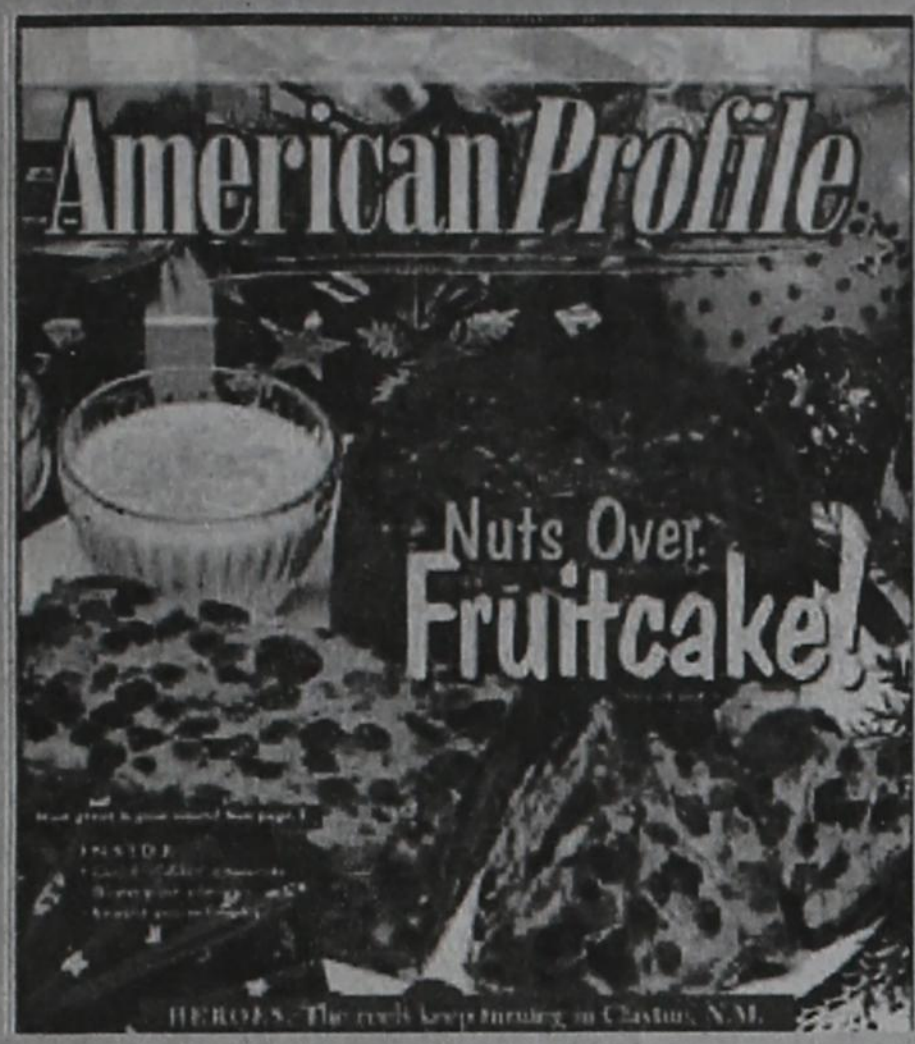


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American Profile inside:



"Magic of Sebastian" set for January 11

The "Magic of Sebastian" show will be at the Post Elementary School auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 11.

Acts to be included in this year's show will be the Guillotine, the Floating Princess, the Houdini Trunk Mystery and many others.

Every day is moving day for the "Magic of Sebastian" show, and when Sebastian says "All the work isn't on the stage," it's an understatement. The on-stage professional polish of 20 years' worth of experience overshadows the mechanics of setting up and tearing down the show.

On any given night this fast-moving show may be playing in your hometown; the next night it may be 150 or more miles away repeating the same performance on a different stage. Despite variations in stages and scenery, show props and illusions must look as if they had been picked up bodily and set down on the stage without so much as a rabbit hair being out of place.

The entire process requires an organization of many talents and skills — "elbow grease," according to Sebastian — as well as showmanship. As dozens of trunks, crates and cases are unloaded, the backstage area becomes a beehive of activity — drapes to hang, lights to adjust, sound levels to check, costumes to unpack and illusions to assemble. There always are props to be purchased locally and 101 odds and ends that must be taken care of.

Advance tickets to the event cost \$4, or tickets will be available at the door at a cost of \$5. Tickets will admit either a child or an adult.

For more information on tickets, call 495-4799.



Magic of Sebastian

Post ISD Trustees consider new supt. candidates

Post Independent School District trustees will meet in two separate sessions next week.

On Wednesday, Jan. 8, trustees will meet at 7 p.m. for an executive session in which applications for the superintendent's position will be reviewed. Any action deemed necessary in the closed-door meeting will be taken in open session.

On Thursday, Jan. 9, school board members will gather for their regular month meeting at 7:30 p.m. In addition to regular monthly business and routine reports, trustees will discuss the proposed covered walkway at the elementary school. An executive session dealing with substitutes and the superintendent's position also is scheduled.

Both sessions will take place in the Post ISD administration building.



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Post Antelope Sports Saturday & Sunday

The Post Dispatch

77th Year Number 31 USPS 439-620 © 2003 The Post Dispatch Newsstand Price 50¢ Thursday, January 3, 2003

Kidnapper pleads guilty, gets 45 year sentence

A Levelland man charged with the January 2002 kidnapping of a Post woman entered a guilty plea Dec. 16.

Rudy Valderas, 27, pleaded guilty to aggravated kidnapping in exchange for a 45-year sentence, according to reports.

Valderas had been charged with aggravated kidnapping and attempted capital murder, a charge related to an attempt to run down a Garza County sheriff's deputy. He was arrested and jailed following an eight-hour ordeal that began sometime after 1:22 a.m. Jan. 10. That's when a sheriff's deputy on routine patrol noticed there was no clerk on duty at the Allsup's convenience store on West 8th Street.

According to reports, the deputy searched the store but was unable to find the 22-year-old clerk who had been working the midnight to 8 a.m. shift alone. Local Department of Public Safety troopers, constables, the Texas Rangers and members of the Post Volunteer Fire Department were called upon to assist in the search for the missing woman.

As the search continued during the early daylight hours, a Southland farmer traveling a dirt road off of CR 211 and US 84 spotted the young woman. It was about 8:14 a.m., and the farmer offered the woman a ride.

The woman told the farmer about being robbed and kidnapped from the convenience store. As the two were traveling toward Post, she pointed out a semi-tractor parked off the eastbound lane of US 84 and told the farmer that was the vehicle she'd been held captive in.

The two drove to the sheriff's department where the woman gave her statement. Several sheriff's department units responded and headed for the site located about four miles outside of Post.

When law enforcement officials arrived at the location where the truck was parked, no one was visible in the cab, but the vehicle was running. An officer approached the semi and banged on the truck's door. A man appeared in the cab, revved the engine and put the vehicle into gear.

The semi was completely surrounded by law enforcement vehicles, the closest one about 30-40 yards off the truck's right bumper. The vehicle began to move forward toward the right, striking the closest vehicle. In the truck's path was at least one uniformed officer, Sheriff Kenny Ratke said.

Shots were fired at the truck's windshield, causing the driver

to stop.

The man, later identified as Valderas, offered no resistance. He was taken to Lubbock's Covenant Medical Center, treated for an arm wound caused by flying glass and released to the custody of the Garza County Sheriff's Department.

After being booked into the local jail, Valderas made a single phone call. The individual he called, Ratke said, contacted the sheriff's department and told lawmen that Valderas has called and confessed to the kidnapping.

According to the victim's statement, Valderas entered the store and demanded the cash in the register. As she attempted to set off the store's alarm, he grabbed her and pulled her to his vehicle. The alarm was never sounded.

During the ordeal, the victim's hands and feet were bound with heavy tape, according to reports, and she was secured to the interior of the vehicle. After being driven around the Lubbock area for several hours, the woman was able to persuade Valderas to release her on US 84 outside of Post.

VALOR reports on disrupted service

VALOR Telecom, local telecommunications service provider, has fully restored service to its customers in Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico following a Dec. 23 outage.

The cause of the outage, which impacted local and long distance calling, was due to issues revolving around SBC and TSI, which provide signaling networks that enable call completion for various wireless and wireline carriers, including VALOR Telecom.

SBC and TSI reported that links between their networks were out beginning at approximately 11 a.m. Dec. 23. The result was network congestion that impacted VALOR customers' abilities to place and receive calls.

SBC and TSI are taking steps to distribute traffic to avoid additional network congestion, according to a Dec. 24 press release from VALOR Telecom.

County approves funds for warning sirens

Garza County officials agreed to help fund improvements to the outdoor warning siren system in use within the city in their final meeting of 2002.

Subject to the approval of Post City Council members, plans call for the upgrade and expansion of the municipal alert system. County officials approved the expenditure of \$5,948 for the installation of VHF decoders on the existing sirens at a cost of \$5,284; a \$200 programming fee for a radio console; \$64 for supplies (wire, conduit, etc.); and \$400 to cover related labor costs.

The city's existing system consists of four outdoor warning sirens that primarily serve as a tornado warning system.

The first siren, located at US 84 and Main Street, is a 1940s vintage federal Signal Model 5 siren. This siren, commonly known as the "fire whistle," has been used as a secondary means of alert-

ing the Post Volunteer Fire Department members during times of emergency. The siren is controlled via a direct 240-volt AC line that runs from the siren to the sheriff's department.

The second siren, located at the courthouse, is a 1962 model and was the first civil defense siren installed in the city. Controlled by a 240-volt AC line, it is designed for use for attack and tornado warnings.

The third unit, which dates back to 1986, is located near the intersection of West 5th Street and South Ave. Q. A leased-pair telephone line runs from it to the sheriff's department.

The most modern siren, a 1992 Sentry model, is located south of the Mesquite Place apartments and is also controlled from the sheriff's department via a leased-pair telephone line.

All four sirens' control circuits terminate at the dispatcher's desk in the sheriff's department and are connected to a home-

(Continued on Page 7)



Pam Zachary, manager at Post's Town & Country, was recently awarded Regional Store Manager of the Year and District 21 Store Manager of the Year. This is the second time in five years that Zachary has earned the prestigious manager of the year, which is bestowed on only three of the more than 200 store managers. The awards were presented at the annual awards banquet, held December 14 at Lubbock's Hillcrest Country Club. Zachary is the daughter of the late Marvin Williams, who was a long time manager of the Corner Grocery. "I'd like to think I'm just following in Dad's footsteps," she says.

Post Notes

Ronald McDonald grant requests sought

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Lubbock Inc. is accepting funding requests for projects and programs in Lubbock and surrounding South Plains and Eastern New Mexico communities. Requests will be accepted from non-profit organizations whose programs and projects help improve the quality of life for children and their families. Grants will be considered for three distinct areas: civic and social services, education and the arts, and health care and medical research. To obtain a grant application form or for more information, contact the Lubbock Ronald McDonald House at 806-744-8877. Deadline for applications is Jan. 31.

Holiday Bells at OS Museum

"Holiday Bells are Ringing" at the OS Museum during its special Christmas exhibit. On display are nativities, creches, Old World Santas and other unique Christmas season collections. The exhibit continues through January 30. There is no admission fee. The museum is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m.

My Special Place enrollment

My Special Place is now accepting enrollment for children ages birth through four years old. Call 495-3446 for more information.

Benefit for Mike Short family

A series of events designed to benefit the Mike Short family will be held Saturday, Jan. 18, at the VFW Hall in Post. Barbecue plates will be sold beginning at 11 a.m. at a cost of \$5 each. Orders may be called in at 495-3785. Also scheduled are a cake walk, a live auction and a raffle drawing for a .243 Savage rifle with scope and case. Tickets for the rifle raffle are available from Tommy Reed at Ira Pump; Fred Stephens at City Hall; Wanda Mitchell at the Post Commerce & Tourism Bureau; Charles Hardin at Wells Fargo; Fred Myers at Citizens Bank; Brady's; and The Caprock. The live auction will begin at 3 p.m. A dance featuring Tommy Reed and Texas Mesquite will run from 8 p.m. until midnight. Proceeds from all events will benefit Monique Figueroa and children.

Local News • Live Post High School Sports on KPOS Radio
www.postcityradio.net • Classic Cable Channel 12 • 97.7 FM (Community Radio)

Judy's Jabberin'

by Judy (Ballentine) Bush

Greetings! I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas. We did a fair amount of celebrating at our house, but we sure had a great time. Rick and I had 29 at our home Christmas Eve, quite a houseful. Now I know all of you had guests, so please call and let me know (495-0277) or just come by CellularOne and have a visit.

The following was sent to me by my good friend, Betty Witt, of Arlington. I received it a little late, but wanted to share it with all of you ladies. Thought it was just too cute.



If I were ol' Santa, you know what I'd do
I'd dump silly gifts that are given to you
And deliver some things just inside your front door
Things you have lost, but treasured before.
I'd give you back all your maidenly vigor,
And to go along with it, a neat tiny figure.
Then restore the old color that once graced your hair
Before rinses and bleaches took residence there.
I'd bring back the shape with which you were gifted
So things now suspended need not be uplifted.
I'd draw in your tummy and smooth down your back

Till you'd be a dream in those tight fitting slacks.
I'd remove all your wrinkles and leave only one chin
So you wouldn't spend hours rubbing grease on your skin
You'd never have flashes or queer dizzy spells
And you wouldn't hear noises like ringing of bells.
No sore aching feet and no corns on your toes
No searching for spectacles when they're right on your nose.
Not a shot would you take in your arm, hip or fanny
From a doctor who thinks you're a nervous old granny.
You'd never have a headache, so no pills would you take.
And no heating pad needed since your muscles won't ache.
Yes, if I were Santa, you'd never look stupid
You'd be a cute little chick with the romance of a cupid.
I'd give a lift to your heart when those wolves start to whistle
And the joys of your heart would be light as a thistle.
But alas! I'm not Santa. I'm simply just me
The matronest of matrons you ever did see.
I wish I could tell you all the symptoms I've got
But I'm due at my doctor's for an estrogen shot.
Even though we've grown older this wish is sincere
Merry Christmas to you and a Happy New Year.

GET WELL
I wanted to send a special get well message to Rita Mason. Seems she has had a touch of bad luck here lately. First she broke her foot, then Christmas day she fell and cut her head, requiring stitches, and also cracked her collar bone. Rita, stay put in the recliner and get well quick!

BIRTHDAY WISHES
A belated birthday wish to my son-in-law, Randy Melton and to my son Kelly, on December 29th. Also, Mr. Matt McCallister turns the big 21 on January 3rd. He celebrates with my other son-in-law, Robby Dean, my grandson, Zachary Bush and one of my favorite friends, Jerry Tyler. Happy birthday to all of you.

OLD MILL TRADE DAYS
Don't forget that Old Mill will be January 3, 4 and 5th. This will kick off their new schedule of the first full weekend of each month. I'm sure

there will be lots of good sales out there so you might want to check it out.
FROM FERG
Sally was driving home from a business trip in northern New Mexico when she saw an elderly Indian woman walking on the side of the road. As the trip was a long and quite one, she stopped her car and asked the woman if she would like a ride. After a bit of small talk while resuming the journey, the Indian woman noticed a brown bag in the floorboard. "What's in the bag?" asked the woman. Sally looked down at the brown bag and said, "It's a bottle of wine. I got it for my husband." The Indian woman was silent for a moment and then speaking with the quite wisdom of an elder, said, "Good trade."
HAPPY NEW YEAR
Well, guess I will close for this week. I wish each and everyone of you a very happy New Year. If you plan on going out, please be careful. God bless each and everyone of you. Judy >

Airman Jose Morales completes USAF training
Air Force Airman Jose C. Morales graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio.
During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization and military customs and courtesies; performed drill and ceremony marches; and received physical training, rifle marksmanship, field training exercises and special training in human relations.
In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force. Morales, a 2001 graduate of Post High School, is the son of Jose T. and Maria G. Morales of Post.

Birthdays This Week
November 7: Celia Mason, Kelli Melton
November 8: Quannah Maxey, Betty Davies, Ian Dominic Reyna, Anita Abraham, Monica McKinney
November 9: Nikki Kane, Jay Gorman
November 12: Rodger jaquess
November 13: Donna Aten, Charles Mason, Whitney Dolberry, Allen Burns



Airman Jose Morales

Experience keeps a dear school, but fools will learn in no other.
—Benjamin Franklin

Texas Cooperative
EXTENSION
The Texas A&M University System
Neighbor to Neighbor
by Julie Neitsch,
Garza County Extension Agent-Family & Consumer Science
Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin.

A Call to Action: Overweight and Obesity
"Unhealthy dietary habits and sedentary behavior together account for approximately 300,000 deaths every year." If you don't find that number significant, what about an estimated \$117 billion spent annually for impaired health and lost wages attributed to obesity. Type 2 diabetes, coronary heart disease, and hypertension account for most of that \$117 billion. These three chronic diseases commonly accompany weight gain, which also increases risk for endometrial, colon, postmenopausal, breast and other cancers, and some musculoskeletal disorders.
You don't have to gain a lot of weight to increase your risk for disease. A person's risk of developing type 2 diabetes doubles with a modest weight gain of 11 to 18 pounds. When weight gains increase, risk increases. For example, risk for type 2 diabetes increase four times with a gain of 44 pounds or more. With 61 percent of adults and 13 percent of children overweight or obese, Dr. David Satcher calls the increase in obesity and associated chronic diseases an epidemic in the United States. He urges a national response to prevent and treat overweight and obesity. He encourages the adoption of five principles.
Promote the recognition of overweight and obesity as major public health problems.
Help balance healthful eating with regular physical activity to reach and maintain a healthy or healthier body weight.
Identify effective, culturally appropriate interventions to prevent and treat overweight and obesity.
Encourage environmental changes to help prevent overweight and obesity.
Develop and enhance public-private partnerships to help implement the prevention and treatment of overweight and obesity.

With the start of a new year, make it a commitment to lead a healthy life style. This positive change could be just the thing to help save a loved one's or your own life. For more information on this topic, please call 4400 or come by the Extension Office. Happy New Year! Texas WIC News September/October 2002 A Call to Action: The Surgeon General's Report on Overweight and Obesity.

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Extension Extras
County Livestock Show Barn Workday
Saturday, January 4th beginning at 9:00 a.m. Everyone needs to come and help clean and get the barn ready for the county show.
Garza County Livestock Show
The schedule for the 2003 county show is as follows:
Thursday, January 9th - Entries (including Pee-Wee Goat) are due 5:00 p.m. in Extension Office.
Wednesday, January 15th - All animals must be in the barn by 3:00 p.m. Weigh-in will begin at 3:00 p.m.
Thursday, January 16th - Swine Show - 5:00 p.m.; Steer Show - 8:00 p.m.
Friday, January 17th - Lamb Show - 5:00 p.m.; Goat Show - 6:30 p.m.; PeeWee Goat Show - 8:00 p.m. or immediately following.
Following the Goat Show, members are encouraged to come to Extension Office to help prepare the Sale Sheet.
Saturday, January 18th - Awards and Sale - 9:00 a.m.; Appreciation Lunch - 11:30 - 1:00 p.m.

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Dalby u persona
For the third employees of the Correctional Facility make their Angel Tree a success.
Gifts of toys and provided to 78 children might not have had names and wish lists are submitted, nurses as angels on a enabling employees or girl to buy for Gifts to parents prior to the In addition to the project, Dalby facility present food and gifts.
This year, several bicycles were received of private donations earned from last year won in the float contest were fulfilled.
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Dalby unit employees give time and personal talents in community projects

For the third year in a row, employees of the Giles W. Dalby Correctional Facility turned out to make their Angel Tree holiday project a success.

Gifts of toys and clothing were provided to 78 children who otherwise might not have had Christmas gifts.

Through the Angel Tree program, names and wish lists for the children are submitted, numbered and placed as angels on a Christmas tree, enabling employees to choose a boy or girl to buy for. Gifts are distributed to parents prior to the holiday.

In addition to the Angel Tree project, Dalby facility employees also present food and gifts to a family in need.

This year, several requests for bicycles were received. With the help of private donations and the money earned from last year's prize money won in the float contest, these wishes were fulfilled.

Dalby employees, including

Warden Joe Rasbeary, Associate Warden Larry Bond and Associate Warden Hugh Bryan, did all of the work on the float on their own time. No work was done on the facility property, and materials were gathered by those working on the project.

Inmates housed at the Dalby

facility are not allowed to work on the float, as they are prohibited from such activities under the rules of the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

Entering a float in Post's lighted Christmas parade has become a tradition for Dalby facility employees. All prize money earned is returned to the community through one of the facility's various charity projects.

Sales tax receipts decrease here

Reports from the state comptroller's office show a slight decrease in Garza County's gross sales in the second quarter of 2002 when compared to the same period in the previous year.

In the comptroller's State Sales and Use Tax Analysis Report for the second quarter, released last month, gross sales were pegged at \$14,216,824 in that period during 2002, down 2.4 percent from the

previous year. Gross sales in the second quarter of 2001 were reported at \$14,561,295.

Despite a decline in gross sales, the number of reporting outlets from 2001 to 2002 is up slightly, from 213 to 218.

Use tax purchases were recorded at \$94,751, while the total amount subject to state sales and use taxes in the second quarter of 2002 were \$6,622,659, according to the report.

New farm bill hearing Jan. 15

The U.S. Department of Agriculture will conduct an informational briefing Jan. 15 in Victoria to acquaint farmers, ranchers and other constituents with a wide array of agency services and to highlight changes and new provisions in the 2002 Farm Bill.

"This session is an important part of our ongoing implementation of the 2002 Farm Bill and commitment to reach as many people as possible about USDA programs," said Agriculture Secretary Ann M. Veneman. "Stakeholders will have the opportunity to hear from USDA experts on the many programs available to them."

The briefing will be held at the Holiday Inn from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. The session, organized by the USDA Rural Development and the USDA Office of Outreach, will feature presentations on a broad array of topics including conservation programs, insurance and drought relief programs, food and nutrition programs and rural utilities, rural

businesses and rural housing programs.

Other meetings are being considered and will be announced when details are available.

"We are committed to reaching out to the full spectrum of USDA customers, including under-served customers, minorities and women, to ensure they benefit from USDA programs and services," said Assistant Secretary for Administration Lou Gallegos.

For information about the briefing, visit the USDA's Farm Bill Website at <http://www.usda.gov> or call 202-720-6350 or toll-free at 1-800-880-4183.



Though kangaroos can grow up to six feet tall, their young—called joeys—are just an inch long when born.

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Post Devotional Page

Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

ELIJAH AND THE PRIESTS OF BAAL

IN THE DAYS OF ELIJAH HE CONTINUALLY BATTLED THE PAGAN PRIESTS WHO WERE IMPORTED BY QUEEN JEZEBEL WHO WISHED TO DISPLACE THE LORD WITH HER OWN HEATHEN GODS. ELIJAH WAS GUIDED TO SEEK A CONFRONTATION WITH THE PRIESTS OF BAAL. (1 KINGS 18:20-40) HE SENT A MESSAGE TO THE ISRAELITES TELLING THEM TO GATHER AT MOUNT CARMEL...



IN A VERY SHORT SPACE OF TIME EVERY PATHWAY AND ROAD IS CROWDED WITH PEOPLE IN ANSWER TO THE ROYAL SUMMONS...



AND WITH ALL ISRAEL GATHERED BEFORE HIM, IN A PULSATING MASS OF HUMANITY, WONDERING, TALKING, LAUGHING, JOKING ELIJAH STANDS BEFORE THEM—A STARKLY LONE, YET COURAGEOUS FIGURE! HE RAISES HIS ARM IN A COMMANDING GESTURE AND SLOWLY THE TUMULT OF THE CROWD DWINDLES TO A DEEP SILENCE AS THE PROPHET OF THE LORD PREPARES TO SPEAK...

CONTINUED NEXT WEEK...

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First Baptist Church	402 W. Main, 495-3554	Disciples of Christ	
First Baptist Church, Wilson	628-6333	First Christian Church	812 W. 13th, 495-3716
Justiceburg Baptist Church	Justiceburg	Methodist	
Pleasant Home Baptist Church	E. 14th & N. Ave F	First United Methodist Church	216 W. 10th, 495-2942
Pleasant Valley Baptist	Hwy 84 & N. 399 (806) 828-4174	Graham Chapel United Methodist Church	495-3492
Templo Bautista	315 W. Main	Nazarene	
Trinity Baptist Church	915 N. Ave O, 495-3038	Church of the Nazarene	202 W. 10th, 495-3044
Wilson First Baptist	(806) 628-6333	Grassland Nazarene Church	327-5656
Catholic		Non-Denominational	
Holy Cross Catholic Church	Ave. K and Main St., 495-2791	Family Harvest Church	111 N. Avenue I, 495-1400
Church of Christ		Faith Chapel	1105 Green St., Wilson (806) 628-6612
Church of Christ	108 N. Ave. M, 495-2326	Presbyterian	
Graham Chapel Church of Christ	5 miles W. Hwy 380, 2 miles south	First Presbyterian Church	910 W. 10th, 495-2135

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Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor Policy: We require all letters to be signed. Letters may be edited for brevity, grammar and punctuation. Opinions expressed in Letters to the Editor do not necessarily reflect those of The Post Dispatch nor its staff.

The big blunder...

In my opinion, the biggest political blunder we will see for this little community, in the next 100 years, will be the "Golden Water Line" to our neighboring town of Slaton, Tx.

The holes in the ballon are already beginning to surface, and the air is starting to leak. The first leak in the ballon seems to me like is the \$400,000.00 worth of professional fees. (and thats just to date)

Just curious as to where is the professionals? The memo states that there will be additional unanticipated expenses. Unanticipated, my ass, I thought it was called "hidden Charges"... Hidden from the taxpayer that is. But at least only \$4.4 million has been used so far, quite a bargain, huh?

In my view, by the time this farce is completed, the total bill will exceed \$10 million, and by the time all the political red tape and all the "unanticipated lawsuits" are settled, I'd guess about 30 months or more before the arrival of the first gallon of water. How many more times will the taxes be raised before this political blunder is paid for?

All I can see that mess is good for (Golden Water Line Blunder) is to provide a job for a few construction workers for a couple of years. I can't complain about that, I gotta have a job. But... All the money I make on the job will in turn, be paid back to the City in the form of taxes, to pay for the "Golden Blunder".

Just in case this Boo-Boo should exceed \$10 million, I think the city should hire Ralph Nader to oversee the overseer's. Now I don't mean to say any money will go from chair to chair, under the table. Thats just a lotta dough for the inexperienced to be tossing around. Maybe not Ralph Nader, but we should as lease have a "Watch Dog Group" standing in the background.

In my opinion, the \$10 million that will be wasted on that "Political blunder, called The Golden Water Line" should be spend on building the Post City Lake, out east of town. That would be a project that would last forever to the taxpayers. The Golden Water Line Blunder will not ever see the day that it even uses up its 10 year contract with Slaton, nor will we ever see 10 million dollars worth of water pass through it.

I'd doubt if water could ever be pumped back to Slaton uphill if the need ever did come about. The lil of plastic pipe probably couldn't stand the head pressure of pumping uphill. Oh well, I don't guess it was necessary for city government to elaborate on that, Probably won't ever be necessary anyway.

I would think we could have got George W. and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers with Bill Clinton driving the stakes to lay out a 25 plus mile water line straight from Slaton to Post for only \$400,000 or less.

But then, obviously there is no question that professional guidance is needed, I just thought \$400,000.00 was a bit steep for starters.

Also, there is no question that a backup water system is needed, but I believe a temporary system of some sort could have been designed to use till Post City Lake becomes a reality. Plus I do not believe White River Lake will ever be completely out of water. I do not believe we should use the Great Golden Water Line blunder to crowd WRWD out of the picture. That no doubt will lead to no water at all.

Another plus for our neighboring politicians up in Lubbock country is this gives them another foot in the door of controlling our community. If we have never heard of political blackmail, then just set back and watch, we are fixin to see some. You know, such as: "If you don't kiss our butt, we'll cut ya water off."

I bet one day right here in Post, a one ounce shot glass of water may cost a quarter Huh?

Oh well, I still can't think of anywhere I'd rather live than right here in Post City, America.

I just hope and pray that the Professionals will be able to keep a few things under control, such as The Standoff With Iraq, The Turmoil That is Heating Up In North Korea, and The Great Golden Water Line Blunder. I hope all the above will turn out OK....

Everyone have a Happy New Year... and God bless everybody.

As I see it and My opinion only,
O.L. (Ferg) Ferguson

A bad book is as much a labor to write as a good one; it comes as sincerely from the author's soul.

—Aldous Huxley

2002 Year in review

January

Lubbock resident Tanya L. White was appointed interim administrator of the Garza Hospital District.

The 16th Annual Willy Awards were distributed, with the Best Actress in a Lead Role award going to Amanda Workman as Anne in "Anne of Green Gables;" Best Actor in a Lead Role to Rob Holton as Elwood P. Dowd in "Harvey;" and "Anne of Green Gables" as the Best Play of 2001.

February

The Post City Council, in response to a recent inspection by state officials, began making plans for repair and improvements at the city's wastewater treatment plant.

Post High School students named their class favorites for the 2001-2002 school year, including, for the senior class, Michael Huff and Meagan Mills; juniors Amanda Workman and Brody Robertson; sophomores Breann Heckman and Coby Jones; and freshmen Donae Dalby and Colton Valdez.

The Post Lady 'Lopes basketball squad captured the area championship with a victory over Merkel.

Local resident Clyde Cash represented his brother, the late Norm Cash, for his posthumous induction into the Texas Sports Hall of Fame in Waco. Norm Cash was an athlete at Post High School where he was a halfback for the 'Lopes in the 1950s. From there, he spent 17 years in the major leagues as a first baseman with the Chicago White Sox (1958-59) and Detroit Tigers (1960-74). He was an American League all-star in 1961, 1966, 1971 and 1972 and hit a team-high .375 in the 1968 World Series when the Tigers dethroned the Cardinals in seven games. He retired with 377 career home runs and a .271 batting.

A substantial number of local residents would like to see the existing clinic building reopened as a hospital with a 24-hour emergency room, according to survey results delivered to Garza County Health Care District board members.

Faith Howington was named the new Garza County extension agent for family and consumer services.

The Giles W. Dalby Correctional Facility was recognized as Business of the Year at the annual Post Commerce & Tourism Bureau banquet. Christy Morris was named Citizen of the Year.

LaShae Johnson of Post, a member of the Borden County 4-H, earned the Grand Champion Junior Market Lamb banner at the San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo.

March

Post Antelopes listed on the All-District basketball squad included Mitchell Mills, Jarrett Vickers and Brody Robertson.

Lady 'Lopes named to the All-District basketball team were Tandi Humble, Meagan Mills, Emily Smith, Kelly Moore and Manuela Hernandez.

White River Municipal District executive director Tommy O'Brien reported to city council members that without any additional rainfall, White River Lake has a supply of water that could carry the district's four subscriber communities for an additional 18 months.

Slaton city officials approved a contractual agreement that could help provide water to Post-area residents for the next decade. In action taken March 12, Slaton city commissioners voted in favor of offering the City of Post a contract to purchase 50 to 100 million gallons of water per year for a 10-year period.

Four Post High School students - Kenda Josey, Russell Eaton, Jordan Tatum and James Soto - participated in the UIL state cross-examination meet held at the University of Texas in Austin.

The Post City Council approved a contract with the City of Slaton to purchase water and rejected a proposed amendment of the current contract with the White River Municipal Water District. The contract with Slaton was the culmination of several months of negotiation and planning between the two cities, providing for 50 to 100 million gallons of water per year at a rate of \$1.20 per thousand cubic feet. The water will be delivered via a pipeline to be constructed along U.S. Hwy. 84 to Post.

Kenneth LeBlanc conducted the traditional Taba'na Yuan'e ceremony in the Post City Park following the death of the ceremony's longtime leader, "Chief" Frank Runkles, earlier in the month. Taba'na Yuan'e, an observance of an ancient Plains Indian spring ritual, is held annually on the same date, with visitors and local residents gathering around a circular ceremonial ring to watch a dancer in native costume perform an Indian version of an extended weather forecast.

Post High School One-Act Play cast members celebrated a district championship. Cast members included Adam Nobles, Jay Cole, Jordan Tatum, Mikey Gonzales, James Soto, Gentry Creech, Heather Bullard, Christian Zellmer and Lesley Rutherford. Zellmer was named District Best Actress, while Bullard was named to the District All-Star Cast. Gonzales received an honorable mention.

April

After haggling with its insurer over weather-related claims dating back to May 1999, the Post ISD board of trustees settled for \$900,000 above over what the \$220,000 the insurance company paid for roof repairs. The district remained steadfast in its claims that the roofs of all school buildings, with the exception of metal buildings, sustained enough damage in the 1999 hailstorm that the roofs needed to be replaced.

PHS senior Meagan Mills earned her fourth trip to the UIL state spelling contest by placing second at the regional meet in Abilene.

Results from a voter referendum in the Garza County Health Care District indicated the majority of local taxpayers want to see a two-term limit for district board members. In the referendum, 89

voters approved the need for limits while 57 voters said no.

Post ISD voters returned two incumbents to their trustee positions in the regular May election. Mark Kirkpatrick and Barbara Hardin, both board members since 1990, were the top two vote getters in the at-large election. They defeated challengers Susan (Suzi) Clary and Vera Wartes.

Meagan Mills has been selected to play in the Texas Girls' Coaches Association All-Star Basketball Game. She also was selected Texas Association of Basketball Coaches Academic All-State and Texas Girls' Coaches Association Academic All-State. PHS senior Tandi Humble also was selected All-State by the TGCA.

The cities of Post, Crosbyton, Ralls and Spur received notice of a wholesale water rate increase from the White River Municipal Water District. For Post, the increase will mean a jump in the wholesale cost of water from \$1.45 per 1,000 gallons to \$2.10 per 1,000 gallons - an increase of 65 cents, or about 45 percent. City, county and hospital district officials moved to resuscitate what appeared to be an ailing EMS service. In an effort to keep the county's only local ambulance service alive and operational, representatives of the three governing agencies agreed to inject \$21,000 into the ambulance service.

June

The city council approved an order providing for the cancellation of the May 4 election. State law allows governing entities to cancel elections in which candidates are running unopposed. Incumbents Bill Pool, Ward 4, and Harold Craig, Ward 5, filed to return to their positions on the municipal board; however, Crystal Mason, who was appointed to fill the unexpired Ward 3 term following the recent death of council member John Redman, did not file as a candidate for election to her post.

The Caprock Cultural Association organized the Post Toasters, an effort designed "thank people that volunteer their time, talents and services in Post."

Post High School varsity tennis players Brice Easterling, Cole Easterling, Jon Eilenberger, Noah Gutierrez and Jarrett Vickers advanced to regional level.

The Post High School UIL One-Act Play won the area championship and advanced to the regional competition.

Post High School's regional qualifiers in UIL academics included Seth Pennell, Jana Schwartzkopf, Jarrett Vickers, Adam Noble, Kenda Josey, Russel Eaton, Kayla Dunn, Amanda Workman, Heather Bullard, Nicole Gray, Meagan Mills, Tandi Humble and Naomi Gonzales.

Lady 'Lope tracksters who qualified for the regional track meet included Meagan Hoover, Regina Collazo, LaRinda Ledbetter, Tandi Humble, Kelly Moore, Meagan Mills and Manuela Hernandez.

Headed for the regional golf tournament this month were Post Lady 'Lope golfers Tana Starkey, Kaycee Gorman, Nikki Norman and Meagar Hoover.

May

Thunderstorms that rolled through Garza County the first week of the month deposited more than just moisture in local rain gauges. Hail was

reported throughout much of the county. Marble- and golfball-sized hail fell in some areas, and a few locations were pounded by baseball-sized pieces of ice. Numerous structures and vehicles were affected, but the worst damage was in the Grassburr community area where the ground was covered by golfball-sized hailstones. Early estimates indicate about 10 percent of the cotton crop in Garza County was affected by the hail and heavy rains.

The Post City Council approved the financing contract with Southwest Corporation for the issuance of certificates of obligation to be used in the financing of the backup water supply project. The bond is expected to incur an approximately annual note payment of \$405,000 guaranteed by water sales fees and property taxes.

A group of 24 Post Middle School students and their sponsor, Dedra Adams, toured Washington, D.C. The 2002 baseball/softball/T-ball season named the Dodgers as Little League champs, the Indians the top team in the Minor League and the Phillies the leaders in the Junior League. The Senior League squad for Post captured first place, while in softball, the Covergirls were the team to beat. In T-ball, all teams - the Diamondbacks, the Yankees, the Braves, the Rangers and the Astros - were declared "winners."

July

A major electrical overhaul for the Garza County courthouse was approved by the commissioners court. The project, expected to cost between \$200,000 and \$215,000, will see the installation of an electrical transformer and underground wiring to the courthouse. Telephone wiring also will be replaced.

My Special Place childcare center observed an open house to celebrate its new facility.

County officials approved a lease for space in the former SPS building on West Main Street to provide a new home for the Garza County Extension Service Office and additional space for the probation and victims assistance programs.

Several Post girls participated in the San Angelo West Texas Fast Pitch Softball All-Star Tournament. Playing for the Lubbock Mix 14-under team were Ashley Young, Traci Nelson, Alana Zubia, Tori Gonzales and Allison Blevins. Coaching the team was Jaquita Blevins and Sherry Young. Also playing from Post was Larinda Ledbetter, who played for the Lubbock Starz 18-under team. Other girls from Post playing with the Seminole All-Stars were Ebony Gonzales, Melissa Arredondo and Camille Blevins.

Vandals defaced the historic building at 208 E. Main Street, tearing off a large piece of the brick parapet from the top of the structure. Vandals broke off bricks and threw them onto the awning and into the street.

August

Increased water rates were approved by the city council.

Post was one of five South Plains communities visited by Lubbock KCBT-TV News Channel 11 crew which provided two live broadcasts from the lawn of the Garza County courthouse.

Fermin Arreola, 40, of Snyder died after jumping into Lake Alan Henry to pull a frightened child from the water. The death marked the first drowning at the lake in five years, and the drowning that has not been boat-related.

Dr. Bobby Bain, in his 11th year as superintendent with the Post Independent School District, announced he would retire at the close of the 2002-2003 school year. Having started his career in Amarillo, Bain has been an educator for the past 33 years. In response to Bain's announcement, Post ISD trustees hired a consultant, Dr. Bob Thompson of Beaumont, to assist the board in finding a new superintendent.

An electrical power failure threatened the annual KPOS Race Colgate Country Showdown, but the show went on as planned.

The Garza Theatre's annual Harl Sadler Show tribute was part of historic profile on the showman featured in August's Texas Highways magazine. The story, penned by Gene Fowler, was accompanied by numerous photos of the Sadler entourage, as well as a picture from last summer's Garza production of "Too Poor to Paint, Proud to Whitewash."

A new local television service - Post City Television - began operations. Post, The Ethelbert Foundation, owned and operated Post City Television entered into an agreement with Cable Network Advertising to provide local information, community news and advertising on Classic Cable Channel 12.

The Southland School received exemplary accountability rating from the Texas Education Commission. The rating resulted from the school's dropout rate and high TAAS (Texas Assessment of Academic Skills) passing rates. According to the TEA tables on the Southland school, the district had a zero percent dropout rate in grades 7-12 during the 2000-2001 school year.

Continued on Page 8

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Fiddl

Walter E. Williams

Casey Lartigue, Washington, D.C., written a report in analysis that constitutes public education. Education Freedom The title suggests that more than simply a little more than h create a climate where hereby produce educat er the education of th uchers would facilit That's not the answer. Haller class sizes are establishment would h swer, Washington pu if not the world. Per cond highest in the 8, they have small sult?

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The d

Bill O'Reilly

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Opinions

The Post Dispatch, Thursday, January 3, 2003 Page 5

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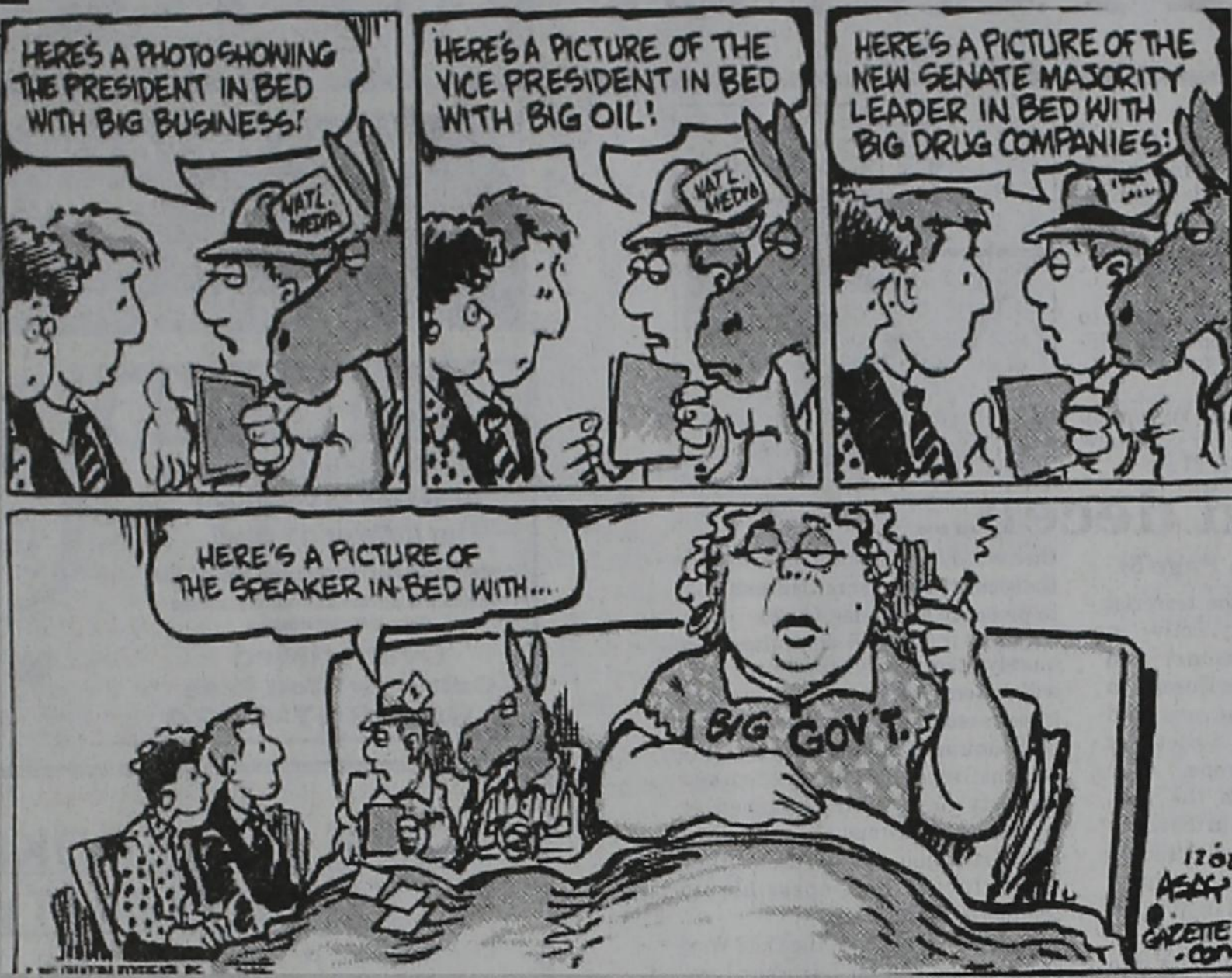
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Fiddling whilst Rome burns

by Walter E. Williams



Casey Lartigue, policy analyst for the Washington, D.C., based Cato Institute, has written a report in the Dec. 10 issue of Policy Analysis that constitutes a devastating indictment of public education. The title is, "The Need for Education Freedom in the Nation's Capital."

The title suggests the solution — namely, education reform must be more than simply spending more money to prop up schools that are little more than holding pens. Washington politicians must create a climate where education entrepreneurs can flourish and thereby produce education competition. Parents must have control over the education of their children. Tuition tax credits or education vouchers would facilitate both objectives.

That's not the answer, Williams, you say. "More money and smaller class sizes are what's needed." That's what the education establishment would have us believe, however, if money were the answer, Washington public schools would be the best in the nation if not the world. Per student expenditures are \$10,500 a year, second highest in the nation. With a student-teacher ratio of 18, they have smaller-than-average class sizes. What is the result?

Only one of the city's 19 high schools do as many as 50 percent of its students test as proficient in reading, and at no school are 50 percent of the students proficient in math. At nine high schools, only 5 percent or fewer of its students test proficient in reading; in 11 high schools, only 5 percent or less are proficient in math. The story gets worse when we look at the percentages for "low basic" performance, which means that the student has little or no mastery of subject skills.

At 12 of 19 high schools, more than 50 percent of the students test low basic in reading, and at some of those schools the percentage approaches 80 percent. At 15 of these schools, over 50 percent test low basic in math, and in 12 of them 70 percent to 99 percent do

But that's not the worst of the story: Each year, more than 80 percent — and up to 96 percent — of high school students are promoted to the next grade. This is nothing but fraud, dishonesty and deception, plain and simple. While the education establishment can rightfully point to education problems beyond their control, — irresponsible parents, students with alien and hostile minds, and rotten teaching conditions — they bear the sole responsibility for fraudulent promotions and fraudulent diplomas.

The bottom line is that if one didn't know better, one would think that Washington's predominantly black public school system was being run by the grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan, hell-bent on a mission to sabotage black academic excellence. Instead, it's a system being run by blacks for blacks. As such, it means generation after generation of blacks will not be able to academically measure up. Calls for racial quotas and preferences will exist in perpetuity. And, in a world of increasing technology, many blacks are condemned to near uselessness in the job market.

But what about Sen. Trent Lott? You say, "What in the world does Trent Lott have to do with rotten education received by blacks in D.C.?" I'd say nothing, but judging by the time and political capital spent by black politicians and civil rights groups attacking Trent Lott, you'd think that he was the No. 1 black problem, followed closely by the Confederate battle flag.

The attachment of black politicians and civil rights groups to spending resources on symbolism rather than substance is equivalent to Nero's fiddling while Rome burns. I'm sure that if the outrage directed toward Lott's indiscreet remarks were instead directed at fraudulent education delivered to black youngsters across the nation, solutions might be found.

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

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The demeaning of Christmas

Bill O'Reilly



Growing up on Long Island just a few miles outside of New York City, Christmas was a major deal. The ethnic neighborhood I lived in celebrated big time with Irish, Italians and Jews all getting into the spirit of the season. Most of the small houses we lived in back in the late '50s were ablaze with Christmas lights and menorahs in the windows. Shrubs were also covered with red, blue and white bulbs. It was a regular Levittown Mardi Gras.

On the days before Christmas, carolers roamed the streets singing for charity and were welcomed in almost every house, no matter what religion the inhabitants practiced. There was a good feeling in the frosty air, and we kids were excited and actually begged for a change.

Never can I remember a religious or racial division in my neighborhood. There were no dissenters. Christmas came just a year, and everybody was on board for a happy ride.

What happened? Today, we have all kinds of agendas running during Christmastime. In this space a couple of weeks ago, I chronicled the insane things that are going on. Schoolchildren being denied the pleasure of watching Dickens' "A Christmas Carol." School districts striking the word "Christmas" from the school calendar, and on and on.

It has become a nation of special interests, and that is bad, bad. Instead of enjoying a special season and putting aside religious differences so that Christmas can be savored, some of us are committed to finding offense with a holiday that promotes goodwill toward men.

What are we to think of our fellow Americans who are offended by nativity scenes, Tiny Tim and mistletoe? Well, I don't think much of them, to tell you the truth. I am buying plenty of coal for their stockings.

Offense where none is intended is, of course, a form of madness. All of us are subjected to things in life with which we are not entirely comfortable. Just the fact that Anna Nicole Smith is on television and in the public arena via advertisements offends

me, for example. But I am not calling my local ACLU warlord to file a lawsuit. Ms. Smith's public persona goes against every single thing I stand for: hard work, education, discipline and self-sacrifice. Yet I know there are some misguided souls who find her entertaining and relevant to their lives. So I accept the fact that Anna is using the public airwaves to enrich herself. And I go on with my life.

This live-and-let-live attitude was what we used to have in America. Why not look at it this way: If you don't believe that Jesus is God, just admire the fact that the man became a great philosopher and you have the day off. Why whine that his birth image is on display in a public place? WHAT DIFFERENCE CAN THAT POSSIBLY MAKE TO YOU? Give everybody a break, and don't look. Read a magazine, for cryin' out loud.

A few days ago, I had occasion to attend a Christmas party at the White House. Don't tell the ACLU, but there was a Naval choir on the premises, and Christmas carols were actually being sung! Angels were mentioned! And this was on government property!

I guess the ACLU will soon be suing the president, First Lady, the U.S. Navy and me because I was singing along. But I am ready for my deposition. I will swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. And that truth is that Americans who are attacking Christmas are doing this country a grave disservice. But since it is Christmastime, I am going to forgive them.

Veteran TV news anchor Bill O'Reilly is host of the Fox News show "The O'Reilly Factor" and author of the new book "The No Spin Zone," in addition to last year's best-selling book "The O'Reilly Factor: The Good, the Bad, and the Completely Ridiculous."

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

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Socialist:
One who advocates the principles of socialism, such as defined by Karl Marx: state (government) ownership of property and redistribution of all wealth.

Anything for War?

George W. Bush and the Shadow of FDR

by Richard M. Ebeling

In 1942, Franklin D. Roosevelt declared, "I am perfectly willing to mislead and tell lies if it will help win the war." Now in wartime it certainly may be necessary for a general or a commander in chief to try to misinform or deceive the enemy about a planned attack or about the defense positions and strength of one's own troops.

Military victory and saving the lives of one's own armed forces may depend upon it. But FDR misled and lied about more than simply matters of "military security." He deceived the American people during the two years prior to the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor about his secret commitments to Great Britain to enter the war on the Allied side, about his aggressive naval confrontations with German U-boats in the North Atlantic at a time when the United States was a neutral power, and about his planning of a military confrontation with Japan in the Pacific while he was publicly claiming a desire to keep America out of the Asian conflict between China and Japan.

During the war, FDR insisted that the post-World War II period would be different from the times after earlier wars. There would be no secret treaties, no shifting of borders or political decisions without the consent of the people concerned, and no attempt by "big powers" to control the international political order.

He lied to the American people and deceived them about each of these as well, as he made secret agreements with Stalin about territory and people in Eastern Europe and North Asia. And he set up the United Nations and the postwar international institutions precisely so the "big powers" could dominate the political and economic system of the world.

The political legacy that FDR left behind was one of greatly increased executive power at the expense of the other two branches of the federal government, as well as at the cost of a reduction in authority among the state governments. And 12 years of New Deal policies at home saw the intrusiveness and control of government greatly expanded over all facets of economic and commercial life in the United States.

FDR once referred to himself as "the juggler" who kept the balls flying in the air, with those around him never completely knowing what his right and left hands were doing or why. Men and ideas were something to be manipulated and experimented with. Everything was expendable — the traditional constitutional restraints on government power, and the economic freedom and property rights of the citizenry — for the purpose of staying in power.

But what was the power for? At home it was to remake the society over in the image of the New Dealer planners and social engineers who claimed to know how people should live in their economic and social activities, with the government expanded as a paternalistic provider of all good things. And abroad it was to extend the New Deal to the rest of the world through the destruction of two totalitarian evils in the form of fascism and Nazism through an alliance with Stalin's communist totalitarianism — regardless of the cost in human lives, physical destruction, and lost freedoms for tens of millions around the globe.

Republican news columnist Peggy Noonan has recently praised "Dubya's New Deal: The President Sacrifices Whatever He Must to Win the War — Just As FDR Did," on the editorial page of the Wall Street Journal (May 17, 2002). Noonan admits that those who have criticized President George W. Bush for supporting protectionist tariffs for the American steel industry and for signing a new multi-billion-dollar farm subsidy bill are completely correct in saying that these run against the free-market principles the Republican Party claims to endorse.

She says that President Bush's political base "will forgive him, the nonbase hasn't noticed he did anything that needs forgiveness, and the opposition can hardly knock him for taking policy positions they've long supported. Why will the base forgive Mr. Bush?"

Noonan answers, "Because they know it's all about the war. Which means it's all about the 2002 congressional elections, less than six months away. Mr. Bush caving in on tariffs helps the Republicans in Pennsylvania and elsewhere; his caving on the farm bill deprives the Democrats of an issue in the farm states." In doing this, Noonan says, "GWB is doing an FDR.... FDR would sacrifice anything, he'd tack left, right and center, to win World War II.... Mr. Bush is doing the same thing. He is accepting what he thinks he has to accept (pork, a bad trade bill) in order to keep and expand the power balance he has in Washington, and in order to keep from angering or offending your basic, normal, politically nonbossed citizen."

If the congressional House and Senate were to both go Democratic in the November 2002 elections, "his ability to prosecute the war will be weakened, perhaps fatally. Power will shift and his opposition, no longer fearing his popularity, would go for his throat. The war effort, such as it is, would be compromised. He has to keep his popularity high."

And, Noonan argues, "Mr. Bush will do almost anything to keep this from happening." Now why should Bush be willing to do "almost anything" to maintain himself and his political party in power? Noonan explained this in her next Wall Street Journal column on May 24, 2002, entitled "Open Your Eyes: Bush's Message in Berlin."

She quotes from the president's remarks in the capital of Germany that "in this war we defend not just America or Europe; we are defending civilization itself." And what is that common civilization? Said Bush, "We believe in free markets, tempered by compassion. We believe in open societies that reflect unchanging truths. We believe in the value and dignity of every life."

Now terror and terrorist acts have been a means of trying to bring about political change for centuries. The modern political-philosophical roots of terrorism can be found in the underground revolutionary movements that emerged in Europe out of the French Revolution and in Imperial Russia in the second half of the 19th century.

The proponents of terrorist methods have argued that radical political change as well as educating "the masses" about their "real" and "true" interests could be brought about by the use of violence, against those in high political authority and to undermine the belief in the legitimacy of the existing political establishment.

Nationalists, socialists, and religious extremists have used it as a "weapon of choice." Both individuals and groups have been the targets of terrorists. And terrorism has been used against both dictatorships and democracies. Terrorist organizations have operated on their own, and sometimes with the aid and support of a government.

They create fear and suspicion among the general population in which they perform their evil acts, and governments often resort to extralegal and extraconstitutional methods to hunt down and defeat the practitioners of terrorism. This often places right into the hands of the terrorists, who in fact hope that the use of repressive and intrusive methods by the government will generate anger and hostility among the people against the political authority they are trying to discredit and defeat.

But it is hard to see how present acts of "terrorism" are in themselves a threat to "civilization." At least they are no more of a threat to Western

(Continued on Page 6)

Yesteryears

December 30, 1992
10 Years Ago

It took David King four years of labor and love to restore a piece of history. From sanding away old layers of varnish to hand winding the base chords with copper, King painstakingly restored the Broadway concert grand that currently sits in Algeria Arts Center.

Frank and Ruby Bostick will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary January 1, by reaffirming their wedding vows of 50 years ago.

Russ Bird of the Garza County 4-H participated in the third annual live presentation of the San Antonio Livestock Exposition held December 8. All champion and reserve champion steer buyers were presented with their prize winning steer hides, which had been tanned.

Former Post resident and PHS graduate Kayla Peel was recently named employee of the year for Anco Insurance Managers in Bryan, Tx.

Fire destroyed an old mobile home at the Mason McClellan farm late Saturday night. The mobile home was a complete loss. There were no injuries though.

December 29, 1982
20 Years Ago

Shelby Barley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Glen Barley and a 1978 PHS graduate, received his BBA in Business degree at commencement exercises held at Tarleton State University, Dec. 18.

Mr. and Mrs. Bandy Cash were honored with a 50th wedding anniversary reception in the home of their son and family Sunday, Dec. 26. Clyde and Sue Cash hosted the event with relatives and friends. Mr. and Mrs. Cash were married Dec. 24, 1932 in Post.

Donna George, sophomore at Hardin-Simmons University and a PHS graduate will be a part of the University's Love Company musical comedy of the Jeremiah People in Abilene Jan. 11 in Behrens Chapel.

Mr. and Mrs. Syd Conner announce the marriage of their son, Rusty, to LaNea McWirtter of Seattle, Washington.

Mrs. Donna Aten was honored with a baby shower, Dec. 13 in the home of Mrs. Jerry Reynolds. Mrs. Jay Kennedy assisted the hostess.

Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Fleming were invited to a Christmas luncheon at the high school Tuesday, Dec. 14 and to Mrs. Fleming's surprise, it was in her honor. The unsuspected honored guest was awarded a plaque for her 34 years of teaching at PHS.

December 28, 1972
30 Years Ago

Thursday has been declared a national day of mourning for Harry S. Truman, who died Tuesday, and the post office and other government offices here will be closed during the day.

Don Eilenberger is home on leave from the U. S. Army visiting with his

family, the L. C. Eilenbergers. Don is stationed in Fort Ord, Calif.

Mr. and Mrs. Nolan Clary were honored Sunday by their four children and families on their Golden Wedding anniversary with a reception in the community room.

First, second and third place winners were named from among dozens of beautifully decorated homes following judging Saturday night in the Amity Junior Study Club's outdoor Christmas decoration contest. First place went to the Glen Barley home, second place went to the Marvin Hudman home and third place was awarded to the Travis Thomas home.

December 27, 1962
40 Years Ago

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Caffey Sr. were honored on their Golden Wedding anniversary Sunday, Dec. 23 when their sons and daughter held an open house for them in the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Hartel.

Maurine Pvt. Archie T. Gill, son of Mrs. W. T. Gill of Post, completed recruit training recently at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, Calif.

Howard Jones, a mechanical engineer for Pratt Whitney at West Palm Beach, Fla., flew home Saturday to spend Christmas with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Jones.

Postage rates and fees will be advanced effective Jan. 7, 1963, according to Postmaster Harold Voss. On that date, first class letter will cost 5 cents an ounce to mail; cards 4 cents each; airmail letters, 8 cents an ounce, and airmail cards, 6 cents each.

Saturday night, Dec. 15, the Freshman class had a hayride. They went to Box Canyon and ate hot dogs and all the trimmings, climbed hills and a little bit of everything. They really had fun. Some kids fell in the creeks and on the way home, they had just a little trouble with water balloons.

December 24, 1952
50 Years Ago

Miss Joan Holly and Jackie Blacklock were married in a single ring ceremony in the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Holly.

Post and Garza County's final shipment of gifts to Edgar Bergen's "Operations Santa Claus" project for hospitalized Korean veterans was sent direct to Mr. Bergen's Hollywood address late Saturday afternoon. The total shipment amounted to more than ten times the number of gifts that were sent to the project last year.

Employees of Brown Brothers had a Christmas party Friday night in the City Hall. Music was presented by Misses Pat and Joy Mason, Nita Ray McClellan and Lenona Stone.

Winners in the Christmas Home Decorating contest were: exterior division, Mrs. O. L. Weakley; window decorations, Mrs. Charles Benson; doorway decorations, Mrs. Johnny Beggs.

County ...

(Continued from Page 1)
made timer control.

According to reports, the two newer sirens have not been able to be controlled from the sheriff's department for the past three years, and the "fire whistle" control line has been upoperational for about a year and a half. The control circuit on the remaining siren has been disconnected, leaving the city without any operational sirens.

In addition to the control problems with the existing sirens, new building development on the eastern side of the city extends beyond the existing system's coverage zones. According to a study prepared by Storm Sirens Inc. of Norman, Okla., the western area of the city from US 84 west between 3rd and 15th streets has almost 100 percent indoor coverage through the existing system; however, the eastern portion of the city is lacking in coverage, leaving critical areas such as the baseball parks, Old Mill Trade Days, the new housing area north of Trade Days, the Garza County Juvenile Detention Center, the Dalby Unit and the new Post Inn without siren coverage.

To reestablish operational status with the existing system, it was recommended that radio decoders be installed on each siren. Radio decoders receive a two-tone sequential page much like the format of the fire department's pagers. The two-tone page activates the siren based on the tone. Radio decoders are said to be much more reliable than leased-line phone systems and can be used to control a countywide system which might eventually include sirens at Lake Alan Henry or in Southland.

In other business, commissioners:

- Approved replacement of the heating units in the sheriff's department and the repair of the dampers that help control the air flow to various locations in the building.
- Approved the purchase and installation of recording and video equipment in all sheriff's department vehicles.
- Reviewed and approved the airport financial statement for 2002.
- Approved one application for public assistance and denied another. The individual whose application was denied did not meet the county's financial guidelines, according to reports.
- Approved a Forest Service grant for training, firefighting equipment, dry hydrants and pumps.
- Set holidays for Garza County employees for the 2003 calendar year. They include President's Day, Feb. 17; Easter, April 21; Memorial Day, May 26; Independence Day, July 4; Labor Day, Sept. 1; Veteran's Day, Nov. 11; Thanksgiving, Nov. 27-28; Christmas, Dec. 25-26; and New Year's Day, Jan. 1-2, 2004.



POST A CAPPELLA—The happy expressions of Post high school A Cappella members could be for the compliments paid them by the officials of Texas Tech musical department and other choral directors at the recent South Plains Choral Clinic, which was held in Lubbock. The group is pictured as they were leaving Garza Memorial Hospital after singing

Christmas carols for patients, last Friday morning. The 35 members above are part of a 50 voice choir which gave a Christmas concert last week and have scheduled tours of South Plains high schools to make when school takes up after January 1. John Christopher, high school music instructor, is director of this group.—Dispatch Photo

From The Post Dispatch, December 24, 1952

Sheriff reports 13 arrests

Thirteen arrests were recorded in the Garza County Jail log during the past two weeks, according to records provided by the sheriff's department.

On Dec. 22, a 47-year-old male was arrested for driving without a driver's license.

Four arrests were made Dec. 23,

including that of a 53-year-old male for DWI/first offense; a 72-year-old male, public intoxication; a 48-year-old male, assault/family violence; and a 45-year-old female, theft by check/revocation of probation.

A 19-year-old male was arrested Dec. 24 on a Hockley County warrant.

On Dec. 26, a male, age unlisted, was arrested for family violence and DWI/third offense.

Arrests made on Dec. 27 included that of a 30-year-old male for possession of marijuana, under two ounces, and a male, age unlisted, on a Department of Public Safety warrant.

Four arrests were made Dec. 28, including that of a 20-year-old male for DPS warrants; a 23-year-old male and an 18-year-old male, each for possession of marijuana, under two ounces; and a 22-year-old male on a Randall County warrant.

Menus

Post ISD

January 7 - Breakfast-Cinnamon toast, sausage, fruit, milk

Lunch-Burrito, salad, pears, snicker bar, milk

January 8 - Breakfast-Oatmeal, toast, fruit, bacon, milk

Lunch-Pizza, salad, corn, peaches, milk

January 9 - Breakfast-Cowboy bread, sausage link, fruit, milk

Lunch-Chicken nuggets, gravy, whipped potatoes, green beans, hotrolls, jello, milk

January 10 - Breakfast-Cereal, toast, fruit, apple juice, milk

Lunch-Chili dog, french fries, mixed greens, cake, milk

Garza Trailblazers

January 6 - Chicken & dumplings, green peas, cauliflower, cheese, hot roll, pumpkin dessert

January 7 - Roast beef, O'Brien potatoes, carrots, salad, wheat roll, chocolate cake

January 8 - Baked ham, scalloped potatoes, zucchini, salad, biscuit, cobbler

January 9 - BBQ Chicken, baked beans, squash, cornbread, lemon pudding

January 10 - Chicken fry, cream gravy, mashed potatoes, broccoli salad, hot roll, fruit

January 2 - Meatloaf, O'Brien potatoes, green beans, salad, wheat roll, carrot cake

January 3 - Catfish, baked beans, broccoli, coleslaw, jal. cornbread, brownies

If you haven't struck oil in the first three minutes—stop boring.
—George Jessel on public speaking

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ACROSS

- TXism: "like a ___ out of water"
- "Kick ___ Joy Juice"
- this Paul owned chili town of Terlingua
- TXism: "he'll kick you ___ a funeral home" (mean horse)
- change the color
- TXism: "fits like ugly on an ___"
- Sam Houston's middle name
- in Falls Co. on 77
- TX George Jones' "She Thinks ___ Care"
- electrical plugs
- reportedly the Peggy Sue of TX
- Buddy Holly's song
- in Bowie Co. on 82
- TXism: "___ fi spell"
- Santa ___ TX
- combative TX Comanche medicine man
- TXism: "jointed" (agile)
- TXism for "lie"
- author of "Mein Kampf"
- actress Helen of film "Cow Country" about TX ('53)
- this TX Edwards initiated Fredonian Rebellion in 1830s
- TXism: "if he's ___ he'll bark"
- TX Bob Wills line: "___ take it away Leon"
- threatening TX cloud
- "hither and ___"
- intellectually quick
- chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, fried okra, & iced tea (2 wds.)
- TX Waylon Jennings recording co.
- TX Rafter's network
- TXism: "panting like a lizard on ___ rock"
- pirate drink
- TX Blocker who was Hoss on "Bonanza"
- TX Roddenberry "Star Trek" genre: ___ fi
- TXism: "sticks out like ___"
- TX-built ___ Stealth bomber
- TXism: "yarns"
- gymnast Korbut
- TX actor Wallach
- France battle site for many TX WWII soldiers: Saint ___
- deceased princess "Lady ___"
- TXism: "me casa ___ su casa"
- Sen. ___ Bailey Hutchison
- TX praise phrase
- SMU Heisman winner Walker
- TXism: "six of one, half a dozen of the ___"
- bowling alleys
- Jackson Co. seat 41 rod and ___
- ex-Rangers GM Grieva (init.)
- Astro league (abbr.)
- this town has more gators than people
- TXism: "no brag, just ___"
- Atlanta arena

DOWN

- TXism: "me casa ___ su casa"
- Sen. ___ Bailey Hutchison
- TX praise phrase

TEXAS CROSSWORD
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Brittany Courtney (30) brings the ball up court for the Post Lady Lopes in action here last week. Kaycee Gorman (20) helps out on the play. (Photo by Jerry Taylor)



Mitchell Mills goes over the top of defenders for a two-pointer during Post Antelope varsity basketball action here last week. (Photo by Jerry Taylor)

2002 Year in review

(Continued from Page 6)

September

Breann Heckaman was the recipient of the "I Dare You" Leadership Award presented at the 2002 Garza County 4-H Achievement Banquet. Recognized as Outstanding Leader was Celia Mason. The George R. Brown Partnership was awarded the Friends of 4-H Award.

Ken Young brought in the first bales of cotton from this year's Garza County crop. The bales, delivered to the Close City Gin Sept. 12, netted 773 pounds of lint, 3,460 pounds of cotton and 1,340 pounds of seed.

Garza County Health Care District officials approved the adoption of the current year's tax rate — .10258 cents per \$100 valuation. At that rate, district officials said most GCHCD taxpayers should see some decrease in their health care district tax bills.

City officials voted to double the existing tax rate to .7708 cents per \$100 valuation, with added revenues generated by the tax hike to be earmarked for the city's water project. The project will involve the construction of a water line to Slaton and the installation of new water tanks.

A tax rate of .379 cents per \$100 valuation and the 2002-2003 budget were approved by Garza County commissioners.

Dee Dee Jarrett was crowned Post High School's band sweetheart at 2002 homecoming ceremonies. Jessica Mason was crowned football sweetheart.

Post ISD Superintendent Dr. Bobby Bain was appointed to a National Rural/Small School Advisory Committee of the American Association of School Administrators.

Post native Alvin Davis was recognized for his outstanding contribution and longtime service at the National Cowboy Symposium. Davis was instrumental in organizing the Junior Rodeo Association and the Cowboy Symposium.

October

Post High School senior Daryl Dissinger took first place in the Ag Mechanics Project contest at the South Plains Fair.

A newly created room at the Garza County Historical Museum was dedicated to the late "Chief" Frank Runkles in conjunction with Founder's Day activities.

Garza County commissioners approved the establishment of a contract for a code enforcer and building inspector. Citing increased subdivision building in the Lake Alan Henry area, county officials said the move was needed to ensure that housing and structures erected in the county meet zoning and construction ordinances. A contract with Terry Bartlett to serve as the code enforcer and building inspector was approved.

The local ambulance service is realizing some favorable financial times and could be self-supporting prior to the end of the calendar year, according to a report delivered to the Garza County Health Care District board. The city/county ambulance service is receiving regular payments from claims dating as far back as July 2001.

Pat Reiter, a member of the Golden Clover 4-H Club, captured the Grand Champion Horse buckle and the Junior Showmanship buckle at the Garza County Junior Livestock Horse Show. His 10-year-old mare won first place in the Aged Mare class and took the Champion Mare banner prior to competing for Grand Champion Horse.

Javen Abraham and Adam Nobles, member of the Pride of Post Marching Band, were named to the All-Region Jazz Band.

November

The Post Antelope football team defeated Roosevelt 17-6 to capture a third place finish in District 4-AA. The win entitled the team to a bi-district championship bid against Crane.

Garza County voters fell in line with voters across the state, supporting gubernatorial candidate Republican Rick Perry over Democratic candidate Tony Sanchez. On the local level, voters opted to return 106th District Judge Carter T. Schildknecht to office.

County officials lifted the burn ban that had been in place most of the year. The body of a 66-year-old Slaton man was found near the spillway of Lake Alan Henry. Lee Maberry was described as an "avid fisherman." His death was ruled as an accidental drowning.

A 33-year-old Post man was sentenced to three concurrent 25-year sentences after pleading guilty to aggravated kidnapping, aggravated assault and burglary of a habitation. Gregorio (Greg) Matillas Soto Jr., entered a guilty plea to kidnapping his 4-year-old son, Sammy, on Father's Day, June 16. The child returned home after FBI officials

located the father and the kidnapped child June 27 in a Minneapolis, Minn., homeless shelter.

Board members for the Garza County Health Care District continued to gather information on the possible reopening of a local hospital facility.

December

Seven Antelope starters were named to the first team 2002 All-District 4-AA Football Team. Bryan Looney made both the first team offense and defense lists, being named as center and kicker. Fullback and secondary player Mitchell Mills also found himself on both sides of the ball on first team picks. Rounding out the first team offense were Noah Gutierrez, tackle; Jarrett Vickers, tight end; and Jett Lott, tailback. Others listed on the first team defense included Jon Eilenberger, linebacker, and R.C. Curtis, tackle. Several Post High players also were tapped for second team recognition and honorable mention. "American Profile," a four-color national magazine with regionalized editorial content celebrating the interests, values and events of life in America's hometowns,

debuted as a regular insert in The Post Dispatch.

The Post Volunteer Fire Department recognized Milton Williams for 20 years of service. Williams retired from the fire department this year.

A new entrance ramp at the Garza County Historical Museum was dedicated during the museum's Christmas open house celebration.

The city council appointed two new members - Jackie Harp and Mike Mitchell - to the White River Municipal Water District board of trustees. Harp and Mitchell replaced longtime board members Jo Jackson and Charles Hardin, whose terms expired at the close of the calendar year. Jackson served as a WRMWD board member for 21 years, while Hardin logged more than 16 years of service.

The city council joined the commissioners court in approving the purchase of road spikes to be used by local law enforcement officials in the prevention of vehicle pursuits.

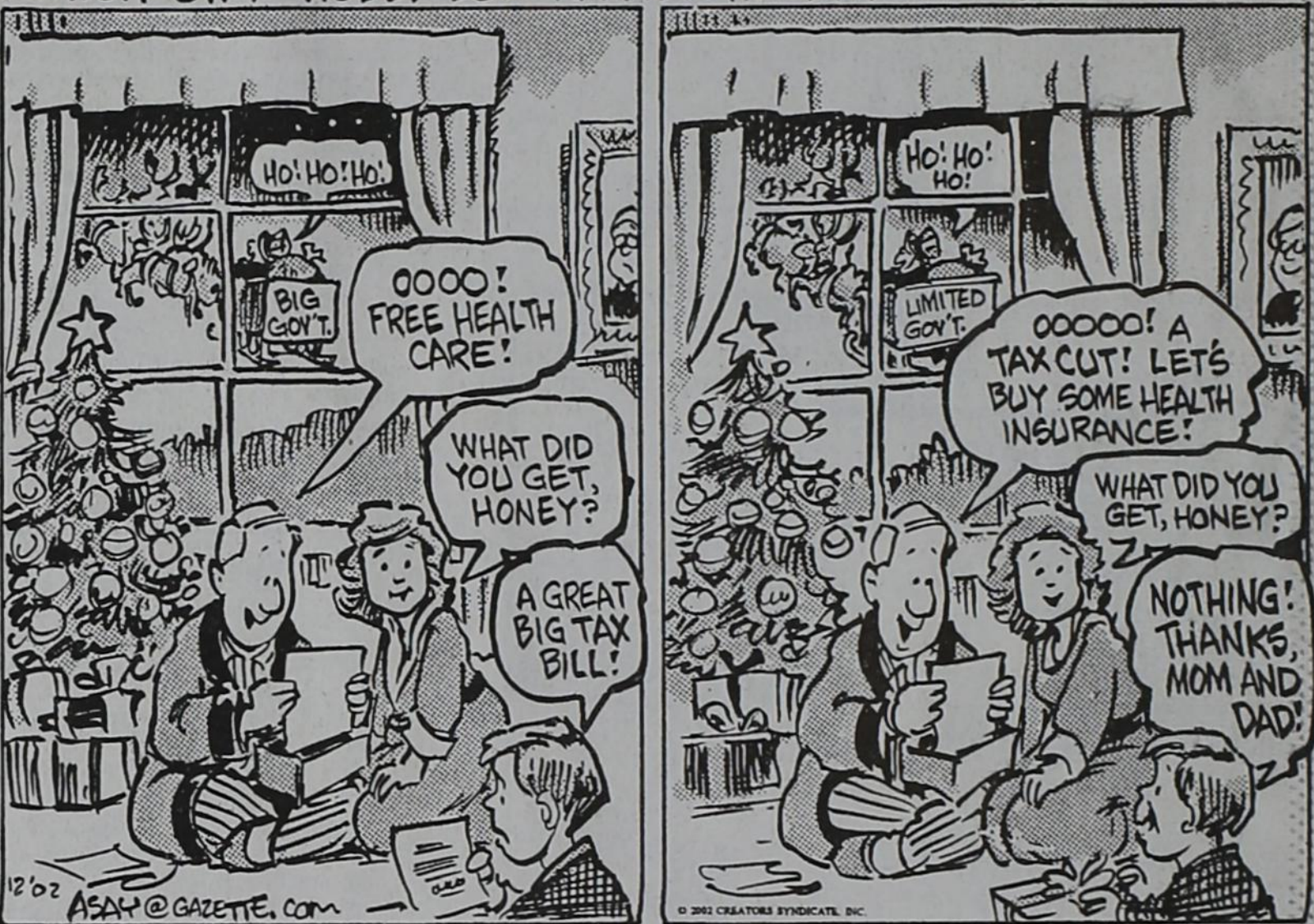
Post Middle School STARS sponsored the Help Others During the Holidays campaign to benefit the Victims Assistance Services program. The National Honor Society provided caps, gloves and scarves, while the Student Council and faculty pitched in to help. Students of all grades donated toys, clothes and canned food.



The gentoo penguin can swim at speeds up to 17 miles per hour.

MEMBER 2002
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WHICH "GIFT" WOULD YOU RATHER RECEIVE FROM UNCLE SAM?



PHS Basketball Schedule

Jan. 3	* New Deal @ New Deal	JVG, VG
Jan. 3	Anton @ Post	JVB, VB
Jan. 7	* Shallowater @ Shallowater	JVG, VG
Jan. 10	* Idalou @ Post	JVG, JVB, VG, VB
Jan. 14	* Tahoka @ Tahoka	JVG, JVB, VG, VB
Jan. 17	* Roosevelt @ Post	JVG, JVB, VG, VB
Jan. 21	* New Deal @ Post	JVG, JVB, VG, VB
Jan. 24	* Shallowater @ Post	JVG, JVB, VG, VB
Jan. 28	* Idalou @ Idalou	JVG, JVB, VG, VB
Feb. 4	* Roosevelt @ Roosevelt	JVG, JVB, VG, VB
Feb. 7	* New Deal @ New Deal	JVB, VB
Feb. 11	* Shallowater @ Shallowater	JVB, VB

* District Games

Coaches: Randy Courtney, Varsity Girls; Dane Vickers, Varsity Boys

Texas Stories

A Showcase of the Texas Spirit
 by Tumbleweed Smith

Whatever happened to "You're Welcome"?

Twice in the same day recently I thanked somebody for something and they replied, "No problem." What's going on? The usual response used to be "You're welcome." Also, I hear more and more people starting sentences with "Her and I" did this or that. I was taught that the correct way to construct that sentence is "She and I" did this or that. I find it strange that the speaker didn't say "Her and me."

That way, at least, both pronouns would be in the same objective case. I write, so I'm always buying books about writing. I majored in English and find the language interesting. It is definitely a living thing. The past season, I noticed most Christmas trees and candles were lit.

Very few were lighted. One of the books I found recently is called The Grouchy Grammarian, a how-not-to guide to the 47 most common mistakes in English made by journalists, broadcasters and others who should know better. It is written by Thomas Parrish and cites examples of English misuse by some of the most prominent professionals in magazines, newspapers, radio and TV.

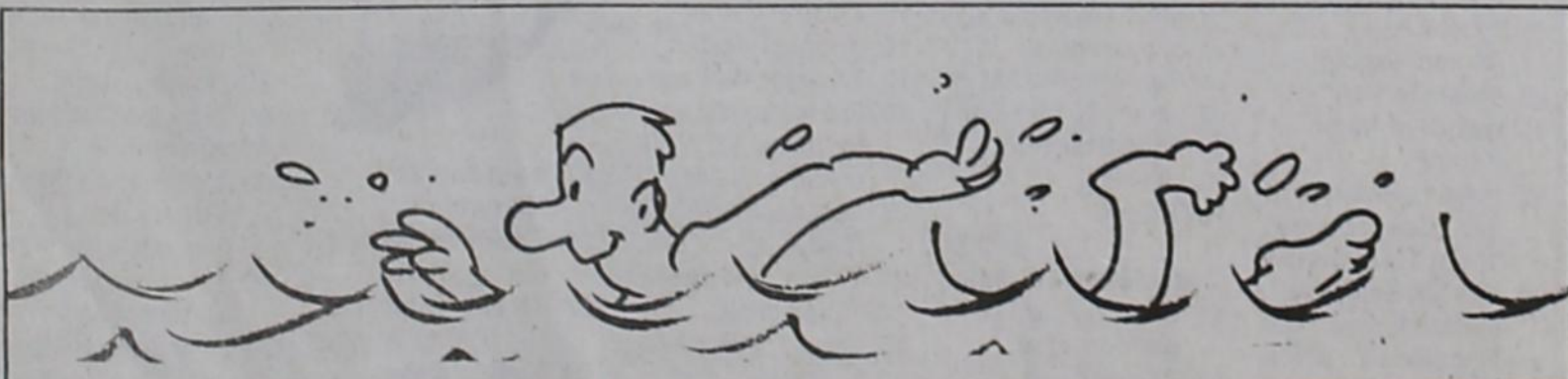
In several instances, he shows where experienced writers failed to make the subject and verb agree. I have found that the more I write, the more careful I have to be. What once was "no problem" now deserves closer scrutiny. Also, I find myself spending more time at the dictionary to solve spelling questions.

Parrish's book mentions what he calls "apostrophe atrocities." One publication in Tennessee printed "The Great Smoky Mountain's National Park is only a stone's throw away." There should be no apostrophe in Mountains. The apostrophe in stone's is correct.

The most common error among broadcasters is the use of its and their. The store is having their special sale is the way most young broadcasters say it. The correct way is the store is having its sale. The misuse of who and which is almost as common. Who applies to humans.

Which applies to non-humans. You shouldn't say "the salmon who spawn in the river...." And the word that is way overused. I once turned in a college paper and it came back with the word "that" circled in red every time it was used incorrectly. That paper had red circles all over it.

But I learned something.



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