

Hustlin' Hereford, home of Cory Newton

# The Hereford Brand



96th Year, Vol. No. 118 Deaf Smith County, Texas

Wednesday, December 18, 1996

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## Holly to keep local plant in operation another year

By SHERRI MARTIN  
Staff Writer

Holly Sugar Corporation will operate the Hereford process plant for at least another year, officials have announced.

Holly Sugar and the Texas and New Mexico Sugar Beet Growers Association held a joint meeting to review the acreage commitments.

Based on the level of commitments received and indications from growers who have not yet committed that they are going to grow beets for the 1997 campaign, Imperial Holly has decided to operate the factory to process the 1997 crop, officials said in a joint press release Wednesday.

"We're running about 20,000 (acres)," Kenneth Frye, president of the TNMSBGA said. And the association is still seeking more acres.

Growers who have not finalized their 1997 crop plans should complete their commitments to ensure that the association reaches its goal of 25,000 acres, Frye said.

"We are certainly pleased with the strong commitments given by regional farmers to plant sugar beets next year.

"Sugar beets have always been a sound alternative crop for us and it is essential that we maintain the ability to grow and market sugar beets in our area," he said.

Holly Sugar had set a deadline of Dec. 15 for producers' commitments to sugar beet production.

Holly Sugar was asking for producers' commitments so the company can make decisions about the maintenance and repair of the Hereford plant.

The company typically begins maintenance and repair in the middle of December to prepare for next year. This year, only 14,000 acres of sugar beets were harvested. The Holly plant operated at 37 percent capacity.

"The growers association and Imperial Holly have a good working relationship. We are very excited that the acreage commitments will maintain that relationship," Frye said.

As a result of shorter crops produced in 1995 and 1996 and tight supplies of refined sugar, sugar prices are expected to remain strong for 1997, officials said.

The recent changes to the sugar beet purchase contract provide a higher payment at harvest, which is the best sugar beet contract in the industry, officials said.

Holly Sugar has a major impact on the economy of Hereford. During the harvest campaign, Holly Sugar pays more than \$15 million to regional growers.

The company employees 400 people, with an annual payroll of \$4.75 million.



## Giving to the needy

Students at Northwest Primary School participated in the "Book Angel" program. The program was sponsored by Wanda Nall, librarian. Here, second-grader Jordan Duggan, left, and kindergartner Hanna Harrison place their book donations under the Christmas tree. The books will be distributed to needy children by the Red Cross of Hereford. Duggan is the son of Bryan and Gay Duggan and Harrison is the daughter of Key and Jill Harrison. See related photo, Page 2.

## HISD board decides on text for school health instruction

By SHERRI MARTIN  
Staff Writer

A health textbook was adopted by Hereford school trustees Tuesday night, ending a controversy over a period of several months.

The district can receive a reimbursement of \$5,766.25 from the state since the board did not approve a state-adopted textbook, Director of Curriculum Merlee McWethy said.

In other business, trustees:

- Accepted the resignation of Superintendent Charles Greenawalt.
- Heard presentations from superintendent search consultants.
- Approved the 1995-96 audit report.

- Approved a dual credit agreement with Amarillo College, which will allow students to receive high school and college credit for certain courses.
- Approved a resolution for the Lone Star Investment Pool.
- Approved a contractual agreement with OTM Engineering, the district's technology consultant.
- Approved an attendance waiver request during Texas Assessment of Academic Skills for freshman, juniors and seniors who have passed the test.
- Appointed Tracy Straughan to the Juvenile Board.

- Approved the personnel report. The "Discover: Decisions for Health" textbook was recommended by the district's Health Advisory Council.

The teachers want students to have access to a text that covers all aspects of health-related issues, Hereford High School health teacher J.R. Compton said.

"They were not able to grasp everything we were throwing at them. Whereas, if you can give it to them and they can read it or they can read it and then you give it to them, they get more out of it," he said.

The health curriculum currently being implemented in the health

program includes a paperback text, "Teen Aid."

The "Discover: Decisions for Health" is a much more broad-based book that covers a wider aspect of health related issues, school nurse June Rudd said.

The motion to approve the textbook was made by Straughan and second by Charlie Arellano.

Randy Tooley amended the motion to approve the textbook with the "Teen Aid" as a supplemental source. Trustees unanimously approved the motion.

(See HISD, Page 2)

## Hospital board focuses on rural health concerns

By GEORGIA TYLER  
Staff Writer

A move toward putting rural health services on a solid financial basis as well as providing quality care was made Tuesday night by the Deaf Smith County Hospital District board.

On a recommendation of the rural health care committee of the board, directors voted to begin a program of re-paying funds put into the service by the district.

A monthly schedule of payments of \$6,062.32 was approved for the program. The report, given by Mark Collier, also offered a series of goals to be implemented in rural health care services.

The board also:

- Heard from a former Emergency Medical Service employee about her termination.
- Received financial and operations reports for Hereford Regional Medical Center.
- Conducted a closed-door session to discuss a building to consolidate several services of the hospital.

Among goals adopted by the board for rural health care are to provide increased opportunities for patients by expanding hours; increase "billable encounters" to a minimum of 20 per day, and merge the two rural health clinics to provide for more efficient operation.

A report on operations of HRMC during November showed that admissions in November were slightly higher, than a year ago, 169 to 166, but for the two months of the fiscal year, the number was down, from 349 in 1995 to 321 this year.

Several other areas of operations showed slight increases for the year. Revenue from all sources in November was \$754,515 while operating expenses reached \$831,404.

The hospital finished November in the black with other revenue, including taxes and investment income, of \$114,725. The net gain for the month was \$37,836.

In the administrator's report, Jim Robinson said a "home for the holidays" program is to be implemented for residents of nursing homes. EMS will provide transportation in Hereford for those requesting and making appointments.

He also reported that purchase of two new isolettes for the hospital nursery will be made in the new future.

The agenda for the board's meeting listed a closed meeting as the final item. "Personnel issues" and "medical building" were subjects for the executive meeting.

The board entered the session at 9:20 p.m. and returned to open meeting at 10 p.m., adjourning a minute later.

Although the agenda offered no explanation for the medical building item, Robinson said "Wednesday morning that the board is still wrestling with proposals for consolidating several health care programs under one roof.

No action was taken by the board on purchase or constructing a facility.

Appearing before the board during the Open Forum agenda item was a former employee of EMS, Amber Griffith, who questioned procedure for her termination. She told the board she felt she was not given an opportunity to explain her actions. Griffith said she printed another person's name to a document and signed her name. "I didn't know it was wrong," she claimed.

The board neither discussed nor took action on the complaint.

## Bivins files bill giving students more options

By PEGGY FIKAC  
Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN (AP) - Students could find it easier to apply to multiple universities and to transfer credit between colleges, while faculty would face stricter review under bills by Senate Education Committee Chairman Teel Bivins.

"When we think about higher education, our No. 1 priority needs to be the students," Bivins, R-Amarillo, said Tuesday in filing higher education bills for consideration in the 1997 legislative session.

Under the bills:

- Universities would be required to review tenured faculty at least every six years on factors including teaching, research and service. A below-standard evaluation could be cause to revoke tenure.

Tenure traditionally has meant job security for professors. Supporters say that protects those who express unpopular ideas, but critics say tenure has led some to neglect the classroom.

Bivins' proposal would allow universities to adopt their own policies following the tenure-review requirements. He said a policy already adopted by the University of Texas would comply with the legislation.

- Would-be students would find one-stop shopping at university systems, with the ability to apply to any or all institutions within a particular system with a single application and paying only one fee.

- The state Higher Education Coordinating Board would be required to develop a core curriculum for community colleges and universities. Bivins said this would ensure that students who stay on a degree track would be given credit for courses they successfully complete if they transfer from one institution to another.

- "English I ought to be English I, whether it's taught at Amarillo College or whether it's taught at UT-Austin," Bivins said.

- High schools would have to report the number and percentage of their graduates who must take remedial courses when they go to college.

- Students could take the Texas Academic Skills Program test, which they must pass to take upper-level college courses, as early as high school. Currently, they must take it by the time they have completed nine college credit hours, with some exceptions.

(See BIVINS, Page 2)

## All's well that ends well in sale of Gable Oscar

By DEBORAH HASTINGS  
Associated Press Writer  
BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) - It's the feel-good story of the year.

Unable to afford the bidding for Clark Gable's Oscar, the motion picture academy is getting it anyway from a man who has a few statuettes of his own.

Steven Spielberg was the anonymous bidder who paid \$607,500 Sunday for the best-actor award Gable won for the 1934 film, "It Happened One Night."

The director of "Schindler's List," which grabbed several Oscars of its own, will donate the award to the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

"We're still trying to catch our breath that Steven would be so kind and so caring," Academy

President Arthur Hiller said Monday.

The academy had tried to prevent the Oscar auction from taking place, claiming Gable, like all recipients, signed a form giving the academy the right to buy the statuette for \$10 should it ever be put up for sale.

But a judge ruled last week that the academy failed properly to notify Christie's auction house and John Clark Gable, the film legend's first and only child, of a hearing in the case.

Gable received the Oscar for his role as a racy reporter in a movie that Columbia film studio considered just a minor project when it was being produced. He reported it missing in 1957. No details were given on how it resurfaced.

Proceeds from the sale go to his son.

## Single mother asking only for holiday 'cheer'

A single mother who has health problems has been working for several years to improve herself by working toward completing a high school education.

That's a big job for this woman, who also has to provide for a 14-year-old daughter on minimal income, and is doing it with no assistance from government programs.

This local resident is hoping for a little help in delivering some holiday cheer this month, not for herself, but through providing a couple of items of clothing for her daughter.

You can help local residents with holiday needs like these through your donation to the Christmas Stocking Fund. CSF seeks to help the community's less-fortunate during this season of giving. Assistance provided by CSF comes in forms including food, and vouchers for utilities, medical and pharmacy expenses, and clothing.

Assistance is directed by a committee of anonymous volunteers who screen applications and make decisions on forms of assistance to be extended.

Donations to CSF may be made in person at The Hereford Brand, 313 Lee, or mailed to CSF in care of The Brand at Box 673, Hereford.



Balance Forward	\$10,449
Betty Jo Carlson	50
Hereford Ambucs	100
Tuesday Bridge Club	60
In memory of Margerie Mims	
Elmo and Kay Hall	100
Anonymous	50
In memory of Kate Dixon and Weldon Roberson	
Ray and Nadine Berend and Family	50
In memory of Marjorie Mims	
Buddy Pickens	25
Martin and Sue Urbanczyk and Family	50
Anonymous	100
XI Epsilon Alpha Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority	112
Total 12-17-96	\$11,146

## Hereford Bull

By Speedy Nieman



That feller on Tierra Blanca Creek says rumors of his death have been greatly exaggerated.

oOo

I returned to the office Tuesday morning following the most lengthy illness of my life. My desk calendar had not been turned since Nov. 25. After two weeks in the hospital and a week at home recuperating, I am gradually gaining strength and hope to be spending a little more time at work as each day passes.

I was knocked for a loop by chronic bronchitis, then hospitalized for an ulcerated colon problem. Fortunately--after all the tests--the doc was able to solve my problem with medications.

First, let me express my appreciation for all the prayers, cards, flowers, and visits. I have been truly blessed with loving, caring friends in my church family as well as across the community.

I was not concerned about my absence at The Brand, because we

have a dedicated staff that gets the job done. However, we were shorthanded without a managing editor and I appreciate Georgia Tyler answering my SOS and coming out of retirement to help us. It was great to have a veteran like her to call on!

The Thanksgiving holiday was only a blur, but I'll be offering plenty of thanks during the Christmas season

oOo  
Thinking about caring and sharing residents in the community, it's great to see the Christmas Stocking Fund climb above the \$10,000 mark in donations.

Each year, the contributions seems to start slow and we wonder if there will be enough funds for the committee to provide enough assistance. But, local residents always come through and we wind up with a substantial amount for the less fortunate in the community. The CSF volunteers do an outstanding job with this Yuletide project!

D E C 1 8 1 9 9 6

# Local Roundup

## Still verry cold!

The high temperature on Tuesday was only 22 degrees according to KPAN Radio, with an overnight low of 5 degrees above zero. Tonight is expected to be mostly clear and very cold with the mercury falling to 5 degrees below zero. Winds should be west to northwest at 5 to 10 mph. The forecast for Thursday calls for mostly sunny and still cold with a high in the middle 20s.

## Open house at West Central

West Central School has scheduled a Christmas Open House Thursday night. The classrooms will be open for visiting from 6:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.. The fourth grade will present a program from 7 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., then refreshments will be served until 8 p.m. All parents are asked to bring a dessert. Drinks will be provided by the PTO.

# News Digest

**DALLAS (AP)** - When James Thornton III was 4 months old, he suffered a broken arm that doctors and child abuse workers suspected wasn't caused by an accident.

At age 3, he died at the hands of an angry father upset that the tot had distracted him during a Dallas Cowboys game, police said.

**BROWNSVILLE, Texas (AP)** - A federal jury today will resume deliberating whether a Brownsville businessman helped an investigator for the Cameron County district attorney's office fix drunk-driving cases in exchange for bribes.

**DALLAS (AP)** - Social Security Administration experts say that a plan to privatize the program would raise most retirement incomes but cut pensions for the disabled and nonworking spouses, The Dallas Morning News reported.

**DALLAS (AP)** - Three Laredo city councilmen are free on bond today after they were indicted on charges that they violated the state open meetings law.

**AUSTIN (AP)** - Tougher parole measures for sex offenders have helped push down the number of sexual assaults in Texas by 17 percent since 1993, the executive director of the Criminal Justice Policy Council said.

**DALLAS (AP)** - State lottery officials and federal investigators are scrutinizing a contract under which former Texas Lt. Gov. Ben Barnes and his partner made \$3.2 million in one year as lobbyists for GTECH, the company that runs the Texas lottery.

**AUSTIN (AP)** - The state agency that administers programs to combat alcohol and drug abuse - rocked by investigations into millions of dollars in mispending two years ago - has been given a stamp of approval by a panel of lawmakers.

**SAN ANTONIO (AP)** - Gov. George W. Bush, citing recommendations from his "faith-based" task force, is urging the Texas Legislature to eliminate some state regulations that hinder charitable work.

## Feds announce recall of many holiday items

**WASHINGTON (AP)** - The federal government has announced safety recalls of more than 177,000 toys and rattles that contain hazardous lead-based paint or small parts that could choke children.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission also announced recalls Tuesday of 40,000 paperweights and pens, 32,000 candle holders and potpourri simmer pots and 30,000 Christmas light sets.

Consumers should return the recalled items to the store where they were purchased for a full refund or contact the company, the commission said.

The toy and rattle recalls are preventive; there have been no reports of injuries. They include:

- More than 50,000 Free Wheel Racer toy cars, made by Laiko International and sold for about \$1 each.

- About 340 Little Performer and 240 Flying Boat toys, made by Lexin Inc. and sold in the West and Southwest for about \$15 to \$25.

- Shalom International Corp.'s Colormates toy jewelry sets. About 75,000 sets were sold for about \$1.

- About 8,000 Baby's Play Sets, yellow rabbit rattles made by The Right Start Inc. and sold for \$14.95.

- Also being recalled are approximately 44,400 wooden toys that have paint with high lead levels and made by Oriental Trading Co. Young children could swallow poisonous lead if they chew on these toys. The recalled toys are a set of 32 wooden beads with a cord to string the beads and a set of six spinning tops.

The commission also issued these recalls:

- About 40,000 paperweights and pens made by Shelby Ltd., a division

of Wang's International, and sold for about \$4 to \$5. They contain kerosene and other petroleum distillates, which can be hazardous if inhaled or swallowed and could be combustible. The company has at least 10 reports of paperweights breaking and releasing their contents, though no injuries have been reported. The paperweight styles are Ocean in the Box, Floating Eye, Antique Car, Magic Diamond and Water Timer.

- About 10,000 ceramic Santa Claus Candle Holders, made by Division Sales Inc. and sold for about \$1. The paint is flammable and poses a fire hazard, though no injuries have been reported.

- About 22,000 porcelain Potpourri Simmer Pots, made by New Design Inc. and sold for about \$3. The company has four reports of the candle flaming excessively, including three reports of minor property damage but no injury reports.

- Gifco Inc.'s 29,000 Candy House Candle Holders, sold through fund-raising organizations for about \$10. Some of the holders were shipped with a defective votive candle that reportedly generates an excessive flame. The company has two reports of the candle setting the holder on fire, but no reports of injuries.

- About 30,225 Christmas light sets, which have no fuse protection and inadequate wiring, presenting a fire hazard. No fires or injuries have been reported. Thrifty Distributors is recalling about 225 sets, and Golden Bay Enterprises is recalling about 30,000 sets.

The CPSC's hotline number is 800-638-2772.



## Book angels

Northwest Primary School students participated in the "Book Angel" program. The students collected 250 books for needy children in the Hereford area. Pictured in the fifth row, left to right, are Jill Harrison, Elaine Calkins, Donita Rule, Trisha Sims, Wanda Nall and Mrs. Cano; fourth row, Jordan Bodkin, Chelsea Campbell, Jennifer Brock, Brian Fuentes, Zane Wright, Ignacio Cano, Ringo Cano, Kari Davison, Joseph Contreras, Timothy Rincon, Ashley Mason, Sonny Smith, Devani Perez, Sonny Smith; third row, Casey Ruckman, Courtney Davison, Aaron Green, Kalyn Esqueda, Christopher Wright, Sandra Martinez, Travis Churchill, Jacob Villarreal, Corey White,

Lauren Hurst, Mandy Steelman, Mackinsey Williams, Lesley Williams, Clint Ruckman; second row, Bryson Brown, Logan Taylor, Amy Rivera, Clara Rodriguez, Amy Acker, Rosalba Armendariz, Timothy Brown, Albert Ramirez, Katie Stickney, Morgan Stickney, Danetta McCullough, Larae Ford, Jordan Duggan; first row, Robbie Holquin, Nathan Curtsinger, Amanda Riley, Nadia Domiguez, Matthew Martinez, Brittany Butler, Ashley Taylor, Chelsi Pickens, Hanna Harrison, Justin Ruddock, Mitchell Cates, Matthew Marquez and Crystal Aquiral. Not pictured are Amanda Riley, Alex Dotson, Zenon Dotson, Mrs. Cummings, Mrs. Lake and Mrs. Rowe.

## Freeze warnings issued for lower Valley crops

By The Associated Press

A hard freeze warning has been issued for tonight for all of South Texas, including the Lower Rio Grande Valley.

The warning comes following an assault on the entire state by blast of cold, windy Arctic air.

Earlier forecasts indicated that the Valley with its citrus trees and vegetable fields would escape sub-freezing temperatures.

Forecasters said that temperatures by dawn Thursday will dip into the lower 20s in Rio Grande City, McCook, San Manuel, Zapata, McAllen and Falfurrias and into the upper 20s over the rest of the Valley, including McAllen, Harlingen, Brownsville and Raymondville.

Forecasters warned that temperatures could again dip to those lows again early Friday unless a cloud cover that had been expected to protect the area returns.

A snow advisory was issued today for southeastern and south central areas of North Texas in the wake of an assault on the state by a blast of cold, windy Arctic air.

In North Texas, the advisory was along and southeast of a line from Carthage to Killeen, including the cities of Belton, Bremond, Cameron, Centerville, Crockett, Lufkin and Nacogdoches.

In South Central Texas, the advisory covers Williamson, Lee, Travis, Bastrop, Hays, Caldwell and Fayette counties.

Forecasters warned that some areas might get an inch of snow and said that it could cause bridges and overpasses to become slick and hazardous.

## BIVINS

Bivins said the TASP could be taken in conjunction with the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills, which students must pass in order to get their high school diploma.

The idea came from an educator, he added.

"A teacher in Pampa, Texas, came up to me one day and said why is it ... that we require a student to sit for the TAAS test, which is a high-stakes

test ... and then sometimes as little as three months later require that student to sit for the TASP test before they can go on and do college work - and wouldn't it make sense if we had just one test instead of two," Bivins said.

"That was what was the beginning of my effort to try to develop a college-bound portion of the TAAS test," he said.

Some light snow fell in the Houston area on Tuesday, but didn't cause any serious travel problems. City officials said it didn't get bad enough to require the use of a snow plow. It's a good thing since they say the city doesn't even own one.

The rest of the state had bitterly cold temperatures accompanied by high winds that dropped wind chill factors to near or below zero.

The Panhandle had the state's coldest temperatures with Dalhart reporting a low of 1 at 5 a.m. Wind chill factors were below zero in the Panhandle and South Plains and in the single digits and teens across the rest of West Texas.

Wind chill factors in North Texas ranged from 4 to 9 degrees in the Dallas-Fort Worth area to 3 below at Wichita Falls and 8 below at Abilene.

A few snow flurries were reported in North Texas on Tuesday and late Tuesday snow, again in the form of brief flurries, was reported as far south as along the coast in Southeast Texas.

In South Texas, temperatures plunged to as low as 39 at McAllen in the Lower Rio Grande Valley and 26 at Junction. Wind chills in South Texas ranged from 5 to 20.

Lows will range from 5 to 10 below zero in the Panhandle to near 10 in the Big Bend area, from 5 to 15 North Texas and in the 20s in South Texas.

Highs Thursday will be in the 20s in the Panhandle and in the 30s and 40s elsewhere in West Texas, the 30s across North Texas and in the 30s across South Texas, ranging upward into the 40s on South Padre Island.

## HISD

The textbook will be implemented next semester.

Trustees also accepted the resignation of Greenawalt effective March 1.

He will become superintendent of the Kingsville Independent School District in Kingsville. He will direct a 5A South Texas district with 800 employees and 5,300 students.

Trustees heard presentations from Don Killough of Texas Association of School Boards in Austin and Michael Stevens, associate professor of education at West Texas A&M University in Canyon on search consultants for a new superintendent.

The consultants discussed the search process, the role of a consultant in this process and how they could assist HISD in its search.

The board will take action on this item at the Jan. 13 meeting.

Trustees also approved the 1995-96 audit report as compiled by Pat McGinty and Greg Lake of McGinty and Associates.

The district's general fund balance was \$3,515,972 for the year ending Aug. 31, an increase of \$925,302 more than the budget of \$2,590,670.

Total revenues for the year were \$19,490,190.

The district collected \$6,117,473

in school taxes. The state program revenues totaled \$13,364,888.

Total expenditures for the year were \$18,969,400.

The largest source of expenditures was instruction with \$11,525,848, which was less than the budget of \$11,732,988. School administration accounted for \$1,070,706 of the total expenditures.

## Spy satellite launch slated

**WASHINGTON (AP)** - In a historic first, the secretive Pentagon agency that buys and operates the nation's spy satellites today announced plans to launch a reconnaissance satellite on Friday from Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif.

It marked the first time the National Reconnaissance Office acknowledged in advance the launch of a spy satellite, said spokeswoman Katherine Schneider. The agency has been putting secret "eyes in space" for more than 35 years.

A Titan IV booster is scheduled to launch the satellite from Vandenberg's space launch complex between 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. PST, Ms. Schneider said. Other details about the satellite's mission are classified secret, she added.

The agency also disclosed that Friday's launch will be the second Titan IV launch from Vandenberg this year; the last one was in May.

## Obituaries

### RICHARD CASTILLO

Dec. 17, 1996

Richard Castillo, 51, of Hereford died Tuesday.

Rosary will be held at 7 p.m. today in Rix Funeral Home Chapel. Services will be at 3 p.m. Thursday in San Jose Catholic Church with Jesse Guerrero, deacon, officiating. Burial will be in St. Anthony's Cemetery.

Mr. Castillo was born Dec. 16, 1944 in San Marcos. He had lived in Hereford since 1966. He was a plumber and a member of San Jose Catholic Church.

Survivors include his wife, Christina; a son, Richard Castillo of Hereford; two daughters, Elizabeth Castillo of Hereford and Amy Castillo of Amarillo; his mother, Annastacia Castillo of Hereford; four brothers and one sister; and four grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to St. Anthony's Hospital.



**AUSTIN (AP)** - The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery, in order: 9-5-5

(nine, five, five)

**AUSTIN (AP)** - The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery:

9-18-27-30-36



### THE HEREFORD BRAND

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O.G. Nixman Publisher  
Maury Montgomery Adv. Mgr.  
Craig Nixman Circulation Mgr.



## Certificate of appreciation

The Hereford Junior High Builder's Club received a certificate of appreciation for their United Way service project from the Kiwanis International. Dave Kimmel Lt. governor of Kiwanis Division 33, left, presents a certificate to Natalie Nino, president; and club members, Ashley Bridge; Brandy Solano; Betty Garcia; Xana Du Davis; and Tiffnie Murillo. As a recent service project, the club donated Christmas cards and candy canes to residents of the Hereford nursing homes.

## Emergency Services

Activities reported by law enforcement agencies Wednesday:

### POLICE DEPARTMENT

- 17-year-old male was arrested on outstanding warrants out of Deaf Smith County for false report to a peace officer.

- 26-year-old male was arrested for assault.

- 27-year-old male was arrested on outstanding warrants out of Deaf Smith County for theft by check.

- report of failure to pay for gasoline at a convenience store in the 100 block of South 25 Mile Avenue.

- 15 traffic citations issued.

- One motor vehicle accident without injuries in the 400 block of North Main Street.

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

- Sent to 430 Ranger in reference to a fire alarm.

### SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

- 36-year-old male arrested for reckless driving, bond jumping, failure to appear and unlawfully carrying a weapon.

- 20-year-old male arrested for theft by check over \$20 and under \$500.

- Report of a theft.

### HIGHWAY PATROL

- 38-year-old female arrested for driving while intoxicated.

- 23-year-old male arrested for driving while intoxicated.

# Lifestyles

## Senior Citizens

### MENUS

**THURSDAY**-Beef stew (beef cubes, onion, potatoes, carrots and celery), cheese sticks, fried okra, tossed green salad, cornbread, bread pudding with raisin sauce; or chicken stew, fruit.

**FRIDAY**-Catfish fillet, tartar sauce/lemon wedge, long grain wild rice, broccoli spears, tossed green salad, dressing, French bread, lemon pie; or roast with gravy, pears.

**MONDAY**-Ham/beef loaf, au gratin potatoes, buttered green beans, garden salad, dressing, whole wheat bread, apricot, oatmeal cookie; or fish nuggets, diet cookie.

**TUESDAY**-Baked turkey with gravy, dressing, seasoned peas, jellied

cranberry salad, rolls, pumpkin pie with topping; or mashed potatoes, pumpkin custard with topping.  
**WEDNESDAY**-Closed. Merry Christmas.

### ACTIVITIES

**THURSDAY**-Pool classes, exercise class 10-10:45 a.m., oil painting 9-11 a.m., choir practice 1-2 p.m., Thrift Store open.

**FRIDAY**-Pool classes, line dance 10-11 a.m., Thrift Store open.

**SATURDAY**-Games 12 noon-4 p.m.  
**MONDAY**-Pool classes.  
**TUESDAY**-Pool classes.  
**WEDNESDAY**-Closed. Merry Christmas.



Illustrated by David LaRoche

## Ann Landers

**Dear Ann Landers:** For over 10 years, I have helped a friend through every kind of trauma you can imagine. I was always there for her.

Two years ago, "Myrna" asked to borrow \$3,000 for a sure-fire investment to help her get back on her feet. I told her I didn't have that kind of money. She begged me to borrow it through one of my credit cards and promised to pay me back within 30 days. She swore on the lives of her children that she would keep her word.

Against my better judgment, I borrowed the money. Myrna now owes me \$2,300, and I have been paying astronomical interest on that loan. She says she's sorry the investment didn't pan out but she is barely scraping by every month, living hand to mouth.

Last week was Myrna's birthday. I bought her a nice gift and attended a luncheon that her co-workers gave for her. Ann, I nearly fainted when she got up and announced that she had treated herself to a \$750 diamond ring and had already put a \$100 down payment on it. I was so shaken up, I went home and cried.

If she had \$100 extra lying around, shouldn't she have paid me back some of the money she has owed me for two years? I'm beginning to think this "friendship" should be ended. Do you agree? -- Irate in Redondo Beach, Calif.

**Dear Redondo:** What friendship? Myrna is a con artist, and I'm sorry to say you are one of those suckers that Barnum said is born every minute. The following should be dedicated to you:

I had some money -- and a friend. I loaned my money to my friend. I lost my money, and my friend. I'll bet anything Myrna's \$750 ring is going to be repossessed by the jeweler -- unless she can hit up some of her remaining friends.

**Dear Ann Landers:** Our college-student daughter called early this morning. She needed to ask her mother if orange juice that had been in the refrigerator for several weeks was still safe to drink. My wife told

her to throw it out.

Mom isn't always available for guidance every time something like this happens. It occurred to me that too many of us fail to teach our children a very important rule about food. Put it in bold print so your readers don't miss it: **IF IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT.**

If it doesn't smell right, toss it. If it doesn't look right, get rid of it. If you think it may have spoiled or is otherwise unsafe to consume, dump it in the garbage. Whatever the cost of the food, unless you're absolutely certain it's safe, throw it out.

No one knowingly would risk getting sick, but a lot of people think it is wasteful if they don't use something they have already paid for. Ann, please tell them, when it comes to food, they should forget about the "investment" and toss it. -- William Allison, Beaverton, Ore.

**Dear William:** No wiser words ever have appeared in this space.

Anyone who has ever suffered stomach distress from eating contaminated food will tell you it's an agony they wouldn't wish on their worst enemy.

If there is the slightest question about the safety of the leftovers in the fridge, dump 'em. Your letter is going to prevent a lot of bellyaches. Thank you.

**P.S.:** How terrific that some products now come with the message "Not to be used after such-and-such a date." But it certainly took a long time before we got that smart.

What can you give the person who has everything? Ann Landers' booklet, "Gems," is ideal for a nightstand or coffee table. "Gems" is a collection of Ann Landers' most requested poems and essays. Send a self-addressed, long, business-size envelope and a check or money order for \$5.25 (this includes postage and handling) to: Gems, c/o Ann Landers, P.O. Box 11562, Chicago, Ill. 60611-0562. (In Canada, send \$6.25.)

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## Make donations now

Project Christmas Card, the fund-raiser sponsored annually by L'Allegra Study Club, will conclude Thursday.

Anyone wishing to make a donation should drop it in a display box at any participating location before the close of business Thursday.

Residents of Hereford and the surrounding area can contribute an amount equal to what they would normally spend sending local Christmas greetings. Their

name will then be included in an open greeting to the entire community published in the special holiday greetings issue of *The Hereford Brand*.

L'Allegra Study Club applies the funds collected from Project Christmas Card toward purchases which benefit Hereford Regional Medical Center. This year's contributions will be used to refurbish the obstetrics waiting room at HRMC.

## Homemade ornaments

Deck the halls and trim your Christmas tree with colorful, easy-to-assemble decorations and ornaments. Choose a craft to fit the abilities of each child so your whole family can share in the festive spirit of holiday preparation.

**Mini cranberry and marshmallow wreath ornament:**

Primary-school children who enjoy threading buttons and beads will love making this ornament. First, an adult may clip florists' wire in 12-inch lengths. Leaving 1 1/2 inches of space at the end, a child can thread a fresh cranberry on the wire. Then put on a marshmallow and a piece of orange rind. Continue until the wire is almost covered, then bend into a wreath shape and twist end pieces of wire together. Attach a ribbon and hang. After the holidays, hang the wreath on a tree branch for the birds.

**Pretzel garland:**

While an adult strings popcorn, your preschooler can be busy doing a stringing activity too. Show your child how to weave red ribbon or cording in and out of the spaces of small pretzels. When the pretzel and popcorn garlands are finished, adorn the branches of the Christmas tree together.

**Personalized ball ornaments:** Older children can express their

creativity by decorating purchased plain ball ornaments using nontoxic permanent markers or glitter paint in squeeze bottles. When dry, tie bows with ribbon through the top metal loops. If you print names on the ornaments, they can double as a place card at your holiday dinner table and as a Christmas 1996 gift memento.

## Foster is speaker

Mike Foster was named best speaker; Mike Morrison, best evaluator and Gary Whitfill, best topic speaker at the recent meeting of Hereford Toastmasters.

Foster spoke on "You Be Who You Want to Be" and was evaluated by Kathryn Musser.

Morrison was evaluator for Dr. Nadir Khuri's speech titled "Why I Came to Hereford."

Topic speakers, in addition to Whitfill, were Imad Khuri, Sharon Cramer and Art Gonzales.

Topicmaster was Clark Andrews. Dan Hall served as toastmaster; Charles Minchew, timer; Whitfill, AH counter; Wayne Winget, grammarian and presiding officer; and Joe Don Cummings, wordmaster.

## Library resumes programs

With new carpet, paint, wallpaper and Christmas decorations, Deaf Smith County Library is now open after being closed for two weeks for remodeling.

Regular programming has now resumed with Magnificent Mondays and Terrific Tuesdays for elementary children and story hours for preschoolers.

A special preschool Christmas program, featuring Amy Gilliland as Mrs. Santa Claus, is planned for 10 a.m. Thursday. Santa himself will also be on hand to hand out surprises.

Thursday night will be the monthly Family Film Nights with the Christmas classic *Babes in Toyland*, starring Ray Bolger, Tommy Sands, Annette Funicello and Ed Wynn. This regular event is sponsored by the Friends of the Library, who also make popcorn available at 25 cents per box.

The Beginning Sewing class will continue to meet at 6 p.m. on Mondays, as well as the Crochet class at 6 p.m. on Thursday nights.

Rebecca Walls, librarian, and her staff invite Deaf Smith County residents to come by.

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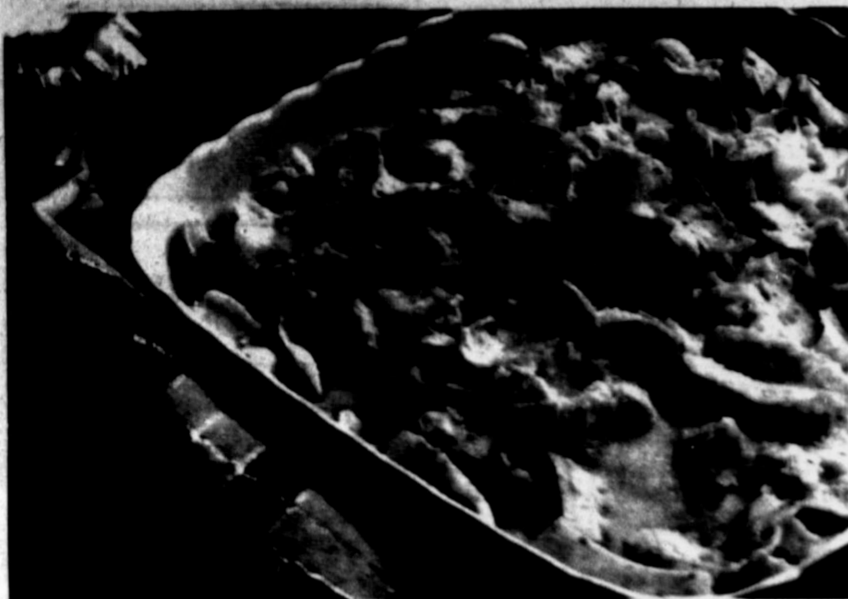
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### Quick and easy

This chicken casserole makes a meal that is quick and easy to prepare when you have spent a long day shopping.

## Quick, easy casserole recipe features chicken

After a long day of shopping, make this quick and easy chicken casserole.

- South-of-the-Border Holiday Chicken**
- 1 lb. boneless skinless chicken breasts, cut into 1-inch cubes
  - 1-1/2 tablespoons taco seasoning mix
  - 1/2 cup water
  - 1 package brown gravy mix
  - 1-1/2 cups milk
  - 1 can (15 oz.) southwestern-style corn, drained
  - 1-1/2 cups shredded Cheddar cheese
  - 2 cups corn chips
  - Hot cooked rice or noodles

In large skillet, cook and stir chicken, taco seasoning mix and water over medium heat until chicken is no longer pink inside, about 5 to 7 minutes. In small bowl, stir together gravy mix and milk; pour slowly over cooked chicken. Cook and stir until thickened. Remove from heat; add corn. Pour into oiled 2-quart baking dish; top with 1 cup of the cheese and the corn chips. Bake at 350 degrees for 10 minutes. Top with remaining cheese; bake 5 minutes more or until cheese melts. Garnish with chopped red and green bell peppers. Serve over rice or noodles. Makes 4 to 6 servings.

## Stevenson gives review for Los Ciboleros DAR

Mrs. John Stevenson was guest speaker for the Los Ciboleros Chapter of NSDAR at its December meeting in the Blue Room of Hereford Senior Citizens Center.

Stevenson, who was introduced by Margaret Bell, reviewed Pamela Killian's book "A Biography of Barbara Bush."

Co-hostesses for the meeting were Nell Norvell and Charlotte Clark.

Regent Juanita Brown presided over the business meeting.

Clark gave a review for the December 1996 National Defender of the results of a history quiz survey conducted by Caravan, a research firm in Washington, D.C.

The survey on the American Revolution revealed that 83 percent knew how many colonies existed at the time of the Revolutionary War, 90 percent knew the purpose of the

Boston Tea Party, 43 percent knew where the last battle was fought, 35 percent knew when the Revolution began and 11 percent knew who was the author of the Bill of Rights.

Kathryn Ruga reported that 172 American History essays had been picked up from six participating schools. These will be read Jan. 3.

Patricia Robinson, chairperson for Veterans Service, reported that gifts and clothing valued at more than \$900 had been collected from Los Ciboleros Chapter and delivered to the Gift Shop at Amarillo's Veterans Hospital.

The annual meeting will be held in Bell's home on Jan. 9.

Members present were Margaret Dunham, Lois Gilliland, Ruth Knox, Helen Rose, Mary Williamson, Bell, Brown, Clark, Norvell, Robinson and Ruga.

## Over-counter wrinkle creams safe to use, but users should keep sunscreen handy

By LAURAN NEERGAARD  
Associated Press Writer  
WASHINGTON (AP) - Scientific advisers to the cosmetics industry have a message for aging Americans: It's safe to use over-the-counter wrinkle creams that contain no more than 10 percent alpha hydroxy acids, but you'll want to keep the sunscreen handy.

Consumers should use sunscreen if the wrinkle cream doesn't already contain one, the panel advised.

The acids are arguably the most popular skin ingredient sold today, and the panel's decision is not the end of the saga - the Food and Drug Administration announced Tuesday that some people are more sensitive than others and it is about to study just how safe these burgeoning chemicals really are.

"These are acids in the true sense," FDA's director of cosmetics, John Bailey, said Tuesday. "Safety questions naturally come to mind."

Alpha hydroxy acids, which bring in an estimated half-billion dollars in annual sales, essentially speed up the natural process of shedding skin cells. They're sold in everything from lower-acid under-eye creams that promise to smooth fine surface lines to "chemical peels" typically offered in salons that contain 30 percent to as much as 70 percent of the acids.

Last summer, dermatologists at Massachusetts General Hospital confirmed the acids' advertising hype, saying they can improve skin's appearance - slightly. Using a 10-point scale, they found women who used acid-containing face creams showed a 1- to 2-point improvement in skin quality over regular creams.

But because the FDA doesn't regulate cosmetics as strictly as other products, no one has studied the long-term effects. The FDA said Tuesday it will gather its own experts to evaluate lingering questions about the acids, including whether they increase sensitivity to sun rays that can cause wrinkles and even cancer.

At the same time, a seven-member panel that advises the cosmetics industry voted unanimously that:

-Consumers can safely use over-the-counter lotions that contain no more than 10 percent alpha hydroxy acids, but manufacturers should either include a sunscreen in the lotion or instruct consumers to use one separately.

-Salons can safely offer "chemical peels" using up to 30 percent alpha hydroxy acids, and should instruct consumers to use sunscreen daily.

The panel based its decision partly on an FDA study that found the acids, applied to guinea pigs, did not appear

to hurt the skin's ability to act as a protective barrier. The acids did increase natural skin cell turnover by 35 percent.

But an industry study of 19 people found daily use of alpha hydroxy cream increased sun sensitivity an average of 13 percent. That's about the same increased risk of sunburn as women have when they shave their legs just before sunbathing.

Bailey, however, warned the panel that three people increased their sun sensitivity by a worrisome 50 percent.

A final study measured "sunburn cells," skin cells so injured that the body kills them off. People who used alpha hydroxy acids experienced a twofold increase in sunburn cells, an effect the industry's advisers called

slight but that FDA's Bailey said doesn't discount sun sensitivity as a problem.

The FDA just received the sun data last week and will analyze it as part of its overall look at alpha hydroxy acids.

Still, research indicates alpha hydroxy acids remove skin cells without significant problems, and adding sunscreen is common sense, said University of Pennsylvania dermatologist James Leyden, who recommends his patients use the acids.

"You're not by day going to wreck yourself and then at night try to repair the damage," he said. "If you're ... trying to make your skin better, you'd be foolish not to use some sun protection."

## Bradly presents Velede program

Members of Velede Study Club learned the history of some of our Christmas carols in a program given by Marcella Bradly.

After Bradly gave the history of each carol, the members participated in singing the carol.

The meeting was held in Bradly's home. Frances Crume led the club collect and roll call was answered with "What is your families favorite holiday food?"

Bettie Dickson reported she had bought two blankets for the club to contribute to the blanket fund for the Department of Human Services. Members also contributed grooming items for the DHS party.

The next meeting will be Jan. 13 in Dickson's home.

Those present were Juanita Brown, Betty Gilbert, Della Hutto, Joyce Ritter, Clovis Seago, DeAnn Sisson, Norma Walden, Margaret Zinser, Mary Dziuk, Bradly, Crume and Dickson.

## Hints from Heloise

Dear Heloise: When I was younger, my mother used to make waffles with club soda. They were light and delicious.

Since my parents have moved to a retirement village, my mother no longer cooks and doesn't have her recipe books anymore.

She told me that she originally got the recipe from your column. Could you please reprint the information for me. Thanks in advance. — Emily Gold, Colorado Springs, Colo.

You're right, waffles made with club soda are mouthwatering! And I'm thrilled to reprint one of my favorites. The recipe is so easy. You will love it.

2 cups good biscuit mix  
1 egg  
1/2 cup oil  
1 1/2 cups club soda  
Mix ingredients together and then ladle some onto a hot waffle iron.

You can't store this batter, so make only as much as you will use at one time, or cook extra waffles and freeze them for later.

You can use this same recipe to make yummy pancakes too. Enjoy! — Heloise

## To Your Good Health

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I know there is a slight possibility of getting pregnant while taking a birth-control pill. How does that occur? What symptoms would appear in a woman who becomes pregnant while on the pill? What if she continued taking the pill after unknowingly being pregnant? — Curious.

ANSWER: It is possible to become pregnant while on the birth-control pill. How possible? I would answer, "Highly unlikely."

The pill comes close to being the perfect contraceptive, second to abstinence from sex itself.

I can only speculate about the reasons for the pill's failure from time to time. Human frailty heads the list — failure, that is, to use the pill in a proper and timely manner.

Most pill users note a lessening of menstrual bleeding, but if the woman notes a total absence of flow, she should be suspicious and be checked. She might be pregnant.

That goes in spades should she experience two missed periods.

The American College of Gynecologists and Obstetricians has concluded that there is no risk of birth defects even if the pill is continued inadvertently into the third month of a pregnancy.

The popular combination pill contains both estrogen and progestin. The estrogen suppresses ovulation, and the progestin thickens vaginal mucus, discouraging sperm penetration for egg fertilization, should ovulation occur against the odds. It's backup system.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: My daughter, 31, has been battling infertility and wants a baby very badly. She now is told she has endometriosis, and her doctor wants her to have Lupron injections. I had never heard of Lupron being used for anything but in men with prostate cancer. Please explain. — Mrs. J.S.

ANSWER: Lupron — leuprolide — is indeed used in treatment of prostate cancer. It shuts off production of testosterone, the hormone that prods testicular growth.

For women, Lupron stops the ovary

from making female hormones, without which endometrial tissue withers.

In endometriosis, the endometrial tissue lining the uterus migrates to non-uterine locations, causing pain and other symptoms.

So the Lupron can be a successful treatment for your daughter's problem, which usually entails monthly pain and cramping emanating from the transplanted uterine lining tissue.

For more on endometriosis, see the report I'm sending you. Others can order a copy by writing: Dr. Donohue — No. 37, Box 5539, Riverton, NJ 08077-5539. Enclose \$3 and a self-addressed, stamped (55 cents) No. 10 envelope.

Dr. Donohue regrets that he is unable to answer individual letters, but he will incorporate them in his column whenever possible. Readers may write him at P.O. Box 5539, Riverton, NJ 08077-5539.

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<p><b>100 FREE Minutes</b> Airtime With First Phone Activation!</p>	<p><b>Motorola 550 Flip Phone*</b> Free Starter Kit, Power Talkin' Charge, Extra Battery, Carrying Case. <b>\$19<sup>95</sup></b></p> <p><small>*Includes a 2 Year Contract</small></p>	<p>Just in the "Nick" of time! <b>SIX WAYS TO SAVE!!</b></p>

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# Sports

## Cowboys may get Novacek back

By DENNE H. FREEMAN  
AP Sports Writer  
IRVING, Texas (AP) - What would be the best thing that could happen to the struggling, 24th-ranked Dallas Cowboys offense?  
Answer: Getting tight end Jay Novacek back.  
It's a long shot, but it could happen.  
Novacek, who hasn't played in the regular season because of a bad back, is the missing link in a sputtering Dallas offense that ranks 18th in passing.  
Coach Barry Switzer and owner Jerry Jones said Tuesday that quarterback Troy Aikman's second-most-favorite receiver is feeling better.  
"He told some of our assistant coaches that his back has felt the best it has felt in a long time and is

optimistic that he may play in the playoffs," Switzer said. "That would be a tremendous lift for our team. I'll just wait for Jay to come to me and tell me when he's ready."  
Since Novacek came to Dallas six years ago, no tight end has caught more passes (339) and only two had more receiving yards (3,576).  
"It's no secret that one of the reasons we haven't been productive on offense this year is because Jay isn't here," Aikman said recently.  
Eric Bjornson, groomed to be Novacek's successor, has been hobbled with injuries since training camp. While Novacek caught 62 passes for 705 yards last year, Bjornson has caught only 48 for 388.  
Switzer had assumed Novacek had no chance of playing this year.  
"All I talk with him about is dogs and killing birds," Switzer said. "I

know Jay has been running uphill because his back hurts when he runs on a level surface. I don't know what it would do right now if we got him back to sea level."  
Jones said he doesn't "want to make more of the situation than it is," but "Novacek is feeling better about his situation. We've got that little light out there. His goal is to play in the playoffs."  
Novacek has played with pain most of his career in Dallas but fought through it.  
"Jay has been playing with significant pain and on a scale of 1 to 10 he has it down to a 7," Jones said. "His pain has been at a 10. Maybe he can play, but there's no way I'd give odds on it. It won't be this week, but in the next couple of weeks it might."  
The Cowboys have carried

Novacek on their 53-man roster instead of placing him on the injured reserve list in the hope he could be ready for the playoffs.  
For the first time since 1991, the Cowboys don't get a first-round bye this year and will play either Minnesota or Philadelphia on either Dec. 28 or 29. The Cowboys close out the season on Sunday in Washington in a game that means nothing to the playoff picture.  
Dallas also has Charles Haley, who had back surgery last month, still on the active roster. Haley has been bouncing around pain-free at Valley Ranch.  
"I know Charles would like to play and if we get to the Super Bowl I'm sure he would want to be a part of it," Switzer said.

## Olympic gold medalist will hold clinic at Hereford Aquatic Center

Olympic gold-medal winner Josh Davis will hold a clinic on swimming Dec. 26 at the Hereford Aquatic Center.  
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.  
He is the husband of Shantel (Cornelius) Davis, a former Hereford resident. They now live in Austin.  
The clinic will start at 7 p.m. with a welcome ceremony by Hereford city officials. At 7:20, Davis will begin a discussion of his philosophy on competitive and recreational swimming and its benefits. A training session will begin at 8 p.m. and last an hour.

## Borger sweeps HJH girls' teams

The Hereford Junior High girls' basketball teams hosted Borger Monday and Borger won all four games played:  
The eighth grade B team lost 44-26 despite a 15-point effort from

Amanda Bullard.  
The eighth A team fell, 41-32; Pam Klein led Hereford with nine points and Brionne Yosten added eight points.  
The seventh grade A team lost 37-17 and its leading scorers were Erica Albracht, Jessica Stubbs and Stephanie Brown with four points each.  
The seventh B teams played the closest game, but Borger pulled it out, 23-18. Holly Coneway led Hereford with seven points.

## CCS girls defeat San Jac Christian

The Community Christian School girls' basketball team defeated San Jacinto Christian Academy, 36-20, Friday in Hereford.  
Amber Brumley led CCS with 14 points and Amanda Bustamente added eight for the Hereford school.  
San Jacinto, an Amarillo school, won the boys' game, 68-47, despite a 38-point performance from CCS' Chris Hendershot.

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## Football title games to be televised

By JAIME ARON  
AP Sports Writer  
DALLAS (AP) - Fox Sports Southwest will televise the Class 5A and 4A Division II football championship games Saturday, offering a sample of the "single site" format the cable network has been pushing for years.  
The first game will be at noon, featuring 12-3 Abilene Cooper against undefeated Austin Westlake. At 4 p.m., defending 4A champion La Marque (13-2) will play Denison (14-1) in a rematch of last year's final.  
Fox Sports Southwest already planned to carry the 5A game. It went after the 4A game because, with both games being at Texas Stadium, the network already will have its cameras and crew in place.  
The hangup was getting the 4A schools to move up their kickoff from 5 p.m., as previously scheduled. The network needed the extra hour to avoid conflicting with a prime-time NBA telecast.  
Once that was agreed to Tuesday, the network dropped the Oral Roberts-LSU men's basketball game it had planned for Texas viewers and announced the change.

"We just feel it's good for the sport and it's a good platform for us to highlight what we are doing with high school football," said Fox Sports Southwest general manager Jon Heidtke, whose network also has a weekly, hourlong program devoted to high school sports.  
"There are certainly people around the state who would enjoy seeing the 4A game as well. At this level, it's very good programming."  
A similar arrangement almost was made for last weekend's Division I games, both of which were played at Floyd Casey Stadium in Waco. It fell through because of a problem splitting up gate receipts.  
The gate-splitting wasn't as much of a problem for this Saturday as was a concern over facilities, specifically locker rooms.  
Texas Stadium has four, but one belongs exclusively to the Dallas Cowboys, forcing one of the afternoon teams to dress elsewhere. La Marque solved that problem by volunteering to suit up at its hotel.  
La Marque has done this sort of thing several times, including before last year's semifinal against Corpus Christi Calallen, when the Cougars

put on their uniforms at their Austin hotel before playing in San Marcos.  
"As long as we've got 45 minutes to warm up and a place to meet, we're accommodating," coach Alan Weddell said, adding that his team often deals with such arrangements because they often are part of double- and tripleheaders at the Astrodome.  
This will be the second state championship doubleheader for the network, which used to be Prime Sports and, before that, Home Sports Entertainment.  
In 1993, HSE showed Lewisville beat Aldine MacArthur 43-37 for the 5A Division II title, followed by Stephenville's 26-13 victory over La Marque.  
That telecast was the first time the network was able to show the benefits of a single site, an idea it still firmly believes can work.  
"We think it would be a great day of television showcasing the top programs and the importance of high school football in the state," Heidtke said.  
The legislative council of the University Interscholastic League disagreed when presented with the single-site proposal several years ago. It rejected the notion because schools

feared a predetermined championship site could end up being inconvenient for both schools playing in the game and their fans.  
Nonetheless, Heidtke and crew haven't given up.  
They've shown one championship game a year, tried for two when possible, and have pieced together a game plan they hope will convince people to at least give the single-site idea a try.  
"I think if it is positioned right, and the right elements are in place, it would make a lot of sense for a lot of schools," Heidtke said. "It would improve the experience for all schools and their fans, and it could also enhance the revenue of all schools involved."  
A big step was taken last November when the network joined with corporate marketing specialist USA Inc. and the UIL to give championship games the more-promotable name of the "Texas Bowl."  
That moniker allows for promotions such as "follow the road to the Texas Bowl," which they hope would eventually include the name of a city and stadium.

## 'Huskers find trouble with law again

By SCOTT BAUER  
Associated Press Writer  
LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) - Going into the Orange Bowl against Virginia Tech, the Nebraska Cornhuskers are once again getting unwelcome notice for activities off the football field.  
For the third time this year, a player has been suspended after alleged drunken driving. In November, defensive leader Terrell Farley, 21, was kicked off the team after his second DUI arrest. He faces a trial on numerous charges in February.  
Nebraska lost a second starter this week when coach Tom Osborne suspended senior wingback Jon Vedral, 22, because of a DUI arrest Sunday morning. Vedral will not play in the Orange Bowl. It would have been his final game as a Husker.  
Vedral's expected replacement, Lance Brown, was himself suspended for the team's spring scrimmage and the season opener because of a drunken driving incident last spring.  
Brown, a sophomore, played in every game last year as a red-shirt freshman.  
While it might seem that an excessive number of Cornhuskers are getting in trouble for drinking and driving, a University of Nebraska psychology professor said it is difficult to say if football players have a higher ratio of drinking offenses than the rest of the male university population.  
One thing they do have is more of a feeling that they are invincible, Clay Rivers said.  
"The risk taking, the pushing the limits, the invulnerability of youth says 'I can get away with this,'" Rivers said. "I think that when you're young, the risks that you take are unbelievable."  
All-America defensive end Jared Tomich said everyone makes mistakes sooner or later, and Vedral made his now.  
"It's just one of those things that happens," Tomich said.  
Osborne said Vedral was with some people Saturday night who had alcohol, and he made a bad decision.  
"People expect athletes to behave the same way they did 20 or 25 years ago," Osborne said Tuesday. But the world has changed and athletes today are involved with more problems than they were a generation ago, he said.  
Vedral and Farley's decisions to drink and drive are more frustrating because the team addressed the issue of alcohol abuse more this year than any other season, Osborne said.

"The big drug problem we have in our country is alcohol," Osborne said.  
A university task force on student behavior and campus violence found this summer that alcohol is present in 90 percent of violent incidents reported on campus and to Lincoln police.  
The report also affirmed Rivers' contention that the athletic department receives a "disproportionate amount of public scrutiny for cases of violence."  
The Chancellor's Task Force on Conduct Standards and Behavioral Expectations was formed in October in the wake of a highly publicized

incident last season involving running back Lawrence Phillips.  
Phillips was arrested by Lincoln police for beating his ex-girlfriend, Kate McEwen, a member of the women's basketball team. The assault took place in an off-campus apartment.  
Several months earlier, football player Tyrone Williams was arrested for allegedly firing two shots into a car, and teammate Riley Washington was charged with attempted second-degree murder for shooting a Lincoln man.  
Phillips is on probation for the assault. Williams is appealing his six-month jail sentence. Washington

is awaiting trial.  
Vedral, from Gregory, S.D., emerged as a starter this year after coming to Nebraska as a walk-on player in 1992.  
"To have it end like this is very disturbing to him and to me," Osborne said.

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# Kukoc provides edge as Bulls trip Lakers

By TOM WITHERS  
AP Sports Writer

Michael Jordan and Scottie Pippen have saved the Chicago Bulls plenty of times. Never as tag-team wrestlers, though.

Jordan and Pippen pulled Dennis Rodman away from a confrontation with Shaquille O'Neal in the closing seconds Tuesday night when the Bulls overcame an 18-point deficit in the fourth quarter for a 129-123 overtime win over the Los Angeles Lakers.

Toni Kukoc scored 23 of his season-high 31 points in the fourth quarter and overtime for the Bulls, who trailed by 22 in the first half. Pippen had 35 points and Jordan had 30 on 10-of-32 shooting.

Nick Van Exel scored a season-high 36 points, O'Neal 27 and Eddie Jones 21 for the Lakers, whose five-game winning streak was snapped. O'Neal got only four points after halftime and missed two free throws in overtime.

It was probably the NBA's best game so far this season, featuring great individual performances with highlights galore.

Van Exel hit a 17-foot jumper with 56 seconds left in overtime to make it 123-123. Pippen then drove to the hoop and was credited with a basket when O'Neal blocked the shot on its way down.

Van Exel and Eddie Jones then

missed 3-pointers. Rodman rebounded Jones' miss and, as he called for a timeout, he was mauled by Jerome Kersey. The two exchanged shoves, and O'Neal joined the fracas with a hard push on Rodman.

Rodman appeared ready to go at O'Neal, but was grabbed by Jordan and Pippen, who dragged him to the floor.

"It was a very crucial time of the game," Pippen said. "We needed him to keep his composure."

Kukoc scored 18 points in the fourth quarter, making several key 3-pointers, including two bombs over O'Neal.

"Every time I got the ball, I was going to shoot," Kukoc said. "There was just no way I was going to miss, so I figured I might as well keep shooting."

**Grizzlies 93, Rockets 92**  
At Vancouver, Bryant Reeves made a 14-foot jumper with 5.8 seconds left as the Grizzlies outscored Houston 17-6 in the final 4:21.

Vancouver overcame a 10-point deficit in the final five minutes to end the Rockets' six-game winning streak and send Houston to just its third loss this season.

Hakeem Olajuwon, who led the Rockets with 23 points, missed an awkward 18-footer at the buzzer.

Rookie Shareef Abdur-Rahim led Vancouver with 22 points.

**Hawks 109, Mavericks 73**

At Dallas, Mookie Blaylock made seven 3-point shots as Atlanta set an NBA record with 19 3-pointers.

Blaylock scored 27 points - 19 in the first half - for the Hawks, who won for the ninth time in the last 11 games.

Atlanta made 19 of 27 3-pointers to break the league record of 18 set twice last season by the Mavericks. George McCloidy scored 20 points to lead the Mavs.

**Hornets 93, 76ers 84**

At Philadelphia, Muggsy Bogues tied his career high with 24 points as Charlotte won for the fifth time in six games.

It was Charlotte's second win in five nights over the 76ers, who lost their eighth straight.

Dell Curry had 20 points, 15 in the first half, and Anthony Mason added 14 points and 10 rebounds for Charlotte. Derrick Coleman scored a season-high 27 points for Philadelphia.

**Knicks 99, Jazz 94**

At New York, Chris Childs and

Patrick Ewing scored all but four of New York's fourth-quarter points as the Knicks won their seventh straight. Despite what New York's 16-6 record would suggest, it was a rare win for the Knicks against a quality opponent. It was just their seventh game - and third victory - against a team with a record above .500.

Ewing had 25 points, and all five New York starters reached double figures.

Karl Malone led Utah with 29 points.

**Pacers 103, Heat 89**

At Miami, Antonio Davis scored 21 points for Indiana, which withstood a fourth-quarter rally by the Heat to end their four-game winning streak.

Tim Hardaway, who began the game as the Heat's leading scorer this season, departed late in the first quarter with the score 16-16. Indiana scored 15 of the next 17 points for a 31-18 advantage and led the rest of the way.

Hardaway was dribbling the ball near midcourt when he called timeout and collapsed on his back. He rose unsteadily to his feet and was helped

to the locker room by two trainers. His status for Thursday's game against Utah was uncertain.

**Raptors 97, Nets 88**

Walt Williams scored 24 points and Damon Stoudamire had 14 of his 17 in the fourth quarter as Toronto won its first road game in nine tries this season.

Kerry Kittles led New Jersey with 27 points and Jayson Williams, the league's leading rebounder, had 18 rebounds despite playing with a splint on his injured thumb.

**Sonics 123, Warriors 83**

At Seattle, Hersey Hawkins scored a season-high 30 points and Gary Payton added 24 as the Sonics ended a three-game losing streak with their seventh straight win over Golden State.

The Warriors, who trailed by 33 points at halftime, lost Joe Smith 2:04 into the second half with a sprained left ankle when Seattle's Jim McIlvaine landed awkwardly on him near the Sonics' basket.

Latrell Sprewell had 26 points for Golden State, which lost its fourth straight.

## Cincy whips Howard after two-week layoff

By The Associated Press

It had been a long 13 days for Ruben Patterson and his Cincinnati teammates. It seemed longer than that for various reasons.

The seventh-ranked Bearcats last played on Dec. 4, and that was a loss to No. 1 Kansas that dropped them to 2-2. During the down time, Patterson was arrested on an aggravated burglary charge. A grand jury chose not to indict, and the charge was dropped.

Finally, on Tuesday night, the Bearcats played another game, and Patterson came up with a career-high 25 points in a 90-46 victory over winless Howard University.

"I felt good when I stepped on the floor," said Patterson, a junior college transfer who hadn't been playing up to expectations. "I was really psyched. In a couple of games, (losses to) Kansas and Xavier, I didn't do too well. I said to myself, 'It's time to start playing.' That's what I've got to start doing."

Patterson scored the first two baskets and Cincinnati (3-2) scored the game's first eight points. He finished with nine rebounds as the Bearcats had a 45-27 advantage on the boards.

"Ruben showed flashes of the way he can be," Cincinnati coach Bob Huggins said. "He was not as consistent as we need him to be. We need him to string a series of plays together, rather than make a play and then not make a play."

In other games involving ranked teams on Tuesday, it was No. 8 Clemson 58, South Carolina 39; No. 16 Minnesota 82, Rhode Island 72; No. 23 Texas Tech 99, Texas-San Antonio 51; and No. 24 UCLA 93, Jackson State 67.

Danny Fortson added 19 points and D'Juan Baker had 15 for Cincinnati, which tied the school record with 20 steals and forced Howard (0-6) into 29 turnovers. The Bison missed 75 percent of their shots.

"Their (full-court) pressure is tough," Howard coach Mike McLeese said. "Sometimes it seems like there's seven or eight guys out

there. I thought our guys stepped up and competed tonight. We missed some easy shots early that could have made it a closer game."

Melvin Watson led Howard with 13 points.

**No. 23 Texas Tech 99, Texas-San Antonio 51**

Tony Battie had 23 points and 15 rebounds for the Red Raiders (6-1), who bounced back from their first loss of the season with their 34th consecutive home victory. Texas Tech had a 20-point lead halfway through the first half. Sophomore guard Steve Meyer, a transfer from the University of New Orleans, scored 22 points in his debut for the Roadrunners (4-4), who suffered their worst loss ever.

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## Yankees sign pitcher Wells

NEW YORK (AP) - David Wells and the New York Yankees finally agreed on a \$13.5 million, three-year contract with an option that could be worth up to \$18.55 million over four years.

Wells, a 33-year-old left-hander, became the Yankees' primary pitching target last Friday after Roger Clemens spurned New York and agreed to a \$24.75 million, three-year contract with the Toronto Blue Jays. New York had been searching for a No. 3 starter since Jimmy Key agreed to a \$7.88 million, two-year deal with Baltimore.

The Boston Red Sox, hunting for pitchers following the departure of Clemens, agreed to a \$700,000, one-year deal with Chris Hammond on Tuesday. A baseball lawyer, speaking on the condition he not be identified, said the Red Sox also were in discussions with the agent for Steve Avery, in a three-year slump since going 18-6 for Atlanta in 1993.

Baltimore, looking to add a bat, was said to be in talks with the agent for Greg Vaughn.

# McVeigh's trial set for March

By STEVEN K. PAULSON  
Associated Press Writer  
DENVER (AP) - Attorneys for Oklahoma City bombing suspect Timothy McVeigh plan to argue that someone other than their client committed the worst terrorist attack on U.S. soil.

When his trial finally begins March 31, they'll also contend the FBI mishandled evidence, that witnesses mistakenly picked McVeigh out of photo lineups and confused him with other suspects, and two key witnesses lied to protect themselves.

Although U.S. District Judge Richard Matsch has barred attorneys from talking about the case, a clear picture of McVeigh's defense in the bombing that killed 168 people and injured more than 500 others has emerged from hearings and court records.

"We certainly will contend that there is a John Doe 2, and maybe 3, 4 and 5, there are multiple Ryder trucks, and that our client is not guilty," defense attorney Stephen Jones said during a hearing Nov. 13.

The government alleges McVeigh rented the Ryder truck that carried the bomb on the afternoon of April 17, 1995, and he and codefendant Terry Nichols built the bomb the next day.

But The Denver Post last weekend reported there had been reports of multiple Ryder truck sightings. The paper quoted witnesses who placed a Ryder truck at Geary State Fishing Lake in Kansas on April 10, 1995, and on April 18, 1995, the day before the bombing.

The Post, which published a seven-page account Sunday of its six-month investigation of the bombing case, said neither McVeigh nor Nichols could have driven the truck to the lake April 10.

The Post's investigation concluded that there had to be additional participants in the bombing because at the time the mysterious Ryder truck showed up at Geary State Fishing Lake near Junction City, Kan., McVeigh was holed up in a resident hotel in Kingman, Ariz.; Nichols was returning from a gun show in Michigan; and government witness Michael Fortier also was not in Kansas.

McVeigh's attorney Jones has identified five major tenets of his defense, including the mistaken eyewitness identification of McVeigh at Junction City, where the truck was rented; forensic evidence allegedly mishandled by the FBI, and the drug history and lies by key witnesses

Michael and Lori Fortier. Interviews and research into the case by The Associated Press also show he will offer alternative reasons why McVeigh was in Oklahoma after the bombing, and rebut the government's contention the attack was carried out in retaliation for the siege and deaths at the Branch Davidian compound in Waco, Texas.

According to prosecution documents, the government hopes to prove that McVeigh and Nichols hatched the plot at least seven months before the bombing. Prosecutors allege firearms were stolen to finance the bombing, and the two men began assembling components, stolen during a burglary at a Kansas quarry, for their device in September 1994.

McVeigh, 28, and Nichols, 41, are charged with 11 counts, including use of weapons of mass destruction, destruction of federal property and killing of federal law enforcement officers in the April 19, 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah building. They could get the death penalty if convicted.

The indictment alleges McVeigh and Nichols built the bomb on Tuesday, April 18, 1995, at Geary State Fishing Lake.

Eyewitness reports indicated a yellow Ryder truck was parked next to a dark blue or brown truck with a white camper shell for most of the day. Prosecutors plan to offer Nichols' statements that he met McVeigh in Junction City that day and loaned McVeigh his dark blue pickup with a white camper shell.

But the eyewitnesses conflict over what day they saw the truck, some saying it was the week before. None of the eyewitnesses say they saw McVeigh and Nichols there, and their description of the truck with a camper shell differs.

The first Ryder truck was spotted at the lake on April 10, the Post reported.

"I thought it was kind of weird, that Ryder truck being in there. But I figured it was someone moving cross-country and they'd pulled off to get some sleep," Army Sgt. James Sargent told the newspaper.

He said he saw the truck that afternoon and drove past it three days in a row while going fishing.

Another potential weakness in the government's case that McVeigh's defense team is expected to exploit is the diverging description of the man who rented the Ryder truck on April 17 at Elliott's Body Shop in Junction City, Kan. The truck was rented to a Robert Kling, but the description given

by witnesses does not match McVeigh, although McVeigh used Kling's identity.

The witnesses indicated Kling was 5 feet 10 inches, and weighed about 180 pounds. Tom Kessinger went further and indicated Kling had a rough complexion. Defense attorneys have pointed out that McVeigh has blue eyes, weighed 160 pounds, stood 6-feet-2 and has a clear complexion.

Daina Bradley, who lost a leg in the bombing, told authorities that before the bomb went off, she saw a man who fit the description of another suspect identified only as John Doe No. 2 getting out of a Ryder truck shortly before the blast, and it wasn't McVeigh.

Because of her injuries, defense attorneys have argued, she has no motive to want to help McVeigh.

Prosecutors have acknowledged "others" may have been involved, and say they are continuing their investigation. Police have a sketch of the man identified as John Doe No. 2, but have been unable to locate him in the two years since the bombing.

Authorities are relying on testimony from Michael Fortier, a former Army buddy of McVeigh and Nichols. Authorities admit Fortier initially lied to them. He also admitted using illegal drugs, according to a letter to defense attorneys from prosecutors.

Fortier has pleaded guilty to federal charges that include failing to tell authorities what he knew about the plot before it was carried out. He faces a 23-year sentence.

Defense attorneys say police would not have made a plea-bargain with Fortier on charges related to a case in which 168 people were killed unless they needed Fortier's testimony against McVeigh and Nichols.

Prosecutors allege McVeigh and Nichols bought 40 fifty-pound bags of ammonium nitrate - the fertilizer believed used in the bomb - from a farm supply store in McPherson, Kan., on Sept. 30 and again on Oct. 19, 1994, both times using the alias "Mike Havens."

Authorities point to evidence of explosives found on McVeigh's clothing, linking him to the bomb, but an FBI expert witness, Dr. Frederic Whitehurst, said the FBI lab was contaminated. Of course they found explosives residue - the lab was full of it, defense attorneys say. Jones has called Whitehurst's allegations "a ticking time bomb" in the case.

## State educators to be evaluated with new criteria

DALLAS (AP) - The state education commissioner has proposed that teachers be evaluated, for the first time, partly by how well their students do on the state's basic skills test.

Texas Education Commissioner Mike Moses drafted the teacher appraisal system, to take effect Sept. 1.

"No teacher will have a contract not renewed on the basis of test scores alone," Moses said. "My desire is not to develop a system that is punitive or hurtful, but one that is challenging and helps teachers to grow and develop."

Teacher groups described the plan as a bad idea and an inappropriate use of the test.

Students in grades 3-9 take the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills each year. It measures math, reading and writing skills, and high school students must pass it to get a diploma.

Under the commissioner's plan, the state's 250,000 public school teachers, regardless of the subject they teach, would have their school's overall TAAS score considered as part of their annual evaluations.

Evaluations are used to decide whether to renew a teacher's employment contract or to recommend additional training for a teacher.

Using overall-school scores to help evaluate teachers would promote teamwork among teachers to improve achievement at their school, Moses said.

"We would hope that an art teacher would be concerned about how the school is doing in reading," he said, adding that the concept parallels what already has become common in the private sector. "It would be unfair to hold accountable only those teachers who teach reading and math."

At the same time, test scores will be only a small part of the total teacher evaluation, Moses said.

Teachers' annual evaluations would still include a 45-minute classroom visit by an observer to appraise such skills as interaction with students and control of the classroom.

The president of the state's largest teacher organization said his group strenuously opposes any use of TAAS scores in evaluating teachers.

## Many Texans Support Tap on Terrorists

The Preamble to our U.S. Constitution states clearly that the federal government has a responsibility to "ensure domestic Tranquility" and "provide for the common defense."

But the 1993 bombing of the New York World Trade Center and the explosion that destroyed Oklahoma City's federal building two years later forever changed American notions of security and domestic tranquility. Congress began looking for ways to curb terrorism, both at home and abroad, in order to better carry out its constitutional mandate.

In the questionnaire that many local newspapers published recently I asked Texans if, "The federal government should allow law enforcement officers expanded wiretap capabilities to track and apprehend suspects in an effort to combat terrorism both domestically and abroad?"

More than half of you, 53 percent, responded affirmatively to this question. Many of you expressed concern that Americans can no longer feel safe from foreign attacks on their own soil.

"I support this. We need all the protection we can get when just anyone can get on an airplane, come here and bomb a building like the Trade Center. How do these people get in our country?" one writer asked. Another said, "We should declare war on terrorist strongholds abroad. They shouldn't be able to raise money here on American soil to conduct terrorist attacks in their own countries — or in ours!"

A student of history wrote, "The effect of Reagan's goosing that nut in Libya was amazing. Khadafi's foolishness ceased. We should go to the source of terrorism, and not apologize."

Another wrote, "We need to stop the judiciary from interpreting the Constitution to give these people rights to operate in our country. Foreign terrorists shouldn't have the same rights as U.S. citizens." Along those same lines, a reader wrote, "Federal judges should be more cooperative about allowing us to enforce our existing anti-terrorism laws." Another writer commented, "I support this. And we need legislation to require taggants in explosives — not merely another study."

Several writers had thoughtful ideas on how monitoring of terrorist organizations could be conducted carefully: "I say yes to this as long as local law enforcement is handling it and the feds are brought in only when needed;" "Yes, I support this if the procedures are carefully managed and used only to fight terrorism such as those people who bombed Oklahoma City."

One reader, expressing misgivings about strengthening the government's law enforcement abilities wrote, "I would support this, but only under close scrutiny. Each expanded law enforcement capability comes with a loss of freedom. We must be ever watchful that we don't become so protected and secure that we find ourselves living in a police state."

Those of you who opposed this proposal expressed concerns regarding the rights of privacy: "We've seen abuses by over-enthusiastic officers. Some restraints are necessary;" "We have to be careful this is used to get the bad guys — not the good." Another wrote, "We have to make sure that the Constitutional rights of law-abiding citizens are preserved." Finally, one person wrote, "We lose our freedoms one step at a time."

I intend to see that Congress proceeds carefully in this endeavor. The test of our success in combating terrorism will be if we can alleviate the threats and fear that have been raised in America — without sacrificing our freedoms.

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# Red Cross suspends relief effort in Chechnya

By YUNADI AKBULATOV  
Associated Press Writer  
NOVIYE ATAGI, Russia (AP) - The Red Cross suspended all relief efforts and evacuated most of its staff from Chechnya today, a day after masked killers shot and killed four nurses and two other aid workers as they slept.

The attack, in which a seventh worker was wounded, was the bloodiest against the Red Cross in its 133-year history.

All sides in the breakaway Russian republic condemned the slaying, which cast a shadow over prospects for stability in the separatist region, where a truce has been in place since August.

the Netherlands, Spain, New Zealand and Norway.

The killers arrived at 4 a.m. at the small cluster of buildings on a dirt road in the village 15 miles south of Grozny, the Chechen capital. They left without entering the main hospital building, which had 40 patients.

Jean de Courten, operations director for the international Red Cross, called the attack a cowardly "deliberate assassination."

"In the past years we have known tragic events at the Red Cross, but this one hits at the heart of the Red Cross and it hits at the motivation of

every one of us who is working for the humanitarian good," he said, his voice trembling during an emotional briefing at the group's Geneva headquarters.

The Red Cross called it the single deadliest attack against its delegates although 15 Red Cross people were killed in separate attacks in Somalia in 1992. It was the worst attack on foreigners since the war in Chechnya began two years ago.

Killed were Johan Elkerbout, 47, a Dutch construction technician; medical administrator Nancy Malloy, 51, of Vancouver, British Columbia;

and four nurses - Ingebjorg Foss, 42, and Gunnhild Myklebust, 50, of Norway; Sheryl Thayer, 40, of New Zealand; and Fernanda Calado, 49, of Spain.

Christophe Hensche, a Swiss national in charge of the hospital, was shot in the shoulder and survived by feigning death.

Few outside groups are left in Chechnya other than the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, which said it was staying.

In Moscow, the lower house of parliament opened its session today with a minute of silence for the slain

aid workers.

Yeltsin sent thousands of Russian troops into Chechnya in December 1994 to smash the republic's independence movement, but the troops became mired in a bloody, unpopular war. The last Russian combat troops are pulling out in advance of the elections set for Jan. 27.

The pullout and the peace deal have enemies on both sides and tensions have been rising. Sporadic violence continues.

Chechen leaders today announced steps to improve security for foreign

election observers, some of whom already have arrived.

The shaky peace made it possible for the Red Cross to open the hospital, its only one in Chechnya, in September with assurances of support from both sides.

Anxious relatives of 35 patients being treated at the hospital gathered at the compound today, afraid that the facility would be closed.

"This hospital was the only place that offered free and reliable medical help," said Khava Muradova, whose wounded son had gangrene and was supposed to have surgery today.

The international Red Cross suspended all operations in Chechnya and evacuated about 35 workers. Only five staff members remained today to help with the investigation.

"Respect for the Red Cross and for humanitarian organizations in general has not prevailed in Chechnya," said Victoria Catliff, a Red Cross spokeswoman in Moscow.

Red Cross workers in Chechnya already had endured six kidnappings this year, and the agency reduced its staff earlier this month because of security concerns.

No one has claimed responsibility for the attack, but Russian and Chechen leaders speculate that the assailants were trying to wreck the republic's fragile peace, disrupt upcoming elections or discredit separatists who are now in charge.

The survivors and bodies of the slain workers were to be flown to Geneva later today, Catliff said.

As many as 15 attackers participated in the raid early Tuesday on the Red Cross' 3-month-old hospital in Noviye Atagi. Those killed were five women and one man from Canada,

## Hazing under investigation

By BRUCE SMITH  
Associated Press Writer  
CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP) - Two female Citadel cadets had nail polish remover poured on them and their clothes set afire not once but three times in hazing incidents in the last two months, their attorneys said Tuesday.

One woman, Jeanie Mentavlos, also was ordered to drop her pants so male cadets could remove a concealed tape recorder. She was permitted to go behind a desk to do it, they said.

Mentavlos was using the recorder because she and Kim Messer "knew no one would believe them as to the fact the line had been crossed" by male cadets at the formerly all-male state military school, said Ms. Mentavlos' attorney, Tim Kulp.

Other new hazing allegations made Tuesday involve male cadets entering the women's rooms in the middle of the night, singing sexually explicit songs and forcing alcoholic beverages on them in the dorms.

The FBI, Justice Department and state Law Enforcement Division are investigating. A final report is not expected until next month, Solicitor David Schwacke said.

College spokesman Terry Leedom declined comment Tuesday. "All that should come out in the investigation," he said.

Two cadets have been suspended and five others relieved of their commands in response to the hazing allegations, first made last week.

The women told cadet officers about the harassment, but the complaints were ignored, attorney Paul Gibson said. Ms. Mentavlos' brother Michael, a senior, and two other senior cadets then told school officials, he said.

The hazing began in mid-October and escalated after Thanksgiving, Gibson said.

Mid-October is when any upperclassman can begin ordering freshmen around - admonishing them on their uniform or asking questions about Citadel rules, for example. Prior to that, only a limited number of upperclassmen, called the cadre, may make corrections.

Ms. Mentavlos and Ms. Messer are taking final exams but not participating in military activities as authorities investigate the claims. The women, concerned for their safety in the barracks, are staying off campus and wearing civilian clothes this week.

The other two women cadets, Nancy Mace and Petra Lovetinska, a Czech national, have remained with their companies and have not made any hazing allegations.

The college, in response to the allegations, installed alarm buttons Monday in the women's rooms. The buttons sound an alarm at a guard station elsewhere in the barracks.

Kulp said neither Ms. Mentavlos or Ms. Messer have decided whether they will return to the corps next month. If they do, he said additional security, such as assigning U.S. marshals to campus or installing a video camera in front of their rooms, would be needed.

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# "YEAR-END" CLEARANCE SALE

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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.

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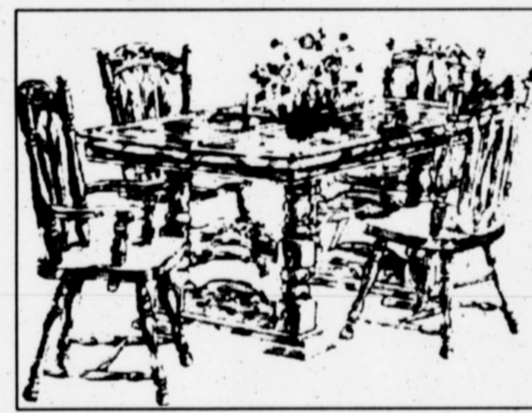
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 Fax: 364-8364  
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**Merle Norman Cosmetics**  
**MAKE IT EASY FOR YOU!**  
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Kitchen Aid Cookstove, smooth cooktop, alternate convection oven, almond color. One of the best! Used 5 months - yours for \$1100.00 OBO. 364-4951. 33453

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 1306 East Park  
 Open On Thursdays & Fridays  
 8:00 am to 5:00 pm  
 Restocked Weekly

**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. 276-5389, 276-5337, and 276-5343. 33445

**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

For Sale: 1983 KAW KLT-200/3 wheeler. \$400 OBO. Good for hunting or farm. Good condition. 364-3534. 33435

For Sale: 1990 Ford Escort, 4 Cylinder Standard, low mileage, real good condition. Call 364-5482 after 6:00 p.m. 33449

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

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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: NEWLY REDECORATED, 3 BR, 2 full baths. New roof, paint, carpet, tile, kitchen appliances & garage doors. Sprinkler system. 2800 sq. ft. For appointment call 806 272-3140 or 806 965-2656. 33260

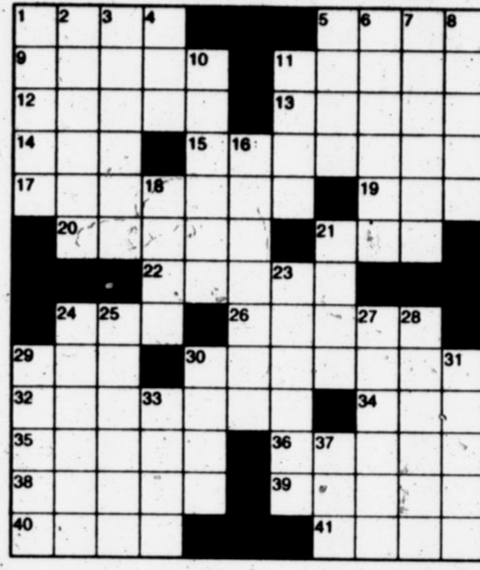
For Sale by Owner: 630 Av.J. 4-bedroom, 2 baths. Completely remodeled. New carpet, paint, appliances & ceiling fans. \$1260 down, \$438 month. 364-3955. 33370

**CROSSWORD**

by THOMAS JOSEPH

**ACROSS**  
 1 Storage site  
 5 Jury member  
 9 Stubbs and Straus  
 11 Monopoly railroad  
 12 Bouquet  
 13 Finish  
 14 Opposite of out  
 15 Club sandwich need  
 17 Bubbly drink  
 19 Blushing  
 20 Chutzpah  
 21 Unite  
 22 Actor Jack  
 24 Plead  
 26 Newbywed's new relative  
 29 Predicament  
 30 1957 Tracy/Hepburn film  
 32 Island strings  
 34 Mariner  
 35 La Scala locale  
 38 Entertain  
 39 Trumpet accessories  
 40 Computer

**DOWN**  
 1 Loose talk  
 2 "Train-spotting" topic  
 3 Tennis star  
 4 None too bright  
 5 Show exhaustion  
 6 Last  
 7 Drew out  
 8 Lassoed  
 10 It helps break down starches  
 11 Actor  
 16 Old Testament book  
 18 Lily-pad sitter  
 21 TV's Lawrence  
 23 Jeans measure  
 24 Beach apparel  
 25 Rejoices  
 27 Crafty  
 28 Ermine, e.g.  
 29 Was furious  
 30 Tum down  
 31 Lock  
 33 Escapade  
 37 Coffee holder



**WAISTS ALAS**  
**ALLURE NORA**  
**DELTA AUTUMN**  
**TITLE**  
**TOOL NULL**  
**PENN PAPA YA**  
**AXE TIE LOO**  
**TAUGHT BANK**  
**SPUR ROWS**  
**ROBES**  
**BARNBURNING**  
**EPEE GUINEA**  
**DENY SNAKES**

**Yesterday's Answer**

11 Actor  
 Carl  
 16 Old  
 Testament  
 book  
 18 Lily-pad  
 sitter  
 21 TV's  
 Lawrence  
 23 Jeans  
 measure  
 24 Beach  
 apparel  
 25 Rejoices  
 27 Crafty  
 28 Ermine,  
 e.g.  
 29 Was  
 furious  
 30 Tum  
 down  
 31 Lock  
 33 Escapade  
 37 Coffee  
 holder

**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-454-7377 19¢ per minute, touch-tone / rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**1. ARTICLES FOR SALE**

**"Put on the Dog" this season.**  
 Let Stacy or Kim trim your family pet in holiday fashion. They'll even top off the package with pretty ribbon!  
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 South Highway 385 364-2427

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

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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

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 You'll trim the tree this season... Why not trim your family pet, too? Let Stacy wash and groom your dog fit for the holidays!  
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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/o/a. Singer, 1800 S. Georgia, Amarillo. (806)467-1771. 32694

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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

NO EXPERIENCE: \$500 to \$900 weekly/potential processing mortgage refunds. Own Hours. 1-800-449-1036 Ext. 1241. 33442

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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**

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 Offering an excellent program of learning and care for your children 0-12! State Licensed  
 Also - SPECIAL AFTER-HOURS pick-up for Kindergarten Children!  
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 \*State Licensed\*  
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 Monday - Friday  
 6:00 am - 6:00 pm  
 Drop-ins Welcome  
**MARILYN BELL / DIRECTOR**  
 364-3972 • 400 RANGER

**10. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

I, James D. Hamer, am not responsible for any debts incurred or contracts undertaken by Samantha L. Hamer. 33430

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 --Give the price. A newspaper consultant says 70 percent of classified readers won't respond to an ad with no price.  
 --Use key words to describe what you're selling. The key words for a car are make, model, year, body style, color, mileage and price. If it's a house, key words are location, type of construction, number of bedrooms and baths, and condition.  
 --Don't use abbreviations. It's tempting to abbreviate and save money if ads are billed by the line. Brand ads are billed by the word, so spell them out so readers won't be confused trying to figure out abbreviations.  
 --Don't be misleading. Think accurate and factual when you write. Be sure to include a phone number and the best times to reach you.

**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

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

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 Confidential Services  
**PROBLEM PREGNANCY CENTER**  
 505 E. Park Avenue  
 Call: 364-2027 or 364-5299 (Michelle)

While you trim the tree...  
 Let Stacy or Kim give your dog a holiday trim...  
 They'll wash and groom your pet and add a finishing touch of pretty ribbon!  
 Stacy's Pet Grooming  
 South Hwy. 385 364-2427

**"Yule" love the look we give your dog... Call today for an appointment to get your pet holiday trimmed!**  
 Stacy's Pet Grooming  
 South Hwy. 385 364-2427

**13. LOST & FOUND**

Lost: Shely (miniature Collie) dog with Hutto Vet collar. If found, call Dr. Hutto's office or 364-4446; 364-2355. REWARD OFFERED! \$100.00. 33432

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 Lots located on Sioux, Cherokee G&H Streets. RV lots.  
**FOR RENT**  
 Office Space - 415 N. Main  
**FOR LEASE**  
 Warehouses 9,000 sq.ft., dock high, 4,000 sq.ft., dock high.  
**Doug Bartlett - 415 N. Main**  
 364-1483 (Office) or 364-3937 (Home)

**APARTMENTS:**  
 Blue Water Gardens  
**HEAT, AC LIGHTS INCLUDED**  
 Rent based on income. Accepting applications for 1, 2, 3, 4 bedrooms. CALL Debra or Janis TODAY for information & directions. 12-5pm (806)364-8861. Equal Opportunity.

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**FLEET OWNER NEEDS** drivers with 1 yr flatbed exp. Can you qualify? Exec. equip: 24¢ all miles, 401K, insurance, weekly salary, hometime. \$300 sign-on bonus. Call 1-800-959-5958.

**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 1-800-727-4374** \*OTR drivers 1-800-727-4374 \*OTR drivers 1-800-727-4374 \*OTR drivers 1-800-727-4374 \*OTR drivers 1-800-727-4374 \*OTR drivers 1-800-727-4374 \*OTR drivers 1-800-727-4374.

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**HAPPY JACK TRIVERMICE:** recognized safe & effective against hook, round & tapeworms in dogs & cats. Available at farm, feed & hardware stores.

**PROFIT STORAGE CENTERS:** Steel mini-storage buildings. Factory direct; erection available. 30x100, 20 units, \$9,692; 40x150, 30 units, \$16,215. Free brochures. Sentinel Buildings, 1-800-327-0790, extension 790.

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**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.

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**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.

**DIABETIC? ARE YOU** still paying for supplies? Why? For information on how you can receive supplies at little or not cost call 1-800-678-5733.

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**INTERNET**  
**IF YOU WANT** results - you need to advertise in the I-Mail on the Internet. Classified ads also available. Call for free details 1-800-408-8618 ext. 6932.

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**"BARGAIN HOMES"** THOUSANDS of government foreclosed and repossessed properties being liquidated this month! Government financing. Low/no down. Call for local listings! 1-800-338-0020 ext. 299.

**WILD WEST RANCH** South Colorado Rockies 87 AC - \$42,900 high meadows w/ spectacular views of surrounding mountains. Loaded w/wildlife. Year round access, power & phone. Excellent financing. Call now 719-742-5207. Majors Ranch.

Call this newspaper for details on how to advertise statewide.

### A XYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

### 12-18 CRYPTOQUOTES

O AVVGOLVC DT O LDCR  
 BXH HFFOTD HGORRM  
 DGAVCCWEAT XVC  
 AVRVEKHGV FHGUVC TOADHG  
 BDAX O RDAAR XHZVBHCJ. -  
 DZEOADVGA EOCVGA

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: SALT THE SALAD QUITE A LOT, THEN GENEROUS OIL PUT IN THE POT, AND VINEGAR, BUT JUST A JOT. - ITALIAN PROVERB

## Train hits man, wife in Omaha

By ROBYNN TYSVER  
 Associated Press Writer  
**OMAHA, Neb. (AP) -** A runaway train that nearly hit a farmer and his pregnant wife while plowing through 50 miles of western Nebraska without lights, a whistle or an engineer was probably cut loose on purpose, rail officials said.

Operated only by a remote-controlled locomotive, the 55 train cars plowed through dozens of crossings, three railroad stop signs and passed several other trains before a train engineer stopped them.

The Union Pacific Railroad train apparently had been sabotaged - the runaway cars in the rear had been uncoupled from the train's front section, possibly by a motorist upset because the train had blocked traffic, said railroad spokesman John Bromley.

When locomotives at each end of the train began moving, the engineer in front rolled on ahead without realizing the back section of the train was trailing behind by as much as 12 miles.

Another train's engineer spotted the problem and notified a dispatcher, who told the engineer aboard the front section of the runaway train. Since the front and rear locomotives were programmed to work in tandem, both sections came to a halt when he made an emergency stop.

The Dec. 4 incident may be the first time a remote-controlled train operated for about 50 miles without the engineer's knowledge, said Ray Lineweber, a spokesman for the United Transportation Union.

Allen Jensen of rural Gothenberg and his wife, nearly nine months pregnant, were riding in their pickup when the train came within seconds of hitting it.

"You can't avoid hitting something you don't see," said Jensen.

Jensen is angry at the railroad's use of remote-controlled trains and his near miss. "After the initial shock, there was a lot of anger," Jensen said Monday. "Like I said, it almost killed us."

Bromley said any anger should be directed at the vandals.

The rear locomotive and train cars ran without an engineer from Cozad to about 16 miles east of North Platte.

The FBI and the railroad are investigating the possible sabotage, which is a federal offense.

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CATTLE FUTURES				GRAIN FUTURES			
Month	Price	Change	Settle	Month	Price	Change	Settle
Jan	68.00	+0.00	68.00	Dec	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Feb	67.50	+0.00	67.50	Jan	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Mar	67.00	+0.00	67.00	Feb	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Apr	66.50	+0.00	66.50	Mar	277.00	+0.00	277.00
May	66.00	+0.00	66.00	Apr	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Jun	65.50	+0.00	65.50	May	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Jul	65.00	+0.00	65.00	Jun	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Aug	64.50	+0.00	64.50	Jul	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Sep	64.00	+0.00	64.00	Aug	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Oct	63.50	+0.00	63.50	Sep	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Nov	63.00	+0.00	63.00	Oct	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Dec	62.50	+0.00	62.50	Nov	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Jan	62.00	+0.00	62.00	Dec	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Feb	61.50	+0.00	61.50	Jan	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Mar	61.00	+0.00	61.00	Feb	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Apr	60.50	+0.00	60.50	Mar	277.00	+0.00	277.00
May	60.00	+0.00	60.00	Apr	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Jun	59.50	+0.00	59.50	May	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Jul	59.00	+0.00	59.00	Jun	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Aug	58.50	+0.00	58.50	Jul	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Sep	58.00	+0.00	58.00	Aug	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Oct	57.50	+0.00	57.50	Sep	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Nov	57.00	+0.00	57.00	Oct	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Dec	56.50	+0.00	56.50	Nov	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Jan	56.00	+0.00	56.00	Dec	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Feb	55.50	+0.00	55.50	Jan	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Mar	55.00	+0.00	55.00	Feb	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Apr	54.50	+0.00	54.50	Mar	277.00	+0.00	277.00
May	54.00	+0.00	54.00	Apr	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Jun	53.50	+0.00	53.50	May	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Jul	53.00	+0.00	53.00	Jun	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Aug	52.50	+0.00	52.50	Jul	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Sep	52.00	+0.00	52.00	Aug	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Oct	51.50	+0.00	51.50	Sep	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Nov	51.00	+0.00	51.00	Oct	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Dec	50.50	+0.00	50.50	Nov	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Jan	50.00	+0.00	50.00	Dec	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Feb	49.50	+0.00	49.50	Jan	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Mar	49.00	+0.00	49.00	Feb	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Apr	48.50	+0.00	48.50	Mar	277.00	+0.00	277.00
May	48.00	+0.00	48.00	Apr	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Jun	47.50	+0.00	47.50	May	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Jul	47.00	+0.00	47.00	Jun	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Aug	46.50	+0.00	46.50	Jul	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Sep	46.00	+0.00	46.00	Aug	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Oct	45.50	+0.00	45.50	Sep	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Nov	45.00	+0.00	45.00	Oct	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Dec	44.50	+0.00	44.50	Nov	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Jan	44.00	+0.00	44.00	Dec	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Feb	43.50	+0.00	43.50	Jan	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Mar	43.00	+0.00	43.00	Feb	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Apr	42.50	+0.00	42.50	Mar	277.00	+0.00	277.00
May	42.00	+0.00	42.00	Apr	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Jun	41.50	+0.00	41.50	May	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Jul	41.00	+0.00	41.00	Jun	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Aug	40.50	+0.00	40.50	Jul	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Sep	40.00	+0.00	40.00	Aug	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Oct	39.50	+0.00	39.50	Sep	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Nov	39.00	+0.00	39.00	Oct	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Dec	38.50	+0.00	38.50	Nov	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Jan	38.00	+0.00	38.00	Dec	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Feb	37.50	+0.00	37.50	Jan	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Mar	37.00	+0.00	37.00	Feb	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Apr	36.50	+0.00	36.50	Mar	277.00	+0.00	277.00
May	36.00	+0.00	36.00	Apr	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Jun	35.50	+0.00	35.50	May	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Jul	35.00	+0.00	35.00	Jun	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Aug	34.50	+0.00	34.50	Jul	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Sep	34.00	+0.00	34.00	Aug	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Oct	33.50	+0.00	33.50	Sep	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Nov	33.00	+0.00	33.00	Oct	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Dec	32.50	+0.00	32.50	Nov	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Jan	32.00	+0.00	32.00	Dec	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Feb	31.50	+0.00	31.50	Jan	277.00	+0.00	277.00
Mar	31.00	+0.00	31.				

# State lottery officials scrutinize contract

## Texas Lt. Governor and partner made millions as lobbyists

DALLAS (AP) - State lottery officials and federal investigators are scrutinizing a contract under which former Texas Lt. Gov. Ben Barnes and his partner made \$3.2 million in one year as lobbyists for GTECH, the company that runs the Texas lottery.

Questions have been raised about how the contract, obtained by The Dallas Morning News, jibes with Texas law, which prohibits paying lobbyists on a contingency basis or on whether their efforts are successful.

"At this time the investigation is ongoing," said Harriet Miers, chairwoman of the three-member

lottery commission. "We're going to continue to look at the facts, and until we are further informed, it would be premature to comment."

Under a consulting agreement Barnes and Knox signed in 1991 with GTECH, the pair were to receive 4 percent of GTECH's revenue from the Texas lottery, minus certain expenses, including contractual penalties, liquidated damages, taxes (except income taxes), advertising of the lottery to end users, and certain communications expenses.

In exchange, they were to represent and promote GTECH before any agency or governmental entity "concerning the letting of contracts

to suppliers of gaming goods and services," among other things.

Four months after the contract was signed, state Comptroller John Sharp awarded the state lottery contract to West Greenwich, R.I.-based GTECH.

Barnes said he gets 75 percent of the proceeds from that contract, and Knox gets 25 percent. The men also have separate flat-fee lobbying contracts with the company.

Barnes has previously declined to disclose the terms of the agreement, but in a brief interview Tuesday defended the contract and said he is tired of hearing about how unusual it is.

"Everything Ben Barnes has done has been done exactly right," he said.

He added: "Think about how important this contract is to me and GTECH. I went beyond any stretch of anybody's imagination to make sure these contracts were legal."

Barnes and Knox's deal with GTECH would expire automatically if the Lottery Commission decides to put the contract up for bid as a result of the current controversy, according to terms of the contract.

Even if GTECH were to win the contract after a rebid, the two Austin lobbyists' deal with the company would still be void.

Barnes and Knox have retained an Austin lawyer and expert on state ethics law who says the contract doesn't run afoul of the contingency-fee prohibition.

The lawyer, Ed Shack, points to two different opinions from the Texas Ethics Commission that say the prohibition on those types of fees doesn't apply to "efforts to influence agency purchasing decisions."

Shack contends that the fight in early 1992 over which company would receive the state lottery contract constitutes an agency purchasing decision and thus is exempted from the contingency-fee prohibition.

"I believe that would cover state purchases of everything from thumbtacks to concrete," he said.

His interpretation of the law appears to be correct, said Sarah Woelk, a lawyer who serves as director of advisory opinions at the Texas Ethics Commission.

In other lottery-related developments Tuesday:

-Texas Lottery Director Nora Linares, whose ties to lobbyists for lottery contractors are under state and federal scrutiny, added another lawyer to her legal team.

Buck Wood of Austin, an expert on administrative and state ethics laws, joins two lawyers retained earlier by Ms. Linares, Charles Soechting of San Marcos and Gary Richardson of Tulsa.

Joe Murphy, former longtime chief of intelligence for the Texas Department of Public Safety, also is assisting the team.

-GTECH spokesman Bob Rendine announced that the company is hiring a compliance officer in an effort to avoid similar problems in the future. The employee, who has not yet been selected, will monitor all aspects of the company's business in Texas to ensure that it is complying with all provisions of its contract, he said.

# Primary lottery contractor has nothing to do with racetrack, says spokesman

AUSTIN (AP) - After nearly a week of stories linking the companies, Retama Park says the state's embattled primary lottery contractor has nothing to do with its struggling racetrack near San Antonio.

Racetrack spokesman Keith Kleine on Wednesday said Rhode Island-based GTECH Holding Corp. has no financial interest in the racetrack, but GTECH says it holds 7.7 percent interest in the racing at the track.

Questions about GTECH's involvement in the track have arisen as part of growing concerns about the company's relationship with Texas Lottery Executive Director Nora Linares.

In 1995 and 1996, the lottery held promotional events at the racetrack. It's the only known racetrack where the lottery has held promotions, and questions have been raised as to whether Ms. Linares has favored GTECH.

Shortly after the company won the five-year contract to run the state lottery in 1992, it hired Mike Moeller, a close friend of Ms. Linares.

Company officials have been unable to say what he did for the five months he worked for GTECH.

Moeller was paid \$30,000.

A GTECH source Tuesday told the Austin American-Statesman that the company has found that Moeller did nothing to earn the money.

"We are going to be able to report that Mr. Moeller did not perform any significant services for the company," the source told the newspaper.

The company's report concerning the Moeller contract is to be delivered to the commission on Thursday.

GTECH Spokesman Bob Rendine said the company has no interest in the track or land, but holds a "very small" interest in the racing.

"We own a very small interest, I think that's been lost in all this. And the promotions are to the benefit of the lottery, not the track. I think that also has been lost," Rendine said.

GTECH is a partner in the group that owns the license authorizing racing at the track, according to GTECH and Texas Racing Commission General Counsel Paula Flowerday.

Lee Katz, the chief operation officer for the track's management company, said GTECH has no interest in the racing. He said the partnership to which GTECH belongs no longer holds the license and has

no involvement in the racing or the track.

But Mrs. Flowerday called the relationship between the company that owns the track and the company that owns the license "a very close marriage."

"Neither would be as useful without the other," she said.

After nearly a week of reports including information about the Retama-GTECH connection, Kleine said Retama Park felt compelled on Wednesday to clear up the confusion.

"This thing is getting blown out of proportion," he said.

He said the racetrack isn't trying to disassociate itself from GTECH but wants to make clear that "we have a safe and comfortable facility that runs a reputable business."

The racetrack's statement came a day after Lottery Commission Chairwoman Harriet Miers said 182 investigation files, including one involving Retama Park, were discovered missing. The Retama Park file covered the investigation of missing scratch-off lottery tickets unaccounted for after one of the lottery promotions at the facility.

Kleine said the racetrack knew nothing about the missing files or

tickets.

Ms. Miers on Tuesday said she was told the files now may not be missing.

Lottery spokesman Steve Levine on Wednesday said most of the files are not missing and others should be described as incomplete.

"Our security division has a file on every one of these cases," he said.

He could not elaborate on the incomplete files, but said some were handled by former employees involved in lawsuits with the agency.

Ms. Miers called the explanation insufficient.

In another development, Rendine said GTECH has opened a new office to deal with Texas law compliance.

"We're doing this as an effort to demonstrate how serious we are to upholding the integrity of the lottery," he said.

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