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Hustlin' Hereford, home of Ray Berend

The

Hereford Brand



96th Year, Vol. No. 122, Deaf Smith County, Texas

Tuesday, December 24, 1996

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Eight workers killed in Houston explosion

HOUSTON (AP) - Karin Norred found out that her son had been killed in a factory explosion when someone arrived at her door and said there was a "little problem" at the plant.

"I don't think my son was a little problem," she said Monday.

The blast that killed eight workers and injured two others at the Wyman Gordon Forging Co. plant in Houston Sunday night left families and employees mourning on Christmas Eve.

"We work diligently on safety so we would never have a day like this," Dave Gruber, the company's chief executive officer, said in a statement. "Like a family, we've come to be together with those families who instead of celebrating Christmas will be grieving for a tragic loss."

Officials were investigating the cause of the explosion, which occurred as workers were doing routine maintenance on huge pressurized tanks at the plant. The blast blew a jagged hole in the roof and peeled away part of the sheet-metal walls, exposing the steel beam framework.

Body parts were thrown as far as 100 yards from the building, said Eric Petocz, an assistant volunteer fire chief.

"It reminded me of Hollywood," he said, likening the scene to a disaster movie or an airplane crash. "You have to tell yourself: Is this really what I'm looking at?"

The factory, which employs 875 workers, produces pipe used in power and chemical plants, as well as airplane engine parts. Wyman Gordon also makes high-strength metal parts for a variety of uses. Workers were to shut down the plant Monday for the holidays.

Workers were doing maintenance work on nine-story tanks, which should have been depressurized, said Doug Whelan, president of the company's forging division.

"We can only assume there was pressure left in the system," and the maintenance work caused the explosion in a nitrogen tank, Whelan said Monday at a news conference outside the plant.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration had not received any complaints about the plant, said Diana Petterson, spokeswoman for OSHA's Dallas office. She said OSHA hadn't inspected the

factory since 1994, when it was under different ownership.

At another Wyman Gordon plant, in Tilton, N.H., an employee was crushed to death in 1993.

Longtime worker G.H. Bell said the deaths Sunday were especially devastating because some of the victims were related to other workers. "They were sons of older employees," Bell said.

Four of the dead had worked for the company for four months or less; the other four had 29 or 30 years at the factory.

One of the injured, Greg Dargin, 31, was hospitalized with burns on his

chest, face and arm, and metal fragments in his chest, his wife Linda Dargin said. He had been employed at the company for two weeks.

The other injured worker, Jimmy Galindo, 57, was in stable condition.

As holiday festivities gave way to funeral plans for grieving families, Ms. Norred, whose 25-year-old son, Jody, was killed, said her thoughts were with her granddaughter.

"He has a 7-year-old daughter," Ms. Norred said of her son. "And I asked the president of the company if he wanted to tell her that her daddy is killed for Christmas. That's her Christmas present."

Olympic gold-medalist to speak here Thursday

Olympic gold-medal winner Josh Davis of Austin will make a special appearance in Hereford Thursday, and Mayor Bob Josseland has proclaimed the day as "Josh Davis Day" in the city.

In a welcome ceremony at 7 p.m. Thursday at Hereford Aquatic Center, the mayor will present Davis with a "Key to the City" and a lifetime membership to the center.

At 7:20 p.m., Davis will hold a clinic on swimming, discussing his philosophy on competitive and recreational benefits of swimming. He will conduct a training session beginning at 8 p.m.

Davis has a close tie to Hereford--his wife is the former

Shantel Cornelius, an outstanding HHS volleyball player who also played for the Longhorns.

Davis won three gold medals at the Summer Olympics in Atlanta as a member of three USA men's relay teams--the 400-meter freestyle, the 800 freestyle and the 400 medley.

Swim teams from area high schools as well as West Texas A&M and Texas Tech aquatic departments have been extended invitations to attend the event. It is sponsored by the City of Hereford and there is no charge to attend.

The concession area at the aquatic center will be open to serve light refreshments.



Photo by Becky Camp

Shirt signing

Members of the state champion Lady Whiteface volleyball team were at Hereford State Bank Monday to serve refreshments for open house and sign autographs on commemorative T-shirts. Pictured are Danielle Cornelius, left, and Shonda Sossaman.

Hereford woman dies after two-car collision

A 80-year-old Hereford woman was killed Sunday in a two-car accident on East First Street and Progressive Road, according to the Hereford Police Department.

Anna Johnson Lindsey sustained multiple blunt force injuries. She was pronounced dead at 7:25 p.m. at Hereford Regional Medical Center by

Justice of the Peace Johnnie Turrentine.

The accident occurred at 2:38 p.m. Sunday at the intersection of 2900 East First (U.S. Highway 60) and 100 North Progressive Road.

Lindsey was traveling north on South Progressive Road and Richard Kimmell, 43, of Kansas City, Kan. was traveling west on Hwy. 60.

Lindsey apparently did not see Kimmell and pulled into the intersection, where the two cars collided.

Both motorists were taken to Hereford Regional Medical Center. Kimmel sustained minor injuries.

Many to close for Christmas

A holiday as nearly universal as there is will be observed Wednesday in Hereford, Deaf Smith County, and the rest of the country.

Most retail businesses will be closed for the day. Government office-closings are a mixed bag, but financial institutions will be closed.

The Brand will close at noon Tuesday, until 8 a.m. Thursday, so employees may spend a holiday with their families. Classified and display advertising for the Thursday edition should be turned in by noon Tuesday. A combined Dec. 24-25 edition will be published Tuesday.

Most state offices will be closed Tuesday Wednesday and Thursday. Only Wednesday is a federal holiday.

Deaf Smith County will close at noon Tuesday and reopen Thursday morning.

The City of Hereford will take off Wednesday and Thursday.

Emergency services and law enforcement agencies will be on duty throughout the holiday period.

Hostage stalemate continues

LIMA, Peru (AP) - Freed hostages called for a negotiated end to the siege at the Japanese ambassador's house, but there was no sign today that Peru's government or the rebels who still hold 140 people are willing to give any ground.

The select group remaining inside the walled residence - including Japanese businessmen, top Peruvian officials and the Peruvian president's brother - were in their seventh day of confinement with no end in sight.

President Alberto Fujimori called South Korean President Kim Young-sam today to discuss the situation. The South Korean ambassador was taken hostage then freed, and a South Korean man working for a Japanese company is still inside the compound.

"We are doing our best to resolve the crisis without shedding blood," Fujimori was quoted as saying by Kim's office. "We expect that the ongoing third round of negotiations will be successful. We hope for an early, peaceful resolution."

Fujimori visited the scene for the first time Monday morning, getting as close as two blocks from the sealed-off residence. Lima's El Comercio newspaper carried a front-page photograph today showing him sitting in the back of a car with darkened windows.

Neither side made any public statement Monday, the day after the largest group of hostages was released since leftist rebels of the Tupac Amaru movement seized the compound during a Dec. 17 party.

The Red Cross delivered meals - shepherd's pie and salad - and some clean undergarments. Electricity was restored for 45 minutes Monday so

water for drinking and flushing toilets could be pumped to a tank on the roof.

Authorities have cut off water, electricity and phone service.

The rebels' key demand is the release of 300 of their jailed colleagues. Fujimori ruled that out during his sole public comment on the crisis.

The only common ground is both

sides' stated desire for a peaceful resolution, which many of the freed hostages said was required.

"I hope it's going to be resolved through negotiation. That's the only way out," said British Embassy spokesman Roger Church. He was among the 225 hostages released Sunday night.

(See HOSTAGES, Page 2)

Elderly widow's low income not sufficient to pay all bills

A 63-year-old widow is faced with medical and utility bills she doesn't have enough income to cover this holiday season. Her small widow's pension makes it difficult for her to pay all of her medical bills, and because she is diabetic, her need for medication is ongoing.

This woman has asked for help with medical and utility bills from the Christmas Stocking Fund this holiday season.

CSF extends help to the community's less fortunate in such forms as vouchers for medical and utility bill payments, vouchers for pharmacy bill payments and vouchers for clothing purchases.

This widow could be among those helped this year through the generosity of local residents. Aid from CSF is limited to the amount of donations received each year from within the community.

You can assist CSF in extending help to more people this year through your generous donation to the holiday charity.

Contributions may be left at The Hereford Brand, 313 Lee, or mailed to CSF in care of Box 673, Hereford.

Balance Forward	\$16.56.
Dona and Nell McNutt In honor of our grandchildren	25
Martha and Paul Jones	50
Earl Raye and Patsy Ann Green	25
Clint and Meg Formby	100
Pat and Carolyn Maupin	100
Charles and Phyllis J. Brown In memory of Max and Larry Leon	50
Anonymous	50
Cliff and Sidney Kerr	25
Mr. and Mrs. Dickey V. Sims	25
Anonymous	50
Anonymous	35
Raymond and Avis White	100
Charles and Bess Williams	20
Mr. and Mrs. Donald J. Myers	100
Mr. and Mrs. E.J. Kirksey	50
Total 12-23-96	\$17,367

Hereford Bull



By Speedy Nieman

That feller on Tierra Blanca Creek says 'tis the week of Christmas--play it safe, watch out for the children on skateboards and new bicycles and, of course, watch out for the reindeer too.

o0o

Christmas provides a variety of wonderful memories for most of us--memories that can bring tears of happiness and joy as no other season can.

An unknown author vividly captured the meaning of the Yule season with the following essay, "Christmas Spirit":

"I enter the home of poverty, causing pale-faced children to open their eyes wide, in pleased wonder. I cause the miser's clutched hand to relax, and thus paint a bright spot in his soul.

I cause the aged to renew their youth and to laugh in the old glad way. I keep romance alive in the heart of childhood, and brighten sleep with dreams of woven magic.

I cause eager feet to climb the dark stairways filled with baskets, leaving

behind hearts amazed at the good of the world.

I cause the prodigal to pause a moment on his wild, wasteful way, and send to anxious lies some little token that releases glad tears -- tears which wash away the hard lines of sorrow.

I enter the dark prison cells, reminding scarred manhood of what might have been, and pointing forward to good days yet to be.

I come softly into the still, white home of pain and lips that are too weak to speak. In a thousand ways I cause the wary world to look up in the face of goodness, and for a little moment forget things that are small and wretched.

I am the Christmas Spirit."

o0o

Our Christmas wish to all readers is that your holiday season will be filled with pleasant memories, and that Santa Claus is real to you...real in the sense that Santa is the spirit of giving in Christmas and represents God's gift to us in Jesus Christ.

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Local Roundup

Christmas Day: Cloudy, warmer

Hereford recorded a high of 54 degrees Monday and the low this morning was 16, according to KPAN Weather Station. Tonight, the weather bureau predicts mostly clear with a low in the lower 20s. Southwest wind 5-10 mph. Christmas Day, a gradual increase in high cloudiness and warmer. High in the middle 50s. Southwest wind 10-20 mph and gusty. Three to five-day forecast-- Thursday, partly cloudy with lows 25 to 30 and highs 45 to 50; Friday, partly cloudy with a low in the upper 20s, high near 60; Saturday, partly cloudy, low in the lower 30s and highs 50 to 55.

Obituaries

ELLA RUTH KERR

Dec. 22, 1996

Ella Ruth Kerr, 91, a resident of Hereford since 1927, died Sunday. She had been a resident at Hereford Care Center.

Services were held at 2 p.m. Monday in First Presbyterian Church with the Rev. Jeremy Grant, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in West Park Cemetery by Gilliland-Watson Funeral Home.

Mrs. Kerr was born in Trent. She moved to Deaf Smith County in 1927

from Dumas. She married Will S. Kerr in 1926 in Denton. He died in 1960.

She was a homemaker and a member of First Presbyterian Church.

Survivors include three sons, Clifford Kerr, Norman Kerr and Joe Kerr, all of Hereford; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to First Presbyterian Church of Hereford or Amarillo Children's Home.

DOMINGO PESINA

Dec. 21, 1996

Domingo Pesina, 69, of Hereford, died Saturday.

A rosary service was held at 7 p.m. Sunday and a funeral service was held at 10 a.m. Monday in San Jose Catholic Church with Deacon Jesse Guerrero and Pastor David Alvarado officiating. Burial will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday in Aspermont Cemetery.

Mr. Pesina was born Feb. 3, 1927 in Mexia, Texas. He came to Deaf Smith County in 1942 from Anton. He married Lupe Ramirez on Oct. 25, 1979 in Hereford. He served in the U.S. Army in World War II.

He had been a truck driver, operated Hereford Housing, and also

was a deputy with the Deaf Smith County Sheriff's Department from 1953-1967. He was a member of San Jose Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus.

Survivors include three sons, Rufus Pesina of Dallas, Domingo Pesina Jr. of Amarillo, and Martin Pesina of Amarillo; four daughters, Petra Mendoza of Amarillo, Lupita T. Pesina of Hereford and Krystal Pesina of Hereford; three stepsons, Joe Garcia, Larry Garcia and Fedincio Garcia, all of Hereford; a stepdaughter, Peral Luna of Hereford; three brothers, Daniel Pesina, Juan Pesina and Julio Pesina, all of Hereford; 28 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

ANNA BELL LINDSEY

Dec. 22, 1996

Anna Bell Lindsey, 80, of Hereford died Sunday.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday in the Gilliland-Watson Funeral Home Rose Chapel with the Rev. Tom Bailey, minister of Central Church Christ. Burial will be in West Park Cemetery by Gilliland-Watson Funeral Home.

Mrs. Lindsey was born in Collingsworth County, Texas. She married Harvey Lindsey in 1938. She was a home health caregiver and played bingo. She was a member of

Central Church of Christ. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Berta Mae Dodd in May 1987.

Survivors include two sons, Dale Lindsey of Amarillo and Gerald Lindsey of Hereford; a daughter, Patricia Stevens of Hereford; three brothers, Leonard Johnson of Hereford, Carl Johnson of Amarillo, and Perry Johnson of Phoenix, Ariz.; one sister, Bernice Waits of Hereford; 15 grandchildren; and 18 great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to the American Cancer Society.

LUCILLE HULSEY EDDLEMAN

Dec. 21, 1996

Lucille Hulsey Eddleman, 79, of Silverton, died Saturday. Her sister, Hazel Brooks resides in Hereford.

Services were held at 10 a.m. Tuesday in First Baptist Church with the Rev. Anthony Sisemore, pastor of First Baptist Church of Quitaque, officiating. Burial was in Resthaven Cemetery by Myers-Long Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Eddleman was born in Paris, Texas. She married Harley Clark

Eddleman in 1936. He died in 1972. She also was preceded in death by two daughters, Ladora Lucille Eddleman Rowell and Patsy Ann Eddleman Stockton.

She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Quitaque. Survivors include two sons, Gary Mark Eddleman and Charles Eddleman, both of Silverton; a brother, Jack Hulsey of Washburn; a sister, Hazel Brooks of Hereford; seven granddaughters; and 14 great-grandchildren.

Emergency Services

Activities reported by law enforcement agencies:

TUESDAY

Officers issued 23 traffic citations on Monday. Eight citations were issued for minors in possession of alcoholic beverages.

Four motor vehicle accidents were investigated, one with minor injuries. The fire department responded to a grass fire at 811 S. Schley.

--A glass door was broken in the rear of a residence in the 600 block of Union Street.

--Responding to a complaint of a loud party at a house in the 900 block of S. Lee Street, officers saw several juveniles running from the residence. Officers confiscated several items of drug paraphernalia and several paint cans in the residence. No arrests were made.

--A 13-year-old girl was reported as a runaway in the 200 block of Ave. B. She was later found and given permission to stay with her grandmother.

POLICE

SUNDAY

-- 21-year-old male arrested for public intoxication in the 200 block of Lawton.

-- 22-year-old male arrested for resisting arrest in the 100 block of Pine Street.

-- 26-year-old male arrested for warrants in the 100 block of South Highway 385.

-- Burglary of building reported in the 1000 block of North Highway

385.

-- Criminal mischief reported in the 500 block of George Street.

-- Nine citations issued.

MONDAY

-- 21-year-old male arrested for Hale County D.P.S. warrants.

-- 34-year-old male arrested for county theft warrants.

-- Criminal mischief reported in the 100 block of Pine Street.

-- Criminal mischief reported in the 200 block of Avenue H.

-- Domestic disturbance reported in the 900 block of 13th Street.

-- Criminal mischief reported in the 400 block of North Lee.

-- 22 citations issued.

-- Two speeding citations issued.

-- One citation issued for unrestrained child.

-- One minor traffic accident reported in the 400 block of Blevins Street.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

MONDAY

-- Dispatched to Coronado Acres in reference to a fire.

-- Dispatched to Highway 60 and Progressive Road in reference to motor vehicle accident.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

-- 40-year-old male arrested for violation of probation.

-- 21-year-old male arrested for sexual assault of a child.

-- 46-year-old male arrested for bond forfeiture, Randall County and Potter County warrants.

-- 19-year-old male on violation of probation.

Russian president returns after open-heart surgery

MOSCOW (AP) - Boris Yeltsin emerged from his black stretch Mercedes, adjusted his fur hat, and with a broad smile bellowed "hello" to aides welcoming him back to the Kremlin on Monday.

"I'm in good spirits. I'm feeling good and I'm ready for battle," the Russian president said six months after heart trouble sidelined him.

Yeltsin has grown impatient with convalescence, and with the government's failure to resolve a growing economic and social crisis. Millions of workers have gone unpaid for months as the economy shrinks and taxes go uncollected.

But after five years in office, Yeltsin has done little of the nuts-and-bolts work of running the government and has offered few ideas for solving Russia's problems.

Communist Party leader Gennady Zyuganov wasted no time in attacking his foe, saying Yeltsin was still unfit to rule.

"Even when he was healthy and sober he couldn't come up with an answer to any of the issues facing Russia," said Zyuganov, who lost to Yeltsin in the presidential race.

While Yeltsin remained in charge throughout his illness, his return to the Kremlin effectively marks the start of his second term. He had a heart attack days before his July 3 re-election and since then has made only rare public appearances.

Doctors say the 65-year-old president is making a full recovery and should be able to maintain a normal work schedule.

Noticeably slimmer, Yeltsin seemed more alert and his breathing less labored than before quintuple bypass surgery on Nov. 5.

One of his first moves Monday was to meet with chief of staff Anatoly Chubais and other aides.

He told them he was satisfied with

their performance during his absence but they have a lot of work ahead of them, with the wage crisis, the tax crisis and military reform being top priorities, spokesman Sergei Yastrzhembsky said.

Yeltsin also spoke with British Prime Minister John Major, agreeing that Major should visit Moscow. No date was set.

Yeltsin, anxious to return to the world stage, also has invited German

Chancellor Helmut Kohl and French President Jacques Chirac to visit early next year and plans a summit with President Clinton in March, probably in Washington.



Photo by Sherri Martin

Christmas blessings

The Little Blessings Day Care at First Presbyterian Church presented a Christmas program for their parents and guests on Monday. Here, back row from left, Cindy Martinez, Cody Nolen, Macy Page; middle row, Dre' Rose, Destinee Martinez, Cimaron Hernandez; front row, Andrew Gallagher and Tucker Nolen perform a Christmas song.

No immediate agreement forseen in Palestinian, Israeli negotiations

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) - A meeting between Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat ended today without a deal on a troop pullback in Hebron, the last West Bank city under Israeli control.

Arafat left the meeting without speaking to the press.

Dennis Ross, President Clinton's special Mideast envoy, called the meeting "extremely productive" and said it had moved the two sides closer to an agreement.

But "we don't have an agreement yet," he said.

After days of intense U.S. mediation, the two leaders met at the Erez Crossing between Israel and the autonomous Gaza Strip. Ross, whose efforts appear to have helped bring

the two sides closer together, also participated in the meeting.

Despite hopes that an agreement could be signed today, Israeli and Palestinian officials said earlier that more meetings between Arafat and Netanyahu would be needed to wrap up a deal.

"I wouldn't expect one meeting to conclude this," Ross told reporters on his way into the meeting. Netanyahu and Arafat did not speak to the press.

Ross said the Hebron negotiations have "become more energized" in the past few days. "Each side is negotiating in good faith."

A deal on Hebron would be the first major development in the peace process since Netanyahu was elected in May.

Israel was to have pulled most of its troops from Hebron in March, but postponed the move after a series of suicide bombings in Israel. Netanyahu delayed it further to try to improve security for the 500 Jewish settlers living in the city of 130,000 Arabs.

Palestinian frustration with Netanyahu sparked September clashes in which 79 people died - prompting President Clinton to try to save the peace process by brokering a deal on Hebron.

Israeli government spokesman Moshe Fogel told The Associated Press that the Hebron withdrawal was "more or less settled" but that other issues remained to be resolved.

Arafat was expected to ask Netanyahu to commit to a timetable

for further Israeli troop pullbacks from West Bank rural areas.

Ross arrived in the region over the weekend, seeking a breakthrough before Christmas.

On Monday, Ross met with both Arafat and Netanyahu, traveled to Egypt for consultations, and participated in negotiations in Jerusalem. He said Monday that he expected an agreement "soon," but would not predict when.

Netanyahu and Arafat deputy Mahmoud Abbas also met Monday, and Netanyahu's office said there was "promise of advancement."

Israeli media reported that negotiators had agreed on several key issues, including opening a major road in Hebron and allowing Palestinian police to carry rifles in areas under their control.

Egypt's Middle East News Agency said the talks also concerned joint Israeli-Palestinian patrols.

The Hebron settler community has issued a statement saying Netanyahu "has abandoned the lives of Hebron's Jews. The responsibility for the results falls on the prime minister and ministers."

Sting operation discloses abuse of alcoholic beverage laws for minors

AUSTIN (AP) - A recent statewide sting operation found most violations of laws prohibiting sales of alcoholic beverages to anyone under 21 occurred in restaurants.

Officials of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission said it indicates that perhaps they need to give restaurants more attention.

"We concentrate on the night clubs and the convenience stores," said Lt. David Ferrero of the Austin district office of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission. "We need to take a better look at the restaurants."

Teen-agers working undercover for the commission went into 495 bars, stores and restaurants around the state during October and November.

HOSTAGES

Hindering any effort at negotiation is the hostility between rebels and Fujimori, who built his reputation on getting tough with guerrillas. The government has refused to talk directly with the Tupac Amaru rebels.

"The president thinks we're stupid," former hostage Luis Peirano quoted one rebel as saying in a reference to Fujimori's demand that the guerrillas lay down their weapons and surrender the hostages.

The rebel then restated the group's principal demand: "Either he frees our comrades or we all die here."

Guerrilla commander Nestor Cerpa is keeping the hostages with the most political value, apparently to strengthen the rebels' bargaining position in talks with the government.

Inside the compound are Peruvian Foreign Minister Francisco Tudela

Ferrero said all the undercover volunteers sent into restaurants were told to say that they were meeting somebody and order a beer.

Statewide, 44 percent of the 495 businesses that were randomly selected for the sting sold alcohol to minors. Bexar County's rate, 60 percent, was the worst in the state. Travis County's rate, 29 percent, was the lowest.

Minors were served alcohol at fourteen of 49 Travis County businesses checked in the sting. Of those, 12 were restaurants, leaving authorities with the impression that they may need to better educate restaurant owners.

The purpose of the statewide sting,

officials said, was to find out whether one-day of training for bartenders, waiters and other alcohol servers would help businesses avoid selling alcohol to minors.

The commission asked each business whether the person who had waited on the undercover youth had taken the commission class.

The Legislature is considering making mandatory the training which is now voluntary, said Sam Smelser, the assistant chief of enforcement at the commission.

The sting showed that alcohol sellers and servers were 16 percent less likely to serve to minors if they had taken the course, he said.

Smelser said he was disappointed with the number of businesses that readily served minors.

"I'm not very happy with it," he told the Austin American-Statesman. "I think we could do better, and I think the industry could do better by a long shot. We need to look at what we're doing and how we're doing it and see how we can do it better."

The commission expects alcohol servers to ask for identification if the customer looks to be in their 20s, Smelser said.

"We try to teach a little common sense. If they look 35, we don't want you to slow them down," he said. During the sting, youths aged 14 to 18 went into the stores, restaurants and bars and asked to buy or be served alcohol, Smelser said.

If the person attending them asked their age, they were told to take out their real identification and say their age, he said. The legal drinking age in Texas is 21.

LOTTO TEXAS

TEXAS LOTTERY

By The Associated Press

No tickets correctly matched all six numbers drawn Saturday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

The numbers drawn Saturday night from a field of 50 were: 7-17-18-22-30-35.

Wednesday night's drawing will be worth an estimated \$12 million.

AUSTIN (AP) - The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday by the Texas Lottery, in order:

9-8-3

THE HEREFORD BRAND

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Lifestyles

Artwork by Hereford students will be included in '98 calendar

Artwork submitted by a sister and brother from St. Anthony's School will be used in the 1998 calendar of the Harrington Cancer Center's Circle of Friends.

Griffin, 10, were among the 14 winners and 41 honorable mentions honored at a reception Dec. 8 at the center.

Sarah is a sixth grader and John is a fourth grader. They are children of

Diana and Frank Griffin.

The art will be used in a calendar available next fall for the 1998 year. Each month will feature an art selection, and one will be used on the cover.

More than 1,800 contestants from 39 Panhandle schools participated in the contest. All of the other winners, except two, are from area high schools and most of the honorable mentions are high school students.

"We are very proud of these young people. It is an honor to be selected for the calendar, especially when so many of the artists are high school students," said Susan Hicks, Sarah's sixth grade teacher at St. Anthony's.

This is the first time a brother and sister have both had artwork selected as winners, according to Hicks.

Each winner is awarded a \$50 check and a plaque.

Winners, in addition to Sarah and John, were Jamie Rotramel and Nelson Riley, Panhandle High School; Dana Vadysirisack, Palo Duro High School; Stacy Childers and Kim Kron, Amarillo High School; Kendra Cooper, Borger Middle School; Guillermina Chavez and D.J. Jacobs, Spearman High School; Dinah Frick, Borger High School; Corey Escoto, James Bonham Middle School; William Weiman, Perryton High School; and Laura Blackburn, Caprock High School.

Circle of Friends is a nonprofit volunteer organization founded to support the philosophy and goals of the Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center. The organization provides cancer patients and their families with financial assistance in the time of crisis and also conducts support programs in cancer treatment, education and research.



Calendar artwork

Sarah Griffin, left, and her brother, John Griffin, both students at St. Anthony's School, were among 14 area students who had artwork selected to be used in the 1998 calendar of the Harrington Cancer Center's Circle of Friends. Parents of the youth are Frank and Diana Griffin.

Senior Citizens

MENUS

THURSDAY-Swiss steak, scalloped potatoes, buttered sliced carrots, tossed green salad, garlic bread, vanilla pudding; or smothered turkey, pears.

FRIDAY-Breaded baked fish, tartar sauce, creamed potatoes with peas, mixed greens with diced turnips, cabbage apple slaw,

cornbread, lemon chiffon cake; or chicken breast, green beans, angel food cake.

MONDAY-Ham, pinto beans, baked potato, sunshine coleslaw, cornbread, pound cake with topping; or beef MacTom, fruit cocktail.

TUESDAY-Chicken strips with gravy, mashed potatoes, seasoned green beans, lime frosted salad, biscuit, chocolate cake; or hamburger steak, D'zerta salad.

ACTIVITIES

THURSDAY-Pool classes, oil painting 9-11 a.m., choir practice 1-2 p.m., Thrift Store open.

FRIDAY-Pool classes, Thrift Store open.

SATURDAY-Games 12 noon-4 p.m.

MONDAY-Pool classes, line dance 10-11 a.m., doll class 1-4 p.m.

TUESDAY-Pool classes, exercise class 10-10:45 a.m., doll class 6-9 p.m.



The word yo-yo originated in the Philippines and means "come back." People in the Philippines used the yo-yo both as a toy and as a weapon.

Merry Mixers to observe holiday

Merry Mixers Square Dance Club will not dance this Thursday night due to the Christmas holidays.

A New Year's Eve dance will be held Dec. 31 at the Amarillo Civic Center with Dave Towry as caller. Cued will be Joe and A.B. Stockton, starting with rounds at 8:30 p.m.

Merry Mixers will have its regular meeting on Jan. 2 and will elect officers for the next six months.

Lessons will start Jan. 16. The first three are free.

Birthdays, special days, a year-around remembrance? Send them The Hereford Brand, a gift that reminds the recipient of your love and concern about 255 times a year!

The 1 To See:
Jerry Shipman, CLU
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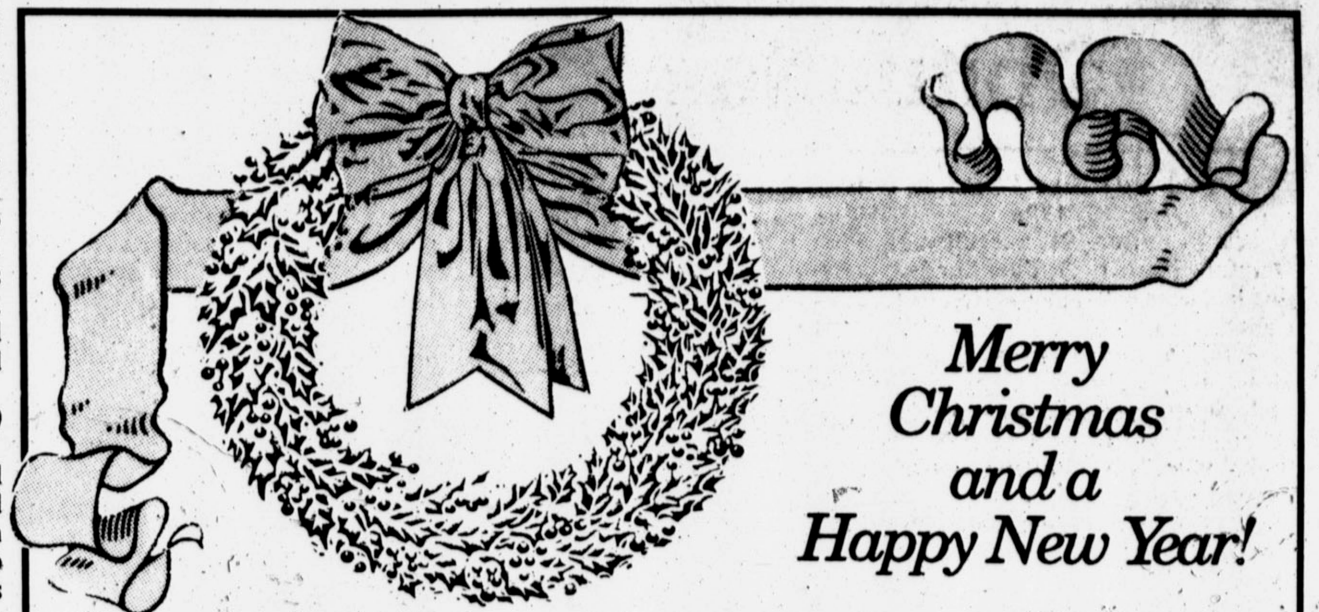
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The Ladies' Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Roy Wederbrook Post #4818, would like to express their deepest appreciation to these local businesses that helped with our public auction. Each and every owner and manager was very helpful and kind in cooperating with us for this worthy cause.

Because of your help and donations we will be able to help needy families, shut-ins, the Veterans Hospital, disabled veterans, and the handicapped this holiday season.

A "Thank You" seems so little to say to Larry Noland our auctioneer. This is the 11th auction that he has donated his time. Words cannot express our thanks for his effort as well as the help we received from Robert Kubacak for cooking the chili, Bobby Vaughn for helping with the sale and moving, and Linda Kingston and Bobby Weaver for the sale of tickets. Thanks again! As we've told you, we couldn't have done it without you.

A big THANK YOU to the VFW members and friends who helped us.

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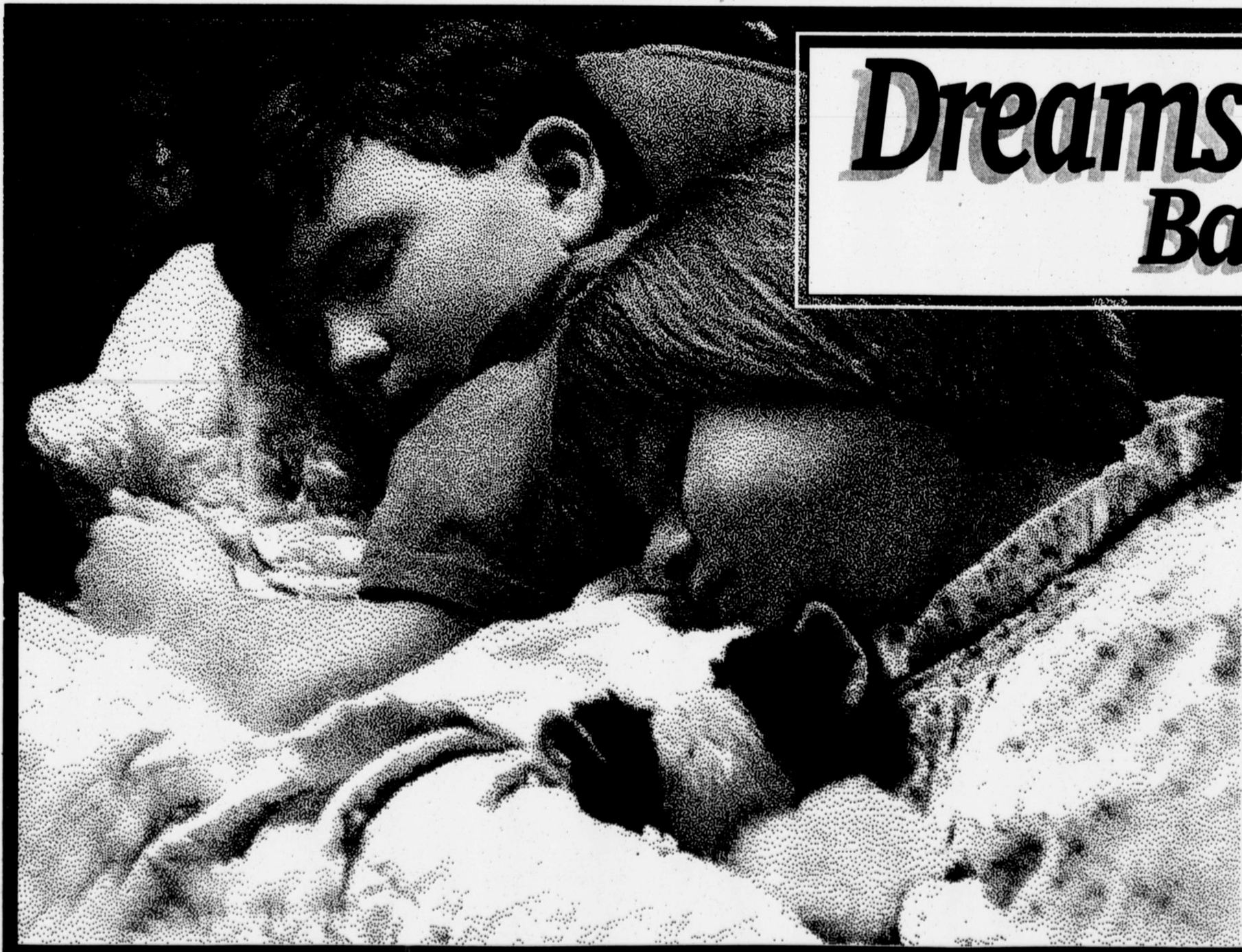
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Congratulations to Carol O'Hare, of Amarillo, for winning the quilt!

Thanks to your donations we will be able to contribute to the following needs this year.

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Pizza for the winners

Hereford High School Anchor Club prepared homemade pizza for the first and second place winning classes bringing the most toys in the recent HHS Toy Drive Challenge. Teachers Becky Weatherly, first place, and Mary Beth Sayers, second place, also received a free meal for two at K-Bobs Steak House.

Quick cooking ingredients can make soup a weeknight meal

By The Associated Press
 Soup on a weeknight? Easy when you rely on quick-cooking beef cubed steaks and high-quality prepared foods. Spanish Rice and Beef Soup takes just 30 minutes to prepare and cook. Serve with warm flour tortillas or baked tortilla chips.

Spanish Rice and Beef Soup
 Total preparation and cooking time: 30 minutes

- 1 pound beef cubed steaks
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 clove garlic, crushed
- 6.8-ounce package Spanish rice mix
- 5 cups water
- 14-1/2 ounce can chili-seasoned diced tomatoes, undrained
- Chopped fresh cilantro, optional

Cut beef steaks lengthwise into 1-inch wide strips and then crosswise into 1-inch pieces.

In Dutch oven, heat butter over medium-high heat until melted. Add beef and garlic; stir-fry 2 to 3 minutes or until outside of beef is no longer pink. Do not overcook. Remove from pan; season with 2 teaspoons seasoning mixture from rice mix.

In same pan, combine rice mix and remainder of seasoning packet, water and tomatoes; bring to a boil. Reduce heat to medium-low; cover tightly and simmer 15 to 17 minutes or until rice is tender. Return beef to soup; stir in cilantro, if using. Serve immediately. Makes 4 servings.

Recipe from: National Catlemen's Association



Santa at King's Manor

C.R. Gandy played Santa Claus Friday at King's Manor for the Westgate Christmas party. Mr. Gandy has assisted Santa for more than 50 years visiting in the Hereford area at Christmas time.

Ann Landers

Dear Readers: In 1955, the year I began writing this column, I wrote an essay for Christmas Day. Reader response was extremely rewarding, and I have reprinted it each year, with topical modifications.

This is my Christmas message for 1996:

Dear Readers: Today is Christmas. What has happened to peace on Earth, goodwill toward men? In many parts of the world, there is no peace, and in the hearts of many men, there is nothing that could pass for goodwill.

Our youth insist that we are poisoning the environment, and they are right. They resent living in a world they didn't make, and who can blame them? But what generation ever made the world it had to live in?

Although our universities are once again places of higher learning, racism abounds on many campuses. Prejudice against minorities is on the increase, and I fear it's going to get worse before it gets better.

Unfortunately, the "war on drugs" has turned out to be a colossal

failure. The increase in the number of homicides is staggering, and most of it is drug-related.

Guns and knives are standard equipment among teen-agers. It is not uncommon for a teen-ager to get shot or stabbed for his jacket or his shoes. Metal detectors in schools help some but not enough.

While alcohol is still the most abused drug of all, marijuana and stronger substances like crack cocaine and now heroin again are commonplace in junior and senior high schools. The dropout rate is appalling. Why should a kid stay in school when he can get rich dealing drugs? This is the message too many young people are getting.

Suicide is the second most frequent cause of death among teen-agers in this country. (The first is accidents.) Every 90 minutes, a teen-ager in America will kill himself.

More bad news is that venereal disease is epidemic, not to mention AIDS, for which there is no vaccine

and no cure, although new drugs are providing hope.

We are becoming increasingly desensitized to filthy language, garbage "art" and rotten stuff on TV. Violence, bigotry and talking dirty must be tolerated, we are told, because we dare not endanger "freedom of speech."

I am firmly against censorship, but where is the moral outrage against all the filth? It's almost impossible to find a family movie these days. What has happened to plain, everyday decency?

Because this is an advice column, I spend the greater part of every day with grief and trouble. I am adored by some, despised by others, chastised, castigated and dumped on. Does it depress me? No, it does not.

After 41 years, I still find writing this column immensely rewarding. I realize that many people who write

to me don't want advice. They just need someone who will listen.

My column has provided me with an opportunity to shine a spotlight on ignorance and fear, comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable. I am well aware that mine is an enormous responsibility, and I try hard, 365 days a year, never to let you down.

You, dear readers, are my friends. You invite me into your homes, and often we have breakfast together. I want to be there for you when you need me.

So, if you feel the need to unburden yourself, blow your top, register a gripe or tell me off, I'm as close as your mailbox.

God bless you all. I hope 1997 will be your best year ever. -- Ann Landers

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Little activities, big memories

This year, fill Christmas week with memorable activities, treats and surprises all through the house. They don't have to be grand events requiring a lot of preparation or cash. Instead, make them little things. Your simple ideas and gestures represent your thoughtfulness and extra time, gifts money can't buy.

Here are my kids' favorites:
 * Gather quilts and pillows and sleep beside your twinkling Christmas tree. (Turn off lights when children fall asleep.)

* Warm up after chilly outdoor play with mugs of hot chocolate. Use candy canes for a surprise stir stick.

* Read and display holiday cards together. Hang long ribbons on a door or wall and tape the back of the cards to the ribbon.

* Read stories to your children based on Christmas customs and winter celebrations in other countries.

* Create thank-you notes for gifts out of used wrapping paper.

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Sports

Lady Whiteface trio named All State

State champion Hereford placed three players on the 1996 Texas Sports Writers Volleyball All-State team released Monday.

Seniors Danielle Cornelius and Kari Barrett and junior Julie Rampley were named to the Class 4A All-State team.

Hereford didn't have a second team selection, but junior Katie Betzen was named on the honorable mention list.

The Lady Whitefaces claimed the state championship with a 34-1 record, losing only to Dumas in district play. Dumas landed Mindy Ratliff, senior,

and Barrett and Rampley were picked on the all-tournament team.

Cornelius was also named the most valuable player in District 1-4A. Joining her on the all-district team were Barrett, Rampley and Cassie Abney. All are seniors except Rampley. Katie Betzen was named second team all-district, and juniors Meredith Tabor and Kendra Wright received honorable mention.

Lady Whiteface Coach Brenda Reeh was named Coach of the Year in 1-4A.

Cornelius had already been named the Class 4A State Tourney MVP,

and Barrett and Rampley were picked on the all-tournament team.

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Hereford
Kari Barrett, 5-6, sr., setter, Hereford
Mindy Ratliff, 5-10, sr., middle blocker, Dumas
Nicole McCray, 6-1, jr., outside hitter, Longview Pine Tree
Julie Rampley, 5-10, jr., middle blocker, Hereford
Cari Teague, 6-0, jr., middle blocker, Dickinson

Second Team
Lily Glick, 6-1, sr., middle blocker, Cleburne
Tiffany Weidner, 5-10, so., outside hitter, New Braunfels Canyon
Jennifer Elliott, 6-0, so., middle blocker,

Hays Consolidated
Lori Marquez, 5-8, sr., middle blocker, Pecos
Andrea Ramsay, 5-8, sr., middle blocker, Springtown
Tiffani Wilson, 5-6, sr., setter, Dumas

Honorable Mention:
Kandice Washington, Texas High; Tara Hatfield, Coppell; Natalie Spann, Cleburne; Katie Betzen, Hereford; Melissa McGhee, Kerrville Tivy; Megan Parker, Cleburne; Kaita Ramsey, Andrews.

Reeves, Jones join growing list of released NFL coaches

By BARRY WILNER
AP Football Writer

Climb up from the bottom of the NFL ladder and the going's tough. All those discarded coaches keep getting in the way.

The New York Giants and Atlanta Falcons added to the pile Monday when they fired Dan Reeves and June Jones, respectively. Released on Sunday was St. Louis' Rich Brooks while Rich Kotite resigned on Friday before the New York Jets had to fire him.

During the season, Jim Mora snapped and lost his job in New Orleans. Dave Shula was canned in Cincinnati.

There figures to be more. On shaky ground is Wayne Fontes, whose final game as coach of the

Detroit Lions might have been Monday's night's matchup with San Francisco. Bill Parcells, who led New England to the AFC East crown, is in the final year of his contract after getting Patriots owner Robert Kraft to drop the fifth season of the pact.

There are rumors that Marty Schottenheimer might have had enough in Kansas City; that Mike White could be out any day in Oakland; and that Dennis Green, despite an enviable coaching record that includes playoff appearances in four of his five seasons as coach - including this year - is in trouble.

The coaching carousel is practically spinning out of control.

Reeves pretty much talked his way out of the Giants job. He led them to a wild-card playoff berth in 1993, but

the team went backward after that. When Reeves complained publicly about how the organization was run and his lack of input on personnel decisions, his chances of remaining in New York disappeared, especially when the team went 6-10.

"It was not a power struggle. It was more a philosophy struggle," said Reeves, 31-33 in his New York tenure.

Added George Young, the general manager whose drafting and free agency moves have come under attack in recent years but who has the full support of ownership:

"It evolved over the second half of the season," Young said. "I'm not apologizing for anything. We made

a decision. We wanted to go in a different direction. ... We felt we wanted to change leadership."

It was in Atlanta, although team president Taylor Smith offered kind words for Jones, who lasted three years and was 19-29. Jones had two years to go on his contract, but when the Falcons fell from a wild-card spot to 3-13 - and franchise quarterback Jeff George was cut after a sideline spat with Jones caught by television cameras - a coaching change seemed inevitable.

"Ultimately, coaches are judged by win-loss records," Smith said. "But as far as holding him totally responsible for our record, it probably wouldn't be accurate. We need to take a whole look at where we are as an organization."

Where they were in 1996 was near the bottom, along with the Rams and Jets.

Brooks lost his job after two years, in which he went 7-9 and 6-10. He made an argument for keeping his position by mentioning how young the Rams were. Brooks said he left the franchise in great shape, with 13 first-year players on the two-deep roster.

"Rich's view to me was that he thought I was making a mistake," Rams president John Shaw said. "I understand his view. But at this point I wasn't terribly confident that the direction we were going was such that we would win next year."

Shaw was most upset by the Rams' weak defense and large number of penalties under Brooks. The Rams allowed a team-record 418 points last year and 409 this year, and they tied a team record with 133 penalties this season.

Shaw did not mention that the front office dealt away two of St. Louis' three best players - Jerome Bettis and Sean Gilbert - in the offseason.

Kotite's departure was the most predictable. He ran lackadaisical practices. His teams faltered in the second half of games. An inordinate number of players got hurt.

Like the Rams, the Jets committed too many penalties and were porous on defense. Some games, they looked like they had no clue - on the field and on the sideline.

Spurs' Robinson breaks foot; San Antonio routed by Miami

By The Associated Press

Just when San Antonio was starting to get on track, the Spurs lost David Robinson again.

Robinson, who missed the first 18 games of the season with back problems, broke a bone in his left foot in the fourth quarter of Monday night's 90-79 loss to Miami.

The Spurs center will have surgery this week and will be out about six weeks. San Antonio is 3-3 with Robinson and 3-15 without him this season.

"Seems like we've been snake-bit all season," said Robinson, who was on crutches in the locker room. "I just came down on it and started to get into defensive position, and could feel something pull in it. I knew it was hurt right away. I was just praying that it wasn't broken."

Alonzo Mourning scored 32 points for the Heat, who won their 12th straight road game. The NBA record for consecutive road victories is 16 by the Los Angeles Lakers, who did it during their 33-game overall winning streak in 1971-72.

"We're satisfied anytime we can get a 'W' on the road," said Heat guard Tim Hardaway, who had 11 points and eight assists. "I have no idea why we're playing so well, but it feels great."

Elsewhere in the NBA, it was New York 82, Atlanta 76; Orlando 89, Cleveland 84; Minnesota 107, Utah 98; Chicago 113, New Jersey 81; Milwaukee 81, Houston 76; Denver 112, Phoenix 109 in overtime; Washington 106, Portland 84; and Sacramento 100, Los Angeles Clippers 88.

Bulls 113, Nets 81
At Chicago, Michael Jordan scored 24 points and Scottie Pippen 20 as the

Bulls won their seventh straight. Kerry Kittles and Kendall Gill scored 19 points each for the Nets, who lost for the sixth time in seven games.

Knicks 82, Hawks 76
At New York, Charles Oakley grabbed a season-high 18 rebounds and New York held Atlanta without a basket for almost seven minutes in the fourth quarter. Patrick Ewing scored 17 points for the Knicks, who won for the 10th time in 11 games. Steve Smith led the Hawks with 22 points.

Magic 89, Cavaliers 84
At Orlando, Rony Seikaly scored a season-high 33 points to help the Magic stop a five-game losing streak. Horace Grant had 20 points and 12 rebounds for Orlando. Tyrone Hill and Terrell Brandon each scored 20 points for Cleveland, which had its five-game winning streak snapped.

Timberwolves 107, Jazz 98
At Minneapolis, Stephon Marbury scored a career-high 33 points to lead the Timberwolves over Utah. Terry Porter scored a season-high 20 points for the Wolves. Karl Malone had 22 points and 13 rebounds for Utah, which has lost four of seven.

Bucks 81, Rockets 76
At Houston, Sherman Douglas scored 11 of his 19 points in the third quarter as Milwaukee handed the Rockets their fourth straight loss. The Bucks overcame a 37-point performance by Hakeem Olajuwon, who led a second-half rally that fell just short. Vin Baker had 17 points and 16 rebounds for the Bucks.

Nuggets 112, Suns 109, OT
At Phoenix, Bryant Stith scored 36 points, one short of his career high, as Denver beat the Suns in overtime. Stith, Antonio McDyess and Mark Jackson each hit two free throws in the final 27 seconds, helping the Nuggets overcome a late barrage of 3-pointers by Phoenix. Rex Chapman scored 18 points for Phoenix.

Bullets 106, Blazers 84
At Portland, Juwan Howard scored 23 of his 27 points in the first half and Chris Webber had 23 points and 11 rebounds for Washington. Arvydas Sabonis led the Blazers with 23 points and eight rebounds.

Kings 100, Clippers 88
At Sacramento, Mitch Richmond scored 23 points and the Kings led all the way en route to their season-high third straight victory.

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Jerry Rice catches tenth All-Pro selection

NEW YORK (AP) - Jerry Rice, the most prolific receiver in NFL history, was selected to his 10th Associated Press All-Pro Team on Monday.

Rice, who leads the league in virtually every career receiving category, has been an All-Pro every year except 1985, his rookie season, and 1991. The San Francisco 49ers star earned 77 of a possible 93 votes from a national panel of sports writers.

"It's been a very tough season, but to be respected that way, you feel like you still bring something special to

your team," said Rice, who had 103 receptions for 1,205 yards and eight touchdowns (plus on rushing) entering Monday night's finale against Detroit, whose wideout, Herman Moore, also made the All-Pro squad. "I never take it for granted. It's not something you expect."

The leading vote-getter was Pittsburgh center Dermontti Dawson, who received 87 votes. It is the fourth straight All-Pro year for Dawson.

"It's a great honor," Dawson said. "You never know ... but it is a great

honor to be the leading vote-getter. You just do your job, and whatever happens, happens. But you never expect anything like that.

"There's a lot of good centers in the league. I just think it's because of what I do. I do a lot more than most (centers). I'm recognized a little bit more because of the schemes here, and I get to showcase my talent a little more."

Joining Rice, Moore and Dawson on the offense were Green Bay quarterback Brett Favre, running backs Terrell Davis of Denver and

Jerome Bettis of Pittsburgh, fullback Larry Centers of Arizona, tight end Shannon Sharpe of Denver, tackles Erik Williams of Dallas and Gary Zimmerman of Denver and guards Randall McDaniel of Minnesota and Larry Allen of Dallas.

McDaniel made it for the sixth time, including the last five. Zimmerman was an All-Pro in 1987 and '88, but not since.

Leading the balloting on defense was Buffalo end Bruce Smith, who made the team for the seventh time.

Smith got 84 votes, far ahead of the other defensive end, Alfred Williams of Denver.

Bryant Young of San Francisco and John Randle of Minnesota were chosen at tackle. Randle made it for the fourth successive year.

The linebackers were Kevin Greene of Carolina and Chad Brown of Pittsburgh on the outside, Sam Mills of Carolina and Junior Seau of San Diego inside.

In the secondary were Deion Sanders of Dallas and Ashley Ambrose of Cincinnati at cornerback, LeRoy Butler of Green Bay and Darren Woodson of Dallas at safety.

All four special teams players were chosen for the first time: Indianapolis kicker Cary Blanchard, Carolina

return man Michael Bates, and punters Chris Gardocki of Indianapolis and Matt Turk of Washington, who tied.

Other first-timers were: Alfred Williams, Ambrose, Young, Brown and Mills on defense; Davis, Allen and Centers on offense. Centers is the first player chosen at fullback, which was added to the ballot this year.

In all, 16 NFC players and 12 AFC players made the team. Denver and Dallas led the way with four each, while Pittsburgh and Carolina had three apiece. San Francisco, Minnesota, Green Bay and Indianapolis each had two, with Detroit, Arizona, Washington, Buffalo, San Diego and Cincinnati represented by one player.

Red Raiders prepare for Iowa

It's not Honolulu in December, but Alamo Bowl positives outweigh Aloha

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) - Texas Tech Red Raiders from all corners of the state were to converge upon San Antonio Tuesday to begin a week of preparation and hype leading up to Sunday's Alamo Bowl game.

Despite the erratic practice of late-Tech coaches haven't seen their players since last Wednesday - head coach Spike Dykes anticipates the Red Raiders will be ready for No. 21 Iowa.

"It's always a little hard to get focused," Dykes said of the brief two-a-day workouts he held last week. "The guys did a good job though."

The bitter cold snap that froze Texas forced the Red Raiders into their indoor facility, which offers a flat, artificial turf more similar to the Alamodome's than Tech's Jones Stadium.

Climate control wasn't the only thing that separated this month's workouts from August preseason, safety Dane Johnson said.

"You've got so much time to practice when you know you've only got one game," Johnson said. "At the beginning of the season, you do two-a-days knowing you've got 11 games left."

The bowl game has special significance for Johnson, a junior from the Fort Worth area. Tech edged

out Iowa in their battle to recruit him, and he knows some of the Hawkeyes he'll line up against Sunday.

"It's kind of a crazy last game of the year," he said. "I've got one more year left, and I'm playing my second-choice school."

Dykes and Johnson agree they'd rather be heading to San Antonio than Honolulu, site of the Aloha Bowl that appeared to have Tech (7-4) locked up until Texas upset Nebraska for the Big 12 championship.

Dykes appreciates the greater level of competition Iowa (8-3) offers than California would at the Aloha. Cal (6-5) petered out after a fast start and finished among Pac 10 also-rans.

"The biggest thing that's enticing about the Alamo Bowl is playing a ranked team," Dykes said. "One of reasons you like to go to a bowl is to enhance your ... ranking. This gives us a chance to do that."

Johnson said the Alamo's positives far outweigh those of the Aloha. "The only thing good about that is a free trip to Hawaii," he said.

Cowboys get ready for Minnesota

IRVING, Texas (AP) - The defending Super Bowl champion Dallas Cowboys really are taking the Minnesota Vikings seriously although it didn't seem that way at Valley Ranch on Monday.

The Cowboys sleepwalked through a 37-10 loss to the Washington Redskins on Sunday, resting their regulars for Saturday's divisional playoff game with the Vikings at 3 p.m. Texas Stadium.

Coach Barry Switzer then gave the team Monday off with preparations for the Vikings starting on Tuesday.

"I believe resting our top players against the Redskins is going to do us worlds of good," he said.

Switzer said Monday that tight end Eric Bjornson, who has played hurt most of the season, could be the biggest benefactor of being held out of the Redskins game.

"Eric will practice tomorrow and that will be the first time this year we've had him for the first day of practice in several weeks," Switzer said. "We need him in our offense."

The Cowboys won't have veteran tight end Jay Novacek or defensive end Charles Haley available because of back injuries.

(Quarterback) Troy Aikman said if there was any chance we'd have Novacek for the game he would be here now," Switzer said.

Haley, who had an operation a month ago, is working toward playing at sometime in the playoffs.

"I think if we get to New Orleans (Super Bowl), Haley will want to suit up," Switzer said.

The Cowboys last faced the Vikings in 1995, winning 23-17 in overtime. Saturday's game marks the first time Dallas has been in the first round of the playoffs since 1991.

The game has been met with lukewarm response by the fans. Although they've known for two week the Cowboys would host a first-round game, there are still some 3,000 tickets available.

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CLUTE, Texas - It's Christmas time. The lights are up. The stockings hung. Presents under the tree. And Santa's here!
Only, this is no ordinary Santa.

P.J. Trotta, police officer, community affairs liaison and D.A.R.E. instructor, trades his badge and gun for a red suit and white beard. He also exchanges his yamulke for a red hat and his menorah for a

bag of toys. You guessed it. This Santa is Jewish. But that doesn't stop him from bringing joy to kids of all ages as he makes his way around town, handing

out candy canes and listening to Christmas wishes. Trotta, a former president of JaCOB, the Jewish Community of Brazoria, describes himself as "a good Jewish boy... very respectable. ... That goes back to my grandmother and her influence on me."

But, he quickly adds, Christmas has always been a very magical time of year for him. "And if there's any magic in the world, it's Santa," Trotta said.

Trotta is now a member of the Assembly of God church, although he still observes Jewish holidays. "I've studied the religion... it's been a choice, a struggle," he said. "It's taken years and years of back and forth," between Judaism and Christianity.

As Trotta holds two little giggling girls in his lap, it's plain to see that the magic of Santa is there, even after 15 years. As part of that magic, Trotta winks and makes the kids promise: "You

have to do Santa a favor if you want him to bring you gifts. When it's time for you to go to bed, you have to go to sleep right away. No peeking, OK." And whether they're four or 40 or somewhere in between, they all laugh and agree.

"The kids love him," said Lucy, Trotta's wife and his biggest fan. "I think the most important thing is that when it comes to Santa Claus,

there are no barriers. Santa Claus is Santa Claus to everyone. P.J. loves the kids. I think it's because he's young at heart. You have to love children to be able to convey that love to them because children can sense the difference."

State Capital



HIGHLIGHTS
By Lyndell Williams & Ed Sterling
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

AUSTIN — Working with his new roster of 16 Republicans and 14 Democrats, Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock handed out Senate committee assignments last week.

When making selections Bullock said he was more interested in the talents of individual senators than their party affiliation, but Democrats still hold eight of the 13 committee chairmanships.

"My underlying criteria is what works best for Texas, works best for the Senate," Bullock said.

Key chairmanships were given to Republicans. Bill Ratliff of Mount Pleasant will head the Finance Committee; Teel Bivins of Amarillo, Education; David Sibley of Waco, Economic Development; and J.E. "Buster" Brown of Lake Jackson, Natural Resources.

Ken Armbrister, D-Victoria retains chairmanship of the powerful State Affairs Committee.

Anne Marie Kilday, spokeswoman for the Texas Democratic Party, said, "While it's true Republicans hold a slim majority of seats in the Senate, many of them are not veteran lawmakers. You really need people who've been through the process to steer legislation through committees."

A Republican party spokesman said party officials will analyze the assignments before judging them.

Bush Tax Plan Taking Shape
Karen Hughes, press secretary

to Gov. George W. Bush, said the governor indeed has a school property tax relief plan, and one he hopes state leaders he has been meeting with can agree on.

Bush's plan includes a new business tax to replace the state's corporate franchise tax. The tax would be assessed once a year based on a business' receipts, minus the costs of goods and capital investment.

Revenue raised through such a tax would be designed to offset the proposed homestead exemption from \$5,000 to \$25,000.

While Bush has not said when he would make his plan public, Hughes told the *Dallas Morning News* the plan was in an emerging, evolving process. "Legislators are coming in with ideas. The governor is willing to listen and wants to listen."

Meanwhile, last week, a plan that would cut school property taxes by as much as \$3 billion a year was circulated among a select group of legislators and later obtained by the *Austin American-Statesman*.

The tax break would be spread among business property owners and homeowners, and it would be paid for by consumers and businesses, with higher sales taxes and a business activity tax.

Sen. Tom Craddick, R-Midland, chairman of the tax-writing Ways and Means Committee, said the plan is only a starting point for discussion, but added, "There is an excellent chance that something like this could pass."

Safe-School Revisions Sought
Senate Education Committee Chairman Bivins last week filed legislation that would broaden the "safe schools" provision in the 1995 education reform law.

The legislation would:

- Give schools the discretion to expel students for misdemeanor drug offenses;
- Ensure students are informed of allegations against them and have a

chance to respond;

Require alternative programs run by juvenile justice authorities to serve all students who are expelled, not just those who are declared delinquent by a court; and

Require schools to place students in alternative education programs for off-campus felonies only if the student has been charged and the school has been notified.

"The purpose of this package is to further the cause of safe schools," Bivins told the Associated Press.

Tuition Deregulation Off Agenda

Also last week, Bivins said deregulating college and university tuition will not be among his priorities for higher education.

Bivins, who supported a tuition-deregulation proposal by former Senate Education Committee Chairman Bill Ratliff, told the *American-Statesman*, "One of my concerns is that (deregulation) might create a group of second-class institutions."

"So long as we have a system of public higher education, I think there are some good arguments to treat everyone equally."

Under Ratliff's proposal, the governing boards of individual institutions could set their own tuition rates, but no lower than the state rate established by the Legislature.

Other Capital Highlights

The Texas Sunset Commission authorized the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse to operate for the next 12 years. The 1997 Legislature must approve the authorization. TCADA was placed in conservatorship in 1995 after an investigation of financial mismanagement in local treatment centers.

Tougher parole measures for sex offenders have helped reduce the number of sexual assaults in Texas by 17 percent since 1993, said Tony Fabelo, executive director of the Criminal Justice Policy Council. The parole board is getting tougher, almost never granting parole, he said.

STATEMENT FOR PUBLICATION

WALCOTT INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 1996

Data Control Codes	Governmental Fund Types	Totals (Memorandum Only)				
		August 31, 1996	August 31, 1995			
	100-199	200-499	98	97		
	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund				
	5700	Local, Intermediate, and Out-of-State	\$ 281,977	\$ 9,344	\$ 291,321	\$ 289,862
	5800	State Program Revenues	385,009	3,424	388,433	358,638
	5900	Federal Program Revenues	—	40,826	40,826	30,466
	5030	Total Revenue	666,986	53,594	720,580	678,966
		EXPENDITURES:				
	0011	Instruction	231,943	30,957	262,900	252,502
	0022	Instructional Resources and Media Services	18,855	—	18,855	17,314
	0025	Curriculum & Instructional Staff Development	448	—	448	315
	0033	Health Services	2,597	—	2,597	1,709
	0034	Student Transportation	163,915	—	163,915	135,137
	0036	Co-curricular Activities	5,980	—	5,980	5,501
	0037	Food Services	—	68,372	68,372	60,115
	0041	General Administration	78,634	—	78,634	79,526
	0051	Plant Maintenance and Operations	88,146	—	88,146	114,516
	0081	Community Service	464	—	464	695
	6050	Total Expenditures	595,982	99,329	695,311	667,330
	1100	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	71,004	(45,735)	25,269	11,636
	7990	Other Resources	—	47,482	47,482	30,681
	8990	Other (Uses)	(47,482)	—	(47,482)	(30,681)
	1200	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues and Other Resources Over Expenditures and Other Uses	23,522	1,747	25,269	11,636
	0100	Fund Balance - September 1 (Beginning)	69,803	—	69,803	58,167
	1300	Increase (Decrease) in Fund Balance	—	—	—	—
	3000	Fund Balance - August 31 (Ending)	\$ 93,325	\$ 1,747	\$ 95,072	\$ 69,803

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This firm has built a fine reputation for reliable dealings and the editors of this 1996 Holiday Business Review recommend them to all in this section who have scrap metal to sell. Feel free to call and find out exciting information regarding recycling for schools and other organizations. Help beautify America, take your scrap metal to **HEREFORD IRON & METAL CO.**

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TIM HENDERSON - DISTRICT MANAGER
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sweeping along with many other services. If you're looking for dependable service, see **BFI WASTE SYSTEMS** and become one of their many satisfied customers. As the compilers of this 1996 Holiday Business Review, we know that you'll really like the kind of effort that this company puts into every job.

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any problem. They have won the admiration of doctors, nursing home and hospital administrators, and patients alike, for quality equipment and excellent service. 24-hour delivery service is always available to their patients. Remember the name, **AMERICAN HOME PATIENT**. Whether you need a hospital bed, crutches, a walker, wheelchair, oxygen and respiratory equipment or anything else in the hospital or healthcare equipment line, you're sure to find it here.

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HOLLEY FUNERAL HOME

ARNOLD HOLLEY - DIRECTOR
FAMILY OWNED

Time and service have honored the name **HOLLEY FUNERAL HOME**, located at 11th St and Hwy. 60 in Canyon, phone 665-1041 for many years. This reputable firm has served the people of this area reliably and well. They offer dignified, affordable service to families of all faiths. These funeral directors can offer you a full service or simple funeral within the means of every family. They relieve you of all worry and responsibility in a friendly and understanding manner. You may feel secure knowing that the final tribute to your loved one will be conducted to your personal wishes. The directors will gladly answer any questions regarding pre-need or specific funeral services, frankly and confidentially. Their desire is to plan the service with the family to suit your personal requirements. **HOLLEY FUNERAL HOME** has earned an excellent reputation for serving the people of this area with professionalism and understanding.

DOCTORS CLINIC WEIGHT LOSS CENTER

4714 S. WESTERN AMARILLO, TEXAS 355-8263

If you heard it was good before, you haven't heard all of the story! It's even better now! Over 90% of the people lost weight on the **DOCTORS CLINIC** program before, but now it should be even better. Our programs to help you keep it off are better also! How do you lose weight? You either decrease the amount of calories you take in eating, or you increase the amount of calories you burn up, or, better yet, you do both. There are pills which will help keep you from getting hungry, and help make you feel full. Some people become somewhat immune to these after awhile. We now have ways to help prevent this from happening. Some people have a low metabolism. We also now use **Redux** and the **Phen-fen** program in selected cases that qualify and the patients prefer this method. But, we have also found some natural products that we feel do as well and have much less chance of side effects. We prefer to use these. For example; the reason that **Penfluramine** works is that it increases serotonin levels in the body. Serotonin appears to decrease appetite, decrease carbohydrate craving, increase the feeling of fullness, and increase metabolism. We have found a natural substance that is a metabolic precursor of serotonin. It does not require a prescription, and we feel it is just as effective. Also, people are not likely to get side effects, because this is not foreign to your body.

We have a number of ways we can help tailor your weight loss program for your special needs. Whether it is nervous eating, binge eating, low metabolism, inability to exercise, depression or some other problem you have, we think we can help. We have one of the largest weight loss centers in the Southwest. There's a reason for that. Come find out why and join the 1,000's of people who have lost weight at the **DOCTORS CLINIC**. Call NOW for a free consultation, (806) 355-8263. The **FIRST 100** people that bring a copy of this article with them will receive a special gift, whether you start a program or not.

Television

2 Disney Channel	9 WGN, Chicago	16 The Weather Channel	23 Turner Classic Movies	30 Headline News	37 History Channel
3 Local Weather	10 KFDA (CBS), Amarillo	17 The Family Channel	24 Nashville Network	31 Nickelodeon	38 Odyssey
4 KAMR (NBC), Amarillo	11 C-SPAN	18 Showtime	25 The Discovery Channel	32 USA Network	39 QVC
5 KACV (PBS), Amarillo	12 C-SPAN II	19 Local Access	26 Arts & Entertainment	33 Univision	40 ESPN2
6 WTBS, Atlanta	13 KCIT (FOX), Amarillo	20 HBO	27 Lifetime	34 CMT	41 MTV
7 KVII (ABC), Amarillo	14 ESPN	21 Cinemax	28 Fox Sports Southwest	35 TLC	42 VH-1
8 TBN	15 CNN	22 CNBC	29 TNT	36 Cartoon Network	43 Galavisión

TUESDAY DECEMBER 24

6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM
Movie: The Santa Clause	Goof Troop	Toys	C'mas Year	Movie: It Happened One Christmas	Movie: Babes in Toyland					
News	Ent. Tonight	Mad-You	Something	Frasier	Caroline	Destinee				Christmas Eve
NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	News	Frontline	Perspective	C'mas-Neval	Charlie Rose					
Video	Grinch	(:35) Movie: Santa Claus (1985)	Dudley Moore. **½	(:35) Movie: Scrooge (1970)	Albert Finney. ***½					
News	Wth. Fortune	Roseanne	Life's Work	Home Imp.	Spin City	NYPD Blue				Christmas Eve News
Fam. Mat.	Bzzz!	7th Heaven	Savannah	News	Movie: Scrooge (1951)	Alastair Sim. ***				Seinfeld
News	Home Imp.	Promised Land	Movie: A Holiday to Remember (1995)	Connie Sellecca.	News	Clovis Church Christmas				
Roseanne	Mad-You	Movie: Rise & Walk: The Dennis Byrd Story (1994)	Xena: Warrior Princess	Mad-You	Martin	Real TV				
Sportstr.	Up Close Special	Best of Sportscenter	Areta Awards for Courage	Sportscenter	Cheerlead					
Jesus of Nazareth		Sandi Patti: O Holy Night!	700 Club		Three Stooges	Carson				
Movie: Christmas That	Movie: The Santa Clause	Tim Allen. PG	(:40) Movie: Houseguest (1995)	Sinbad, Phil Hartman.	Movie: Home-Holidays					
Movie: Gags-Nutcr	Movie: Sabrina (1995)	Harrison Ford, Julia Ormond. PG	(:15) Movie: Cutesless Alicia Silverstone. *** PG-13	Mr. Show						
Movie: Faceless Kelly PG	Movie: Black Day Blue Night	Gil Belows. (:45)	Movie: Juice (1992)	Omar Epps, Tupac Shakur. R	Movie: When Nature Calls					
Movie: Devil Makes 3	Movie: The Man Who Came to Dinner (1941)	***½	Movie: Holiday Affair (1949)	***	Movie: Meet-St. Louis					
Dukes of Hazzard	Video Christmas	Beach Country Christmas	Country	Club Dance	Dallas	Dukes				
Bay. 2000	Next Step	Wild Discovery	Mysterious	World	Wonderful Kangaroo	Next Step	Bay. 2000	Wild Disc.		
Equalizer	Biography		Sherlock Holmes		Law & Order					
Movie: Ebbie (1995)	Susan Lucci. **½		Movie: The Color Purple (1985)	Whoopi Goldberg, Danny Glover. ***½						
FOX Sports News	College Bowl Preview	Ski Prime	Figure Skating: Skate America	FOX Sports News	Sports					
In the Heat of the Night	Yogi's First Christmas		Flinstones Christmas	Movie: A Christmas Story (1983)	***					
Doug	Rugrats	Alex Mack	Happy Days	I Love Lucy	Munsters	M.T. Moore	Rhoda	Taxi	Odd Couple	Bewitched
Movie: Back to the Future Part II (1989)	***	(:10) Movie: Back to the Future Part III (1990)	Michael J. Fox. ***	(:40) Movie: Pure Luck						
Premios Eros	Pelucula		Primer Impacto Noc.	P. Impacto	Noticiero	Miss Gallo				
Vietnam	Jerusalem	Shogun	Year by Year	Jerusalem						
CHR Diving	HS Helman	NFL's Greatest Moments	NFL Lineman	NFL's Super Bowl Team	Hollywood's Love-Football	NFL Great				

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 25

12:30	1 PM	1:30	2 PM	2:30	3 PM	3:30	4 PM	4:30	5 PM	5:30
(:12:15) Movie: The Santa Clause	PG	Baby-Sitters	Movie: A Mom for Christmas	**	Rudolph's Shiny New Year	Frosty	Doug's			
Days-Lives	Another World	Mauri			Ent. Tonight	NBA Show	NBA Basketball			
Body Elec.	Christmas	Atlanta Symphony Gospel Christmas	Cincinnati Pope Holiday	Carols From Atlanta	Country Christmas					
(:11:05) Movie: *** The Greatest Story Ever Told (1965)		(:05) Movie: Ben-Hur (1959)	Charlton Heston, Jack Hawkins. ****							
(:11:00) College Football Blue-Gray All-Star Classic	College Football	Aloha Bowl - California vs. Navy								
News	Magnum, P.I.	Beauty and the Beast	Beverly Hills, 90210	Fam. Mat.	Dreams	Saved-Bell	Saved-Bell			
Bold & B.	As the World Turns	Gauding Light	Dating	Newlywed	Day & Date	News	CBS News			
Matlock	Little House on the Prairie	Mr. Cooper	Step-Step	Batman	Spider-Man	Beetleborgs	Rangers	Fresh Pr.	Simpsons	
Gymnastics Rook 'n' Roll Challenge	Golf	Sanlor PGA Golf Merrill Lynch Shootout	Up Close	Sportstr.						
Home	Home & Family Christmas	Movie: To Grandmother's House We Go (1992)	**	Movie: Christmas Every Day (1996)	Robert Hays.					
(:11:45) Movie: Mazie PG	Movie: Home for the Holidays	Holly Hunter. PG-13	(:20) Movie: The Hallmark of Notre Dame	Movie: Roommates (1995)						
Movie: Spell God	Movie: The Swan Princess **½ G	(:15) Movie: The Cherokee Kid	Sinbad.	(:15) Movie: It Takes Two						
Movie: Dr. Jekyll-Ma.	(:45) Movie: Nine Months	Hugh Grant. ** PG-13	Movie: Richie Rich	Macaulay Culkin. PG	(:05) Movie: Fozzie (1992)					
Movie: L.H.	Movie: A Christmas Story (1983)	Peter Billingsley. ***	Movie: Christmas in Connecticut (1945)	**	Movie: Three Godfathers					
Wildhorse	VideoPM	America's Country Hits	Dallas	Wildhorse Saloon	Club Dance					
Home	Housemart	Interior Mot.	Great Chets	Culinea	Great Chets	Travelers	Go for It!			
Equalizer	McCloud	Quincy								
(:12:00) Movie: **½ Ebbie (1995)	Movie: A Different Kind of Christmas (1996)									
(:12:00) Figure Skating	Sid Prime	High School Basketball	Kroul Classic	Remington	Thoroughbr	Big 12 Showcase				
(:12:00) Movie: A Christmas Story (1983)	Flinstones Christmas	Yogi's First Christmas								
Wubulous	Gummy	Chipmunks	All That	(:45) Nick in the Afternoon	Gadget	Kenan & Kel	Rocko's Life	Alex Mack	Tiny Toon	
(:11:30) Movie: Back to the Future Part III (1990)	Mark Hamill, Carrie Fisher. ****	Movie: Star Wars (1977)	Mark Hamill, Carrie Fisher. ****	Movie: The Empire Strikes Back (1980)						
(:12:00) Navidad con las Estrellas	Cristina	Primer Impacto	Noticiero							
(:12:00) A.D.	A.D.									
Extreme	Destination Extreme	ASA In-Line Tour	NBA	NBA	A.D.	NBA	NBA	Firefighters' Challenge		

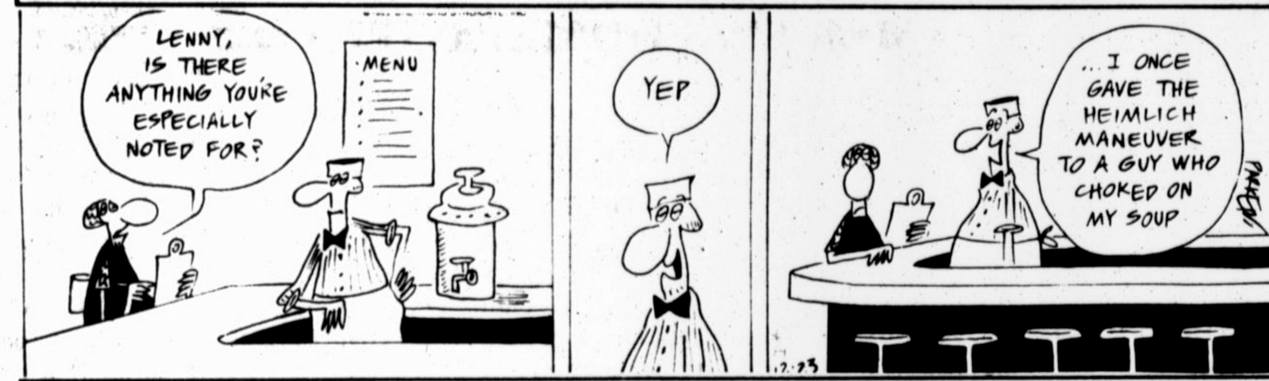
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 25

7 AM	7:30	8 AM	8:30	9 AM	9:30	10 AM	10:30	11 AM	11:30	12 PM
Pooh	Mermald	Frosty	Mickey	Small One	Mole	Disney Christmas	Goof Troop	C'mas Year		
Today				Leaza	Geraldo Rivera	Leaza	Days-Lives			
Great Masters	Sesame Street	Puzzle Place	Mr Rogers	Storytime	Reading	Arthur	Barney	Lamb Chop		
Brady	Bewitched	Little House on the Prairie	(:05) Little House on the Prairie	Movie: The Greatest Story Ever Told						
Good Morning America	Walt Disney World Very Merry Christmas Parade	College Football: Blue-Gray Classic								
Bugs/Duffy	Animals	C'mas-Church	Griffith	Empty Nest	Charlie's Angels	Geraldo Rivera	News			
This Morning	Ricki Lake	Price is Right	Young and the Restless	News						
Life-Louis	Quack Pack	Mask	TBA	Fox After Breakfast	Maureen O'Boyle	K. Copeland	Paid Prog.	Matlock		
Sportstr.	Best of Sportscenter	Best of Sportscenter	Best of Sportscenter	Gymnastics						
Santa Is Coming to Town	Pinochio's Christmas	700 Club	FIT TV	Holiday Beefs	Home					
Movie: Two Little Bears	Eddie Albert. **	(:25) Movie: Roommates	Peter Falk. PG	(:15) Movie: The Canadians	Robert Ryan. (:45) Movie: Mazie (1985)					
Movie: Storybook	Movie: It Takes Two	Kirstie Alley. ** PG	(:45) Movie: Necessary Roughness	Scott Bakula. **½	Movie: Brady Bunch					
(:45) Movie: The Neverending Story	Movie: Dreamrider	Matthew Geriak. PG	Movie: Miracle on 34th Street	Richard Attenborough.	Movie:					
Movie: Bundle of Joy (1956)	Debbie Reynolds. **	Movie: Susan Slept Here (1954)	Dick Powell. **	Movie: Little Women (1949)	**½					
(Off Air)	VideoMorning	Dallas	Aleane's Crafts	Wildhorse						
Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Invention	Invention	Home Matters	Housesmart!	Start	Interior Mot.	Home		
McCloud	Quincy	Poirt	Sherlock Holmes	Equalizer						
Baby Knows	KidsDays	Movie: A Hobo's Christmas (1987)	**½	Movie: Always Remember I Love You (1990)	**	Movie:				
FOX Sports News	Skating Magazine on TV	Best of the Houston Astros								
Scooby Doo	Flinstones	Flinstones	Gilligan	Gilligan	Rudy and GoGo Cmas	CHIPS	Movie:			
Looney Tunes	Rugrats	Busy World	Rupert	Muppets	Allegria	Gullah	Little Bear	Blue's Clues	Scarry	
(:6:50) Movie: *** Always (1989)	Richard Dreyfus, Holly Hunter. ***	(:20) Movie: Back to the Future Part II (1989)	***	Movie: Back-Future III						
Mensaje	Los Tigrillos en Navidad	Desfile de Navidad	Disney	Control en Navidad	Estrellas					
A.D.										
Cheerlead	Cheerlead	Cheerleading	NFL Great	NFL Great	NFL Great	NFL Great	NFL Great	NFL Great	NFL Great	A.D.

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 25

6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM
Movie: Ernest Saves Christmas	PG	(:35) Movie: Mary Poppins (1964)	Julie Andrews, Dick Van Dyke. G	Honeymooners' First Christmas						
NBA Basketball: Lakers at Suns	NBA Basketball	Detroit Pistons at Chicago Bulls								
NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	Magical School Bus Holiday	Carols From Atlanta	Mountain Born	News	(:35) Tonight Show					
(:3:05) Movie: Ben-Hur	(:05) Movie: A Christmas Story (1983)	***	(:05) Stars on Ice	Movie:						
News	Wth. Fortune	Grace Under	Coach	Drew Carey	Ellen	Primetime Live	News	Seinfeld	Nightline	
Fam. Mat.	Bzzz!	Sister, St.	Nick Freno	Wayans	Jamie Foxx	News	Wesguy	Heat		
News	Home Imp.	Nanny	Pearl	Movie: The Christmas Box (1995)	Maureen O'Hara.	News	(:35) Late Show			
Roseanne	Mad-You	Movie: Hero (1992)	Dustin Hoffman, Geena Davis. **½	Hercules-Jrny.	Mad-You	Martin	Real TV			
Sportstr.	All-Amer.	Gymnastics	Nutcracker on Ice	Sportscenter						
Jesus of Nazareth	Roommates	Movie: Johnny Mnemonic	Keanu Reeves.	(:40) Movie: Hackers	Jonny Lee Miller. ** PG-13	Movie: Thelma & Louise				
(:5:00) Movie: Roommates	Movie: Batman Forever	Val Kilmer. **½ PG-13	Sanders	High Life	Comedy Hour	Mr. Show				
(:5:15) Movie: It Takes Two	Movie: Leprechaun 3	Warwick Davis. R	Movie: Nick of Time	Johnny Depp. ** R	Movie: Wild Reeds	Flodie Bouchez. NR				
(:5:05) Movie: Fozzie (1992)	Movie: Winter Meeting (1948)	Bette Davis. **½	Movie: The Easiest Way (1931)	**	Movie: John Loves Mary					
Movie: Three Godfathers	Movie: Video Christmas	Video Christmas	News	Club Dance	Dallas	Dukes				
Dukes of Hazzard	Video Christmas	Video Christmas	News	Club Dance	Dallas	Dukes				
Bay. 2000	Next Step	Wild Discovery	Free Willy-Kelko's	Parka-Australia	Next Step	Bay. 2000	Wild Disc.			
Equalizer	Biography	20th Century	Law & Order	Biography						
Movie: A Home of Our Own (1993)	Kathy Bates. **	Movie: Kaleidoscope (1990)	Jachyn Smith. **½	Intimate Portrait	Vanessa W.					
FOX Sports News	Elvis on Ice	Elvis on Ice	Skating	FOX Sports News	Sports					
In the Heat of the Night	Movie: Christmas in Connecticut (1992)	**	Movie: Miracle in the Wilderness (1991)	**½	Movie:					
Doug	Rugrats	Hay Arnold!	Happy Days	Bewitched	Odd Couple	Taxi	Van Dyke	M.T. Moore	Newhart	Happy Days
Movie: Empire Strikes Back	Movie: Return of the Jedi (1983)	Mark Hamill, Harrison Ford. ***½	Movie: Cry-Baby (1990)	***						
Bendita Mantra	María la del Barrio	Canaveral de Pasiones	Fuera	Lento Loco	P. Impacto	Noticiero	La Tocado			
(:4:00) A.D.	Jerusalem	Shogun	Year by Year	Jerusalem						
Strongest Man	Strongest Man	Strongest Man	Cross-Sport Challenge	Bloopers	Bloopers					

The Wizard of Id By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



Marvin By Tom Armstrong



Blondie By Dean Young & Stan Drake



Beetle Bailey By Mort Walker



Barney Google and Snuffy Smith By Fred Lasswell



Texan recalls Christmases spent as prisoner of Japan

By **JIM BISHOP**
The Victoria Advocate
VICTORIA, Texas - At Christmastime, many Americans take for granted the plentiful food and generous gift exchanges of the season, but not Simon McCloud.

McCloud learned the hard way to appreciate even the smallest amenities of life, and he lived through three Christmases of suffering that are beyond imagination.

McCloud was a young aviation engineer stationed in the Philippines when the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

His job at that time was helping to build an airfield on the island of Luzon for 50 of the big B-17 bombers that were supposedly coming.

But only hours after Hawaii was hit, the Japanese were also bombing the Philippines. "So the only new planes we saw had rising suns under their wings," McCloud says.

Within days, Japanese troops landed and began their conquest of the island nation. But McCloud and his buddies didn't make it easy for them.

"We fought for five months," he says. "Food was running out. We were down to one meal of rations per day, but we kept fighting. We were out of everything but courage."

McCloud's engineering job turned into a machine-gunner's job as the fighting intensified. One day, the Japanese launched a "Banzai" attack, in which a mass of soldiers attacked with sub-machine guns and tried to overrun the American position.

Of the 31 men with whom McCloud was fighting, 29 died before the enemy attack was repulsed. McCloud fired the last 200 rounds from his .30-caliber gun from a standing position. This wasn't Rambo, this was real life.

But the Japanese forces were too numerous and too well equipped for the small American force, and by May 6, 1942, the Philippines were surrendered.

Thus began a nightmare for Simon McCloud that would last three years and four months. It started with one of the darkest episodes in modern warfare, when the Japanese forced McCloud and the other American troops to endure what has become known as "The Bataan Death March."

There were days of forced marching without food or water. On the first day, "they gave us each one onion," McCloud says. Another day's meal consisted of a half-cup of rice soup which was "mostly water."

All along the route of the death march, men fell dead from dysentery, or malaria, or battle wounds that went untended.

But McCloud, who at six-feet, four inches tall would see his weight go from 195 to less than 100, survived to make it to a prison camp at Cabanatuan, on Luzon Island.

His comrades continued to succumb, and McCloud volunteered for the burial detail because "that way, you could say you weren't working for the Japanese."

In the first week of his six-month stay at Cabanatuan, McCloud saw first-hand how little freedom he was to have. Four prisoners walked a few feet outside the prison fence to try to get some fresh produce off a boy who was selling the food from a cart. They were executed.

That Christmas of 1942 was bleak indeed, but some small food packages arrived from the Red Cross and one was distributed for each three prisoners. McCloud was able to get extra food by trading the cigarettes in his packet for the food from others. He remembers the corned beef tasted awfully good.

In 1943, the prisoners were taken to Japan, to become slave laborers in a steel mill, since all the young Japanese men were away fighting the war.

The work was hard, especially for men who were already in such terrible condition. And the weather was terrible - sleet falling and ice on the

ground, and the prisoners didn't even have coats.

Four hundred prisoners arrived there, but 45 days later 160 of them had died of "starvation, abuse and disease," McCloud says.

Once, he had to go five months in the same clothes and without a bath. Jungle rot took his toes, four of which he amputated himself without the benefit of a pain killer.

When he came down with pneumonia and collapsed on the job, he was kicked and stomped, but then taken to what one might call a hospital. Actually, the prisoners called it "The Dungeon."

McCloud was there 15 months, and he had the help of four allied doctors who were also prisoners. Their medical equipment consisted of a razor blade for surgery, some nail snippers for amputations, and a stethoscope.

And McCloud's second Christmas in captivity passed in this hospital. But this time, he got an entire Red Cross food package to himself. He talks fondly about the powdered milk, prunes, instant coffee and corned beef that he was treated to.

During this time, Japanese doctors performed some type of medical experiments on him, but McCloud has

no idea exactly what they were doing. He does know he was cut open from chest to navel once, then sutured back up. Other times, they would tap spinal fluid from him, mix it with some unknown liquid, and re-inject it into him.

Still, he lived, and he saw a third Christmas as a prisoner in 1944 - with another Red Cross package for a treat.

In the summer of 1945, rumors began to spread about an allied invasion of the Japanese homeland. The prisoners were told that they would be digging their own graves and would be shot before the invasion began.

Then, the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima. And a few days later, on Aug. 9, 1945, McCloud's birthday, Harry Truman gave me a special birthday present by dropping a second A-bomb on Nagasaki."

The war was ending, and from his prison camp McCloud watched as a flight of B-29s came overhead. Their bomb bay doors opened, and McCloud grew fearful. "After all I've been through," he thought, "I'm going to get killed by my own Air Corps."

But these bombers were dropping crates of food and medical supplies, not explosives. And soon after that,

the Japanese soldiers just went away and the prisoners were free. McCloud boarded a train in Osaka and rode until he found some U.S. forces.

McCloud ends his fantastic story by saying simply: "That Christmas, 1945, I was able to sit down to dinner with my mother."

And to this day, at age 82, he says, "I don't drink a glass of cold water without first thanking God for it."

"Going through that just made me appreciate the small things."

 Distributed by The Associated Press

FREE GIFT WITH EVERY \$200 PURCHASE

"YEAR-END" CLEARANCE SALE

HURRY! SALE ENDS TUESDAY, DEC. 31

We are finishing another GREAT year in Plainview and Hereford and want to say THANKS to the many, many fine folks we have served during 1996. We will be closed Wednesday, January 1, for inventory and during the next two weeks, our sales people have taken BIG MARK-DOWNS STOREWIDE on OVER 200 ITEMS that must go before inventory. We want to SELL IT - NOT COUNT IT. As always, we have bank and in-store financing, FAST credit approval and FREE DELIVERY in our trade area.

Merry Christmas From Everyone At Poarch's!

SAVE 20% OFF

SAVE 30% OFF

SAVE 40% OFF

SAVE 50% OFF



RECLINERS
By Lane

"5 STYLES TO CHOOSE FROM"
BUY ONE GET ONE FREE!



Beautiful DINING ROOM SETS
30% OFF REG. RETAIL



ALL 1996 SEALY POSTUREPEDIC
UP TO 40% OFF REG. RETAIL

WHILE THEY LAST!!
 First Quality Southland Bedding Sleep Sets
 Unbelievable Savings

"PILLOW-TOPS"
1/2 OFF REG. RETAIL

HURRY! - SALE ENDS DEC. 31!

Recipients won't lose food stamps

By **DARLENE SUPERVILLE**
 Associated Press Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) - Thanks to Congress, thousands of physically able men and women without dependents, who expected to lose their food stamps next year under a new federal welfare law, will continue to collect them.

Signed in August by President Clinton, the law reduced eligibility for the able-bodied to three months in a three-year period, unless the recipient works at least 20 hours a week, looks for work or is enrolled in job training.

The loophole is a provision in the bill allowing states to seek federal permission to exempt thousands of people from the requirement, an Agriculture Department official said Sunday.

- ALL TABLE LAMPS and FLOOR LAMPS..50% OFF
- ALL MAYO SOFAS & LOVESEATS..... 25% to 33% OFF
- ALL MAYO QUEEN SOFA-SLEEPERS.....25% to 33% OFF
- ALL RIVERSIDE FLAT TOP & ROLL TOP DESK.....25% to 40% OFF
- ALL ASHLEY SOFAS & LOVESEATS..... 25% to 40% OFF
- ALL LANE 5 PC. SECTIONALS..... 30% OFF

- NO DOWN PAYMENT WITH APPROVED CREDIT
- 3 TO 36 MONTH FINANCING AVAILABLE

ALL BEDROOM GROUPS IN STOCK

20% OFF REG. RETAIL

- ALL CHINA CABINETS.....20% to 33% OFF
- ALL ASHLEY & RIVERSIDE CURIO CABINETS..... 25% to 33% OFF
- ALL TOWN SQUARE GLIDER-ROCKERS..... 33% OFF
- ALL CORONET.....\$2 to \$5 OFF per sq. yd.
- ALL MANNINGTON &.....\$2 to \$5 OFF
- ALL ARMSTRONG VINYLs (stock only) per sq. yd.

POARCH'S FURNITURE & CARPET
Where only the look is expensive

Plainview, Texas
 305 Broadway
 293-8351
 Store Hours:
 9-6 Mon. thru Sat.

Hereford, Texas
 209 E. Park
 364-4073
 Store Hours:
 9-6 Mon. thru Fri
 9-3 Sat.



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The Hereford Brand
 Since 1901
 Want Ads Do It All!
 You Want It
 You Got It!
CLASSIFIED
 364-2030
 Fax: 364-8364
 313 N. Lee

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 Classified advertising rates are based on 15 cents a word for first insertion (\$3.00 minimum), and 11 cents for second publication and thereafter. Rates below are based on consecutive issues, no copy change, straight word ads.

Times	RATE	MIN
1 day per word	.15	3.00
2 days per word	.28	5.20
3 days per word	.37	7.40
4 days per word	.46	9.60
5 days per word	.59	11.80

CLASSIFIED DISPLAY
 Classified display rates apply to all other ads not set in solid word lines those with captions, bold or large type, special paragraphing, all capital letters. Rates are 4.35 per column inch.

LEGALS
 Ad rate for legal notices are 4.45 per column inch.

ERRORS
 Every effort is made to avoid errors in word ads and legal notices. Advertisers should call attention to any errors immediately after the first insertion. We will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion. In case of errors by the publishers an additional insertion will be published.

1. ARTICLES FOR SALE

A Great Gift!!! Texas Country Reporter Cookbook -- the cookbook everyone is talking about. 256 pages featuring quotes on recipes ranging from 1944 War Worker rolls to a creative concoction using Texas tumbleweeds. \$13.95 at Hereford Brand. 17961

The Roads of Texas and The Roads of New Mexico are for sale at The Hereford Brand in book form. Texas maps are \$14.95 plus tax, and New Mexico maps are \$12.95 plus tax. Discover roads you never knew were there. Hereford Brand, 313 N. Lee. 24757

A must book for every home. THE TEXAS ALMANAC, 1996-97 edition. Updates info, facts on Texas counties, politics, education and more, including special features. \$12.95 plus tax at the Hereford Brand. 313 N. Lee St. 31062

Rebuilt Kirby's 1/2 price with warranty. Other name brands. \$39 & up. Sales & Repairs on makes & models. 364-4288. 32086

SINGER 1996 New school models. Serge finish. Heavy duty. Sew's sil, jeans, leather. Monograms, zig-zags, buttonholes, etc. 10 year factory warranty. \$198 w/ad; \$439 w/ad. Singer, 1800 S. Georgia, Amarillo. (806)467-1771. 32694

For Sale: Oak & Mesquite seasoned firewood. \$160 cord, or \$80 for 1/2 cord. \$10 delivered and stacked. 364-8736. 33225

The Gift Garden
 (In Merle Norman Cosmetics)
 We will be open Thursday, December 26, from 9 A.M. until 1:00 P.M.
Close-out Seasons knitwear \$10.00 a garment - Christmas items 50% off. Many other special prices.
 We will be closed after December 26 until January 2, 1997.
 220 N Main • 364-0323

2. FARM EQUIPMENT

Lost: Strayed Cattle, branded Lazy 10, left hip, left ear half moon notch. Others branded CW right hip, right ear end notch. Strayed from N.E. Castro County. 276-5389, 276-5337, and 276-5343. 33445

Need some furniture? Hereford's furniture stores offer a wide selection, and they invite you to shop through ads in The Brand. For best buys in furniture, look to The Brand!

3. VEHICLES FOR SALE

For Sale: 1992 Explorer in good condition. 364-5347 or 364-3709. \$8500.00. 33412

For Sale: 1992 Mitsubishi Eclipse (GS-16V). Excellent condition. Reduced for quick sale. Call 364-8535 after 5 p.m. 33414

See Us Before You Buy
Marcum Motor Co.
 Clean Used Cars & Trucks
 413 N. 25 Mile Ave. - 364-3565

4. REAL ESTATE

For Sale: Country Home, 84 acres, CRP, 2 wells, with improvements including barn & 2 garages. Will trade for house in town. 364-7676 or 276-5605. 33227

For Sale by Owner: 630 Av.J. 4-bedroom, 2 baths. Completely remodeled. New carpet, paint, appliances & ceiling fans. \$1260 down, \$438 month. 364-3955. 33370

For Sale: 3 BR, 1 Bath with garage. Low down payment with assumable loan. Brick home/well maintained in good neighborhood. 364-6444. 33424

For Sale: 2 BR Duplex, owner financed. 364-2131. 33437

For Sale: 1988 Bendix 14x76-Mobile Home. 3 BR, 2 Bath. Call 364-4741 after 6:00 364-4940. 33447

For Sale: 3 BR with all new carpet and tile, clean and freshly painted. SELLER WILL PAY ALL CLOSING COST. Take up payments of \$358.86 on qualifying assumption. CALL DON TARDY COMPANY-364-4561. 33450

HOME FOR SALE: 1 yr. old. 3 BR, 2 1/2 Bath, hot tub, sprinkler system, unique master bath. 722 Baltimore. 364-2501.

DOUBLE WIDE REPO
 Over 1,500 sq.ft., only \$399 mo. See at Oakwood Homes 5300 Amarillo Blvd. E. Amarillo, Tx • 800-372-1491 192 mos., 11.75 APR, \$2,000 dn.

"BEAT THIS"
 BUY A SPEICAL NEW HOME... No payments 'til March, '97! Plus \$500 cash back! Call Today... Oakwood Homes 800-372-1491

5. HOMES FOR RENT

Best deal in town, 1 bedroom efficiency apartments. Bills paid, red brick apartments. 300 block West 2nd. 364-3566. 920

Nice, large, unfurnished apartments. Refrigerated air, two bedrooms. You pay only electric-we pay the rest. \$335.00 month. 364-8421. 1320

Self-lock storage. 364-6110. 1360

Eldorado Arms Apts, 1 & 2 bedroom unfurnished, apts. refrigerated air, laundry, free cable, water, & gas. 364-2302 or 364-4332. 18873

Palma Lane Apartments: 2 BR apts. available. Application required. \$170 security deposit. Water & Stove furnished. Call 364-1255. M-F 9 to 5:30. EHO 32979

For Rent: 3 - Office Suite, 800 sq. ft., clean, attractive, prime location. N. Lee & 25 Mile Ave. 364-0686. 33365

Nice 2 BR, 1 bath house, fenced yard. \$400 month, \$150 deposit. Located at 506 McKinley. 364-4113. 33367

House for rent, 3 BR, 1 Bath. Fenced back yard, 1 car garage, near school. 364-7718. 33456

CROSSWORD

by THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS
 1 "The Metamorphosis" author
 6 Prepare for the game
 11 "... bombs bursting --"
 12 Target of children's searches
 13 Vegas headliner
 15 "My Party"
 16 Half of 6-Down
 17 Bullfight cry
 18 Photos
 20 Singer Callas
 23 Neighbor of Saudi Arabia
 27 Pinnacle
 28 Four-star review
 29 Yields
 31 Fathered
 32 Cupboard part
 34 Collection
 37 Yale student
 38 Simile center
 41 "Seinfeld" actor
 44 Colorado ski resort
 45 "I do" sayer
 46 Russian refusals
 47 Wise ones

DOWN
 1 New Zealand bird
 2 Med. sch. subject
 3 Writer Weldon and others
 4 Family
 5 Singer Franklin
 6 Score
 7 Unprocessed
 8 Choir member
 9 Matinee star
 10 Less than any
 14 Fresh: Prefix
 18 High die rolls
 19 Letter embellish-
 20 Buddy taking candy from a baby
 22 Blushing creature
 24 Damage
 25 December 24, e.g.
 26 Actor Beatty
 30 Glosses
 31 Throws
 33 Moose's cousin
 34 Graceful bird
 35 Like
 36 Use a keyboard
 38 Wide-eyed
 39 Monopoly token
 40 Bank machines
 42 Fishing aid
 43 Writer Levin

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RHINE CANOE
LEO APT. AMAZE
ARMADIA CUES
ESCARGOTS
TITLE
TOURNEEDOS
JUMP EASTER
AXE IRIS TEE
MELON OSAKA
ADEPT NEWER
LOTTO WARS

Yesterday's Answer

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 22 Blushing creature
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12-24

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STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-454-7377! 99c per minute, touch-tone, rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

APARTMENTS:
 Blue Water Gardens
 HEAT, A/C INCLUDED
 Rent based on income. Accepting applications for 1, 2, 3, 4 bedrooms. CALL Debra or Jenie TODAY for information & directions. 12-5pm (806)364-6861. Equal Opportunity.

8. HELP WANTED

Hereford Care Center, needs RN's & LVN's, flexible scheduling. Call or come by 231 Kingwood. Call 364-7113. 32645

CNA's SIGN ON BONUSES for caring stable persons. Must be able to pass our review of Certification Standing & All background Checks. Call MELBA PATTON at 364-7113. 33311

Immediate opening for Secondary/Elementary English Teacher at Community School. Call Jan Wilks, 364-1810 or 364-8867. 33384

Non-Profit Nursing Facility is seeking an LVN full time, 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. For consideration, please complete application in detail at the business office. Kings Manor Methodist, 400 Ranger Drive, Hereford, Tx. 33418

Position for Certification Medication Aide at Kings Manor open. Good benefit package and competitive wages. Contact Coleen at Kings Manor, 400 Ranger Drive, Hereford, Tx., Monday through Friday 8 to 5. 33457

Office Manager needed. Must have extensive knowledge and experience in Accounts Receivable, Accounts Payable, and have a working knowledge of Computers. We offer good pay and benefits. Send Resume to: P. O. Box 673 GB. 33458

Now hiring grill cooks, dishwashers & a meat cutter. Apply in person only between hours of 2-4 at Sirloin Stockade. 33461

Parttime organist and parttime choir director. First Presbyterian Church, 364-2471 leave name & telephone number. 33462

Hereford Care Center now accepting applications for LVN's, Med Aides, CMA's. Apply 231 Kingwood.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Long-term care facility in Hereford has several openings for RN's, LVN's and CNA's. FT, PT and PRN positions available. If interested please send current resume or contact.

Sandie Seller
 Golden Plains Care Center
 420 Ranger Dr.
 Hereford, Texas 79045
 806/364-3815

City of Vega (Pop. 840) is accepting applications for Police Chief through January 8, 1997 by 5:00 P.M. Must be certified. Salary negotiable. Application forms may be obtained from Mark J. Groneman, Mayor, P.O. Box 470, Vega, Texas 79092 or you may send resume to above address. 806-267-2144. AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.

9. CHILD CARE

Resuming Child Care Business, 15 years experience. Dependable care for children under five. Call Bonnie Cole, 364-6664. 33419

Experienced, Dependable, Christian Caregiver would love to care for your child. Available 12/30. N. W. Hereford area. Call Cindy at 364-6725 after 4 P.M. or leave message. 33444

HEREFORD DAY CARE
 Offering an excellent program of learning and care for your children 0-12! State Licensed!
 Also - SPECIAL AFTER-HOURS pick-up for Kindergarten Children!
364-5062
 248 E. 14th

12-24 CRYPTOQUOTES

PLZ RPYEVQX HEUR BPZ
 XPL: CQX XPL SJNJZ
 BPZAJM HRQM EU HPZMR
 ZJCJCKJZESA PZ ZJCJCKJZ
 HRQM EU KJUM BPZAPMMJS -
 XPLZ WIIYJ BZEJSVU
 Saturday's Cryptoquote: THE IDEAL CHRISTMAS GIFT IS MONEY, BUT THE TROUBLE IS YOU CAN'T CHARGE IT.—BILL VAUGHAN

All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitations or discrimination.
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TexSCAN

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 ADOPTION: A BABY is our dream. Loving couple wishes to start family. Let's help each other. Allowed legal expenses paid. Call Karen/ Bob. Toll free 1-888-999-4255. It is illegal to be paid for anything beyond medical/legal expenses.

ANTIQUES
 SCOTT ANTIQUE MARKET, two mammoth facilities, 2,400 booths - Jan. 10-12, 2nd weekend of every month. Atlanta Expo Centers - Atlanta, Georgia. 1-285 at Jonesboro Road, 614-569-4112.

DRIVERS WANTED
 ARROW TRUCKING COMPANY *flatbed and van operation *regional or longhaul *four terminals in Texas *assigned conventional *experienced drivers - owner operators. 1-800-444-6116, inexperienced training available. 817-246-3733.
 DALLAS CARRIERS DRIVERS - we appreciate you working hard to deliver America's freight. Happy holidays!! If you are not driving for us call 1-800-727-4374. BOE.
 DRIVER \$51,000\$5 SIGN-ON bonus. Starting \$26/27. Paid benefits/bonus/more. Need: 1 year OTR experience-age 23. CX/Roberson needs OTR drivers for dry vans/flatbeds for PFT/Roberson. Call 1-800-473-55. 1. BOE/mf.
 DRIVER - CALARK INTERNATIONAL offers great pay, benefits and the chance to get home more often! Must be 22 with CDL and HazMat endorsement. 1-888-422-5275.
 DRIVER - TEAM DRIVERS needed now! Immediate seating, outstanding pay programs, new conventionals, new 97 incentives. CDL with 1 year experience call Comet Transport: 1-800-351-1437.
 DRIVERS-ARTIC EXPRESS, a reefer carrier running 48 and Canada is in search of lease purchase/no \$ down. Owner operators/company drivers. Call now! 1-800-927-0431. BOE.
 DRIVERS. CALL! U.S. XPRSS is hiring. No experience required. Top pay, executive benefits and freightliner conventionals. 1-800-374-8379. Minimum investment for training.

BOE. M/F/V.H.
 DRIVERS - THE FACTS! 94-'96 KW conv. walking; 28-30¢/mi. +\$40 tarp/load. Day 1 rider program. Min. 1 yr. experience. Call Melton Truck Lines 24 hrs./7 days 1-800-635-8669 Ext. CG-8.
 DRIVERS WANTED E.L. Powell & Sons, Tulsa, OK. We offer late model equipment, good insurance, mileage pay. One year verifiable flatbed experience. 918-446-4447. 1-800-444-3777.
 HAROLD IVES TRUCKING needs motivated individuals to enter our training program. Call 1-888-270-1676 for complete information. Experienced drivers call: 1-800-842-0853.
 OTR DRIVERS WANTED! Experienced & non experienced. Free driver training, call 1-800-333-8595, 24hrs., Stevens Transport.
 OWNER/OPERATORS. YOU manage your truck and we'll manage the rest. *\$5.80 all miles (loaded and empty) *stop/drop pay *our reefer trailers/our fuel *company paid lumper/unloaded *in-house plate financing *our experienced expert staff *our ever increasing customer base *bring your truck to us today and haul your first load tomorrow - that quick!!! New Apple Lines, Inc. 1-800-843-3384, 1-800-843-8308.
 RAPID FREIGHT OF TEXAS, a Texas based carrier seeking OTR teams & singles. 95 or newer conventionals. Call Chuck at 1-800-607-5695.
 STOP! YOU ARE about to read something exciting. Average 1850 miles/trip. Top trainer earns 70K, top teams 100K. Experienced drivers 1-800-441-4394. Graduate students 1-800-338-6428.

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 JOBS WITH GREAT PAY. Promotions and benefits, employer-financed training, your choice of classroom or on-the-job training in a variety of technical fields. College tuition of technical fields. College tuition for qualified students. H.S. diploma grad. Call 1-800-292-5547.

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 ...BEHIND ON BILLS? ... get immediate relief ... Free debt management/consolidation ... reduced payments ... lower interest. Stop collection calls ... restore credit ... non-profit bonded CCCCI toll free 1-888-455-2227.
 LUMP SUM CASH for your own financed real estate note. Closing cost paid. Free quotes. Buying other kinds of cash flow, too. Call now! 1-800-687-8726.
 MONEY TO LOAN. Homeowners - we can help you when others will not. Purchase, refinancing, home improvement, more! Call AAA Mortgage & Financial Corporation 1-800-652-1757.
FOR SALE
 3 STEEL APCH buildings, new 40x30 was \$6,200, now \$5,790; 40x56 was \$10,840, now \$5,990; 50x120 was \$20,450, now \$11,990 endwalls available. 1-800-745-2685.
 HAPPY JACK TRIVERMIDICE: recognized safe & effective against hook, round & tapeworms in dogs & cats. Available at farm, feed & hardware stores.
 STEEL BUILDINGS: 5,000+ SIZES. 30X40X10, \$4,603; 40X60X14, \$8,336; 50X60X14, \$9,657; 50X100X16, \$14,756; 60X80X14, \$13,455; 60X100X16, \$16,785. Quality-service. Free brochures. Sentinel Buildings, 1-800-327-0790, Extension 79.
 WOLFF TANNING BEDS. Tan at home. Buy direct and save! Commercial/home units from \$199.00. Low monthly payments. Free color catalog. Call today 1-800-842-1305.
HEALTH
 20/20 WITHOUT GLASSES! Safe, rapid, non-surgical, permanent restoration 6-8 weeks. Airline pilot developed. Doctor approved. Free information by mail: 1-800-422-7320, Ext. 237, 406-961-5570, FAX 406-961-5577. http://www.visionfreedom.com Satisfaction guaranteed.
REAL ESTATE
 BARGAIN HOMES THOUSANDS of government foreclosed and reposessed properties being liquidated this month! Government financing. Low/no down. Call for local listing! 1-800-338-0020 ext. 299.

Call this newspaper for details on how to advertise statewide.

11. BUSINESS SERVICES

Defensive Driving Course is now being offered nights and Saturdays. Will include ticket dismissal and insurance discount. For more information, call 289-5851. #C0023-004. 700

We buy scrap iron, metal, aluminum cans, all batteries, tin, copper & brass. 364-3350. 970

Garage Door and Opener Repair & Replacement. Call Robert Betzen, 289-5500. If No answer Call Mobil, 344-2960. 14237

12. BUSINESS SERVICES

We buy cars & pickups running or not running. We sell used auto parts of all kinds. 364-2754. 27574

Forrest Insulation & Construction. We insulate attics, sidewall, metal buildings. Free estimates. 364-5477 or 346-2143. 30955

Tree & Shrub trimming & removal. Leaf raking & assorted lawn work, rotatilling and seeding of new lawns. 364-3356. 31572

FREE
 Pregnancy Test
 Confidential Services
Problem Pregnancy Center
 505 E. Park Ave.
 Call: 364-2027 or 364-5299 (Michelle)

ValuJet cancellations throw kink in holiday plans

GRAPEVINE, Texas (AP) - Out of breath and saddled with three suitcases, aircraft mechanic Larry Norwood rushed into a terminal at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport hoping to make his 10:30 a.m. flight.

That's when he learned he wasn't going anywhere on ValuJet.

After a deep breath, Norwood gathered his belongings and ran straight back to his car, steeling himself for a 14-hour drive.

"I can only stay in Atlanta for a few days and then I have to head to Florida to work, so I can't get there

soon I won't be able to see my son," Norwood gasped as he sped out of the airport.

He was one of many holiday hopefuls who arrived at airports Sunday morning only to learn there were no planes to take them to their destinations. The 10:30 a.m. Dallas-Atlanta ValuJet flight was the first of several canceled after the company decided Saturday that a charter company scheduled to make flights out of Dallas, Fort Myers, and West Palm Beach, Fla., was unreliable.

The carrier said it tried to reach all ticketholders by phone. But, like

Norwood, would-be Atlanta passenger Kerry Mullis got to the airport only to learn he was out of luck.

"Now you've gone and done it...now you've made my mother mad," Mullis told ValuJet ticket agents after calling to inform his family he would likely miss Sunday dinner.

The canceled flights were to have been operated by Kiwi International Airlines. ValuJet spokeswoman Marcia Scott said Kiwi failed to provide adequate staffing and reliable service. Only one of 21 Kiwi-operated flights Friday and Saturday

was on time and six had to be canceled, she said.

ValuJet announced in a press release Saturday that all passengers on cancelled flights would receive a full refund and a round-trip certificate for a future ValuJet flight.

When Mullis, a Dallas attorney, complained he would still be out \$500 after buying a replacement ticket on Continental, ValuJet's Michael Lederman offered to pay the difference between the two fares.

"There is no (written) 'in stone' rule on what we can offer customers, especially in a case like this where we couldn't get a hold of him,"

Lederman said. "We just want to get everyone home for Christmas."

The cancellations will affect about 3,000 passengers out of Dallas booked for the six round-trip flights each day from Sunday to Jan. 6 to Atlanta.

After the May 11 crash of a ValuJet airliner that killed all 110 passengers, ValuJet was required to get FAA approval to expand its fleet beyond 15 aircraft.

The Atlanta-based discount carrier announced plans last month to expand service to Dallas-Fort Worth and Fort Myers and West Palm Beach, Fla., and sold tickets, although it didn't yet

have the government approval.

When the FAA denied the plan last week, the airline sought out charter companies to make the flights.

Ms. Scott said ValuJet hopes keep customers coming back to the company after the latest trouble.

"We think people realize that we're being subject to special rules and that we're still looking out for their best interest," she said.

Mullis said that the low fares and good service had kept him with the airline despite safety questions raised after the crash.

But now, even his loyalty has run out.

Festive Christmas display attracts visitors to East Texas

LINDALE, Texas (AP) - During the Christmas holidays, it's difficult for drivers on Interstate 20 not to notice the Palmer farm, about 85 miles east of Dallas.

How do you not see more than a million Christmas lights, strung up along a mile-long stretch?

For the second holiday season, Pat Palmer and Sue Williams and their families are donning Santa Claus hats and spending each night from November to January directing carloads of customers through a display they call Santaland.

They won't say how many vehicles have come this holiday season, paying \$10 per car and \$25 per commercial van. But they predicted this year's attendance will match last year's 100,000 visitors.

"People just love to look at Christmas lights," Mrs. Palmer told The Dallas Morning News. "I think people like to get in the car and go,

mostly."

The glowing display is more than the lights and nativity scenes of a traditional roadside Christmas.

Under the tangles of tree-borne lights are also wooden scenes with a decidedly East Texas twist - elves cutting pulpwood, elves bass fishing, hard-hatted elves manning a gushing oil derrick, elves golfing.

There's also a 30-foot faucet gushing an icy, glittering waterfall.

Country music carols twang from hidden speakers, and towering snowmen wave electrified red mittens toward I-20 travelers.

The two women themselves seem amazed they were able to put up the display. After all, they confess, they were never able to talk their husbands into stringing lights outside their homes at Christmas.

"Too much trouble," Mrs. Williams said.

Even now, Mrs. Williams'

husband, Max, says: "Um, it's got its good and bad. Christmas used to be our favorite time of year."

The couples say they got the idea for Santaland two years ago when they toured a drive-through light display near St. Louis.

They say they recalled their years trekking as far away as Dallas to see residential Christmas lights and reasoned that people might be just as willing to see theirs.

"We just kind of impulsively decided to do it," Mrs. Williams said.

So they worked nonstop for a year, erecting wire light forms, designing

and building wooden scenes and snaking more than 12,000 strands of lights across the Palmers' farm.

This year, the couples began work in July, adding more lights and new scenes and replacing about 100,000 burned-out bulbs, Mrs. Williams said.

They said the lights, if stretched end to end, would reach more than 140 miles.

The display has drawn visitors from across East Texas, North Texas, southern Oklahoma and western Louisiana.

They say it's not uncommon for people to drive 100 miles and wait in line for an hour or more on weekends

for the 20-minute tour. Last weekend, Mrs. Williams said, cars backed up nearly a mile from the entrance and some waited several hours to get in.

On one recent night, Matt Dourge and Andy Turlington of Henderson, Texas, loaded up their wives and Turlington's 2-year-old granddaughter, braving snow flurries and threatened icy roads for the hour drive to Lindale, 45 miles northwest of Henderson.

By the 6 p.m. opening, their Ford Explorer was one of seven vehicles queued up at Santaland's entrance.

"We heard about this from some people, and we had seen it (while)

driving by. They said it was just unbelievable, so we decided to come," Turlington said.

With their work at Santaland, neither family has had time for traditional seasonal pursuits of their own.

With only days remaining before Christmas, neither couple had finished shopping. The Palmers had put up their family tree, and the Williamses' Christmas tree was only half-decorated.

"I haven't even had time to get out Christmas cards," Mrs. Williams said.

Bird count evolves into largest wildlife survey

FREEMONT, Texas (AP) - It's the bird-watching world's annual Christmas party.

Within two weeks of Christmas, as many as 1,500 groups of bird watchers - or birders, as they call themselves - scatter out in 15-mile diameter circles, pull out binoculars and spend the day toting up the different species of the avian world they see.

About 125 people participated in the Freemont count, which marked its 40th year Sunday.

It carries on a tradition that began in Massachusetts in 1900, when people marked the holidays by going outdoors to count all the different types of birds.

The Audubon Christmas Bird Count, as it's come to be called, has evolved into the oldest and largest wildlife survey in the world. It continues today, from South America to Point Barrow, Alaska.

While participants can do as little or as much as they want, it's a highly organized undertaking that in some ways resembles a military campaign.

The 15-mile count area is divided into sectors, team leaders are appointed and the birders scatter from the seashore and marshes to the woodlands and coastal prairie to conduct their reconnaissance.

"It's hard-core birding at this level," Jim Morgan, 60, a retired Chevron mathematician from Houston, told the Houston Chronicle.

"We work all day long. We start at first light and go clear to dark."

Among Morgan's duties for the day: visit the backyards of 15 homes to identify the various species of hummingbirds that hover over shrimp plants and hummingbird feeders.

An undercurrent of competition exists. The Freemont birders want to spot as many species as possible so that the area remains listed as one of the top birding spots in the country.

"Our biggest competition in years gone by is Santa Barbara, Calif., but we've stayed ahead of them in recent years," said Tom Collins, 55, a Dow Chemical Co. information systems manager from Lake Jackson.

It's important, therefore, to insure

that common birds are counted, like the yellow-rumped warbler, along with uncommon birds that winter in the area, such as the scissor-tail flycatchers and bald eagles.

Hearing the birds counts just as much as seeing them. In the case of screech owls, small reclusive birds that hide in dense foliage, that means venturing into the woods before dawn, playing a tape-recording of a screech owl and then listening for one to answer back.

It helps to have a trained ear, as Collins demonstrated Sunday afternoon.

"There's a pipit," he said, reacting to a chirping bird that swooped so fast over his head it was only a blur.

"I hear more than I usually see," he explained matter-of-factly.

While the bird count is serious business, it's still a social occasion.

"This used to be a Christmas party, and it still is for a lot of us," said James Heller, 41, a Dow Chemical Co. analytical technician from Freemont, of the bird count's

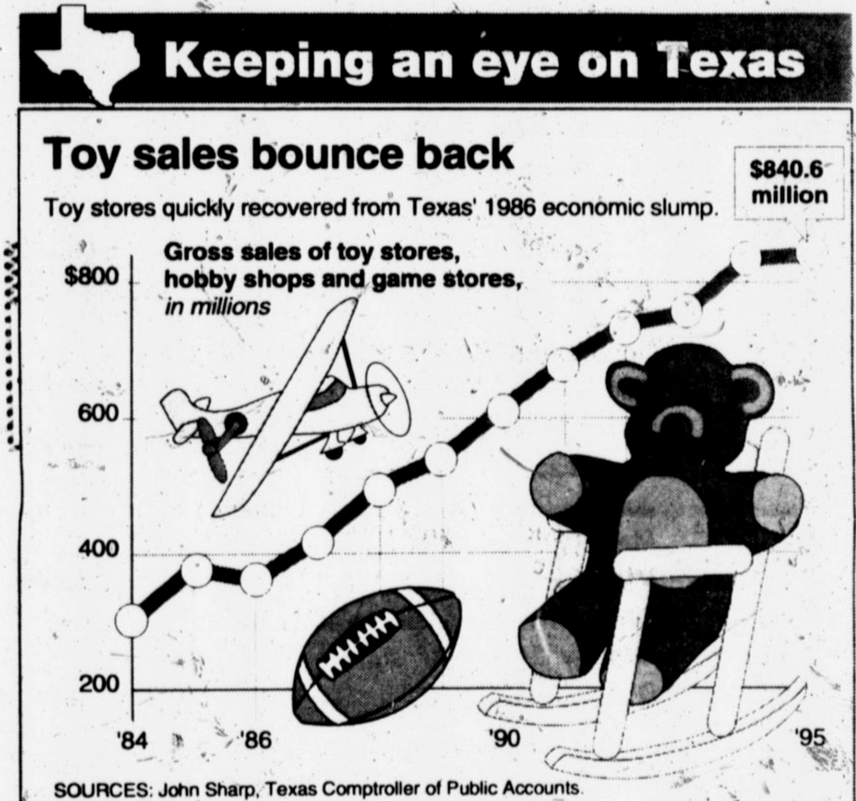
Massachusetts beginnings. "It's kind of like a fishing tournament for birders."

Birding is a quiet pursuit, but not necessarily a solemn one. If friends are around, there's time to talk, cajole and swap stories. If alone, the birder is still accompanied by the beauty of the natural world.

Either way, the thrill comes with the surprise of the unexpected, not unlike a fisherman who's daydreaming of a long lost love and suddenly catches a whopper of a fish.

In the Freemont bird count, the sighting of an unexpected species is always possible. In past years, as many as 226 different types of birds have been counted, enabling the Freemont count to be ranked number one by the National Audubon Society, which publishes the bird count's results.

At dusk, the Freemont bird counters repaired to a cafeteria at Dow Chemical Co., where the company fed them chili, beans and cornbread, and a panel of experts pored over the bird count.



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Best Wishes for Christmas

We who participated in "Project Christmas Card" take this means of extending our greetings to each and everyone in the area. The amount usually spent in this way has been contributed toward a more lasting tribute in our community and we feel it is in keeping with the real meaning of Christmas.

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Lyn Ann and Tate Clark
Laua, Dave, Mitchell,
Daniel and Traci Blackburn

L. J. and Wilma Clark
Jonny, Judy, Stephen and Melissa Cloud
Marjorie Cocanougher
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Joan Coupe
Harley and Linda Daniel
Wilbur and Lillian Davis
Ed and Cartynn DeLozier

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Robert and Oleta Diller
James and Doris Dobbs
Lillie Dobbs of Sparta Tn.
Bartley and Jeane Dowell
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