

BIG SPRING HERALD

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"Reflecting a Proud Community"

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

MONDAY

December 27, 1999

WEATHER

Tonight:



TONIGHT
24°-27°

TUESDAY
62°-66°

Ombudsman training slated

The Area Agency on Aging Ombudsman Program will begin a new training session to train volunteer ombudsmen to visit residents in Big Spring nursing homes.

The training will begin after Jan. 1.

Please call 800-491-4636 for more information.

Meals on Wheels needs volunteers

The Mobile Meals program, also known as Meals on Wheels, needs volunteers to deliver meals.

If you can spare one hour per week to deliver eight or 10 meals, we need you. About 85 to 90 meals are prepared, packaged and delivered within the city limits of Big Spring. If you can volunteer, please call 263-4016 before 3 p.m.

WHAT'S UP...

TODAY

Big Spring Evening Lions Club, 6:30 p.m., 1607 E. Third.

TUESDAY

Intermediate line dance classes, 9 a.m. Senior Citizens Center.

Big Spring Rotary Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room

Quarterback Club, 7 p.m., Big Spring High School Athletic Training Center.

WEDNESDAY

Eagles Lodge Ladies Auxiliary, 7 p.m., Eagles Lodge, 704 W. Third.

THURSDAY

Gideon's International Big Spring Camp No. 4206, 7 a.m., Hermans.

Big Spring Senior Citizens Center art classes 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. for 55 and older.

Kiwanis Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room.

Masonic Lodge No. 598, 7:30 p.m., 219 Main.

FRIDAY

Signal Mountain Quilting Guild, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Bring a lunch.

AMBUCS, noon, Brandin' Iron Restaurant.

Spring City Senior Citizens country/western dance, 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. All seniors invited.

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To reach us, please call 263-7331. Office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call 263-7335 before 7 p.m. on weekdays and 11 a.m. on Sunday.

Unemployment rate creeps up to 5.2 percent but job market growing

By JOHN H. WALKER

Editor

Howard County's unemployment rate crept up to 5.2 percent for November, according to data released by the Texas Workforce Commission last week.

The numbers reflect job losses at both Walls Industries and Signal Homes, but did not include new jobs at Solitaire Homes or StarTek, which are

expected to show up in December and January's reports.

Also expected to show up in December and January are seasonal jobs added for the holiday shopping season as well as seasonal layoffs following the completion of the cotton harvest and the first year of the boll weevil eradication program.

Some underlying good news in the data is that the Howard County job market continues to

grow, and is now up to 15,835 persons — 15,046 working and 789 unemployed. That number represents an increase of more than 1,000 persons since August.

While the 5.2 unemployment rate represents an increase over the previous month, it still leaves Howard County among the three counties with the lowest unemployment rates in the region. For 10 months, Howard County had the lowest unem-

ployment rate in the region.

For November's data, Mitchell County (Colorado City) had the lowest rate in the region at 4.4 percent — with a work force of 3,562 and 155 persons unemployed. Next was Scurry County (Snyder) at 4.7 percent — with a work force of 8,651 and 403 persons unemployed.

Following Howard County were Dawson County (Lamesa) at 5.3 percent unemployment, Midland County (Midland) at

5.7 percent, Martin County (Stanton) at 5.9 percent, Crane County (Crane) at 6.1 percent, Pecos County (Fort Stockton) at 6.9 percent, Andrews County (Odessa) at 7.3 percent, Winkler County at 7.7 percent, Ward County (Monahans) at 8.4 percent, and Reeves County (Pecos) at 10.4 percent. Borden County (Gail) and Glasscock County (Garden City) each had unemployment rates of 2.9 percent.

Howard County officials are geared up for Y2K

Editor's Note: The following is the fifth in a series of articles explaining how local entities are preparing for Y2K. Coming Tuesday — how local law enforcement is addressing the problem.

LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

As Howard County prepares to enter into the new millennium, a few changes were needed, but officials feel prepared for any Y2K complications that may occur.

Six months ago, Hank Smoot and Associates began testing the computers in the Howard County Courthouse. Smoot took approximately a week to test the computers.

"There are some PCs that were found to be Y2K noncompliant, but these computers are used only as word processors," Smoot said. "The change of date should not effect that use."

Each Howard County office was responsible for its own Y2K preparation, according to Jackie Olson, Howard County auditor.

According to Olson, most of the county offices are connected to a mainframe computer by a personal computer in their office. The mainframe computer was tested and found to be Y2K compliant.

Offices that are not connected to the mainframe computer had their computers checked. Each office feels confident that they are prepared for any Y2K complications, officials said.

The courthouse had a new heating/cooling system



Assistant County Auditor Beverly Yarbar works on a Y2K compliant county personal computer. Howard County officials say they are ready for the new year.



installed recently, so the engineer was contacted about the possibility of Y2K failure. According to the engineer, the system does not use dates in its daily workings.

A few preventative changes were needed and made in the county equipment for the

upcoming new year.

The county found it necessary to replace its fuel card system at the county barn because it was not Y2K ready.

Also, Smoot installed a software patch to make the Windows '95 software for the county Y2K compliant.

In case electricity is lost, the courthouse is equipped with a backup generator that can power any necessary equipment.

"The generator is a requirement for a public safety office," Howard County Sheriff's Office

Chief Deputy Kerry Fritz said. "The courthouse generator is in good shape and is tested once a week."

In case of a computer systems failure, each office is continuing a manual filing system as a backup plan.

"Each office is responsible for their own manual filing system," Olson said. "If we have a systems failure, we will have hard copies for backup."

"Computer wise, we (sheriff's office) still have hard copies," Fritz said. "We can find anything we need by hand."

Tipsy service light on Christmas for Mitchem and Sons

LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

The Christmas weekend was a quiet one for Mitchem and Sons Wrecker Service, which operates the Tipsy Taxi Service and Tipsy Wrecker Service as a free service during the holidays.

"We only had a few, but that's usually the case at Christmas,"

said Peggy Mitchem, secretary treasurer of Mitchem and Sons. "New Year's Eve is usually our big, busy time for Tipsy Wreckers. 'Sometimes parties use us and notify us in advance. Sometimes they wait and see how people are doing. But we usually average around 10 to 13 people.'"

From 8 p.m. until 2 a.m. New Year's Eve, the Mitchem crew

will stay on call to offer free taxi and towing service to any person who has had too much to drink.

For those who have had too much to drink, the Mitchem crew wants you to call them before you drive.

"They will not offer free rides to anyone involved in an accident or has been stop by the police. 'Their tow will not be

free," said Ricky Mitchem, president of Mitchem and Sons Wreckers.

Only one tow per person, per night and the crew responds to calls for rides within the city limits only. Also, no drinking or smoking will be allowed in the taxi or in the wrecker.

This is the 13th year Mitchem

See TIPSY, Page 2A

County

Ag assistant, worker's comp to be addressed by county court

By MARSHA STURDIVANT

Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners are expected to discuss filling the assistant extension agent position at a regular 10 a.m. meeting Tuesday.

"Usually the assistant extension agent will stay in a county 18 months to two years, and then another young man will come in," said commissioner Jerry Kilgore.

Brandon McGinty, who served as Howard County's assistant extension agent for 26 months, took a position as county extension agent in Briscoe County.

"I've enjoyed very much being here and working with the people, they have shown me a lot of hospitality and kindness," McGinty said at his going-away reception in November.

McGinty came to Big Spring just after he graduated from Tarleton State University in 1997. While receiving his training in Howard County, McGinty worked in agriculture along side extension agent David Kight, as well as performing community development and youth activities.

Kight said the McGinty's move into the top position in a county office was not at all unexpected. Future agents train under the tutelage of an experienced agent, in preparation of their own county position.

"It's not atypical at all. They train 18 to 254 months typically, and then they can apply for various job openings," Kight said.

"Brandon is a young man who I think will be very suc-

See COUNTY, Page 2A

After-Christmas shoppers leave merchants smiling

By MARSHA STURDIVANT

Staff Writer

The 26th of December was nearly as busy a day for local retailers as before Christmas, with customers seeking to exchange ill fitting merchandise or spend gift certificates or look for that after-Christmas bargain.

"We were hit as soon as the doors opened. We opened at 8 a.m. Sunday, and there were people waiting," said Bealls stores manager Brenda White.

"We had a lot of customers, and we try to predict how much staff we'll need, which is always a challenge. Most of our customers were spending gift certificates they had received Christmas. And some were looking for those Christmas items reduced to 50 percent off," she said.

White said the volume of customers who flocked to the store Sunday really required more staff, but most customers had their receipts, which made the

transactions operate more smoothly.

"We might have staffed a little more, because we want to give our customers the best service possible. And we were very appreciative of their patience," White said.

Dunlap's reported a similar influx of after-Christmas shoppers, most intent on exchanging gifts.

"We were really busy, covered up really. Lots of people returned a gift so they could get just the right size, and they were also looking for those Christmas items we had marked 50 percent off," said Dunlap's manager Ellen Talbot.

And On Cue, a music and book store in Big Spring Mall, also reported a large number of after-Christmas shoppers.

"We were very busy actually, and a lot of people were spending their gift certificates that they had received for Christmas," said On Cue manager Michelle Tubbs.

See SALES, Page 2



Displays like this one remain up for the viewing. Most will remain lighted nightly through Dec. 31. That's true also for the Festival of Lights at Comanche Trail Park. The lights there are on from 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. Park-area neighborhoods have some of the most outstanding lighting displays.

DECEMBER 27 1999

OBITUARIES

Ila Reese

Ila Reese, 87, of Big Spring, died at 1:55 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 25, 1999, at Comanche Trail Nursing Center, following a long illness.

Services will be held at 10 a.m., Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel, with Rev. Monroe Teeters officiating. Graveside services will be held at 2:30 p.m., Wednesday at Lawnhaven Memorial Park in San Angelo, with Rev. Dwayne Wheat, officiating.

Mrs. Reese was born on June 19, 1912 at Pear Valley, McCullough Co., Texas, to Nora Edna Reed Faught and Sam William Faught. She married Alton L. (Tony) Reese, May 23, 1959, in San Angelo. They moved to Big Spring from San Angelo in 1979. Mr. Reese preceded her in death, Feb. 4, 1990.

Mrs. Reese was a homemaker and a member of Berea Baptist Church, and had served the Lord and been active in church activities since she was 20 years old. She was also a member of The Federation Club for 12 years, and served in various offices. Mrs. Reese was a loving mother, grandmother, and a friend to everyone.

Her survivors include one daughter and son-in-law, Beverly and Bill Johnson of Big Spring; one son and daughter-in-law, Michael and Gail Fields of Iredell, Texas; one stepdaughter, Sue Schlemmer, and her husband, Charles of Pasadena, Texas; one sister, Ora Belle Clark of Magnolia, Texas; one sister-in-law, Lucille Faught of San Angelo; eight grandchildren: Theresa Incollingo, and her husband, Dom; Lisa McGinnis, and her husband, John; Lamont Johnson, and his wife, Kwang Hui; Steven Johnson; Stacy Johnson; Jason Fields, and his wife, Misti; Charles Schlemmer, and his wife, Cathy; Christi Schlemmer; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Paid obituary

Betty Crenshaw

Service for Betty Crenshaw, 77, of Big Spring will be held at

11 a.m., Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Mrs. Crenshaw died on Saturday, Dec. 25, 1999, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

She married Jimmy Crenshaw on Jan. 3, 1946 in Houston. They came to Howard County in April 1947 from Fort Worth. She was a member of College Park Church of God. She was a homemaker, and worked for Atlas and Mitchell moving companies.

Survivors include: her husband, Jimmy Crenshaw of Big Spring; three sons, Gaylord Crenshaw and Robert Crenshaw of Big Spring; and Dale Crenshaw of Anchorage, Alaska; one sister, Barbara Pickett of Willis, five grandchildren, and 3 great grandchildren.

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

Survivors include: four brothers, Mike Moore of Austin, Tom Moore of Memphis, Tenn., John Moore of Albuquerque, N.M., and Jerry Moore of Louisville, Ky.

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

Charles Moore

Graveside services for Charles Moore, 39, of Big Spring will be held at 2 p.m., Tuesday at Mount Olive Memorial Park, with Rev. Christopher Coleman, pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, officiating.

Mr. Moore died on Thursday, Dec. 23, 1999, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

He was born on March 24, 1960, at Albuquerque, N.M. He had been a resident of Big Spring for 20 years and was a Catholic.

Survivors include: four brothers, Mike Moore of Austin, Tom Moore of Memphis, Tenn., John Moore of Albuquerque, N.M., and Jerry Moore of Louisville, Ky.

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

Jesus Ramos

Service for Jesus Ramos, 19, of Big Spring have been set for 11 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 28, 1999, at Stanton Memorial Funeral Home Chapel, with Pastor Arturo Pena officiating. Burial will follow at Fairview Cemetery in Midland.

Mr. Ramos died in Abilene on Dec. 24, 1999.

He was born in El Paso on May 15, 1980.

Survivors include: his mother, Maria Ramos of Midland; his father, Roberto Ramos of Pampa; two brothers, Freddy Ramos of Stanton and Robert Ramos, Jr. of Big Spring; two sisters, Maria Estella Ramos of Bishop and Lilly Rodriguez of Midland; and maternal grandparents, Zaragosa and Esperanza Gonzales of Stanton.

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

Survivors include: a daughter, Janis Morrison Lukens of Lubbock; a brother, Johnny Britton of Plainview, and three granddaughters.

The family will receive friends at Gilbreath Funeral Home Monday evening from 5 to 7 p.m.

Arrangements under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home.

Survivors include: a daughter, Janis Morrison Lukens of Lubbock; a brother, Johnny Britton of Plainview, and three granddaughters.

The family will receive friends at Gilbreath Funeral Home Monday evening from 5 to 7 p.m.

Arrangements under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home.

Viola Chandler

Service for Mrs. Viola Chandler, 71, of Big Spring will be at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 28, 1999, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch

Rosewood Chapel with Chaplain Emmitt Barnard, chaplain of Nurses Hospice, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

Mrs. Chandler died on Saturday, Dec. 25, 1999, at her residence.

She was born on July 21, 1928, in Duncan, Okla., and married Victor Lee Chandler on Dec. 4, 1950, in Henrietta. She was a member of the Church of God.

Survivors include: her husband, Victor Chandler of Big Spring; two sons, William Hill and Rick Hill, both of Big Spring; three daughters, LaVern Smith of Maryneal, Jo Ann Grace of Big Spring and Phyllis Wissinger of Edmond, Okla.; her mother, Myrl Biffle of Duncan, Okla.; two brothers, Richard Biffle of Marlow, Okla., and Alfred Biffle of Duncan, Okla.; two sisters, Mae Patow and Vera Powers, both of Duncan, Okla.; 15 grandchildren; and 21 great-grandchildren.

The family suggest memorials to: American Lung Association of Texas, P. O. Box 26460, Austin, Texas 78755-0460.

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

SALES

Continued from Page 1

While sale items were important draws for customers in other department stores, Tubbs said monthly sales that occur all year preempt a special after-Christmas sale at On Cue.

"I know that I can get better deals after Christmas so that's when I do all my shopping," Paul Dillon said Sunday as he shopped at the Seminole Towne Center just north of Orlando.

"Everyone knows that's when I do it, so no one expects anything from me until after the after-Christmas sales."

The buying binge in late December has helped retailers in prior years make up for disappointing sales before Christmas. In fact, shoppers did 11 percent of their buying after Christmas last year, according to the International Council of Shopping Centers, a New York-based trade group.

This year, however, many merchants won't have to rely as heavily on a surge in late December to achieve respectable sales since they've had a strong Christmas.

"So many stores have made their sales goals for the season already that this week is just icing on the cake," said Tom McCracken, general manager at the SunValley Shopping Center outside San Francisco, which had its best holiday season ever this year.

But retailers still would like those registers to keep jingling through the new year, and many hope their big end-of-season sales add to the bottom line.

Every big department store chain — from Macy's to Sears to J.C. Penney — offered clearance sales, as did some cybershops. America Online featured sale items from many of its 275 merchant partners, while eToys slashed prices on hundreds of toys, including Hot Wheels cars and Game Boy video games.

Mireille Suied saw the discounts advertised in her local newspaper and quickly dashed out of her house to get dibs on the goods at Filene's in Boston. Just after 7 a.m., she made her first purchase: a men's black turtleneck for \$14.99, marked down from \$32.

At the Jersey Gardens mall in Elizabeth, N.J., shoppers were

seen eyeing the 50 percent off signs at the Nautica store and the two-for-one sale at Bath & Body Works.

"I bought a jacket for my daughter, and I'll probably spend another \$150 on clothing because of the sales," said Susan Dubow, who made her first purchase of the day at Tommy Hilfinger.

With cold temperatures blanketing much of the country, many shoppers were grabbing up wool sweaters and pants, as well as heavy coats, scarves and gloves.

Sales were also brisk on millennium-related items, such as formal dresses, tuxedos and party decorations, and storeowners expected such merchandise would keep selling through New Year's Eve.

Some of the longest lines were spotted at stores clearing out Christmas-themed goods.

"I do a lot of my Christmas shopping now for the next year," said Glenna Bertoldi, as she waited at a Lord & Taylor store in Philadelphia to buy a dozen or so tree ornaments, wrapping paper and snow globes.

"The price is right, and it's pretty much the same thing as they put out again next year."

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BIG SPRING
AROUND THE TOWN

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Shoppers pack stores, wooed by bargains

NEW YORK (AP) — Buying resumed as soon as Christmas was over as shoppers crowded the nation's stores, lured by the deep discounts retailers were offering to clear out excess holiday merchandise.

Many sought out bargains on items Santa didn't bring them, while others did late gift buying. Some even stretched their shopping budgets by using gift certificates.

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Howard County Volunteer Fire Department.

"Our last police is too limited, and we're going with the insurance offered through TAC (Texas Association of Counties). They have higher limits," Kilgore said.

A routine matter that will be presented by County Clerk Donna Wright is setting the commissioner's county dates for 2000, and County Treasurer Teresa Thomas may present personnel matters.

Jackie Olson, county auditor, is expected to present medical bills for the volunteer fire department.

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"Samaritan Counseling Center of West Texas will have Dr. Ronald Meyer, D.Min., LCDC, LMFT, specializing in individual and marriage counseling. Attention Deficit Disorder and chemical dependency, available for clients in Midland. Appointments for counseling services are made by calling 1-800-329-4141.

"Narcotics Anonymous, 6 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Call 268-4189 (paper no.)

"Innovators in glyconutritional are an independent group focusing on sickness prevention and management utilizing non-toxic simple saccharides to help our body heal itself. Training sessions are the second and fourth Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. at 1909 S. Gregg. For more information call 267-3013 or 267-2424.

"Cancer support group, first Tuesday of each month, 7-8 p.m., VA Medical Center room 213. Call Sue Jones, 263-7361 ext. 7179 or 264-7518.

Procedure for judicial bypass criticized; abortion law takes effect Jan 1.

AUSTIN (AP) — With just days before Texas' new law forcing underage, unmarried girls to tell their parents before getting an abortion takes effect, disputes over the new abortion mandate continue.

Opponents of the law say it may face legal battles as a violation of the state constitution before the Jan. 1 startup date — although none of the groups criticizing the abortion law say they plan to contest it in court.

"My hope is that it will go into effect Jan. 1," Joe Kral, legislative director for the Texas Right to Life Committee, told The Dallas Morning News. "I

would find it a horrible tragedy if someone were to challenge this protective legislation."

The first significant restriction on abortion in the state in two decades, parental notification requirements for pregnant minors are the products of six years of wrangling in the Legislature.

Thirty-nine states have passed a parental permission or notification law. The law is not enforced in nine of those states because of legal challenges.

Under the Texas law, an unmarried woman 17 or younger must notify a parent that she intends to have an

abortion, regardless of whether the parent approves of the decision.

If the minor fails to produce an affidavit signed by the parent, a physician must send a registered letter to a parent's address, then wait 48 hours before performing the abortion, according to The News.

Also beginning Saturday, young women will be asked to produce proof of their age.

"Most of our young patients bring a parent with them," said Kelly Hart, a spokeswoman for Planned Parenthood of Dallas and Northeast Texas. "They did this before the law (was passed),

and they will afterwards."

Most of the concern surrounds the 200 or so young Texas women annually who, despite the notification law, will refuse to tell their parents, according to health officials. The state Department of Health reported in 1997 that 5,523 minors had abortions.

Some teenagers might fear abuse or being thrown out of the house, experts say. And some might have parents who are absent because of drugs, prison or other circumstances, and they do not wish to re-establish contact with them.

The U.S. Supreme Court has held that in those cases, the state must provide an alternative. In Texas, the bypass will be through a county or district judge.

Under rules released last week by the Texas Supreme Court, a young woman wishing not to involve her parents will request a hearing by filing a form with a court clerk.

Within two business days of the request, a judge must meet with the young woman and a lawyer appointed for her, and then decide whether she is mature enough to make the abortion decision.

If the judge finds the woman

not mature enough, she could appeal to higher courts, which each get 48 hours to rule. If the appeals fail, she would have to notify a parent to obtain the abortion.

In other states with such a system, judges almost always side with the young woman, said Jay Jacobson of the Texas office of the American Civil Liberties Union.

But the judicial bypass system does raise other problems for Mr. Jacobson and other open-government advocates who fear records from a judge's hearing or decision on the case could be hidden from public scrutiny.

Lubbock AIDS agency riled by founder's conviction

LUBBOCK (AP) — An AIDS resource center's future is in doubt and its fund-raising ability hindered after the fraud conviction of its founder, a prominent local figure in the fight against the deadly disease.

David Crader was found guilty Wednesday of 72 federal crimes, including charging patients rent while receiving money for them to live at an AIDS center, redistributing dead clients' medications and paying salaries to phantom employees to keep real employees from losing disability benefits.

Crader's partner of seven

years, Gerald Eckert, was found guilty of 71 counts. The convictions carry potential prison terms totaling 1,000 years and \$32 million fines. Judge Sam Cummings is expected to sentence the men in about six weeks.

In 1989, Crader opened a food pantry in his Lubbock living room, and it eventually grew into the South Plains AIDS Resource Center.

The center is still open, but it is struggling under its fourth executive director in the three years since Crader left. It has been hurt by the notoriety of Crader's trial and the stigma of a disease people in the Bible Belt don't understand, according to Lubbock leaders in the battle against AIDS.

"The trial left, I guess, a sour taste in a lot of people's mouths because they didn't know where we were going with it. You know, why make a donation if

we're not going to be here in a year?" the center's current director, Linda McBroom, told the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal.

"I've been here for seven months, and I've been trying to educate the community that regardless of the trial, we still have 156 clients to serve," she said.

The center doesn't receive outside funding. Once known for lavish fund-raisers that Crader organized, it now lacks the money to send out mailers asking for donations, Ms. McBroom said.

"In the first two months that I was here, the largest check I saw was for an unsolicited donation of \$23," she said. The 14 staffers sometimes spend their own money to help clients, she said.

Anna McGregor, chairwoman of a local HIV consortium, said membership dropped about 20

percent this year, which she partly blamed on publicity from Crader's trial. AIDS-patient advocates also miss his fund-raising touch, she said.

"People just feel good around him, and that helps a lot," Ms. McGregor said. "People were always visiting in the office, and whether infected or not, it made them feel a part of something worthwhile."

Crader's defense in the federal court trial was that he bent some state and federal guidelines to get more grant money for his clients.

"Many times I think we take for granted that when we see good in individuals, we sort of hold them up and put them on a pedestal," said Dr. Charles Bell, who led the state's investigation into complaints about the center in 1996. "This may sort of allow us to think twice about what we should focus on and what we should praise."

Teen charged with killing her parents on Christmas day

TYLER (AP) — The grandmother of a 17-year-old East Texas accused girl of shooting her parents to death Christmas morning said she has no idea why the murders happened, and fears the truth may be hard to figure out.

"I have not the slightest idea. I don't know what went wrong," Margaret Toner said of the Saturday shooting. "I don't know if anybody ever will."

Mrs. Toner stopped short of saying her granddaughter, Stephanie Catherine Barron, was innocent of the murders of Stephen Wayne Barron, 44, and his wife Carla Barron, 43, the teen's parents.

But she told Tyler Morning Telegraph, in Monday's editions of the paper, that her and her husband plan to support Stephanie: "We love that little

girl. We don't like what happened, but we love her and she knows that."

An autopsy on the Barrons was to be complete Monday. The couple were apparently found shot in the head while the slept at their home just east of Tyler, police said.

A handgun was found in the bedroom.

Miss Barron, the couple's only daughter, was arrested later Christmas Day on two charges of capital murder, according to the newspaper. She is being held in the Smith County Jail without bond.

Mrs. Toner said investigators interviewed her granddaughter for several hours before the teen grew tired and declined to answer more questions. It is unclear whether the girl has a lawyer.

Auto industry says tougher emission standards may limit choice in Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — An auto industry official warned that if Texas adopts California's tougher emission standards for vehicles it could reduce Texas drivers' choice of cars and trucks.

The Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission has proposed adopting California's stricter limits on smog-causing vehicle emissions as part of a plan to meet federal air-quality standards by 2007.

Commission chairman Robert Huston said after the package was proposed that it represents the most significant action ever taken in Texas to improve air quality.

But Alan Weverstad, director of vehicle emissions and fuel efficiency for General Motors' Public Policy Center, said that adopting California's emission standards could limit vehicle model choices in Texas.

Weverstad, who is also a spokesman for the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers, said Texas farmers could find it impossible to buy large pickup trucks with manual transmissions and heavy towing capabilities under the stricter standards, the Amarillo Globe-News reported.

"Those vehicles might not be available anywhere," he said.

But a spokesman for the resources commission, Patrick Crimmins, said consumers wouldn't notice any difference except a slight increase in price. He said adopting the California standard would add about \$250 to the cost of an average vehicle.

"SUVs and pickup trucks are all over California," he added in response to the auto industry's claim.

The emissions proposal has also become an issue in presidential politics. Vice President Al Gore and environmentalists have criticized the record of Texas Gov. George W. Bush, the leading Republican candidate for president.

But Bush has urged the resources commission to consider the California standards.

"I believe in high standards," Bush told reporters recently.

Under the California program, vehicles sold or brought into California must meet certain emission standards, and the state limits total emissions from all vehicles.

Also last week, President Clinton announced new federal regulations designed to reduce air pollution and emissions by 90 percent.

Beginning with 2004 models and phased in over the next five years, Clinton proposes to require for the first time that SUVs, minivans and pickups meet the same tailpipe standards as cars.

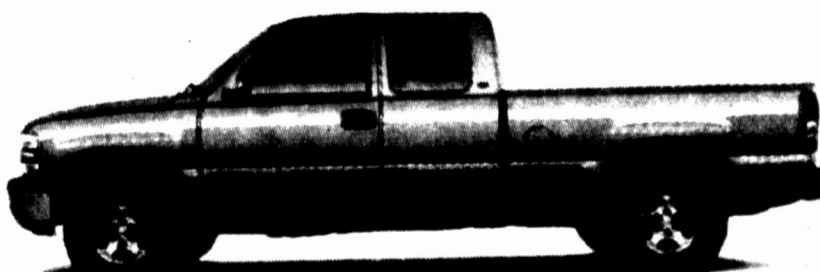
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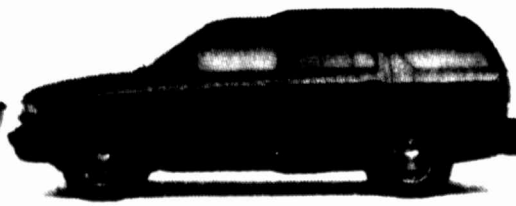


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DECEMBER 27 1999

EDITORIAL

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

—FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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Editor

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Sports Editor

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OUR VIEWS

Plan on viewing
Festival of Lights
through Friday

Your last chance to see one of Big Spring's best annual attractions, the Festival of Lights at Comanche Trail Park, is this week. After Friday night, the thousands of bulbs, and miles of wire and electrical cord will be placed in boxes until next year.

The Festival of Lights is a display that appeals to all ages. Kids especially, enjoy all the bright lights in shapes animals and other objects. A manger scene and peace sign are new to the exhibit this year, so those who have been to see the lights in previous years will want to make the short trip to Comanche Trail Park again this year.

Among our favorite spots are the bridges, seen best on a walking tour of the lights. Park near the Dora Roberts Community Center and walk through the archways, leading toward the spring. The bridges are beautifully outlined with arched lights that make them at first look like brightly lit tunnels.

A tremendous effort goes into putting up the thousands of lights that make up the display. It takes a lot of volunteers. Once the display is up and lit, more volunteers help greet guests until late in the evening, helping direct traffic and taking donations. Our hats are off to them, and the hard work they put into this wonderful project.

The lights go on at 6:30 each night, and are turned off at 10 p.m. Those on the walking trails are encouraged to be off by 9:45 p.m., so they don't find themselves in sudden darkness.

Officials estimate that up to 14,000 have witnessed the display this year. We encourage you to make it out as well. You'll be glad you did.

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

Some people say there is no Santa Claus. We say there is. My fiancée David, our 13-month-old daughter Dava and I met him on Tuesday, Dec. 12.

On Friday, Dec. 8, while David was at work, he broke the ONLY key to our car off in the door. It began cold, we missed our usual shopping day because with a 13-month-old it was too cold to walk that far to the store. Finally on Monday, David was able to get the broken part of the key out of the door. By Tuesday morning we were very low on food and completely out of milk. We had very little money, but we did have the Lone Star Card and I am the only one authorized to use it. So, we set out to get a key made for the car, get the car and go to the store. We couldn't wait any longer, our daughter was hungry.

The wind was blowing, the sand was stinging our faces and it was very cold. While we were walking, lots and lots of cars passed us by. We had walked 10 to 12 blocks when we met our Santa. Only he wasn't in a sleigh and his name wasn't really Santa Claus. He was in a new Chevy van and his name is Manny Zambrano. Mr. Zambrano works at Pollard

Chevrolet. He was at work and saw us walk past the Chevrolet house.

Of all the cars that had passed us, not one of them even slowed down. But Mr. Zambrano took more than time to slow down. He took a break at work and came to help us. He not only drove us to the locksmith, he waited while a key was made, then he drove us to our car. But his kindness didn't stop there. No, Mr. Zambrano stayed to make sure the key opened the door and our old car started.

We told him we would pay him, though no amount of money would cover what his act of kindness was worth. He would not accept any kind of payment. Then he wished us a Merry Christmas, told us to take good care of ourselves and drove away.

To us, Mr. Zambrano shows what Christmas is all about: helping and giving to others when and where you can. He wouldn't accept any payment so we would like to thank our Santa. Thank you Manny Zambrano, and thank you Pollard Chevrolet for everything.

JUDY WITTE, DAVID AND
DAVA SAUSMAN
BIG SPRING

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor. Please:

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

The Writer's Art: Keeping 'only' in its place

Good writers constantly experiment with tricks of their trade. They will try tricks of antithesis, parallelism and cadence. They will break a sentence into fragments. They will trot out a reliable anaphora (I just did), and they will flirt with alliteration. Bully!

But this is my thought for the approaching millennium: No stylistic device will do more to sharpen one's prose than the proper placement of "only."

The classic exercise is to take a simple declarative sentence and to run it through the hoops. Let us suppose that a playground dispute gets to the point of fisticuffs. Peter gets the worst of it. John is called on the principal's carpet. What happened?

Only John hit Peter in the nose. (Nobody else hit him there.)

John only hit Peter in the nose. (John didn't knife him or shoot him; he only hit him.)

John hit only Peter in the nose. (He didn't slug anyone else.)



JAMES
J. KILPATRICK

John hit Peter only in the nose. (He didn't go for eyes, ears or chin.)

All clear? The trick is to snuggle the "only" next to the word or phrase it most effectively modifies. Consider a few examples of how NOT to do it.

From The New Republic: "Usually when a politician wants to have it both ways, he has to make at least two separate contradictory statements. In Bush's case, it only took one." Now place the "only" where it belongs, and we put an edge on the insult: "In Bush's case, it took only one."

From USA Today, in a feature last June on women's bathing suits. Big girls should stick with billowing T-shirts that disguise unseemly bulges. "My friend Lisa has another solution: She only buys bathing suits from catalogs." Move the "only" and we get to the point of the sentence: "She buys bathing suits only from catalogs."

An advertisement in The New York Times last March suffered from the same misplacement. "This man is a genius. He only wears Hickey-Freeman." But this was not the point. The point was that the gentleman "wears only Hickey-Freeman."

Aer Lingus, the airline of Ireland, took a full-page ad in The New York Times. The ad featured "a map for those who continue to believe Aer Lingus only flies to Ireland." The text made it clear that Aer Lingus flies all over Europe. It doesn't fly only to Ireland.

USA Today commented upon the problems that make it difficult to bring Saddam Hussein to justice. The International Court of Justice will not take cases brought by individuals or civil rights groups. "The court at the Hague only hears cases when one state files a complaint against another." Nope. The court "hears cases only when one state files a complaint," etc.

The Wall Street Journal editorialized on medical savings accounts. "Consumer interest has been strong, despite the fact that MSAs can only be sold to the self-employed and through companies with 50 or fewer workers." The point was not that the insurance plan can only be sold. The point was that the program can be sold only to the self-employed.

In Bloomington, Ind., the Herald-Times provided an update on crime statistics: "In August there were 22 domestic violence arrests, but the shelter only received three calls from police for an on-scene advo-

cate." We can improve the sentence not only by shifting the "only," but also by avoiding the use of a noun as an adjective: "In August there were 22 arrests for domestic violence, but the shelter received only three calls."

"Only" is not the only adverb that gets misplaced. The Cincinnati Enquirer reported that in Hamilton County Court, "relatives watched as four young men were sentenced for nearly beating another boy to death." The sentence could have been honed by recasting: The youths were sentenced "for beating another boy nearly to death."

There's nothing arcane or mysterious about the placement of such modifiers. The trick is to pause long enough to ask, "What does the modifier modify?" What are we saying about the hypothetical tale of John and Peter? Who hit whom? Where? We can carry the syntactical analysis to Bill who loves only Sally, and to Sam who only writes Joe.

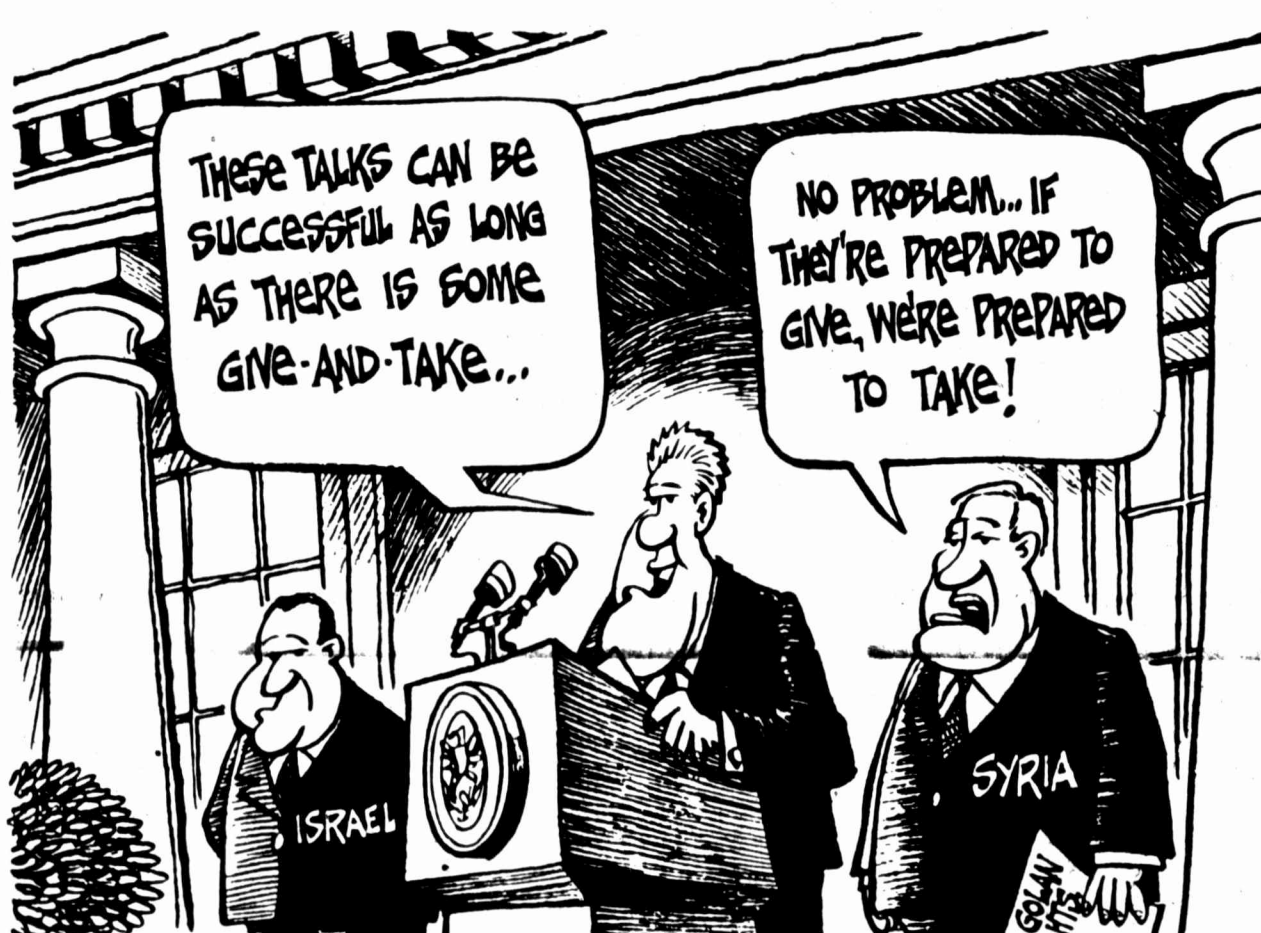
Once you get hooked on the maverick "only," you will wince at every wandering placement. And if you start to err in your own writing, you will find that it only takes a second or two — oops! It takes only a second or two to put things right.

ADDRESSES

• **BILL CLINTON**
President
The White House
Washington, D.C.
• **PHIL GRAMM**
U.S. Senator
370 Russell Office Building
Washington, 20510
Phone: 202-224-2934.
• **KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON**
U.S. Senator
703 Hart Office Building
Washington, 20510
Phone: 202-224-5922
• **CHARLES STENHOLM**
U.S. Representative
17th District
1211 Longworth Office Bldg.
Washington, 20515
Phone: 202-225-6605.
• **HON. GEORGE W. BUSH**
State Capitol
Austin, 78701
Phone: Toll free 1-800-252-9600,
512-463-2000; fax 512-463-1849.
• **RICK PERRY**
Lt. Governor
State Capitol
Austin, 78701; Phone: 512-463-
0001; Fax: 512-463-0326.
• **JAMES E. "PETE" LANEY**
Speaker of the House
State Capitol
Austin, 78701
Phone: 806-839-2478, 512-463-
3000.
• **ROBERT DUNCAN**
Senator
Texas 28th District
Citizens FCU Building
Big Spring, 79720
Phone: 268-9909; (800) 322-9538,
(512) 463-0128, fax (512) 463-
2424.
• **DAVID COUNTS**
Representative
Texas 70th District
P.O. Box 338
Knox City, 79529
Phone: (940) 658-5012.
• **JOHN CORNYN**
Attorney General
P.O. Box 12548
Austin, 78711-2548
Phone: 1-800-252-8011.

• **HOWARD CO. COMMISSIONERS**
Office — 264-2200.
• **BEN LOCKHART**, county judge —
Home: 263-4155; Office: 264-2202.
• **EMMA BROWN** — Home: 267-2649.
• **JERRY KILGORE** — 263-0724; Work
(Jerry's Barbers): 267-5471.
• **BILL CROOKER** — Home: 263-2566.
• **GARY SIMER** — Home: 263-0269;
Work (Ponderosa Nursery): 263-
4441.

• **BIG SPRING CITY COUNCIL**
• **TIM BLACKSHEAR**, mayor — Home:
263-7961; Work (Earthco): 263-
8456.
• **GREG BIDDISON** — Home: 267-
6009; Work (Ponderosa Restaurant):
267-7121.
• **OSCAR GARCIA**, Mayor Pro Tem —
Home: 264-0026; Work (Cedar Hill
Unit, Cornell Corrections): 268-1227.
• **STEPHANIE HORTON** — Home:
264-0306; Work (VA Medical Center):
263-7361.
• **CHUCK CATHON** — Home: 263-
7490; Work (Chuck's Surplus): 263-
1142.
• **TOMMY TUNE** — Home: 267-4652;
Work (Howard College): 264-5000.
• **JOANN SMOOT** — Home: 267-6965;
Work (BSISD): 264-3600.



EPA funding lobbying group

Over the last five years, the Environmental Protection Agency has given \$3 million to groups supporting Smart Growth, a lobbying organization. While this amount is a scant fraction of the EPA's \$7.2 billion budget, the agency was designed to protect human health, not to forward political agendas with taxpayer money.



JACK
ANDERSON

What is Smart Growth? It has been praised and criticized for halting the growth of suburban sprawl in favor of planned communities. The major tenets of the program are to redevelop existing suburbs into higher population densities and to create mass transportation while slowing construction of high-

ways. The organization's objective is to encourage people to use public transportation options.

Urban planners, environmentalists and economists have argued the pluses and minuses of monitored urban growth for years.

And the evidence so far indicates that people like their cars too much to make mass transportation worth the expense in most communities, with the noted exception of New York City. "The desire for personal mobility seems to be unstoppable," Charles Lave, an economist at the University of California Irvine said.

However, the notion of Smart Growth is gaining notice, mainly through funding grants from the EPA and the Department of Housing and Urban Development. HUD actually sparked the smart-growth movement through a grant to the American Planning Association several years ago to revamp zoning and planning guides.

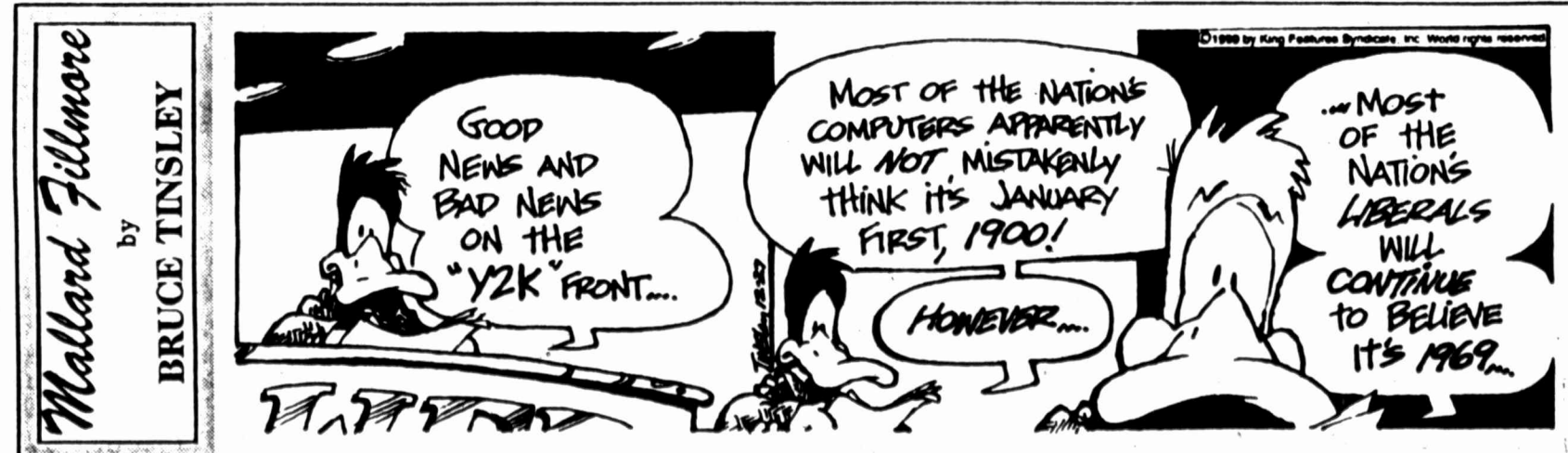
Luke Hester, a spokesperson at EPA told us his agency has

a few laws justifying involvement in the Smart Growth movement: the Clean Air Act and the National Environmental Policy Act. These laws require that local and state building and transportation plans include provisions to keep air within federal air pollution standards. EPA can impose sanctions on those not abiding by national air regulations.

Even so, concerns about the involvement of EPA funds with lobbying groups prompted congressional scrutiny this past year.

EPA's head, Carol Browner, promised she would stop funding certain groups and look into alternatives to Smart Growth. All of the groups funded this year were designed to promote Smart Growth.

Hester told us, "We funded 22 Smart Growth groups this year. The grants were modest, there is no plot there, it doesn't smack of a power grab. Yes, EPA embraces Smart Growth, but at the same time, it is not anti-suburb and we are unabashedly pro-growth."



Man with suspected terrorist ties held at border

SEATTLE (AP) — Four people, including one with suspected terrorist links, were arrested by the U.S. Border Patrol at a U.S.-Canada border crossing, Canadian law enforcement officials said.

The group — three men and a woman — was arrested by U.S. officials Sunday afternoon at the Blaine, Wash., checkpoint, the officials said.

The U.S. Border Patrol and FBI officials in Seattle and Washington, D.C., refused to comment or confirm the arrests.

Their identities and citizenships were not known, but the women were in the United States illegally and had driven to the crossing from Pennsylvania in a rental car, said Constable Archie Alafiz of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

The arrests occurred after the woman parked her car at a

duty-free shop on the Canadian side of the border and walked across to join them, Alafiz said.

He said it appeared the Border Patrol had been monitoring the three men, and after the woman met them, "the Border Patrol checked with the FBI to confirm their sourcing — the identity of the fellow" before all were arrested.

A search by RCMP officers and a bomb-sniffing dog found no explosives or suspicious materials in the woman's car, Alafiz said.

"We reported back to the Border Patrol that there's no evidence of any terrorist paraphernalia in the vehicle," he said.

The crossing — one of the busiest in the United States — was shut down for 2 hours, he said.

The arrests come in the wake

of heightened security precautions at all U.S. border crossings as officials gird against possible terrorist attacks in the coming days.

On Dec. 14, Ahmed Ressay, an Algerian national, was arrested by U.S. authorities as he arrived from Canada by ferry at Port Angeles, Wash.

Authorities reported finding nitroglycerin and other explosives, as well as timing devices, in the trunk of Ressay's rental car.

Ressay, 32, has pleaded innocent to charges of illegal explosives smuggling and providing false immigration information to U.S. Customs agents. He is being held near Seattle by federal authorities.

Federal authorities said Abdelmajid Dahoumane, a suspected accomplice to Ressay, was reported spotted by an airline ticket agent on Dec. 17 in

Bellingham, Wash., about 20 miles south of the Blaine crossing.

News reports has Dahoumane stayed with Ressay in a Vancouver, British Columbia, motel in the weeks before Ressay's arrest. He has since been sought in Canada and the United States.

A Canadian woman and a male Algerian companion were arrested at a border crossing in Vermont on Dec. 19. The woman, Lucia Garofalo, has been linked by federal prosecutors to what they described as a terrorist group operating in Europe and Algeria.

U.S. and Canadian authorities traced Garofalo's cellular phone and car to an organization called the Algerian Islamic League, prosecutors said.

They contend the group's founder is an arms trafficker for terrorists.

Reform Party moving from Dallas to Florida

WASHINGTON (AP) — The faction-ridden Reform Party will move its headquarters from Dallas, the home turf of founder Ross Perot, to the Florida residence of the incoming chairman.

Jack Gargan, an ally of Minnesota Gov. Jesse Ventura, takes over the chairmanship on Saturday from Russell Verney, a Perot loyalist who has headed the party since 1996.

Gargan and other Perot opponents say the headquarters move signifies the billionaire businessman's loss of control.

"The head of the party is where the chair of the party is," Rick McCluhan, the Minnesota party chairman, said Sunday. "The Dallas office has always been known as the headquarters. Now it will be known as the Florida office."

Party members elected Gargan chairman earlier this year.

He, McCluhan and others aligned with Ventura have jostled with Perot's supporters over control of the party.

Chief among the disputes is who will get \$12.6 million in federal matching funds as the Reform presidential nominee. Perot's faction has been courting conservative commentator Pat Buchanan, while Ventura's side has wooed New York billionaire Donald Trump.

But the infighting has magnified even logistical disputes into fierce struggles for symbolic control.

The location of the party's August convention, for example, is an ongoing fight. Perot's supporters are pushing for Long Beach, Calif., while Ventura's people insist on an unspecified site in Minnesota.

McCluhan filed a lawsuit last week to stop Perot's supporters from forcing the convention to California, and he said a federal judge in Minnesota is to hear the case Tuesday.

Gargan said the party will operate temporarily from his home on Cedar Key, an island on Florida's Gulf Coast.

He said he plans to move the office to Tampa to take advantage of better communication

India sends team to Afghanistan after hijackers threaten to kill passengers

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan (AP) — Indian negotiators arrived in Afghanistan today to begin talks with the hijackers of an Indian Airlines plane, who have threatened to start killing passengers if their demands were not met.

The hijackers said they would begin executing passengers today, but the deadline passed without any reports of deaths.

The hijackers spoke by radio to a junior Indian diplomat in Kandahar and agreed to suspend their deadline until the negotiators from India arrived, said a senior Indian official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Wakil Ahmed Muttawakil, foreign minister for Afghanistan's ruling Taliban militia, said his government is losing

patience and if negotiators fail to get an agreement "we will use force to make the plane leave." He did not set deadlines.

The hijackers are demanding several Kashmiri militants and a Pakistani-born Kashmiri activist be released from prisons.

At the Kandahar airport, the Taliban said they were prepared to storm the aircraft if the hijackers had begun killing pas-

sengers. Taliban commandos were deployed around the aircraft as the deadline approached, but when it passed without any visible problems, they were removed, said Taliban spokesman Rehmatullah Aga.

"We warned the hijackers that if they take any action or kill anyone on our territory, we are going to mete out similar treatment to them," he said.

New millennium shouldn't bring many problems, officials contend

WASHINGTON (AP) — New York City Police Commissioner Howard Safir plans to be at Times Square to herald in the new year. Federal Aviation Administrator Jane Garvey will be in the air. Pentagon officials will monitor early warning satellites with their Russian counterparts.

And hospitals, power plants, train traffic control systems and prisons should all function normally as the year 2000 begins, authorities say.

Public officials said Sunday that the advent of the year 2000 should cause few, if any, problems. Indeed, they said Americans should make no

more preparations for New Year's this year than they would do for any long winter weekend.

"Our goal has been to avoid overreaction," President Clinton's top Y2K adviser, John Koskinen, said on ABC's "This Week."

"We would like people to be prepared for a long midwinter weekend, but we think that's all that's necessary."

The Y2K problem arises from the fear that older computers programmed to read just the last two digits of a year will misread "00" as "1900" rather than "2000."

Billions of dollars have been

spent to correct the problem.

An Associated Press poll taken earlier this month found only 5 percent of respondents expecting major Y2K problems, down from 11 percent in July. The poll's margin of error was plus or minus 3 percentage points.

Koskinen said prisons and power plants had been tested and found to be Y2K compliant. American Hospital Association chairman Fred Brown said he didn't expect any serious problems at health care facilities.

Most emergency 911 call centers also are prepared.

A December survey by the National Emergency Number

Association found that 98.5 percent considered their equipment Y2K-ready, and others may have been fixed since then.

The FAA's Garvey said she would be flying to San Francisco as the new year began, to show her confidence that the aviation system is prepared for Y2K.

"All systems are Y2K compliant," she said on ABC. "We've tested them from end to end. We're ready."

Some airlines may cancel international flights to countries that are not prepared for Y2K, but most overseas destinations favored by Americans will not be among them, Garvey

said.

Still, experts caution that while the United States has made extensive preparations for Y2K, some other nations are not as well prepared. Some countries will wait until there are any problems before trying to correct glitches, Deputy Defense Secretary John Hamre said. Other countries have failed to provide detailed information to the World Bank-funded International Y2K Cooperation Center.

Some Russians will be spending New Year's Eve in Colorado Springs, Colo., watching U.S. satellite early warning system against a missile attack.

Hamre said he expected the satellites to show nothing. The computers that guide the missiles and the satellites are Y2K compliant.

"We think they will be showing nothing because we intend to launch nothing," Hamre said on ABC. "If there are problems it's not going to lead to a launch condition."

Meanwhile, the New York City police force is prepared for the throngs of well-wishers expected to jam Times Square to celebrate New Year's, Commissioner Safir said. Thousands of officers also will be on the lookout for any possible terrorist activity.

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DECEMBER 27 1999

IN BRIEF

High school tournaments
get under way this week

All eight high schools in the Herald's Crossroads Area take to the hardwoods this week in basketball tournament action.

In girl's play, Class 4A Big Spring will be in the Abilene Invitational while Class 2A's Coahoma is in the Caprock Classic in Lubbock, Stanton is in the Midland Christian Invitational and Forsan is in the Sterling City Invitational.

Class A's Garden City, Grady and Sands are also in the Sterling City tournament, while Borden County will play in the always-tough Slaton Invitational.

In boy's play, Big Spring is in the Caprock Classic in Lubbock while Coahoma is in the 67th Reagan County Invitational, Stanton is in the Midland Christian tourney and Forsan is at Sterling City.

Other schools in the Sterling City tournament include Garden City, Grady and Sands, while Borden County is in the Sundown Invitational.

All tournaments are scheduled to run Tuesday through Thursday.

Cancer Society offering
Texas Golf Pass again

The Howard County unit of the American Cancer Society is encouraging golfers to take advantage of the society's 2000 Texas Golf Pass.

The pass, which provides golfers with more than 450 rounds of golf at 273 Texas courses, is now available for a \$35 donation.

Both the Comanche Trail Golf Course and the Big Spring Country Club are participating in the program, as is the Stanton Country Club.

Those wanting to order the pass can do so by calling 1-800-ACS-2345 or online at www.acs-tx.org. Details are also available at all three locations.

YMCA registering players
for basketball program

The Big Spring YMCA is now registering girls and boys in grades K-6 for its youth basketball program.

The fee includes a T-shirt, individual award and a full YMCA youth membership for January and February.

YMCA full members may register for the program for \$15. Basic program members will pay \$25 and non-members will pay \$32.

For more info, call 267-8234.

TP&WD official releases
hunt recommendations

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials have suggested harvest recommendations for the general deer hunting season which continues through Jan. 2 in Howard County.

The legal bag limit for Howard County is four deer with no more than two of them being bucks.

No special permits are required for harvesting antlerless deer, but both antlerless deer and bucks must be tagged with an appropriate tag from a valid hunting license.

TP&WD wildlife biologist Kathy McGinty has recommended that landowners allow the harvest of one antlerless deer per 800 acres and one buck per 1,700 acres. For more info, call (915) 795-2238.

ON THE AIR

Television

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE
8 p.m. — New York Jets at Miami Dolphins, ABC.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

12:30 p.m. — Motor City Bowl: Brigham Young University vs. Marshall University, ESPN.

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

7:30 p.m. — San Jose Sharks at Dallas Stars, Fox Sports Net.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

6 p.m. — Princeton at Xavier, ESPN2.

Stanford remains No. 1 in AP poll, Tulsa Hurricane joins rankings

By JIM O'CONNELL
AP Basketball Writer

Stanford, one of five unbeaten teams remaining in Division I, held the No. 1 spot in the AP college basketball poll for a second straight week today.

The Cardinal (9-0), who beat Mississippi State 76-56 in their only game last week, received 60 first-place votes and 1,734 points from the media panel to easily outdistance Connecticut (8-1), which had seven No. 1 votes and 1,670 points.

The Huskies were the only other team to hold the same

spot from the previous Top 25 as 10 ranked teams lost last week.

Cincinnati, which had been No. 1 for five weeks until being replaced by Stanford, moved up one spot to No. 3, while Auburn moved up three places to fourth.

Arizona, which had its home winning streak snapped at 37 games by New Mexico, dropped from third to fifth. Florida and Syracuse, at 8-0 one of the other unbeaten teams, each moved up two spots to sixth and seventh. Michigan State, which lost at Kentucky, fell from fifth to eighth and was followed by Duke, which moved up one

spot, and Kansas, which jumped two.

Oklahoma State (10-0), the only other undefeated ranked team, led the Second Ten and was followed by Indiana, North Carolina, Maryland, Ohio State, Tennessee, Temple, Texas, Wake Forest and Illinois.

The last five ranked teams were Utah, Oklahoma, UCLA, DePaul and Tulsa.

The other unbeaten teams remaining in Division I were Louisiana State (10-0) and Marshall (8-0).

Utah (8-2), which had an impressive 79-73 win over Texas

last week to stretch its winning streak to six games, was back in the Top 25 after falling out for three weeks following a loss at Weber State.

Tulsa (11-1) cruised through the Puerto Rico Holiday Classic with a 14-point win over Boston College, a 15-point victory over North Carolina Charlotte and a 20-point win over previously unbeaten Tennessee. The Golden Hurricane, whose only loss was by one point at crosstown rival Oral Roberts, moved into the rankings for the first time since Feb. 3, 1997.

Gonzaga (7-3), which had been

ranked in every poll this season, fell out from No. 22 following a 72-64 loss to California. North Carolina State (7-1) dropped from 25th after a one-week appearance in the rankings. The Wolfpack were knocked from the poll and the list of unbeaten teams with a 73-62 loss to Tulane.

The other ranked teams to lose last week were Illinois, UCLA, Oklahoma and North Carolina. The Tar Heels (8-4) lost to Indiana 82-73 in the Jimmy V Classic and 97-80 at Louisville and dropped from sixth to No. 13.

NFL playoffs remain unsettled

By BARRY WILNER
AP Football Writer

Minnesota is in. So is Washington. And Detroit.

Tampa Bay is headed for the playoffs, too, joining previous qualifiers Indianapolis, Jacksonville, Tennessee and St. Louis.

As for the rest of the 12 post-season berths, well, don't ask.

But since you did:

• Buffalo, Miami, Seattle and Kansas City are battling for three spots in the AFC.

• Dallas, Green Bay, Carolina and the New York Giants, all losers this weekend, are after one wild-card spot in the NFC.

At the top of the AFC, the Colts improved to 13-2 Sunday and assured the biggest turnaround in NFL history — they were 3-13 last season — by edging Cleveland 29-28. That also tied AFC East champion Indianapolis with Jacksonville for the conference's best record with one week to go.

The Jaguars had their 11-game winning streak snapped with their second loss this season to Tennessee. The Titans (12-3) got five touchdown passes from Steve McNair in a 41-14 victory. They would win the Central if they beat Pittsburgh, and Cincinnati takes Jacksonville next Sunday.

In the West, Seattle ended a four-game skid with a 23-14 home victory against Kansas City, which had won four in a row. They are tied atop the division at 9-6, but the Seahawks win the crown if they beat the Jets in a road finale. Kansas City is home for Oakland.

Things are more muddled in the NFC, except for West champion St. Louis (13-2), which won its seventh straight, 34-12 against Chicago, knocking the Bears from contention. Tampa's 29-10 victory over Green Bay and Minnesota's 34-17 triumph at the Giants earned the winners postseason slots from the Central.

Washington (9-6) captured the East with its 26-20 overtime win in San Francisco.

Also, it was Buffalo 13, New England 10 in overtime; Pittsburgh 30, Carolina 20; Baltimore 22, Cincinnati 0; Atlanta 37, Arizona 14; and San Diego 23, Oakland 20.

The weekend began with New Orleans' 31-24 upset of Dallas on Friday. Denver beat Detroit 17-7 on Saturday, but the Lions qualified for the playoffs anyway on Sunday.

Tonight, the New York Jets are at Miami (9-5), which will make the playoffs by winning its last two games.

Philadelphia was off.

Colts 29, Browns 28

It wasn't vintage Colts, but Peyton Manning led them back

from a late nine-point deficit.

Mike Vanderjagt's 21-yard field goal with four seconds left won it. Rookie Edgerrin James scored three TDs. Marvin Harrison set a team record with 14 receptions for 138 yards, but Manning's streak of games with a TD pass ended at 27.

The expansion Browns (2-14) finished 0-8 at home.

Titans 41, Jaguars 14
McNair hit five receivers for his TDs as Tennessee swept Jacksonville in completing a perfect home season.

"A lot of teams have been daring us to throw the football this year, and we haven't been successful," said McNair, who had thrown only one TD pass in his previous seven games.

Eddie George rushed for 102 yards.

The Jaguars lost quarterback Mark Brunell to a sprained left knee.

Seahawks 23, Chiefs 14

The Seahawks have not made the playoffs since 1988. They got closer as visiting Kansas City, leading the NFL with a plus-23 turnover differential, had three passes by Elvis Grbac intercepted.

"This is good," said Jon Kitna, who threw two touchdowns in the first half. "But it's nothing if we don't win next week."

Rams 34, Bears 12

St. Louis' incredible offensive exploits continued.

Marshall Faulk became only the second player in NFL history with 1,000 yards rushing and receiving in one season as the Rams (13-2) won their seventh straight. Faulk had 222 yards on 20 touches against Chicago (6-9) and needs 36 yards at Philadelphia to break Barry Sanders' total yardage mark of 2,358.

Kurt Warner tied a record with his ninth 300-yard passing game as the Rams established a franchise record for wins and points (495). They won all eight home games.

Buccaneers 29, Packers 10

After a 45-0 loss at Oakland, the worst in franchise history, anything would have looked good. A postseason berth was particularly pretty as the Bucs (10-5) closed in on their first division title in 18 years. They equaled a club record for regular-season victories and can take the NFC Central title by winning at Chicago next week.

Tampa Bay forced four turnovers and handed the Packers (7-8) their third straight defeat.

Vikings 34, Giants 17

Once again, the Vikings (9-6) used the big play. Robert Smith had a 70-yard TD run among his 146 yards rushing. Randy Moss threw a 27-yard TD pass to Cris Carter, and Moe

Williams went 85 yards on a kickoff return and the defense got five sacks.

But New York still could make the playoffs with a win at Dallas next weekend, and some help.

Redskins 26, 49ers 20, OT

At San Francisco, Larry Centers scored on a 33-yard pass play early in overtime. Brad Johnson completed 32 of 47 passes for 471 yards — a season high — and two scores, giving the Skins their first division title since 1991, when they last won the Super Bowl.

Charlie Garner ran for 129 yards for San Francisco (4-11), which saw its seven-game winning streak against the Redskins snapped.

Bills 13, Patriots 10, OT

Buffalo (10-5) had enough kicking game to close in on an AFC postseason berth. Steve Christie's 23-yard field goal won it at New England (7-8), which sustained its sixth loss in seven games. Doug Flutie completed his last 12 passes for the Bills.

Adam Vinatieri's 33-yard field-goal attempt into the wind went short and wide with two seconds to go for the Patriots. He was short on a 44-yarder in the same direction in overtime.

Steelers 30, Panthers 20

Travis Davis scored on a 102-yard fumble return and the Steelers (6-9) got their running game going to the tune of 211 yards. Jerome Bettis ran for 137 yards to go over 1,000 for the season. Pittsburgh broke a six-game slide in the snow at Three Rivers Stadium.

Patrick Jeffers had 88- and 43-yard touchdown catches for Carolina (7-8), which barely clings to a playoff threat.

Ravens 22, Bengals 0

Baltimore (8-7) was eliminated, but remained one of the league's hottest teams. Matt Stover kicked five goals and the host Ravens recorded the first shutout in franchise history to win their fourth straight.

The Bengals (4-11), seeking their first four-game winning streak since 1989, were blanked on the road for the first time since 1992.

Falcons 37, Cardinals 14

The visiting Cardinals (6-9) had a slim shot at the postseason until they were run over by Atlanta (4-11), which had the ball for more than 35 minutes. Bob Christian scored two touchdowns as the Falcons piled up a season-high 163 yards rushing, including 102 by Byron Hanspard.

Chargers 23, Raiders 20

Host San Diego (7-8) broke a four-game slide vs. the Raiders (7-8) on John Carney's 37-yard field goal with 8:09 remaining. It was Carney's third field goal of the game and gave him 1,001 points in his 11-year career.

World Cup title
tops AP stories

By BARRY WILNER

AP Sports Writer

In a year marked by superstar retirements, courageous comebacks, tragedies and triumphs, a team of 20 women in a sport that doesn't get much attention in America stole the spotlight.

For three weeks during the summer, the Women's World Cup was a sporting phenomenon. What was expected to be a nice little soccer tournament turned into The Associated Press Story of the Year, a success beyond even what its participants imagined possible.

And, to boot, the U.S. team was voted Female Athletes of the Year, the first time a team has won the award, which is selected by AP member newspapers and broadcast outlets.

The male athlete of the year winner will be announced Monday. "This is a great honor for us," said Mia Hamm, soccer's international career scoring leader. "One of the things we were most excited about with the World Cup was the media support that we had. There were so many positive things about the event, even in lieu of the fact that some people were a little nervous about either covering it or how big it was going to be."

"Everyone kind of really got excited about and appreciated the fact that it was such a wonderful event. Soccer's not covered that much, especially the women's side of the game. But they came out and took the time, and it gave us an opportunity to show them what we're all about. We're just so thankful for that, and we're so honored with this award."

The women's achievement, secured with a shootout victory over China at a sold-out Rose Bowl, was a runaway choice for top story. The tournament drew nearly 650,000 fans and its TV ratings, including nearly 40 million who watched the final, were unprecedented.

Lance Armstrong winning the Tour de France after recovering from cancer was second in the balloting, followed by the death of Payne Stewart in an eerie plane crash, Michael Jordan's retirement and the U.S. Ryder Cup victory.

The retirements of Wayne Gretzky, John Elway, Steffi Graf and Barry Sanders also drew votes, as did the deaths of Joe DiMaggio, Walter Payton and Wilt Chamberlain.

Cynthia Cooper was second in the female athlete voting, followed by just one point by Hamm, who received three times as many first-place votes as any other individual. Serena Williams was fourth and Marion Jones was fifth.

The only other team to win athlete of the year was the 1980 men's Olympic hockey squad. That group of collegians that upset the mighty Soviets served as an inspiration to Americans.

The soccer team's championship wasn't an upset — the Americans won the 1996 Olympic crown in Atlanta with virtually the same roster. But it was just as inspirational, particularly to the thousands of youngsters who came to regard the women as role models, heroes and just plain nice people.

"We know we have a responsibility to all the kids out there to show them what hard work, dedication, communication, tolerance and diversity can give you if you give it a chance and you give yourself a chance," said Brandi Chastain, who scored the Cup-winning goal in the shootout. "So, we're very proud of what we've done."

"We're looking to the future now, to the 2000 Olympics, and with the eventual building of a professional league. That will be the benchmark of this team: Whether or not we can successfully build a professional league where young girls have a chance to pursue their dreams. Not everybody's going to make the national team, but there's going to be some great players out there that want to be professional athletes and don't have a chance. We want to give it to them."

Next up for the women — Hamm, Chastain, Julie Foudy, Briana Scurry, Michelle Akers, Joy Fawcett, Carla Overbeck, Kristine Lilly, Tiffany Milbrett, Kate Sobrero, Cindy Parlow, Shannon MacMillan, Tisha Venturini, Lorrie Fair, Tiffany Roberts, Sara Whalen, Christie Pearce, Danielle Fotopoulos, Saskia Webber, Tracy Ducar — were supposed to be tournaments in Australia and Portugal and a pre-Olympic tour of the United States.

But a dispute over salaries with the U.S. Soccer Federation has sidelined the champions. Instead, a youth team might take their place.

A settlement would allow the World Cup players to compete in Sydney, and NBC has announced it will televise the team's games after ignoring soccer in '96 — further evidence of its impact.

Nuggets, Clippers officially put last season's woes to rest

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Denver Nuggets and Los Angeles Clippers have officially put last season's woes behind them.

Both won home games Sunday to match their victory totals from last year's lockout-shortened season.

Antonio McDyess and Nick Van Exel each scored 22 points in Denver's 109-86 victory over the Vancouver Grizzlies.

Maurice Taylor scored 13 of his 26 points in the fourth quarter as the short-handed Clippers beat the Boston Celtics 103-100.

In other games, it was Washington 103, Houston 92;

Detroit 114, Charlotte 96; Toronto 98, Cleveland 95; Philadelphia 92, Seattle 86; Phoenix 108, Golden State 88; New Jersey 103, Chicago 76; Milwaukee 93, Miami 85; and Sacramento 118, Dallas 111.

In Denver, Shaquille O'Neal had 20 points and 10 rebounds for the Grizzlies, losers of 10 of 11 road games.

In Los Angeles, the Clippers, who had only nine players in uniform, led 101-95 with a little over a minute remaining. But the Celtics had a chance to tie it with six seconds left and Tony Battie at the free-throw line.

However, after making the first foul shot to make it 101-100, Battie missed the second, and

Hudson got the rebound.

Hudson was fouled, and made two free throws with 4.7 seconds left. Dana Barros' 3-point shot at the buzzer hit the front rim and bounced away.

Wizards 103, Rockets 92

Mitch Richmond scored 27 points as the Wizards beat Houston to ruin Steve Francis' homecoming to the Washington area.

The Wizards took the lead for good when they scored the final seven points of the first half and the first nine points of the third quarter to take a 58-42 lead.

Pistons 114, Hornets 96
At Auburn Hills, Mich., Grant Hill scored 30 points and Jerome Williams added a

career-high 21 rebounds to help Detroit beat Charlotte.

Raptors 98, Cavaliers 95

Vince Carter scored 36 points, including a key 3-point shot with 51 seconds left, to lead Toronto to victory in Cleveland.

Carter broke an 88-88 tie with a 26-foot jump shot as the shot clock was about to expire to put Toronto ahead to stay.

76ers 92, SuperSonics 86
Allen Iverson scored 34 points as Philadelphia beat Seattle.

The visiting 76ers scored the last eight points of the game, including Iverson's two clinching free throws with nine seconds left.

Suns 108, Warriors 88

In Phoenix, Cliff Robinson

scored 25 points in three quarters as the Suns routed Golden State.

Nets 103, Bulls 76

Sinking to new depths in its sorry season, Chicago tied an NBA record with just three assists, missed at least a half-dozen layups.

Bucks 93, Heat 85

In Milwaukee, Glenn Robinson scored 13 of his 30 points in the fourth quarter and Ray Allen added 22 as Milwaukee beat Miami.

Kings 118, Mavericks 111

In Sacramento, Calif., Chris Webber scored 31 points as the Kings led the entire game.

The Kings had a 21-point lead at halftime.

and NFC East title, bye with a win Minnesota loss

berth with a win, playoff berth with Green Bay loss or Green Bay and is in conference 1966, Green Bay 0, Green Bay loss

and a playoff berth with EITHER a win tie. Can clinch EITHER a win or tie AND a Washington

and a playoff berth, and a first-round bye Bay loss.

playoff berth with New York win AND New York and Carolina (conference 1966, Carolina 16) is in a tie AND a AND New York and Carolina loss

NFC West title, home-field advantage

playoff berth with a win and a Green Bay New York is in conference 1966, Green Bay 0, has game ends in

Baltimore, Chicago, New England, Philadelphia, San Francisco

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WEEK 17

Games of Jan. 1-3

HOW TO PLAY

Select a winner from each of the week's games, listed below. Select in descending order of your **CONFIDENCE** in your choices. Win points at left for each correct selection toward possible total of 136 points. See complete rules below. You must be at least 8 (eight) years old to enter. To enter, clip along dotted line, then place game entry in **POWER POINTS** container at co-sponsor's retail outlet(s). Entrants must list name, address and phone number below.

LIMIT: You may enter only once weekly.

DEADLINE: 2 P.M. THURSDAY

TIEBREAKER 1

Total points scored (both teams) in COWBOYS game

TIEBREAKER 2

Total offensive yards (both teams) in this game

THIS WEEK'S GAMES

136 TOTAL POINTS

Name _____

Address _____

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Arizona at Green Bay
Baltimore at Jacksonville
Cincinnati at New England
Detroit at Minnesota
Indianapolis at Buffalo
Miami at Washington
New Orleans at Carolina
NY Giants at Dallas

Oakland at Kansas City
St. Louis at Philadelphia
San Diego at Denver
Seattle at NY Jets
Tampa Bay at Chicago
Tennessee at Pittsburgh
San Francisco at Atlanta
Texas at Arkansas

POWER POINTS OFFICIAL RULES

1. One of the game is to amass as many of the 136 possible points as you can. Simply review the week's schedule of games, listed on entry form, and select which game you are **CURSEST** of pick a player to win. Write the name of your projected winner on the 16-point line. If that team wins its game that week, you win 16 points. Write the name of your second-surest winner on the 15-point line, and so on down to the 1-point line, which game you expect to be a toss-up. Next, fill in Tiebreaker 1, the total points scored by both teams in the week's featured game. If this step fails to produce a winner, the judge will apply Tiebreaker 2, total offensive yardage from scrimmage in this game. If a winner still doesn't emerge, a drawing will be held among those contestants still tied. Decisions of the judge are final. The weekly statewide winner of the game will receive \$1,000.

name, address, etc., will be disqualified.

2. Entries that fail to forecast a winner from each and every game will be disqualified, as will entries that fail to distinguish between the Jets and Giants of New York and other similar teams.

3. No points are awarded on tie games or in case any game is not played for any reason during its scheduled week.

4. Entering **POWER POINTS** constitutes permission by contestant for his or her name and photograph to be used for news and reasonable promotional purposes at no charge.

5. Employees of this newspaper and their immediate families are ineligible to participate.

6. Any inquiry about or protest of weekly results must be made by noon on the Friday following the announcement of winners.

7. No purchase necessary. Facsimile game entry

forms will be accepted. Enter contest by dropping entry form into **POWER POINTS** container at participating co-sponsors.

8. Weekly deadline for entry will be 2 p.m. Fridays except when noted otherwise on weekly entry form.

9. Neither this newspaper nor any co-sponsor will be responsible for legible entry forms or those lost, stolen or damaged in any way.

10. Limit one entry per person per week. Each entry must represent the original work of one entrant, "group" entries, "systems" or other attempts to enter multiple entries will be disqualified. Filing out extra forms and putting your friends' and relatives' names on them violates this rule. Any such entries are destroyed prior to grading.

11. Contestants must have reached the age of eight (8) years by the Sunday of any weekly play-

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\$8,200/hour
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catering. Evening calls
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Big Spring Herald
Monday, December 27, 1999

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computer desk, bunk and
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Living room, bedroom
suits, dining room sets,
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In Big Spring on I-20
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Steel buildings, new, must
sell.
340x12 was \$10,200 now
\$6,990
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now \$10,971
50x100x16 was \$27,590
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now \$39,990
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warehouse with 3 offices
on 2 acres, fenced land
Hwy 350 11/2 mile N.
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Snyder Highway. Approx.
1800 square feet with
office on 1 acre. \$250 per
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For sale, absolute bargain.
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18 acres 5 mi. N. of Big
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as is, asking \$30,000.
Owner may finance with
down payment. Good home
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Beautiful Executive home,
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includes delivery, A/C and
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special!! 42 cabinets and
drawers just in the
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credito esta mal, o no
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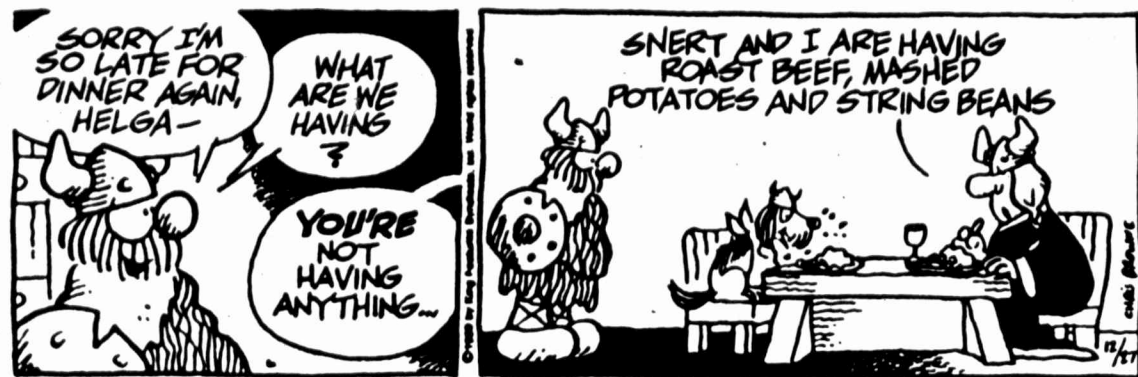
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DOUBLEWIDE
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as \$236/mo!!
10% down,

MONDAY

DEC. 27

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6 PM	News (CC)	Home Imp. Judge Judy	Creates Antiques	Who's Boss? Random Acts	News (CC) Ent. Tonight	News (CC) Fortune	News (CC) Suddenly	Fresh Prince	Sonadoras	Escape to Witch Mountain	Waltons (CC)	School Movie: Pili	the Sea (CC)	Father, the Hero (CC)	News John Hage	Law & Order (CC)	Wild Discovery	ER (CC)	JAG (CC)	Outer Limits (CC)	Intimate Portrait (CC)	How'd They Do That?
7 PM	20/20 (CC)	Time of Your Life (CC)	American Photography	Random Acts	King Ladies Man	20/20 (CC)	Suddenly	(05) Movie: Dumb & Dumber	Nunca Te Ovidere	tain (CC) Movie: (40) Movie: Don't Look Under the	Life and Times-Smith	Gonna Get You Sucka	Movie: Deep Impact (CC)	Movie: Clueless	Light of the Southwest	Biography (CC)	On the Inside	WCW Monday Nitro New	Walker, Texas Ranger (CC)	Outer Limits (CC)	Beyond Chance (CC)	Paramedics
8 PM	NFL Football: New York	Ally McBeal (CC)	A Century of Images (CC)	Random Acts	Raymond Becker (CC)	NFL Football: New York	Law & Order	Dumb & Dumber	Tres Mujeres	Don't Look Under the	Country Music	Movie: A Night at the	Movie: Brotherhood	Sopranos (CC)	Richard Roberts	Investigative Reports (CC)	Story of the Elephant Man	Year's Evil (CC)	WWF Raw (CC)	Outer Limits (CC)	Movie: The Perfect	Trauma Center
9 PM	Jets at Miami Dolphins	Mad Abt. You Nanny (CC)	..	Random Acts	Person of the Century (CC)	Jets at Miami Dolphins	Dateline (CC)	(20) Movie: Cristina: Edición Especial	Bed (CC) Movie: (40) Movie: Wildhorse 5th Anniversary	Frankenstein and Me (CC)	Dallas (CC)	Movie: The Opposite of Sex (CC)	Movie: Hoop	Sopranos (CC)	News Life in Word	Law & Order	On the Inside	Movie: Cover-Up	Walker, Texas Ranger (CC)	Pottergeist: The Legacy	Golden Girls	Paramedics
10 PM	..	Jerry Springer (CC)	News-Lehrer	700 Club (CC)	News (35) Late	..	News (35) Tonight	My Girl 2	P. Impacto Noticias Univ.	Frankenstein and Me (CC)	Dallas (CC)	Movie: The Opposite of Sex (CC)	Movie: Hoop	Sopranos (CC)	News Life in Word	Law & Order	On the Inside	Movie: Cover-Up	Walker, Texas Ranger (CC)	Pottergeist: The Legacy	Golden Girls	Paramedics
11 PM	News (CC) Nightline	Newsradio Unhappily	Rock & Roll (CC)	Who's Boss? Random Acts	Show (CC) (37) Late Late	News (CC) Nightline	Show (CC) (37) Late	Chimp	Viviana a la Medianoche	Zorro (CC) Mickey Mouse	Dukes of Hazzard (CC)	(10) Movie: Thief of	Life Movie: Against the Law	Reverb..	Faith Pleases God	Biography (CC)	Story of the Elephant Man	..	Silk Stalkings (CC)	Fri. the 13th Series	On Baby (CC)	Trauma Center
12 AM	Politically Inc. Cheers	Cops (CC) Hollywood	..	Paid Program	Show (CC) Grace Under	Ent. Tonight Politically Inc.	Night (CC) Fraser	(11:55) Movie: Dumb	Gordo y Flaca El Biazlo	Wait Disney Presents	Country Music	Hearts (CC)	Against the Law	Reverb..	Light of the Southwest	Investigative Reports (CC)	Warrior Island	WCW Monday Nitro New	New York Undercover	Outer Limits (CC)	Mysteries Commish	Faces in the Forest

HAGAR



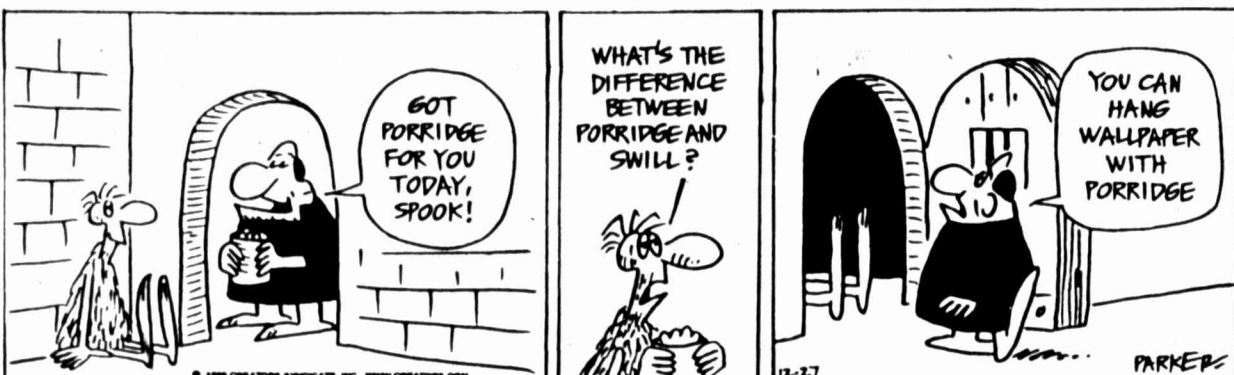
B.C.



GEECH



WIZARD OF ID



HI AND LOIS



GASOLINE ALLEY



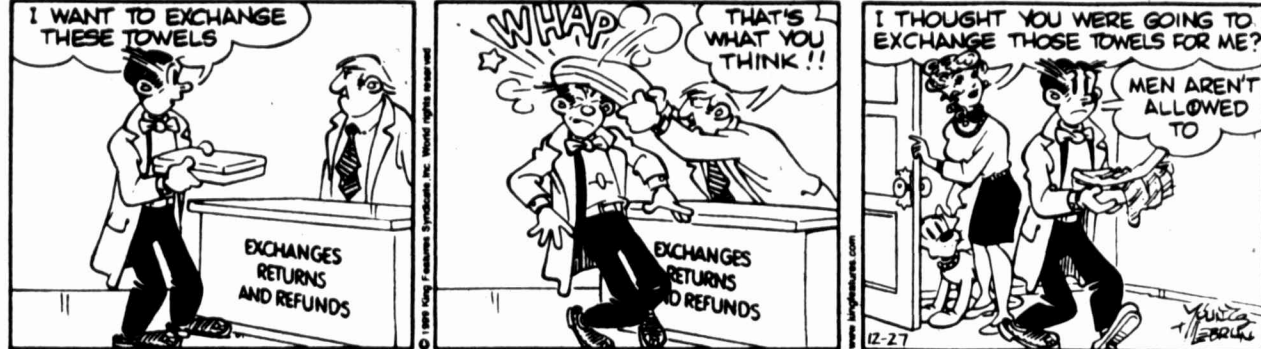
SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILY



BLONDIE



FAMILY CIRCUS



DENNIS THE MENACE

THIS DATE
IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Monday, Dec. 27, the 361st day of 1999. There are four

days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
On Dec. 27, 1979, Soviet forces seized control of Afghanistan. Babrak Karmal succeeded President Hafizullah Amin, who was overthrown and executed.

On this date:

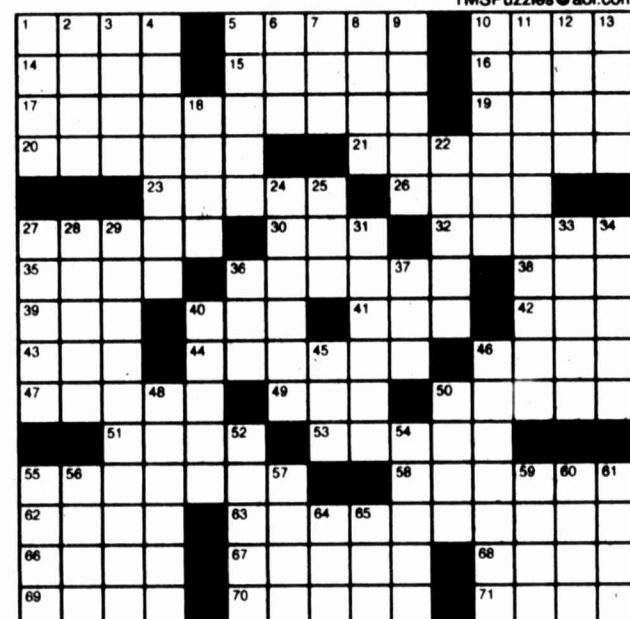
THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS

- 1 Having the skill
- 5 Caffeinated nuts
- 10 Asian sea
- 14 Fertility god
- 15 Dispatch boat
- 16 Digestive fluid
- 17 Fanciful
- 19 Not fooled by
- 20 Endeavored with effort
- 21 Model of excellence
- 23 Splits apart
- 26 Standard
- 27 "The Pirates of Penzance" heroine
- 30 Hearing organ
- 32 Second president
- 35 Home of Iowa State
- 36 Marx colleague
- 38 Witness
- 39 Encyc. book
- 40 Clay, today
- 41 Something to pick?
- 42 Russian chessmaster
- 43 Building branch
- 44 Swashbuckler
- 46 Surrender
- 47 Dated later
- 49 Any person
- 50 Breathing spaces?
- 51 Wicked
- 53 Pool outlet
- 55 Type of table
- 58 Exam
- 62 German region
- 63 Way, for pay, across a river
- 66 Pitcher
- 67 Hersher
- 68 Architect Jones
- 69 Blood formation
- 70 Chessmaster
- 71 At no time
- Hardy lass

DOWN

- 1 Preschool lesson
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By D.J. DeChristopher
Staten Island, NY

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Saturday's Puzzle Solved

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915-263-7331 (Main Switchboard)
915-263-7335 (Circulation Calls Only)
(Fax) 915-264-7205

Chuck Williams
John H. Walker
Edwin Vela
Mark Shedy
Tony Hernandez
Dianne Marquez

Publisher.....Ext. 250
Managing Editor.....Ext. 230
Advertising Sales Manager.....Ext. 225
Circulation Manager.....Ext. 240
Production Manager.....Ext. 256
Business Office Manager.....Ext. 255

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In 1822, scientist Louis Pasteur was born in Dole, France.

In 1900, prohibitionist Carry A. Nation walked into the Carey Hotel in Wichita, Kan., and proceeded with her first public smashing of a bar.

In 1927, the musical "Show Boat," with music by Jerome Kern and libretto by Oscar Hammerstein II, opened at the Ziegfeld Theater in New York.

In 1932, Radio City Music Hall opened in New York.

In 1945, the World Bank was created with an agreement signed by 28 nations.

In 1947, "Howdy Doody," the children's TV program, debuted on NBC.

In 1949, Queen Juliana of the Netherlands granted sovereignty to Indonesia after more than 300 years of Dutch rule.

In 1968, Apollo VII and its three astronauts splashed down safely in the Pacific.

In 1970, the musical "Hello, Dolly!" closed on Broadway after 2,844 performances.

In 1985, Palestinian guerrillas opened fire in the Rome and Vienna airports; 20 people were killed, including five of the attackers slain by police and security personnel.

Ten years ago: President Bush, on a visit to Beeville, Texas, said he was determined to bring deposed Panamanian leader Manuel Noriega to justice "for poisoning the children of the United States" with illegal drugs.

Five years ago: Four Roman Catholic priests — three French and a Belgian — were shot to death in their rectory in Algiers, a day after French commandos killed four radicals who had hijacked an Air France jet from Algiers to Marseille.

One year ago: Six inmates, including four convicted killers, escaped from Riverbend Maximum Security Institution in Tennessee. All were recaptured by the end of next day. A week after she was born weighing just 10.3 ounces, the smallest of the Houston octuplets, Chijindu Chidera, died.

Today's Birthdays: Former Sen. James A. McClure, R-Idaho, is 75. Actress Inga Swenson is 67. Actor John Amos is 58. ABC News correspondent Cokie Roberts is 56. Singer Tracy Nelson is 55. Actor Gerard Depardieu is 51. Singer-songwriter Karla Bonoff is 47. Rock musician Mark Knopfler (Dire Straits) is 47. Broadcast journalist Arthur Kent is 46. Actress Maryam D'Abo is 39.

Thought for Today: "Few things are more mischievous to good government and to domestic tranquility than splendid rhetoric that doesn't pay off." — Alistair Cooke, British-born journalist and broadcaster.