

Frantic swings of bipolar disease can be controlled

By KELLIE JONES
Staff Writer

Editor's Note: This is the second in a series looking at various mental illnesses and how new knowledge and understanding have helped people cope with their disorders.

Bipolar disorder is characterized as a person who suffers from both depression and mania, or a frantic high.

Manic-depressive illness and bipolar disorder means the same thing. Medication, proper diet and therapy are ways to

bring a person from the two extreme polar points to meet somewhere in the middle.

When a person is in the manic stage, they may feel overconfident or have delusions that they have a relationship with an important person, they can be hyperactive or get by with little sleep, they are easily irritated and lack judgment in handling situations.

During the depressive stage, the person feels useless, constantly tired, contemplate suicide, have trouble concentrating on the task at hand, sleep more

than normal or perhaps lose or gain weight.

Mental health officials say the length of each stage can vary from just a few days to perhaps several months. It is also hard to gauge when the person will swing from one mood to another.

Lithium is the most prescribed medicine to manage bipolar disorders. It helps bring the person more toward the middle, according to Louise Sharp, clinical social worker at the Howard County Mental Health Center.

The National Institute of Mental Health states the disorder usually starts in adolescence or early adulthood and continues throughout life. It is sometimes not even recognized as an illness and people suffer with it for years.

The institute estimates nearly two million Americans suffer from the disorder and it can be disruptive and distressing. It tends to run in families and is believed to be inherited.

"An early sign of bipolar disorder may be hypomania, a state in which the person shows

a high level of energy, excessive moodiness or irritability and impulsive or reckless behavior," states a pamphlet from the NIMH. "It may feel good to the person who experiences it. Thus, even when family and friends learn to recognize the mood swings, the individual often will deny anything is wrong."

Research has shown a person's predisposition to bipolar disorder can be linked to hormonal imbalances, abnormal brain waves, neurotransmitter imbalances, electrolyte imbalances,

abnormal sleep patterns, disturbances in the biological clock or hyperactive stress response, according to the Mental Health Association of Southeastern Pennsylvania.

Some other treatment options include antipsychotic drugs, antidepressants, Monoamine Oxidase inhibitors, anticonvulsant drugs, electroconvulsive therapy (also known as shock treatment), hospitalization, sleep deprivation and psychotherapy.

Thursday's article will focus on depression.

New tillage program on tap for Jan. 4 meeting

By CARLTON JOHNSON
Staff Writer

Howard County cotton producers will get a first-hand introduction to a new alternative conservation practice for Howard County at a meeting scheduled for Jan. 4.

Eddy Spurgin, district conservationist with the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Big Spring, said the meeting will begin at 1:30 p.m. at the Activities Building on the Howard County Fairgrounds.

The meeting will explain an alternative conservation system of surface roughening or tillage approved for use in Howard County for conservation purposes.

According to Spurgin, this would allow tillage as a primary means of wind erosion control for cotton producers farming highly erodible land in Howard County.

Tillage as an alternative can take the place of vegetative requirements such as wind stripcropping in conservation compliance plans.

Primary tillage could be accomplished at any time moisture is available which would allow for the formation of clods and or ridges to meet a specifically developed standard.

Secondary tillage which will reshape ridges and or reform clods will be done at any time the required clod or ridge condition is destroyed.

Spurgin added a soil surface roughening plan will need to be prepared for each field where the conservation practice of surface roughening will be applied.

Any required practices to address water erosion must still be applied and or maintained as planned.

Dr. Bill Fryear, with the Agricultural Research Service, will be at the meeting to present the research used to develop this alternative.

Rick Liles, executive director for the Howard County Farm Service Agency, will update producers on Farm Service Agency news, and Howard County Extension Agent Don Richardson, who will present information for producers to obtain continuing education units.

GIVING



Scott Woolverton loads Christmas gifts into a pickup at the Big Spring Herald office Friday afternoon. Herald employees "adopted" a family for Christmas and thanks to your help made someone's Christmas brighter.

Scientists link Texas to South American continent

AUSTIN (AP) — A chunk of Texas wound up in Argentina after a supercontinent that included Antarctica, North America and South America broke apart more than 400 million years ago, according to a University of Texas geophysicist.

Ian Dalziel, the associate director of UT's Geophysics Institute, believes he has found a lost piece of Texas on the eastern edge of the Andes in northwestern Argentina.

"It's a hypothesis," Dalziel told the Austin American-Statesman in Tuesday editions. "But it's a conclusion drawn from the rocks."

Suzanne Kay, a geophysics professor at Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y., said her geochemical analysis of subterranean rocks — brought to the surface by volcanic lava flows from beneath the errant chunk

of Texas terrain — supports Dalziel's hypothesis.

Kay's analysis found that the uranium and lead signatures of rocks beneath the chunk in Argentina match the part that stayed home: the Llano uplift, an ancient geological formation in the vicinity of Lake Travis, west of Austin.

Geologists know from fossil, ocean-bottom and chemical evidence about the ancient drift, division and collision of Earth's continents dating back 200 million years.

At that time, when dinosaurs roamed the planet, the wandering continents formed a supercontinent scientists have dubbed Pangea. It was composed of what is now North America, Europe, South America and Africa.

What is considerably murkier

Please see LINK, page 2A

Tejano fans say goodbye to beloved singer in 1995

Moments after Selena was shot last spring, it was clear she would die. The bullet fired by her former fan club president entered her back, severing an artery that left the vivacious singer covered with blood.

The grief that gushed from millions of fans and the grinding wheels of the justice system have taken months, dominating headlines and newscasts during 1995.

This year was supposed to be the year when the undisputed queen of Tejano music crossed the cultural barrier into mainstream pop music. And it was. Her album "Dreaming of You" debuted in July at number one on Billboard magazine's album chart.

But Selena Quintanilla Perez wasn't able to enjoy her success. She was gunned down March 31 at a budget hotel where she had gone to fire the manager of her boutiques.

Selena's meeting with Yolanda Saldivar began over \$30,000 in missing money. It ended with screams and shots.

Employees of the hotel in Selena's hometown of Corpus Christi found the grammy-award winner laying in the lobby, a ring she had been given by Ms. Saldivar grasped in her bloody right fist.

Ms. Saldivar spent the next

9 1/2 hours in a red pickup in the parking lot with the murder weapon pointed at her own head. When she finally surrendered, she confessed to killing her "best friend."

During Saldivar's October trial, defense attorneys asserted that the shooting was an accident. A Texas Ranger testified he believed Ms. Saldivar had protested that information was missing from the confession before she signed it.

The jury didn't care.

In less than three hours, Ms. Saldivar was convicted. In only nine hours, she was sentenced to life in prison. The crowds surrounding the Harris County Courthouse cheered.

Like the biggest newsmakers, the story won't end in 1995. Ms. Saldivar, who is currently serving her sentence in Gatesville, requested a new trial on Nov. 28, claiming at least one juror was biased and key financial documents were kept from her original trial.

Since her death, Selena has taken on an Elvis-like quality with religious alter offerings, barrio mural tributes, a sold-out People magazine cover and more than 600 Texas babies and a lost manatee named in her memory.

Sharing newspaper space with Selena's life and her death, was



SELENA

the debate and decision that Texans will be able to legally carry concealed handguns.

The concealed-handgun legislation, intended as a citizen self-protection measure, was signed into law in May and takes effect Jan. 1 when, for the first time since the 1870s, permit-carrying Texas residents may begin carrying weapons.

Roughly 24,000 Texans have applied to pack heat, have taken the required safety courses and undergone the background checks, according to the Depart-

ment of Public Safety. That means fewer than 25,000 of some 18 million Texas residents will likely be licensed after Jan. 1.

Where the guns will be allowed is the new debate.

Under the right-to-carry law, handguns are prohibited in places where public meetings are being held, as well as in many other places, including hospitals and schools. But proponents of concealed guns say the bans limit the new law and will not stand in court.

In 1995 it was decided that more ordinary citizens will be carrying weapons, but decisions were also made that fewer soldiers will be doing so in Texas.

A federal panel voted June 22 to close Reese Air Force Base in Lubbock, Kelly AFB in San Antonio, a portion of Red River Army Depot in Texarkana and the reserve fighter wing at Bergstrom AFB in Austin.

When the windows are shuttered, Texas will have lost about 36,000 direct and indirect jobs by 1996 and 125,000 jobs by 1997, according to the Texas Department of Commerce.

Although several Texas bases didn't evade the chopping block, a few were able to escape. The near-future of Brooks AFB in San Antonio and Laughlin AFB in Del Rio were assured when they were left of the closure list.

Also getting good news, two mine warfare helicopter squadrons will be transferred to Corpus Christi Naval Air Station. The squadrons will be deployed in support of nearby Naval Station Ingleside, the Navy's mine warfare center of excellence.

The year saw the passing of one of baseball's greats. Mickey Mantle, who had lived and played hard, was diagnosed with liver cancer and underwent a transplant. As the world watched, a gaunt Mantle struggled to regain his health.

The 63-year-old ballplayer professed that if he was a role model, "Don't be like me." One of his final acts before dying on Aug. 13 was to encourage people to give organs and his popularity turned attention to donations.

At the same time, Mantle was disappointed that people thought he got preferential treatment in receiving his new liver because he was a celebrity. Mantle, who lived in Dallas, replaced Joe DiMaggio as the Yankee's center fielder in 1951. He retired in 1968 with 536 home runs.

Another headliner that was revisited in 1995 was the botched raid on the Branch

Please see 1995, page 2A

Texas Trivia

Before joining the Oak Ridge Boys, what singer was a deejay at KPLT radio in Paris?

Duane Allen

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WORLD/NATION

Nation: It was all O.J. all the time when 1995 began, but two stories surpassed the Simpson saga over the next 12 months: The arrival of home-grown terrorism in Oklahoma City, and the dispatch of 20,000 U.S. soldiers to blood-stained Bosnia. See page 6A.

STATE

Death toll rising

The Texas Department of Public Safety reported that 19 people were killed on state roadways during the Christmas holiday weekend. See page 3A.

Nice kid

As seen by friends and neighbors, Ricardo Soto couldn't be nicer. They describe the 13-year-old as a reserved, well-mannered boy who had never run into trouble. See page 3A.

TODAY'S WEATHER

Tonight

45 **▲ Highs** 25 **▼ Lows**

Partly cloudy

Today, Partly cloudy, low mid 20s, light east winds.

Permian Basin Forecast

Thursday: Mostly sunny, high lower 50s, variable winds 5 to 10 mph; partly cloudy night, low mid 20s.

Friday: Mostly sunny, high lower 50s, variable winds 5 to 10 mph; partly cloudy night, low mid 20s.

Stenholm nominates Hopper for appointment to Air Force Academy

By CARLTON JOHNSON
Staff Writer

Ackerly senior Dallas Hopper is among 32 students from the 17th Congressional District nominated to the U.S. Service Academies.

Congressman Charles Stenholm recently made the announcements and the names of the students have been submitted for consideration as members of the academy classes entering in July 1996.

"I am always so impressed by the high caliber of candidates that apply to my office each year. But it certainly makes a selection decision all the more difficult," Stenholm said.

Ten students were nominated to compete for one appointment slot at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo.; six students were nominated to compete for one appointment vacancy at the Merchant

Marine Academy at Kings Point, N.Y.; 20 students were nominated to compete for two slots at the Military Academy at West Point, N.Y.; and 20 students were nominated to compete for two slots at the Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md.

Hopper was nominated to compete for a slot at the Air Force Academy and at the Military Academy at Westpoint.

The 32 nominees will now be contacted by the academies with additional information and instructions, and will be scheduled for medical and physical examinations. Each of the academies will make appointment announcements by late spring.

Other students nominated from the 17th Congressional District include Clara Aguirre of San Angelo, Air Force; Nick Anderson of Granbury, Air Force and Naval; Chris Bolinger of Trent, Military and Merchant Marine.

OBITUARIES

R.C. Thomas



THOMAS

R.C. Thomas, 74, died on Tuesday, Dec. 26, 1995. He was born on Sept. 1, 1921, in Howard County. He married Betty Fryar on Dec. 20, 1946, in Big Spring. Beginning in 1952, they farmed in Howard County. He was involved for 13 years with the 4H Club, teaching shooting sports.

He is survived by his wife, Betty; children, Sherry Newton and her husband, Marion, their daughter, Kelly, and son, Gregg and his wife, Tracy all of Big Spring; Kendra Talkington and her husband, Tom, and their children, Zach and Avery of Austin; Anne Irving and her husband, Eddie and their children, Grant, Joshua and Collin of Mansfield; Karen Leavitt and her husband, Randy and their children, Carley and Kinsey of Austin; Kirk Thomas and his wife, Renia and their daughter, Randi Leigh of Big Spring. Also surviving is his sister, Lou Grant and sisters-in-law, Kathryn Thomas and Irene Thomas.

Funeral services will be held 2 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 28, 1995, at First Baptist Church, with Rev. Pat Ray, pastor of Prairie View Baptist Church, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

Pallbearers will be Tom Blick, A.G. Rogers, Bob Nichols, Barry Dunnam, Dick Davis, Tim Hall, C.G. Griffin, Van Gaskins, Kelly Gaskins and Malcolm Abel. All friends are considered honorary pallbearers.

Memorial contributions may be made to Lottie Moon Christ-

mas Offerings, c/o Prairie View Baptist Church, HC 62, Box 64, Big Spring, Texas 79720 or to the church of your choice.

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

Paid obituary

Naomi Collins

Naomi Collins, 10, of Big Spring, died Dec. 24 in Springfield, Mass. Services will be 2 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 28, 1995, at Strickland Miles Funeral Home, Baxley, Ga.

Naomi is survived by her mother and stepfather, Donna and Andy Creamer, Big Spring; her sister, Anastasia Collins, Big Spring; her brother, Samuel Creamer, Big Spring; her father, Norman Collins, Springfield, Mass.; and grandparents William and Janet Collins, Toledo, Ohio; Mr. and Mrs. Ray Chism, Arkansas and Mr. and Mrs. James Perdue, Big Spring.

Maurine Nugent

Maurine Leatherwood Nugent died Saturday, Dec. 23, 1995.

She was born on Oct. 22, 1909, in Big Spring. She was the daughter of P.C. and Jo Anna Leatherwood, a pioneer Howard County family.

Survivors include her daughter: Mary Ann Dix, El Paso; and one grandson.

She was preceded in death by her husband, A.F. Nugent, and a granddaughter, Sarah Ann Edwards.

Cremation arrangements by Futrell Funeral Home, El Paso.

Mina Rose

Mina Mae Rose, 69, Tampa, Fla., died Saturday, Dec. 23, 1995, at her residence under the care of Hospice.

Mrs. Rose was a 23 year resident of Tampa coming from Arlington, Va. She was the past president of the Rocky Point Ladies Golf Assn. and longtime supporter of the local Air Force Assn., Waterman and Nathan Twining Chapters.

Survivors include her husband: Col. John G. Rose USAF Ret.; a son Patrick G. Rose, Clemson, S.C.; a daughter: Connie Worthington, Tarpon Springs; a brother: Elton Zack Taylor, Jasper; a sister: Wilma Rudeseal, Carrollton; two granddaughters; and nieces, nephews and aunts.

Arrangements under the direction of A.P. Boza Funeral Home, Tampa, Fla.



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ON THE RUN

POLICE

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following incidents between 8 a.m. Tuesday and 8 a.m. Wednesday:

•**LONNIE MALCOLM JOHNSON**, 19, no known address, was arrested on local warrants, and for not having insurance or wearing a seat belt.

•**DENNIS NOGGLER**, 25, no known address, was arrested for not having insurance and not wearing a seat belt.

•**UNAUTHORIZED USE OF A VEHICLE** in the 1900 block of Wasson.

•**CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** in the 1000 block of Baylor.

•**ASSAULT** in the 600 block of Manor.

•**DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** in the 1500 block of Tucson.

•**DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** in the 1100 block of Goliad.

•**THEFT** in the 800 block of E. 1-20.

•**THEFT** in the 1100 block of N. Lamesa.

•**THEFT** in the 1000 block of E. 11th Place.

RECORDS

Tuesday's temp.	61	Rainfall Tuesday	0.00
Tuesday's low	23	Month to date	0.00
Average high	56	Month's normal	0.59
Average low	28	Year to date	15.95
Record high	75 in 1921	Normal for the year	18.48
Record low	14 in 1938	**Statistics not available	

DID YOU WIN? CASH 5: 5, 9, 13, 15, 19
PICK 3: 2, 2, 3

MARKETS

March cotton futures 80.30 cents a pound, down 3 points; Feb. crude oil 19.40, up 13 points; cash hog steady at \$1 lower at 45 cents even; slaughter steers steady at \$1 lower at 65 cents even; Feb. live hog futures 50.05, down 25 points; Feb. live cattle futures 66.70, down 25 points; Country Club Commodities North Dallas Market by Edward D. Jones & Co. Index 5124.71	Cabot	54% +
Volume 78,481,140	Chevron	52% +
ATT 65 +	Chrysler	55% +
Amoco 70% +	Coca-Cola	75% +
Atlantic Richfield 112% +	De Beers	30% nc
Atmos 23 nc	DuPont	70% +
Boston Chicken 33% +	Exxon	82% +
	Fina Inc.	50% nc
	Ford Motors	29% -
	Halliburton	50% +
	IBM	91% nc
	JC Penney	45% +
	Laser Indus LTD	11% +
	Mesa Ltd. Prt	3% +
	Mobile	113% + 1
	NUV	9% +
	Pepsi Cola	56% +
	Phillips Petroleum	33% +

SPRINGBOARD

To submit an item to Springboard, put it in writing and mail or deliver it to us one week in advance. Mail to: Springboard, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79720; or bring it by the office, 710 Scurry. For more information, contact Gina Garza, 263-7331, between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m.

TODAY
•Thistles Writers Club for Howard College students, noon, room A-203. Bring a lunch.
•Gamblers Anonymous, 7 p.m., St. Stephens Catholic Church, room 1, 4601 Neeley, Midland. Call 263-8920.
•Survivors, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Call Rape Crisis/Victim Services, 263-3312. This is open to all survivors.
•Adult Children of Alcoholics, 7:30 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church library. Contact Murph Watson, 264-0500.
•Alcoholics Anonymous noon

open meeting and 8 p.m. 12 and 12 study.

THURSDAY
•Howard County Mental Health Center family education and support meeting, 6 p.m., The Corral. Call Lisa Brooks, 263-9746 or Shannon Nabors, 267-0027.
•Big Spring Alliance for mentally ill, 7 p.m., The Corral.
•Spring Tabernacle Church, 1209 Wright, free food for area needy, 10 a.m.-noon.
•Salvation Army drug education program, sponsored by Permian Basin Regional Council on alcohol and drug abuse, 7 p.m., Salvation Army Building, 308 Aylford.
•Spring City Senior Citizen Center art classes, 9:30-11:30 a.m. 55 and older invited.
•Battered women support group, 2:30 p.m. Call 263-3312 or 267-3626.
•Good Shepherd Fellowship, 610 Abrams, has services at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome to come.

•Al-Anon, 8 p.m., Scenic Mountain Medical Center, small cafeteria on first floor.
•Alcoholics Anonymous, noon open meeting, 615 Settles.

FRIDAY
•Dominoes, 42, bridge and Chickentrack, 5-8 p.m. at 2805 Lynn, Kentwood Center. Public invited.
•Turning Point A.A., 8-9:30 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 10th and Goliad. Open to all substance abusers.
•Alcoholics Anonymous noon open meeting and 8 p.m. Big Book Study, 615 Settles.

IN BRIEF

Information sought

Detectives with the Big Spring Police Department are trying to locate relatives of a man found dead in his home Wednesday afternoon.

Jack Thorton, 73, of 510 South Lancaster, died of natural causes Wednesday afternoon. Det. John Stowers is attempting to locate the next-of-kin but hasn't had any luck so far.

If you know Thorton or know where any of his relatives are, please contact Stowers at 264-2555.

Free mammograms being offered

Planned Parenthood's Big Spring clinic has free mammograms for women over 50. To qualify, women must be income eligible. Licensed professional counselor Robbie Jones, M.A., is continuing counseling and HIV testing by appointment. She will be at the clinic from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Jan. 2, 16 and 30. For more information, call the clinic at 263-8351.

The 1996 Howard County Spelling Bee is scheduled for Feb. 27 at the Howard College Auditorium.

Practice spelling books are available at the Herald for 55 cents each.

Any individual wanting more information can call Kristie Carruthers at 263-7331.

Walking tours are available

Hear tales of a long-ago railroad and cow town by walking the historic streets of downtown Big Spring every Saturday through the end of the year. Walking tours will begin at the Heritage Museum at 2 p.m.

Tour guides will recount the town's early history and legends including stories of the arrival of British Nobility, cattle barons, cowboys, saloons, mercantile stores, and the early railroad.

Groups and individuals are welcome. There is no charge for the walking tours. Call the Heritage Museum, 267-8255, for information or cancellations.

1995

Continued from page 1A

Davidian's compound near Waco. When a federal building in Oklahoma was bombed April 19 and the cause was attributed to the deadly government raid at Waco, the world's eyes refocused on the standoff between the religious group and the federal government.

Sect leader David Koresh and 80 followers died on that April 19, 1993, as their compound burned after FBI agents used a tank to punch holes and insert tear gas.

In Oklahoma City, 169 people died and more than 500 were injured when the Alfred P. Murrah building was bombed on the second anniversary of the Waco fire.

Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols both face the death penalty if they are convicted of federal murder and conspiracy charges resulting from the explosion.

More than 250 people are now dead from the two incidents, hearings revisited the propriety of the Waco raids and militia groups have girded to halt alleged tyranny in the government and protect the Constitution.

Texans saw major governmental changes in 1995. Gov. George Bush signed into law a bill that would allow communities to design their own education programs, and Republicans moved into leadership positions in Washington.

Climbing to the top were Dick Arme as the House GOP's No. 2 and Tom DeLay as House GOP's No. 3, Bill Archer as chairman of influential House Ways and Means Committee and Phil Gramm became chair of the appropriations subcommittee and later will shift to the Finance Committee.

The Associated Press

Link

Continued from page 1A

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Antarctica was its keystone, surrounded by what are now North America, Australia, India, South America and parts of Europe and Africa.

"The traditional story is that North America came off Africa somewhere," Dalziel said. "But it can't be if my idea of North America and Antarctica being related is true."

Dalziel, who came to UT in 1985 from the chairmanship of geological sciences at Columbia University in New York, said he has developed the hypotheses in frequent research trips to Antarctica and South America.

Just how the chunk of Texas wound up in Argentina still is a matter of debate, ranging from the idea of a collision to the idea of a 600-mile-long piece of Texas breaking off under extreme geological pressures and floating away.



WORKING TOGETHER FOR YOU

MEDICAL MAGAZINE

moderated by
KBST RADIO'S JOHN WEEKS

DECEMBER SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 7, 1995	Leslie Williams, R.N., Customer Service
DECEMBER 14, 1995	Dr. Carlos Garza, General Surgery
DECEMBER 21, 1995	Dr. Rudy Haddad, Urology
DECEMBER 28, 1995	Dr. Clark McDaniel, Family Practice

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

In conjunction with this call-in (267-6391) radio program, Scenic Mountain Medical Center and KBST will give away a coffee mug to anyone who calls in with a question during this every Thursday afternoon show at 4:05 P.M. Please call with your medical-related questions.

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Funeral Home and Rosewood Chapel

906 GREGG BIG SPRING

R.C. Thomas, 74, died Tuesday. Services will be 2:00 PM Thursday at First Baptist Church. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

MYERS & SMITH

FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Manuilita Irma Ramirez, 49, died Sunday. Services will be 2:00 P.M., Wednesday at Immaculate Heart Of Mary Catholic Church, with burial at Mount Olive.

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Toy

FORT HANCOCK — As seen by bors, Ricardo nizer.

They describe as a reserve boy who had trouble.

So residents Texas community to find the Christmas with the Christmas of a motorcycle, allegedly a toy truck to "He's a piece never thought this was going neighbor Jul

LEAVIN

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Rook

HOUSTON — ties say a n and killed officer direct traffic was the time.

Houston S. Erickson while contr Unity Church southwest Christmas E

The motorcycle woman, told did not see in the street saw only a in the road was wearing and using flashlight.

Officer 1 straight or flipped over head, suffe injuries. Si hours later tal.

Neither tl as distraught nor her 2 injured.

Police sa mitted imm alcohol test tal. The r intoxicatio were filed. Erickson



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HOWA FEED
701 E. 2ND DD

Toy grab leaves one in critical condition

FORT HANCOCK, Texas (AP) — As seen by friends and neighbors, Ricardo Soto couldn't be nicer.

They describe the 13-year-old as a reserved, well-mannered boy who had never run into trouble.

So residents of this tiny West Texas community were shocked to find the teen-ager charged with the Christmas Day shooting of a motorist on Interstate 10, allegedly while trying to get a toy truck to spill its cargo.

"He's a pretty good kid. I never thought something like this was going to happen," said neighbor Julia Sanchez, whose 12-year-old son Robert is one of Ricardo's playmates.

Authorities say they aren't completely certain what motivated Ricardo to open fire on two vehicles with a .22-caliber rifle.

But they appear to be lending at least some credence to remarks by Ricardo's 9-year-old brother, David Soto, who told authorities that Ricardo had been trying to waylay a toy truck.

David said during an interview Tuesday with The Associated Press that Ricardo told him he wanted to "shoot a trailer and get Nintendos out of it."

Yet Ricardo's sister, Erika, 15, said she believes the shooting was accidental. "I don't think he really meant to. He likes to shoot stuff, like practice," she said.

She admitted to being confused, however, and she's not the only one.

Several versions of the shooting have been circulating around Fort Hancock, some 60 miles east of El Paso in Hudspeth County, since the news broke Monday.

Hudspeth County Sheriff Arcadio Ramirez said the boy

had hidden in the brush by the side of the road about a mile outside of Fort Hancock and opened fire around 5 p.m. MST Monday.

"They're a real poor family and maybe he thought about Christmas" presents, said Ramirez, who noted the boy's mother cares for the family by herself. Her seriously ill husband is in an El Paso nursing home.

Alberto Tarango of Van Horn, who was driving in a pickup truck with his wife, was hit once in the back of the head. He was listed in critical condition today at Thomason General Hospital in El Paso. His wife was unharmed.

A tractor-trailer rig driving in front of Tarango was struck twice, but no one was injured in that vehicle.

Border Patrol agents following Ricardo's footprints found the boy more than two hours later hiding in a station wagon outside his home. Ramirez said the boy surrendered without any trouble.

He has since been charged with deadly conduct, a third-degree felony, and been transferred to a juvenile detention facility in Pecos. The crime is punishable by up to 10 years in custody.

The sheriff said the boy was carrying a .22-caliber bullet, but authorities had been unable to find the rifle as of Tuesday afternoon. The weapon came from the Soto household.

Many in the community of some 500 residents were stunned by what they said was an unusual act of violence.

"It's a shame that things like that happen," said Arturo Hernandez, who works in a grocery store. "But right now the world is pretty crooked."

LEAVING HOME FOR BOSNIA



Sgt. Kent Carter of the Army's 41st Explosive Ordnance Disposal Detachment comforts his daughter, Kay Leigh Carter, before boarding a U.S. Air Force C-141 at Biggs Army Field in El Paso Tuesday. Carter's unit, which defuses and disposes of explosive devices, is being deployed to Bosnia as a component of the NATO peace enforcement mission.

Holiday death toll continues to rise

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Department of Public Safety reported that 19 people were killed on state roadways during the Christmas holiday weekend.

The DPS had estimated that as many as 35 might die in traffic accidents during the holiday weekend, which is calculated as 6 p.m. Friday through midnight Monday.

DPS officials said the 19 fatalities were a preliminary total that could rise if more agencies report accidents and if people hurt in holiday wrecks die from their injuries.

One of the deaths included an off-duty Houston police officer, who was struck by a motorist while she was directing traffic for a church.

Dawn Erickson, 22, who was wearing a reflective jacket and directing traffic with a flashlight, died when she was hit

Sunday evening. The driver told Houston police that she didn't see the officer.

A 75-year-old Boerne man died when his motorcycle hit a deer in Real County at 10:45 a.m. Saturday. Bruce Wallace Carlisle struck the deer after rounding a curve. He died before paramedics arrived.

A 90-year-old woman was hit while trying to cross U.S. 67 just west of Alvarado — southeast of Fort Worth. Velma Cashion was hit by a car driving west and then thrown into the eastbound lane and hit by another unidentified vehicle.

Six of the fatalities occurred in accidents in which the victims weren't wearing seat belts. Four of the deadly accidents involved alcohol, according to the DPS.

More arrests expected in alien smuggling ring

WASHINGTON (AP) — Clinton administration officials expect more arrests in the breakup of an alien smuggling ring that sent thousands of Latin Americans and Asians into the United States.

The 10-month-old initiative surfaced with the arrest this month in Ecuador of Gloria Canales, a 40-year-old Costa Rican woman. Its success resulted from increased cooperation among Latin American governments, U.S. embassies and agencies concerned with smuggling, the State Department said Tuesday.

Officials also credited U.S. intelligence "assets" in Rome, Mexico City and Bangkok, Thailand. They said the operation underscored how trafficking in illegal immigrants has grown into a widespread and clever business.

"We are getting into some fairly sophisticated, almost Mafia-like international operations that have been run to get aliens into the United States," acting State Department spokesman Glyn Davies said. "There is a great deal of human misery and billions of dollars involved."

Added Russ Bergeron of the Immigration and Naturalization Service: "For some of these organizations, smuggling humans has become more profitable than smuggling drugs."

Officials would not give details on other criminal cases likely to spin out of the operation. Canales' ring smuggled at least 10,000 people a year, many of them Chinese and Indians, into the United States through Central America, according to reports.

At President Clinton's direc-

Burglaries expected to reach 35,000 in December, January

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Action Council on Theft projects that roughly 35,000 burglaries will occur in the state during the months of December and January.

"Juveniles between the ages of 15 and 19 make up the largest number of burglary arrestees," said Charly Judah, spokeswoman for the Action Council on Theft, which is a nonprofit coalition of law enforcement officials, insurers and citizens.

"That translates to increased burglaries because many kids are out of school for the holidays," Ms. Judah said.

Most burglaries are committed during the day, Ms. Judah said.

tion, the State and Justice Department in February set up a new cooperative venture, involving overseas posts, to catch alien smugglers. The arrest in Ecuador was a result, Davies said. "It's a major case that may lead to additional criminal cases. There is an ongoing investigation."

Canales allegedly used bribery and an extensive network of airline officials, hotel owners and other contacts from Peru and Mexico to India and China to smuggle at least 10,000 people a year into the United States, according to unidentified U.S. officials quoted by The Washington Post. Sources told the newspaper she charged up to \$6,000 a head for the Indians and Chinese.

Canales, a Costa Rican originally from Peru, was deported Dec. 12 to Honduras.

Children mauled by pet cougar

QUINLAN (AP) — Two children were recovering Tuesday after being attacked by the family's cougar.

The animal got out of its pen Monday while the area was being cleaned and mauled 3-year-old Jacob Swartz and Erin Swartz, 6, investigators said.

The boy was in fair condition Tuesday at Children's Hospital in Dallas hospital. The girl was treated and released from the hospital's emergency room.

Game Warden Dale Waters said the 7-year-old cougar was kept by Niles Swartz, the father of the injured children.

A neighbor, Trent Reed, said he tried to pull the cat off the girl.

"He pulled a knife and stabbed the cat," Waters said. "The cat then mauled the boy and escaped into the woods."

A couple of dogs that chased the cougar into the woods also were attacked but not seriously hurt, he said.

Waters then shot and killed the animal.

Rookie officer run over, killed

HOUSTON (AP) — Authorities say a motorist who struck and killed an off-duty police officer directing Christmas Eve traffic was not intoxicated at the time.

Houston police officer Dawn S. Erickson, 22, was struck while controlling traffic around Unity Church of Christianity in southwest Houston during Christmas Eve services.

The motorist, a 38-year-old woman, told investigators she did not see the officer standing in the street. She added that she saw only a red light flickering in the road. The rookie officer was wearing a reflective jacket and using an orange-tipped flashlight.

Officer Erickson was hit straight on by the car. She flipped over and landed on her head, suffering head and leg injuries. She died about two hours later at Ben Taub Hospital.

Neither the driver, described as distraught after the accident, nor her 2-year-old son was injured.

Police said the woman submitted immediately to a blood-alcohol test at Rosewood Hospital. The results indicated no intoxication and no charges were filed.

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EDITORIAL

Quote of the Day

"Freedom is not a passive right. It is an active responsibility."

Teresa Day, high school student, 1994

Help dissolve the stigmas of mental illness

Mental illness is probably one of the few illnesses still carrying a stigma. Diseases of the mind are never easy to treat and these diseases affect too many Americans.

The holidays are a trying time for people suffering from depression. Across the nation, suicide rates go up during holiday seasons.

The key to dissolving the stigmas surrounding mental illness is understanding and support. It isn't easy being the family member of someone suffering from a mental illness, but patients and caregivers both need the support.

The Big Spring Alliance for the Mentally Ill is a forum of support and advocacy for those suffering - both patient and caregiver.

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

Charles C. Williams
Publisher

DD Turner
Managing Editor

The main thing people need to realize is they are not alone in coping with this, that there are many, many others out there going through the same problems. This alone can help to ease the pain, worry and self-indictment many people put themselves through when a family member is diagnosed with a mental illness.

Mental illness isn't something we, as a society, need to be ashamed of. It is a disease, a treatable disease, like many others which, with a little understanding, we can all learn to cope with.



REXBAUM TIMES UNION

Heartland has its own opinions

When something big happens in the news, the networks rush TV crews to a place called "the heartland."

It isn't clear where the heartland is. To some New York or Washington TV execs, it could be any bathroom stop between New Jersey and Arizona, Wisconsin and Mexico.

But they seem to have a special fondness for small towns in Indiana, Iowa and Missouri.

And they are drawn to diners where they hope to find chubby men in crewcuts and thin ties, or skinny men who wear bib overalls and baseball caps and lack at least one front tooth.

Then they ask these gems: "How do you feel about the president's decision to send a large military ground force into Bosnia?"

The answers usually sound something like this:

"Well, I haven't been keeping up on it too good, with all the stuff I been busy with, but I guess that if we got to do what we got to do, we ought to get on with it and do it or it won't get done."

Or: "The way I see it, we elect our leaders. And it's the leaders' job to decide if we should do things like this. So I believe that if they think we ought to do it, then they're probably right and we ought to get behind them 100 percent."

Sometimes: "The thing I wonder is if these Bosnians will appreciate what we're doing for 'em."

And: "I always said that if we had stopped Hitler right in the beginning, he would have never bombed Pearl Harbor. So we shouldn't make the same mistake here unless we want those

Bosniaks bombing Pearl Harbor again."

My professional misgivings about most of these heartland of American interviews is that the TV creatures, despite their perfect haircuts, never ask the right questions.

As a result, they miss out on the real story.

They should be asking questions like this:

"As you surely know, the president has committed a large American military ground force to trying to establish and maintain peace in Bosnia-Herzegovina. I have here on the lunch counter of Lilly's Happy Plate a large map of the entire world. Would you please glance at it and point your finger to where Bosnia is?"

"Uh, no, that is India. You want to try again? Uh-uh, that is China. How about one more try?"

"Ah, you are getting warm. Yes, you have found Europe. OK, now where is Bosnia? Take your time."

"OOPS, sorry but you have dragged your finger over to Iceland. Well, let's move on here."

"You, sir, can you tell me if the Croats and Serbs took sides in World War II? If so, which sides were they on?"

"No, sir, I'm sorry, but there are no prizes for the right guess. No, you don't win any tickets to World Wide Wrestling, and I can't get you Hulk Hogan's autograph."

So, what would the point of all this be?

The point would be a very useful story. Here we are, the richest, most powerful nation on the face of the blah, blah, blah. As such, we sometimes feel that it is our duty to act as policemen to the blah, blah, blah. By doing so, we preserve freedom, dignity in the part of the world that is blah, blah, blah.

By going into Gert's Diner and asking the lunch crowd if they know where Bosnia-Herzegovina is, and why we are getting involved, we would bring out an important fact about the American heartland.

Which is, most Americans haven't the dimmest idea where the heck we are sending our troops or why. And since we don't have a draft and their kids aren't being dragged off to fight, they really don't care.

Let us be honest: When it comes to foreign involvement, Americans don't know their butts from the nearest border.

Any schoolteacher will tell you that the average American kid doesn't know which states border his own. So what should this kid -- or his parents -- know about Bosnia-Herzegovina?

They don't. While we are sending thousands of troops to risk their lives, most Americans wouldn't know if they were going east, west, up or down. And aren't terribly concerned.

If they want to know, they can look it up in an encyclopedia, right? Sure, but all that will tell them is that these people have been at each other's throats since the day they discovered that they could jump up on the back of a shaggy pony and cross a border to loot, pillage, and really get out of the thatched hut for the weekend.

We Americans deserve the title as the most geographically and politically uninformed, unenlightened and ignorant people who have ever claimed the title of World Leaders.

We just don't know. And we don't care, despite the concern we might express when a TV crew comes to the coffee shop.

I mean, those weird countries are out there somewhere. And we got some kind of reason for going there, right?

So what more do we gotta know?

We're there because we're there because we're there because we're there. That's it, so what's a big deal?

Now, if you ask me about something that really matters -- what teams are making the NFL playoffs -- that's different.

Look at it this way: When was the last time Herzegovina was in a Super Bowl?

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WORLD

Serbs want a break in leaving

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) — Resisting rule by the Bosnian government, Serbs are demanding more time to hand over the Sarajevo districts they hold and reportedly burning houses as they leave.

The Bosnian army today warned that compromising with the Serbs on a timetable for returning their Sarajevo districts would weaken NATO's mission.

Military forces for both sides — the Serbs and Bosnian government — are to leave some districts around Sarajevo by late tonight. NATO officers have reported good progress toward meeting that deadline.

French soldiers were moving into zones separating the two sides. One French soldier was slightly wounded Tuesday when a light armored vehicle ran over a land mine near Trnovo, about 12 miles south of Sarajevo.

Maj. William Pijpers, a spokesman for the NATO-led force overseeing an agreement to end 3 years of war in Bosnia, said Serbs "are burning houses as they go, rather than live under federation rule."

He said sketchy reports indi-

cated several houses around Sarajevo were set ablaze overnight.

The Bosnian army First Corps said houses were burned in Serb-held districts around the Sarajevo airport, southwest of the city.

At a meeting Tuesday with the NATO commander, U.S. Adm. Leighton Smith, at their headquarters in Pale southeast of Sarajevo, Bosnian Serb leaders asked for more time before handing over their districts around Sarajevo, which they must do under the agreement signed Dec. 14 in Paris. They warned Smith that the success of his peace mission might hinge on such an extension.

The demands reflected Bosnian Serb unhappiness with the peace agreement negotiated on their behalf by Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic.

Smith said he made no promises but would consider their demand.

Bosnian army officers warned that if NATO started compromising with the Serbs after only a week of the Western alliance's year-long peace enforcement mission, it would soon find

itself in the same predicament as the compromised U.N. peace-keeping mission it replaced.

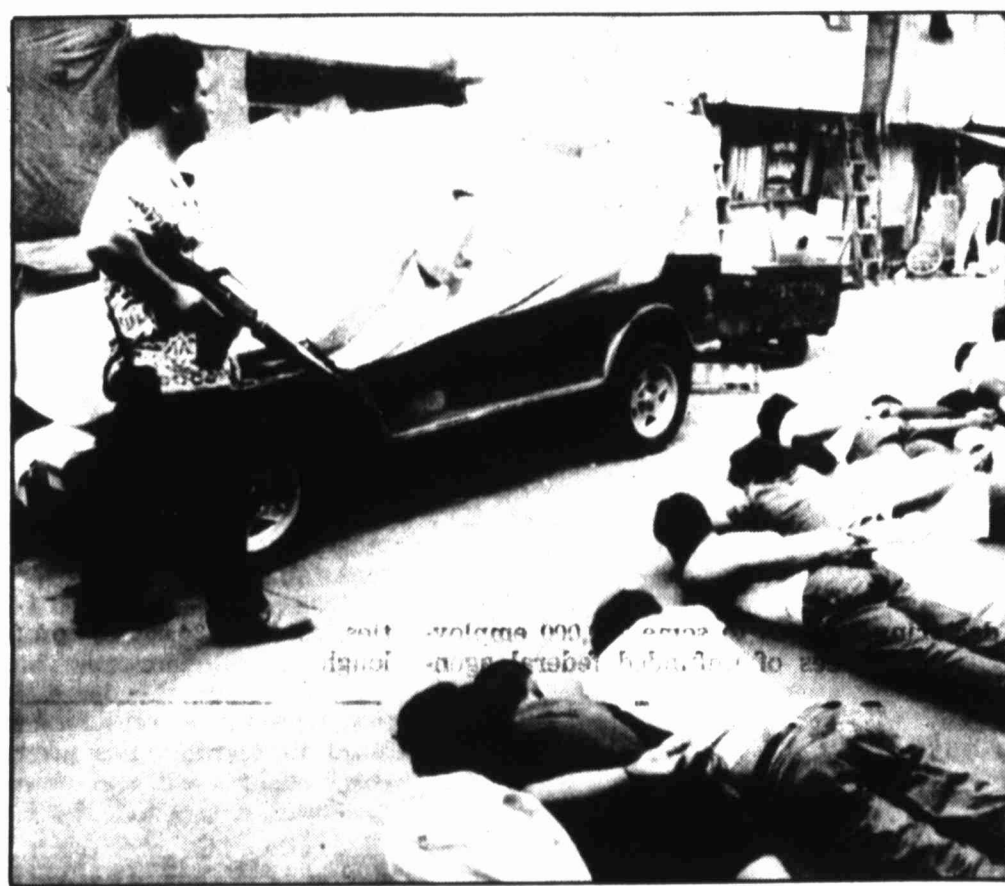
Momcilo Krajisnik, a senior Bosnian Serb official who met with Smith, indicated many of the tens of thousands of people living in Serb-held districts of the capital and suburbs may leave rather than submit to rule by the government of the Muslim-Croat federation.

Bosnian Serb officials appear to be using that threat to try to wrest concessions out of the new NATO mission. Although Krajisnik did not specify what might happen if thousands started to flee, Serb anger could cause some to try to slow down or sabotage the agreement.

"We certainly tried to explain that the key to the implementation of the agreement lies in Sarajevo," Krajisnik said. "We should find a good solution for Sarajevo and remove the main obstacle to the agreement."

The peace agreement spells out deadlines for the transfer of authority over Serb-held districts of Sarajevo, beginning Jan. 19 and concluding two months later.

ROUNDED UP



Associated Press photo

An armed police officer watches over scores of male suspects after they were rounded up in a raid following the killing of a Manila policeman earlier in the day in a drug buy-bust operation at the Moslem community in downtown Quiapo Wednesday. Two other suspects were killed in the raid, which netted more than 100 males.

Sailor claims Marines were willing accomplices in attack on Japanese schoolgirl

NAHA, Okinawa (AP) — A U.S. Navy sailor accused of raping a 12-year-old schoolgirl told a Japanese court today that two U.S. Marines were willing accomplices in the attack.

Under questioning, Navy Seaman Marcus Gill, 22, of Woodville, Texas, painted so harrowing a picture of the rape that the translator broke down and wept.

The attack outraged Japan and has sparked debate over whether the southern island of Okinawa should be forced to host more than half of the 47,000 U.S. troops stationed in the country.

In testimony a day earlier, the two Marines — Pfc. Rodrick Harp, 21, of Griffin, Ga., and Pfc. Kendrick Ledet, 20, of Waycross, Ga. — tried to shift most of the blame for the Sept. 4 attack to Gill.

The two Marines depicted Gill as a violent, threatening bully who intimidated them into grabbing the girl off the street and shoving her into their rental car before she was driven to a remote roadside and raped.

Ledet and Harp have acknowledged helping with the abduction but deny raping the girl. Gill today detailed the others' role in the attack and said they were unfairly painting him as the instigator.

"Everything is pinpointed on me — they want to take as little blame as possible and put it all on me," Gill complained, saying the three had planned

the rape together.

"We discussed how we would go about abducting a woman," he said, adding that Ledet exclaimed "Let's do this!" as they set off in the car.

The sailor said it was Harp who spotted the girl going into a stationery store, and that Ledet suggested ambushing her when she came out. Gill also said the two Marines bound the girl with tape and pulled her shorts and underwear down to her ankles.

The sailor said when he himself had finished raping the girl Ledet asked him, "How was she?" Gill said Ledet then made a remark suggesting that the girl had enjoyed it.

As Gill recounted that exchange, and described how the girl was bleeding and unconscious at that point, the translator began weeping. Testimony was halted momentarily while she regained her composure.

Gill said he believed Ledet had raped the girl after he did, but said he had left the car and did not see him do so.

On the stand on Tuesday, both Harp and Ledet apologized for their part in the crime. Their families have said they will pay \$5,000 in compensation to the victim.

Such steps are an important defense strategy in Japan, where a show of remorse can bring about a more lenient sentence. Japanese courts have no juries and more than 99 percent of defendants are convicted.

Israel leaves Ramallah under hail of stones

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP) — Israeli troops drove out of Ramallah under a hail of stones today, capping a pullout that gave Yasser Arafat control over 99 percent of the West Bank's Palestinian population and one-third of its land.

The withdrawal from Ramallah is Israel's last pullout from the West Bank before Jan. 20 Palestinian general elections.

The pullout began shortly after 3 p.m. when half a dozen Israeli jeeps drove out of the Israeli police station in the center of town.

Thousands of Palestinians surrounded the station, waving Palestinian flags and chanting "Soldiers, go away" to the beat of drums. When the convoy started moving, the crowd hurled stones and bottles at the Israeli troops, who have occupied the city of 30,000 for 28 years.

The jeeps kept driving. When the soldiers were gone, jubilant Palestinians climbed up onto the roof of the station and hoisted the Palestinian flag.

The city is the latest of seven West Bank towns to come under Palestinian rule since May 1994. Israeli troops will pull out of most of the eighth West Bank town, Hebron, by the end of March, but remain in the downtown area to protect 450 Jewish settlers living there.

For years, Ramallah was a center of resistance to Israeli occupation. Just 12 miles north of Jerusalem, it may become Arafat's future seat of government, now located in Gaza City in the Gaza Strip.

Floods claim more than 100 lives in KwaZulu-Natal

PIETERMARITZBURG, South Africa (AP) — Survivors wandered the banks of a rain-swollen river today in search of missing relatives, and police

pulled bodies from the water and mud following floods that killed at least 124 people.

Waters from the Umsindusi River swept through shack set-

tlements and villages Monday in the vicinity of Pietermaritzburg, in KwaZulu-Natal province in eastern South Africa.

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While governments quibble, volunteers get the snow moved

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (AP) — When a blizzard of red tape and excuses left pedestrians knee-deep in snow on Memorial Bridge, Richard Sorcinelli did what three governments couldn't accomplish: He plowed the sidewalk.

As local and state officials quibbled last week over who was responsible for clearing a month's snow from the walkway, Sorcinelli took pity on the people who cross the bridge to and from downtown. He got on his plow-equipped all-terrain vehicle and did what had to be done.

"He took over where we failed," said Patrick Hourihan, chairman of West Springfield's Board of Selectmen. "I don't know him, but I would like to shake his hand."

Sorcinelli, a painting and wallpapering contractor, said scores of grateful walkers and drivers have jammed his answering machine with messages of thanks and praise. Some even suggested he run for office.

"He's got my thanks, for sure," said Michael Weltz, walking across the 1,456-foot bridge Tuesday.

Weltz, who works in downtown Springfield, said the snow-clogged sidewalks had forced him to abandon his lunchtime hikes over the four-lane bridge between Springfield and West Springfield.

"People say you can't change the world, but it's amazing what this has produced," Sorcinelli said.

Sorcinelli, who lives in West Springfield, said he became increasingly upset at seeing pedestrians struggle through the drifts or skitter on the icy edges of the traffic lanes as

December storm followed December storm. The city has received more than 26 inches of snow this month.

When he called government offices to ask why the sidewalks had not been plowed, everyone pointed the finger at someone else.

The city of Springfield and town of West Springfield noted it was a state bridge. The state said the municipalities were responsible for the sidewalks.

The bridge had been under repair for the past four years. Before the repair work closed two or more lanes, the bridge

had carried about 20 percent of the vehicle traffic into the city of 160,000 people as well as the bulk of the city's walkers.

During the repair project, the footpaths apparently were plowed by the contractors, who needed them clear for their workers.

But the repairs were finished just before Thanksgiving, and the snow became someone else's responsibility. The question: whose?

"It was unbelievable," said Rosemary Sandlin, an aide to state Sen. Linda Melconian,

who had spent days unsuccessfully trying to unravel the bridge-plowing mystery on behalf of constituents. "I went through a long and tedious maze."

Sorcinelli took the direct route. And he was prepared to do the same for a second snow-bound bridge until his actions drove sheepish city and town officials to discuss sharing the work themselves.

"We don't need an international treaty," said Springfield Mayor-elect Michael Albano. "Let's just get the job done."

Budget talks slow begin again

WASHINGTON (AP) — Their brief holiday break over, congressional leaders and the Clinton administration are slowly reviving talks to end a partial government shutdown and the nation's worst budget crisis.

Congressional and White House aides were meeting today without their bosses, a gradual start for negotiations that should involve top lawmakers and President Clinton on Friday.

The lower-level talks today will do little to alleviate the anxiety of federal workers, whose paychecks will be smaller this week; of tourists, whose plans were changed with the closure of national parks and monuments; and of travelers who desperately need passports.

Rep. Bill Archer, R-Texas, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, also tried to turn up the pressure. He said Tuesday the Clinton administration may be violating the Constitution by juggling the books to permit federal borrowing without congressional approval.

When the Senate on Friday left for a holiday recess that in other years would have lasted through much of December, the chamber passed legislation to return 280,000 furloughed workers to their jobs by declaring them essential.

Sponsored by Majority Leader Bob Dole, the measure, if approved by the House and signed by President Clinton, would last through Feb. 1. However, workers would be paid only after money was approved for their salaries.

The measure's fate was uncertain in the House, where GOP freshmen have promised to continue the partial closure until the White House accepts a seven-year balanced budget plan to their liking.

The House was scheduled to convene early this evening for what was expected to be only a brief session.

Despite the budget impasse, there were a few bright spots. Jim Holley, spokesman for the Department of Veterans Affairs, said 3.3 million benefit checks went out Friday night, just hours after legislation was passed to authorize the payments. "They should arrive on time," he said.

And a once-in-a-lifetime exhibit of Johannes Vermeer paintings at the National Gallery of Art reopens today, using money from a private fund. The Smithsonian's Museum of American History also found enough money to operate this week.

The openings provided little solace to some 760,000 employees of unfunded federal agen-

cies, who will face holiday bills with truncated paychecks.

The Office of Management and Budget said checks to be issued on Friday or next week — covering Dec. 10-23 — will cover pay only for days worked prior to the Dec. 16 shutdown.

That will affect all workers in the unfunded agencies — the 280,000 on furlough and the 480,000 "excepted" employees who are on the job.

Another 1.2 million federal employees, whose agencies received their full appropriations, will receive full pay.

While the 760,000 workers are expected to be paid when the dispute is resolved, Veterans Affairs Secretary Jesse Brown wrote his employees telling them to "keep the faith" in the meantime.

With full benefits still to be deducted from paychecks, leaving some workers with almost no net pay, Brown said in his letter: "I know this is bad news, coming just after Christmas, when you are already working in a stressful emergency situation, with many of your co-workers furloughed."

The VA has 202,000 workers on duty, the largest force among unfunded agencies, most of them in its 172 medical facilities. Another 34,000 are on furlough.

Bargainers forage in aftermath of weak season

With shelves and storerooms still brimming with merchandise, retailers set out to counter the worst Christmas shopping season in years by slashing prices, and experienced consumers were ready and waiting.

Many shoppers waited until after Christmas to take advantage of markdowns from merchants desperate to unload their wares.

"I came out expecting sales, and I waited to buy some things for that reason," Christina Slikko said Tuesday as she perused purses at Macy's in suburban Fairfax County, Va.

Slikko said she helped her husband pick out a new suit and found the bargain-basement prices on children's winter coats irresistible.

"I regard those more as essential things, not presents," she said. "So since it's not going under the tree, why buy it beforehand?"

Other shoppers had already turned their thoughts to next Christmas, snapping up decorations, wrapping paper and cards to mothball for 11 months.

In Pasadena, Calif., hundreds of bargain hunters descended on State, a year-round Christmas store, where everything was half-price when the doors opened at 4 a.m.

Mary Durham bought a gold figurine of Jesus. "Isn't he beautiful? Jesus half off, but even half off Jesus is wonderful," she said.

The bonanza for post-Christ-

mas shoppers was the result of the weakest season for many store owners since the 1990-91 recession.

A combination of a weakening economy, heavy consumer debt and disruptive snows in the heavily populated Northeast hurt merchants who depend on Christmas shopping for half their annual earnings.

Although the final tally on Christmas season sales won't be known until early January, the Johnson Redbook Service, an authoritative industry data provider, said sales rose only 3.9 percent in four weeks since Thanksgiving compared with the same period last year. When the 2.6 percent annual inflation rate is factored in, sales barely rose.

In midtown Manhattan, every other shop had a huge sign in the window boasting of sales: 30-40 percent off at an "Opportunity Day" promotion by Macy's; up to 50 percent off at an Ann Taylor boutique; 30-50 percent off at Benetton; 25 percent off at The Body Shop.

Some shoppers, however, said the markdowns weren't enough to make them buy.

"I don't see any difference," said Mary Ann Bacher as she left Lord & Taylor.

In downtown Chicago, Audrey Weil went in search of half-price ornaments, wrapping and ribbons at Carson Pirie Scott, but also found a coffee maker on sale for 25 percent off.

Jury awards in malpractice suits set new records

WASHINGTON (AP) — The median medical malpractice jury award in the United States rose to \$500,000 in 1995 — 40 percent higher than last year, according to a private research group.

The increase from a median award of \$356,000 in 1994 marked a return to 1993's record-setting half million dollar levels, Jury Verdict Research Inc. said in a report released Tuesday.

The number of \$1 million jury awards also increased, the group said, with 35 percent hitting that level in 1995 compared to 27 percent in 1994.

Jury Verdict Research is a division of LRP Publications, which publishes newsletters for the legal profession.

The Physician Insurers Association of America, responding to the report, noted that 70 percent of claims filed against doctors never result in any payment to people who file medical malpractice lawsuits.

And 80 percent of cases that go to trial are decided in favor of the defendant, said the Health Care Liability Alliance, a lobbying coalition for 29 groups, including the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Healthcare Attorneys and the Health Insurance Association of America.

REUNITED



The gift of an unexpected family reunion produced smiles Tuesday for Dorothy and Fred Birkicht of Ruby, La., and their grandsons Chance, left, and Zane. A photo of the two boys visiting with Santa at a mall in Alexandria, La., moved over the Associated Press, who and was published Dec. 24 in the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle, where it was seen by Edward Roy Birkicht, who has been searching for family members for years. He contacted the Birkichts in Ruby and plans on visiting his new-found family.

Family, friends are still hopeful about return of anchorwoman missing 6 months

MASON CITY, Iowa (AP) — Doug Merbach still uses the calendar that the anchorwoman gave him, a daily reminder that she remains missing six months after she vanished.

He wants Jodi Sue Huisenruit back before the new year.

"You know, 1995 is almost over. I've got this calendar sitting on my desk at home that's almost run out," said Merbach, the anchorwoman's boss at KIMT-TV in Mason City. "I want to keep it because she gave it to me, but ..."

Huisenruit (pronounced who'-zen-troot) disappeared June 27. She was scheduled to work before dawn that day. When a co-worker called about 4 a.m., she said she'd be there in a few minutes.

She never arrived. Police found her car in the parking lot of her apartment complex. Some of her belongings — red shoes, a blow-dryer, a bottle of hair spray, car keys and earrings — were scattered nearby.

An investigation followed, eventually involving the FBI and officials in several states. Hundreds of people were inter-

viewed, but no "solid suspects" were ever discovered, police Chief Jack Schaefer said.

The family has hired private investigators and asked psychologists for help. But no trace of her has been found, and the case remains open.

"It's unbearable at times," said JoAnn Nathe, Huisenruit's oldest sister.

"I can't picture the terror that she must have experienced. And then I get just sick," Nathe said. "I picture her coming down the steps and I think, 'Oh, stop it, JoAnn, don't picture her when she goes out the door.' Because she's so little and sweet and, oh, she must have been just so scared."

The youngest of three girls, Huisenruit, 27, was the "sunshine" of her family, said Nathe, of Sauk Centre, Minn.

Merbach, news director at the CBS station, said each interview about Huisenruit brings back the pain.

"It's given our whole news staff, I think, sensitivity to issues like victims' rights and what victims go through when the media tries to ask them questions," he said.

Huisenruit's family learned out her disappearance in September. Her disappearance was being reported by friends, who urged her to find a new place to live.

"I don't know where she is," Nathe said. "I don't know where she is."

This case has become a north central mystery. Reminders of Huisenruit are everywhere.

Yellow ribbons are hung just after her disappearance, hang on trees and in windows. Posters asking for help are in stores and homes. A reward of \$34,000.

Nathe, who is often skeptical of TV news, appeared on a local news show in California. She said the results of the search were disappointing.

Nathe broke down in tears and did not say whether the search was over. Her son was dead.

Merbach said he hopes the publicity of the case reminds everyone to be more careful.

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Selena's death top story in Texas

The top 10 Texas news stories for 1995 as selected by state newspaper editors and broadcasters:

1. **SELENA SHOOTING.** Tejano singer Selena is fatally shot in a Corpus Christi motel by the women who once headed her fan club. Thousands of Selena fans mourn her death by traveling to south Texas and by painting messages of love on their car windshields.

2. **CONCEALED HANDGUNS.** Texans asked for it and they got it when lawmakers passed a law making it legal for citizens to carry concealed handguns.

3. **BASE CLOSINGS.** A federal panel voted June 22 to close Reese Air Force Base in Lubbock, Kelly AFB in San Antonio, a portion of Red River Army Depot in Texarkana and the reserve fighter wing at Bergstrom AFB in Austin.

4. **SELENA'S KILLER.** The woman who once headed Selena's fan club is convicted of her murder and sentenced to life in prison. Yolanda Saldivar's trial was marked by anxious fans of Selena who gather outside the Harris County Courthouse almost daily and cheered loudly when her convicted was announced.

5. **GOP TAKEOVER.** Texans ascend to top leadership positions in Washington: Dick Arme is House GOP's No. 2; Tom DeLay is House GOP's No. 3; Bill Archer is chairman of influential House Ways and Means Committee; Phil Gramm becomes chair of appropriations subcommittee and later shifts to Finance Committee.

6. **EDUCATION REFORM.** Gov. George W. Bush challenged Texans to take control of their local schools and signed into a law a bill allowing communities to design their own education programs and escape many state regulations.

7. **MICKEY MANTLE.** The former baseball great is diagnosed with cancer, receives a liver transplant but later dies at a Dallas hospital. His struggle stirs major interest and controversy over whether his celebrity status helped him receive an organ donation sooner than others on the list.

8. **BOMBING/WACO.** A deadly government raid on the Branch Davidian sect two years ago has incited militia groups and others who say their mission is to protect the Constitution and halt federal tyranny. But militia leaders, anti-government activists and Davidians themselves condemned the bombing in Oklahoma alleged to have been committed by a former Army soldier infuriated over the Waco assault.

9. **TURBULENT PESO.** The devaluation of the Mexican peso stirs pessimism among domestic and foreign investors wishing for, but not expecting, a quick economic turnaround. Rising interest rates and unemployment contribute mightily to declining sales.

10. **CORPUS CHRISTI MASSACRE.** Refinery worker goes on shooting rampage that leaves six people dead at his former employer's office. Those killed included the husband and wife owners, the second-in-command, a secretary and a salesman. The man then killed himself.

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Oklahoma bombing top story in 1995

■ *Bosnia, O.J. closely followed*

NEW YORK (AP) — It was all O.J. all the time when 1995 began, but two stories surpassed the Simpson saga over the next 12 months: The arrival of homegrown terrorism in Oklahoma City, and the dispatch of 20,000 U.S. soldiers to blood-stained Bosnia.

The April 19 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah federal building in Oklahoma City was overwhelmingly cited as the top story of the year in the 59th annual Associated Press vote of newspaper and broadcast executives.

A solid second was the ongoing mess in the former Yugoslavia, where 60,000 NATO troops — one-third of them Americans — began arriving in December to replace ineffective United Nations peacekeeping forces. Years of war sparked by ethnic conflict in Bosnia have left at least 200,000 dead and 2 million homeless; a peace treaty offered shaky hope.

Last year, the Simpson case was the story of the year. In 1995, the Simpson acquittal was No. 3 on the list, finishing well ahead of the next two choices: the assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and the enormous earthquake that rocked Kobe, Japan.

The second half of the top 10, in descending order: Newt Gingrich, President Clinton and their fight for control of the government; a nerve gas attack in the Tokyo subway system; the rescue of Air Force Capt. Scott O'Grady from Bosnia; the murderous heat wave that killed more than 700 people in Chicago; and the jury decision to spare Susan Smith from execution.

A short synopsis of the top 10: 1. **OKLAHOMA BLAST.** When it happened at the World Trade Center, the terrorists came from the Middle East. But when a powerful bomb detonated outside the federal building on April 19, authorities said, the search for the terrorists ended within U.S. borders.

Accused were two U.S. Army buddies, Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols, who face trial in 1996. The carnage was shocking: 169 dead, more than 500 injured. The images were unforgettable: a firefighter carrying the bloody body of a baby girl. A woman rescued from the building's wreckage — only after doctors amputated her right leg.

2. **THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA.** It was another year of ethnic violence and unrest in Yugoslavia, the continuation of a mind-numbing cycle of civil war that started near the turn of the decade. But at the end of 1995, the confrontation halfway around the world became personal for Americans: U.S. troops were sent to the Balkans.

The NATO mission — Operation Joint Endeavor — is the largest Western military operation in Europe since World War II. But many questioned Clinton's decision to step in where the United Nations had failed.

3. **O.J. WALKS.** It was 10 a.m. Pacific time, Oct. 3, when the nation stood still and stared at its televisions. Minutes later, a Los Angeles jury cleared O.J. Simpson of murdering his ex-wife and a waiter from a nearby restaurant. Many whites were shocked; many blacks applauded.



Oklahoma City firefighter Chris Fields cradles the body of Baylee Almon, 1, who was killed in the April 19, 1995, bombing of the Alfred Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City. The child was among 169 people who lost their lives in the terrorist explosion.

Months after his acquittal, public opinion remained divided — mostly along racial lines — on whether the former football hero slashed the throats of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman.

The story just won't go away. Simpson is reportedly planning an infomercial declaring his innocence, and the Brown and Goldman families are pressing on with a civil suit against the judge.

4. **RABIN ASSASSINATION.** On Nov. 5, Israel Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin delivered a message of reconciliation to the crowd in Tel Aviv: "People really want peace." Rabin, a Nobel Peace Prize winner for his efforts in the Middle East, then left the pro-peace rally and walked to his car.

Yigal Amir was waiting. The 25-year-old Amir, taking advantage of lax security, fatally shot Rabin from point-blank range, authorities said. The alleged killer had ties to Israeli extremist fringe groups, and no remorse for the slaying.

"I'm satisfied," he said, when

told of Rabin's death.

5. **KOBE EARTHQUAKE.** They lined the streets outside Kobe — people limping, wrapped in bandages, carrying what was left of their possessions. They were fleeing the worst earthquake in Japan since 1923, a disaster that turned a sleek, modern city of 1.4 million into a post-apocalyptic nightmare.

The 7.2-magnitude earthquake on Jan. 17 killed more than 6,000 people, injured more than 26,000, demolished more than 94,000 buildings and homes. Random fires raged. Electricity, gas and water lines were knocked out. Food was at a premium. Nearly a year later, they're still trying to put Kobe back together again.

6. **CONTRACT WITH AMERICA.** In this pre-election year, with the arrival of Newt Gingrich as Speaker of the House, the battle lines were drawn early. Who knew they would end up leaving 260,000 federal employees temporarily out of work?

With Republicans in control

of both houses of Congress for the first time in 40 years, they took on President Clinton on every front. Gingrich & Co. waged war with the White House and their Democratic counterparts in Congress over everything and anything. The end result: a partial government shutdown while haggling continued over the federal budget.

7. **JAPANESE SUBWAY GASED.** Japan had its own problems with local terrorists. Aum Shinri Kyo, a Japanese cult, was accused of spreading deadly nerve gas through the Tokyo subway system on March 20. A dozen people were killed; more than 5,500 others were left gasping for air.

Authorities arrested cult leader Shoko Ashara, charging the cult planted the gas as part of its plan to prepare for a coming world war.

8. **AMERICAN HERO.** In an era short on heroes and role models, Air Force Capt. Scott O'Grady proved to be both — and a best-selling author, too.

O'Grady's F-16 was shot down over Bosnia on June 2, and he

narrowly escaped Serb forces after fleeing his crippled plane. For the next six days, he survived on insects and grass, washed down with rainwater. Finally, the Marines swooped in and brought O'Grady home.

9. **KILLER HEAT.** For scores of elderly Chicagoans this summer, their homes became their coffins. A mid-July heat wave, with temperatures topping out at 106 degrees, caused more than 700 deaths.

10. **SUSAN SMITH SPARED.** The first decision was simple: Susan Smith had, by her own admission, strapped her two little boys in their car seats and rolled them down a boat ramp to their deaths in a South Carolina lake. A jury convicted her of murder on July 22.

The second decision was more vexing: Should she receive the death penalty? A poll indicated most Americans agreed that the murders of 3-year-old Michael and 14-month-old Alex were enough to cost their mother her life. But the jury disagreed; Susan Smith instead received life in prison.

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SCOREBOARD

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N.Y. Rangers 6, Ottawa 4
Chicago 5, Dallas 3
Colorado 5, San Jose 1
Calgary 4, Vancouver 2

NBA
Houston 100, Vancouver 84
Denver 114, Dallas 102
Utah 114, Portland 104
L.A. Lakers 102, Boston 91
Sacramento 115, San Antonio 98

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7A

Ripken's feat voted top story of year

Just when baseball needed some help, a way to erase all the memories of the strike and the canceled World Series and the replacement-player spring training, along came Cal Ripken.

From his point of view, the Baltimore shortstop didn't do anything out of the ordinary. He just showed up for work every day, the same way he had ever since May 30, 1982.

It added up to 2,009 straight games at the start of the season, and by Sept. 5, the streak was 2,129 consecutive games.

That night, in Baltimore's Camden Yards, Ripken played one more game, tying Lou Gehrig's record at 2,130 and hitting a home run.

The next night, he punctuated the record with another exclamation-point homer, and was the centerpiece of a 22-minute standing ovation, an emotional tribute to one man's work ethic and dedication to his job.

"I'd like to think that outpouring was for the game, not me," Ripken said.

By season's end, Ripken pushed the record to 2,153 consecutive games.

And he is the probable starter at shortstop for the Orioles on Opening Day, 1996.

Ripken's relentless pursuit of Gehrig's record was voted Associated Press Story of the Year on Tuesday, receiving 155 of 252 first-place votes cast by sports editors, broadcasters and writers. The Ripken story finished with 2,221 points, almost a full thousand points ahead of the death of Mickey Mantle, which was second with 1,280.

Third place went to Michael Jordan's return to pro basket-

ball after his baseball adventure (1,213), followed by Northwestern's sudden football success and Rose Bowl bid (1,024). NFL franchise moves, including the midseason announcement that the Cleveland Browns would relocate in Baltimore next season, finished fifth (1,019).

The top five were followed by the end of the baseball strike (986), San Francisco's fifth Super Bowl championship (604), the Cleveland Indians season (542), Greg Maddux's fourth straight Cy Young Award (521)

and the return to tennis of Monica Seles (505).

The two labor-related baseball stories — the end of the strike and the use of replacement players in spring training — received a total 1,432 points, enough for second place if they were combined.

In the NFL, franchise moves received 14 first-place votes, while the 49ers' fifth Super Bowl got none.

The top basketball story was Jordan's return at No. 3, but the next highest was UCLA's NCAA tournament champi-

onship at No. 15, followed by the Houston Rockets' second straight NBA title at No. 16.

The top hockey story was the return of Mario Lemieux to the Pittsburgh Penguins at No. 19.

In boxing, Mike Tyson's release from prison finished No. 14. The top golf finisher was Ben Crenshaw's victory at the Masters at No. 17. Ernie Ivan's return to auto racing from near-fatal injuries was No. 20. The top horse racing story was Cigar's undefeated streak, which finished No. 23.

Air Force quarterback runs an efficient ship

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — Air Force runs a Wishbone attack that evokes memories of an earlier era — except that the Falcons run it with such efficiency and success that it seems as up-to-date as Windows 95.

Beau Morgan ran for 1,265 yards and passed for 1,165 this season, becoming the eighth player in NCAA history to surpass 1,000 yards on the ground and in the air the same season.

Two of the others — Bart Weiss in 1985 and Dee Dowis in 1989 — went to Air Force.

"When I started getting closer, I figured if I stayed healthy, it might happen," Morgan said. "To tell you the truth, you kind of expect those things to happen when you work hard and prepare like we have."

"I really didn't care about the personal statistic, but it's a good reflection of our team and our offense."

Morgan does care about his 2-0 record against Brigham Young. When he led the Falcons over BYU as a sophomore, he became the second Air Force quarterback to beat the Cougars.

This year, Morgan followed up by rushing for 66 yards and passing for 117 in a 38-12 victory that started that started the Falcons on their way to an 8-4

season.

The Falcons will face a tough defense tonight, when they play Texas Tech (8-3) in the Copper Bowl.

But Air Force has seen a few of those. The Falcons were outmanned in a 30-6 loss to Northwestern and a 38-20 loss to Notre Dame. But their two Western Athletic Conference defeats were by a total of eight points to Colorado State and Utah.

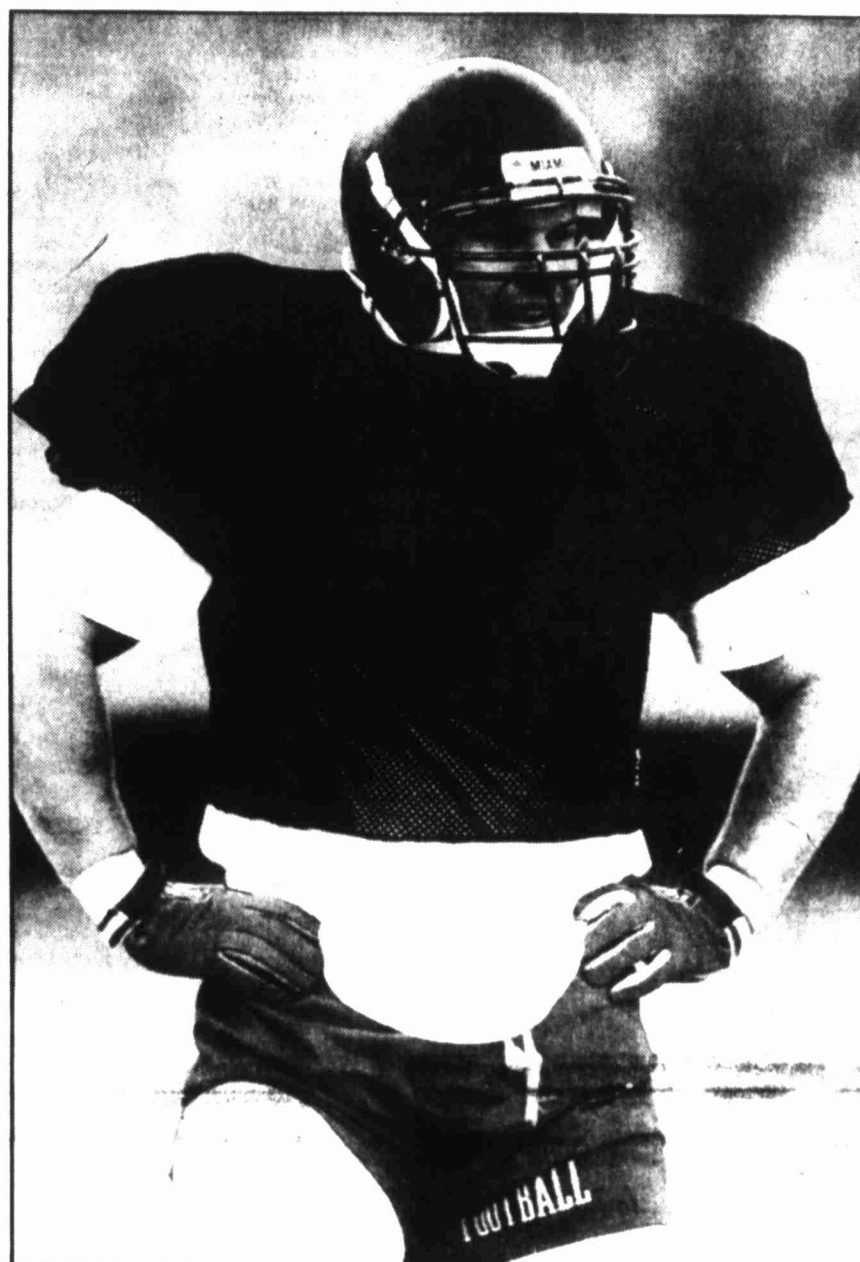
Each team will get a \$750,000 payout from the 7-year-old bowl.

Morgan accounted for 31 touchdowns this season, carrying for 19 and throwing for 12, and he finished with a flourish when he rushed for piled up 309 yards in total offense and scored four TDs in a 43-28 win over Hawaii.

It was a finish that had coach Fisher DeBerry talking Heisman Trophy.

"Beau's got the credentials," DeBerry said. "This year, he's put up better numbers than Tommie Frazier."

Frazier, the quarterback of No. 1 Nebraska, was the runner-up to Ohio State's Eddie George in this year's Heisman voting. He piled up 1,966 yards in total offense and — like Morgan — accounted for 31 TDs.



Associated Press photo
Texas Tech linebacker Zach Thomas is shown at team practice Tuesday in Tucson, Ariz. The Red Raiders face Air Force tonight in the Copper Bowl.

Cowboys celebrate end of season 'grind'

IRVING, Texas (AP) — The Dallas Cowboys reached their training camp goal. Now they have a higher mountain in mind.

Coach Barry Switzer, starting his sophomore season in the NFL, said the team had a goal of winning the NFC East title and getting the homefield advantage in the playoffs.

They did that, giving them a week of rest to prepare their playoff plans and possibly another showdown with the San Francisco 49ers.

"We have a new attitude, a new feeling," said wide receiver Kevin Williams, who caught two touchdown passes in a 37-13 victory over the Arizona Cardinals on Monday night. "This was a win we could celebrate."

The clutch triumph gave Dallas a 12-4 record and took the homefield advantage away from the defending world champion 49ers, who beat the Cowboys during the regular season.

The Cowboys lost to the 49ers, twice to Washington and to Philadelphia during a regular season that quarterback Troy Aikman said had "no joy. It wasn't a lot of fun."

"We set a high standard and haven't played up to our capa-

bility," Aikman said. "We still aren't consistent, but we can be happy about this. I'm very pleased with this season. It's been what we've been wanting since last January. We had to fight through 16 games. But we got there."

Aikman got through the regular season with injuries to both legs and is nursing a bad back.

"The back gives me problems," said Aikman, who will undergo treatment all week. "I've been fighting through it, too."

Williams said everything is different now.

"I'm happy, the team's happy," he said.

Switzer said some critics of the Cowboys forgot it was a 16-game season.

"I guess what you do is wait until the season is over and add it up, and we're 12-4," Switzer said. "Stuff does happen, and so it's not over until it's over. I think the hard part is definitely over."

The Cowboys lost 38-28 to San Francisco in the NFC championship game last January. They were defeated 38-20 by the 49ers in November.

There was good news for the Cowboys, as far as injuries are

Please see COWBOYS, page 8A

Eagles' Rhodes coach of the year

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Throughout his coaching career, Ray Rhodes has done whatever it takes to make sure his players understand what he expects of them.

As a San Francisco 49ers defensive backfield coach, he once told a player after a poor performance: "If I get caught in a foxhole and I ain't got but two bullets left, believe me, you're going to get both of them."

Few players familiar with the coach's no-nonsense attitude were surprised when Rhodes took over an Eagles team that lost its final seven games in 1994, and turned it into a 10-6 playoff team in his first year as an NFL head coach.

They were not surprised Tuesday when they learned Rhodes had been selected the 1995 Coach of the Year.

Rhodes, 45, received 24 votes from a nationwide panel of sports writers and broadcasters in balloting by The Associated

Press. He edged Dom Capers of Carolina and Marty Schottenheimer of Kansas City, who had 21 apiece.

Some Eagles players said they had expected Rhodes to win.

"Some of us have been looking for it for the last couple of weeks," receiver Rob Carpenter said. "We were trying to go out and play pretty hard and get a couple of more victories under our belt and make it into the playoffs so he could get that vote as coach of year."

Veteran defensive end William Fuller said Rhodes is simply different than other coaches he's played for.

"What you see is what you get with Ray. He's very frank and very up-front," Fuller said. "You don't find that in a lot of coaches."

His candor was one of the things that attracted Eagles owner Jeffrey Lurie to Rhodes when he was shopping for a head coach to replace Rich Kotite.

Lurie said Rhodes reminded him of former Dallas Cowboys coach Jimmy Johnson for his "ability to relate on a real earthy basis with (his) players and yet have their respect."

Johnson was Lurie's first choice. Former Eagles coach Dick Vermeil was his second. Lurie turned to Rhodes when both turned him down.

He hasn't regretted the decision.

"(Rhodes) had all the ingredients I was looking for ... very intelligent, obsessed with winning championships, an excellent talent evaluator, a man's man, a leader," Lurie said.

Rhodes prepared for a head coaching spot while working in San Francisco. A former wide receiver and defensive back with the Giants and solely a DB for the Niners, Rhodes became an assistant coach in 1981.

"A whole lot of guys are just hanging around, going for the

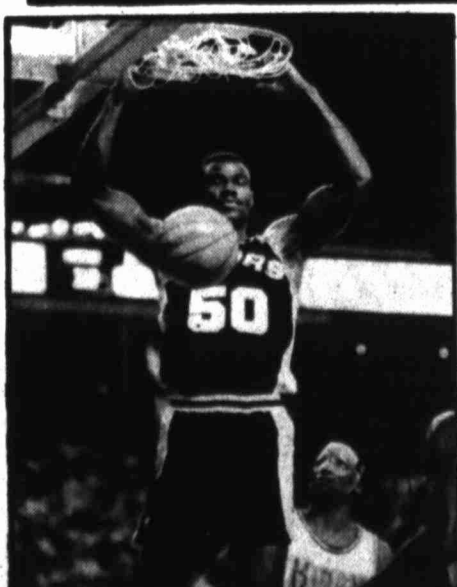
Please see RHODES, page 8A

COME HERE, BABY



Associated Press photo
Chicago goalie Jeff Hackett, right, watches the puck into his glove as Dallas' Mike Donnelly covers up on a shot during the first period of their game Tuesday. Chicago won, 5-3.

SHOT OF THE DAY



Here, there be giants

San Antonio center David Robinson stuffs the ball over Sacramento's Walt Williams during their NBA game Tuesday in Sacramento, Calif.

TEXAS

Blackhawks shoot down Stars

CHICAGO (AP) — Murray Craven deflected Eric Daze's long shot past Darcy Wakaluk, snapping a tie with 3:59 to play Tuesday night as the Chicago Blackhawks rallied for a 5-3 victory over the Dallas Stars.

Jeff Hackett, who earned his first career shutout in a 2-0 victory at Dallas on Saturday, made 34 saves to run his personal-best winning streak to six games. Tony Amonte scored the tying goal with 8:21 remaining and Jeremy Roenick scored twice for the Blackhawks, who are 4-0-1 since Dec. 17.

The Stars led 3-2 on second-period goals by Greg Adams, Bill Huard and Brent Gilchrist. The score remained unchanged until Amonte took Patrick Poulin's drop pass and beat Wakaluk with a slap shot from the top of the right faceoff circle. Amonte scored the winning goal against Dallas on Saturday.

NATION/WORLD

Unruly fans booted

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — A few unruly New York Giants fans don't have a snowball's chance of getting their season tickets back next year.

The Giants said 75 season-ticket subscriptions will be canceled because of a snowball barrage Saturday during the Giants-San Diego game that left 15 injured and nearly resulted in the first forfeit in NFL history.

Ex-player's wife charged

CLEVELAND (AP) — The wife of former Cleveland Browns defensive tackle Bob Gain was charged with shooting him during an argument.

Gain, 66, remained in critical condition at MetroHealth Medical Center, spokeswoman Sue Kalas said.

ON THE AIR

Football

College

Copper Bowl,
Texas Tech vs. Air Force,
7 p.m., ESPN (ch. 30).

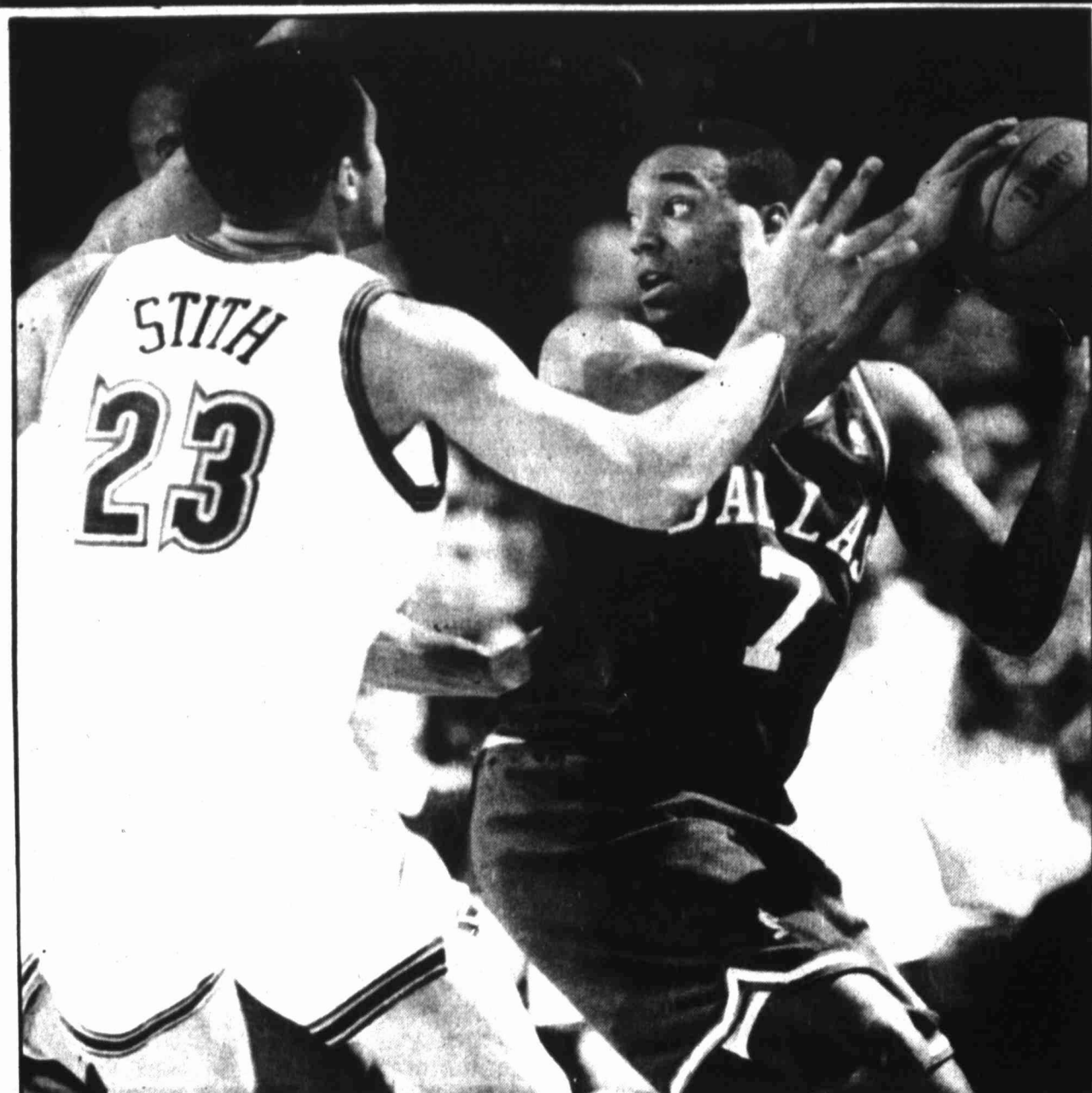
Basketball

NBA

Golden State at Washington,
7 p.m., TBS (ch. 11).

College

Kentucky vs. Rider,
6 p.m., PRIME (ch. 29).
Iona vs. St. John's,
8 p.m., PRIME.
Rhode Island vs. Hawaii,
11:30 p.m., ESPN.



Dallas guard Tony Dumas, right, is cornered by a pair of Denver defenders during their NBA game in Denver Tuesday night.

Bulls prove they're human

After a month, the Chicago Bulls finally lost their third game of the season.

The Indiana Pacers' 103-97 victory at home Tuesday night over the Bulls — their first defeat since Nov. 26 at Seattle — set up the last dramatic game of 1995 — Pacers at Bulls on Friday night at the United Center, where Chicago is undefeated this season.

"We can start another (winning streak). We've got a couple of days to practice and get back on track for Friday," said Michael Jordan, who matched his scoring average of 30 points, but missed 17 of 28 shots.

In other NBA games, Sacramento beat San Antonio 115-98, Denver beat Dallas 114-102, Utah defeated Portland 114-104, Houston got past Vancouver 100-84, Miami edged New Jersey 96-93, the Los Angeles Lakers downed Boston 102-91, Detroit beat Golden State 100-90, Atlanta topped the Los Angeles Clippers 94-88 and Toronto defeated Milwaukee 93-87.

Kings 115, Spurs 98
At Sacramento, the second-longest winning streak in the league also came to an end.

Walt Williams scored 20 of his 25 points in the second half, helping Sacramento snap San Antonio's six-game winning streak. Mitch Richmond led all scorers with 31 points as the Kings broke an eight-game losing streak against San Antonio dating back to Nov. 12, 1993.

Nuggets 114, Mavericks 102
At Denver, the Nuggets

extended Dallas' losing streak to six games as Dale Ellis scored a season-high 30 points.

"When I hit the first one, I knew I was in for a good night. I wanted to take every shot that was available to me. I put up some that even I was surprised went in. Once you get in a groove, it's hard to miss," Ellis said.

The Mavericks have lost 17 of 19 games and have the third-worst record in the league (7-18).

Mahmoud Abdul-Rauf added 21 points, Bryant Stith 17, Jalen Rose 16 and Antonio McDyess 15 for Denver. Dikembe Mutombo had 11 points, 18 rebounds and five of the Bulls' 11 blocked shots.

Jazz 114, Trail Blazers 104
At Salt Lake City, the Jazz also extended Portland's losing streak to six games, the Blazers' longest skid in six years.

The Blazers opted to use single coverage on Karl Malone, and he responded with 47 points on 21-for-31 shooting. He also had eight rebounds, five assists and three steals.

Jeff Hornacek scored 19 points and Antoine Carr 14, including 10 in the second quarter when the Jazz turned a 29-20 deficit into a 53-42 half-time lead.

Rockets 100, Grizzlies 84
At Houston, the defending champions had a hard time shaking free of the worst team in the league.

Byron Scott's layup with seven minutes remaining made it 72-69 before consecutive baskets by Sam Cassell and Mark

Bryant and Eldridge Recasner's 3-pointer snuffed out the Grizzlies' final threat.

"We were close," said Eric Murdock, who led the Grizzlies with 16 points. "We tried to hang tough with the world champions. We want to hang in there each night, and anything can happen. That's our goal, to hang around until the fourth quarter."

Heat 96, Nets 93

At Miami, Pat Riley's team avoided falling to .500 for the first time this season by getting just its second win in nine games — both against New Jersey.

Billy Owens returned from a 10-game absence (bruised shoulder) and scored a career-high 31 points. Armon Gilliam scored a season-high 29 to lead New Jersey, which lost for the sixth time in seven outings.

Lakers 102, Celtics 91
Eddie Jones scored six of his 19 points in a game-ending 13-6 run that secured the victory for Los Angeles over Boston.

It was the Lakers' third consecutive victory overall and their seventh straight at the Forum, which put them three games over .500 for the first time this season.

Pistons 100, Warriors 90
At Auburn Hills, Otis Thorpe had 26 points and 11 rebounds to lead Detroit to its fourth victory in five games.

Golden State rookie Joe Smith left the game with 3:58 left in the third after losing his balance on a rebound and landing hard on his right hip.

Ryan gets the axe in Arizona

TEMPE, Ariz. (AP) — What ruined Buddy Ryan wasn't the bluster, the nepotism, the falling attendance and the thoughtless way he spoke about players who didn't meet his expectations.

It was something he didn't believe could happen — embarrassing, mediocre play by one of his teams.

Arizona owner Bill Bidwill fired Ryan, 61, on Tuesday after watching the Dallas Cowboys manhandle the Cardinals 37-13 the night before, a loss that left Ryan 55-55-1 in seven years as a head coach.

Bidwill made the move knowing he would have to pay Ryan \$1.7 million for the two years left on his contract. He said he had no replacements in mind, but would not exclude any category of coaching.

"I think college coaches could be in the mix, I think a professional head coach or assistant could be in the mix," said Bidwill, who was undecided about giving the next hire the joint titles of general manager and coach.

HER SYSTEM:
QUICK PICK

WINNING NUMBERS:
9 18 19 22 32 39

FIRST THING
SHE DID:
TURNED 15
DIFFERENT
SHADES OF RED

PRIZE: \$27.2 MILLION

SPORTSEXTRA

At Orlando, Fla.
Tennessee (10-1) vs. Ohio State
(11-1), 1 p.m. (ABC)
Gator Bowl
At Jacksonville, Fla.
Clemson (8-3) vs. Syracuse (8-3),
12:30 p.m. (NBC)
Cotton Bowl
At Dallas

Colorado (9-2) vs. Oregon (9-2),
1:30 p.m. (CBS)
Rose Bowl
At Pasadena, Calif.
Northwestern (10-1) vs. Southern
California (8-2-1), 5 p.m. (ABC)

Orange Bowl
At Miami
Notre Dame (9-2) vs. Florida State
(9-2), 8 p.m. (CBS)

Tuesday, Jan 2
Fiesta Bowl
At Tempe, Ariz.
Nebraska (11-0) vs. Florida (12-0),
8:30 p.m. (CBS)

Saturday, Jan 13
East-West Shrine Classic
At Stanford, Calif.
West vs. East, 5 p.m. (ESPN)

Sunday, Jan 29
Senior Bowl
At Mobile, Ala.
South vs. North, 2:30 p.m. (TBS)

Monday, Jan 31
Senior Bowl
At Mobile, Ala.
East vs. West, 8 p.m. (ESPN)

NFL
AMERICAN CONFERENCE
East

W L T Pct. PF PA
At Buffalo 10 6 0 .625 350 335
V-Indianapolis 9 7 0 .563 331 316
V-Miami 9 7 0 .563 308 332
New England 6 10 0 .375 294 377
N.Y. Jets 3 130 .188 233 384

Central
At Pittsburgh 11 5 0 .688 407 327
Pittsburgh 7 9 0 .438 349 374
Houston 7 9 0 .438 348 324
Cleveland 5 110 .313 289 356
Jacksonville 4 120 .250 275 404

West
K-Kansas City 13 3 0 .813 358 241
V-San Diego 9 7 0 .563 321 323
Seattle 8 8 0 .500 363 366
Denver 8 8 0 .500 368 345
Oakland 8 8 0 .500 348 332

NATIONAL CONFERENCE
East
W L T Pct. PF PA
At Dallas 12 4 0 .750 435 291
V-Philadelphia 10 6 0 .615 318 338
Washington 6 100 .375 326 359
N.Y. Giants 5 110 .313 290 340
Arizona 4 120 .250 275 422

Central
V-San Green Bay 11 5 0 .688 404 314
V-Detroit 10 6 .625 436 336
Chicago 9 7 0 .563 392 360
Minnesota 8 8 0 .500 412 385

West
X-San Fran. 11 5 0 .688 457 258
V-Atlanta 9 7 0 .563 362 349
St. Louis 7 9 0 .438 309 418
Carolina 7 9 0 .438 289 325
New Orleans 7 9 0 .438 319 348

x-clinched division title; y-clinched
playoff berth.
Saturday's Games
San Diego 27, New York Giants 17
Detroit 37, Tampa Bay 10
Indianapolis 10, New England 7

Sunday's Games
Green Bay 24, Pittsburgh 19
Houston 28, Buffalo 17
Kansas City 26, Seattle 3
Jacksonville 24, Cleveland 21
Atlanta 28, San Francisco 27
Chicago 20, Philadelphia 14

New Orleans 12, New York Jets 0
Cincinnati 27, Minnesota 24
Washington 20, Carolina 17
Denver 31, Oakland 28
Miami 41, St. Louis 22

Monday's Game
Dallas 37, Arizona 13
End Regular Season

San Antonio 105, Phoenix 100
Orlando 92, Houston 90
Tuesday's Games
Toronto 93, Milwaukee 87
Miami 96, New Jersey 93
Atlanta 94, L.A. Clippers 86
Detroit 100, Golden State 90
Indiana 103, Chicago 97
Houston 100, Vancouver 84
Denver 114, Dallas 102
Utah 114, Portland 104
L.A. Lakers 102, Boston 91
Sacramento 115, San Antonio 98

Wednesday's Games
L.A. Clippers at Charlotte, 7:30
p.m.
Golden State at Washington, 8
p.m.

Milwaukee at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Philadelphia at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Boston at Portland, 10 p.m.
Denver at Seattle, 10 p.m.

HOCKEY

NHL

All Times EST
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

W L T Pts GF GA
Florida 25 8 2 52 125 81
N.Y. Rangers 23 106 52 138 107
Philadelphia 21 105 47 131 90
Washington 16 153 35 94 89
Tampa Bay 14 156 34 103 119
New Jersey 14 174 32 88 88
N.Y. Islanders 8 216 22 97 134

Northwest Division
Pittsburgh 22 9 3 47 166 104
Montreal 18 152 38 105 107
Buffalo 16 163 35 106 111
Boston 14 145 33 119 123
Hartford 11 185 27 85 107

Ottawa 7 261 15 83 137
WESTERN CONFERENCE
Central Division

W L T Pts GF GA
Detroit 25 7 2 52 133 72
Toronto 18 116 42 116 90
Chicago 16 128 40 118 107
St. Louis 15 165 35 93 97
Winnipeg 15 173 33 123 130
Dallas 10 157 27 88 105

Pacific Division
Colorado 21 115 47 154 107
Los Angeles 13 148 34 112 113
Vancouver 12 149 33 122 124
Anaheim 13 213 29 111 125
Edmonton 11 196 28 95 141
Calgary 9 207 25 93 130
San Jose 8 244 20 106 164

Monday's Games
No games scheduled

Tuesday's Games
Pittsburgh 6, Buffalo 3
Washington 4, Montreal 0
Boston 3, N.Y. Islanders 3, tie
Detroit 3, St. Louis 2
N.Y. Rangers 6, Ottawa 4
Chicago 5, Dallas 3
Columbus 5, San Jose 1

BASKETBALL

NBA

All Times EST
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

W L Pct GB
Orlando 22 6 .786 —
New York 19 7 .731 —
Boston 12 14 .538 7
Miami 12 13 .480 8 1/2
Charlotte 12 13 .480 8 1/2
Washington 10 15 .400 10 1/2
New Jersey 5 19 .208 15

Central Division
Chicago 23 3 .885 —
Indiana 14 11 .560 8 1/2
Cleveland 13 12 .520 9 1/2
Atlanta 13 13 .500 10
Charlotte 13 14 .481 10 1/2
Detroit 13 14 .481 10 1/2
Milwaukee 9 16 .360 13 1/2
Toronto 9 20 .310 15 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Midwest Division
Houston 20 8 1 GB
San Antonio 17 12 .588 1 1/2
Utah 16 9 .667 1 1/2
Denver 12 14 .462 7
Minnesota 7 17 .292 11
Dallas 7 18 .280 11 1/2
Vancouver 4 24 .143 16

Pacific Division
Seattle 17 8 .688 —
Sacramento 16 9 .640 1
L.A. Lakers 16 13 .552 3
Portland 11 13 .458 5 1/2
Phoenix 11 15 .423 6 1/2
Golden State 10 16 .384 7 1/2
L.A. Clippers 10 17 .370 8

BINGING ON CREDIT

Are American consumers maxing out or simply just using plastic more?

WASHINGTON (AP) — Take your pick. Americans are being buried under a mountain of debt; or clever consumers are using credit cards at a record-setting pace only for the convenience and the special bonuses.

After an apparently disappointing Christmas shopping season, analysts are weighing

the seriousness of a possible credit crunch and its likely impact on the economy.

Some said worries of a debt crisis were exaggerated. While credit-card use has surged, they said delinquency rates were only up slightly and consumers generally were on time with monthly payments.

Economist Elliott Platt of Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette Securities Corp. in New York said the significance of the growing debt was not clear-cut.

"We find the data regarding consumer indebtedness too mixed to incorporate in our economic forecast," he said, adding he was not worried that con-

sumers were in over their heads.

He and others emphasize the changing nature of credit card use. Plastic is welcome now at places like dentists' offices and grocery stores where cash or checks used to be the norm.

Also, lenders are showering the public with special incen-

tives to encourage credit-card use, including frequent flyer miles, rebates and credit toward a car.

Some analysts argue the only real danger is to low-income families who easily can become overextended. Their debts can become unmanageable but pose little threat to national prosper-

ity, analysts said.

"A debt crisis is not going to cause a major crisis — except for low-income people," said David Hale, chief economist for Kemper Financial Services Inc. in Chicago. "Credit cards have been too freely available. If

Please see CREDIT, page 2B

Discover a wealth of programs

Each year, thousands of Texans discover the Texas Agricultural Extension Service and a wealth of education and information to improve their lives and communities.

Whether you are a senior citizen, homeowner, business person, parent, child or agriculture producer, the Extension Service has something to offer you.

Extension deals in expert, reliable, current information about many subjects and issues in broad categories of nutrition, health and well being, safety, community development, agriculture, natural resources and 4-H and youth development.

The information services of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service form a network throughout the state and each of its 254 counties. Sources of information are available through publications, computer programs and video tapes available through each county office.

Educational services are provided such as seminars, workshops, demonstrations and community clubs such as 4-H and Family and Community Education. Extension also offers expert consulting, leadership training and cooperative educational efforts with other agencies and organizations related to community development.

The Texas Agriculture Extension Service program operates as a partnership between the Texas A & M University System and the local county government. The County Extension Agents that staff each county office are local residents who serve as subject-matter professionals, educational planners, adult and youth teachers.

Local citizens serve on advisory committees for each county program and assist in identifying issues and developing and implementing programs at the county level that meet the needs of the citizens of each county. The university system provides access to its Extension faculty and resources for the development of these programs.

Because the Extension Service is located in each county throughout Texas it forms an



Dana Tarter
Extension Agent

Odd or moving, the story is real

Some people may find this story odd. Others may see it as spiritual. Either way, this story is true.

It was a wicked night. A high wind hurled snow at the windows. The wind chill combined with temperatures in the teens to make it dangerously cold.

My youngest was at an after-school function. Her father would be picking her up at 8 p.m. I knew I'd feel more comfortable when she was home, safe and sound.

At 8:20 her father walked in the front door, alone. She hadn't been waiting for him at the school. Unable to find her he assumed she had hitched a ride with the parents of a friend — a perfectly reasonable assumption. Any minute now the phone



Christina Ferchalk
Columnist

would ring. "Mom, I'm at so and so's house. Come get me." Her father left and I went back to my work.

Out of the blue I felt a tightening at the nape of my neck that literally took my breath away. Then, clearly and distinctly, I heard my child calling to me. She was in trouble. She wasn't safe with a friend. Somehow she and her father had missed each other.

She needed me now!

I didn't bother looking for gloves or even buttoning my coat. I was out the door, in the car and on the highway.

I can't explain this and I don't expect anyone to believe it, but I felt her pain. She was alone in the dark, terrified beyond reason and so cold she could hardly bear it. She was fighting hysteria, as was I.

The car's heater was going full blast, yet my teeth were chattering. Oddly, there was a cold, dull, ache in my legs and my knees felt bruised.

As I sat at the first stoplight I realized I had no plan. Where should I look first? I only knew I had to find her quickly. The

cold was wearing her down.

I closed my eyes and prayed. I had been in such a panic it hadn't occurred to me to do that before. It helped considerably. Suddenly my car was filled with my childhood saints. From that moment on it was my foot on the pedals but not my hands on the wheel.

Several times I decided to turn down a likely side street but the car kept going straight. Down through the nearly deserted main street of town to another light. Turn north. No, don't look in the new park. She's not there. I kept my eyes trained to the left, never once glancing right. Moving slower and slower ... still on automatic pilot ... I signaled to turn, and pulled to the side of the road.

I had found my baby.

She was still moving, still walking, but barely. As I bundled her into the car she tried to talk, to explain, but her speech was incoherent. That happens when a person is much too cold.

As we drove back down the highway I made soft, reassuring

Please see FERCHALK, page 3B

IN THE BAG

Worried about all that fat in holiday foods, Hershey's offers a brownie recipe with 100 calories per brownie and 25 percent fat:

REDUCED FAT BROWNIES
3/4 cup cocoa
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
2/3 cup lower fat (40 percent oil) margarine, melted
1/2 cup boiling water
2 cups sugar
3 egg whites
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 1/3 cups flour
1/4 teaspoon salt
1 cup Hershey's reduced fat semi-sweet baking chips
Heat oven to 350. Spray 13 by 9 inch baking pan with vegetable spray.

In large bowl, stir together cocoa and baking soda; stir in 1/3 cup melted margarine. Add boiling water; stir until mixture thickens. Stir in sugar, egg whites, vanilla and remaining 1/3 cup melted margarine. Stir until smooth.

Add flour and salt and blend completely. Stir in baking chips; pour into prepared pan. Bake 30 to 35 minutes or until

brownies begin to pull away from sides of pan. Cool completely in pan on wire rack. Cut into squares. 36 brownies.

Land O Lakes is looking for families that have fun together. Submit a photo and a 100-word description of an activity that brings your family together. The grand prize is a trip to Disney World.

To enter, send your name, address, phone number, photo and description of family activity to: Land O Lakes Sour Cream Contest, Shandwick USA, 8400 Normandale Lake Blvd., Suite 500, Bloomington, MN, 55437.

The deadline is Jan. 26.

Resolve to eat five fruits and vegetables a day next year. A reminder that servings don't have to be large. One serving is equal to:

- 3/4 cup of 100 percent fruit juice.
- One medium apple, pear, orange or banana.
- 1/2 cup cut up fruit
- 1/2 cup cooked vegetables, or raw
- 1 cup raw leafy vegetables
- 1/2 cup dried cooked beans or peas.

Scripts Howard News Service

RARE, MEDIUM OR WELL?

Reindeer meat a popular, yet expensive, meat

By JIM CLARKE
Associated Press Writer

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — While Santa was hitching up his reindeer for his global gift-giving mission, fine diners at tony restaurants were tucking in plates of caribou, one of those exotic meats pitched as a healthy alternative to beef.

Here's a little Christmas fact to chew on along with that fancy dinner: Caribou, by another name, is Blitzen, Prancer and Rudolph.

Alaskans don't have any illusions about such things. Supermarket deli cases proudly feature reindeer sausage, locally made and often locally slaughtered. Gov. Tony Knowles' deli in downtown Anchorage serves reindeer stew.

Popular isn't the same as inexpensive, however. Reindeer meat costs about five times as much as beef.

During the Christmas holidays I don't think it's a good idea to call it reindeer.

Loretto Sanguinetti,
Cadillac Jacks chief

But elsewhere, the white lie persists.

"It's pure marketing," said Dave Vohaska, owner of Specialty Game Inc., a Chicago exotic meat distributor. "I think it rolls off the tongue a little bit better. People think of reindeer, they think of Santa Claus."

The only difference between caribou and reindeer is a corral. Reindeer are domesticated caribou, herded to slaughter just like cattle.

At Cadillac Jacks in Jackson Hole, Wyo., reindeer comes on a roasted rack with rabbit sausage or in a pasta mixed with elk. It's passed off as caribou, but it comes from Bering Sea Reindeer Products on Nunivak Island, 550 miles east of Anchorage, the same place near-

ly all of the reindeer meat in the nation begins.

"During the Christmas holidays I don't think it's a good idea to call it reindeer," said Loretto Sanguinetti, a chef at Cadillac Jacks.

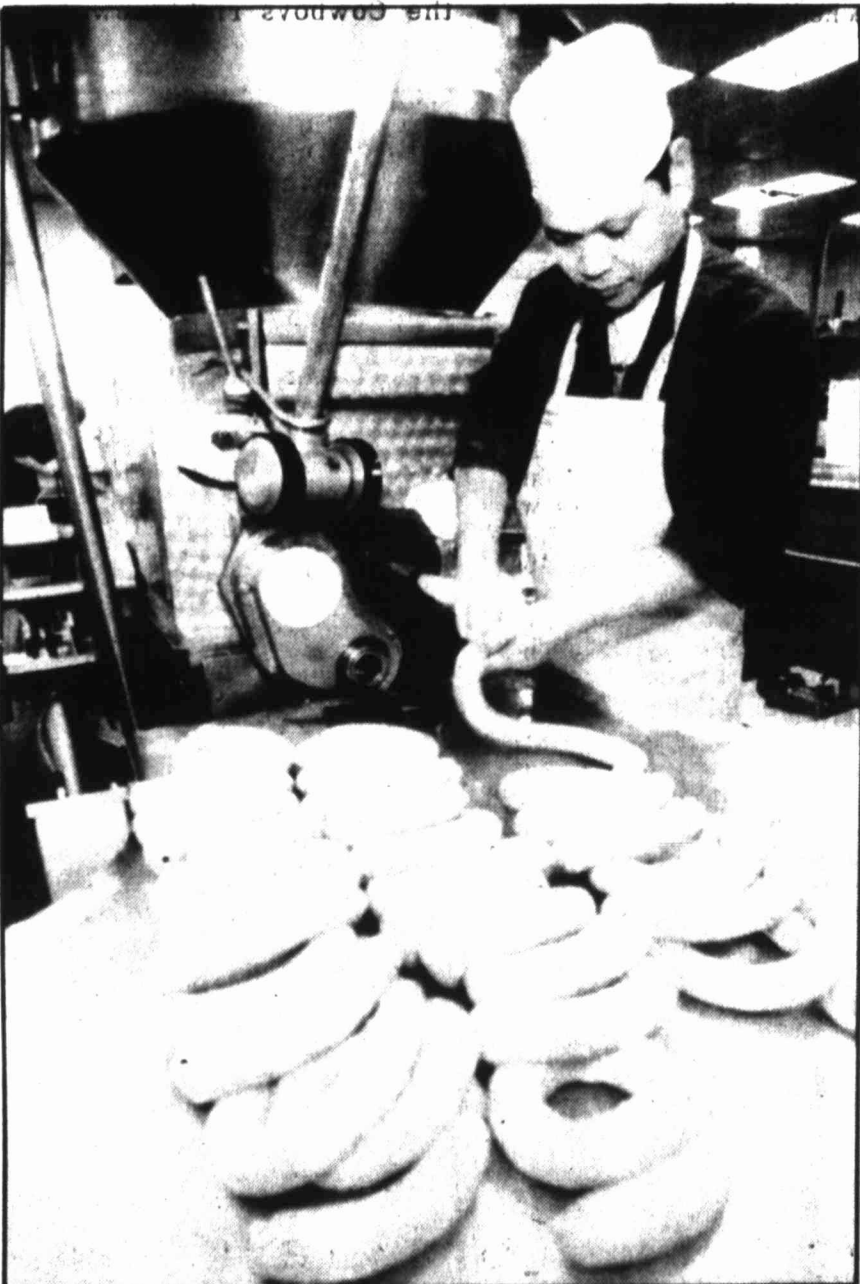
For Herb Eckmann, reindeer sausage has been one of the pillars of his meat processing business in Anchorage. Shortly after opening Alaska Sausage and Seafood in 1963 the company began producing a small amount for local markets.

"There wasn't anything like it before, and it was immediately popular," Eckmann said.

Popular isn't the same as inexpensive, however. Reindeer meat costs about five times as much as beef.

The Golden Hirsch Inn in Park City, Utah, serves tenderloin of Alaska Caribou with wild mushrooms. At \$34, it's the most expensive entree on the menu — and one of the top sellers, said Jeanne Lehan, the restaurant's manager.

"The chef knows it's reindeer and I know it," Lehan says. "I think it's like beef and cow. You don't put cow on your menu."



Eddie Yutuc makes sausages with reindeer meat recently at Alaska Sausage Company in Anchorage, Alaska. The sausage is just one of the many reindeer products on the market.

PICTURE THIS



Litter box time

Three Sumatran tiger cubs make their public debut at Sydney's Taronga zoo in Australia. The rare cubs were born Oct. 25. The numbers of Sumatran tigers have dwindled to about 300-600, with about 194 living in zoos around the world.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Corral honors employees, businesses

The Corral (Community Services Branch of Big Spring State Hospital) held its yearly Christmas and Awards dinner at Howard College in the Cactus Room on Dec. 21, honoring several Corral members. Award categories for the members were: Member of the Year, Mr. and Ms. Corral, Mr. and Ms. Personality, Most Improved, Friendliest, Competitive Employee, Corral Crew Employee, Most Attendance, Most Improved Employee, Volunteer, and Member's Advisory Board.

Star Awards were given to businesses and individuals in the community who have made outstanding contributions throughout 1995: Ida Wallace - Donuts Etc., Clyde McMahon - McMahon Concrete, Cotton Mize - Landlord, Billye Grisham - Creative Celebrations, Catherine Jeffries - Walmart, Mike Novak - H.E.B., Rainbow Bakery, Carlos Gonzales - Big Spring Herald, Beverly Warren - Big Spring Symphony and Ballet, Rick Turner - T.R.C., Mark Balios - Fiberflex, Gary Fuqua - City of Big Spring, David Riffe, Reeves and Beth Moren, Hazel Duggan, Daved and Sherry Roman - T&P Credit Union, Amy Overton - Big Spring Women's Club, Big Spring Optimist Club, Starla Ayala - Vogue Beauty Salon, Jo Ann Forrest - First Methodist Church, Lawrence I.G.A., Abilene State School, Shelley Smith, Ed Moughon, Gail Zilai and Lisa Brooks - Big Spring State Hospital, Women - Prairie View Baptist Church, and Terri Blacksear, Mary Hughes, Margaret Lloyd, Sondra Qualls, Dana Tarter, Rick Foster, Gail Earls, Melinda Hunter, Lucy Knox, Ben Lockhart, Bobbie Rainwater, June Waters - Corral Board.

For information contact Diane Linhart at the Corral, 263-0900.

THE LAST WORD

Audiences will get just as tired of people wrestling on a bed as they did of Tom Mix kissing his horse.

—Mary Astor

Thanks to television, for the first time the young are seeing history made before it is censored by their elders.

—Margaret Mead

People love the unvarnished truth if it's about others, and hate it when it's about themselves.

—Warren Rogers

All of us are free as long as no one tramples on us.

—Tess Onwueme

?!/HUH ?!

SPIRIT OF THE SEASON

Cowboy Claus

Up on the rooftop cowboy
spurs
Something weird has just
occurred
Down comes good old Cowboy
Claus
The size of our chimney made
him pause.

He tried to shove his body
down
It was so small he really did
own.
He pushed, shoved and tried
to shove his body thru
He couldn't get down, so he
called for his crew.

"Hustle, hustle!" "Hurry up,
all!"
Santa so distracted off the
rooftop he did fall.
Then he called an emergency
on his cellular phone
And his wife, Mrs. Claus,
brought him back to his home.

He felt so bad he stayed in bed
for a week
And then one day, he finally
did speak
Next year I am not taking any
more

Next year I'm going to use the
front door!

Erica Stewart,
10 years old

The Real Meaning

An empty stocking hangs on
our fireplace
to remind us of a birthday we
hold dear.
It helps us to think and
remember
the real meaning of this time
of year.

The other stockings will get
presents
little things, but fun things,
you see.
But what shall we put in the
other?
What will our Savior's gift be?

I'd like to give Him peace on
this ball we call Earth,
to banish war, hunger and
pain.

I'd like Him to know that all
was well
till He comes back down for us
again.

Oh, I know I can't give Him
that present for sure

but perhaps I can just do my
part.
If enough of us symbolically
filled that sock
it would be a wonderful, won-
derful start.

Terry Burns

Unto Us,
A Saviour is Given

The year's almost over
All frost and cold
It's the season of love
The greatest love ever told.
God came from Heaven
In the form of man
As a babe in a manger
In a faraway land.

The date wasn't recorded
Just the event.
A Saviour from Heaven
To lost man was sent.
To an unloving world
Jesus came in love
To show man the way
To the Father above.

He walked in sorrow
For the condition of men
But in love He bore
Our burden of sin.

Martha Anderson

'God's Little Angels' are under our protection

Child abuse, mentally, physi-
cally or sexually is unexcusable!
Why would anyone want to hurt
a little child? Only a coward
would do so. Someone who is
afraid to confront someone their
own equal would only seek out a
trusting child to take advantage
of.

A trusted friend or relative
has taken advantage of one of
God's little angels once again.
Creeping in during the night or
caught alone unprotected, one
of our children is abused. How dare
a person who comes in as
trusted, when he is actually just
a thief in the night, stealing the
life right out of them.

Can you imagine the pain?
Ripping flesh and bruised
insides. How can these little

ones survive? Violated broken
bodies, confused frightened
minds, and lost lovely hearts,
no one has rescued them. Some
are ruined forever mentally,
scared deeply physically and
socially destroyed. Who can
they turn to? Mom looks the
other way, not wanting to admit
the truth. Society doesn't want
to get involved. Why and who is
to blame? Everyone is responsi-
ble for his own actions and until
our laws decide to do something
about it, it will continue to esca-
late. Two out of five girls and
one out of seven boys will be
sexually abused this year. Just
how many will be beaten or
starved? Our children should
not have to be afraid. They
should be able to run and play

in parks without fear but they
cannot even do this in their own
yards. How many will be
abducted right out of their
yards? These little angels are
looking to us for protection. Are
we going to let them down? Will
we fail them again?

We have to take responsibil-
ity. We have to get involved and
save our children. What can we
do? Vote to have tougher laws
regarding abuse to our children.
Report any suspicious of
neglected or abused children.
We may very well be their only
salvation. Will we keep a watch-
ful eye or just keep our blinders
on. Remember...these are God's
Little Angels loaned to us for
safe keeping.

Bernell Bayes

HOLIDAY DONATIONS



Herald Photo by Mary McAlister
Rita Dykes of West Texas
Opportunities accepts a check
from Adella Rivera of Security
Finance of Big Spring.

Security Finance
employees donate
to West Texas
Opportunities

Adella Rivera, manager of
Security Finance Corp.,
announced its affiliate company
established a private charitable
foundation, Security's Lending
Hand Foundation, to allow each
office to give something back to
the community. The amount
was based on the number of
new customers who chose to do
business with Security Finance
during 1995.

"This means our customers
are also indirectly contributing
to their community. All the
employees at Security Finance
want to express our sincere
gratitude to our customers who
made this contribution possi-
ble," said Rivera.



Herald Photo by Mary McAlister
Big Spring Park Supervisor Perry Hall and Volunteer Coordina-
tor display the \$700 check presented by Secretary Shyrlee Reid
and President Sara Bavin of the Aid Association for Lutherans
for the Kids Zone project. The money was raised through St.
Paul Lutheran Church.

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life! Section
Sunday Deadlines

All Sunday items (wed-
dings, anniversaries, birth
announcements, Who's
Who, military) are due to
the Herald office by
Wednesday at noon.

Wedding, engagement,
anniversary and birth
announcement forms are
available in the editorial
department.

Credit

Continued from page 1B

you're going to give money
away, someone is going to take
it."

He noted that the bottom fifth
of the population in terms of
earnings accounts for just 4 per-
cent of total income.

Harriet Cooper might take
exception. A 49-year-old comput-
er software trainer at the World
Bank, she earns more than
\$50,000 a year, which easily puts
her in the middle class.

But before she got counseling
and ripped up a dozen credit
cards, her debts nearly immobil-
ized her.

"I was to the point where the
stress was so severe I was for-
getting to make payments and
didn't even open my mail," she
said.

Before getting help, the Vien-
na, Va., woman said she owed
about \$20,000 on her credit
cards and also faced mounting
medical bills for herself and her
84-year-old mother.

"I charged everything and I

didn't have a savings account
for emergencies," Cooper said.
"I guess I wasn't mature enough
to handle credit cards. If I had
not gotten help, I would have
had to file for bankruptcy."

Americans are quick to
charge and loathe to save, the
figures show.

Consumer credit — excluding
mortgages and home equity
loans — has risen every month
for about 20 years and is up well
over 30 percent since 1983.

In October, it surpassed \$1
trillion for the first time. Out-
standing consumer credit, rela-
tive to disposable income, is at
an all-time high and the amount
of overdue payments on month-
ly credit card bills rose in the
third quarter to the highest
level in four years.

But analysts said the numbers
were not as ominous as they
seemed.

The share of disposable house-
hold income dedicated to paying
off all debt each month was
nearly 17 percent. While up
more than a percentage point
from early 1994, it was below

the nearly 18.5 percent level
during the last recession six
years ago.

Still, analysts said the trend
was not positive. Incomes have
been growing sluggishly and
projected weak Christmas sales
underscored that consumers
may be close to maxing out
their credit. Some analysts pre-
dicted that holiday retail sales
barely rose over a year ago.

The Federal Reserve last week
also acknowledged the econom-
ic slowdown. It cut a key short-
term interest rate from 5.75 per-
cent to 5.50 percent, meaning
borrowing will be cheaper for
millions of consumers and busi-
nesses.

The Fed's message was that
Americans could borrow money
for less without overheating the
economy.

Still, as Harriet Cooper
warned from bitter personal
experience, beware of tempta-
tion.

"You get the cards in the mail,
preapproved," she said. "That's
how they get you."

SUPPORT
GROUPS

MONDAY

•Al-A-Teen, 7:30 p.m., 615
Settles.

•Turning Point A.A., 8-9 p.m., St.
Mary's Episcopal Church, 10th and
Goliad. Open to all substance
abusers.

•TOPS weight support group, 6
p.m., College Heights Christian
Church, 21st and Goliad. Weigh-in,
5:30 p.m. Call 263-1340 or 263-
8633.

•Project Freedom, Christian sup-
port group for survivors of physi-
cal/emotional/sexual and/or spiri-
tual abuse. Call 263-5140 or 263-
2241 for dates/times of upcoming
groups.

•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615
Settles, noon open meeting.

TUESDAY

•Encouragers Support Group,
first and third Tuesdays each
month, 5:30 p.m. First Tuesday
meetings are at a local restaurant.
Third Tuesday meetings are at
First Presbyterian Church, Eighth
and Runnels (enter through patio),

followed by dinner at a local
restaurant. For more information
call 398-5522 or 399-4369.

•Support for MS and Related
Diseases, 6:30 p.m. second
Tuesday of each month,
Canterbury South. Public invited.
Call Leslie, 267-1069.

•Al-Anon, 8 p.m., 615 Settles.

•Seniors' diabetic support group,
2 p.m., Canterbury South. Call
263-1265.

•Compassionate Friends support
group for parents who have expe-
rienced death of a child, 7:30 p.m.
first Tuesday of each even-num-
bered month, room 113 of the
Family Life Center Building, First
Baptist Church, 705 W. Marcy.
Enter by southeast door. Call 267-
2769.

•VOICES support group for ado-
lescent victims of sexual abuse,
incest, rape, date rape, any other
crime of indecency. 3:45 p.m. Call
Rape Crisis/Victim Services, 263-
3312.

•Diabetes support group, second
Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m.,
Scenic Mountain Medical Center
classroom.

•Cancer support group, first
Tuesday of each month, 7-8 p.m.,

VA Medical Center room 213. Call
Beverly Rice, 263-7361 ext. 7077.

•"The Most Excellent Way" drug
and alcohol support group meets
Tuesdays at 7 p.m., Cornerstone
Bookstore, 1909 Gregg. Call 263-
3168 or 267-7047 from 8:30 a.m.
until 5 p.m., after 5 p.m., call 267-
1424.

•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615
Settles, noon open meeting and 8
p.m. closed meeting.

•The monthly Family Education &
Support meeting sponsored by
Howard County Mental Health
Center is the fourth Tuesday of
each month. The meetings are
held at The Corral at 3rd & Benton
at 6 p.m. Contact Shannon Nabors
at 267-0027.

•The Encouragers Support
Group will be having a covered
dish dinner, Tuesday, Dec. 19, at 6
p.m. Please bring a salad or veg-
etable dish and a wrapped gift for
gift exchange.

WEDNESDAY

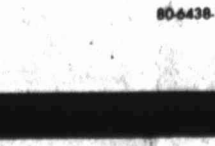
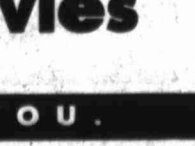
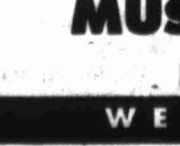
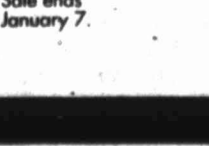
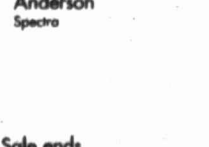
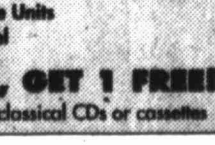
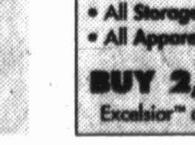
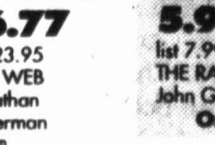
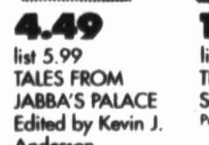
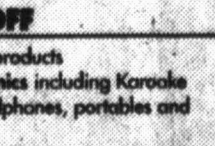
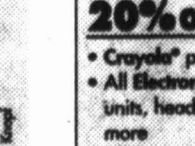
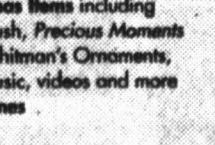
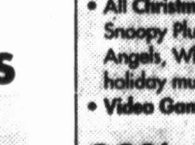
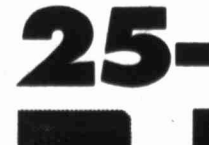
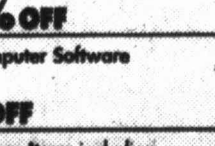
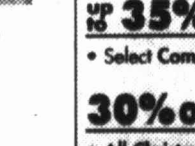
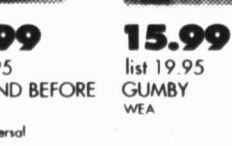
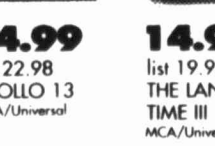
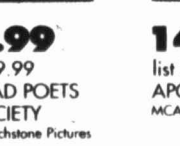
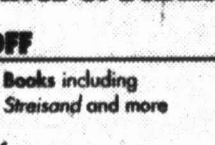
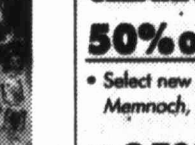
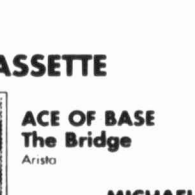
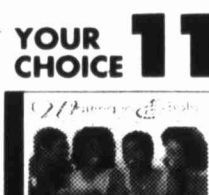
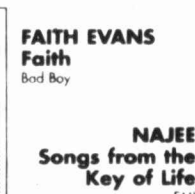
•Gamblers Anonymous, 7 p.m.,
St. Stephen's Catholic Church,
room 1, 4601 Neeley, Midland. Call
263-8920.

•Survivors sexual abuse support
group, 10-11:30 a.m. Call Rape
Crisis/Victim Services, 263-3312.

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Distrib
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ON THEIR WAY



Salvation Army volunteers Agnes Gilmore, Clem Jones and Pat McNew gather bags of Christmas goodies distributed Friday afternoon. Generous hearts made the Christmas spirit possible for many needy youngsters.

Working to bring home the dough often includes working on holidays

While most Texans spent Christmas Day with family or friends, a handful were still at their jobs, keeping essential services functioning.

Of course, police, fire and emergency crews remained at their posts Monday, but other Texans still had work to do.

It was work as usual for the three rig hands aboard an Oryx Energy offshore platform in the Gulf of Mexico, about 110 miles from Sabine Pass.

Joseph Robertson and two other crew members rolled out of their bunks about 5 a.m. to begin their day's chores.

"But we're still got the Christmas spirit," said Robertson, of Lafayette, La. "Everybody's called their families."

That Christmas spirit was enhanced by the holiday dinner prepared for the crew by the rig's cook and galley hand.

"Oh, I'm talking about a fine Christmas dinner!" Robertson said. "We've got good food, turkey and everything you can think of for Christmas dinner."

It was a typical day for the helicopter pilots who shuttle crews to the offshore platforms. Ten pilots were on duty Christmas morning at the Petroleum Helicopters Inc. base near Sabine Pass.

Thomas Blanchard was one of them, flying as far as 125 miles off the Gulf Coast, working his monthly 14-day stretch 760 miles from his El Paso home.

"We've had five flights already," Blanchard said around 9 a.m.

Like many workplaces, seniority — or a lack of it — determined which pilots had to work on Christmas. Senior pilots are able to opt out of more of the assignments, he said.

But working on Christmas is not unusual to Blanchard, a former Vietnam War Army combat chopper pilot.

"We have to man the (helicopter) ships every day," he said.

About 420 miles to the northeast, near the Red River, on the 30,000-acre E.W. Hunt Ranch near Seymour, foreman Bill Bland was finishing a ride around the property.

Ranch foreman for the past 10 years, Bland gave his crew of cowboys and other hands Christmas off. So the chore of feeding about 2,000 head of cattle across the spread fell to him.

"I stayed here, cut the chores down to the minimum and did

them myself," he said.

An awaiting feast to be shared with about 12 family members lightened the burden of Bland's chores.

"We're going to have a big ham, turkey and all the accessories that go on the side," he said.

About 165 miles to the southeast, near the Central Texas town of Hillsboro, the few gypsy truckers spending Christmas on Interstate 35 pulled into the Carls Corner truck stop for their holiday dinner and a few hours' sleep.

Manager S.M. Becks spent Christmas morning at the cash register of the restaurant, about 50 miles south of Dallas. By noon, the truckers had already had their dinner and climbed into their cabs or bunks for some shut-eye, he said.

"There have been a few come in here," Becks said. "A lot of them don't have families, so they go ahead and drive. It ain't what a lot of them want, but they've got to make a living."

Also at work were operators at telephone answering services, who spent Christmas picking up calls for clients who spent the day with loved ones.

"We just rotate holidays and days off," said operator Jeanette Overshaw at Echo Communications in Houston.

The day did not promise to be busy. "There haven't been many calls, compared with regular Mondays," Ms. Overshaw said.

The Associated Press

Tarter

Continued from page 1B

information and education network. This network enables County Extension Agents to link localities dealing with regional or statewide problems and issues ranging from water quality to at-risk youth.

Also, when information or answers are not available locally, it provides access to the resources of the entire university systems through the county Extension office. The Texas Agricultural Extension Service joins its counterparts in other states to form the nationwide Cooperative Extension System.

Safety first before babysitting

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been married for nine years, and I have always had a good relationship with my mother-in-law, "Ruth." We have 2-year-old twin boys, and my husband's sister has a little girl who is 4. Ruth is a kind and loving grandmother who would never intentionally do anything to harm her grandchildren.



Abigail Van Buren
Columnist

The problem is that she has no common sense and is utterly lacking in basic safety knowledge.

When the twins were barely 3 months old, Ruth and I were shopping at a mall, and I asked her to watch them while I searched for something a couple of aisles away. When I returned, the babies were sleeping in their stroller unattended, and Ruth was nowhere in sight.

We have recently moved much closer to my in-laws, and now the issue of baby-sitting comes up often. Abby, Ruth and her husband take many medications, none of which are locked up or even have safety caps; she leaves pot handles pointing out on the stove, knives on the edge of the counter, and cabinets at child-level crammed with poisonous household cleaners.

When I purchased electrical outlet safety caps and cabinet latches for their home, Ruth was very offended. My husband, my sister-in-law and I have voiced our concerns about safety, but Ruth reminds us that she raised two children quite safely without the aid of "fancy gadgets"; and that she loves her grandchildren and would never let anything happen to them.

My husband wants to give her a chance, claiming it's not fair to deny her the baby-sitting she loves to do. I'm worried sick. What should I do? — S.O.S. (SLEEPLESS OVER SAFETY)

DEAR S.O.S.: Your children's safety should come first. The hazards you pointed out are serious, and Ruth needs to change her ways. Get together with your sister-in-law and make it a family project to educate Ruth on child safety. Check in your Yellow Pages under "Safety" or "First Aid Instruction," or call the local chapter of the Red Cross, YMCA or a community college. There are books and tapes you can buy or rent, and safety professionals who provide in-home instruction on infant CPR,

basic first aid and child-proofing a home.

Until you are comfortable that her safety consciousness has been raised, allow Ruth to baby-sit the children in your home only, and visit hers when you will be able to keep a close watch on the children.

DEAR ABBY: I recently left my purse at a rest stop in Northern California. Several miles down the road, I noticed that it was missing. I went through miles of red tape to notify my bank by telephone about my missing credit cards and checkbook. I had no calling card with me, so I persuaded the operator to charge the call to my home number after she verified it by checking my answering machine.

When I returned home, a message was waiting for me on the answering machine. It was from the California Highway Patrol, telling me my purse had been turned in by a truck driver. They gave me his name and address, and I sent him a reward.

When I checked the contents of my purse, nothing was missing. The money, checkbook, traveler's checks and precious pictures were all there. My whole life was in that purse.

Please tell your vast audience that there are still a few honest people in this world, thank God! — PAT LAMBERT, PIONEER, CALIF.

DEAR PAT: Thank you for reaffirming what I've always known: Most people are honest. Unfortunately, you won't find them in the headlines — which are reserved for kidnappers, murderers and bank robbers.

DEAR ABBY: In a recent letter to you, "Another Texan" said, "A man once wrote that if he owned Hell and Texas, he would rent out Texas and live in Hell."

The man who said it was Gen. Philip Henry Sheridan (1831-88), in a speech at Fort Clark, Texas, in 1855.

While Texans may not want to remember Gen. Sheridan, we Chicagoans have memorialized him in the names of (among others) Fort Sheridan, Sheridan Road and Philip H. Sheridan School. A statue of Sheridan on his horse stands just off Lake Shore Drive at Belmont Avenue near the south end of Sheridan Road. — CHICAGO READER

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR DEC. 28

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You are personality-plus, and others respond to your energy. Explore an opportunity that could involve change or travel. A co-worker or boss appreciates your directness. Your charisma makes a difference in how others receive your message. Tonight: Do your thing.****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You choose not to share a lot that is going through your mind. Be willing to be vulnerable and say what you are thinking. A partner is most responsive to your energy and wants to work through a problem. News from a distance is key. Tonight: Accept another's compliment.***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Go for what you want. Listen to news that comes your way. A matter involving foreign travel and change piques your interest. Do your share to make this matter viable. Opportunity, excitement and a new possibility mark the next few days. Tonight: Hang out with friends.****

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Synthesize different points of view to find a solution. You are in charge; as result, you demonstrate your competence and abilities. Answers come easily thanks to a caring response to a co-worker who wants your feedback. Tonight: Be out and about.***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Reach out to someone who is at a distance. You visualize a change in a way much different from others. Share some of your inspired thinking. They'll think of you differently because of your intellect and mental capacities. Tonight: Browse at a favorite music store.****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) One-to-one relating is highlighted. Prepare for fast changes and a new opportunity. Question alternatives with a partner; you'll come up with a great financial idea. A co-worker may be soft on you; be careful when dealing with his feelings. Tonight: Share a hug.****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Say yes to someone. How you express your feelings makes you a sure-fire winner. Tension at home may interfere with a key relationship. A loved one needs more attention. If you are single, a flirtation is building. Tonight: Accept an offer.****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) You have a lot to accomplish, but you'll get it done easily. Stay focused, and honor key matters that involve security,

daily life and your home. Communications could be off and not reflect what is really happening. Tomorrow is another day. Tonight: Get some exercise.****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Lighten up about a money matter. Your high energy and personality come out as you decide whether or not to take a risk. A loved one makes a difference in how you deal with your day. Communications add to the quality of your relationship. Tonight: Play.****

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Listen to a family member who flatters you and makes you feel good. Understand what choices you need to make. A financial matter adds to your security and well-being. Go out of your way to buy a card or a small token of affection. Tonight: Go home.****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Express the depth of your feelings with someone who needs to know how important he is to you. Maintain a high pace because you need to accomplish a lot. Worry less, and simply get going. Anxiety will lessen as a result. Tonight: Go to a favorite spot.****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Money matters need to be handled as soon as possible. Buy a gift or card to express your thanks for a recent favor. You radiate self-confidence even if there is a change in plans that disappoints you. Tonight: Your treat.****

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR THURSDAY, DEC. 28, 1995: You are unusually lucky this year and are starting a new luck cycle. You are capable of moving mountains and making your life much more to your liking. Focus on priorities and personal matters. Your domestic life needs to be in sync with the rest of your life. If you are single, this is a great year to meet a special person. If attached, don't lose your focus about the importance of your relationship. ARIES tests your temper.

THE STARS SHOW THE KIND OF DAY YOU'LL HAVE: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult. For America's best extended horoscope, recorded daily by Jacqueline Bigar, call (900) 000-0000, 99 cents per minute. Also featured are The Spoken Tarot and The Runes, which answer your yes-or-no questions. Callers must be 18 or older. A service of InterMedia Inc., Jenkintown, Pa.

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NEW YEAR'S

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(Between Goliad & Birdwell)

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Otolaryngologists

Allen Anderson, M.D.

Paul Fry, M.D.

For more information or to make an appointment, please call

915-267-8275

Ferchalk

Continued from page 1B

mommy noises. I spoke to her of hot chocolate, warm blankets and home. When she could respond she told me her legs hurt.

They had stiffened in the cold, and she had fallen several times, bruising her knees. "I kept calling for you, Mommy," she said.

Before going to sleep that night she said, "Thank you for everything Mommy, I love you." I said, "I know."

A while later when all was well and the house was quiet, I said, "Thank you for everything Jesus. I love you."

He answered, "I know."

Distributed by Thomson News Service

BIG SPRING HERALD CLASSIFIED

TOO LATES

Too Late To Classify 001

Lots of nice heavy duty metal shelving for sale. See at 209 Furness.

Too Late To Classify 001

Nordio-Trek Ski Machine \$250. Call 263-6249 after 7:00pm.
OILFIELD ELECTRICIAN, minimum 3-years experience. Must have experience in new well hookup, control wiring, and trouble shooting. Good pay and benefits. This is not a management or office opening. 756-2201 Stanton.

YEAR-END CLEARANCE. Save Thousands!!!

TRADE INS

- 1995 Ford Windstar LX - Red w/gray cloth, fully equipped, one owner w/17,000 miles. **Sale Price \$19,995**
- 1994 Ford F150 XL - Tutone Green, 302 V8, air, cassette, one owner with 23,000 miles. **Sale Price \$13,995**
- 1994 Ford Thunderbird LX - Champagne, w/champagne cloth, V6, fully equipped, local one owner w/11,400. **Sale Price \$11,995**
- 1994 Pontiac Grand Am SE 2 dr. - White w/cloth, quad 4 cyl, 5 speed, local one owner w/18,000 miles. **Sale Price \$9,995**
- 1994 Pontiac Grand Am SE 4 dr. - White w/cloth, fully equipped, local one owner w/27,000 miles. **Sale Price \$10,995**
- 1994 Ford Probe SE - Teal green, 5 speed, air, hail damage, local one owner w/7,000 miles. **Sale Price \$9,995**
- 1994 Nissan P/U - Red w/cloth, 4 cyl, 5 speed, air, cassette, local one owner w/13,000 miles. **Sale Price \$9,995**
- 1993 Ford Taurus GL - Green w/cloth, fully equipped, local one owner, w/13,000 miles. **Sale Price \$9,995**
- 1993 Ford Tempo GL 4 dr. - White w/cloth, fully equipped, local one owner with only 3,800 miles. **Sale Price \$7,995**
- 1993 Ford Aerostar XLT - White w/cloth, fully equipped, dual air, local one owner, 50,000 miles. **Sale Price \$12,995**
- 1993 Mercury Cougar XR7 - Dark blue w/cloth, fully equipped, V-6, local one owner w/43,000 miles. **Sale Price \$11,995**
- 1993 Lincoln Town Car - Gold w/brown top, cloth, fully equipped, local one owner. 69,000 miles. **Sale Price \$15,995**
- 1995 Mercury Sable GS - Champagne clearcoat, tan cloth, 3.8 V-6, anti-lock brakes, all power, 19,000 miles. **Sale Price \$14,995**
- 1994 Ford F150 S/C XLT - Tutone mocha, all power, hail damage, local one owner w/43,000 miles. **Sale Price \$13,995**
- 1992 Honda Accord EX 2dr. - Black w/cloth, fully equipped one owner with 48,000 miles. **Sale Price \$12,995**
- 1992 Lincoln Town Car - Red w/leather, all power, local one owner, w/57,000 miles. **Sale Price \$14,995**
- 1992 Lincoln Town Car - Gold with tan interior, all power, fully equipped, local one owner with 39,000 miles. **Sale Price \$15,995**
- 1992 Ford Taurus GL 4dr. - Gray with cloth, all power, local one owner, w/46,000 miles. **Sale Price \$8,995**
- 1991 Ford Explorer XLT 4x4 - White w/cloth, all power, fully equipped, local one owner, w/34,000 miles. **Sale Price \$15,995**
- 1991 Mercury Grand Marquis LS - Tan w/cloth, fully equipped, all power, local one owner w/42,000 miles. **Sale Price \$9,995**
- 1991 Nissan Stanza GXE - Gold w/cloth, moon roof, all power local one owner w/54,000 miles. **Sale Price \$7,995**

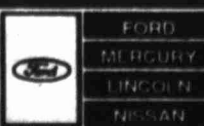
PROGRAM CARS

- 1995 Lincoln Continental - Ivory Pearlescent clearcoat, Ivory leather, JBL Stereo w/CD, Factory car phone, completely loaded, Ford executive car w/only 8800 miles. **Sale Price \$30,995**
- 1995 Lincoln Town Car Executive Series - Performance white clearcoat, maroon leather, fully equipped, all power, only 9,500 miles. **Sale Price \$25,995**
- 1995 Ford Crown Victoria LX - Vibrant white clearcoat, maroon cloth, 4.6 V-8, all power, 17,000 miles. **Sale Price \$17,995**
- 1995 Ford 15 Passenger Van XLT - White w/cloth, 351 V-8, dual air, all power, only 9,900 miles. **Sale Price \$20,995**
- 1995 Ford Windstar GL - Light evergreen frost, cloth, dual air, all power, 13,000 miles. **Sale Price \$17,995**
- 1995 Ford Windstar GL - Dark blue metallic, cloth, dual air, all power, 13,000 miles. **Sale Price \$17,995**
- 1995 Ford Thunderbird LX - Silver frost, blue cloth, V-8, moonroof, all power, 11,000 miles. **Sale Price \$15,995**
- 1995 Mercury Cougar XR7 - Electric red clearcoat, gray leather/cloth, V-8, all power, 16,000 miles. **Sale Price \$16,995**
- 1995 Ford Mustang LX - white w/gray cloth, V-6, automatic, all power, rear spoiler, window tint, 19,000 miles. **Sale Price \$15,995**
- 1995 Ford Mustang LX - Laser red w/gray cloth, V-6, automatic, all power, 15,000 miles. **Sale Price \$15,995**
- 1995 Mercury Sable GS - Vibrant white/tan cloth, 3.8 V-6, anti-lock brakes, all power, 16,000 miles. **Sale Price \$14,995**
- 1995 Mercury Sable GS - Champagne clearcoat, tan cloth, 3.8 V-6, anti-lock Brakes, all power, 19,000 miles. **Sale Price \$14,995**
- 1995 Ford Taurus GL - light evergreen metallic, cloth, 3.8 V-6, anti-lock brakes, all power, 15,000 miles. **Sale Price \$14,995**
- 1995 Ford Taurus LGL - Silver metallic, cloth, 3.0 V-6, anti-lock brakes, all power, 11,000 miles. **Sale Price \$14,995**
- 1995 Mercury Mystique GS - Coral mist/cloth, all power, 10,000 miles. **Sale Price \$12,995**
- 1995 Ford Contour GL - Champagne/cloth, all power 11,000 miles. **Sale Price \$12,995**
- 1995 Ford Escort LX 4 dr. - Sunrise red, cloth, fully equipped, 13,000 miles. **Sale Price \$10,995**
- 1995 Ford Escort LX 2 dr. - White, cloth, fully equipped, 10,000 miles. **Sale Price \$9,995**
- 1995 Mercury Tracer 4 dr. - Tucson Bronze, cloth, fully equipped, 14,000 miles. **Sale Price \$10,995**
- 1995 Ford Aspire 4dr. - red w/cloth, automatic, air, 9,000 miles. **Sale Price \$8,995**

We must clear out all 1994 program units!!!

- 1994 Ford Aerostar XLT - Silver tutone, cloth, dual air, all power, 10,000 mi. **Sale Price \$14,995**
- 1994 Ford Probe SE - Blue, spoiler, automatic, all power, 15,000 miles. **Sale Price \$11,995**
- 1994 Ford Probe SE - Silver w/window tint, automatic, air, all power. **Sale Price \$10,995**
- 1994 Ford Thunderbird LX - White, w/cloth, V-6, all power, 17,000 miles. **Sale Price \$12,995**

Where your Trade-In is worth More!!!



BOB BROCK FORD

300 W. 4th Street • Phone 267-7424

Too Late To Classify 001

1994 GMC 3500 CREW Cab, 6.5, diesel, loaded, low package, excellent condition. Priced to sell. 267-2128.

6 BEDROOM, 3 BATH, double garage, 1900 Johnson. Available January 1. \$350,000/700rent. Call 915-728-2848.

4 days after Christmas Sale: Saturday, December 30th 9:00am-4:00pm, 614 Dallas. Major credit cards accepted and post dated checks up to a week.

FOR SALE: 2 BEDROOM, 1 BATH, single carport, fenced backyard, \$19,500. Call 263-0602 after 5:00p.m.

Free to good home. 2 1/2 week old puppies. Call 263-6249 after 7:00pm.

VEHICLES

Autos for Sale 016

1985 FORD LTD. Very clean, good car. \$1800. Days, 267-1488. Nights, 264-1302.

1989 PONTIAC GRAND AM. 2 door, excellent condition. \$4950. Call after 5:00pm 263-7801.

Pickups 027

1983 5-10 CHEVROLET Pick-up, V-6, long bed, automatic, air, bedliner & tool box, \$1750. Also, 1991 Ford Taurus 4-door Sedan, V-6, automatic, cruise, electric windows/mirrors & door locks. Real nice!! \$4250. 263-7921.

1993 GMC extended cab with goodies conversion. Loaded, green metallic color. Call 263-8401 from 8:30-5:30, 264-7138 after 6:00.

1995 CHEVROLET V. ton, extended cab, 4x4, emerald green, loaded. Call 267-4147.

TAKING BIDS FOR: 1988 Ford F250-4x4 Pick-up, supercab, 7.3 diesel-1988 Ford F250 pick-up, diesel engine, has body damage. Call 263-1631.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements 036

NEW YEARS EVE DANCE
Eagles Lodge, 703 W. 3rd, December 31st, 8:30pm-1:00am. Black-eyed peas & corn bread at midnight. Party favors. For reservations call 263-1241 or 267-5225.

BUSINESS

Travel 043

BAHAMAS CRUISE
5 nights/4 days. Under booked! Must Sell! \$279/couple. Limited tickets. 1-800-414-4151 ext. 2028. Monday-Sunday, 8:00am-9:00pm.

Travel 043

Disney Area 5 days/4 hotel nights. Use any time. Paid \$310, Sale \$100. 915-578-8562.

Instruction 060

ACT Truck Driving School
1-800-282-8658
273 CR 267, Merkel, TX 79536

EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted 085

\$200-\$500/Week, assemble products. No selling, paid direct. Fully guaranteed, no experience. 7-days, 407-675-2022 ext. 3515-1451.

Assemblant arts and crafts show promoter. Must be able to travel and work most weekends with some week days off. Computer knowledge and college a plus. Moderate lifting required. Must have good appearance and communications skills. Seeking self-motivated individual. Send resume and salary requirements to: Arts & Crafts Shows, P.O. Box 3184, Big Spring, Texas 79721-3184.

2 TRANSPORT DRIVERS with Class A CDL & Hazmat. Excellent pay & benefits. Apply in person, Trey Trucks, 1300 E. Hwy 350.

BIG SPRING CARE CENTER is looking for dedicated and caring nurses to share in the lives of our residents. If you are one of those nurses who is looking for a place to be loved and welcomed by staff and residents apply in person at 801 Gollad. Full-time LVN's/RN's 2:00-10:00 shift. Competitive wages and benefits. EOE.

BROWN BROTHERS looking for temporary help. Apply in person, 900 West 1-20 Business, Colorado City, 915-728-3817.

COMANCHE TRAIL NURSING CENTER- 3200 Parkway, a Long Term Care Facility, is interviewing for weekend RN position, 8 hour shifts per day. Please apply in person. EOE.

"DRIVERS" Domino's Pizza. Prefer Part-time employees with other jobs who need to supplement their income. Insurance and good driving record a must. \$5.00/hour, plus tips and mileage.

FULL-TIME SALES POSITION. Excellent benefit, insurance, long time established firm. Send resume to: P.O. Drawer 2511, Big Spring, Texas 79721.

GENERAL HANDYMAN/CONTRACTOR wanted for carpentry, small electrical, painting, etc. Must have own tools, insurance & bond required. Send resume to: BOX 1550, c/o R.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721.

HELP WANTED: Fulltime secretary. Must have high school diploma and typing skills. Apply at 1611 Gregg.

HELP WANTED: Oilfield related work. Mechanically minded. Will train. Some experience helpful. Call 756-2429 (Stanton).

TAX PREPARER

Fantastic ground floor opportunity. Ownership possibility. Will train. Call 263-5555.

Lease Operator/Pumper: Fulltime position with aggressive independent company. Minimum 10 years experience, water flow experience a plus, vehicle is provided. Snyder/Howard/Glasscock fields. Please send resume to: Box 300, c/o Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, Texas, 79720.

Help Wanted 085

LVN Needed for nursing home nights shift. 12 hour work shift, every other weekend off. Benefits include \$10.25/hour, mileage, insurance, double pay holidays and vacation. Come by Lorraine Manor, Inc., 402 Campbell Ave. in Lorraine for an application and interview. EOE.

APPLICATIONS now being accepted for Mads & Housekeeping. Days Inn, 300 Tulane.

NOW hiring good pay for hard workers. Must be dependable. No experience required. Yale E. Key. Call 267-5291.

Novell CNE Network support company is seeking mature and professional CNE. Must be 3.x certified and have been certified for at least 1 year with experience. Send resume to Box 1708, c/o P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, Texas 79721.

HOME TYPISTS PC users needed. \$45,000 income potential. Call 1-800-513-4343 Ext. B-8423.

PIZZA INN Now hiring delivery drivers. Apply in person, must be 18. 1702 Gregg St. Excellent part-time job!



McDonald's is offering rewarding opportunities for career-minded, goal oriented men & women for Mgt. Trainee positions to share in our future benefits:

- College Assistance Program
- McDonald's Training Program
- 6:00 to 7:00 Hr.
- Vacation Pay
- Uniforms Provided
- Meal Provided (Daily)

Apply in person at McDonald's
1-20 & Hwy 87
Big Spring, TX
Mondays-Fridays 9 am - 5 pm
An Equal Opportunity Employer M/F

RN INTERESTED IN BECOMING RNP WE PROVIDE CREDENTIALING TRAINING

Clinic setting. Surgical and recovery room experience helpful. Must be willing and able to attend the Women's Health Care Advance Nurse Practitioner Program at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas for 16 weeks. Bilingual a plus. Requires a high degree of integrity to ensure maximum confidentiality. Must be in agreement with goals and objectives of Planned Parenthood of West Texas, Inc. Submit letter of interest and resume to Personnel Department, 910-B South Grant, Odessa, TX 79761. Closing date: January 8, 1996.

EOEM-F/D/V
REGISTERED NURSE PRACTITIONER

for the Midland/Odessa area. Registered Nurse, registered in Texas, certification as a Women's Health Care Nurse Practitioner preferred and has met state requirement for licensing and certification as an advanced Practice Nurse. Must maintain continuing education as required by State and National Certification Board. Family Planning, prenatal and OB experience required. Ability to teach and relate well to patients, staff members and representatives of the community. Willingness to work flexible hours and conduct clinics at several locations. Bilingual a plus. Requires a high degree of integrity to ensure maximum confidentiality. Good interpersonal communication skills. Must be in agreement with goals and objectives of Planned Parenthood of West Texas, Inc. Please submit resume to the Personnel Department at the Executive Offices, 910-B South Grant, Odessa, TX 79761.

EOEM-F/D/V
REGISTERED NURSE PRACTITIONER

for the Midland/Odessa area. Registered Nurse, registered in Texas, certification as a Women's Health Care Nurse Practitioner preferred and has met state requirement for licensing and certification as an advanced Practice Nurse. Must maintain continuing education as required by State and National Certification Board. Family Planning, prenatal and OB experience required. Ability to teach and relate well to patients, staff members and representatives of the community. Willingness to work flexible hours and conduct clinics at several locations. Bilingual a plus. Requires a high degree of integrity to ensure maximum confidentiality. Good interpersonal communication skills. Must be in agreement with goals and objectives of Planned Parenthood of West Texas, Inc. Please submit resume to the Personnel Department at the Executive Offices, 910-B South Grant, Odessa, TX 79761.

EOEM-F/D/V
REGISTERED NURSE PRACTITIONER

Help Wanted 085

PRICE CONSTRUCTION, INC., Big Spring, TX, has openings for: CAT Field Mechanic w/ tools & Field Serviceman w/ DOT hazmat drug screen & physical required. Call Sarge Strickland 1-800-525-0685.

STATE PARK RANGER, \$1421/monthly. Closing 1-12-96. Drivers license and liability insurance required. 263-4931 or TEC.

Jobs Wanted 090

JOBS WANTED
"Remodel work" Patios decks trash hauling painting roofing yard work". Call 267-5478.

METAL WORK
Barns, carports, sheds, fences, etc. Call Shawn Justiss at 915-573-8230 or 915-338-4881.

MOW YARDS. Remove & haul trees, stumps, trash. Odd jobs and clearing. 267-5875.

MOW YARDS and alleys, haul trash, trim trees, remove tree stumps, paint and odd jobs. 267-5460.

Post-Holiday Bill-Paying Blues? Relief is At Hand! Quick Friendly Service!

LOANS FROM \$100 to \$400 SECURITY FINANCE 204 SOUTH GOLLAD 267-4591 Phone Applications Welcome WE Make "No Credit" Loans

MISCELLANEOUS 290

ANTIQUES & FINE FURNITURE, over 450 clocks, lamps, old photograph players, and telephones. We also repair & refinish all of the above. Call or bring to House of Antiques, 4008 College, Snyder, Texas. 915-573-4422. 9am-6:30pm.

Appliances 299

RENT-TO-OWN REBUILT APPLIANCES Easy terms, guaranteed, delivery and connect. 264-0510 and/or 1811 Scumy.

Auctions 325

SPRING CITY AUCTION- Robert Pruitt Auctioneer, TXS-079-007759. Call 263-1831/263-0914. We do all types of auctions!

SPRING CITY AUCTION 2000 W. 4th 7:00pm Thursday, December 28th, 7:00pm

Two gold w/diamonds tennis bracelets, Coca-Cola thermometer, coins, Fina tanker truck, Mammy cookie jar, spurs, lamps, glassware, mail boxes, Coleman lantern, Coleman stove, footed bathtub, milk tin, Westinghouse roaster, twin beds, complete king waterbed, king headboard, loveseat, sofas, pedestal table w/4 chairs, metal glider, endtables, baby bed, playpen, old trunk, luggage, kids wood furniture, metal desk, refrigerator, gas range, VCR, TV's, stereos, exercise bike, exercise machine, bikes, scooter, porch swings, lawnmowers, heaters, wheelbarrows, old plow, car ramps, tires, 2 small electric hot water heaters, Chevrolet pickup tailgate, fiberglass pickup toolbox, welding torch w/gauges, air tools, Craftsman pancake air compressor, woodburning fireplace.

LOTS AND LOTS OF OTHER ITEMS

NO MINIMUM-NO RESERVE

1985 Buick 4 door Park Avenue; 1988 Mustang 2 door.

Robert Pruitt, Auctioneer TXS-7759 263-1831

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COME EXPERIENCE THE TOWN AND COUNTRY DIFFERENCE
Interviewing for the position of
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We are accepting applications for persons who are energetic, dependable, ambitious, have outgoing personalities and have personal integrity. Must have an ability to work in a fast-paced environment and know what it means to give outstanding customer service.

We offer an excellent variety of benefits including health insurance, paid sick leave, paid vacations, retirement plan and college reimbursement program. Career opportunities available for highly motivated/qualified persons.

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS AT ALL
LOCATIONS
DRUG TESTING REQUIRED

THE TOWN & COUNTRY DIFFERENCE

BOB BROCK FORD END OF YEAR SALE

1996 CONTOUR GL

STK #3429



\$294⁸⁷
A MONTH

24 MONTH RCO
INTEREST RATE 9.5%
DOWN PAYMENT \$1,500.00
RESIDUAL VALUE OF \$10,530.70

1996 RANGER 2.3 EFI

STK #3448



\$179³³
A MONTH

24 MONTH RCO
INTEREST RATE 9.5%
DOWN PAYMENT \$1,500.00
RESIDUAL VALUE OF \$8,466.50

1996 TAURUS GL SEDAN

STK #3495



\$366⁶¹
A MONTH

24 MONTH RCO
INTEREST RATE 9.5%
DOWN PAYMENT \$1,500.00
RESIDUAL VALUE OF \$12,530.70

RED CARPET OPTION PLAN LETS YOU TRADE EVERY 24 MONTHS WITH APPROVED CREDIT

FINAL CLOSE OUT ON REMAINING 1995'S

6 CROWN VICTORIA'S & GRAND MARQUIS
2 THUNDERBIRDS
2 MUSTANGS

1 CONTOUR
1 RANGER SUPER CAB
3 F150 REG. & SUPER CABS

2 F250 REGULAR CABS
ALL 95'S
GOING AT USED CAR PRICE AND CARRY FULL NEW CAR WARRANTY



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WALKER AI Now Servicing for all your appliances & Reliable!! See parts. Call 915-71

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WESTEX Make dull finis tubes, vanities, c formica. 1-800-77

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Special S 100% Nylon Resistant, 10 Pad, Tax, & I Samples sho

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263-7331 PROFESSIONAL SERVICE DIRECTORY DIAL-A-PRO

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AFFORDABLE APPLIANCE CO.
Has cook stoves, refrigerators, freezers, washers & dryers, space heaters, and microwaves for sale on easy terms with a warranty. We buy non-working appliances.
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WALKER APPLIANCE SERVICE
Now Servicing the Howard County area for all your appliance repairs. Experienced & Reliable!! Service calls \$37.00 plus parts. Call 915-728-3616, leave message.

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10:30-5:00, Closed Sunday-Monday

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Big Spring
Chrysler • Plymouth • Dodge • Jeep
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Make dull finishes sparkle like new on tubs, vanities, ceramic tiles, sinks and formica.
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We have carpet for as low as \$7.95 a yard. Many colors available. Free Estimates!!
DECORATOR CENTER
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DEE'S CARPET
Special Sale 11.95 YD.
100% Nylon, Scotchguard Stain Resistant, 10 year wear warranty. Pad, Tax, & Installation Included. Samples shown in your home or mine
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WAREHOUSE CLEARANCE
CARPET & VINYL
As low as \$4.99/yd.

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New and used carpet installed and repaired. Call 806-497-6336. Leave message.

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We Do Dry Cleaning for Carpets Using Hot Dry Extraction Method. Absolutely No Water.
We also do scotch guarding.
10 Years Experience • 263-5365.

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Residential & Commercial
3 Rooms, Hall, Traffic Area
December Special
\$29.95 + Tax
Senior Discounts
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CHIMNEY SWEEPING

CHIMNEY CLEANING & REPAIR
Call 263-7015

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1409 Lancaster, 915-263-3182.
Accidents-Workmans Comp -Family Insurance.

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FENCES-Cinderblock-Pipe-Chainlink-Wood-Carports-Patios-Steel Buildings-Handrails-Handicap Ramps-Metal-Art Western-Wildlife-Yard Decorations-Trailers-Driveways-Walks-Stucco-Porches.

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Call for free Estimates.
Home: 263-6908 or 267-6190
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Property value increases with improvement.

DEFENSIVE DRIVING

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2nd Saturday of Each Month
From 9:00 to 4:00 \$25.00 per person. Call YMCA at 267-8234 to register
TEA Approved "CO297"
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Defensive Driving Class
Classes Start November 18th
9:00-3:30pm Days Inn \$25
1-800-7622 C0094

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Driveways of all types!
Parking lot repairs, asphalt patching, overlays, seal coat, crack seal and striping, landscaping, yards leveled, lots cleared demolition. Free estimates. 263-1493

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B&M FENCE CO.
Chainlink/Wood/Tile
Repairs & Gates
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QUALITY FENCE CO.
Call for FREE Estimates
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Cedar "Redwood" Spruce "Chainlink"
FLOOR COVERINGS
E'S FLOOR COVERING
Carpet, Vinyl, Wood & Ceramic installation. Repairs on all also available. Call anytime. 267-1218. Installation only, no sales.

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Sales, Service & Installation
BOB'S CUSTOM WOODWORK
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Bob Askew
Doors Hung, Carpentry Work, Fence Repairs, Storm Doors & Windows, Sheet Rock Repairs, Quality Painting and Many Other Home Repairs.
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Free Estimates * Lots of References
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NEED A WIFE? HOUSE CLEANING
"Let us do your dirty work for you"
We specialize in move-ins, move outs. Complete cleaning or individual piece work.
Call Julie Coates for a free estimate.
263-2225 908 Lancaster

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HUBBARD PACKING CO.
Custom Slaughterhouse, Home Freezer Service. Half Beefs and Quarter Beefs for your Home Freezers.
North Birdwell Lane 267-7781
METAL BUILDINGS
West Texas Largest Mobile Home Dealer
New • Used • Repairs
Homes of America - Odessa
(800)725-0881 or (915)363-0881

MOVING

ALLSTATE-CITY DELIVERY FURNITURE MOVERS
Tom and the guys can move anything
EXCELLENT REFERENCES
Insured-Senior Discounts-
-Enclosed Trucks-
Tom and Julie Coates
Will not be underbid GUARANTEED
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Don't Be Deceived...No Moving Job is Free. Go With US and Forget the FUSS. We're not in a CONTEST, but we'll do our BEST. We Can Beat The Rates of Any So-Called Professionals.
Senior Discounts * Good References
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SOUTHWESTERN A-1 PEST CONTROL
Since 1954. 263-6514.
2008 Birdwell Lane. Mar F. Moore

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RAMIREZ PLUMBING
FOR ALL YOUR PLUMBING NEEDS.
Service and Repair. Now accepting the Discover Card. 263-4690

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ABOVEGROUND POOLS
Buy now for Christmas! Install in the spring. Great prices!! Inground also available. Financing Available.
VISION MAKERS
1307-A Gregg
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Room additions, hang doors, hang and finish sheet rock. We blow acoustic for ceilings. We specialize in ceramic tile repair and new installation. We do shower pans. Insurance claims welcome. For all your remodeling needs call Bob at 263-8285. If no answer please leave message. 20 years experience, free estimates, quality work at lower prices.

Bob's Custom Woodwork



Remodeling Contractor
Doors • Windows • Baths
Remodeling • Repairs • Refinishing
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Houses/Apartments, Duplexes, 1,2,3 and 4 bedrooms furnished or unfurnished.

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FULLMOON ROOFING
Wood • Composition
Bonded • Insured • Free Estimates
Over 90 Local References
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JOHNNY FLORES ROOFING
Shingles, Hot Tar, Gravel, all types of repairs. Work guaranteed. Free estimates.
267-1110, 267-4289

R/O WATER SALES & SERVICE

Culligan



Service, Rentals & Sales
405 Union
263-8781

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BAR SEPTIC
Septic tanks, grease, and sand traps, 24 hours. Also rent port-a-potty.
267-3547 or 268-6439

CHARLES RAY
Septic Tank Service. Pumping, repair and installation. Topsoil, sand, and gravel. 267-7378.

SPAS

WHY DRIVE, WHEN YOU CAN BUY LOCAL!!
New & beautiful. Great prices. We service all brands. All accessories & supplies. Financing available.
VISION MAKERS
1307-A Gregg • 264-7233

WALL COVERINGS

PRECISION WALL COVERINGS, INC.
Professional Wall Coverings Installation
By Steve Meador
17 Years Experience • Free Estimates
Call 267-0018

WEDDING

LOOKERS
Your One Stop Shop for the holiday season!
•Bridal Gowns & Sequin Dresses Sales and Rental
•Tuxedo Rentals
•Hair •Makeup •Nails
Come get your hair and nails down and look great for that special occasion this Holiday season
Mon.-Fri. 10am-6pm, Sat. 10am-4pm
1030 N. Grandview • Odessa
915-580-5665

For More Information on how to place your ad in the
Classified Service Directory
263-7331

LET US HELP YOU. CALL 263-7331

Dogs, Pets, Etc 375

FREE KENNEL CLUB BREEDER REFERRAL SERVICE: Helps you find reputable breeders/quality puppies. Puppies rescue information. 263-3404 daytime.

PERSIAN KITTENS! CPA registered champion lines, born 11-16-95. Males, \$150 and Females, \$200. Call Grace's Cattery, 267-4128.

Miscellaneous 395

ADVERTISING WORKS WITH BIG TYPE YOU JUST PROVED IT!

Arachnid Electronic Dart Machines for Sale. 2 years old in excellent condition. \$600 each firm. Call 264-7238. Make an excellent Christmas gift.

WEDDINGS, PARTIES, ETC.

CREATIVE CELEBRATIONS

Get the date you want by booking early for '98. Custom cake decorating, table decor, silk flowers. Brides and white arches, auras and other decorations. Call now for appointment!
Billie and Tolbert Grisham
267-8191

Portable Building 422

One Used Building!
12'x24 w/ 1/2 bath, a/c & heater. Finished. Sierra Mercantile
263-1480
1-20 East S. Service Road

Telephone Service 445

TELEPHONE JACKS Installed for \$32.50
Business and Residential
Sales and Service
J-Dean Communications. 266-4384

TAKE TIME OUT FOR YOURSELF READ

Want To Buy 503

WANTED TO BUY good used trampoline. Call 263-4645.

REAL ESTATE

Buildings For Sale 506

4 STEEL arch style buildings, 40x30 was \$6100 now \$2,990; 40x58 was \$11,250 now \$5,900; 50x78 was \$13,890 now \$8,600; 50x150 was \$23,000 now \$15,900. Endwalls are available. 1-800-320-2340.

Houses for Sale 513

3-2 BRICK, KENTWOOD area. Remodeled, including new A/C. \$42,500. Call 267-7884.

HAVE HORSES?

Brick 3/2, central heat/air, fireplace, shop, barn with two outside stalls, windmill and irrigated orchard on 3 fenced acres in the Coahoma ISD. Call 267-4848 for appointment.

HOMES FOR SALE

By owner, no qualifying loan, 1640sq.ft., 3 bedroom, 2 bath, \$12,000 down, \$494.00 month. 3209 Duke. Call for appointment 263-5506.

HOUSES WANTED

We buy houses! Any condition! All Cash! 1 day service! 806-794-5984.

NO DOWN PAYMENT!!
\$999.00 TOTAL MOVE-IN COST on the NEW HOMES by KEY HOMES, INC., at 708 FOREST, in COAHOMA. Sales price includes home, fence and huge lot (100'x149'). ALSO INCLUDED are NEW STREET PAVING, CURBS and GUTTERS!!! Open House Saturday & Sunday 1:30-5:30. Call Now!! 1-815-620-9848.
NEW HOME FOR SALE or lease 1650 sq. ft., financing arranged. Reduced price. By Contractor. 4005 Vicky. 298-4545.

Houses for Sale 513

FOR SALE BY OWNER
Non-qualifying assumable in Kentwood. 3/2/2, fireplace and dining. \$13,500 equity, balance approximately \$53,000. 10.5 interest, payment \$681.00. Drive by 2716 Central Drive and call for appointment. 1-915-520-9848.
OPEN HOUSE
Saturday & Sunday, 1:00-5:00.

REPOSSESSED 3 bedroom, 1 bath home located at 2109 Warren St. asking \$23,500. We want it sold, so make me an offer. Financing available. Contact Preston Ramsey, National Metropolitan Mortgage Co. 1-800-541-0828, ext. 550.

WAS 27, NOW 16 HOME SITES
LEFT in Coronado Hills!! Very competitive pricing! Don't be fooled by others misleading ads. Know your true bottom loan & payment up front.
Call Key Homes Inc.
1-915-520-9848

Mobile Homes 517

CALL MOBILE HOME CREDIT HOTLINE FOR PRE-APPROVAL.
1-800-725-0881

Owner moving, must sell, 14x64-2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath mobile home. Great home currently located on nice lot in Sand Springs. Large screened front porch, screened back porch and storage shed are just a part of what this home has to offer. Call and leave message. 363-5200.

WE BUY USED MOBILE HOMES.
Call Bill in Midland
1-800-842-2123

RENTALS

Business Buildings 520

FOR RENT: Small building or car lot. \$10 E. 4th. Call Western Auto Parts. 263-5000.
GOING INTO BUSINESS or need a better location for your office, gift shop, antique shop, etc? Quaint other home now available for lease. Great location! Must see! Call 263-1533.
TWO- Fenced yard, one acre with small building. 263-5000.

Furnished Apts. 521

\$99. Move In Plus Deposit. Nice 1,2,3 bedrooms. Electric, water paid. HUD accepted. Some furnished. Limited offer. 263-7811.
CLEAN 1 BEDROOM APARTMENT. 1408 Donley. Furnished, water and gas paid. \$100/deposit, \$275/month. Sorry, no pets. 263-4922.

ALL BILLS PAID
1-2-3 Bedroom
Refrigerated Air,
Laundromat
Adjacent to
Marcy Elementary
PARK VILLAGE
1905 Wason 267-6421/MF, 9-5
210



Ask About Our December Special!

- 1 & 2 Bedroom Apartments
- Lighted Tennis Courts
- Pool • Sauna

BARCELONA APARTMENT HOMES
838 Westover 263-1282

Furnished Apts. 521

BEAUTIFUL GARDEN COURTYARD

SWIMMING POOL • PRIVATE PATIOS
CARPETS • BUILT-IN APPLIANCES
MOST UTILITIES PAID
SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNT
24HR ON PREMISE MANAGER
1 & 2 BEDROOMS UNFURNISHED

PARKHILL TERRACE APARTMENTS

800 WEST MARCY DRIVE
263-5555 263-5000

Furnished Apts. 521

ONE-TWO bedroom apartments, houses, or mobile home. Mature adults only, no pets. 263-6944-263-2341.

Furnished Houses 522

FURNISHED SMALL 1 bedroom house, carpeted and drapes. Prefer mature single adult NO PETS! Inquire at 804 Andree.

RENT TO OWN: Small, 2-bedroom,

