thier she was the most cutiest dog I've ever seen. I loved her. I jumped up and down with joy it was my favorite memory!

Kara J. Fraley
My Favorite Christmas Memory
My favorite Christmas memory is when my family checked into the Worthanting Howtel in down town Fort Worth. Me and My sister had the most beautiful room in the world. After we eate Dinner in the mall we went iceskating it was so much fun. After, we went to

the room. Then my dad said "lets go down stair and we did and out side was a carriage lined with red velvet with a driver and 4 white horses waiting to pull us but that is not the best part the best part is that inside the carage was a man with belly that shoooked like a bowl ful of jelly aka Santa Clause he was waiting for us so we would tell him what we want-

ed for Christmas.
The End
Alicia Bess
My Christmas Memory is when my sister and brother came for the holidays. Shena and I helped my mom with cooking. The house filled with the smele of greens, black-eye peas, turkey, yams and wild rice, yum! Corey and I played!

HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!
Hope Santa is very good to you this year. Many thanks for being so good to us.
BIG SPRING AUTO GLASS
110 Johnson
267-5247

AFTER CHRISTMAS SALE
Sale Starts Wednesday, December 26th
Door Opens at 10:00 am
50% off
Entire Stock Christmas Items And Other Merchandise
Happy Holidays
Suggs Hallmark
Inside Big Spring Mall - 263-4444

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IN BRIEF

Youth basketball sign-ups under way

Registration for the newly-formed Big Spring Youth Basketball League for the 14-and-under boys division have been extended until Dec. 29 at the Big Spring Family YMCA, 801 Owens.

The BSYBL is a merger of Big Spring's two previous youth basketball programs — the Big Spring Youth Basketball Association and the YMCA of Big Spring.

Registration for the program is \$20 per child. Each child will receive a league T-shirt and an award at the completion of the season. Games will be played on Saturdays between Jan. 12 and March 2.

The league's emphasis will be on skill development, participation, sportsmanship and fun.

For more information, call 267-8234.

YMCA expanding gymnastics program

The YMCA gymnastics program has expanded its field of classes to include cheerleading, boys gymnastics and a "Toddler Time," in addition to its traditional gymnastics classes for girls.

For more information, call Leslie Northrup at 267-8234.

Grant Teaff gets

his greatest honor

WACO (AP) — Since retiring from coaching almost a decade ago, Grant Teaff has been flooded with enough awards and honors to fill up Floyd Casey Stadium tenfold. But this latest one tops them all.

"This is the crescendo," said Teaff, who was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame this month in New York along with fellow ex-coaches Barry Switzer of Oklahoma and Bill Yeoman of Houston.

"They tell me only 140 coaches have been inducted, and there've been a lot of coaches to come down the road. So it's a tremendous honor. It's one of those things where you've just got to pinch yourself."

Teaff, who led Baylor to 128 wins, two Southwest Conference titles and eight bowl bids from 1972-92, said he realized how elite a fraternity the Hall was when he heard the name of one of the players being inducted.

"They mentioned this fellow named (John) Outland, who played from 1895 to 1899," Teaff said. "He's the guy the Outland Trophy is named after. It only took him 102 years to get in the Hall of Fame. When they said that I thought, 'Boy, this is a pretty tough group to get into.'"

It was a whirlwind trip for Teaff. The executive director of the American Football Coaches Association, Teaff attended several board meetings and the Heisman Trophy award presentation as well.

"I've attended the Hall of Fame banquets before, and they're always very moving," Teaff said. "It was just an extraordinary couple of days."

The room in the famous Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, where the banquets have been held for 44 years, was filled with a virtual who's-who of college football dignitaries. But what made the evening even more magical for the former coach was the presence of family members, a contingent from Baylor that included university President Robert Sloan.

Park agrees to \$65 million, 5-year contract with Rangers

ARLINGTON (AP) — The pitching-poor Texas Rangers grabbed the best arm in the free agent market, agreeing Saturday to a \$65 million, five-year contract with Chan Ho Park.

Park, a 28-year-old right-hander, went 15-11 with a 3.50 ERA last season for the Los Angeles Dodgers. He joins a Texas team that had a major league-worst 5.71 ERA and was last in the AL West.

Texas, which went 73-89 and finished 43 games behind division champion Seattle, has been busy in

the offseason. New general manager John Hart has added pitchers John Rocker, Dave Burba, Todd Van Poppel and Jay Powell, traded starter Darren Oliver to Boston for outfielder Carl Everett and let go of former 20-game winner Rick Helling.

Park figures to earn even more during the contract. He could opt out of the deal after next season and become a free agent once again, but Texas can eliminate that right by agreeing before next Nov. 10 to make an additional \$6 million pay-

ment. Park's contract calls for salaries of \$11 million next season, \$12 million in 2003, \$13 million in 2004, \$14 million in 2005 and \$15 million in 2006.

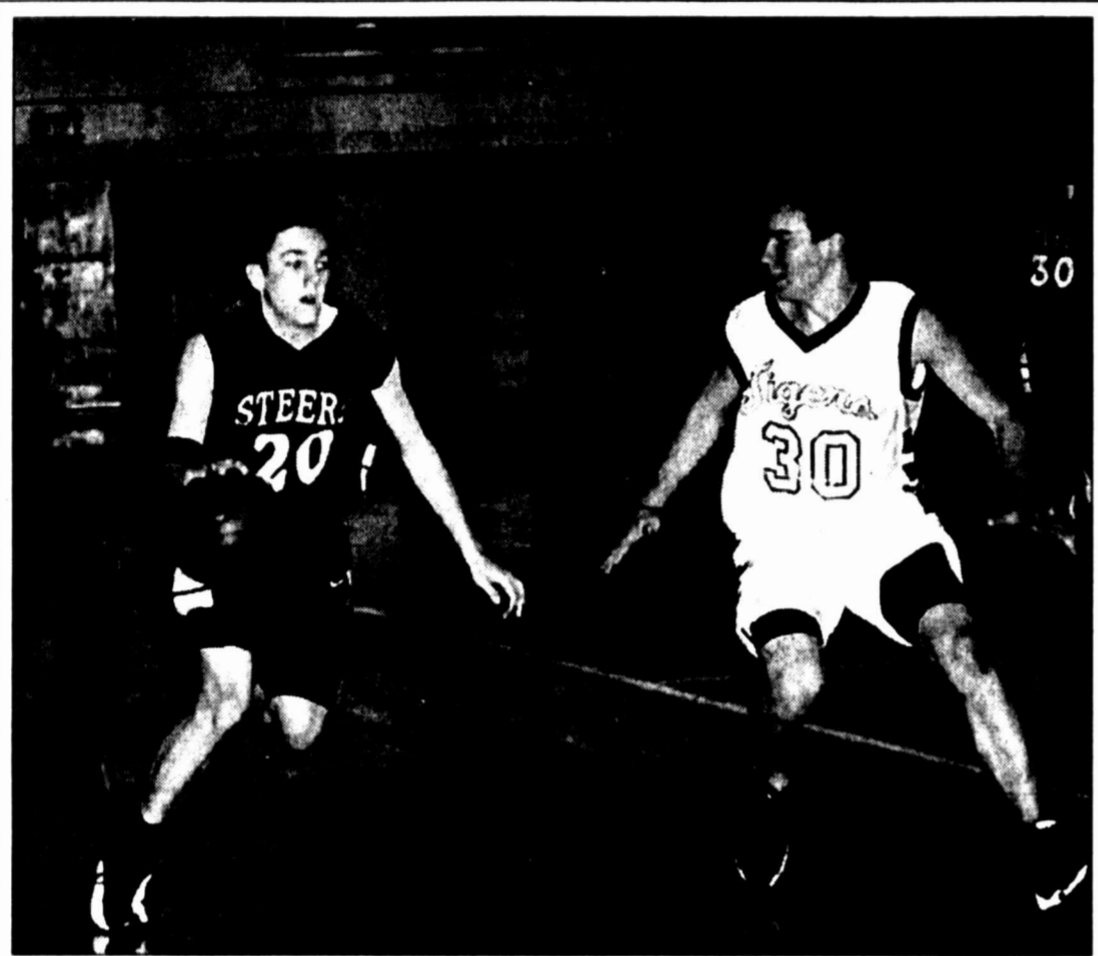
Based on the current guaranteed total of the contract, Park has an average salary of \$13 million a season, sixth among pitchers behind the Yankees Roger Clemens (\$15.45 million), Colorado's Mike Hampton (\$15,125,000), the Dodgers' Kevin Brown (\$15 million), the Yankees' Mike Mussina (\$14.75 million) and

Arizona's Randy Johnson (\$13.1 million).

Park was represented by agent Scott Boras, who last year negotiated a record \$250 million, 10-year deal between the Rangers and shortstop Alex Rodriguez.

Park, 80-54 since joining the Dodgers in 1994, held opponents to a .215 batting average over the past two seasons, second in the major leagues behind Johnson (.214).

Los Angeles filled a spot in its rotation by signing a \$13.75 million contract with Hideo Nomo.



Big Spring's Clayton Weaver (20) brings the ball up the court during the Steers' 55-51 loss to Snyder during their District 4-4A opener last week. The Steers will return to action Thursday when they take part in the Lamesa Invitational Basketball Tournament.

Bowl games draw fans, big money

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — This is the best year for the Sugar Bowl since it last hosted the national championship game.

Tickets are impossible to get — the sellout took just a few hours after LSU won the Southeastern Conference title game, and hotels and restaurants are filling up fast.

"I guess our first thought when we heard that LSU and Illinois were coming was that it would not be good for the hotel business," said Steve Ferran, general manager of the Omini Royal Orleans. "But our experience has been very good. This is going to be one of our best games in a while."

The Sugar Bowl sold 72,000 tickets for their game between No. 12 LSU and No. 7 Illinois on Jan. 1 at the Superdome. Each school had a 15,000 allotment. LSU has received more than 50,000 requests for tickets.

"Our phone has been ringing incessantly," said Jeff Hundley, associate executive director of the Sugar Bowl. "It's a great feeling."

Last year, the Sugar Bowl matched Florida and Miami and sold only 64,000 tickets.

"It's the first time all four BCS bowls have sold out," Hundley said. "I think it's because we had some things fall into place like games that had regional interest." Although most LSU fans will be driving in from locations one or two hours away, a number of school alumnae from around the country are coming to town, Ferran said.

"We're getting a lot of LSU people from Atlanta, Houston, places like that," Ferran said. "A lot of them don't have tickets but are coming anyway. They just

want to be in on the party around the bowl."

Rooms at the Omni are priced at \$159 to \$179 each, depending on whether it is a one-, two- or three-night stay. The 350-room hotel is sold out for New Year's Eve, and 90 percent full for Dec. 30, Ferran said.

The New Orleans Bowl will played its inaugural game hampered by both the economic downturn and a pair of teams with less than stellar records.

North Texas (5-6), the Sun Belt Conference champion, hosted the third place finisher in the Mountain West Conference, Colorado State (6-5).

North Texas sold about 6,000 tickets and Colorado State about 5,000, Sun Belt spokesman Tom Burnett said. In addition bowl sponsors and others, including sheriffs from 10 parishes, bought tickets for youth groups and the bowl offered a \$10 youth ticket in the end zone, which sold out.

The Sun Belt, which added football for the first time this year, sees the bowl game as a chance for member schools to build their programs. Conference commissioner Wright Waters said in that regard the bowl has been a success.

"We haven't let other people define our success," Waters said. "Our plan was to stage a bowl game that our schools and their fans would enjoy so they would spread the word on what a good time they had here."

Waters said the Sun Belt expects to break even. They also expect ESPN to renew its contract for the game for next year.

"I think this game will just get better and better," Waters said.

McElrath, Shavies in Price's doghouse over Dawg House

SPokane, Wash. (AP) — Washington State defensive end Fred Shavies and wide receiver Nakoa McElrath won't start, but will play, in the Sun Bowl for disciplinary reasons, coach Mike Price said Monday.

Price said both players lost their starts because of conduct at the Apple Cup game against Washington in Husky Stadium on Nov. 17.

The No. 13 Cougars (9-2) will practice this week, then will move to a Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, resort hotel for Christmas before flying to El Paso to play Purdue in the Dec. 31 bowl game.

McElrath, the Cougars' leading receiver, criticized play-calling after the Cougars lost to the Huskies. Price said Shavies was sanctioned for "an incident before the game that was not appropriate and not the

kind of behavior we tolerate."

He declined to elaborate, saying both players had been reprimanded for their conduct.

McElrath, a 6-foot-2, 195-pound senior from La Jolla, Calif., caught 67 passes for 1,047 yards and nine touchdowns. He averaged 95.2 yards per game.

Shavies, a 6-1, 240-pound junior from Oakland, Calif., made 22 tackles — 10 unassisted — and three sacks this season.

Price also said as many as six players, including "two or three" starters, won't practice this week because they have dropped classes, falling below the 12 credit hours required by the NCAA.

He did not name the players, but said they could rejoin practices on

Saturday, after classes end for the Christmas break.

Other players might not make all practices because of final exams, he said.

Running back Allen Thompson suffered a high ankle sprain on his right ankle in Saturday's practice and probably won't play, Price said. Lavell Anderson took handoffs in his place. Both are freshmen and neither are starters.

Price said the team likely will hold practices this week inside the WSU fieldhouse because of cold temperatures and darkness.

The Cougars will move to the Coeur d'Alene Resort, about 35 miles east of Spokane, on Saturday, Price said.

The team held a final practice Sunday morning at North Idaho College before flying from Spokane.

NFL has much more housecleaning it needs to get done

Just so there's no confusion, let's get something out of the way.

The people in Cleveland and New Orleans who threw bottles, batteries, coins, cans and at least one portable radio down from the stands are fools. There is no excuse. None. And with a little luck and a lot of cameras, the

authorities will see they get what's coming to them. But why stop the housecleaning there?

If NFL commissioner Paul Tagliabue is serious about having games end on time, ordering up more of those beefy security guards in windbreakers would be a good place to start.

Making an example of Browns owner Al Lerner and team president Carmen Policy with a stiff fine wouldn't hurt, but that isn't going to happen. He could lean on his owners to cut off the sale of beer earlier, or altogether, but one glance at the signage plastered across every stadium in America tells you that definitely isn't going to happen.

A few stadiums, including those of the Rams, Giants and Jets, announced they would not sell beer

in plastic bottles, although it will continue to be poured into cups. That won't solve the problem either. Fans will find something else to throw.

So what's next? Getting rid of instant replay in time for next season.

The original arguments against replay haven't changed: It's not foolproof, it delays games unnecessarily and it intimidates referees. There's not always a decisive camera angle. And the league's own studies of replay's first go-round, from 1986-91, confirmed the calls on the field were almost always right. That's the way things will always be, whether humans make the first call or the last one.

But the mayhem in Cleveland and the monkey-see, monkey-do episode in New Orleans argues that inserting a long, unwieldy videotape review only makes a bad situation worse.

The play that preceded the ugliness in Browns Stadium was a pass from Cleveland quarterback Tim Couch to Quincy Morgan in the final minute. The Browns were trailing Jacksonville 15-10, watching their already slim playoff hopes evaporate and facing fourth-and-2.

Morgan's apparent catch, just inside the Jaguars' 10, and beyond the first-down stake, was followed quickly by another play during which Couch spiked the ball to stop the clock. That's when the

real confusion began.

One television replay showed the official in the backfield behind Couch clearly — and correctly — signaling incomplete pass. Naturally, he was ignored the second the instant-replay process was set in motion.

There are too many all-too-human failings to properly assess blame from that point forward. The replay official in the booth claimed he buzzed rookie referee Terry McAuley before the play on which Couch spiked the ball. McAuley claimed he got the message in time, but couldn't move fast enough to wave the play off. The funny thing is that another replay shows him standing motionless while the Browns line up for the snap.

"We are in the middle of playing football," McAuley told reporters afterward, "and that is an unnatural thing."

According to NFL rules, a challenge is invalid if the next play — the spike by Couch — has been run. But there have been several instances in the three years the new system has been in effect where replays have taken place after the next play because of confusion in signaling the officials. Sunday was another.

At the rate things are going, maybe Tagliabue will instruct referees to keep their buzzers turned on until all the film from the weekend's games has been reviewed by

the league office on Monday.

Once the replay decision voiding Morgan's catch was announced, the stadium went up for grabs.

The replay technology worked — replays showed Morgan dropped the ball before he hit the ground — but the humans in charge of administering justice couldn't have messed things up any worse.

Unless, of course, you count the fools in the stands who pounced on the mistake by hurling whatever they could grab onto the field.

Owners voted to bring replay back in 1999 after a series of outrageous calls the season before.

Part of the argument for doing so was that technology had improved to the point where most arguments would be rendered moot by those advances.

As anybody who bought a VCR in the last few years can attest, the machines are easier to operate. But even though the league spent \$10 million on men and machines when it revived instant replay, it faced the same dilemma people face at home, one that former NFL broadcasting head Val Pinchbeck raised during an interview at the time: "Can humans do it properly?"

After further review, the answer is still no.

Jim Litke is the national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at jlitke(at)ap.org



JIM LITKE

Split champion For the second year, the Championship Series national title game the Fiesta Bowl might produce a too.

If Nebraska (1-11) in title game in the on Jan. 3, then of the Fiesta Oregon (10-1) an (10-2) could finish the final Associated media poll.

In the world of the USA Today/ESPN poll, the Rose crowns the Rose ner. The AP vote to pick their own Miami is ranked by Oregon and Nebraska in Since the Ducks postseason rank and the Buffalo 36 win over the H Fiesta winner gives a strong should the Hurri

Last year, Miami chance to claim it by winning the 5 and finishing 11-champions were when Oklahoma perfect season v over Florida St Orange Bowl.

The Miami matchup could be — Heisman Trophy Eric Crouch vs. finisher Ken Dor Led by All-Am ty Ed Reed, the ranked scoring (ppg) will attempt down Crouch's r force him to t Huskers, trying from the embarr to Colorado, must pass coverages Dorsey.

There are ot worth watching, those featuring other top quarter —Heisman run Grossman (3,899 leads Florida Maryland in the Bowl.

—Oregon's Harrington (2,41 TDs) has a f against Colora Fiesta, and Illi Kittern (2,994 yar goes against L Sugar Bowl.

—Fresno Stat Carr (4,299 yard

Norman invitati to Augu

The ASSOCIATED

The major cha that has haur Norman throug career is giving l er chance. He i special invitatio from Augusta Na Club to play in Masters.

It was the first years that Norma special invitati Augusta reserve national players.

"Greg has pro patrons with m ment by his ins superior play du years at Augusta club chairman Johnson said.

He has been a at the Masters t including his m rable collapse i he squandered a lead against Nic the final round b a 78.

There also approach shot into the gallery o in 1986, when he par to force a pl Jack Nicklaus. A Larry Mize chipp 140 feet on the s of a playoff to Shark. The Australian was player to receive invitation this ye

The club chan teria after the 19 — the year No tied for the lead holes to pla an third — and off tions to the top from the money

Are Fiesta-bound Ducks really quacked up to be No. 1?

By **RICHARD ROSENBLATT**
AP Football Writer

Split champions or not?
For the second straight year, the Bowl Championship Series has its national title game set, but the Fiesta Bowl winner might produce a champion, too.

If Nebraska (11-1) upsets Miami (11-0) in the BCS' title game in the Rose Bowl on Jan. 3, then the winner of the Fiesta between Oregon (10-1) and Colorado (10-2) could finish No. 1 in the final Associated Press media poll.

In the world of the BCS, the USA Today/ESPN coaches poll automatically crowns the Rose Bowl winner. The AP voters are free to pick their own champion.

Miami is ranked No. 1, followed by Oregon, Colorado and Nebraska in both polls. Since the Ducks enter the postseason ranked second, and the Buffaloes own a 62-36 win over the Huskers, the Fiesta winner gives AP voters a strong alternative should the Hurricanes lose.

Last year, Miami had a chance to claim the AP title by winning the Sugar Bowl and finishing 11-1, but split champions were avoided when Oklahoma finished a perfect season with a win over Florida State in the Orange Bowl.

The Miami-Nebraska matchup could be a classic — Heisman Trophy winner Eric Crouch vs. third-place finisher Ken Dorsey.

Led by All-American safety Ed Reed, the 'Canes top-ranked scoring defense (9.4 ppg) will attempt to shut down Crouch's running and force him to throw. The Huskers, trying to regroup from the embarrassing loss to Colorado, must mix their pass coverages to rattle Dorsey.

There are other games worth watching, especially those featuring a bunch of other top quarterbacks.

—Heisman runner-up Rex Grossman (3,896, 34 TDs) leads Florida against Maryland in the Orange Bowl.

—Oregon's Joey Harrington (2,415 yards, 23 TDs) has a final fling against Colorado in the Fiesta, and Illinois' Kurt Kittner (2,994 yards, 23 TDs) goes against LSU in the Sugar Bowl.

—Fresno State's David Carr (4,299 yards, 42 TDs)

Norman gets invitation to Augusta

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

The major championship that has haunted Greg Norman throughout his career is giving him another chance. He received a special invitation Tuesday from Augusta National Golf Club to play in next year's Masters.

It was the first time in 10 years that Norman needed a special invitation, which Augusta reserves for international players.

"Greg has provided our patrons with much excitement by his inspired and superior play during his 21 years at Augusta National," club chairman Hootie Johnson said.

He has been a runner-up at the Masters three times, including his most memorable collapse in 1996, when he squandered a six-stroke lead against Nick Faldo in the final round by shooting a 78.

There also was his approach shot that sailed into the gallery on the 18th in 1986, when he needed a par to force a playoff with Jack Nicklaus. A year later, Larry Mize chipped in from 140 feet on the second hole of a playoff to beat the Shark. The 46-year-old Australian was the only player to receive a special invitation this year.

The club changed its criteria after the 1999 Masters — the year Norman was tied for the lead with five holes to play and finished third — and offered invitations to the top 40 players from the money list.

gets to showcase his talents against Michigan State in the Silicon Valley Bowl.

—Georgia Tech's George Godsey (8,085 yards, 18 TDs) goes against Stanford's duo of Randy Fasani/Chris Lewis, who combined to pass for 2,756 yards and 25 TDs, in the Seattle Bowl.

—In the Liberty Bowl, it's BYU's Brandon Doman (3,542 yards, 33 TDs) vs. Louisville's Dave Ragone (3,056 yards, 23 TDs).

—There's also the Humanitarian Bowl, where Louisiana Tech's Luke McCown (3,337 yards, 28 TDs) goes against Clemson's Woodrow Dantzler (2,360 yards passing, 1004 yards rushing).

The picks: USC (minus 3) vs. Utah (Las Vegas, Tuesday)

Run, run, run. Zzzzz ... USC, 21-17.

Georgia Tech (plus 3) vs. Stanford (Seattle, Dec. 27)

Cardinal a surprise, Tech a flop ... STANFORD, 41-31.

Iowa State (plus 6 1/2) vs. Alabama

(Independence, Dec. 27)

'Bama coming off huge Iron Bowl win ... ALABAMA, 27-17.

Texas A&M (minus 6 1/2) vs. TCU

(Gallery furniture.com, Dec. 28)

Aggies can't score (20 ppg), neither can Frogs (25.5 ppg) ... TEXAS A&M, 27-20.

Boston College (plus 4) vs. Georgia (Music City, Dec. 28)

Rare for BC to beat ranked team under coach O'Brien ... GEORGIA, 31-24.

Texas (minus 12 1/2) vs. Washington (Holiday, Dec. 28)

How can anyone root against Horns' QB Applewhite? ... TEXAS, 31-

30. Toledo (minus 3 1/2) vs. Cincinnati (Motor City, Dec. 29)

Where's Marshall? ... TOLEDO, 33-24.

Texas Tech (minus 1) vs. Iowa (Alamo, Dec. 29)

Red Raiders won four of last five ... TEXAS TECH, 31-27.

Kansas State (minus 5 1/2) vs. Syracuse (Insight.com, Dec. 29)

Orange DE Freeney on a sack mission ... SYRACUSE, 28-27.

Washington State (minus 8) vs. Purdue (Sun, Dec. 31)

Cougs can cap surprise season with 10th win ...

WASHINGTON STATE, 34-24. Louisiana Tech (plus 6 1/2) vs. Clemson (Humanitarian, Dec. 31)

LaTech can keep pace with Tigers and Dantzler ... CLEMSON, 41-38.

Fresno State (minus 5 1/2) vs. Michigan State (Silicon Valley, Dec. 31)

Bulldogs QB Carr handles overrated Spartans ... FRESNO STATE, 35-21.

BYU (plus 3) vs. Louisville (Liberty, Dec. 31)

Is 100-point game in the Cards? ... LOUISVILLE, 61-49.

North Carolina (minus 2) vs. Auburn (Peach, Dec. 31)

Tar Heels finish strong for coach John Bunting ... NORTH CAROLINA, 28-24.

Ohio State (plus 2) vs. South Carolina (Outback, Jan. 1)

Does Holtz have Irish fever? ... OHIO STATE, 21-17.

Arkansas (plus 13) vs. Oklahoma (Cotton, Jan. 1)

Don't watch, Sooners should swamp 'Hogs ... OKLAHOMA, 34-14.

Virginia Tech (minus 2 1/2) vs. Florida State (Gator, Dec. 1)

How the mighty have fallen from '00 Sugar Bowl ... FLORIDA STATE, 35-27.

Michigan (plus 4) vs. Tennessee (Citrus, Jan. 1)

Each lost BIG game to end season ... MICHIGAN, 28-27.

Colorado (minus 2 1/2) vs. Oregon (Fiesta, Jan. 1)

Ducks QB Harrington ready for showcase game ... OREGON, 34-28.

Illinois (plus 3) vs. LSU (Sugar, Jan. 1)

This is a BCS game? Illini deserve better, but ... LSU, 31-30.

Maryland (plus 16) vs. Florida (Orange, Jan. 2)

'Terps' first bowl since '90 could turn terrible ... FLORIDA, 49-28.

Miami (minus 10) vs. Nebraska (Rose, Jan. 3)

Can 'Canes stop Crouch for fifth national title in 19 years? ... MIAMI, 34-21.

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DEADLINE: 2 P.M. FRIDAY

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

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

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Arizona at Carolina	NY Giants at Philadelphia
Atlanta at Miami	Oakland at Denver
Buffalo at NY Jets	Pittsburgh at Cincinnati
Chicago at Detroit	San Francisco at Dallas
Cleveland at Tennessee	Seattle at San Diego
Indianapolis at St. Louis	Washington at New Orleans
Kansas City at Jacksonville	Alamo Bowl*

* Matchup at www.usaonline.net/power

POWER POINTS OFFICIAL RULES

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

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See The All-New 2002 Explorer Arriving Daily! BOB BROCK FORD 500 W. 4TH

PERSONAL

START DATING TONIGHT! Have fun meeting eligible singles in your area. Toll Free 1-800-ROMANCE Ext 9735

SPECIAL NOTICES Disney vacation 7 days 6 nights at Ramada. Good for 1 year. Sacrifice \$199.00 915-620-1617

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SPECIAL NOTICES

WILLIE B. JOHNSON HAS MADE APPLICATION TO THE TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE COMMISSION FOR A WINE & BEER ON PREMISES LICENSE FOR THE LOCATION OF 1200 EAST 4TH. ST. BIG SPRING, HOWARD, TEXAS, TO BE OPERATED UNDER THE TRADE NAME OF STARZ.

BUSINESS OPP.

Must Sell Local Vending Route Highest Income Potential Only \$6,995 Investment Free Info 800-576-2725

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A CANDY VENDING r/e Earn \$60K Work 4hrs Great Locations \$0 down/Financing 1-800-240-8608 Ext 2403

Franchise Dream. Ground Floor Opportunity Prove Vending Business \$6,995 Investment Free Info 800-576-2725

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BEEN DENIED? Try Centex! We Want To Say YES! 1st/2nd Mortgages *Cash Out *Bill Consolidation *All Credit Considered OKK 1-888-819-2525

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TAX PROBLEMS? IRS AND STATE Troubles solved! Past & Present. No cost information, get Money Back. Hurry Call Bob Myer 1-800-487-1992.

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Free Money Now! It's True! No repayment. Guaranteed. For personal needs, education, business. 1-800-724-6047 (24 hrs)

Get Cash Fast!! \$100-\$500. Easy Qualifications. Never leave Home! Funds Deposited-Checking Account Next Day! Loans By County Bank of Rehoboth Beach, DE. Member: FIC/EOL 1-800-397-1908

Government Jobs \$1.00 - \$33.00 per hour potential. Paid Training/Full Benefits. For more information call 1-800-228-3952 Ext. 3234

INSTANT CASH! Get up to \$500. Immediate Approval. No Credit Bureau Check. Call 1-866-576-2274 www.moneymart.com

NEED AN EARLY PAYDAY? Up to \$500 instantly by phone! 1-(877)-EARLYPAY. Lic #750005 1st ADVANCE FREE

HELP WANTED

\$11-\$33 hr. Full benefits, paid training on entry level positions call 7 days a week! 1-800-320-9353 Ext. 2226

Get in the Fast Lane. COVENANT TRANSPORTATION is Looking for Student Drivers. No Experience? NO PROBLEM! Training Available. Call for Details. 1-888-728-8588. CDL Holders 1-800-958-2353

ASSEMBLY AT HOME!! Crafts, Toys, Jewelry, Wood, Sewing, Typing... Great Pay! CALL 1-800-795-0380 Ext.#201 (24 hrs)

ATTENTION! We Need Help! Earn up to \$25-\$75/hr PT/FT International Mail Order/E-Commerce Company Complete Training/Free Booklet 1-800-225-0358 www.CashOnTheTable.com

WORK FROM HOME! \$500/\$1500 MO Part-time \$2500/\$5000 mo full-time. Great for moms! Free info. 877-864-RICH. www.SmartWork4U.com

ATTENTION! WORK FROM HOME! Be Your Own Boss! \$50+/week! PT/FT. Paid Vacations! Mail Order/Internet 866-736-8158 BoatloadofCash.com

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Be Your Own Boss From home! Fortune 500 company needs help! \$1500-\$8000/MO PT/FT Free information Call Now! 1-800-390-1241 www.BasicProfits.com

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Drivers - O/O's and Drivers! Teams wanted/strong solo's welcome. Teams dedicated drop and hook. High miles & Home time. Call 1-800-909-5664 x330

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EARN \$1000'S WEEKLY!!! Stuffing Envelopes at home. \$4 per envelope. 24hrs. 18yrs/older. 1-800-543-7094

Opportunity! Own a Computer? Put it to work! Legitimate Business. 877-916-9675 or www.CultivateSuccess.com

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Government JOBS. Fire fighters/Police Officers/Wildlife/Postal \$40k a year. Paid Training & Full Benefits. Call TOLL-FREE for info Sun-Fri. 9am-10pm EST 1-888-329-2114 x1203

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HELP WANTED

HOUSE PARENT COUPLES The Cal Farley childcare organization has 3 campuses - Cal Farley's Boys Ranch (36 miles from Amarillo, TX), Cal Farley's Family Program (near Borger, TX) and Cal Farley's Girlstown, U.S.A. (near Whiteface, TX). We provide nurturing homes, education and other opportunities to disadvantaged youth. We are a Christ-centered organization seeking dedicated, mature married couples for our childcare team!

High energy level a must! * A stable marriage of several years * No more than 2 dependents (no young children, please) * High School diploma/GED required, college preferred

Starting salary is \$37,856 per couple, plus free housing, utilities, food. Free pension plan. 401(k) w/company match, and many other great benefits! Relocation \$\$ available. Come join our team and make a difference in a child's life! Call Human Resources at (806)373-6600, ext.516 or (800)687-3722, ext. 516 or visit our website at www.calfarleysboysranch.org (EOE)

COME GROW WITH US! Texaco Star Stops are now taking applications for full-time & part-time positions. Apply in person at the following locations: Manager position available: Star Stop #4 2501 S Gregg Star Stop #8 800E 1-20 Start Stop #12 400 S Gregg Star Stop #14 4806 W Hwy 80 We are a Drug Free Work force No phone calls please

Part/Full-time Drivers Needed Earn Hourly Wage Plus Mileage PLUS Tips Supplement your income if you have a second job Domino's Pizza 2202 Gregg

Provider needed in 1 & surrounding area Immediate opening person(s) who are working with the elderly & possess a caring flexible attitude. Send inquiries on 1-800-551-6451 915-570-4475 ask Jessica

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Provider needed in 1 & surrounding area Immediate opening person(s) who are working with the elderly & possess a caring flexible attitude. Send inquiries on 1-800

HELP WANTED

Local CPA firm needs Tax Preparer for upcoming tax season. Previous experience or Business Degree preferred. Send resume to 307-C. W. 16th, Big Spring, TX 79720.

Local Financial Institution has full-time Loan Secretary position open. 1-2 years secretarial experience necessary. Loan processing experience a plus. Must pass background check and credit check. Send resume to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431/2503, Big Spring, TX 79721-1431



Fulltime yard clerk need in Sterling City, Texas. Bookkeeping skills (A/R, A/P, Payroll) preferred. Computer and multi-tasking skills are a must. Benefits: Health, Life, Vision, & 401(k). EOE Send resumes to Key Energy Services Attn: Human Resources P.O. Box 10627 Midland, TX 79702

LONG JOHN SILVERS
Day and Evening Shifts Available. Must be energetic. Apply in person, 2403 S. Gregg. No phone calls please.

LVN & CNA positions available on PRN basis. Contact April Velasquez, RN, DON Valley Fair Lodge 915-728-2634

MAINTENANCE POSITION AVAILABLE

The Colorado River Municipal Water District has an immediate opening for a maintenance worker at Lake JB Thomas. Will work in Scurry County, Borden County and Mitchell County. A CDL license and mechanical experience helpful. Company benefits include paid vacation, sick leave, retirement plan, group insurance, and paid holidays. The District is an equal opportunity employer.

Applications are available at the District's office located at 400 East 24th St., Big Spring, TX (915) 267-6341

Mountain View Lodge is in need of Asst. D.O.N./MDS Coordinator with good supervisory and people skills. Long term care experience with MDS's a plus. Great working environment, excellent benefits

Call or come by: Mountain View Lodge 2009 Virginia 263-1271

Part/Full-time Drivers Needed Earn Hourly Wage PLUS Mileage PLUS Tips Supplement your income if you have a second job
Domino's Pizza 2202 Gregg

Provider needed in this & surrounding areas. Immediate opening for person(s) who enjoy working with the elderly & possess a caring & flexible attitude. Serious inquiries only 1-800-551-6451 or 915-570-4475 ask for Jessica

HELP WANTED

Mountain View Lodge is now hiring a charge nurse, 2/10 & 10/6 shifts, part-time/full-time. Excellent Benefits. Apply in person at 2009 Virginia

NAPA Auto Parts Part Time Tractor Trailer Driver
Driver works two weeks on and 2 weeks off
Monday-Friday nights. Requires a Class A CDL with Haz-Mat previous experience and clean driving record. Does require unloading of trucks at each stop. Contact Scharlotte or Tommy at (972) 288-7614 or fax resume to (972) 289-8741

Rainbow Christian Preschool needs experienced child care worker. High school diploma required. Come by 409 Goliad to apply.

Seeking motivated people for nighttime work. Must have valid driver's license & travel required. Will train. Call 267-5449 ext.203

Service Manager needed for small GM automobile dealership. 5 1/2 days per week. Excellent benefits. Located in Stanton. Call 915-756-2341.

Stay Home! Work your own hours. Step by step in-home training. \$1200-\$5800/mo PT/FT. Free Booklet. 877-239-9501 www.dhappyc.com

The City Of Big Spring will be testing for the position of a police officer at 8:30 AM Thursday January 10, 2002. Applications are being accepted through Wednesday January 9, 2002. Preference will be given to certified police officers. For further information contact City Hall Personnel at 310 Nolan, Big Spring, TX 79720 or call 915-264-2346. The City of Big Spring is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

JOBS WANTED

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

LOANS

MIDWEST FINANCE
Loans \$100-\$430 Open M-F 9-6pm 612 Gregg 263-1353 Phone app. welcome - 1. See Habibi Espanol

NEED EXTRA \$\$\$
COME SEE US! No Credit No Problem Loans \$100-\$467 Apply by phone 267-4591 or come by SECURITY FINANCE 204 S. Goliad Big Spring

GRAIN, HAY OR FEED
Fert Coastal Hay rolls Delivery available 903-425-8031 or 903-681-4629

Hay grazer round bails 4X5 Good quality From Lomax area. Call Steve Fryar @ 915-270-3545 or 398-5513

Herald Classified ads work.
Call us to place your ad at 263-7331.

DOGS, PETS, ETC.

4 AKC Registered Chinese Pugs, Blacks & Fawns, \$250 each. Call 267-1924

AKC Mini Piebald Dachshund male puppy. Red & white color. 263-0950 or 270-0050

Three free kittens. Have not lost their mittens, but need a good home. Call 263-4645

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✓ **Be Your Own Boss** Work From Home! \$21500/\$4000 PT/FT. Paid Vacations!! 1-800-540-9968 or www.thiswayuptheladder.com

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✓ STEEL BUILDINGS: Urgent!! Must Move Now!! 25x30, 30x40, 45x80. Liquidation Pricing on In-stock Sizes. 1-800-462-7930 x-39

✓ YANMAR YM 1500 Tractor, diesel, 3 point hitch, \$2,150. Also, new 4' finish mower, still in crate, \$850. Shipping available. Located just outside Huntsville, AL (256) 776-9435 www.maynardequipme nt.com

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14 acres 10 miles East of Big Spring on I-20. 13 acres including brick office bldg, mobile home, storage and garage. North of town on 87. Call 267-3261

MARTIN COUNTY
10.351 Acres North of West Stanton on Cr 2330 E. Interest reduced to 8.5% \$113/mo. Owner Finance. Forest, America Group. Buyers agent 800-275-7376

Tracts of land for sale 5 miles South of Big Spring & 1 1/2 miles West of Coahoma. Owner will Finance or Texas Veterans Call 263-8785

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Warehouse with 4 overhead doors and small office 510 E. 1st \$300/mo. \$150/dep Call 263-5000

HOUSES FOR SALE

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✓ **FRANCO'S CATERING**
Now has Fresh Hot Tortillas Every morning THIS WEEK, 1 DOZ. TORTILLAS 99¢ Tamales on Saturday MERRY CHRISTMAS FRANCO'S CATERING 270-2542

In the hull pecans, \$1.50 lb., shelled \$5.00 lb. Call 263-8785

Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays From Big Spring Driver Education Register
Jan 3rd & 4th. - 5pm. Class starts January 7. Call 268-1023 457-2340 or 270-4610 Lic #1200

New Crop Pecans Freshly Shelled \$5 a pound 915-459-2386

Satellite TV Lowest Prices Call 1-800-568-7652

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, Dec. 25:

You might want to be more focused in 2002 than in prior years. Your day-to-day life will benefit from your concentration and energy. Your mind often wavers and drifts. Your creativity remains high; write down your ideas so you can stay more anchored. You achieve much through a partnership. Financial gain knocks on your door if you play your cards right. If you are single, a romance will mark your year. You will be a lot closer to this person than you thought possible. If attached, you will plan a trip for August with your sweetie. The two of you need the time away. TAURUS serves as an anchor.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)**** Relish the holiday, knowing that you're genuinely cared for. Someone extends him- or herself to you, whether it is through material and/or emotional self-expression. Understand that some people need "things" as symbols of caring. Tonight: Indulge in the good life.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)**** You beam in what you want. Someone draws you toward them. Your popularity soars, though an older relative could add a mist of chaos to your plans. This person could be quite set in his or her ways. Be spontaneous with those in your life. Others cannot get enough of you. Tonight: The world is your oyster.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

HOROSCOPE

*** Should you choose to, you could make something a problem. Why not lighten up and share with others what it is you really want and need? You might be pleasantly surprised by what someone's efforts can do. Indulge someone as you would like to be indulged! Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)**** Friends surround you as you naturally make the right choice. Your sense of humor emerges with a loved one or partner who could be a bit askew or off. Laughter binds friendships. Be spontaneous about your feelings and self-expression. Tonight: The party goes to the wee hours.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)**** You'll possibly need to take over for a mate or friend, as this person might be quite wifty. He or she might not be sharing what is bothering him or her. Give this person time. Your instincts come through for you with an older relative. Be the lead player. Others thank you later. Tonight: Don't count on an early night!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**** Make an effort to twist your plans at the last minute for someone at a distance. What is more important - having everything perfect or enjoying yourself like you want? Friends help you flow with what is happening. The more people around you, the happier you are. Tonight: Make long-distance calls.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

**** You're happiest when you take time with people, sharing your news and catching up on things. Deal with a child who might complain that he or she is not getting enough time or didn't appreciate the gifts he or she got. A parent or older relative delights in your news. Tonight: Enjoy yourself!

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)**** Let someone chatter away. You can't stop this person anyway! Confusion surrounds family and home. Just pour the eggnog and smile. You'll find that people are catching your easy-going and happy attitude. Make merry but don't forget someone at a distance! Tonight: Say "yes" to a loved one.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)**** Your friendly ways make a big difference to those close to you. When you see someone is a bit down, you go out of your way to make him or her happier. Understand what is happening with this person. Don't make him or her explain. Tonight: Rest up.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**** Your imagination peaks with today's happenings. You'll probably remember this period for a long, long time. Clearly, loved ones go out of their way to make you feel cared about. Express the depth of your feelings. Indulge loved

ones as well as yourself.

Tonight: Play away.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)**** You could be overwhelmed by the last-minute details involved with your day. Consider what is going on here with someone that you care about. Don't take a comment personally, you might not have heard that person correctly. Pitch in and help someone out. Tonight: You don't have to go far.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)**** Reach out to those around you. Invite someone along who might not have plans. This person will think of you as loving and caring because of the invitation. You could worry about someone's reactions. Dote on a child or loved one. Tonight: Say "thank you" nicely.

BORN TODAY

French painter Maurice Utrillo (1883), musician Jimmy Buffet (1946), actor Humphrey Bogart (1899)

For America's best extended horoscope, recorded by Jacqueline Bigar, call (900) 740-7444, 99 cents per minute. Also featured in 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. ©2001 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

Tips offered for friends of the newly unemployed

Dear Ann Landers: I have been laid off from my job for the first time in my life. Let me tell you, the experience is shocking and humiliating. May I offer a list of "DOs and DON'Ts" for your readers who might know someone in my position?

DON'T expect your unemployed friends to enjoy the kind of social life they once did. Unless they have a lot of inherited money, it won't be possible. DO invite them over for dinner and offer to rent a movie. It will be appreciated.

DON'T keep asking if they have looked for a job yet. Believe me, they are looking. DO check with your own company, family or friends to see if they know of any jobs that match your friend's qualifications.

DON'T complain about your job, no matter how bad it is. Be grateful you have one. DO talk about ordinary subjects such as sports and politics. He or she might not have a job, but they still have interests.

DON'T try to affix blame for your friend's unemployment. You will never know the whole story. DO encourage your friend to stay positive, and take this opportunity to improve his or her skills in other areas.

Thanks, Ann. Maybe my suggestions will help someone else get through these rough times. I, too, am Looking for Work in California

Dear California: You and millions of others all over the country. We should have known the economic honeymoon could not last forever. We are now facing reality. The "glory days" are behind us for the time being.

For anyone who is looking for employment (and there are a lot of you), even though you may feel "overqualified," set your pride aside, take the job, and work your way up. You will be glad you did.

Dear Ann Landers: I read the letter from the man whose mother-in-law kept her telephone number listed in her deceased husband's name. It reminded me of my late grandmother - and made me smile.

Grandma's husband, "George," died in 1966, but she never changed the directory listing. About 20

years later, a young woman made a crank call to Grandma and said, "Hey, lady, your husband George is in my bed right now. Guess what we're doing?"

Grandma informed the young woman that George had been dead for 20 years so he couldn't possibly be doing much. The woman hung up immediately and never called again. We all got a good laugh out of the story and hope your readers will, too. - Granddaughter in Alabama

Dear Alabama Granddaughter: Your grandmother had quite a sense of humor. Crank callers are a breed unto themselves - short on brains and long on time. Every now and then, I get a crank call. I've learned the best way to handle it is to hang up promptly and take the phone off the hook for about 10 minutes. It works.

Dear Kay in Parkland, Fla.: Does Santa know this? I'm shocked! My research says very young male reindeer also have antlers at Christmastime. Let's assume Rudolph is a boy. I can't speak for Donder and Blitzen.

Is that Ann Landers column you clipped years ago yellow with age? For a copy of her most frequently requested poems and essays, send a self-addressed, long, business-size envelope and a check or money order for \$5.25 (this includes postage and handling) to: Gems, c/o Ann Landers, P.O. Box 11562, Chicago, Ill. 60611-0562. (In Canada, send \$6.25.) To find out more about Ann Landers and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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ANN LANDERS

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3/2 CH/A, carpet, ceramic tile, carport, large sunroom. \$36,000. 263-0604

For Sale, 2/1 w/garage, CH/A, fenced yard. Near VA. Assumable loan for qualified buyer. \$30,000. 830-285-4129

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1 & 2 bedroom apt's with CH/A, covered picnic area, b-b-q grills, playground, on-site laundry facilities, professional managements, 24 hour emergency maintenance, free water!
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Nice, large 3 BR. 2 bath brick home with fireplace in quiet neighborhood. 700 Dallas \$775/mo. \$700/dep Call 263-5000

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4BR 2bth \$300 mo
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Also have 3 bdr \$240/mo 264-0510

PUBLIC NOTICE
PUBLIC NOTICE OF CHANGES IN ELECTION PRECINCTS
Pursuant to §42.035, Texas Election Code, the Commissioners Court of Howard County, Texas, herein provides notice of changes in County political boundaries as adopted by the Commissioners Court, and as precleared by the United States Department of Justice on the 10th day of December 2001.

Interested individuals may review the adopted changes in the office of the County Clerk during regular business hours. The changes in county election precincts were necessitated by redistricting of County Commissioners Court precincts in compliance with the United States Constitution and 42 U.S.C. §1973, also known as the Voting Rights Act, following the release of 2000 census data. Changes in county election precincts were designed to achieve numerical balance between the four commissioners' court precincts, and to insure the voting rights of all citizens of Howard County, Texas. Donna Wright, County Clerk #3409 December 24 & 31, 2001 & January 7, 2002

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LOOK TO THE BIG SPRING HERALD FOR ALL OF YOUR LOCAL NEWS, SPORTS AND INFORMATION

MONDAY											DEC. 24										
	KMID (2)	KPEJ (3)	KERA (5)	FALA (6)	KOSA (7)	WFAA (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	UNI (13)	DISH (14)	NASH (15)	TMC (16)	SHOW (20)	HBO (22)	KMLM (24)	A&E (25)	DISC (26)	TNT (28)	TLC (41)		
	Midland	Odessa	Dallas	Dallas	Odessa	Dallas	Midland	Atlanta	Spanish	Premium	Nashville	Premium	Premium	Premium	Odessa	New York	Discovery	Atlanta	Learning Ch.		
6:PM	News Fortune	King of the Hill Raymond	Arthur's-Cmas	Rudolph's New Year	News Ent. Tonight	News (CC) Turtle Creek	News Seinfeld (CC)	Friends (CC) Fresh Prince	Navidad Magica Disney	Movie: 'Twas The Night	Fame for 15	(15) Movie: Funny Face	..	..	Israel Update John Hagee	Mysteries of the Bible	History of the Teddy Bear	Movie: A Christmas	Crime Fighting Gadgets
7:PM	Movie: Ernest Saves	Boston Public (CC)	Antiques Roadshow	Santa Is Coming to Town	King Ellen (CC)	Movie: Ernest Saves	Movie: It's a Wonderful Life (CC)	Movie: Turner Hooch	Movie: Jesus, el Nino Dios	(CC) (40) Movie: Babes in Toyland (CC)	WWF Raw (CC)	Movie: The Fantasticks	Extras	Movie: Snow Day (CC)	Update With Sam Peak	Rise of Christianity: The First 1000 Years	Tarantulas-Relations	Story (CC) (40) Movie: A Christmas Story (CC)	Trauma: Life in the ER		
8:PM	Christmas (CC)	Ally McBeal (CC)	St. Olaf Christmas Festival	Without Santa	Raymond Becker (CC)	Christmas (CC)	Life (CC)	..	..	(05) Movie: A Smoky Moun-	Star Trek: Next Gener.	(CC) Movie: Article	Movie: Wonder Boys	..	..	..	Miracles of Faith	Christmas Story (CC)	Great Books: The Bible
9:PM	Come Together (CC)	Cops (CC) Blind Date	Musical Cmas	Jack Frost	Family Law (CC)	Come Together (CC)	..	(15) Movie: The Rel	Cristina: Edicion Especial	(05) Movie: Jett Jackson	Star Trek: Next Gener.	99 (CC)	..	..	..	..	Between Life and Death	(20) Movie: A Christmas Story (CC)	Great Books: The Bible
10:PM	News Nightline	Jerry Springer (CC)	News-Lehrer (CC)	700 Club (CC)	News Christmas Eve	Family First Nightline	News Christmas Eve	..	P. Impacto Noticiero Univ	tain Christ-	Star Trek: Next Gener.	..	..	..	..	..	Justice Files	Christmas Story (CC)	Trauma: Life in the ER
11:PM	Politically Inc: Hope Has	Suddenly Spin City (CC)	Movie: The Lathe of Heaven	Who's Boss? Who's Boss?	Service First Baptist Church	First Methodist Church of	at St Peter's Basilica	..	Misa del Gallo del Papa	So Weird (CC) Jett Jackson	(05) Robot Wars	(15) Movie: Molly (CC)	..	Sunday (CC)	Update With Church	Rise of Christianity: The First 1000 Years	Tarantulas-Relations	Movie: A Christmas	Great Books: The Bible		
12:AM	Come Paid Program	Attorney Divorce Court	..	..	Church Street Smarts	Hope Has Come	TBA Frasier	..	..	Zorro (CC) Mickey Mouse	(12:05) Bay-watch (CC)	..	..	the Fall (CC)	..	Faith Pleases God	The First 1000 Years	Miracles of Faith	Story (CC) (40) Movie: A Christmas

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I'VE TRIED IT, BUT I CAN'T SEE ANY VISIONS OF SUGARPLUMS."

FAMILY CIRCUS



"Is it still okay to say 'Have a Merry Christmas' this year?"

HAGAR



BLONDIE



B.C.



GEECH



WIZARD OF ID



HI AND LOIS



GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILY



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Monday, Dec. 24, the 358th day of 2001.

There are seven days left in the year. This is Christmas Eve.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 24, 1814, the War of 1812 officially ended as the United States and Britain signed the Treaty of Ghent in Belgium.

On this date:

In 1521, Portuguese navigator Vasco da Gama who had discovered a sea route around Africa to India died in Cochin, India.

In 1851, fire devastated the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., destroying about 35,000 volumes.

In 1865, several veterans of the Confederate Army formed a private social club in Pulaski, Tenn., called the Ku Klux Klan.

In 1871, Giuseppe Verdi's opera "Aida" had its world

premiere in Cairo, Egypt, to celebrate the opening of the Suez Canal.

In 1906, Canadian physicist Reginald A. Fessenden became the first person to broadcast a music program over radio, from Brant Rock, Mass.

In 1920, Enrico Caruso gave his last public performance, singing in Jacques Halem's "La Juive" at the Metropolitan Opera in New York.

In 1943, President Franklin Roosevelt appointed Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower supreme commander of Allied forces as part of Operation "Overlord."

In 1951, Gian Carlo Menotti's "Amahl and the Night Visitors," the first opera written specifically for television, was first broadcast by NBC TV.

In 1968, the Apollo 8 astronauts, orbiting the moon, read passages from the Old Testament Book of Genesis during a Christmas Eve television broadcast.

In 1980, Americans remembered the U.S. hostages in Iran by burning

candles or shining lights for 417 seconds — one second for each day of captivity.

Ten years ago: A day before resigning, Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev briefed Russian President Boris Yeltsin on nuclear weapons-firing procedures. Gorbachev also held a farewell meeting with staff members.

Five years ago: The streets of Belgrade, Yugoslavia, turned violent as demonstrators traded blows with supporters of President Slobodan Milosevic and then were clubbed by riot police.

Answer to previous puzzle

NAVAJO	SCHEUBERT
OPENER	CRITIQUE
TREATY	REVALUATE
TRIP	EXPOSE
ELSE	HOTSPOT
NEWAGE	ABAS
RUNSCARED	REBEL
IRONON	VALLE
ANTAL	SPEEDIE
SORE	CADDOES
RESPOND	KEAS
LAI	HODADS
OVERBITE	RASHLY
RETAILER	AGREE
DRYGOODS	WEIRDO

Newsday Crossword FIGHTING WORDS by Norma Steinberg Edited by Stanley Newman

- ACROSS
- 1 Good buddies
- 5 the hills (ancient)
- 10 Scandinavian capital
- 14 Sign over a door
- 15 Horse sound
- 16 Wyoming neighbor
- 17 Used to be
- 18 Stengel of baseball
- 19 Crop, as a picture
- 20 In a hasty manner
- 22 Like a cactus
- 23 Shoe part
- 24 Trembled
- 26 Toward the summit
- 29 Graduation danglers
- 32 Bangor's state
- 33 Veal, e.g.
- 35 Racetrack figure
- 36 Strong insect
- 37 Curly and Larry
- 40 Numero
- 41 Rests for a moment
- 43 Sharpen
- 44 Release
- 46 Erudite person
- 48 Perceived
- 49 Best of the best
- 50 Keg contents
- 51 Bitter-smelling
- 53 Save for a rainy day
- 57 Lumber
- 58 Acting individually
- 60 Big bash
- 61 October birthstone
- 62 African beast
- 63 -seven
- 64 Peeress
- 65 Apple drink
- 66 Level of a liner
- 6 Renter's paper
- 7 Menu item
- 8 Era
- 9 Bashful
- 10 Frontier settlement
- 11 Pitcher's stats
- 12 Reclined
- 13 "Mercy!"
- 21 Parcels (out)
- 22 Distress signal
- 24 Phase
- 25 Can't stand
- 26 Amherst campus, for short
- 27 Give in to fear
- 28 Leave town
- 30 Fencing move
- 31 Got up
- 33 Actor Dudley
- 34 Years and years
- 38 "Take ___!"
- 39 Trim and graceful
- 42 Densely
- 45 Seeing red
- 47 Pot cover
- 48 Precinct
- 50 Carried
- 51 GI offense
- 52 "At the ___" (Manilow song)
- 53 Uttered
- 54 Silent greeting
- 55 Actor Baldwin
- 56 American, to a Brit
- 58 Part of a circle
- 59 Beta Kappa

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
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