

TUESDAY

December 2, 2003

WEATHER

Tonight:



TONIGHT TOMORROW 34°-36° 60°-62°

BRIEFLY

Democrat Club

The Howard County Democrat Club will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday in the Howard County Courtroom on the second floor of the courthouse.

During the meeting, election of new officers

Boomtown parade

Booth reservations and parade entries for the city of Forsan's annual Christmas in Boomtown Parade are now being taken.

The parade begins at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday. Booths will be set up around the Forsan Soda Shop beginning at 9 a.m. There is no charge for having a booth.

If you are interested in being in the parade or having a booth, contact Jeff Janca at 457-0303 after 5:30 p.m.

Fifty-five Alive

Fifty-five Alive driver safety program classes will be held from 8 a.m. until noon Dec. 11-12 at the Martin County Senior Citizen's Center in Stanton.

This class is taught by a state-certified instructor and is a two-day course of four hours each session. You must attend both days to receive a certificate, which will be accepted by most insurance companies for a deduction in premiums for a three-year period.

The cost is \$10 per person. To register, call 432-756-2791, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

This class is not a defensive driving class and cannot "forgive" traffic violations.

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Vol. 100, No. 16

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Sen. Bivins pegged for Sweden ambassador's post

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

Rumors that a West Texas state senator may be asked to serve in President George W. Bush's administration have turned out to be true.

The White House released a statement Monday announcing President Bush's intention to nominate State Sen. Teel Bivins, R-Amarillo, as ambassador to the United States Embassy in Stockholm, Sweden.

"I am deeply honored by the president's announcement," Bivins said in a prepared statement. "If nominated and ultimately confirmed by the United States Senate, I would welcome the opportunity to serve as our ambassador to Sweden."

In October, Bivins, who has represented

"If nominated and ultimately confirmed by the United States Senate, I would welcome the opportunity to serve as our ambassador to Sweden."

Sen. Teel Bivins, R-Amarillo

Howard County since 2001, declined to comment on rumors that he had been or would be offered the position within Bush's administration, but did release a statement regarding the possibility as "humbling."

In his prepared statement released

Monday, while saying he would "welcome" the opportunity to serve as ambassador, Bivins kept his options open. His press release read "In light of the important issues facing the Texas Senate and Senate District 31, Senator Bivins will consult with family and friends and will be making an announcement regarding his plans to seek another term in the Texas Senate in the near future."

Bivins has served as a member of the Texas Senate since 1989. His current district includes — but is not limited to — Howard, Midland, Ector, Martin and Glasscock counties.

He serves as chairman of the Senate Finance Committee and holds positions on the International Relations and Trade

See BIVINS, Page 3A



Wynelle Bailey Walker ponders over the choices of the Salvation Army Senior Angel Tree Monday before selecting two angels to adopt. The Angel Tree program allows people to purchase presents for seniors and children who may not receive anything for Christmas. Walker said she participates because she loves to make people happy for Christmas. The Senior Tree is located at the Big Spring Herald offices. Other trees are located at the Big Spring Mall; Wal-Mart, 201 W. Marcy; and Gale's Sweet Shoppe, 1706 E. FM 700.

Sheriff's department still looking for leads in robbery

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

The Howard County Sheriff's Department continues to investigate leads into an alleged armed robbery of an elderly couple at their rural residence last Wednesday.

"We're still following up on the investigation," said Chief Deputy Gary Pritchett. "We are looking into the possibility of the involvement of three actors."

The incident occurred at 4:30 p.m. in the couple's home, located in 1900 block of Eubanks.

Allegedly, two black men forcibly entered the house at gun point after one of the victims answered the door,

according to Pritchett. The men then stole cash from the couple.

Deputies are still searching for the vehicle the suspects used in fleeing the scene.

One of the victims was treated for injuries at Scenic Mountain Medical Center and later released, Pritchett said.

"It appears that one of the male subjects grabbed her by the arm and inflicted injuries," he said.

The Sheriff's Department encourages anyone who has information about the robbery to call Crime Stoppers at 264-TIPS or 263-TIPS. All callers remain anonymous and no caller ID is used.

Keep Big Spring Beautiful seeks volunteers from the community

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

A Big Spring beautification committee is tenderly setting roots in hopes of growing a successful program aimed at motivating community wide responsibility for a clean and beautiful environment.

"First of all, it brings pride to the community," said Keep Odessa Beautiful Executive Director Rosie Lopez, who spoke at the Keep Big Spring Beautiful meeting Monday. "It may also bring economic prosperity."

A clean and beautiful community can entice businesses looking to relocate, Lopez said, and

Keep Big Spring Beautiful meets the first Monday of every month at noon. For more information, call the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce at 263-7641.

the program, which should involve a mix from the community, can produce networking opportunities.

"It brings a nucleus of diverse people together in a mission to clean up and

beautify," Lopez said.

As the guest speaker at the meeting, Lopez provided information concerning several key areas of running a successful program from fiscal and daily management aspects to creating unique projects to promote the organization's mission.

The information was welcomed by members of the fledgling Big Spring committee organized this year. For many years, the program was run solely by committee member Pat Simmons, who, because of limited committee members, concentrated on the annual

See VOLUNTEERS, Page 3A

LINING UP Hopefuls eye seat should senator resign

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

A 64-year-old Midlander has joined the pack of hopefuls for the District 31 Texas Senate seat presently held by Sen. Teel Bivins, R-Amarillo.

"I think I am uniquely qualified to take on that job, by virtue of the fact that I have both roots in the northern part of the district and the southern part of the district, and also because I have experience in the agriculture industry and the energy industry," said Don Sparks, a long-time Midland/Odessa oil businessman who said he will seek the seat as a member of the Republican Party.

The announcement came just a few hours before Bivins' Austin office released the senator's reaction to President George W. Bush's announcement to nominate Bivins as ambassador to Sweden.

Sparks said he would seek the seat, assuming Sen. Bivins does not run for re-election.

Four others have also publicly said they plan to make a run for an incumbent-free seat. Those potential candidates are Midland Mayor Mike Cannon, Odessa businessmen Kirk Edwards and Bob Barnes and Amarillo Mayor Kel Seliger.

The first official day to file with Texas Secretary of State is Friday.

In his prepared statement on Monday, Bivins remained vague about his decision whether to seek another term in the future.

The co-founder of two business, Sparks is the owner of Discovery

See LINING UP, Page 3A

D E C 0 2 2 0 0 3

Obituaries

Pauline Ruth Russell

Funeral services for Pauline Ruth Slover Russell will be held at 2 p.m. today, Tuesday, Dec. 2, 2003, at Evergreen Cemetery in Stanton under the direction of Calvary Memorial Funeral Home of Hobbs, N.M.

Mrs. Russell died Nov. 30, 2003, in Hobbs. She was born on March 24, 1915, in Crafton to Meda Hobbs Slover and Thomas Jefferson Slover. She graduated high school at Paducah. She attended Clarendon College, then taught school at Salt Creek School in Cottle County. She married Aubrey Ray Russell on Dec. 23, 1933. She was a member of United Methodist Church of Hobbs.

Mrs. Russell was preceded in death by her parents; three brothers who died in infancy; one brother, George Hobbs Slover; her sisters, Wynell Slover and Jo Anna Smith; her husband, Ray Russell; a granddaughter, Polly Lewis; and a son-in-law, Steve Hood Jr.

She is survived by three daughters, Helen Clements and husband, Jack, of Andrews, Paule Lewis and husband, Richard, of Stanton and Carol Hood of Hobbs, N.M.; one sister, Louis Draughn of Temple; seven grandsons; one granddaughter; 17 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials be made to the United Methodist Church of Hobbs, N.M.; Vista Care Family Hospice; or the Lee County Good Samaritan Village.

Paid obituary

Billie Gammons

Billie Gammons, 80, of Big Spring died at 6 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 30, 2003, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Funeral Services will be held at 3 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel with Dr. Claude Craven officiating.

Mrs. Gammons was born Oct. 5, 1923, at Kemp. She was the daughter of Myrtle Sweat Hardy and Paul Hayden Hardy. She had been a resident of Big Spring since 1956 when she came from Kemp. She was a retired accountant. She had worked at Webb Air Force Base, Culp Industries in Midland, McCutchan Oil Company in Big Spring and Duncan Drilling in Big Spring. She had also worked part time a number of years at 7-11 in Big Spring. She was a member of Hillcrest Baptist Church.

Mrs. Gammons is survived by her husband Archie Gammons of Big Spring; three sons: Roger Gammons and his wife Joyce of San Angelo, Mickey Gammons of Mead, Okla. and Larry Gammons and his wife Lana of Big Spring; one sister: Verna Foster of Kemp; 15 grandchildren; and two great grandchildren.

In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by one sister, Helen Webb and one grandson, Cody Gammons.

Funeral service arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com

Paid obituary

John S. Ballard

John S. Ballard, 85, of Waco died Saturday, Nov. 29, 2003, at a Waco hospital. Graveside service was held at 11 a.m. today, Tuesday, Dec. 2, 2003, at Oakwood Cemetery with the Rev. Mark Nygard officiating.

Mr. Ballard was born on Aug. 4, 1918, in Big Spring to the late Claude Ballard and Nova Scotia Hickman Ballard. He graduated from Forsan High School. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II.

He lived in Waco for a number of years working for William Cameron Co., and then moved to Menard in 1962 where he worked for Burkes Lumber Co. He moved back to Waco in 1996. He was a Methodist.

Mr. Ballard was preceded by three sisters, Zellah Walker, Mildred Smith and Klydie Scudday, and one brother, Milton Ballard.

He is survived by close family members Sally Little and husband, Jack, Charlie Sullivan and wife, Pauline, Betty K. Evans and husband, Ronnie, Dan Bryant and wife, Paula, Carl Bryant and wife, Cathy, Mike Bryant and wife, Stephanie, Brad Bryant and wife, Michelle, and LaRue Robertson; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family invites all to leave a message or memory in our "Memorial Guestbook" at www.wilkinson-hatchbailey.com

Lloyd Love

Lloyd Love, 85, died at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 1, 2003 in a local nursing home. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Elmer J. Henson

Elmer J. Henson, 87, of Big Spring, died at 8:24 p.m. Monday, Dec. 1, 2003, at a local nursing home following a long illness. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Andrew J. Follis

Andrew J. Follis, 80, died Monday evening Dec. 1, at a local nursing home. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity from 8 a.m. Monday until 8 a.m. today:

- **CRISELDA MORENO**, 28, of 3700 Hamilton, was arrested Monday on capias warrants for no driver's license and no insurance.
- **LAWRENCE OCONNER**, 45, of 2406 NW 20th Street, was arrested Monday on a charge of possession of marijuana two ounces or less.
- **SHANNON BEDFORD**, 24, of 3202 Cornell, was arrested Monday on a charge of possession of marijuana two ounces or less.
- **CAMERON SEAGO**, 25, of 538 Westover Road, was arrested Monday on three Howard County warrants.
- **DONALD MITCHELL**, 64, of 911 Scurry, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **DAVID HELLUMS**, 30, of 1609 Oriole, was arrested Tuesday on two local warrants.
- **THEFT** was reported:
 - in the 900 block of Willia.
 - in the 1200 block of 11th Place.
 - in the 400 block of Birdwell.
- **POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA 2 OUNCES OR LESS** was reported in the 200 block of FM 700.
- **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported in the 800 block of Aylesford.
- **POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE** was reported in the 500 block of Union.

Sheriff's report

The Howard County Sheriff's Department reported the following activity:

- **AMADOR RIOS JR.**, 22, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on charges of assault/family violence and public intoxication.
- **DARREN HEFFINGTON**, 34, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a motion to revoke probation for driving while license suspended.
- **CHRISTOPHER LEE VALENCIA**, 21, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for possession of marijuana two ounces or less, evading arrest or detention and theft of a public servant or government contractor.
- **CLIFFORD ARVIN HART JR.**, 40, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a bench warrant.
- **CARL GENE BURLESON**, 42, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon, issuance of a bad check, theft of services by check and fraud.
- **PERRY WAYNE WELLS**, 40, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of assault/family violence.
- **ARTHUR GLENN MINSHEW**, 71, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- **MARGARITA GONZALES PALACIOS**, 61, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- **MARIA TERESA VELEZ**, 47, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- **DAVID JOE VILLAREAL JR.**, 17, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD after being arrested by the BSPD on a charge of burglary of a vehicle.
- **LAURA ELLEN MOORE**, 43, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- **GABRIEL JESSIE HERNANDEZ**, 17, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of evading arrest or detention.
- **LYNDELL BURL KNOX II**, 19, was arrested Sunday by DPS on a motion to revoke probation for criminal trespass.
- **CHRISTOPHER LEE PARTRIDGE**, 19, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a charge of possession of marijuana more than four ounces, less than five pounds.
- **CRAIG ANTHONY PARTRIDGE**, 20, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a charge of possession of marijuana more than four ounces, less than five pounds.
- **ALLEN G. COCHRAN**, 48, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a parole violation.
- **DON EDWARD ATKINSON**, 23, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a bench warrant.
- **COMANECKI OLYN THACKER**, 22, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of no liability insurance and possession of drug paraphernalia.
- **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 6900 block of E. Robinson. Deputies responded and made contact with subjects, no domestic occurred. Subjects were yelling for dogs.
- **ANIMAL PROBLEM** was reported near S. Sixth Street. Deputies responded, located animals and advised they were not aggressive. No report.
- **FIGHT IN PROGRESS** was reported in the 1900 block of Hilltop Road. Deputies responded, requested EMS upon arrival. Arrest was made with case number assigned, report to follow.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 400 block of Jeffery. Deputies responded with report to follow.

Bulletin board

If you have items for the Bulletin board, contact the Herald news room at 263-7331 or email editor@bigspringherald.com
Today

The Concerned Citizens Council's meeting will be held today at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library's Dorothy Lamb basement meeting room.

Intermediate Line Dance classes meets at 9 a.m. at the Senior Citizens Center. Call 267-1628 for more information.

Big Spring Rotary meets at noon in the Howard County Cactus Room.

VFW Post 2013 meets at the VFW Hall at 7 p.m., 500 Driver Rd.

Coahoma Senior Citizens luncheon is at 11 a.m. in Coahoma Community Center.

Big Spring chapter 67 Order of Eastern Star meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Masonic Lodge, 219 Main.

Sheriff's Posse is held at 7 p.m. in the clubhouse on Andrews Highway.

American Red Cross, Canterbury S. meets at 1600 Lancaster at 7 p.m.

Alzheimer's Association Greater West Texas chapter meets at 2 p.m. in Howard County Library, 500 S. Main in the conference room.

Gospel singing at Kentwood Activity Center. Guest singers from Midland and Colorado City starts at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

Wednesday

Line dancing at 1 p.m. in the Senior Citizens Center in the Industrial Park. Call 267-6966 or 267-1628 for more information.

Duplicate Bridge Club meets Wednesday, Thursday or Friday at 1 p.m. at Big Spring Country Club.

Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the HC Cactus Room.

Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at HC Cactus Room.

Senior Circle meets at 10 a.m. at SMMC classroom for stretch and tone.

Fraternal Order of Eagles meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge, 708 West Third.

Correction

Monday's edition incorrectly identified the starting point of the upcoming Herald Community Christmas Parade as the corner of the north frontage road of FM 700 and Gregg Street. The starting point for the parade will be the intersection of Gregg and 24th Street.

Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 10-18-23-24-27.
Number matching five of five: 1.
Prize per winner: \$47,858.
Winning tickets sold in: Seven Points.
Next Cash 5 drawing: Tuesday night.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 9-5-3

Weather

Tonight...Partly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of showers. Lows around 50. South winds 10 to 15 mph.
Wednesday...Partly cloudy in the morning then clearing. Highs in the lower 60s. North winds 5 to 15 mph. Wednesday night...Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 30s.
Thursday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 60s.
Friday...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 30s. Highs in the upper 50s.
Saturday...Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 30s. Highs in the lower 60s.
Sunday through Monday...Partly cloudy. Lows around 40. Highs in the lower 60s.

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Researcher guilty on 47 of 69 charges

By **BETSY BLANEY**
Associated Press Writer

LUBBOCK — A world-renowned plague researcher was convicted Monday of 47 charges, but was acquitted on 22 others, including the most serious allegations related to a bioterrorism scare that was prompted when he reported that plague samples had possibly been stolen from his Texas Tech University lab.

Dr. Thomas Butler, 62, was acquitted on the most serious charges of smuggling and illegally transporting the potentially deadly germ, as well as lying to federal agents.

He appeared stunned as the verdicts were read after two days of deliberations. He closed his eyes, shook his head and fought back tears. After the jury left the courtroom, Butler's wife and son hugged him tightly for several seconds.

The charges stemmed from an investigation following his report to police Jan. 14 that 30 vials of the potentially deadly plague bacteria were missing from his Texas Tech lab.

The report sparked a bioterrorism scare in this West Texas city in January and President Bush was informed of the incident.

In a statement written later, Butler said he accidentally destroyed the samples. However, during his trial he testified that he had no clear memory of destroying the vials but that they could have been destroyed during his cleanup of an accident he had Jan. 3 or 4.

Butler declined to comment after the verdict. His attorney, Chuck Meadows, said: "We are disappointed that the jury did not acquit Tom of all the charges. We're going to analyze the jury's verdict."

The jury of nine men and three women found Butler guilty of mislabeling a Fed Ex package that contained plague samples he sent to Tanzania and their unauthorized export to the African country. Butler had marked the package "laboratory materials" and did not tell a Fed Ex employee that plague samples were enclosed.

The jury also found Butler guilty of 44 less serious charges that were entirely unrelated to the bioterrorism scare. Butler was convicted of theft, embezzlement, fraud, and mail and wire fraud charges pertaining to shadow contracts prosecutors claimed he had

illegally negotiated with pharmaceutical companies with which he also had clinical studies contracts.

However, he was acquitted on charges of lying to the FBI about his report of missing vials of plague-causing bacteria and making a false statement to a Texas Tech safety officer about Butler possessing plague samples in September 2002.

"We are pleased that Tom was found not guilty of lying to the FBI. We are particularly pleased the jury found him not guilty of perpetuating a hoax regarding his report of the missing plague vials," Meadows said.

Jurors found him innocent of smuggling plague samples into the United States in April 2002 and illegally transporting them to a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention facility in Fort Collins, Colo., in June 2002 and a U.S. Army medical research facility in Fort Detrick, Md., in October 2002.

Butler also was acquitted on three of four counts of transporting smuggled goods — the plague samples.

No sentencing date was set.

Butler faces up to 240 years in prison, though he faces fewer years under federal sentencing guidelines. He also faces fines up to \$11.7 million.

Juror Kacy Crabtree refused to discuss details of the panel's decision, but said they all held hands before beginning deliberations and prayed.

"It was a very hard decision and we came together as a team," she said.

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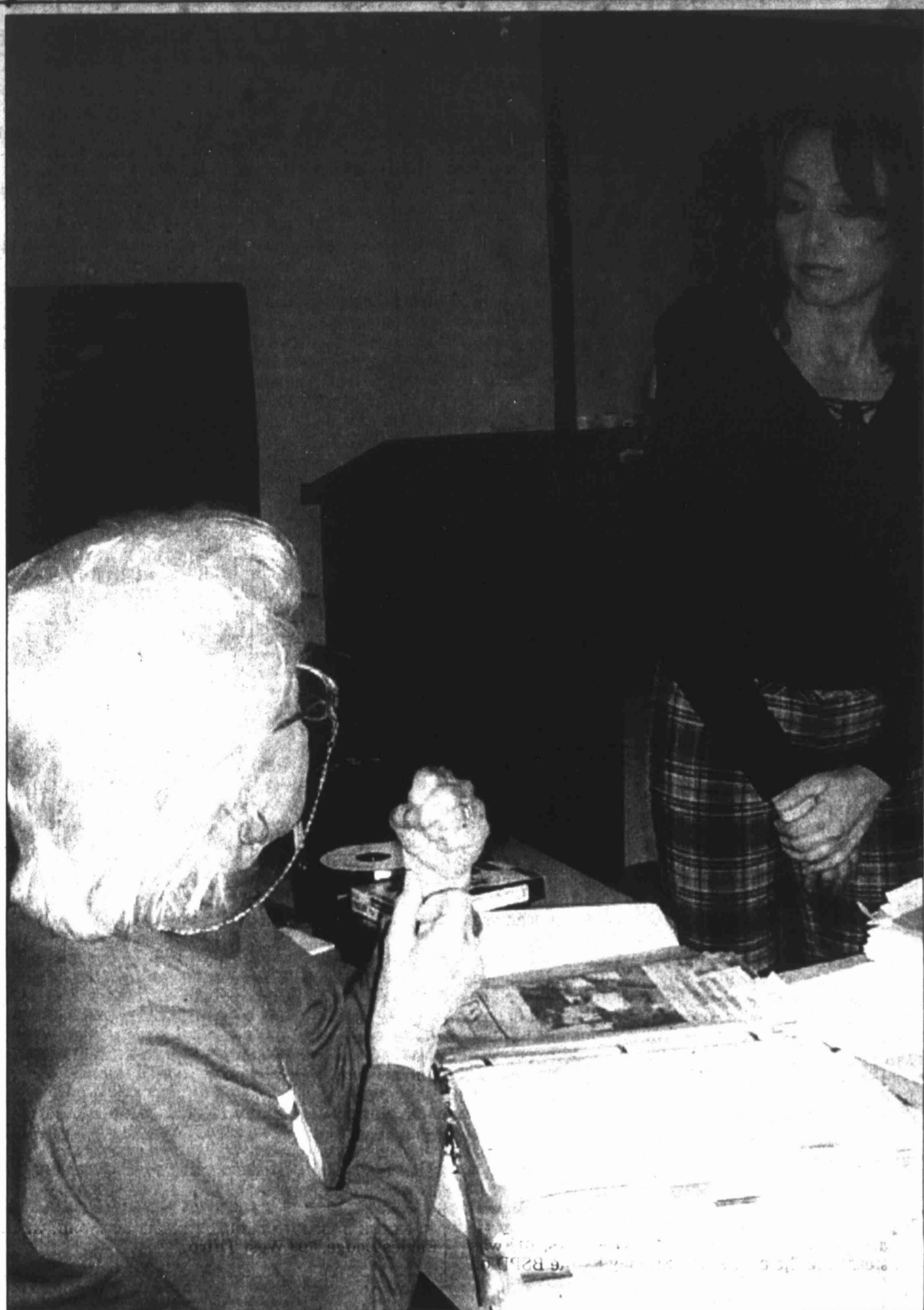
Billie Gammons, 80, died Sunday. Funeral services will be 3:00 PM Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Elmer J. Henson, 87, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Lloyd Love, 85, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Andrew J. Follis, 80, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Rev. John G. "Jack" Harrison, 83, died November 5, 2003. Committal services will be 1:00 PM Wednesday at Trinity Memorial Park. Memorial services will be 11:00 AM Friday at First Presbyterian Church.



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody
Rosie Lopez, Keep Odessa Beautiful executive director, speaks with Janell Davis, a member of the Keep Big Spring Beautiful committee, following a meeting on Monday. As the guest speaker at the meeting, Lopez provided information concerning several key areas of running a successful program. The Keep Big Spring Beautiful committee was organized this year and is looking for volunteers.

VOLUNTEERS

Continued from Page 1A

Trash Off.
"We can expand the program to more than just the Trash Off to keep Big Spring beautiful," said Keep Big Spring Beautiful President Jan Hansen. "Rosie Lopez is here to give us some

ideas about getting the community involved."

Affiliated with Keep Texas and Keep America Beautiful organization's, the program's mission is aimed at educating individuals to take responsibility for enhancing their community environment.

And an important part of that is to involve all aspects of the communi-

ty, Lopez said.

"I cannot stress how important diversity is," Lopez told the crowd of about 30. "You need people from all walks of life — the mayor, Girl Scouts, the hospitals — the list goes on and on. All different types of individuals are needed to be a part of this because it's all our community."

Keep Big Spring Beautiful meets the first Monday of every month at noon. For more information about the organization, call the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce at 263-7641.

Contact Staff Writer Lyndel Moody at 263-7331, ext. 234, or by e-mail at newsdesk@crcom.net

BIVINS

Continued from Page 1A

Committee, Jurisprudence Committee and Government Organization Committee.

In 1997 and in 2003, Bivins was recognized as one of the "Ten Best Legislators" by *Texas Monthly Magazine*, and in 1999 he was named one of the most influential

lawmakers in Austin by the *Dallas Morning News*.

Before being elected to serve in public office, he worked as a businessman and cattleman. Bivins graduated from Tulane University and earned his law degree from Southern Methodist University.

The news came just hours after Midlander Don Sparks officially announced his intention to run for the District 31 Senate seat held by Bivins if, Sparks said, the current

senator decides not to seek another term.

Four others have also publicly said they plan to make a run for an incumbent free seat. Those candidates are Midland Mayor Mike Cannon, Odessa businessmen Kirk Edwards and Bob Barnes and Amarillo Mayor Kel Seliger.

Contact Staff Writer Lyndel Moody at 263-7331, ext. 234, or by e-mail at newsdesk@crcom.net

LINING UP

Continued from Page 1A

Operating Inc. which is an oil and gas exploration company that operates about 250 wells in the Panhandle and throughout the Permian Basin. At the same time, he has managed a farm in Sherman County.

Barnes, an Odessa oil

businessman, said in a prepared statement that he would run a positive, issue-oriented campaign based on transportation, economic development and limiting the size of government.

"As a life-long West Texan, I am very enthusiastic about the opportunity to serve this district and Texas as a state senator," Barnes said. "My

background as a small businessman and employer will continue to focus me on uniting this region, creating a strong environment for small businesses and helping families to

succeed across West Texas."

Contact Staff Writer Lyndel Moody at 263-7331, ext. 234, or by e-mail at newsdesk@crcom.net

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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.

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OUR VIEWS

Spirit of giving far better than getting

As the holiday season progresses, it is time to take a few minutes and remember those less fortunate than ourselves. That's not only true for ourselves individually, but collectively as a community.

The spirit of giving far outweighs that of getting. It's a message we preach to our children at an early age during the Christmas season.

And this Christmas, as is always the case, there are a number of agencies that need our help.

Most Howard Countians are well aware of the Salvation Army's Angel Trees which are used to collect gift items for needy children and senior citizens. Some may be unaware though, of the Giving Trees in Big Spring.

Child Protective Services annually sponsors a Giving Tree in the lobby of Wells Fargo Bank. The tree is trimmed with paper ornaments, each bearing the name of a child who has three wishes for the holidays. Individuals or groups select ornaments from the tree, purchase the gifts and return them, unwrapped to the tree. Each ornament is marked with the child's shoe and clothing size. The program runs through Dec. 19.

Many children benefit each year from the CPS Giving Tree.

A separate Giving Tree, sponsored by Adult Protective Services and located at Western National Bank, will have the names of the elderly and disabled from Big Spring, Midland and Odessa placed on the ornaments. Each ornament contains a wish list for affordable items such as electric blankets, bath robes, slippers and baseball caps.

Paper ornaments will be placed on the trees beginning Wednesday, and will be available until Dec. 8. Unwrapped gifts can be taken to Western National Bank locations, or Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services offices located in Big Spring, Midland and Odessa.

Participation is simple. Go into the bank and pick an ornament which has the child's first name, Christmas wish list, size and everything needed to accurately purchase a gift.

An additional gift would be nice, as well. Unwrapped gifts can be delivered back to the bank or the Big Spring CPS office, 501 Birdwell Lane.

So, if you can, take a few minutes to drop by Wells Fargo Bank and pick an ornament off the Giving Tree and make this a special Christmas for a special child. Remember, however, for children, Christmas just isn't Christmas without a new toy.

The Herald and the Salvation Army want to make sure no child in Big Spring has to experience that feeling this Christmas season.

The Herald is in the midst of a toy drive, asking local residents to bring a new unwrapped toy to the newspaper office at 710 Scurry between 7:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. during week days.

Again this year and we're concerned that not all the children will receive a gift.

With only a few weeks for the drive, Bob Rumpff, the Herald's Toy Drive coordinator, said he hopes there will be a quick response to the call for toy donations. The last day to bring toys to the Herald is Wednesday, Dec. 17. The toys will be taken to the Salvation Army and distributed on Dec. 23.

Help us make sure the Salvation Army can give every child in need at least one new toy this Christmas.

Let's all be able to say we did our best to make it a joyous holiday season throughout Big Spring and Howard County.

And don't forget, the Salvation Army's Angel Trees have the Christmas wishes of many needy children and elderly citizens on them as well this season.

While many people may leave the adoption of angels up to local civic and charity groups, individual donors are the heart and soul of the Angel Tree program.

While many people prepare for the holiday madness, the Angel Trees are within easy reach throughout the season, located at the Big Spring Mall, Wal-Mart, Gales Sweet Shoppe; with the senior tree here at the Herald.

For more information on the Angel Tree program, contact the Big Spring Salvation Army at 267-8239.

Although the Angel Tree program is a large part of the Salvation Army's holiday spirit, it's by no means the only one. The local corps office staff is also in the midst of its annual canned food drive.

The annual canned food drive began Monday and will continue through Dec. 14.

And for those of us more fortunate, we encourage participating in as many of these programs as we can afford. It just takes a few dollars to brighten this special time for a child or an elderly person.

Remember, the feeling you will receive from helping others is truly what is meant by the Christmas spirit.

Be grateful for freedom

This being the season, let us give thanks for freedom.

As President Bush said in London: "Freedom is beautiful. It is a fantastic thing to come to a country where people are able to express their views." Indeed, freedom is so beautiful, so precious that one needs to be zealous, to be watchful, lest this priceless beauty come to harm.

Imagine my surprise to see in the headlines this Thanksgiving week that the Federal Bureau of Investigation is "targeting peace groups." Operation Cointelpro is back. Now, of the various menaces faced by our republic, I must admit peace groups are not high on my list. A motley assortment of vegetarians, Unitarians, Quakers, miscellaneous pacifists, unclassified idealists, sweet damn fools, followers of Gandhi and Dr. King, and some others I suspect are far ahead of the rest of us both morally and politically.

I have watched peace people sitting in ditches in the Texas Panhandle in August singing "Kumbayah" in hopes of stopping nuclear war. I have seen them give blood and get arrested for trespassing on their government's property. I have seen them keep silent vigils and hold candlelight marches for peace. I have heard them sing and pray for peace. I have watched them carry funny and touching signs in demonstrations for peace. One thing I have never seen them do is anything that calls for investigation by the FBI.

Clearly, being in favor of peace is not sufficient grounds for an FBI surveillance effort — right? We don't investigate and start files on people in this country for their political opinions, even opinions so extreme, so extraordinary, so unheard of as believing that war — on the whole, really — is not a

good thing.

Ah, but perhaps these peace people — these lovely, gentle, harmless, pacific peace people — perhaps they are being infiltrated by people who are not real peace people. This has in fact happened in the past — people with no real interest in peace join peace groups and try to manipulate them for their own purposes.

I am pleased to report that peace people are perfectly well of peace of this, on the qui vive, (SET ITAL) en garde, (END ITAL) ready, prepared to fend off these interlopers. Their rule is simple: "Anyone Who Suggests That a Peace Group Do Anything Illegal Is Automatically Assumed to Be an Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation."

This rule stems from years of painful practical experience with FBI efforts to spoil, stain and blacken the reputation of the peace movement. Consequently, you can understand the peace people being ill at ease over the news that their tax dollars are now being used by the FBI to spy on them.

But don't peaceniks get arrested a lot? A few of them do — the American Civil Liberties Union is now investigating over 300 cases of peace protesters who were arrested unfairly and/or violently during the lead-up to the war in Iraq, using videotape of the arrests — a tactic that the FBI memo outlining the new crackdown describes as "intimidation" against the police.

Some peace people also use civil disobedience as a tactic. For those who need a refresher course, civil disobedience — as opposed to just getting arrested at a demo — is deliberately breaking a law you consider unjust and being prepared to pay the legal penalty for doing so. Those engaging in civil disobedience do not attempt to avoid or evade arrest, they go willingly, often limply, and stay in jail singing "Kumbayah" as long as the law prescribes. Not a public menace.

So just whom is the FBI attempting to infiltrate and foil here?

Why, it turns out, anarchists — anarchists have been associated with demonstrations against world trade agreements, it says right in the FBI memo, and protests against the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. Furthermore, these anarchists wear black masks and run around breaking store windows, a tactic that is not only a breach of the peace but also considerably less effective against GATT and NAFTA than singing "Kumbayah."

So, I have a question — really just a suggestion here: If the FBI is worried about anarchists opposed to free trade agreements, why doesn't the FBI infiltrate anarchist groups that are opposed to free trade agreements, instead of the peace movement? Eh? Why should one's freedom be undermined or should one be a suspect because one is for peace? Are we not allowed to be for peace? What would Jesus say?

In a repeated pattern — Phoenix; Evansville, Ind.; Kalamazoo, Mich.; St. Louis; Trenton, N.J.; Albuquerque, N.M.; Neville Island, Pa.; Columbia, S.C.; Houston; Richmond, Va.; and Washington, D.C. — protesters holding anti-Bush signs or antiwar signs have been either arrested or segregated further away, often into so-called "free speech zones," while demonstrators with pro-Bush signs are allowed within hollering distance of the president.

Since when have one's constitutional rights depended on one's political opinions? I have news for the Bush administration: This country is a free speech zone. There are no zoning ordinances that apply to our rights. Freedom is a beautiful thing, and it is fantastic to come to a country where people are free to express their views. Let us give thanks.

To find out more about Molly Ivins and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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MOLLY IVINS

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Senate energy bill a real 'logroller'

Sen. Bill Frist, experiencing a rough rookie year as majority leader, put it publicly to fellow senators late Friday morning. If you want to retain the succulent morsels of pork embedded in the massive energy bill, you better let the whole bill pass because you won't get a chance to pass them individually. This was modern "logrolling," a 19th-century invention for passing lots of bad proposals by bundling them together.

Frist fell two votes short of the 60 senators (out of 100) required to halt debate, a Senate super-majority needed these days to adopt anything controversial in the Senate. That setback evoked no remorse over concocting a monstrosity of a bill that goes \$4 billion over Budget Act limits. Unrepentant about the bill, Frist promised to try again before adjournment. Senate Democratic Leader Tom Daschle, who pushed hard for special ethanol treatment benefiting agricultural interests in his home state of South Dakota, blamed House Majority Leader Tom DeLay's help for energy interests in his state of Texas for sinking the bill.

The tip-off on the congressional mindset came when the House quietly abandoned plans to quit for the year this past weekend. Instead, House leaders made plans to reconvene Dec. 4 and 5 to consider an omnibus appropriations bill. "That gives them a chance to buy votes," one prominent lobbyist explained to me. That is, appropriations might purchase votes for

the energy bill. More now than any time since I started covering Capitol Hill in 1957, Congress is a giant, bipartisan, bicameral marketplace.

The 1,200-page final version of the energy bill supposedly addresses serious national problems, and it does contain desirable provisions (including federal authority to issue permits for interstate electricity lines in bottleneck areas). But mainly the bill is a vehicle for special interests. Washington lobbyists have been in a frenzy.

A classic case, described in detail by the Public Citizen liberal watchdog group, involves \$800 million in federal loan guarantees for Minnesota-based Excelsior Energy to build a coal gasification plant. Although this would be the largest American facility of this type, neither the Senate nor the House voted on the risky venture. Excelsior was created by executives tied to NRG Energy, which filed for bankruptcy this year after being fined for manipulating energy markets.

Excelsior's executives since January 2002 have contributed more than \$15,000 to congressional candidates, with over \$7,000 going to Republican Sen. Norm Coleman of Minnesota (elected in 2002). Some 13 lobbyists employed by Excelsior have contributed \$44,000 in the same cycle. Minnesota's Democratic Sen. Mark Dayton joined Coleman in voting for the bill.

Support for the energy bill from Daschle and other farm belt Democrats was bought by mandating a doubling of ethanol production in the next 10 years. This puts the federal government solidly athwart the market in dictating nationwide use of the corn-based fuel.

Addressing the Senate after

Friday's failed cloture vote, Daschle upbraided DeLay for going one step too far. The Republican leader added an amendment that throws out a lawsuit filed by New Hampshire against oil and chemical manufacturers of MTBE (alleging that the fuel additive has tainted underground water supplies in the Northeast). Opposition by five Republican senators from New England killed cloture on Friday.

Daschle seemed oblivious to what a monstrosity the energy bill would still be, even without the MTBE provision. So were Frist and nearly all Republican senators. Sen. John McCain took the Senate floor last Wednesday to assail the energy bill with the trademark criticism that often offends his colleagues: "I fear for the passage of a 1,200-page, pork-laden bill. The outbreak of Washington trichinosis will be so severe we will be forced to have a field office for the Centers for Disease Control right next to the Capitol."

McCain was the only Republican senator outside New England to vote against cloture Friday. He is one of the very few senators of either party who, apart from partisan considerations, object to today's degrading legislative process. McCain says the energy bill should be called the "Leave No Lobbyist Behind Act of 2003." Brushing themselves off after their defeat on the energy bill, the lobbyists were back at work over the weekend seeking a new venue for pork.

To find out more about Robert D. Novak and read his past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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Man

DALLAS (AP) — Texas man's more than 1,000 claims of sexual abuse by a Vietnam War military honor guard member, B.G. "Jug" Monday received branch's Civilian Service Award. Former President Bush presented Burkett during his visit to the B. College Station. The award from the Army is "unique and

Supreme ban

WASHINGTON (AP) — A low-up to its allowed paren money to sen religious sch Court is weigh ments can pro some kinds of students who s

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CROOKSTON (AP) — A man by authorities tory sex offe arrested and ch kidnapping in pearance of a c dent who may abducted las while talking o phone.

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Police said a Sjodin was co and said no o mation would b until a news Tuesday. Rodriguez has

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AUSTIN (AP) — A three-judge fed on Monday attempts to fo Majority Lea DeLay and Barton to testif suit over Texas gressional distr

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Man who exposed fake Vietnam records honored

DALLAS (AP) — A North Texas man's discovery that more than 1,200 people either lied about or exaggerated their claims of serving in the Vietnam War has earned him a military honor.

B.G. "Jug" Burkett on Monday received the military branch's Distinguished Civilian Service Award. Former President George H.W. Bush presented the award to Burkett during a brief ceremony at the Bush Library in College Station.

The award from the secretary of the Army cited Burkett's "unique and important contri-

bution in properly honoring our veterans of the Vietnam War."

Burkett was nominated for the award more than a year ago by John W. Nicholson, an undersecretary at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, who said Burkett overcame huge obstacles to get his story out.

"He exposed a mass distortion of history that cost taxpayers billions of dollars" in undeserved veteran benefits, said Nicholson. "He returned to the Vietnam veterans their good name."

Burkett's mission began in

1986 with his efforts to raise funds for the Texas Vietnam Veterans Memorial at Fair Park in Dallas. Many people refused to donate, Burkett said, because they believed they would be helping drug-abusing psychopaths with no desire to work or contribute to society.

"I'm a little overwhelmed because none of what I've done exceeded just doing my duty," Burkett, a financial adviser who served in Vietnam in the late 1960s, told The Dallas Morning News in Tuesday's editions.

Burkett started his own research to find out who fought

in Vietnam and to debunk some of the myths about Vietnam veterans. Through the work, he exposed more than 1,200 people, including politicians and entertainers, who had tried to capitalize on bogus or inflated war records.

In a nearly 700-page book published in 1998, Burkett and co-author Glenna Whitley also challenged the belief that young and poor minority draftees fought and died in higher numbers in Vietnam. Burkett's research for "Stolen Valor: How the Vietnam Generation Was Robbed of Its Heroes and Its History," indicated that 75 per-

cent of those killed were volunteers.

"He did all this despite death threats, lawsuits and a completely unhelpful book industry that at first refused to publish his findings," said Nicholson.

Burkett said he's happy to receive the Army's award because it will help bring the right type of attention to his comrades.

"I'm happy because it brings the focus back to the message," he said. "And the message basically is that the people who served in Vietnam are the finest troops we ever produced."

Supreme Court weighs whether states may ban scholarship money for religious schooling

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a follow-up to its major ruling that allowed parents to use public tax money to send their children to religious schools, the Supreme Court is weighing whether governments can provide scholarships for some kinds of schooling but not for students who study theology.

The case the court was hearing Tuesday is in many ways the flip side of the emotional argument over school vouchers. The high court cleared the way for government-funded vouchers programs in 2002.

The latest case asks not whether governments can use tax money to underwrite religious education, as the voucher question did, but whether when money is available, it must be available equally.

The case concerns a former college student who won and then lost a merit scholarship offered by the state of Washington. Joshua Davey lost the money when he declared theology as his major.

Like 36 other states, Washington prohibits spending public funds at schools that are religiously affiliated. The bans, known as Blaine amendments, date to the 19th century when anti-Catholic sentiment ran high.

Davey and his backers say the state law is discriminatory and violates the Constitution's guarantee of freedom of religion. The state argues the policy did Davey no harm.

A ruling in Davey's favor could overturn Blaine amendments everywhere.

Davey's opponents at the Supreme Court have argued that the matter boils down to the states' rights to spend their money as they see fit.

The Davey case is one of two major church-state debates at the high court this year. The other concerns a California atheist who wants to strip the phrase "under God" from the Pledge of Allegiance. Davey has since abandoned his

ambition for the ministry in favor of Harvard Law School, but said he is still bothered that the state seemed to slight his first choice.

"From my perspective it was very unfair and kind of arbitrary," said Davey, a devout Christian. "I was being told that that value wasn't important and wasn't worth the state's money."

The case began in 1999, when Davey qualified for a Promise Scholarship, a state-funded program for high-achieving students of modest means. The scholarship of about \$3,000 never came through, because Davey decided to study for the ministry at Northwest College in Kirkland, Wash.

Davey sued in federal court three years ago. The San Francisco-based 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals sided with Davey last year, finding that the state had no compelling interest in limiting what he could study.

A ruling from the Supreme Court is expected by summer.

Report: 'Big Fish' is captured in Iraq

KIRKUK, Iraq (AP) — U.S. troops have captured or killed a "big fish" in a large military operation in Kirkuk, a member of Iraq's Governing Council said Tuesday. Other officials said Saddam Hussein's top former deputy Izzat Ibrahim al-Douri was the target.

The U.S. military, however, could not confirm that it was al-Douri — the top Iraqi fugitive after Saddam. The Americans have pointed to al-Douri as a coordinator of the insurgency against U.S. forces, and last week offered a \$10 million reward for information leading to his arrest.

Mowaffak al-Rubaie, a member of the U.S.-picked Iraqi Governing Council, told the Arabic television station Al-Jazeera that there was "a very big military operation" in Kirkuk and that those killed or captured included a "big fish."

"We are trying to verify the identity of this important figure," al-Rubaie said. "Preliminary examination has been very positive."

A senior Kurdish official in Kirkuk said, speaking on condition of anonymity, he heard al-Douri had been "killed or captured," citing sources in his political party.

The official said family members of al-Douri bodyguards were seen crying and saying that

al-Douri had been captured.

The official also said the family members were in Hawija, 30 miles west of Kirkuk, and that American soldiers had arrested dozens of people there in an overnight raid.

For months, U.S. officials have pointed to him as a coordinator of incessant attacks on American forces in Iraq — and that al-Douri could be working with the al-Qaida-linked militant group Ansar al-Islam.

In the latest such violence, a U.S. soldier from the 4th Infantry Division was killed Tuesday near Samarra, the site of weekend fighting between American troops and guerrillas, the military said.

U.S. commanders claimed that up to 54 guerrillas were killed in the clash Sunday, but this has been disputed by residents and hospital officials who say less than 10 people — most of them civilians — died. After the weekend fighting, U.S. forces said Samarra attacks demonstrated a greater level of coordination in the Iraqi insurgency, although U.S. forces said they had anticipated the attacks and blunted them with superior firepower.

An Associated Press photographer saw American soldiers using a stretcher to carry a body covered in plastic to a military truck.

Kidnapping suspect arrested, charged

CROOKSTON, Minn. (AP) — A man described by authorities as a predatory sex offender was arrested and charged with kidnapping in the disappearance of a college student who may have been abducted last month while talking on her cell phone.

Alfonso Rodriguez Jr., 50, was arrested Monday in Crookston, where he lives, according to police in Grand Forks, N.D.

Dru Sjodin, 22, a University of North Dakota student from Pequot Lakes, has still not been found. She has been missing since Nov. 22 when she left her job at the Columbia Mall in Grand Forks, about 30 miles from Crookston.

Rodriguez was scheduled to appear in court Tuesday in Crookston.

Police said a search for Sjodin was continuing, and said no other information would be released until a news briefing Tuesday.

Rodriguez has a history

"We have the same mission as before — to find her. Having her back with us is the only way to complete it."

of sexual contact and attempted kidnapping with adult women, and has used a weapon in at least one assault, according to a Minnesota Department of Corrections summary of his criminal history posted on the agency's Web site.

His past offenses require that Rodriguez be registered as a predatory offender, the department said.

Neighbors of Rodriguez

said a town meeting was held in May to inform them about his release from prison.

FBI agent Paul McCabe, at the Sjodin home in Pequot Lakes, said her family was still hopeful she would be found alive. "They're focused on finding Dru," McCabe said.

Dru Sjodin's brother, Sven Sjodin, told WCCO-TV that the arrest is only one piece of the puzzle in her disappearance.

"We have the same mission as before — to find her," he said. "Having her back with us is the only way to complete it."

Neighbors said Rodriguez lived with his mother, Dolores. No one answered the phone at the home Monday night.

Sonja Thygeson, who lives about four houses down from Rodriguez and his mother, said she's never seen him do anything wrong, but took precautions anyway.

"I'm a widow and I'm older, and I was scared, so I had my son-in-law come

over and install a motion light after he (Rodriguez) moved in," Thygeson said.

Another neighbor, Milton Stave, said "there were a lot of frightened people around" when Rodriguez returned to the community.

Soon after Sjodin disappeared, her boyfriend, Chris Lang, called the student's roommate, saying he had received two calls. The first was cut off and Lang heard Sjodin say, "Oh, my God," before the phone went dead. During a second call a few hours later, there was only the sound of static and numbers being pressed.

The case had drawn more than 1,300 volunteers who have searched the area without success. In addition, about 30 FBI agents, along with investigators from 20 different agencies in three states and the Canadian province of Manitoba, were working on the case. A \$140,000 reward was offered.

Federal panel quashes subpoena of DeLay, Barton

AUSTIN (AP) — A three-judge federal panel on Monday rejected attempts to force House Majority Leader Tom DeLay and Rep. Joe Barton to testify in a lawsuit over Texas' new congressional districts.

The two Republicans had been issued subpoenas for deposition testimony, letters, e-mails and other materials in a lawsuit that seeks to block the new congressional

maps. The federal panel agreed with the lawmakers' attorney that only under exceptional circumstances, such as having unique information in a case, could they be subject to a subpoena.

Unless evidence is shown that DeLay and Barton might fall under that description, their testimony is not essential, the panel ruled. It did, however, leave open the possibility of reconsidering its decision during

trial, which is set to begin on Dec. 11.

No death penalty for five accused in smuggling ring

HOUSTON (AP) — The federal government will not seek the death penalty against five people charged in an immigrant smuggling attempt in which 19 died, U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft announced Monday.

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Who: Rev. Ken McMeans will have words of comfort to families who have lost a loved one during the year.
REFRESHMENTS will be served.
RSVP: to Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home (432) 267-6331 by Wednesday, December 3

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Especially for kids and their families
The Mini Page

By BETTY DEBNAM

At Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina

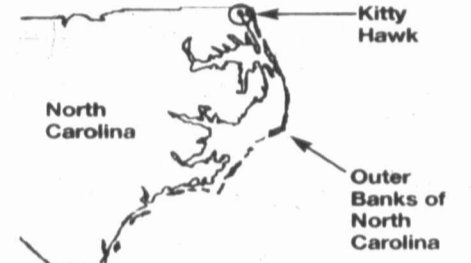
The Wright First Flight Site

One hundred years ago, on the cold morning of Dec. 17, 1903, two brothers from Dayton, Ohio, made the first controlled heavier-than-air powered flights.

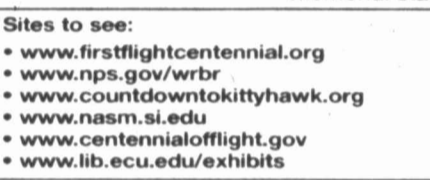
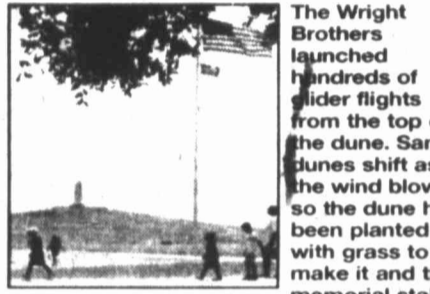
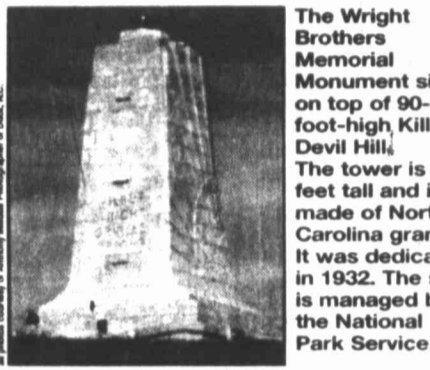
Beginning on Dec. 12 and lasting through Dec. 17, there is a big celebration planned in North Carolina.

The site of the first flight was Kill Devil Hills near Kitty Hawk. Back then, Kitty Hawk was a small fishing village on the Outer Banks (a series of barrier islands) off the coast of North Carolina.

Today, Kitty Hawk and much of the Outer Banks are vacation attractions with many beach cottages and businesses. In the Wrights' time, the area was quite remote.



To make their test flight, the Wrights wanted a place with strong winds, sand for soft landings, space to soar and privacy from reporters. The U.S. Weather Department suggested this site when Wilbur Wright wrote that he needed a site for "the purpose of making some experiments with a flying machine."



The Wright Brothers Memorial Monument sits on top of 90-foot-high Kill Devil Hill. The tower is 60 feet tall and is made of North Carolina granite. It was dedicated in 1932. The site is managed by the National Park Service.

The Wright Brothers launched hundreds of glider flights from the top of the dune. Sand dunes shift as the wind blows, so the dune has been planted with grass to make it and the memorial stable.

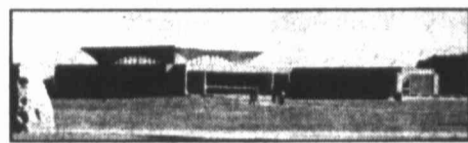
Sites to see:
 • www.firstflightcentennial.org
 • www.nps.gov/wrby
 • www.countdowntokittyhawk.org
 • www.nasm.si.edu
 • www.centennialofflight.gov
 • www.lib.ecu.edu/exhibits



A large granite boulder marks the spot where the Flyer first left the ground. Boulders with numbers mark the distance of each of the four Dec. 17 flights.



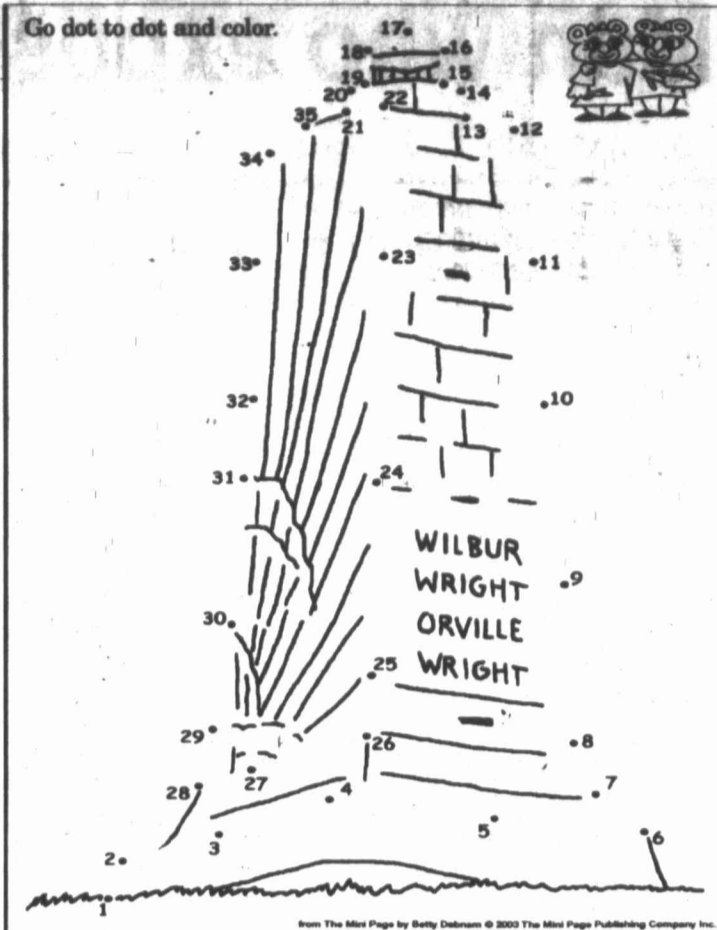
The camp site that the Wrights used in 1903 has been re-created. It includes the hangar used for the Flyer and a building used as a workshop and living quarters.



The Wright Brothers National Memorial Visitor Center features exhibits and park ranger talks.



The First Flight Centennial Pavilion has exhibits that celebrate the history and marvels of flight.



Rookie Cookie's Recipe Spiced Sipping Cider

This cider is good warm or cold.

You'll need:

- 4 cups water
- 1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1 cup sugar
- juice from 2 lemons
- juice from 2 oranges
- 1/2 gallon apple cider

What to do:

1. Bring water, spices and sugar to a boil.
2. Add juices and cider.
3. Simmer for at least half an hour.
4. Serve warm. Serves 10-12.

You will need an adult to help you with this recipe.

Rookie Cookie Cookbook

Easy, everyday recipes designed especially for kids!

- snacks
- soups
- salads
- sandwiches
- breads
- beverages
- casseroles
- main dishes
- microwave dishes
- desserts

Encourages kids to read and follow directions!

Gus Goodsport's Report

Supersport: Elexis Gillette

Height: 6-1
Weight: 163
Birthdate: 10-19-84
Hometown: Raleigh, N.C.

Elexis Gillette is a versatile athlete who has excelled in track and field, football, beep baseball and weightlifting. He currently is a full-time student at East Carolina University.

That's remarkable, considering that Elexis is blind. At age 9, he lost his sight from glaucoma. But he didn't lose his will to succeed.

Elexis learned how to long-jump at a sports camp for the blind at Western Michigan University. Then he went on to set an American record in 2002 in his classification and placed sixth in the Blind Sports Association World Championship. He also won gold medals in national competition in football, the 100-meter dash and the long jump.

At Athens Drive High School, he captained his track team. The North Carolina High School Athletic Association honored him with the Courage Award. That's what happens when your motto is "I can..."

Meet Buddy Jewell

Buddy, 41, had struggled for years to make it in country music. His dream came true this year when 2 million fans voted to make him the winner of the new country music talent show, "Nashville Star." The win led to Buddy's first recording contract and the production of his own album, "Buddy Jewell."

Buddy was born and grew up in small rural towns in Arkansas. He bought his first guitar for \$10 from a classmate. An uncle taught him to play and sing "What a Friend We Have in Jesus."

When he's not performing, he likes to raise vegetables and cook food on a grill. Buddy is married and has three children, two boys and a girl. He lives with his family in Nashville, Tenn.

Mighty Funny's Mini Jokes

All the following jokes have something in common. Can you guess the common theme or category?

Howard: What do you call a fish who takes a bath every day?
Casey: A clean sardine!

Joe: Why did the ghost go fishing?
Judith: He was tired of haunting the house!

James: Where is the town of Fish Hook?
Dean: At the end of the line!

Celebrating the First Flight

Re-flying the First Flight

Pilot and college engineering professor Dr. Kevin Koehrsberger, left, and Terry Queijo, an American Airlines pilot, in front of the Wright Flyer of 2003. One of them will fly the reproduction on Dec. 17.

The Wright Flyer of 1903 has been re-created by the Experimental Aircraft Association. The plane is handmade of muslin, wood and steel. Just like the original, it weighs 605 pounds. It is the most accurate reproduction ever made.

The flight re-enactment will take place at 10:35 on Dec. 17 if the weather permits, with the second attempt at 2 p.m. The two pilots will flip a coin to see who goes first, just like Wilbur and Orville did!

Re-creating the Flyer has been a challenge. Many people are wondering if it will really fly. We shall soon see!

The Young Eagles

Today many kids are taking part in the Young Eagles program, which gives them a chance to see what a pilot does in the cockpit. The flights are free. The pilots volunteer to take the kids up.

The program is sponsored by the Experimental Aircraft Association. These flights introduce kids to the thrill of flying. The millionth child to take part in the program, Andrew Grant, 15, from Illinois, will be a passenger in a plane that will fly over the Wright Memorial on Dec. 17. Flying with the Young Eagle will be Gen. Chuck Yeager, the first person to fly faster than the speed of sound.

Wright Brothers TRY 'N FIND

Words and names that remind you of the Wright Brothers are hidden in the block below. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally, up and down, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find: FLY, FIRST, FLIGHT, WRIGHT, BROTHERS, MEMORIAL, WILBUR, ORVILLE, KITTY, HAWK, NORTH, CAROLINA, KILL, DEVIL, HILLS, GLIDER, WINGS, PHOTOS, PROPELLER, STEEL, MUSLIN, AVIATION, RUDDER, SAND, WARPING.

PROPELLERUBLIWN
BGNIPRAWELLIVRO
RRSNXKILLJVOIRI
OEOIFIRSTSFEUGT
TDTLTOLAGLDDHA
HIOSITMLWNYEDI
ELHUGYEICIDZEYV
RGPMMHQMHAWKJRTA
SNORTHCAROLINAS

The parts of the Flyer

1. The elevator is attached to a wooden bar that has a handle at the end. The pilot would move it forward and backward to make it move. This made the Flyer climb or go down.
2. The rudder is attached to the wing-warping system, which twists the wings and turns the rudder. This enabled the Flyer to turn.
3. Radiator.
4. Wing warping, or twisting, wires.
5. The hip cradle is a section that the pilot lies down on. By moving his hips from one side to the other, the wing warping, or twisting, turned the back side of the wing up and the back side of the other wing down. This made the Flyer roll and helped it turn.
6. The propellers gave the plane the thrust to move forward. Each one turned to the different direction.
7. The engine is what gave the Flyer power. It weighed 180 pounds.

Creating the Flyer

The Wrights were from Dayton, Ohio, where they ran a bicycle shop. They had to travel by train, steamer, ferry and small boat to get to Kitty Hawk. They traveled there for anywhere from a few weeks to a few months' stay every year for four years, from 1900 to 1903.

In 1901 they built the largest glider to date. It did not fly well.

In 1900 they flew their glider as a kite.

In 1902, they made more than 1,000 glides and were ready to add an engine.

On Dec. 17, 1903, the Wrights made four flights in their powered Flyer. The first flight was made by Orville. He flew for 120 feet. The longest flight was the fourth, with Wilbur as the pilot. He flew 59 seconds for 852 feet.

Mini Spy ...

Mini Spy and her friends are visiting the Wright Brothers Memorial. See if you can find:

- elephant's head
- number 3
- cat
- fish
- bucket
- letter A
- key
- sailboat
- mushroom
- muffin
- funny face
- teapot
- letter H
- word MINI
- ice-cream cone

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Area towns ready to try Basketball get undernearnst this three of the small-school tournaments. In Garden teams will (the Bears) beginning T Forsan will the teams co the Border Tournament also begins T In Coah annual high ketball t begins Thur

BSYBA regl
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Registratic Big Sprin Basketball now under thr 13 at the YM between the and 14 are participate. Players wil ed into ag based on the date of Aug The registra \$20 per Financial as available f unable to aff Boys and participate i evaluation a draft on Dec. will begin Ja Adults int volunteering or referee sh at the YMCA

Lady Steers
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The Big Sp School Lady ketball tes square off a Lamesa Hig Lady Tors th in Lamesa. Big Spring i tip off at 8 p.r Spring JV v play at 6:30 p

BS baseball
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The Big Sp School Boosters will ing a met Monday, De begin prepar the upcomin The meeting at 6 p.m. in th

New classes
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Registration es in gymnast ming, martial women's we now being he Big Spring YMCA. Gymnastics include Kidn preschoolers, and younger, lar gymnast tumbling clas For more in contact the 267-8234.

Basketball o
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Basketball are needed upcoming sea Persons inte officiating loc this fall shoul Adam Rodrigu 8731 (home) o (cell).

ON THE
Sports Broadca Dec. 2 Event, Time America vs. Wizards, 7 p.m Dec. 3 Event, Time Spurs vs. Lakers, 7 p.m.

IN BRIEF

Area tournaments ready to tip off soon

Basketball season will get under way in earnest this week when three of the state's top small-school basketball tournaments begin.

In Garden City, 16 teams will compete in the Bearkat Classic beginning Thursday.

Forsan will be among the teams competing in the Borden County Tournament, which also begins Thursday.

In Coahoma, the annual high school basketball tournament begins Thursday.

BSYBA registration now under way at 'Y'

Registration for the Big Spring Youth Basketball League is now under way and will run through Dec. 13 at the YMCA. Youths between the ages of 5 and 14 are eligible to participate.

Players will be divided into age groups based on the eligibility date of Aug. 1, 2004. The registration fee is \$20 per player. Financial assistance is available for those unable to afford the fee.

Boys and girls must participate in a skills evaluation and player draft on Dec. 20. Games will begin Jan. 17.

Adults interested in volunteering as a coach or referee should apply at the YMCA.

Lady Steers to face Lamesa tonight

The Big Spring High School Lady Steers basketball team will square off against the Lamesa High School Lady Tors this evening in Lamesa.

Big Spring is slated to tip off at 8 p.m. The Big Spring JV will begin play at 6:30 p.m.

BS baseball boosters to meet Dec. 8

The Big Spring High School Baseball Boosters will be holding a meeting on Monday, Dec. 8, to begin preparations for the upcoming season. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. in the ATC.

New classes now forming at YMCA

Registration for classes in gymnastics, swimming, martial arts and women's weights is now being held at the Big Spring Family YMCA.

Gymnastics classes include Kidnastics for preschoolers, ages 5 and younger, and regular gymnastics and tumbling classes.

For more information contact the YMCA at 267-8234.

Basketball officials needed for season

Basketball officials are needed for the upcoming season.

Persons interested in officiating local games this fall should contact Adam Rodriguez at 263-8731 (home) or 517-0300 (cell).

ON THE AIR

| Sports Broadcast Schedule | |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| Event, Time | Station |
| Mavericks vs. Wizards, 7 p.m. | 1490 |
| Dec. 3 | |
| Event, Time | Station |
| Spurs vs. Lakers, 7 p.m. | 1490 |

Jayhawks, Gators move into top two spots in hoops poll

Bill Self didn't have to wait to be No. 1 at Kansas.

The Jayhawks, taking advantage of losses by the top four teams last week, jumped from sixth to No. 1 in The Associated Press men's college basketball poll Monday.

Their move to the top was the biggest in almost 40 years and matched the second biggest in the history of the poll, which started in the 1948-49 season.

"I don't believe we're deserving of it, but I don't know if anyone is right now," the first-year coach said before Monday morning's shootaround. "There are probably 10 to 12 teams out there who could be No. 1 the way things played out last week."

Kansas beat No. 3 Michigan State 81-74 in their only game last week, and combined with losses by Connecticut, Duke and Arizona (Nos. 1, 2 and 4 last week) and an unimpressive win by then-No. 5 Missouri, it meant another trip to No. 1.

Florida beat Arizona to move up from eighth to No. 2 this week. Georgia Tech defeated Connecticut, and Purdue beat Duke, moving them into the rankings for the first time this season. Georgia Tech was 13th, and the Boilermakers were 20th.

Kansas was ranked No. 1 for four weeks in the 2001-02 season, its first stint at the top since getting there for five straight seasons from 1992-93 through 1996-

97. Nine teams received first-place votes this week, backing up Self's point of not being deserving of the top spot.

"Although it's very early, we'll enjoy the time we have it and we certainly hope to maintain it," said Self, who took over when Roy Williams left after 14 seasons to become coach at North Carolina.

The Jayhawks (3-0) beat Texas Christian 85-66 on Monday night, their first game since starting guard Michael Lee broke his right collarbone in practice last week. He is expected to be out for up to two months.

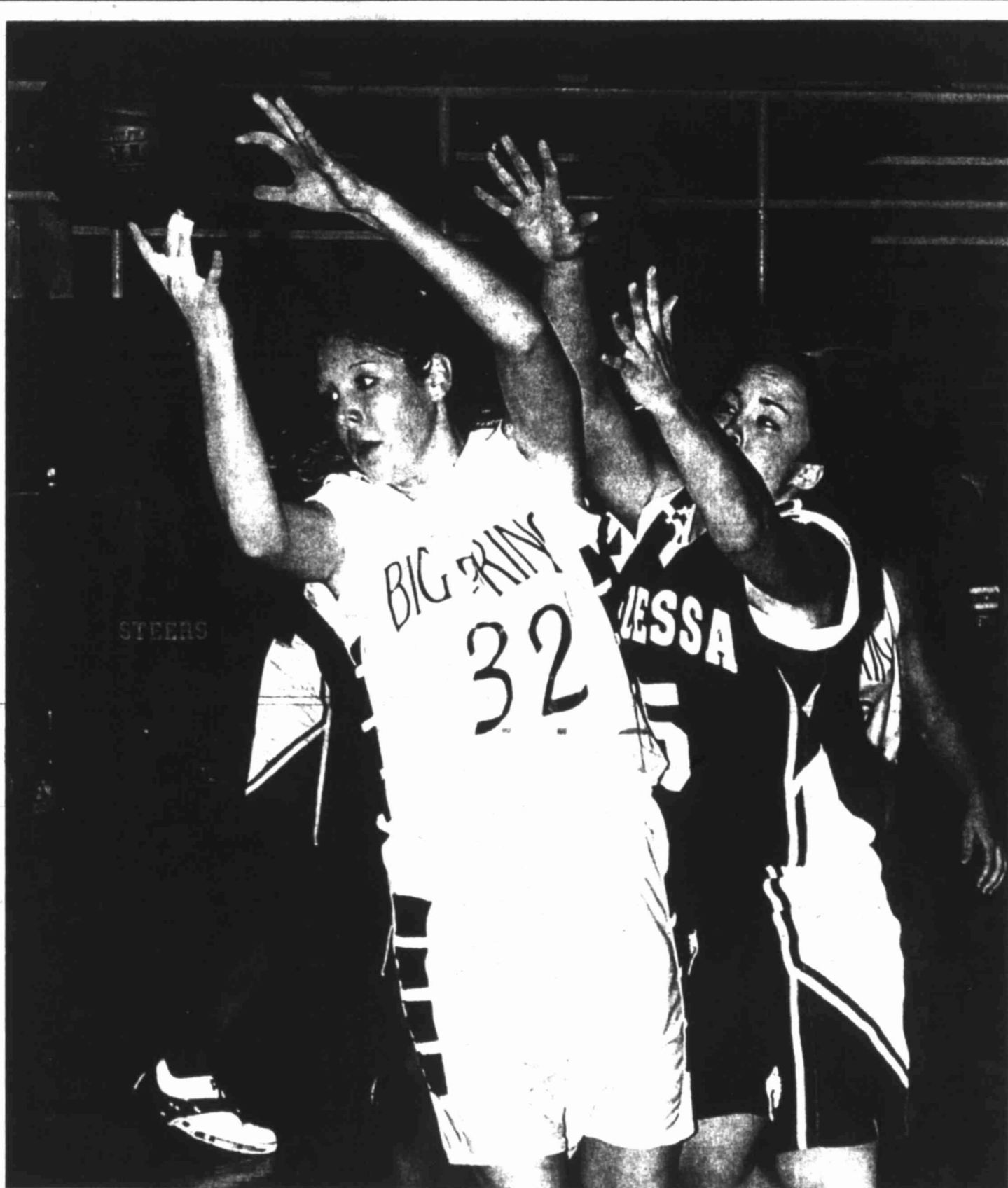
Kansas' jump from No. 6 to No. 1 matched Duke's rise on Dec. 14,

1965, and those were second only to West Virginia's moving from No. 8 to No. 1 on Dec. 24, 1957.

The Jayhawks received 52 first-place votes and 1,750 points from the 72-member national media panel, 146 more than Florida (2-0), which was No. 1 on eight ballots.

Connecticut, which was a runaway No. 1 in the preseason poll and for the first two weeks of the regular season, dropped to third following its 77-61 loss to Georgia Tech in the semifinals of the Preseason NIT. The Huskies (4-1) received one No. 1 vote.

Missouri, the only member of last week's top five that didn't lose, moved up one place to fourth.



Big Spring's Shannon Higgins battles an Odessa High School defender for a loose ball during the Lady Steers' final outing prior to the Thanksgiving break. Big Spring is scheduled to resume its season tonight when they travel to Lamesa for an 8 p.m. bout with Lamesa.

Clippers end slide vs. Spurs

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Chris Kaman is trying to make a name for himself in the NBA — even if it's spelled wrong.

The Clippers' No. 1 draft pick had 15 points and 12 rebounds, wearing a jersey with his name misspelled during the first half, and Los Angeles beat the Tim Duncan-less San Antonio Spurs 91-83 Monday night to snap a six-game skid.

"You don't really look at it when it's sitting up there in the locker. You just grab it and put it on," said Kaman, whose name was spelled "Kamman" across the back of his jersey. "I didn't know it until they told me early in the second quarter, so I decided to wait until halftime to change it."

Duncan served a one-game suspension for pushing referee Jack Nies to the floor in the Spurs' loss to Golden State on Saturday. Duncan was setting a pick as Nies was trying to untangle himself from another player. Duncan cut to the high post, put both hands on the official to clear some room, and Nies tumbled to the floor.

"I think it was unwarranted and I was disappointed about it, but that decision wasn't in my hands," Malik Rose said.

The Clippers beat the defending NBA champions for only the third time in their last 23 meetings. Kaman had nine points and nine rebounds in the second half without having to contend with Duncan.

"We attacked a little bit more, and on some of the pick-and-rolls we played a little differently than we would have with Tim in there," Kaman said. "I tried to take advantage of the situation and seize it. Every time I play basketball I try and do that so I can make myself better."

Yankees sign Boone, Gordon

NEW YORK (AP) — Free agent reliever Tom Gordon and the New York Yankees reached agreement on a two-year, \$7.25 million contract, The Associated Press learned.

Gordon was 7-6 with a team-high 12 saves and a 3.16 ERA for the Chicago White Sox last season. He pitched in 66 games, striking out 91 in 74 innings.

Gordon is 113-107 with 110 saves and a 4.07 ERA in a 15-year career.

Also, the Yankees agreed to a \$5.75 million, one-year deal with third baseman Aaron Boone.

Coogs to make first bowl appearance since 1996

HONOLULU (AP) — Houston will play in its first postseason bowl since 1996 when it takes on Hawaii in the Hawaii Bowl on Christmas Day.

The pairing of the Cougars against the host Warriors was announced Monday by Conference USA.

Houston wrapped up its season with a 56-28 victory over Alabama-Birmingham on Saturday. Hawaii (8-4, 5-2 Western Athletic Conference) is coming off a 37-29 victory over Alabama and has one game left Saturday against No. 18 Boise

State.

Arizona acquires Sexson from Milwaukee in nine-player deal

PHOENIX (AP) — The Arizona Diamondbacks acquired slugger Richie Sexson from Milwaukee in a nine-player deal that sends infielder Craig Counsell, second baseman Junior Spivey and others to the Brewers. Sexson had 45 home

State.

"One, it is a great opportunity for the players considering what they've done for this program," Houston athletic director Dave Maggard said in a news release. "Two, there is only one game played on Christmas Day, and that is the Hawaii Bowl — I believe it will give us great exposure."

"Finally, Hawaii is a great opponent, and we want to play a great opponent."

Houston finished the year at 7-5 overall and registered a 4-4 mark in Conference USA.

runs last year. Lyle Overbay, catcher Chad Moeller and pitchers Jorge De La Rosa and Chris Capuano also were dealt to Milwaukee. In addition to Sexson, Arizona received Shane Nance and a player to be named.



Howard College head coach Jim Lewis and the Hawks will return to the court Friday when they host Cedar Valley in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. The game is slated for a 7 p.m. start.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY JOYCE JILLSON



Joyce Jillson

The plucky messenger Mercury has met his match as he transits through the conventional sign of Capricorn. This is no time for small talk, particularly if that small talk involves idle promises of the "Let's do lunch" variety. It won't work because either both parties spot the lie and resent one another, or one party calls the bluff.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). A loved one wants into your heart, but you're guarding it because you don't want to depend on anyone else. This is dangerous behavior, certainly more dangerous than counting on someone. Take a chance.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Time alone to do whatever you want is heavenly. Every single moment of your day doesn't have to be planned out. Even work can be relaxing when there's nobody bugging you. Get settled in, and you'll be more productive.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You rush through the morning work load, employing your signature charm and enthusiasm to the job — no wonder you're so popular. While others moan about being over-taxed, you're busily chatting up the customers.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your joie de vivre returns, and don't think

it goes unnoticed. Singles attract all kinds of interest, but the tricky part is separating one kind from the next. Is it platonic, or is it something your mother would raise her eyebrows at?

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The heat is on, and luckily, so are you. What you mean as a polite request, someone else hears as bossy egotism. Yikes. Either that person is too sensitive, or you're out of touch with the way you really put yourself across.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Sure, the only moment you can control is the now moment, but putting your spin on the past might help you get a better grip on the present. Take a deep breath, and be prepared to answer when past work is reviewed.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll be putting together a dream team of sorts. Water signs are the best for what you need: Pisces, Cancer or Scorpio. A formerly rocky romantic relationship is experiencing gorgeous weather tonight. Games are lucky.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Thoughts are centered on money and how you can make it differently than you've ever made it before. But old duties are calling you. Do your best, and don't let anyone else know you're totally not into it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You may be late, or some tasks may take longer than you expected, but keep to your agenda as best you can. By about 4 o'clock, you're ready to blow your top, but hold on tight.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Consider your unique offerings to the job at hand. Familiar faces are your favorite, but consider opening up to someone new — this person could be the one who inspires you to aim for higher goals and distant horizons.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). All you have to do is everything you promised! Next time, if you can't find it in your heart to say "no," then at least say "maybe" instead of "I'll do it!" Tonight, you're the reasonable one in your family.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Partners and friends do great public relations work for you, telling the world how talented you are. Be careful not to get caught up in the compliments and agree to be someone's hero when the pay is zero.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I'm a Virgo who has lived all my life in California. However, I've recently realized that I've become very unhappy and think maybe it's my location. The only thing that is keeping me from moving is that my late husband is buried here, and I have some financial ties here, too. I do have property in Nevada. Do you see a move in my near future?"

You are organized, loyal and methodical, so it is a big deal for you to move, dear Virgo. Also, you are an earth sign, making it hard to appreciate that though your late husband is buried in the earth, he is not of the earth and will be able to follow you in spirit wherever you

move. Going to his grave site grounds you and helps you get a clear channel of communication with him, but you can also get that channel by building another ritual into your life to do before you talk to your husband. Light a candle, talk to his picture, or write him long letters about the upcoming decisions you'll be making. Nevada and Arizona are favorable places to move in 2004. Your financial ties will knot up easily.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Little Britney Spears has grown into a seductive young woman in spite of protests from conservative parents. With her Jupiter (the planet of luck and abundance) in the sign of sex appeal, Scorpio, she won't lose sales just because she seems to have lost key items of clothing. Spears' chart reveals that she could have a true love relationship this year with a powerful air sign — Gemini, Aquarius or Libra.

If you would like to write to Joyce Jillson, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Joyce Jillson page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Joyce Jillson and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Annie's Mailbox: Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: I am very concerned about my granddaughters, ages 1 and 3. In my opinion, my son and his wife spank them too often.



ANNIE'S MAILBOX

The family just spent two months with us on a stateside vacation from their missionary work overseas. I witnessed several spankings a day for their oldest and a few for the youngest as well. They even used a small stick.

I told my son how I felt. His defense was the biblical "Spare the rod, spoil the child." After our conversation, they did most of the spanking in their room, behind a locked door.

I don't know what to do about the situation. This happened in our home, and I had no control over it. They will be back next summer. What should I do? — Concerned Grandma

Dear Grandma: That particular quote is not from the Bible. It is from a poem by Samuel Butler. Nonetheless,

many people use Scripture to justify hitting their children, and it is difficult to reason with them. Your son should know that some scholars interpret biblical instructions on disciplining children to mean "teach" them, not strike them.

In this day and age, using a stick on a child constitutes child abuse. We assume you have no intention of reporting your son, although if you are concerned about the children's welfare, please reconsider. Meanwhile,

ask him to discuss his disciplinary methods with someone whose opinion he respects — perhaps your minister or the head of his missionary group. And let him know you will not tolerate his hitting the children in your home, whether the doors are locked or not.

Dear Annie: My son is getting married next year. The bride's parents are making all the arrangements and are quite wealthy. I am divorced and don't make much money, although my ex-husband is very well off financially.

The bride's mother recently informed me that it is the responsibility of the groom's parents to pay for the rehearsal dinner she is planning. We're talking about 20 people. This is going to be quite expensive. My ex-husband said he is willing to pay half, but even half is far more than I can afford.

My son expects me to meet this obligation. Without embarrassing my son or myself, can I graciously get out of this? — Low-Income Mother of the Groom

Dear Mother-of-the-Groom: It is customary for the parents of the groom to host a rehearsal dinner before the wedding. However, it is inappropriate for the mother of the bride to make the arrangements. This is your responsibility, and we suggest you have something simple and affordable, and ask your

husband if he would consider paying more than half for your son's sake.

A rehearsal dinner does not have to be fancy. Consider having a small buffet in your home, with food you can make yourself with assistance from relatives or friends. Some casseroles, with cake and punch for dessert, would be just fine.

Dear Annie: Here is another suggestion for those hospitable readers whose guests never seem to know when to leave.

My husband and I knew a gentleman who would sit back in his chair, stretch his arms behind his head and say, "I'm so tired that if I were at someone else's house, I'd go home!" It made for great laughs, and his guests always got the hint. — Wendy in Moscow, Idaho

Dear Wendy: How delightful! We love it.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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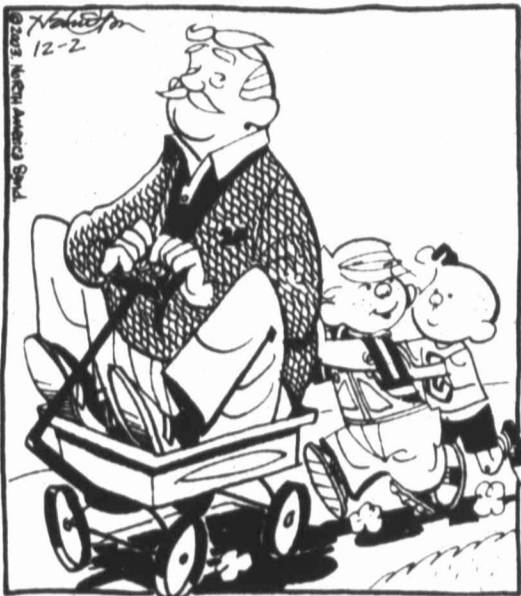
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| 8 | News (CC) | Accord-Jim Less-Perfect | Accord-Jim Less-Perfect | Nina... Amada Mia | 70s Show (DVS) | Movie: Miss Congeniality (CC) (DVS) | Ladron de Corazones | Fraser (CC) | Light of the Southwest | To Be Announced | New Detectives-Forensic | FBI Files | Law & Order (CC) (DVS) | Coming to the Stage | Carol Lilo & Stich | College Basketball | Movie: Ransom | Movie: Kill Me Later (CC) | (CC) |
| 9 | News (CC) | Line of Fire (CC) | Line of Fire (CC) | Casos de la Vida Real | 70s Show (DVS) | News Late Show | Noticias Laura | News Tonight Show | Hour of Healing | Charlie Rose (CC) | New Detectives-Forensic | Joe Kidd | Angal (CC) | Nightly News Proud Family | Kim Possible Boy World | Maryland Streetball | SportsCenter | Law & Order: Consuming | (CC) |
| 10 | News (CC) | Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel | Extra (CC) Jimmy Kimmel | En las Mejores Familias | Becker (CC) Spin City | Late Late | Al Rojo Vivo (CC) | Late Night | 10 Movie: A View to a Richman | Sign Off | New Detectives-Forensic | 20 Movie: Colors | X-Files (CC) | Midnight Love | Even Stevens Sister, Sister | NBA Footbreak Outside-Lines | Season: Special Victims | Dead Zone | Movie: 12-15 Movie: Down the |
| 11 | AM Live (CC) | AM Live (CC) | AM Live (CC) | Angela | Blind Date | Show (CC) | Maria Celeste (CC) | Kill (CC) | Update/Arrest Booker | FBI Files | FBI Files | Colors | X-Files (CC) | Comcview | Boy World | Winter X-Games Classic | SportsCenter (CC) | Nash Bridges | Down the |
| 12 | AM Live (CC) | Oprah Winfrey | Oprah Winfrey | Oprah Winfrey | Oprah Winfrey | Oprah Winfrey | Oprah Winfrey | Oprah Winfrey | Oprah Winfrey | Oprah Winfrey | Oprah Winfrey | Oprah Winfrey | Oprah Winfrey | Oprah Winfrey | Oprah Winfrey | Oprah Winfrey | Oprah Winfrey | Oprah Winfrey | Oprah Winfrey |

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I THINK GRANDPAS ARE JUST OVERGROWN KIDS, JOEY."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"When you're playin' phone tag, how do you know who's 'it'?"

HAGAR



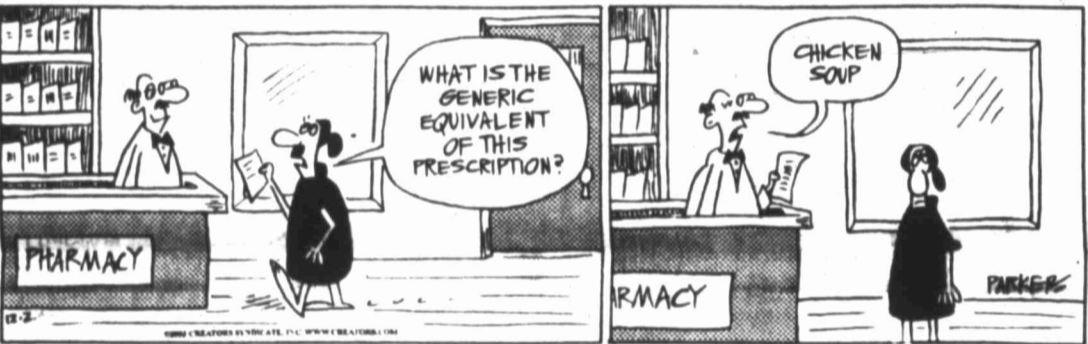
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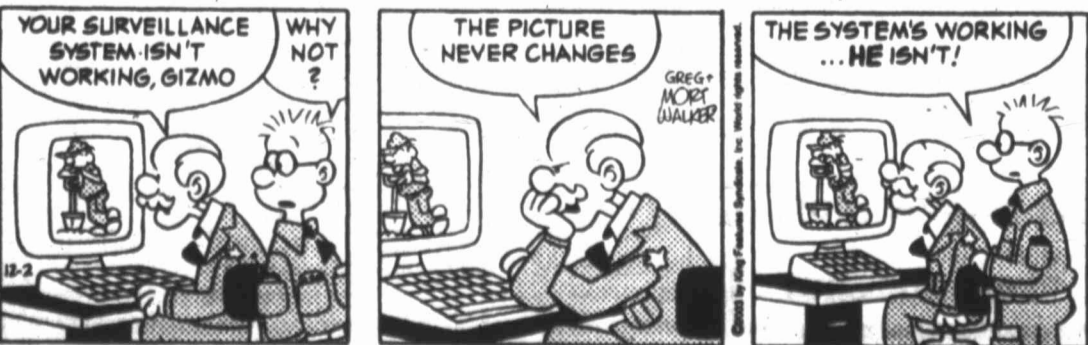
MR. HOUSEWIFE



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Dec. 2, the 336th day of 2003. There are 29 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Dec. 2, 1823, President Monroe outlined his doctrine opposing European expansion in the Western Hemisphere.

On this date: In 1804, Napoleon was crowned emperor of France. In 1859, militant abolitionist John Brown was hanged for his raid on Harper's Ferry the previous October.

In 1942, a self-sustaining nuclear chain reaction was demonstrated for the first time at the University of Chicago.

In 1943, "Carmen Jones," Oscar Hammerstein II's contemporary reworking of the Bizet opera "Carmen" with an all-black cast,

opened on Broadway.

In 1954, the Senate voted to condemn Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy, R-Wis., for "conduct that tends to bring the Senate into dishonor and disrepute."

In 1970, the Environmental Protection Agency began operating under director William Ruckelshaus.

In 1980, four American churchwomen were raped, murdered and buried outside San Salvador. (Five national guardsmen were convicted in the killings.)

In 1982, in the first operation of its kind, doctors at the University of Utah Medical Center implanted a permanent artificial heart in the chest of retired dentist Dr. Barney Clark, who lived 112 days with the device.

In 1991, American hostage Joseph Cicippio, held captive in Lebanon for more than five years, was released.

In 2001, in one of the largest corporate bankruptcies in U.S. history, Enron filed for Chapter 11 protection.

Today's Birthdays:

- Former Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig is 79.
- Actress Julie Harris is 78.
- Former Attorney General Edwin Meese III is 72.
- Senate Minority Whip Harry Reid, D-Nev., is 64.
- Actress Cathy Lee Crosby is 59.
- Movie director Penelope Spheeris is 58.
- Country singer John Wesley Ryles is 53.
- Actor Keith Szarabajka is 51.
- Actor Dan Butler is 49.
- NBC news broadcaster Stone Phillips is 49.
- Actor Dennis Christopher is 48.
- Actor Steven Bauer is 47.
- Country singer Joe Henry is 43.
- Rock musician Rick Savage (Def Leppard) is 43.

Answer to previous puzzle

| | | |
|-------------|---------|---------|
| EYED | PASS | PIE |
| TODOS | ALPHA | IDA |
| CHICKENFEED | GOT | HOTTEST |
| DAMSELS | OTT | TITO |
| PIERCES | SHANK | ALA |
| HENNA | ETHEL | DIGS |
| MOORS | SOLO | SALAD |
| WHATH | LPS | DENIMS |
| NEAREST | SERA | RUE |
| SECRETS | SENEGAS | AGO |
| CUCKOO | CLOCK | YOU |
| TRUER | HENRY | SST |
| EDGE | DEES | |

Newsday Crossword

HAZARD PAY by Randall J. Hartman
Edited by Stanley Newman

- ACROSS**
- 1 Betty ___ ('30s toon)
 - 5 Ear part
 - 9 Dumbfound
 - 14 Not in motion
 - 15 Author unknown: Abbr.
 - 16 ___ is an island"
 - 17 One who acts
 - 18 Actress Garr
 - 19 Nine-to-five toil
 - 20 Unpolished but adequate
 - 23 Moray
 - 24 ___ in the Family
 - 25 Improve upon
 - 29 "Fernando" singers
 - 31 AAA handout
 - 34 Wanted poster word
 - 35 Queens stadium
 - 36 State dinner, e.g.
 - 37 Extreme defensiveness
 - 40 Precipice
 - 41 Boiler output
 - 42 Philippine island
 - 43 Comprehend
 - 44 ___ Piper of Hamelin
 - 45 John of Fawley Towers
 - 46 Farm animal
 - 47 Farm sound
 - 48 Circus performer
 - 55 Cricket sound
 - 56 Newspaper item
 - 57 Self-absorbed
- DOWN**
- 11 Surrounded by
 - 12 Wild and crazy
 - 13 Football lineman
 - 21 Gaggle gang
 - 22 Capital of Morocco
 - 25 ___ in Toyland
 - 26 Dodge
 - 27 Hint of color
 - 28 ___ it or leave it!"
 - 29 In first place
 - 30 Like a pretzel
 - 31 Pale yellow
 - 32 Choir members
 - 33 Golfer ___ Stewart
 - 35 Captain Hook aide
 - 36 Model builder's need
 - 38 German river
 - 39 Parcel out
 - 44 Shaker contents
 - 45 Conquistador of Mexico
 - 46 "The Outcasts of Poker Flat" writer
 - 47 Pine Tree State
 - 48 At that time
 - 49 Bar mitzvah, for one
 - 50 "J'Accuse" writer
 - 51 Internet auction site
 - 52 Lendl of tennis
 - 53 Disco event
 - 54 Cake layer
 - 55 Dan Rather's network
 - 58 Drill Sgt., for one

