

MIXED NEWSPAPERS
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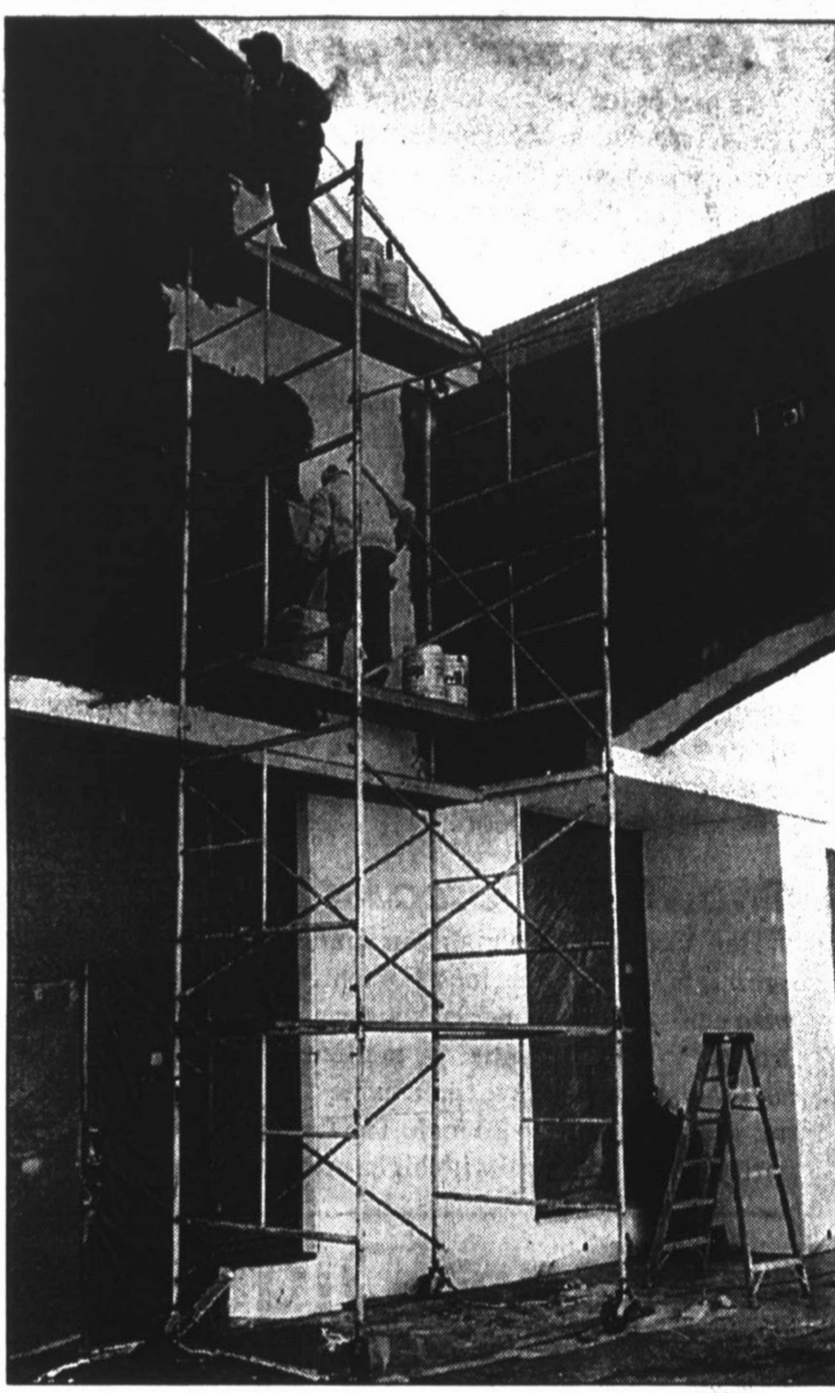
Jurors slap O.J. Simpson with \$8.5 million judgment

By MICHAEL FLEEMAN
Associated Press Writer
SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP) - This time, it fit. The accusations, the evidence, the once-unthinkable notion an amiable ex-football star could slash two throats and leave his two young children without a mother - it all struck a jury as true. In a hot, stuffy courtroom full of reporters, cops and tears, a jury decided it was payback time, and O.J. Simpson was to do the paying. Jurors slapped Simpson with an \$8.5 million judgment on Tuesday

night, deducing from evidence old and new that he was liable for the slashing deaths of ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend Ronald Goldman the night of June 12, 1994. The decision didn't have to be unanimous, but it was: 12-0. And that was just the beginning. The jury's findings of malice and oppression triggered the second phase to determine punitive damages - money assessed to punish Simpson. The panel returns Thursday for a hearing on Simpson's financial status. For relatives of the victims, the

end of their painful 2 1/2-year odyssey drew near. Shouts of "Yes!" rose in the courtroom as the verdict was read. Afterward, the victims' sobbing relatives hugged each other and their lawyers. "We finally have justice for Ron and Nicole," said Fred Goldman, the aggrieved father who doggedly pursued Simpson to civil court after denouncing his October 1995 acquittal. As the verdict was read, the 49-year-old Simpson stared straight ahead, as one of his lawyers, Phillip

Baker, gently patted his back. The Simpson team then walked out of the courtroom and into a maelstrom. Outside the building, a crowd estimated by police at 2,000 gathered and chanted "Killer, killer, killer," before Simpson emerged to a mixture of boos and cheers. On his way home, he dashed into an ice cream shop to buy a cup of chocolate cookie dough ice cream for his 11-year-old daughter, Sydney. Reached by telephone later at his home, Simpson told The Associated Press, "I'm sitting with my kids right now," but he refused further comment. The timing of the verdict spared TV networks the choice of O.J. Simpson or President Clinton, who was giving his State of the Union address. The verdict, delayed more than three hours to allow lawyers and families to get to the courthouse, came just as the president wrapped up his hour-long speech. The \$8.5 million represented the value of Goldman's funeral and the loss of his companionship to his parents. Ms. Simpson's family did not seek compensatory damages. Ms. Simpson's parents filed a suit on behalf of her estate and also demanded money from Simpson for fatally assaulting her. Any money awarded will go to Sydney and her brother, 8-year-old Justin. The verdict and its immediate aftermath proved, dramatically, how different the civil trial was from the criminal trial, which divided the nation over issues of police racism, domestic violence and the quality of justice. This time around, a mostly white jury used the lesser standard of "preponderance of evidence" rather than the "beyond a reasonable doubt" standard the mostly black jury used in the first trial. The civil trial was also conducted outside the camera's eye by lawyers under a gag order, unlike the televised criminal trial. The defense, faced with the less friendly burden of proof, tried a modified version of Johnnie Cochran Jr.'s famous "If it doesn't fit, you must acquit" defense. This time, it must have flopped. After 13 hours of deliberations over three days - more than four times as long as the criminal jury deliberated - the civil panel weighed some three months of testimony and evidence, and rejected Simpson's claims of faulty evidence and a police frame-up. Instead, jurors - forced to start deliberations anew last Friday after a juror was removed for misconduct - sided with the plaintiffs, agreeing that the lawyers had placed Simpson's hands in a killer's gloves and his feet in a killer's shoes. The biggest, newest weapon this time were 31 pictures of Simpson wearing the same model of Bruno Magli shoes that left bloody prints near the bodies - shoes Simpson said he never owned. Attention now turns to Simpson's precarious future. By all indications, \$8.5 million is more money than he has now - and may ever have. Indeed, (See SIMPSON, Page 2)



Atop the scaffolding
Workers apply plaster to exterior walls of the nearly completed St. Mary Family Healthcare Center facility in the 100 block of W. Park Avenue. The building which previously housed a grocery store and bowling alley bears no resemblance to the old structure after the extensive remodeling.

Clinton urges Congress to complete work on bills

By DAVID ESPO
Associated Press Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) - Summoned by President Clinton to "seize the days and the century," Republican lawmakers are trying to turn the challenge back on the Democratic White House to show the way to a balanced federal budget with tax relief. "Words are nice. We're waiting for the deeds," Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., said Tuesday night after Clinton's State of the Union address before a packed House chamber and a nationally televised audience. "Is this truly the end of big government as we know

it or will we find dozens of new Washington spending programs in the president's budget?" And despite bows all around to the ideal of cooperation, there was ample evidence that partisanship was alive and well. Lott scheduled the opening of Senate debate for today on a constitutional amendment to balance the budget - a key Republican priority that Clinton argued against Tuesday night as "unnecessary and unwise" and a potential threat to Social Security. For his part, the re-elected president opened his remarks with a none-too-subtle message that the

political tables were turned from two years ago, when the GOP unquestionably was ascendant. "I think I should start by saying, 'Thanks for inviting me back,'" he declared to the delight of Democrats. Clinton received a president's customary standing ovation as he entered the House chamber. But this was a night unlike any other, and even his audience's attention was split between the speech and word that a verdict was imminent in the O.J. Simpson wrongful death case in California. "What's the O.J. verdict?" Sen. Rick Santorum, R-Pa., asked a group of reporters as he left the hall following Clinton's 60-minute speech during which the president urged Congress to complete work on three items of "unfinished business," including balancing the budget, reopening the new welfare law to restore benefits to legal immigrants and enacting campaign finance reform by July 4. He outlined steps that would boost education spending by 20 percent, to \$51 billion for fiscal 1998, including tax breaks for college. Americans, he said, must have "the best education in the world." To build public support for his proposal, Clinton arranged a trip today to Georgia, the first in what the White House would be a series of appearances. He said the 1998 budget he will send to Congress on Thursday would "balance the budget and provide middle class tax relief to pay for education and health care, to help

★★★★★ ★★★★★ Highlights of address

By The Associated Press
Highlights of President Clinton's State of the Union message Tuesday:

THE STATUS: The economy is strong; crime and welfare rolls are declining; with the Cold War receding, the United States is helping to win peace and prosperity around the world. "We must be shapers of events, not observers.... The state of our union is strong.... We face no imminent threat, but we do have an enemy: The enemy of our time is inaction."

DIVIDED GOVERNMENT: The people... put us all here in the same boat, they gave us all oars, and they told us to row."

EDUCATION: His No. 1 priority, he called for national - not federal - standards for what students should know; a merit system for teachers; an intensive campaign to teach reading; expansion of Head Start; more choices for parents in selecting a public school; federal help in repairing schools; and at least two years of college for all, subsidized by new tax breaks.

BALANCED BUDGET: He will offer a plan to balance the budget while protecting Medicare, Medicaid, education and the environment, making government work better and giving targeted middle-class tax relief. Amending the Constitution to require a balanced budget is unnecessary and could threaten the nation in a crisis, jeopardize Social Security and lead to higher taxes.

CAMPAIGN OVERHAUL: Congress should pass by July 4 a bill to reduce spending on election campaigns, lower the role of special interests, neutralize the incumbents' advantage and prohibit contributions from noncitizens and all corporate sources. "Delay will mean the death of reform."

WELFARE: With enactment last year of a far-reaching overhaul of the welfare system, Americans have a moral obligation to see that every person who must work has a job. He wants tax and other incentives for businesses that hire people off welfare, and training, transportation and child care for those workers.

SCIENCE: Every home should have a computer in the next decade; a new-generation Internet would speed research in medicine and energy. Genetic research, responsible for major breakthroughs against cancer, stroke and AIDS should be expanded.

FAMILIES: The new medical-leave law should be broadened to allow workers time off for parent-teacher meetings and for children's medical checkups. Workers should be able to choose time off instead of overtime pay. Medicare will be modernized, fully paying for mammograms. It should be a felony for a parent to cross state lines in dodging child support. Advertising of cigarettes aimed at children should be banned.

CRIME: Juvenile crime demands tougher penalties; teen criminals should be barred from buying handguns; handguns should have child safety locks; the drug war will be stepped up. Tax incentives for enterprise zones, to lure employers into inner cities especially, should be expanded.

TOLERANCE: "We still see evidence of abiding bigotry and intolerance.... We must fight against this, in our country and in our hearts."

FOREIGN AFFAIRS: The most important task is to help build an undivided democratic Europe; NATO must be expanded by 1999. Peace talks with North Korea should be advanced. He will go to China to pursue a deeper dialogue. Exports to Latin America and Asia must be expanded. A treaty barring chemical weapons must be ratified by April 29, to help fight terrorism and to protect troops. "America must continue to be an unrelenting force for peace - from the Middle East to Haiti, from Northern Ireland to Africa." Weapons spending should be increased and the U.S. debt to the U.N. should be paid.

ENVIRONMENT: Another 500 toxic-waste dumps should be cleaned up. He will design 10 "American Heritage Rivers" that will be the subject of cleanup efforts, including revitalizing waterfronts.

Winter storm watch in effect
By The Associated Press
Winter weather will be returning to portions of West Texas and North Texas tonight and Thursday. A winter storm watch is in effect for tonight and Thursday for seven counties in western areas of North Texas. Forecasters warned that as much as 2-4 inches of snow could accumulate by late Thursday. Counties included in the winter storm watch are Archer, Baylor, Foard, Hardeman, Knox, Wichita and Wilbarger. In West Texas, an upper level storm system approaching from the west should produce rain across most sections through Thursday with the rain mixing with or changing over to sleet or snow in the Panhandle and northern South Plains late tonight and continuing Thursday. It will be mostly cloudy in West Texas. There is a chance of rain across all of North Texas except for southeastern areas tonight. There is a chance of rain on Thursday and few thunderstorms are possible in western sections. Lows tonight will be in the 20s and 30s in West Texas, the 30s in North Texas and in the 40s in the Hill Country and in the 50s and 60s elsewhere in South Texas. Highs Thursday will be in the 30s in the Panhandle and in the 40s and 50s across the rest of West Texas, the 40s and 50s in North Texas and in the 50s and 60s in South Texas.

Deadline Friday for nominations
Friday is the deadline for nominations for Hereford's "Citizen of the Year." Nominations should be taken to the Deaf Smith County Chamber of Commerce office. The traditional award will be presented at the Chamber Banquet, March 13, by the Hereford Lions Club. Readers who wish to make a nomination should type or print a letter explaining why their nominee should be recognized as "Citizen of the Year." Nominees traditionally are local residents who have contributed time and talents "above and beyond the call of duty" toward making Hereford a better place to live, work and play.

Jury sentences Routier to death

By KELLEY SHANNON
Associated Press Writer
KERRVILLE, Texas (AP) - Gone are the days when Darlie Routier drove carpools in a Nissan Pathfinder and planned birthday parties replete with pinatas and water pistols. The former Rowlett homemaker accused of fatally stabbing her two young sons is bound for death row. Mrs. Routier, 27, stood stone-faced Tuesday as Judge Mark Tolle read a jury's verdict then sentenced her to die by lethal injection for killing her 5-year-old son Damon in a grisly knife attack June 6, 1996. "She's realistic," said defense attorney Doug Mulder, explaining her indifferent reaction. "She was ... disappointed in the conviction and felt in all likelihood this was coming."

Prosecutors, who'd made much of Mrs. Routier's lack of emotion after her sons were slain, said Mrs. Routier's response in court was typical for her. "It sunk in," said Toby Shook, one of the prosecutors. "She's not going to give the satisfaction of showing a reaction. I don't think it even got her heart rate up." Mrs. Routier was accused of stabbing Damon and 6-year-old Devon then slashing her own throat to make it look like an intruder attacked her and her sons in their suburban home near Dallas. A charge covering Devon's death is still pending. The case was moved to Kerrville because of publicity in North Texas. A seven-woman, five-man jury found Mrs. Routier guilty of capital murder Saturday after ten hours of deliberation. Deliberations in the trial's punishment phase took four hours Tuesday. "We knew what was going to happen," said defense attorney Richard Mosty. "I started preparing her ... I said, 'Darlie, there's no chance they're going to do anything but give you death.'"

The Dallas County District Attorney's Office hailed the outcome, saying only a death sentence was appropriate for the crime. "It sent a very strong, clear message to her and others like her: This will not be tolerated," prosecutor Greg Davis said. Mrs. Routier becomes the seventh woman on Texas' death row. While Texas has put 107 men to death by injection since 1982 and 361 in the electric chair from 1924 through 1964, records show it has been 134 years since a woman was executed in the state. Chipta Rodriguez was hanged in 1863 for the murder of a horse trader. The women of death row are housed in a one-story red brick bungalow in Coryell County about 40 miles west of Waco. Mrs. Routier will be assigned to a 6-by-9 cell with a dark red concrete floor. While she awaits death, her attorneys will work on her automatic appeal. Her attorneys said it is too early to tell what the appeal will be based on. But they have criticized the fact that an FBI violent crimes specialist was permitted to give jurors his opinion of the evidence and that the defense wasn't allowed to pursue questions about the Rowlett police bugging of a Routier family prayer service. "There are a lot of things that happened in this case that were unusual," Mulder said. Mosty described Mrs. Routier as "numb yet resolved." "This is the first step in a long battle," he said. As jurors deliberated her punishment, Mrs. Routier peeked out the second-floor window of her holding cell and waved at her husband, Darin Routier, who waited outside. At one point, Darin Routier said to her, "I'll see you in heaven." After the sentencing, jurors were whisked away from the courthouse in a van. They said they didn't want to speak with reporters, according to prosecutor Davis. Defense attorneys had pleaded for jurors to give her a life sentence, saying she might one day be proved innocent. "I suspect every one of you - every one of you - will wake up some night saying 'What if?'" Mosty said, standing beside his client, placing his hand on her shoulder.

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Local Roundup

Annual United Way meeting set

The annual meeting of the United Way of Deaf Smith County will be held Thursday in the Hereford Community Center banquet room. The UW will celebrate reaching the 1996 goal, recognize agency awards, and introduce 1997 officers and directors. The catered meal is \$4.50 and the meeting is open to the public.

TASB to conduct profile sessions

As part of the search for a new school superintendent, the Texas Association of School Boards consultants will conduct profile sessions on Thursday and Friday. A town meeting will be at 7 p.m. Thursday in the banquet room of the central administration office. Also on Thursday, TASB consultants will meet with central office administrators, 1 p.m., board room; principals, 2 p.m., board room; media, 3 p.m., board room; teachers, 4:15 p.m., banquet room; board of trustees, 5:30 p.m., board room. On Friday, TASB consultants will meet with parents, 10:30 a.m., banquet room; students, 11:30 a.m., high school; business/civic leaders, 1:30 p.m., banquet room; and paraprofessionals/support staff, 2:30 p.m., banquet room.

Textbook hearing set

The Hereford Independent School District will hold a textbook hearing Thursday in the central administration building, 601 North 25 Mile Avenue. The public is invited to attend presentations by textbook representatives on the various programs being considered for adoption. For more information or presentation schedules, call 364-0606.

Snowfall in forecast

Hereford reached a high temperature of 47 degrees and an overnight low of 26 degrees. For tonight, look for cloudy skies with a 60 percent chance of showers, changing to light snow around midnight. Snow is predicted for Thursday, with accumulations of one to three inches. The winds will be from the southeast at 10 to 20 mph. The five-day forecast calls for partly cloudy and cool with highs in the mid 40s to lower 50s.

News Digest

STATE

FORT WORTH — A movie about two former military cadets accused in a love-triangle slaying may be shown locally despite arguments that it will jeopardize a fair trial, a judge has ruled.

WASHINGTON — Education may be the top priority of President Clinton's second term but Texas Republicans are worried that he is attempting to graft a new era of big government on the nation's schools.

HOUSTON — Harris County defense lawyers who want to solicit clients by mail by using court records should be allowed to do so, a federal judge has ruled.

AUSTIN — The new director of the Texas Lottery says she won't keep the job any longer than necessary. The Texas Lottery Commission on Tuesday named Kim Kiplin, the agency's top attorney, as acting executive director, one day after former acting executive director Zoann Attwood resigned.

AUSTIN — Consumers, organized labor, builders and others say the state's homestead law is too valuable a protection to risk as lawmakers debate allowing second mortgages.

AUSTIN — Gov. George W. Bush has a good idea with his reading initiative, but it needs to reach more children and hold school districts accountable for the results, according to three lawmakers.

LUBBOCK, Texas — An old corporate giant is making a new imprint on a job market that could use it. AT&T reached out and touched Lubbock on Tuesday, announcing the addition of nearly 1,000 new jobs that should help the city better weather the loss of its Air Force base.

NATION/WORLD

DALAT, Vietnam — Amid the tranquil, green hills of this southern Vietnam resort town, a small team of physicists toils at a nuclear reactor the United States built 30 years ago. Vietnam, one of Asia's poorest countries, is going atomic — a development that could become an embarrassing footnote to the Vietnam War.

SIMPSON

at the peak of his success, he was worth only a little more than that.

In divorce papers, Simpson listed his net worth at \$10.8 million as of Dec. 31, 1991. But he lost much of his fortune after racking up \$3.5 million in legal fees during the criminal trial.

But he still has at least \$3 million, as well as money sheltered in pension and retirement funds that can't be touched by the plaintiffs, Time magazine and CNN have reported. The extent of his resources will be explored in the punitive damages phase.

Simpson's team still has some fight left in it, as attorneys return to court this afternoon for a hearing in which the defense will ask the judge to bar testimony by two plaintiff witnesses about Simpson's finances.

CLINTON

raise a child, to buy and sell a home."

He noted that there were just over 1,000 days remaining until 2000, and added, "let us seize the days and the century."

For their formal response, Republicans turned to Rep. J.C. Watts of Oklahoma, the only black GOP member of Congress. "The strength of America is not in Washington," Watts said. "The strength of America is at home, in lives well lived in the land of faith and family."

But for all the party's effort to showcase Watts, it is the response of Lott and other GOP leaders that will matter most in the months ahead, beginning with Clinton's and his return trip to the Capitol next week to meet with congressional leaders privately.

But the major battle has been waged and lost, and the only questions left in this trial are not "Did he do it?" but "How much more should he pay?"

Then come the inevitable appeal and post-trial squabbles between Simpson and his new creditors, and perhaps even between the plaintiffs on how to divvy up the spoils.

That, though, is light years away for the families of Goldman and Ms. Simpson.

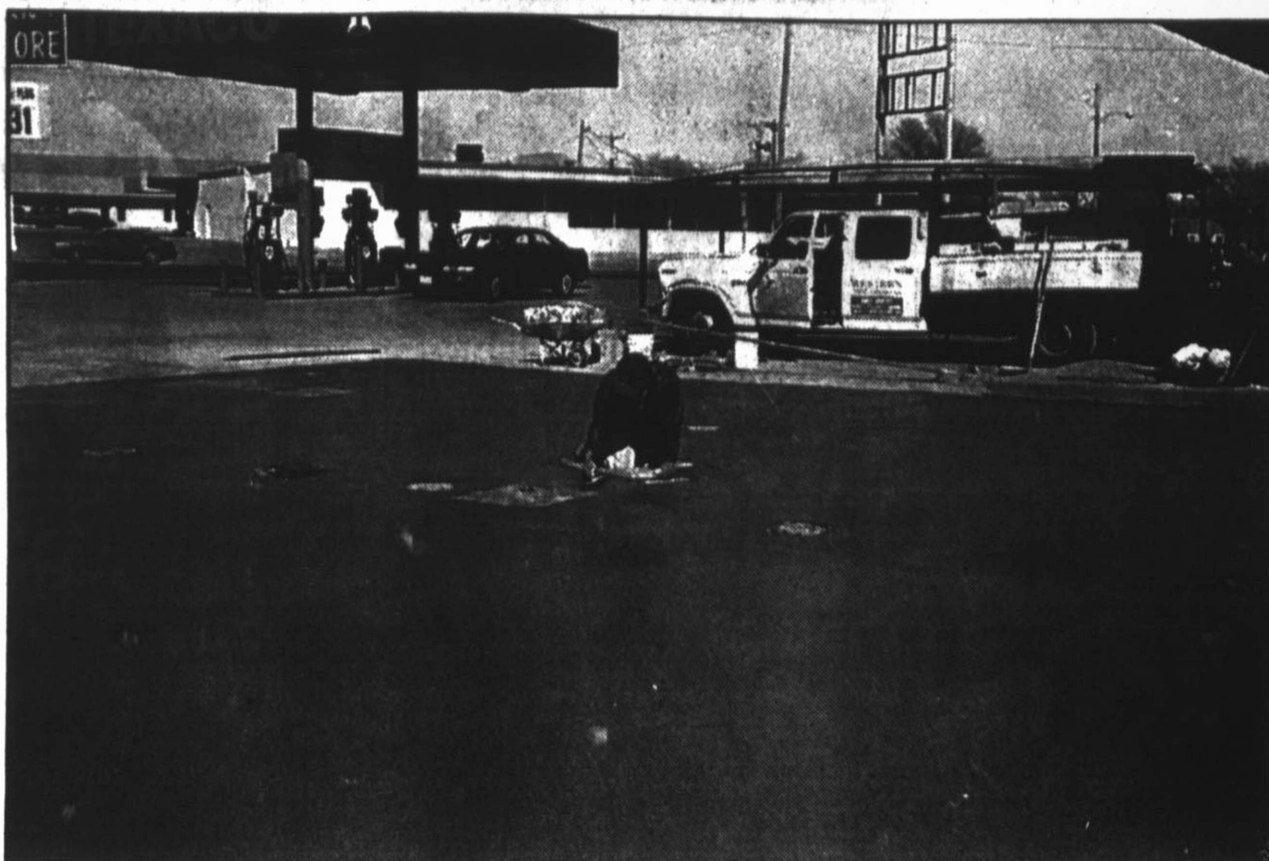
At an emotional news conference, Goldman lawyer Daniel Petrocelli declared: "Ron would have been proud."

Goldman's sister Kim gently corrected him. "Ron is proud," she said.

"I am very pleased that President Clinton has so heartily endorsed the Republican agenda," said Rep. Tom DeLay of Texas, the House GOP whip. "The president has proven time and again that he can talk the talk. The question tonight is: Can he walk the walk?"

Said Sen. Pete Domenici, R-N.M., chairman of the Senate Budget Committee: "It just seems like there was an awful lot of government in this speech. We're going to have to evaluate that carefully. He can't possibly get everything he wants."

For their part, Democrats have expressed nervousness privately that Clinton will be too quick to make a deal with Republicans. They offered only words of support in response to the speech, though.



Adrift in a sea of cement

A cement finisher with Western Cement Construction appears to be stranded in the middle of a vast expanse of wet cement; however, he is actually smoothing the surface as he works his way to the edge. The cement covers the spot where underground fuel storage tanks were replaced by Pak-A-Sak at the store on the corner of Park and 25 Mile Avenue. According to store manager, Ron Wheeler, the new tanks were installed in order to upgrade the service to their customers.

Consumers, labor, others claim state's homestead law 'at risk'

AUSTIN (AP) — Consumers, organized labor, builders and others Tuesday said the state's homestead law is too valuable a protection to risk as lawmakers debate allowing second mortgages.

"It's hard to see where the protection of billions of dollars of wealth in home equity has hurt our economy. But it has kept generations of Texans in their homes when bad times hit," said Joe Gunn, president of the Texas AFL-CIO.

The state Constitution prohibits the forced sale of a borrower's homestead to repay debts except for the original mortgage, property improvements or taxes.

As a result, Texas is the only state where lenders don't offer home equity loans or other forms of second mortgages.

Measures have been introduced in the House and Senate that would allow second mortgages on home equity for a variety of purposes.

Backers argue that a homeowner's equity is his own money, and that the homeowner should be able to do with it as he pleases.

Appearing at the Travis County Courthouse, where foreclosures were taking place Tuesday, opponents said the state's unique homestead protection should be preserved.

"The argument for changing the law sounds simple and alluring: People should have the right to borrow money against their greatest asset ... But the reality is more accurately stated this way: Bankers should be able to foreclose on the home of any person who can't pay their debt for any reason," said Lyle A. Johansen of the Texas Association of Builders.

While advocates of second mortgages say they could be used to pay for college educations, medical bills or starting businesses, Tam "Smitty" Smith of the group Public Citizen said there's a downside to that.

"Bankers make home loans sound like money just hanging off of trees, but these home loans still have to be repaid. And if they change Texas' 150-year-old homestead protections, you lose your home if you have a medical crisis, if your company

closes down or if you can't pay your loan for some other reason that is not your fault," Smith said.

"If this bill passes, those of you who can get a loan to send your kid to school today will have to put up your home. If you want to start a business, you'll also have to hock your home," he said.

State Comptroller John Sharp last year estimated that Texans could save \$382 million a year if allowed to take out second mortgages. He said consumers could save \$225 million a year in interest payments and another \$99 million a year in federal income tax deductions, while interest costs to business would drop \$58 million.

The Senate in 1995 approved, 21-10, second mortgage legislation. It died in the House.

Sen. Jerry Patterson, R-Pasadena, has introduced legislation and a proposed constitutional amendment that would let voters decide if they want the option of borrowing against their equity.

Lottery names new director

AUSTIN (AP) — The new director of the Texas Lottery says she won't keep the job any longer than necessary.

The Texas Lottery Commission on Tuesday named Kim Kiplin, the agency's top attorney, as acting executive director, one day after former acting executive director Zoann Attwood resigned.

Ms. Attwood replaced former executive director Nora Linares for less than a month after she was fired on Jan. 7.

Ms. Kiplin, 37, has worked as general counsel for the lottery since September 1993. She said she has no desire to become executive director and wants to continue her job as general counsel after a new director is named.

"I'm happy to help the agency anyway I can," Ms. Kiplin said. "I think I better serve and it serves the

agency better in the long run to be their lawyer."

Ms. Linares was fired after months of questions about a 1992, \$30,000 contract between her friend Mike Moeller and GTECH, the lottery's main contractor.

Ms. Linares said she knew nothing about the contract, but the three-member lottery commission said Ms. Linares could no longer be effective as director. She's suing the agency for wrongful termination and wants her job back.

Ms. Attwood, former director of the Montana Lottery, was named acting executive director after Ms. Linares' firing. She had served as deputy director under Ms. Linares for 4 years.

Ms. Attwood abruptly resigned Monday afternoon, giving hours notice that she was stepping down. She said she wanted to take advantage

of other opportunities, according to Harriet Miers, chairwoman of the commission.

Ms. Miers called an emergency meeting Tuesday to replace Ms. Attwood. She said having no acting executive director in place would leave the agency without a person in charge of day-to-day operations.

Ms. Miers said the commissioners will decide Feb. 14 how to conduct a nationwide search for a permanent executive director.

"These three commissioners are dedicated to move that process forward as quickly as we possibly as we can," she said.

"The commission has one interest: that the public of Texas have the utmost confidence in the effective, beyond-reproach operation of the lottery games to produce revenue for the state of Texas and the enjoyment of those who chose to play the game."

Ms. Miers said she expects at least some officials from within the agency to seek the executive director position.

HHS band members place high in contest

Hereford High School band members competed in the Region I UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest Saturday.

The following students received 1st divisions in the Class 3 categories: Solos -- Ashley Henson, Sarah Moll.

The following students received 1st divisions in the Class 2 categories: Solos -- Sarah Artho, Jay Crawford, Mary Fuller, Cathy Higgins, Shyla Martin, Monica Mondragon, Esther Nava, Kim Scott, Amber Vasek, Tori Walker, Paulette White and Jessica Wuertlein.

Ensembles -- Sarah Artho, Becky Fitzgerald and Pam Lange; Lisa Beavers, Mere Denton and Leslie Michaels; Cindy Bedolla, Erica Mondragon and Monica Mondragon.

The following students received 1st divisions in the Class 1 categories: Solos -- Crissey Barrick, Katie Bone, Lisa Conaway, Anna Delgado, Jay Harrell, John Rodriguez, Isabel Sanchez, Karen Smith, Retha Treadway.

The following students qualified for the Texas State Solo and Ensemble Contest in Austin:

Class I Memorized Solos: Craig Ames, Jonothan Cantu, Aaron Caraway, Chelle Denton, Rebecca Gutierrez, Amy Ruland, Bethany Townsend and Anna Witkowski.

Class I Ensembles -- Brass Quintet: Craig Ames, Aaron Caraway, Cathy Higgins, John Rodriguez and Brandon Stowe; French Horn Quartet: Robin Bell, Wendy Brisendine, Misti Davison and Jamie Steiert; Trumpet Trio: Jonothan Cantu, Leslie Pearch and Jeff Higgins; Clarinet Quintet: Lisa Conaway, Sarah Melendrez, Eric Ozuna, Isabel Sanchez and Retha Treadway; Percussion Quartet: Rojelio Corona, Amanda Gaitan, Josh Buentello and Jeff Rickenbaw; Percussion Trio: Nathan Gavina, Bethany Townsend and Julie Schlabs; Flute Trio: Mary Fuller, Laurie Gilbert and Marci Goldsmith.

The students playing solos were accompanied by Dee Anne Trotter and Tammy Summersgill.

Emergency Services

Activities reported by law enforcement agencies:

POLICE DEPARTMENT WEDNESDAY

- 27-year-old man was arrested for outstanding traffic warrants.
- 34-year-old woman was arrested for outstanding traffic warrants.
- 17-year-old was arrested for the unlawful carrying of a weapon.
- Mail tampering was reported.
- Disorderly conduct was reported in the 800 block of East 3rd Street.
- Three curfew citations were issued.
- 13 traffic citations were issued.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

- No fire calls.

SHERIFF DEPARTMENT

- No arrests
- One report of Theft.
- One report of littering.

Obituaries

CORENE J. GANDY

Feb. 3, 1997

Funeral services for Corene J. Gandy, 83, are scheduled Friday at 2 p.m. in Temple Baptist Church with Rev. H.W. Bartlett, pastor, officiating.

Burial will be in West Park Cemetery with arrangements by Gilliland-Watson Funeral Home. Mrs. Gandy died Monday at Hereford Regional Medical Center.

Mrs. Gandy was born Sept. 11, 1913 in Vernon. She came to Hereford in 1935 from Tulia. She married Clifford R. Gandy on Oct. 26, 1935 in Plainview. She was a homemaker and a member of Temple Baptist Church.

Survivors include her husband, Clifford; two sons, Julian R. Gandy of Hereford and Troy M. Gandy of Dublin, Ca.; two daughters, Earle Dean Lowry of Houston and Glenna F. Bell of Pampa; a sister, Ola Mae Graham of Plano; 10 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Rain, snow falling over much of U.S.

By The Associated Press
Showers were falling from the Great Lakes to New England early today, turning to snow over the mountains of Vermont and New Hampshire. Snow was drifting down on Michigan and the Rockies, while light rain fell in Georgia and Alabama.

Moderate to heavy rain was expected in much of the East today, with the heaviest amounts falling across the Northeast.

Lighter rain was forecast for the Appalachians and Mid-Atlantic. Snow was predicted for northern New England, getting heavy in the northernmost areas of Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine.

Dry and calm weather was expected in the northern and central Plains.

The Southwest was expecting rain showers. Rain was likely in western Texas, with light snow showers expected by nightfall in the panhandles of Texas and Oklahoma.

Strong winds were in store for Wyoming and Colorado. Gusts of over 50 mph were possible.

Snow was predicted for the Rockies as far south as northern New Mexico and eastern Arizona.

Dry weather was likely across the Pacific Northwest and California.

Temperatures were expected to reach the 20s in the Rockies; the 30s in the Plains, Midwest, Great Lakes and New England; the 40s in the Northwest and Northeast; the 50s in the Mid-Atlantic states and West Coast; the 60s in the South and Southern California; and the 70s in the Southwest and Florida.

Temperatures in the Lower 48 states Tuesday ranged from a low of minus 20 in West Yellowstone, Mont., to a high of 87 in Fort Myers, Fla.



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

12-15-27-37-38

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

7-6-6

The Brand welcomes news of friends, relatives, grandkids. Send to The Brand, Box 673, or call us. We're interested in local news!

Classified ads get results! Our classifieds help our readers buy, sell, lease, or re-think career possibilities. Read up on what's available, and put your ad in the classified and see the great results you get!

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Lifestyles



Eyeglass collection

CYO and JOY youth groups of St. Anthony's Catholic Church collected more than 320 pair of used eyeglasses as a community service project. The glasses were presented to Easter Lions Club which will in turn see that they are distributed for use by the underprivileged. Carol McNaughton, left, exchange student from Scotland and CYO member and Rachel Bezner, second from right, CYO vice president and Easter Lions Club sweetheart, made the presentation to Ronnie Andrews, second from left, president of Easter Lions Club and Jack Duke, right, Lions Club district governor.

Ann Landers

Dear Ann Landers: Here's more proof that you can't possibly make up letters or imagine situations worse than the truth. I am sending you an article from the Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel. Here's the story:

"A Bair Middle School student who allegedly took two guns to school to kill his assistant principal was released from the Broward County Jail on Friday. Broward Circuit Judge Robert Tyson dismissed an attempted murder charge against Antonial Walker, 16, who was arrested in January. Prosecutors plan to appeal the ruling.

"The boy told Sunrise police after his arrest that he had planned to kill assistant principal Robert Curcio and took two weapons, a .25-caliber semiautomatic pistol and a .38 caliber revolver, to do the job.

"The state charged Walker as an adult, but Tyson dismissed the charges, saying the state had no factual support that the boy's actions went beyond mere preparation."

"Walker was upset that Curcio called his home whenever he misbehaved. The eighth-grader's plan was foiled when a classmate told a school resource officer and Walker

was called out of class and searched."

Ann, please comment on this. -- Stunned in Sunshine Valley

Dear Sunshine: I guess Judge Tyson thinks it's OK for a 16-year-old to plan to kill an assistant principal and bring a couple of guns to school to do the job, as long as he doesn't actually kill anybody.

I hope the authorities in Fort Lauderdale will keep an eye on that kid, and it wouldn't hurt to keep an eye on Judge Tyson as well. (P.S.: And how did a 16-year-old get ahold of two guns? Where are his parents? And why is he still in the eighth grade? These questions need to be addressed.)

Dear Ann Landers: A few months ago, I met a beautiful man who is six years younger than I am. (I am 35.) We got along wonderfully and had a lot in common. I knew after our first date that "Larry" was right for me.

Our relationship is strictly platonic so far, but we've grown very close. Things went great until Larry lost his job and began to get stressed out. He's been out of work now for three months and is having no luck getting hired.

The fact that I'm working and independent has put a lot of pressure on him. He doesn't feel our relationship can go any further because he has "nothing to offer me." I told Larry these things take time, but he hasn't made any attempt to contact me in several days, and I miss him.

I am worried that his feelings of inferiority will wreck our chances for a healthy relationship. Should I back off or give up? I don't want to lose this man. I really do love him. Please help. -- Discouraged in Rhode Island

Dear Rhode Island: The best thing you can do for Larry is to help him find a job. Meanwhile, bear in mind that you've known him only a few months. Don't make any hasty decisions. If it's really love, it will survive the trials and tribulations. Good luck, dear.

Dear Ann Landers: Is there a correct way to put kitchen paper towels on the roller? I favor the "over the top" method, but my wife prefers the "from the underside" approach. Can you help? -- RFC From Cleveland

Dear RFC: I'm still trying to recover from the flak I received when I said toilet paper should be hung so it hangs close to the wall.

I'm not giving any more advice on how to hang anything.

Have trouble sleeping at night and don't want to get involved in a novel? "A Collection of My Favorite Gems of the Day" is the perfect bed-stand mate. Send a self-addressed, long, business-size envelope and a check or money order for \$5.25 (this includes postage and handling) to: Collection, c/o Ann Landers, P.O. Box 11562, Chicago, Ill. 60611-0562 (in Canada, \$6.25).

ANN LANDERS (R) COPYRIGHT 1997 CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.

Arts, Bards Symposium set at Community Center

The Society for Creative Anachronism, a not-for-profit organization whose members relive periods in history dating from the Fall of Rome to the Reign of Elizabeth I, will hold an indoor event in Hereford Saturday at the Community Center.

The event is an Arts and Bards Symposium. It will consist of a series of classes on various topics including tassel making, weaving, chain mail, calligraphy, Middle-European and Middle-Eastern dance, cooking and bardic.

Activities are scheduled to Fellowship will meet Thursday

Hereford Flame Fellowship will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday in Hereford Community Center.

Guest speaker will be Rhodora Howell of Red Oak, an entertaining speaker and Bible teacher.

She attended Oklahoma State University, married and raised two sons while pursuing a career in advertising.

She is a licensed and ordained minister, leads a weekly Bible study and is active in counseling and prison ministry. She currently serves as Texas-Oklahoma overseer of Flame Fellowship International, a member of the ministry team of Dallas Catch the Fire conference and Women in leadership. She is listed in Who's Who in Women's Ministry.

The public is welcome at all meetings of the Flame Fellowship.

Comprehensive coverage of local news, social events, sports and happenings in Deaf Smith County is yours ONLY in The Hereford Brand. Good news and good advertising go together. Large ads or small ads pay off in The Brand!

Auxiliary approves expenditures

The Hereford Regional Medical Center Auxiliary met recently for a luncheon meeting at the hospital.

Five special guests were greeted. They were Opal Blakely, Mary Schlabs, Joy Stivers, Elizabeth Vogel and Rosie Wall.

The Auxiliary voted to award four scholarships of \$500 each to Hereford High School seniors who have

decided on a career in the medical field.

The Auxiliary also voted to purchase two "Baby Think It Over" dolls. These are 8 pound dolls computerized to cry at unscheduled times. Students are assigned these dolls for 24 hour period during which time students are wholly responsible for the "baby's" care. The purpose is to make students aware of how

stressing an infant's care is.

Irene Reinart presented Jim Robinson with a plaque from the Auxiliary in appreciation for the support he has given to the group.

After the meeting was adjourned, the Auxiliary and guests toured the recovery room to see the new draperies the Auxiliary had purchased.

Those attending the meeting were Janis Bell, Irene Boardman, Mary Jane Burrus, Gladys Caviness, Lupe Cerda, Grace Covington, Margaret Daniels, Bettie Dickson, Billie Kelley, Jo Lee, Donna Parker, Anna Robinson, Anna Stindt, Bonnie Sublett, Quintna Waitt, Blakely Stivers, Vogel, Wall, Schlabs and Reinart.

Senior Citizens

MENUS

THURSDAY-Frito pie, corn, fried okra, applesauce Jello salad, carrot cake, biscuits; or parmesan chicken, fruit.

FRIDAY-Catfish fillet, macaroni and cheese, buttered peas, coleslaw, cornbread, lemon pudding; or roast pork, pears.

MONDAY-Beef brisket, steamed cabbage, pinto beans, pickles/onion slices, apricots, cornbread, sugar cookie; or ham.

TUESDAY-Chicken fillet with gravy, mashed potatoes, buttered baby carrots, Waldorf salad, hot rolls, Boston cream cake; or smothered pork chops, Jello.

WEDNESDAY-Italian spaghetti, seasoned green beans, tossed green galas, garlic bread, peaches, brownies; or fish with buttered spaghetti.

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, Valentine's Party 6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY-Games 12-4 p.m.

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

TUESDAY-Pool classes, exercise class 10-10:45 a.m., Beltone 1-3 p.m., NARFE 1 p.m., decorative tile painting 1-3 p.m.

WEDNESDAY-Pool classes, exercise class 10-10:45 a.m., ceramics 1-3 p.m.

Move over Tickle-Me-Elmo. Here comes "Tickle-Me-Esmo!" Happy 50th!

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Menu:

Bar-B-Q Brisket, potato salad, beans & coleslaw
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Attend your own worship and then come over, or Be our guests in morning worship at 10:45 am.

Donations will be accepted at the door.

First-time authors find luck with aphrodisiac cookbook

By KEVIN TANKERSLEY
Waco Tribune-Herald
WACO, Texas - The book cover is designed to grab your attention: A photograph of a model partially covered in strawberries, and the title, "InterCourses." The whole concept of the book could be misconstrued until you read the fine print: "an aphrodisiac cookbook."

And all the foods typically considered aphrodisiac are included: oysters, strawberries, chocolate, champagne.

A few surprises are in store for the reader, as well. The authors did their homework and found that throughout time many other foods - chiles, avocado, edible flowers, asparagus - were rumored to have magical effects on lovers.

In the introduction, in fact, the power of aphrodisiacs are somewhat explained:

"Many foods long considered aphrodisiacs are low in fat and high in vitamins and minerals. A diet heavy in these foods, then, yields a healthy body with the energy, blood flow and nutrients needed for a peak sexual experience."

The idea for a sexy cookbook was hatched over the telephone between friends Martha Hopkins and Randall

Lockridge. Both had graduated from Baylor University in 1993, she with a major in French and writing, he with an art degree. The two wanted to combine their talents - writing and design - with a common interest: food.

"I've cooked my whole life," Ms.

Recipes from:

'InterCourses, an aphrodisiac cookbook'

WACO, Texas - It's not always the food being eaten that turns an ordinary meal into a dinner of aphrodisiacs. It's what is behind the actual preparation of the meal.

"When you prepare food with and for somebody, it shows what you feel about them," said Martha Hopkins, one of the authors of "InterCourses, an aphrodisiac cookbook."

Her co-author and book designer agreed.

"When you're cooking an aphrodisiac meal together, it's about sharing the dinner together" more than what a couple actually cooks, said Randall Lockridge.

Each recipe in the 144-page book begins with a narrative written by one

Hopkins said recently over a cup of coffee. "I love to cook and throw parties. I had an Easy Bake Oven when I was 5. When I was 14 or so, I was in the (Memphis, Tenn.) Commercial-Appeal as a young chef."

Ms. Hopkins said she had been

collecting recipes for years, and her "day job," as she calls it, is as a cookbook editor for Wimmer Press in Memphis.

When Lockridge, who works at Pollel Patrick Designs in Waco, and Ms. Hopkins hit on the idea of creating a cookbook, "the sparks

started flying," he said, "and we had the cover shot developed within 48 hours. A year later, we had everything worked out."

And a whirlwind year it was. Ms. Hopkins and Lockridge had no idea how to go about getting a book published and promoted, but they charged ahead anyway. At an American Booksellers Association convention, Lockridge manned a "moving booth," which consisted of a glass-covered briefcase with a mock cover of the book. He simply walked around the convention floor, finding people he needed to talk to.

"At that show we accomplished everything we set out to do," he said.

Ms. Hopkins said, "We had a list of things to accomplish that was ridiculous, but we didn't realize it was ridiculous."

That "ridiculous" list included signing with an independent book distributor with inroads to Barnes and Noble, Borders and other book store chains.

The two also found a print broker who set up printing of the book.

"I met with one guy, he showed (the book) to somebody and 30 seconds later he was back with a senior editor of an international publisher in London," Hopkins said. "It was the most exuberant feeling I've ever felt. It was very exciting for us."

They also landed an international distributor for the book, "which is really, really, really, REALLY rare for that to happen with first time publishers," Lockridge said.

Ms. Hopkins spent lots of time on the phone, calling food writers and editors across the country, and ended up talking with Mimi Sheridan, a former New York Times food writer who now writes on a free-lance basis for a number of publications. When Ms. Hopkins told the story of talking with Ms. Sheridan to a public relations woman she is now working with, the PR person was shocked.

"Do you know who she is? Did you call her? Did you get to talk to her?" were all questions she posed to Ms. Hopkins. Obviously, Ms. Hopkins had no idea that to actually reach Ms. Sheridan by telephone was an amazing feat.

The job of lining up models for the

photographs appearing at the beginning of each chapter also fell to Ms. Hopkins.

"She went into the streets of Memphis, and found people and said, 'Nice butt (or back or legs). Would you like to pose?'" said Lockridge. "All but one agreed."

Former Baylor students posed for several of the pictures, but Ms. Hopkins refused to divulge any names. None of the models can be identified in the pictures, some of which can be considered, well, a bit risqué.

Consider one gentleman with chocolate smeared over his torso or the woman wearing only a skirt of asparagus. There's the woman partially covered in pine nuts and the very pregnant woman whose belly bulges out of a sea of black beans.

"That was an amazing shot," Lockridge said.

Ms. Hopkins agreed. "She was eight months pregnant, and the baby kept moving," giving each photograph taken during the shoot a slightly different effect.

Now that the book has been finished, Lockridge and Ms. Hopkins have set off on a book tour that will take them to a dozen cities.

The book, "InterCourses," sells for \$24.95. Besides being available at bookstores, it can be ordered at (800) 372-2311. The InterCourses web site, www.intercourses.com also contains ordering information.

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Federal funds available for non-profit agencies

AMARILLO -- Panhandle area non-profit agencies may now apply for federal funds to help provide public transportation to the elderly and people with disabilities. The Texas Department of Transportation's (TxDOT's) Amarillo District is calling on private, non-profit agencies to apply for its Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 grant program.

The goal of the program is to provide assistance in meeting the transportation needs of elderly and/or people with disabilities where public transportation services are unavailable, insufficient and inappropriate.

The Section 5310 grant program provides 80 percent of the funds for

a selected agency's purchase of a vehicle to transport the elderly and/or people with disabilities," said Bill Harvey, TxDOT transportation planner. "The agency must provide the remaining 20 percent of the funds."

Applications are reviewed by a local panel. The funds will be granted to agencies that serve both rural (under 50,000) and urban (above 50,000) populations.

Applications will be accepted through April 30.

Applications and instructions for the Section 5310 grant program are available through TxDOT's Amarillo District Office. Contact Harvey at 806-356-3246 for more information.

BLACK RUSSIAN CAKE

For the cake:
1 package dark chocolate cake mix
1 cup vegetable oil
1 package (3 ounces) instant chocolate pudding
4 eggs

3/4 cup strong coffee
1/2 cup creme de cacao
1/4 cup Kahlua
For the topping:
1 cup powdered sugar, sifted
2 tablespoons strong coffee
2 tablespoons Kahlua
2 tablespoons creme de cacao
Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Combine all the ingredients for the cake in a large bowl. Beat for 4 minutes until quite smooth. Pour into a greased 10-inch tube pan until three-fourths full. Save any remaining batter for cupcakes.

Bake 45 to 50 minutes. Remove from the pan and invert onto serving plate. Punch holes throughout the cake with a skewer or ice pick.

Combine all the topping ingredi-

BLACK BEAN SALSA

1 ripe mango, peeled and diced
1/4 red bell pepper, diced
1/4 green bell pepper, diced
1/4 red onion, diced
1/2 cup canned black beans
1/3 cup pineapple juice
Juice of 2 limes
1/4 cup chopped cilantro
1 tablespoon ground cumin
1/2 tablespoon minced green chile

pepper
Salt and pepper to taste
Combine the first 10 ingredients in a bowl. Season with salt and pepper. Chill, covered, for up to 5 days. Serve as a snack with tortilla chips, or better yet, fried plantain rounds.

Honey-Drenched Figs are good for a late-night picnic in bed. "Ineffably decadent. Use only with experienced lovers," the book warns.

HONEY-DRENCHED FIGS

8 figs
1/4 cup honey
2 tablespoons finely chopped pecans
Grill the figs over a low heat until heated through, turning occasionally. Warm the honey. Place the figs on individual serving plates, drizzle with enough honey to lightly coat figs, and top with pecans.

Outreach clinic will have new primary physician

The Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center in cooperation with Hereford Regional Medical Center announces that Dr. Paul Zorsky will assume the position of primary physician of The Harrington Cancer Center Outreach Clinic on Feb. 6.

The Outreach Clinic, located inside HRMC, will be open from 8 a.m. to 12 noon on the second and

fourth Thursday of each month. Patient examinations and medical consultations will be offered initially, with an expansion of services as needed.

Dr. Zorsky is an oncologist and hematologist with The Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center and director of the Bone Marrow Transplant Program. He completed his residency in internal medicine at The George Washington University Medical Center in 1984 and his fellowship in hematology and oncology in 1987. He holds certifications in Internal Medicine and Oncology.

Anyone interested in scheduling an appointment, please call Lisa Melendez at 1-806-359-4673 or 1-800-274-HOPE (4673).

Shook is speaker for La Plata Club

Rosemary Shook gave the program on events in the month of January when La Plata Study Club met recently in the home of Yvonne Simpson.

Shook suggested a good New Year's resolution would be for all to "Laugh More and Be Happier."

Nelda Fortenberry, president, presided over a short business meeting.

Betty Taylor served refreshments to Audine Dettman, Betty Mercer, Dorothy Mercer, Ludie Greeson, Avis White, Mildred Fuhrmann, Anzelle Holland, Mary Jane Powell, Mollie Neill, Dorothea Prowell, Bonna Duke, Simpson, Fortenberry and Shook.

Today in History

By The Associated Press
Today is Wednesday, Feb. 5, the 36th day of 1997. There are 329 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Feb. 5, 1937, President Roosevelt proposed increasing the number of Supreme Court justices; critics charged Roosevelt was attempting to "pack" the court.

On this date:
In 1881, Phoenix, Ariz., was incorporated.

In 1897, 100 years ago, the Indiana House of Representatives passed, 67-0, a measure redefining the area of a circle, effectively declaring the value of pi to be 3.2. (The bill died in the Indiana Senate.)

In 1917, Congress passed, over President Wilson's veto, an immigration act severely curtailing the influx of Asians.

In 1917, Mexico's constitution was adopted.

In 1958, Gamal Abdel Nasser was formally nominated to become the first president of the new United Arab Republic.

In 1962, French President Charles

de Gaulle called for Algeria's independence.

In 1994, white separatist Byron De La Beckwith was convicted in Jackson, Miss., of murdering civil rights leader Medgar Evers in 1963.

Ten years ago: The Dow Jones industrial average ended the day above the 2,200 level for the first time, closing at 2,201.49.

Five years ago: The House of Representatives authorized an investigation into whether the 1980 Reagan-Bush campaign conspired with Iran to delay release of the American hostages. (The task force investigating the "October Surprise" allegations later said it found no credible evidence of such a conspiracy.)

One year ago: John C. Salvi III went on trial in Dedham, Mass., in the shooting deaths of two receptionists at abortion clinics. (Salvi was convicted and sentenced to two life terms; he was found dead in his cell in November 1996, an apparent suicide.) Actress Elizabeth Taylor filed for divorce from Larry Fortensky, her seventh husband.

Hints from Heloise

CUPCAKE DECORATING

Dear Heloise: Whenever I decorate frosted cupcakes with candy sprinkles, I place the cupcakes in a 13-by-9-inch baking pan and then sprinkle the candies on. When the sprinkles fall off the cupcakes, they fall into the pan and can be collected and used again. No more sprinkles all over my counter or floor, and cleanup is a breeze!—L.S., Colorado Springs, Colo.

CHEESECAKE MIX

Dear Heloise: I always keep a box of no-bake cheesecake mix on hand. You can find it in the gelatin and pudding mix section of your grocery store. The store's house brand works just fine.

Whenever I find myself with soon-to-be-outdated sour cream, cream cheese or cottage cheese, I mix it into the filling mix. This addition improves the flavor and my family loves it. I've even added leftover cream-cheese frosting with success.—Lila Waldman, Murray, Ky.

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Sports

Whitefaces run down Canyon, clinch third place in 1-4A race

By TOMMY WELLS
Managing Editor
CANYON - Earlier this season against Canyon, the Hereford High School boys basketball team was stung by the shooting of Blake Williamson and Stephen Bentley in a tough come-from-behind loss to the Eagles.

But last night, Williamson and Bentley were smothered by the Whitefaces' defense and Isaac Walker and the Herd cagers took on the role of the sharp-shooting assassins.

Hereford scored 17 points in the second quarter and then held the Eagles to just 20 points in the second half as they rallied from an early deficit to claim a thrilling 42-40 victory in District 1-4A action.

It wasn't just a win, however, for Hereford. The victory over Canyon improved the Herd to 7-4 in loop play and locked the Whitefaces, now 15-15 overall, into third-place playoff berth.

Hereford went into the contest needing a win in one of their final two games to clinch its second playoff spot in three years. Hereford will face the No. 2 seed in the District 2-4A

race in the bi-district round of the state playoffs, which are slated to get under way next week. Plainview, Lubbock Estacado and Levelland all head into Friday night's regular season finale vying for the District 2-4A runner-up spot.

The Whitefaces win, combined with their girls' victory Monday night, marked the first time in Hereford High School history that both teams qualified for the state playoffs in the same season.

Canyon, which had already locked up the No. 2 seed in the 1-4A race, grabbed the early advantage in the

contest. The Eagles outscored Hereford by a 14-7 clip in the initial eight minutes.

Canyon, however, saw its lead fizzle away in the second. Hereford, behind Walker and Bryan McNutt, posted an impressive 17-7 margin in the frame and took a slim 24-21 cushion into the intermission.

The Whitefaces, who had dropped a 53-48 decision to Canyon in their last meeting, didn't let their lead slip away in the third. Hereford, playing without standout Jonathan Keenan for the second straight game, matched the

Eagles point-for-point in the period, and took a 36-33 ledger into the final minutes.

Canyon, which was paced in the game by Keith Sparling's 15 points, made a run at Hereford in the closing seconds of the contest, pulling to within a basket with time running out. The Eagles' last-second desperation attempt at tying the game failed.

Hereford will close out its 1996-97 season at home Friday night against the Dumas Demons. Tip-off time is set for 7:30 p.m.

The Whiteface JV didn't fair as well, though. Canyon's junior varsity claimed a 51-48 victory.

Hereford seventh graders take consolation

Hereford's 7th grade A team won the consolation title in the Seventh Grade District Tournament at Canyon Saturday, while the 7th grade B team lost a contest for third place.

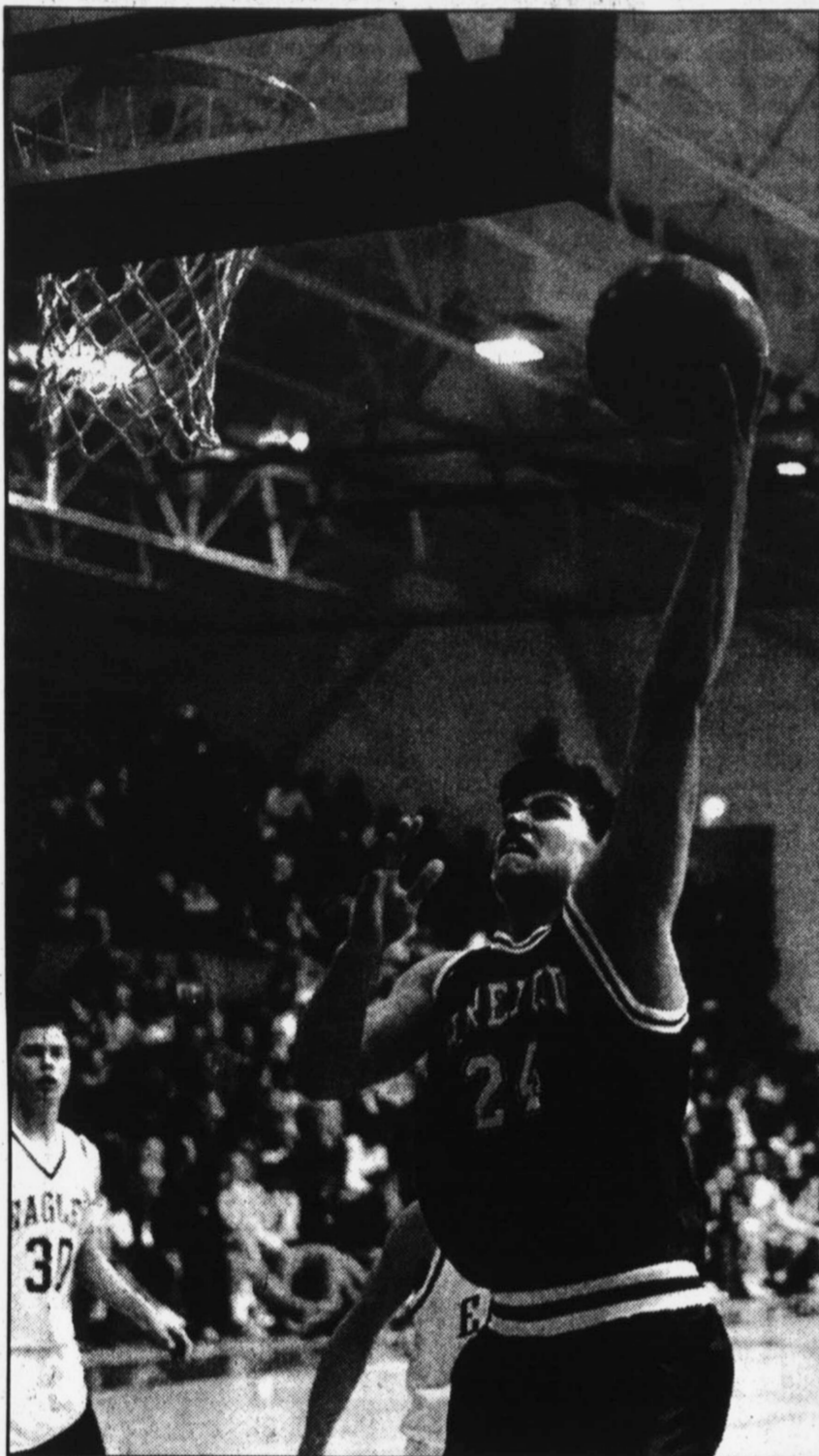
Hereford rolled over Pampa, 49-29, in the consolation game as Cody Marsh ripped the nets for 22 points and Tyler Nielsen added 10.

The A team had lost to Canyon, 50-29, in the second round of pool play. Marsh and Juan De Santiago

scored seven points each in the loss.

Hereford's B team lost to Randall Westover, 36-21, in the third-place contest. Dustin White had 10 points to lead Hereford scoring. The team had lost a close game to Borger, 47-40, in the second round. Barry Kriegshauser hit 18 points in the losing cause.

The District 8th Grade Tournament will be held in Pampa Thursday and Saturday.



The drive

Hereford's Isaac Walker drives in for an easy layup in the Whitefaces' 42-40 win over the Canyon Eagles Tuesday night. Hereford improved its season record to 15-15 overall.

Oilers offer \$4.5 million deal to leave Houston

HOUSTON (AP) - The Tennessee-bound Houston Oilers offered Harris County \$3 million and their practice facility Tuesday in exchange for clearance to break their Astrodome lease a year early, KRIV-TV reported.

The offer, written by Oilers vice president and general counsel Steve Underwood, was addressed to Harris County Judge Robert Eckels and other county commissioners, the station said.

The team gave commissioners until Monday to accept the offer.

Eckels couldn't immediately be reached for comment Tuesday evening, but his spokeswoman earlier confirmed that the county's top executive was in negotiations with Oilers owner Bud Adams.

A message left at the Nashville,

Tenn., office of Oilers executive vice president Mike McClure was not immediately returned Tuesday.

Adams hopes to take his football team to Tennessee in time for next season, but he is obligated through a lease agreement to remain in Houston through this year.

In his letter, Underwood disputed media reports that an earlier offer had been made to the county. He said previous proposals to Astrodome USA, which holds the Astrodome's master lease, have been withdrawn.

The Houston Chronicle reported Tuesday that the Oilers had agreed to pay Astrodome USA \$1 million and drop their claim to \$2.5 million in revenues lost when the NFL canceled a 1995 preseason game because of problems with the Astroturf.



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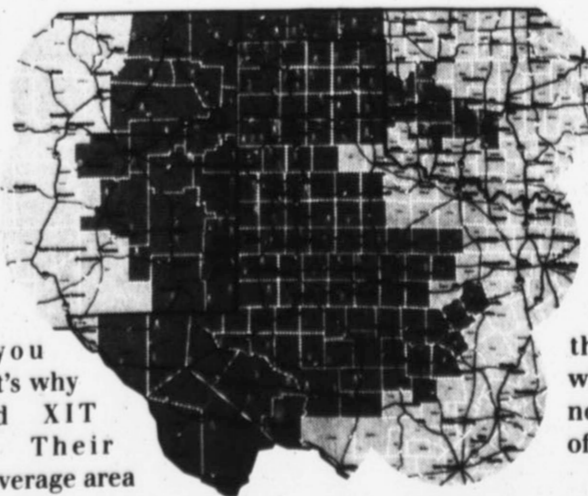
"This Valentine's Day, giving the gift of cellular service is a great way to let someone know you care - every day of the year. But things can get a little hairy if your cellular company doesn't provide the coverage you need. That's why I called XIT Cellular. Their expanded coverage area



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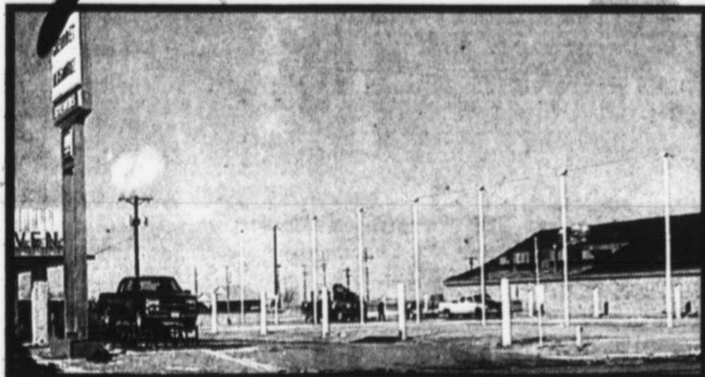
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NBA OK's Rodman's return after All-Star break

By JOHN NADEL
AP Sports Writer
LOS ANGELES (AP) - Dennis Rodman, mindful that he could face banishment from the NBA if he takes another wrong step, returns to the Chicago Bulls next week. And he'll be playing for free until next month.

Suspended without pay by the NBA since kicking a courtside cameraman during a game between the Bulls and Minnesota Timberwolves on Jan. 15, Rodman was reinstated by the league Tuesday, effective after the All-Star break.

"I think it's unfortunate for the fans and everybody else that it occurred," Rodman said Tuesday night at halftime of the game between the Los Angeles Lakers and Los Angeles Clippers at the Anaheim Arena. "I'm glad I can come back and play like I do again."

"I could say I'm sorry until I'm blue in the face, and it wouldn't prove anything. But I'm going to play for free. That shows that it isn't all about money."

Rodman's agent, Dwight Manley, said earlier in the day that his client, as a gesture of appreciation to his fans, will play his first 11 games after the suspension "for free, and donate

the money on behalf of himself and the Bulls to 11 assorted charities." When it ends, the suspension will have lasted 11 games, costing Rodman more than \$1 million in salary and incentives, not to mention the \$200,000 Rodman agreed to pay cameraman Eugene Amos after being suspended.

Rodman is eligible to play next Tuesday night against the Charlotte Hornets at the United Center.

When asked if he was returning with a clean slate, Rodman said, "I just live life day-to-day. I'm not going to change the way I am. My goal is still to contribute and be on one of the greatest teams of all time."

Bulls coach Phil Jackson said Rodman will be welcomed back.

"Dennis is an important aspect of our game," Jackson said. "We miss his defense, his rebounding and we're very pleased to have him back."

On Stern's warning to Rodman that another incident could end his NBA career, Jackson said, "That's an ample warning. Dennis has to understand that the league is watching him. He has to be on his best behavior."

Rodman and Manley, who arrived at the Lakers-Clippers game with 4 1/2 minutes left before halftime, sat

courtside underneath one of the baskets. They were left alone by the fans until halftime, when Rodman was besieged by autograph seekers, many of whom he accommodated.

Speaking from his office in Newport Beach, Calif., earlier in the day, Manley said Rodman will probably watch tonight's Bulls-Lakers game at the Forum in Inglewood, Calif. - the 11th and final game of the suspension - on television at Manley's house.

Manley said Rodman will donate his regular-game salary, not his deferred money, and that the suspension plus the donated money will total "well over \$1 million."

Rodman, ordered to undergo counseling during his suspension, met with NBA commissioner David Stern last Friday to make his case for reinstatement.

"I am satisfied that Dennis recognizes that his conduct in the Minnesota game was unacceptable," Stern said. "Dennis told me that while he does not plan to change the way he plays the game, he will conform his conduct on the playing court to acceptable standards, and he knows that any further incidents of this nature may end his career in the NBA."

Also at the meeting was Dr. Lloyd Baccus, medical director of the league's player assistance program.

"What the commissioner wanted was professional input in reaching his decision and the doctor was able to provide that," NBA spokesman Brian McIntyre said.

It was not clear whether Rodman actually underwent the counseling ordered by Stern.

"I'm glad that the meeting proved fruitful with the commissioner last week, and that we can put this incident behind us," Manley said.

When asked why Rodman decided to make the charitable donation, Manley said: "Because he'll be the first person to say, 'I deserve more money and pay me more money,' and when he makes a mistake, he'll be the first person to say, 'I don't deserve the money,' and he wants to thank his fans for sticking with him."

"It's a first," Manley added. "Whereas sports is so wrapped up in money all the time, he wants to make a statement that Dennis Rodman plays from his heart and not from his wallet, and he's out there with one intention, and that's to win."

"The best way to show that is giving up money not by order, but by choice." Teammate Scottie Pippen said he

doesn't think Rodman will change his aggressive style on the court.

"He's still going to be the same type of player that he's always been," Pippen said prior to Tuesday night's game at Portland, which the Bulls won 88-84 to raise their record to 9-1 since Rodman's latest suspension. "He's going to go after the ball and after whatever because he wants that attention."

Pippen made it clear he doesn't approve of Rodman's antics.

"I have a problem with it," Pippen said. "It's pretty stupid. ... But he's not going to change for me. He's just going to have to deal with the

consequences whenever he gets caught."

"It will be great to have him back, but we've got on a roll primarily without Dennis," Michael Jordan said. "The energy level will improve when he returns, but we're very confident without him."

Rodman, 35, has been suspended nine times since 1992 and three times since last March. He has led the NBA in rebounding in each of the last five seasons despite standing only 6-foot-8 and weighing just 220 pounds. And he's leading this year with a 16.5 average. Nobody else is averaging over 15.

Missouri knocks off Kansas

By The Associated Press
No. 1 and No. 3 both went to Columbia, played a few extra minutes of basketball and lost.

Columbia, Mo., and Columbia, S.C., are separated by half the country, but were united Tuesday night as college towns for highly ranked teams to avoid.

Top-ranked Kansas lost 96-94 in double overtime at Missouri, the Jayhawks' first loss of the season, but their fourth straight nail-biter.

Third-ranked Kentucky lost 84-79 in overtime at No. 19 South Carolina, leaving the Wildcats two games behind the Gamecocks in the Southeastern Conference's Eastern Division.

"I've said a million times it was unrealistic," Kansas coach Roy Williams said of going unbeaten. "But that doesn't mean the loss is good."

The win was great for the Tigers (12-10, 4-6 Big 12), who have made a habit of beating the Jayhawks (22-1, 8-1) when they sit atop the national rankings. This was the fourth time since 1990 Missouri played a No. 1 Kansas team, and the Tigers are 3-1 in those games.

The winning shot in the second overtime came from senior Corey Tate, a career role player at Missouri. He picked up a loose ball near the foul line and hit a jumper with 5.6 seconds left on the game clock and two seconds left on the shot clock.

"I just heaved it up and it went in," said Tate, who finished with 14 points. "It's a special memory and I'm going to treasure it for as long as I can."

In other games involving ranked teams on Tuesday, it was No. 10 Clemson 69, Western Kentucky 55; No. 16 Villanova 81, West Virginia

70; and No. 25 Iowa 75, No. 24 Indiana 67.

Kansas, which had to rally for wins over Colorado and Texas Tech and needed overtime to beat Nebraska in its last four games, forced the first overtime when Raef LaFrentz put back a missed free throw to tie it with seven seconds to play. Missouri missed a final chance to score and Kansas' Jacque Vaughn missed a potential game-winner at the end of the first overtime. The final shot Kansas managed at the end of the second overtime was after the buzzer. No. 19 South Carolina 84, No. 3 Kentucky 79.

BJ McKie scored eight of 22 points in overtime for the Gamecocks (16-5, 10-0 SEC), who trailed by five points with a minute left in regulation. Larry Davis hit a 3-pointer and Melvin Watson converted a driving layup to tie the game, and South

Carolina went on to its 11th straight win.

Kentucky (20-3, 8-2) trailed 62-51 with six minutes left, but made 10 of 11 shots to take the 72-67 lead with a minute left.

Ron Mercer, who scored 18 points, missed a final shot in regulation for Kentucky, which was playing without injured starters Derek Anderson and Jared Prickett.

No. 10 Clemson 69, Western Kentucky 55.

Greg Buckner scored 11 of his 17 points in the second half as the Tigers (18-4), who had lost three of four, pulled away for the home victory with a 12-0 run that gave them a 52-44 lead. Tony Lovan had 15 points for the Hilltoppers (10-10), who are 1-15 against Atlantic Coast Conference teams. No. 16 Villanova 81, West Virginia 70.

Seniors Alvin Williams and Jason Lawson came up big in their final game at duPont Pavilion for the Wildcats (17-5, 8-4 Big East). Williams had 23 points and Lawson had 15 points, 12 rebounds and eight blocks as Villanova started the second half with a 15-2 run that gave it a 47-40 lead. Damian Owens had 23 points for the Mountaineers (13-6, 7-5), who had won four straight. No. 25 Iowa 75, No. 24 Indiana 67.

Andre Woolridge scored 18 points to lead the Hawkeyes (16-5, 7-2 Big Ten), who have won 10 of 12 and sent the visiting Hoosiers (17-7, 4-6) to their third straight loss. The last time Indiana lost three in a row was the 1989-90 season. The Hoosiers played most of the game with their two leading scorers - Andrae Patterson and Neil Reed - on the bench as coach Bob Knight kept the promise he made after the loss to Illinois last Sunday to replace some of his juniors with freshmen. Freshman Jason Collier led the Hoosiers with 16 points and nine rebounds, while freshman Michael Lewis had two points and 11 assists. Iowa used a 7-2 run to take a 63-57 lead with 5:18 to play.

Injuries knock Rockets' Drexler, Barkley out of NBA All-Star game

By CHRIS SHERIDAN
AP Basketball Writer
NEW YORK (AP) - The Houston Rockets' All-Star trio has been reduced to a solo act.

Charles Barkley on Tuesday ruled himself out of the game because of an ankle sprain, and teammate Clyde Drexler aggravated a hamstring injury Tuesday night that will force him to miss the game, too.

That left Hakeem Olajuwon as the only member of the Rockets who will play in Sunday's All-Star game at Cleveland.

The NBA selected Detlef Schrempf of the Seattle SuperSonics to take Barkley's place, and a replacement for Drexler was likely to be named today.

Drexler reinjured his right hamstring late in the fourth quarter of a 99-95 loss to the New York Knicks. He returned Sunday from the injury, which sidelined him for the previous two games.

Barkley, picked as a Western

Conference starter in fan balloting, has missed the Rockets' last seven games because of a sprained right ankle. He said he expects to return to the lineup a week from Friday against Seattle.

"I made up my mind today when I tried to practice and I couldn't do some stuff," Barkley said before the game against the Knicks. "I'm not ready to play, and I don't think it's fair to jeopardize the rest of our season just so I can play in the All-Star game."

Schrempf, averaging 16.9 points, 6.8 rebounds and 4.9 assists, will join Sonics teammates Shawn Kemp and Gary Payton on the Western Conference team. His selection means the NBA passed over Kevin Garnett of Minnesota, whose numbers are comparable to Schrempf's.

"Schrempf's the better player. The league picked the right guy," Barkley said.

Barkley also said he and another player, believed to be Michael Jordan, will be playing golf in the desert Friday instead of going to Cleveland for the first assembly of the 49 living members of NBA's 50 greatest players.

"Let me put it this way: I'm not going to be there. A couple of the 50 greatest won't be there Friday."

"I'll be there Saturday and Sunday. Can't they let me have my one day off per season?" Barkley said.

Drexler's spot could go to either Garnett or Kenny Anderson of the Portland Trail Blazers.

Drexler said he will be sidelined for at least two weeks and as long as two months.

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(SPECIAL) - A drug that is exciting researchers in the treatment of pain has been formulated into a new product known as "Arthur Itis," and is being called a "Medical Miracle" by some, in the treatment of debilitating conditions such as arthritis, bursitis, rheumatism, painful muscle aches, joint aches, simple backache, bruises, and more. Although the mechanism of action is unclear, experiments indicate that Arthur Itis, relieves pain by first selectively attracting, and then destroying the messenger chemical which carries pain sensations to the brain, thus eliminating pain in the affected area. Arthur Itis, is available immediately without a prescription in an odorless, greasless, non-staining cream or new easy applicator liquid form. Arthur Itis, is guaranteed to work or your money back.

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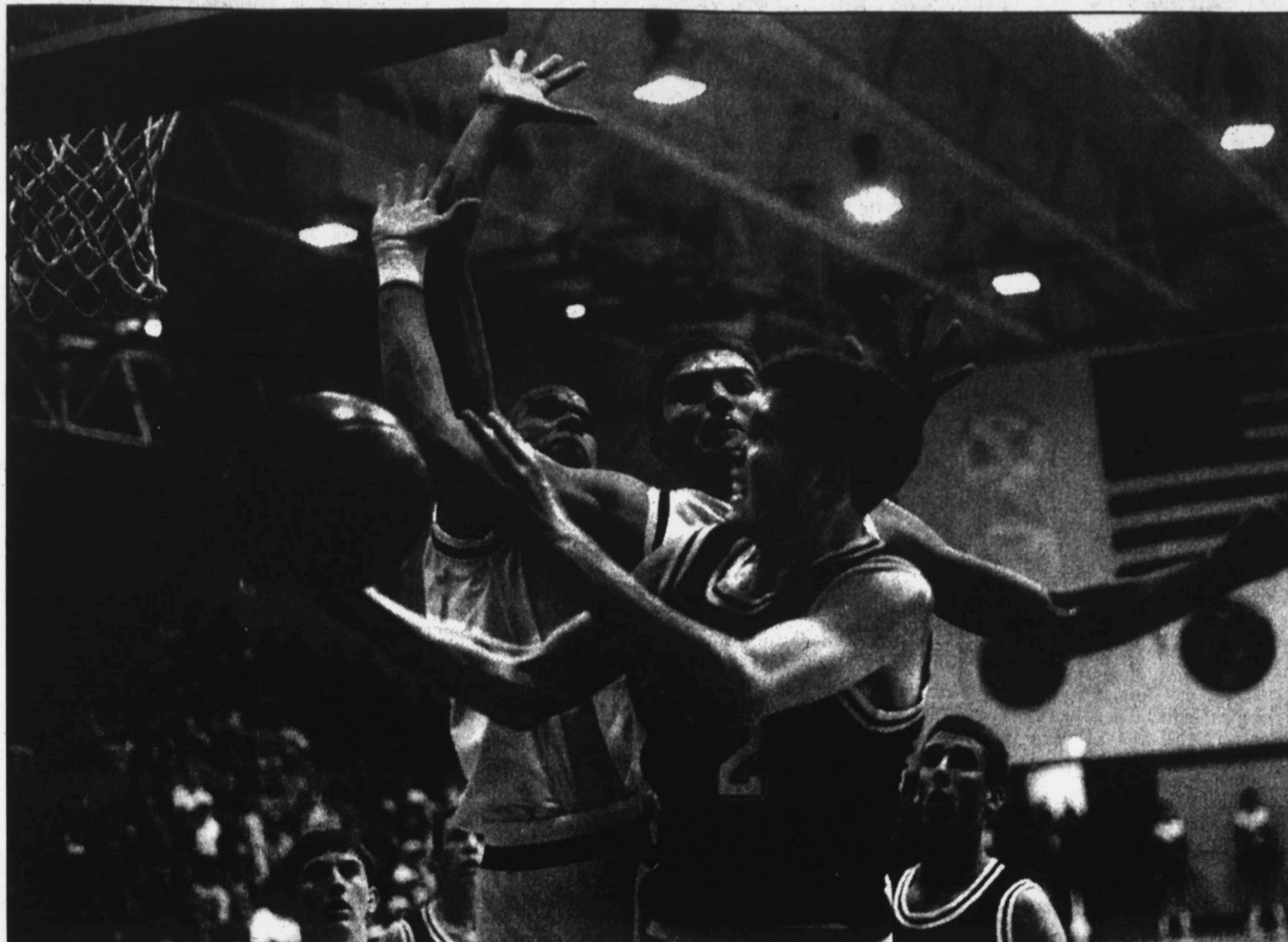
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Playoff bound

Cory Schumacher wraps a shot around two Canyon defenders Tuesday night in the Hereford Whitefaces' 42-40 victory. The win earned Hereford the No. 3 seed in the District 1-4A playoff

picture and gave the Whitefaces their second playoff berth in the past three years.

Jets select Belichick new coach, name Parcels as consultant

By BARRY WILNER
AP Football Writer
HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. (AP) - It figured that in this season of coaching upheaval, the final opening would be filled by two men.

Maybe.
The New York Jets, forbidden by commissioner Paul Tagliabue from hiring Bill Parcels as their coach-director of football operations until next February, got around that with a bit of inventiveness. They hired Parcels on Tuesday as a consultant for 1997 and picked his longtime aide, Bill Belichick, to coach the upcoming season.

Parcels will take over on Feb. 1, 1998, with Belichick becoming his second in command.

Maybe.
Not surprisingly, the New England Patriots are challenging New York's contractual end run. Last week, Tagliabue ruled that only with the Patriots' permission could Parcels coach or hold any other comparable position for another NFL team this year.

"We will immediately ask commissioner Paul Tagliabue to

review this agreement between the Jets and Bill Parcels to determine if there has been a violation of Parcels' agreement with the Patriots and the commissioner's ruling last week, which prevents him from serving in this de facto coaching position for another NFL team in 1997," the Patriots' statement said.

"This so-called consulting agreement is a transparent farce, the latest in a series of acts by the Jets and Bill Parcels, which further demonstrates it has been their intention all along to have Bill Parcels become head coach of the Jets for the '97 season," a release from the Patriots said.

Parcels insists what the Jets have hired him to do can't be construed as a coaching position.

"I don't feel the role of consultant, with a limited amount of time and a limited amount of money, can be termed anywhere near a comparable position," Parcels said.

That will be up to Tagliabue to decide. The league said Tuesday "the Jets were neither denied nor given permission to make a consulting agreement with Parcels for 1997."

Eleven NFL coaching jobs have changed hands in the last three months. The Jets' job opened when Rich Kotite didn't resign and wasn't fired on Dec. 20, but vacated the position. On Tuesday, in the same auditorium where Kotite made his unusual announcement, the Jets staged another theater of the absurd.

Belichick was introduced by the Jets' evasive president, Steve Gutman - try getting a straight answer out of him - as the coach and chief of football operations for '97. Parcels was introduced as the future occupant of those jobs, beginning when he is completely free of the Patriots next February.

Parcels was not on hand, but was made available by conference call, something of a sporting specter. Whether he will land in Hempstead this year will be determined by Tagliabue - unless, somehow, the growing animosity between the two teams can be overcome and a compensation settlement made.

No settlement will include the top overall choice in April's draft, the Jets claim. Patriots owner Robert Kraft, in turn, insists that pick must

be a part of any deal.
"I think that No. 1 pick represents a tremendous asset to the future of the organization," Parcels said.

While the Parcels-Belichick combination has been fruitful - Parcels was head coach and Belichick was offensive coordinator for the 1987' and 1991 Super Bowl-winning Giants, and they helped the Patriots win the AFC crown this season - Belichick was less successful on his own. He was 36-44 as coach in Cleveland before the Browns moved and he was fired following the 1995 season.

"We're here to try and get this team where we've been able to get a couple of other teams," Parcels said of the only NFL franchise not to win any kind of title since the merger was completed in 1970. "We pledge to the Jets fans we won't rest until we get that done. This isn't any one- or two-year deal. I think the Jets have a system in place that will allow us to succeed in the future."

Several players were on hand at the Jets' training facility, undergoing physicals or working out. They liked the two-Bills approach.
"It was more confusing when we didn't have a coach," quarterback Neil O'Donnell said. "They were just at the Super Bowl two weeks ago. They bring a winning attitude."

"We have to win now. They have been there. They know what it takes to be there ... they both won championships."

"Let's face it, we had a horrible year. We need to turn this thing around. They know each other so well. It won't be an ego thing."

"Everything is going to pan out pretty soon."
Maybe.

Sooners beat A&M in overtime

NORMAN, Okla. (AP) - Corey Brewer scored Oklahoma's final five points and the Sooners overcame a 12-point second-half deficit to beat Texas A&M 62-59 in overtime Tuesday night.

Oklahoma (13-6, 5-4 Big 12) won consecutive games for the first time since December. The Sooners got back into the game by holding Texas A&M (8-11, 2-7) scoreless for 6 minutes late in the second half, and won despite getting just six points from Nate Erdmann, whose 23.5 average in Big 12 games led the league.

The Aggies had a chance to win at the end of regulation, but Shane Jones missed a point-blank shot with about two seconds remaining.

Tracey Anderson, who scored 21 for A&M, drove inside for a basket to start overtime. Then the Sooners scored five in a row - three by Brewer - to take the lead for good.

Brewer made two free throws with 8.5 seconds left to make the score 62-59, then the Aggies missed their final two shots.

Brewer finished with 19 points and was 9-of-12 from the line. Erdmann didn't score after halftime, when he was 0-of-5 from the floor.

Eduardo Najera, who had 15 points and 11 rebounds, scored back-to-back baskets to cap a 13-0 run in which the Sooners turned a 51-42 deficit into a 55-51 lead with 2:27 to play. A&M committed six turnovers and missed both its shots during that time.

But two free throws by Brian Barone and a jump hook by Dario Quesada tied the score at 55 with 49 seconds left. The Sooners missed two shots after that, the final one a 3-pointer by Tim Heskett with seven seconds left.

The Aggies set up their final shot and Anderson made a nice pass inside to Jones, but he missed the layup as

Najera defended.

The Aggies' biggest lead was 45-33 after a four-point play by Anderson with 13:21 left in regulation. Oklahoma then scored seven straight.

Anderson scored 15 of his points in the first half, when the Aggies outshot Oklahoma 62 percent to 38 percent and outrebounded the Sooners 20-8.

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Jordan pumps in 36 in Bulls' victory

By The Associated Press
Playing like a one-man team is usually a bad idea. Unless, of course, that man is Michael Jordan.

Jordan single-handedly outscored Portland 22-20 in the fourth quarter Tuesday night, rallying the Chicago Bulls to an 88-84 victory over the Trail Blazers.

"I got in a great rhythm," said Jordan, who finished with 36 points. "I don't know why. But it was a great time for it, and I was able to carry that weight."

Jordan scored all but six of the Bulls' points in the final quarter and assisted on one of the other two baskets. His two free throws put Chicago ahead for good, 84-82, with 53 seconds remaining, and he made two more from the line with 5.8 seconds left to clinch the victory.

The Bulls, who have won eight straight and 18 of 19, learned earlier in the day that Dennis Rodman will be allowed to return to the team following the All-Star break. Rodman, the league's leading rebounder, is serving an 11-game suspension for kicking a cameraman.

Elsewhere in the NBA, it was New Jersey 111, Vancouver 105; Orlando 111, Indiana 87; Charlotte 115, Minnesota 101; New York 99, Houston 95; Cleveland 79, Milwaukee 78; Dallas 104, Sacramento 96; Atlanta 107, Golden State 85; and the Los Angeles Clippers 108, Los

Angles Lakers 86.

Knicks 99, Rockets 95
Allan Houston scored 17 of his 28 points in the fourth quarter, including six foul shots in the final 18 seconds, as New York handed the Rockets their season-high fifth straight loss. The Knicks, who have won 16 of 17 home games, reversed a 20-point loss at Houston on Jan. 14. Houston's Charles Barkley and New York's Patrick Ewing didn't play because of injuries. Hakeem Olajuwon led the Mavericks with 26 points.

Mavericks 104, Kings 96
At Dallas, Sam Cassell was 7-for-7 from the field and scored 20 points for the Mavericks. George McCloud, filling in for ailing Jamal Mashburn, added 17 points and nine rebounds for Dallas, which won for just the fourth time in 12 games. Mitch Richmond scored 31 points for the Kings.

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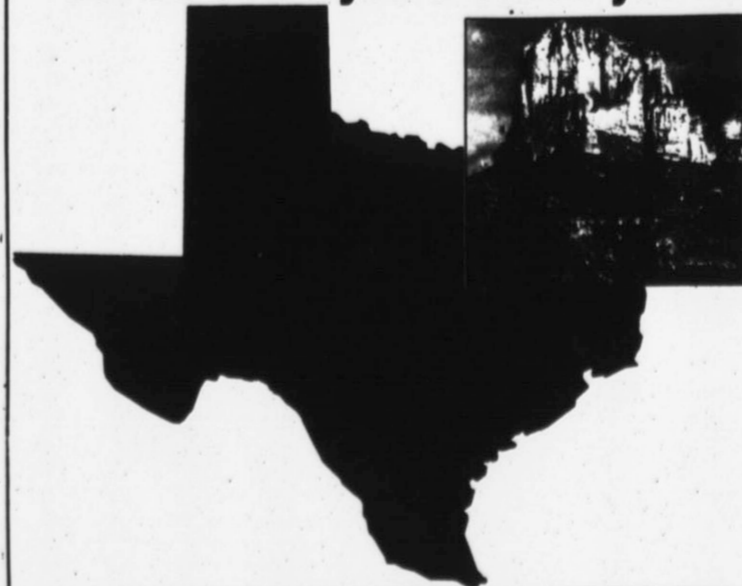
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Home sales break 18-year-old record

WASHINGTON (AP) - Existing home sales shot up 7.5 percent last year to break an 18-year-old record, but ended 1996 on a downward trend.

Analysts contend housing activity, while remaining strong, apparently has leveled off. The government reported earlier that construction of new homes also fell in December, the third drop in four months.

Sales of existing single-family homes totaled 4.09 million in 1996, the National Association of Realtors said Monday, topping the previous high of 3.99 million set in 1978. There were 3.80 million homes sold in 1995.

Realtors economist John A. Tuccillo attributed the 1996 pace to the economy and favorable interest rates that contributed to affordable conditions.

Thirty-year, fixed-rate mortgages averaged slightly less than 8 percent during 1996, compared with double-digit rates during most of the 1980s.

The monthly payment on a \$100,000 mortgage with a 10 percent interest rate is \$878, while the payment on the same loan with an 8 percent rate is \$734.

Sales resumed their downward trend in December, falling 3.5 percent to a seasonally adjusted 3.87 million annual rate after edging up 1 percent a month earlier. November's advance was the first since last May and many

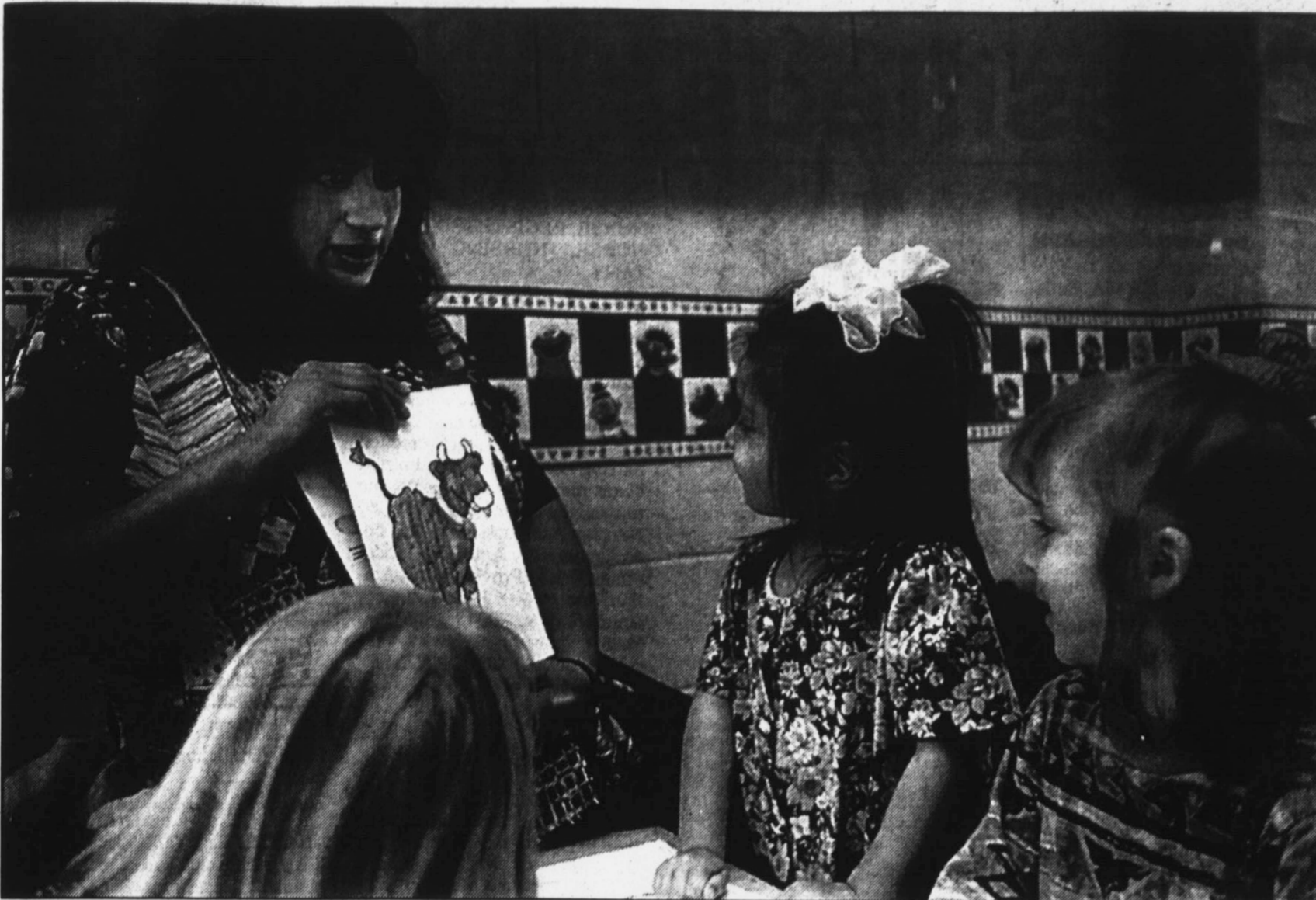
analysts had expected sales to drop back by about the same amount.

Although each of the nation's four regions shared in the annual advance, only the Northeast registered an increase in December.

"It appears home sales have topped out," in part because of slightly higher mortgage rates in recent months, explained David Lereah, an economist with the Mortgage Bankers Association.

"This is the level we're going to remain at for a while," he added. "It's still a very, very healthy level."

The median price of an existing home was \$118,100 in 1996, up from \$112,900 a year earlier. The median price was \$118,800 in December. The median is the midpoint, meaning half of the homes cost more and half cost less.



Learning activity

Sandy Rudd, a caregiver at Little Blessings Day Care in First Presbyterian Church, teaches the children to recognize colors and animal shapes with the activity, "Little Bear, Little Bear,

What Do You See" on Tuesday. Playing the activity, from left, are Taylor Warren, Destiny Martinez and Macy Page. The day care is open on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Houston's 6.3-mile tunnel system grows as several new buildings plan to connect

By JOAN THOMPSON
Associated Press Writer

HOUSTON (AP) - Michael Jones dropped down into Houston's tunnels like most downtown workers when he got a job in the city.

"It's quicker actually to come through the tunnels than the surface, and it's much more hospitable down here weatherwise," said Jones, who walks below the streets to get from his parking garage to the firm where he is a law clerk.

Outside, 20 feet overhead, it is raining; on hot days, there's Houston's infamous humidity.

But in Houston's 6.3-mile tunnel system, workers can take escalators or stairs from their building lobbies down into a Pac Man maze of building connections, shops and restaurants.

More than 100,000 of the city's 137,000 downtown workers have direct access to the system, which includes some skywalks. It connects 55 buildings and has more than 100 eateries, several food courts, a drug store, shoe-repair shops and hair salons.

The system is one of the oldest and largest in the United States. It began in the 1930s with a few building

connections and branched out the most during a construction boom in the 1970s and '80s.

"What you're doing is going from basement to basement to basement," mayoral aide Dan Jones says. "It's a laissez-faire system that only exists through the cooperation of the various property owners."

In the next few months, the system will grow as several more buildings are connected. It also will get some new maps and signs, as well as a facelift in its theater district.

The city has awarded a \$3 million contract to connect its offices and an underground parking garage to the system through a building that the city is renovating for its public works operations.

A glass pedestrian tunnel will extend from the renovated 27-floor building through a sunken courtyard and into the tunnel system.

"What we're basically doing is opening it up and putting in trees and the glass tunnel," Jones said. "It gives us a portion of the tunnel that is green, has access to daylight and really gets you out of this tunnel, mole-kind of feeling."

Elsewhere, construction will begin soon on a tunnel into the former Rice

Hotel, which is being converted into upscale housing units after years of vacancy.

Plans are to put a grocery store, shops and a restaurant on its first floor.

The tunnel system also will get a little easier to navigate.

The Houston Downtown Management District, which serves downtown property owners, will be putting up new tunnel signs and maps that use color coding for different sections.

"I hear it all the time: 'I don't know how to get over there so we'd better go up above,'" said David Rosborough, who is working on the project for the downtown district.

The district also plans to create a mall-like retail directory of what's in the various food courts.

But district officials like projects director Guy Hagstette do not expect the tunnels, relatively unknown outside of the downtown workforce, to become a big tourist draw.

The restaurants and shops are geared toward the office crowd although more people are visiting the tunnels, he said.

"They may be interested in it from a novelty standpoint of wanting to see it," Hagstette said. "But from the standpoint of it becoming a San Antonio Riverwalk type of attraction, it's not going to happen."

Sandra Lord, a legal secretary, wrote a guidebook and organizes walking tours of the tunnels. She studiously avoided the tunnel system for the first few years she worked downtown for fear of becoming disoriented.

But she became a promoter when she began giving downtown tours to senior citizens' groups. The weather

played a part.

"It didn't take me long to figure out that my seniors didn't like to get rained on and they didn't like to be real hot and we weren't using public transportation," she said.

The number of people taking her tunnel tours more than doubled from 1,250 in 1995 to 2,677 last year.

She likes the system's patchwork feel and cubbyhole businesses.

"When the floors change, you're in another building," she said, referring to floors that range from large, black-and-gray speckled tile to dark-beige. "Each building has a personality and a story."

The oldest building connected to the tunnel is Houston's first skyscraper, originally 16 stories and completed in 1911. The tallest building is the soaring 75-story Texas Commerce Center with its 60th-floor observation tower.

Sometimes derided as "gerbil tubes," the underground maze gets blamed for emptying Houston's sidewalks.

"Because it is so hot for so much of the year, you can drive downtown at 12 noon and it's like 'Where are all the people?'" said Virginia Calton, spokeswoman for the downtown district. "Well, they're all down below where it's cool."

Hagstette said tunnel access is vital to the office and governmental areas downtown. However, he said the system should not necessarily reach to sections of the city that might be developed for entertainment or residences.

"The tunnels do rob the sidewalks of people," Hagstette said. "So in those areas, we want all the people at the street level because it's creating that urban vitality that people expect."

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Names in the News

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP) - Peter Tosh wasn't exactly known for keeping his views to himself.

Now fans will hear more of the slain reggae star's opinions in an album on his life and work, for release in the United States in May.

"He was definitely a cutting edge artist," said Ibo Cooper of the reggae band Third World. "When Peter went on stage, you knew he was going to speak out."

Tosh put to the beat his convictions on issues such as the legalization of marijuana, regarded as sacred by his Rastafarian religion.

Honorary Citizen, produced by Columbia/Legacy on three CDs, will follow the singer's career from the '60s, when he was one of the original Wailers along with Bob Marley and Bunny Wailer, to his solo work in the '70s and '80s.

The album will feature 32 songs, including such favorites as "Legalize It" and "Equal Rights," as well as live cuts and previously unreleased material.

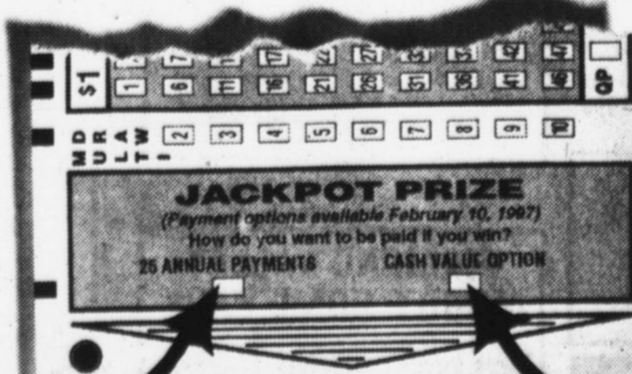
LAS VEGAS (AP) - So you want to be a Las Vegas showgirl?

Jay Leno put unsuspecting tourists to the test Monday as he opened a

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He began "The Tonight Show With Jay Leno" with taped segments of visits he paid to hotel rooms of MGM Grand guests, asking them if they wanted to be Vegas showgirls.

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5 days per word	.59	11.80

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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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For Sale: 1992 Ford Tempo GL/Automatic, 52,800 miles, Navy Blue. \$6,000.00. Call 364-5473. 33481

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by THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Diminishes
 5 Army docs
 11 Oaf
 12 Wide street
 13 Easter bloom
 14 Item in a change purse
 15 Everyone
 16 Jagger of the Rolling Stones
 17 VCR button
 19 Comic Hope
 22 Traveler's stop
 24 Diving need
 26 Line of symmetry
 27 Oodles
 28 Some change
 30 Frasier's brother
 31 Print units
 32 Without help
 34 Contended
 35 Wee cap
 38 Conditional release
 41 Leslie Caron film
 42 Magazine worker
 43 Baseball's Slaughter

DOWN

44 Thin
 45 Omelet ingredients
 1 Singer Fitzgerald
 2 Soothe
 3 News items
 4 Pig's digs
 5 Frenzied
 6 Gives the boot
 7 Card collection
 8 Pen fill
 9 Billiards need
 10 Partner of poivre
 16 Singer Tomé
 18 Witty remark

Yesterday's Answer

19 Traveling extremely okay fast
 20 A wood-wind
 21 Belfry denizens
 22 Spiked club
 23 Yoked beasts
 25 Abel's killer
 29 Tar
 30 Tacit
 33 Suspicious
 34 Cast a ballot
 36 Eager
 37 Mile's equivalent
 38 Vigor
 39 Nabokov novel
 40 Tear
 41 "Golly!"

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Local Corporation is accepting applications for delivery level technician/delivery driver. Electronic and mechanical back ground preferred. Clean driving record required. Mail resume to: Attention--Service Manager, 529 N. 25 Mile Ave., Hereford, Texas, 79045.

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.

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All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitations or discrimination. State laws forbid discrimination in the sale, rental or advertising of real estate based on factors in addition to those protected under federal law. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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 Unsure how to write a Classified Ad that will get results? Follow these pointers and you'll soon have an empty space in your storage room and cash in your pocket. For starters, look at ads which offer the same item/products. Get a sense of going rates and ideas for how to make your ad stand out. Once you're ready to write, begin with exactly what you're selling: "Dining room set, maple, six chairs." Then, remember these hints:
 --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 words, 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.

Classifieds

LEGAL NOTICES

One lot of miscellaneous used computer equipment in working and non-working condition CPU's, printers, monitors, overheads, disk drives, etc.

Bids are to be made attention DIANA DREW, DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY, Hereford Independent School District, 601 N. 25 Mile Ave., Hereford, Tx. 79045. Phone (806)364-0606, FAX (806)363-7699.

BID

One lot of miscellaneous used computer equipment in working and non-working condition CPU's, printers, monitors, overheads, disk drives, etc.

Bids are to be made attention DIANA DREW, DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY, Hereford Independent School District, 601 N. 25 Mile Ave., Hereford, Tx. 79045. Phone (806)364-0606, FAX (806)363-7699.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Floyd William McGee, Deceased, were issued on January 21, 1997, under Docket No. PR-4292 pending in the County Court of Deaf Smith County, Texas, to Mary Grtrude McGee.

Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Estate addressed as follows:

Mary Grtrude McGee, Independent Executrix Estate of Floyd William McGee, Deceased c/o Jerry Smith, P.C. Attorney At Law P. O. Box 1191 Hereford, Texas 79045

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Dated: February 4, 1997.

JERRY SMITH, P.C. ATTORNEY AT LAW 205 WEST 4TH STREET, STE 101 Hereford, Texas 79045 Telephone: 806/364-8100 Telecopier: 806/364-8103

Jerry Smith, SBN 18597300 Attorney for Applicant

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that Deaf Smith County Hospital District of Hereford, Deaf Smith County Texas, will receive bids for the following 2 door freezer with side by side doors, Anaditho Exterior/Interior, 115 volt, with no R-12 Freon unit.

Bids will be received until 12:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 12, 1997 in the Administration Office of Hereford Regional Medical Center, 801 E. 3rd St., Hereford, Texas.

All bids will be read aloud at 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 13, 1997 in the Board Room of Hereford Regional Medical Center. For more information, please contact Jim Robinson, CEO at (806) 364-2141.

The Hospital District reserves the right to reject any and all bids and waive all formalities for the best interest of the Hospital District.

HEREFORD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 601 N. 25 Mile Ave. Hereford, Texas 79045 Phone (806)364-0606 FAX (806) 363-7699

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Notice is hereby given that the Hereford ISD will be accepting sealed bids until February 13, 1997 for the following: Monroe RL-955 DX w/sorter, 2 Monroe RL-945 DX copier w/sorter, Monroe RL-940 copier no sorter, Xerox KAZ copier no sorter, Minolta EP 470Z no sorter, Harris 3M 6070 copier w/sorter.

Bids are to be made attention DIANA DREW, DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY. The District reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Program treats addiction with religion

NEW ORLEANS (AP) - Otis Gary rocked back and forth, his weight shifting from one alligator shoe to the other. Left foot. Right foot. Left foot. His eyes clamped shut, he prayed: "Cleanse our hearts, Father God. We ask you to forgive us of our sins."

Around the small, wood-paneled kitchen, the makeshift congregation - a roomful of crack addicts in sweat pants and jeans - clasped hands in a circle and shouted. "Have mercy on us!" one man cried as Gary continued to pray. Others joined in: "Yes, Lord! Right, my Lord! Oh, yes!"

Inside a tattered shotgun house on one of Marrero's most crime-ridden corners, a quiet revolution is going on: a revolt against drugs, a fight to restore order to a set of muddled lives. Ten crack addicts have pledged to recover, and all have sought a cure in religion.

They have come to A New Creation, a 3-week-old residential drug treatment program. Housed in two buildings, it is based on a national program, One Church - One Addict, launched by President Clinton in 1994. The program aims to bring religious communities into the fight against drugs.

The commercial strip has long been a hub for prostitution, drug sales and drug users, residents and neighbors said. The yellow stucco building on one corner, they said, once was a well-known crack house. Now, some of the men who got high there are living in the blue shotgun next door, enrolled in A New Creation.

They're working to renovate the crack house, and turn it into a home for more recovering addicts. The 10 addicts who joined the men-only program have committed to live at A New Creation for about six months.

After renovations are complete, the center will have space for 50, said a co-founder, the Rev. Terrance Kinchen.

And while the program is only in its opening stages, its residents say they feel confident they'll get off drugs for good. After two weeks in the program, Glynn Brown said, "I haven't had an urge, haven't had a dream or anything about crack since. I just haven't had a desire. You wouldn't believe how much power I feel like I have now."

Inside, the rules are strict: no smoking, no cursing, no television

except for religious programming, news and sports. The days are regimented, with a schedule that centers on work around the house, prayer and group sessions: daily seminars thick with religious and moral lessons.

Residents' wives and girlfriends come to the group sessions, as do community members who have gotten off drugs and want to help others do the same.

A New Creation's four co-founders, Kinchen, Johnny Robinson, Leon Firven and James Baker, were crack addicts for years before they went through church-based, residential rehabilitation programs. All came out clean and became involved with ministries of their own. Three received training through One Church - One Addict.

Based in Washington, D.C., and financed through private donations, the program provides standard training materials for teams of church members, who run mostly outpatient rehabilitation programs.

One Church - One Addict is targeted at "someone who has already made up his mind" to kick drugs, said the Rev. George

Clements, a Chicago priest who is the program's national director. "He needs someone who can be with him and give him the support he needs to get off."

Dr. A. Kenison Roy III, medical director for the addictive disease program at DePaul Hospital in New Orleans, said he applauds ministry leaders for trying to address the drug problem with limited resources. Still, he said, he worries that some religion-based programs take the wrong approach to crack addiction.

"In many cases, the problem is treated more as an absence or deficiency of morality than a disease," he said.

But medical programs can be too costly for many crack addicts, said Roy, who also is medical director for two private drug treatment programs in Metairie. Roy's outpatient program, New Freedom Inc., costs \$3,600 a year. His resident program, Addiction Recovery Resource, costs \$8,000 for three months. A typical inpatient hospital stay can run from \$600 to \$1,000 per day, he said.

Organizers are planning ways to make A New Creation self-sustaining.

TEXAS ALMANAC



The 1996-97 edition of The Texas Almanac is off the press...and we've got them on sale at The Hereford Brand offices, 313 N. Lee St!
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Prices effective:

Tuesday, February 4, 1997

CATTLE FUTURES

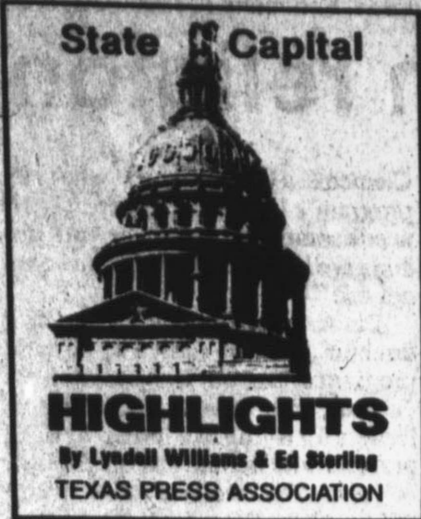
CATTLE-FEEDER (CME) 50,000 lbs., cont'd per lb.	
Mar	69.00 69.17 68.30 68.02 - 50 70.05 68.15 7.60
Apr	69.02 69.02 69.00 69.35 - 42 70.65 67.75 3.00
May	71.00 71.10 70.30 70.55 - 40 71.70 69.80 4.65
Aug	74.45 74.50 72.75 73.97 - 42 75.42 66.80 4.78
Sept	74.60 74.75 74.25 74.50 - 40 75.75 65.00 3.50
Oct	75.45 75.50 74.90 75.10 - 40 76.30 66.10 1.73
Nov	76.35 76.40 76.00 76.15 - 40 77.50 67.95 3.00
Est vol 3,995, vol Mar 3,419, open Int 32,227, -79	
HOED (CME) 40,000 lbs., cont'd per lb.	
Feb	63.80 64.20 63.72 63.72 - 10 64.25 60.15 13.99
Apr	65.95 66.10 65.35 65.45 - 10 67.90 62.60 45.30
June	64.45 64.67 64.25 64.42 - 10 66.75 62.80 15.18
Aug	64.32 64.47 64.10 64.22 - 10 66.75 62.80 17.28
Oct	61.45 62.60 62.10 62.42 - 10 66.10 64.10 10.05
Dec	61.47 61.75 61.50 61.70 - 27 70.35 65.25 4.147
FWB	70.95 71.02 70.80 70.85 - 27 71.65 67.15 1.991
Est vol 19,482, vol Mar 28,341, open Int 36,084, +425	
HOED (CME) 40,000 lbs., cont'd per lb.	
Feb	75.77 75.77 75.10 75.47 - 22 80.30 63.15 4.00
Apr	75.40 75.40 74.10 74.77 - 35 77.20 64.70 11.80
June	80.45 80.45 79.40 79.77 - 30 81.40 67.40 7.87
Aug	78.70 78.80 77.75 77.85 - 10 79.10 67.40 1.74
Oct	75.15 75.15 74.50 74.63 - 30 75.40 66.80 1.724
Dec	68.10 68.10 67.75 67.85 - 30 68.50 64.10 1.399
Jan	66.07 66.15 65.70 65.82 - 30 70.40 60.70 1.91
FWB	64.85 64.85 64.40 64.45 - 32 68.00 61.70 1.277
Apr	61.00 61.30 60.95 61.05 - 15 63.40 57.00 1.30
Est vol 9,840, vol Mar 9,579, open Int 22,771, -849	

GRAIN FUTURES

CORN (CBT) 5,000 bu., cont'd per bu.	
Mar	207 1/2 211 1/2 206 1/2 + 1 204 1/2 256 118.74
May	207 1/2 209 1/2 204 1/2 + 1 1/2 204 250 71.20
July	204 1/2 206 1/2 201 1/2 + 2 203 250 67.50
Sept	201 1/2 204 1/2 201 1/2 + 2 1/2 201 250 6.87
Dec	202 1/2 204 1/2 201 1/2 + 2 1/2 201 249 6.93
Mar	201 1/2 204 1/2 201 1/2 + 2 1/2 201 249 6.93
May	201 1/2 204 1/2 201 1/2 + 2 1/2 201 249 6.93
July	201 1/2 204 1/2 201 1/2 + 2 1/2 201 249 6.93
Sept	201 1/2 204 1/2 201 1/2 + 2 1/2 201 249 6.93
Dec	201 1/2 204 1/2 201 1/2 + 2 1/2 201 249 6.93
Est vol 45,000, vol Mar 45,000, open Int 210,200, +300	
SOYBEANS (CBT) 5,000 bu., cont'd per bu.	
Mar	720 1/2 741 720 1/2 + 1/2 830 663 72.95
May	728 735 735 1/2 + 1/2 828 663 37.74
July	734 738 735 1/2 + 1/2 828 611 35.42
Aug	737 742 735 1/2 + 1/2 813 647 5.26
Sept	704 706 703 705 1/2 + 1/2 770 656 1.637
Nov	681 1/2 687 1/2 687 1/2 + 1/2 740 697 1/2
Dec	686 687 687 1/2 + 1/2 699 659 2.68
Jan	686 687 687 1/2 + 1/2 699 659 2.68
Mar	690 692 690 692 1/2 + 1/2 705 672 117
July	695 695 695 695 1/2 + 1/2 705 672 117
Nov	693 693 693 693 1/2 + 1/2 705 672 117
Est vol 40,000, vol Mar 40,000, open Int 4,072, open 1,171,346, +293	
WHEAT (CBT) 5,000 bu., cont'd per bu.	
Mar	307 1/2 307 1/2 307 1/2 + 1/2 418 1/2 35.95
May	307 1/2 307 1/2 307 1/2 + 1/2 418 1/2 35.95
July	307 1/2 307 1/2 307 1/2 + 1/2 418 1/2 35.95
Sept	307 1/2 307 1/2 307 1/2 + 1/2 418 1/2 35.95
Dec	307 1/2 307 1/2 307 1/2 + 1/2 418 1/2 35.95
Est vol 12,000, vol Mar 14,725, open Int 64,816, +1,228	

METAL FUTURES

GOLD (CME) Div NYMEX-100 Troy oz., 1/2 per Troy oz.	
Feb	347.00 348.20 345.40 345.00 - 1.00 420.00 346.20 4.970
Apr	348.00 349.20 346.40 346.00 - 1.10 420.00 348.00 4.970
June	350.00 351.20 348.40 348.00 - 1.10 420.00 347.20 4.970
Aug	352.00 353.20 350.40 350.00 - 1.10 420.00 349.20 4.970
Oct	354.00 355.20 352.40 352.00 - 1.10 420.00 351.20 4.970
Dec	356.00 357.20 354.40 354.00 - 1.10 420.00 353.20 4.970
Jan	358.00 359.20 356.40 356.00 - 1.10 420.00 355.20 4.970
Apr	360.00 361.20 358.40 358.00 - 1.10 420.00 357.20 4.970
June	362.00 363.20 360.40 360.00 - 1.10 420.00 359.20 4.970
Aug	364.00 365.20 362.40 362.00 - 1.10 420.00 361.20 4.970
Oct	366.00 367.20 364.40 364.00 - 1.10 420.00 363.20 4.970
Dec	368.00 369.20 366.40 366.00 - 1.10 420.00 365.20 4.970
Jan	370.00 371.20 368.40 368.00 - 1.10 420.00 367.20 4.970
Apr	372.00 373.20 370.40 370.00 - 1.10 420.00 369.20 4.970
June	374.00 375.20 372.40 372.00 - 1.10 420.00 371.20 4.970
Aug	376.00 377.20 374.40 374.00 - 1.10 420.00 373.20 4.970
Oct	378.00 379.20 376.40 376.00 - 1.10 420.00 375.20 4.970
Dec	380.00 381.20 378.40 378.00 - 1.10 420.00 377.20 4.970
Jan	382.00 383.20 380.40 380.00 - 1.10 420.00 379.20 4.970
Apr	384.00 385.20 382.40 382.00 - 1.10 420.00 381.20 4.970
June	386.00 387.20 384.40 384.00 - 1.10 420.00 383.20 4.970
Aug	388.00 389.20 386.40 386.00 - 1.10 420.00 385.20 4.970
Oct	390.00 391.20 388.40 388.00 - 1.10 420.00 387.20 4.970
Dec	392.00 393.20 390.40 390.00 - 1.10 420.00 389.20 4.970
Jan	394.00 395.20 392.40 392.00 - 1.10 420.00 391.20 4.970
Apr	396.00 397.20 394.40 394.00 - 1.10 420.00 393.20 4.970
June	398.00 399.20 396.40 396.00 - 1.10 420.00 395.20 4.970
Aug	400.00 401.20 398.40 398.00 - 1.10 420.00 397.20 4.970
Oct	402.00 403.20 400.40 400.00 - 1.10 420.00 399.20 4.970
Dec	404.00 405.20 402.40 402.00 - 1.10 420.00 401.20 4.970
Jan	406.00 407.20 404.40 404.00 - 1.10 420.00 403.20 4.970
Apr	408.00 409.20 406.40 406.00 - 1.10 420.00 405.20 4.970
June	410.00 411.20 408.40 408.00 - 1.10 420.00 407.20 4.970
Aug	412.00 413.20 410.40 410.00 - 1.10 420.00 409.20 4.970
Oct	414.00 415.20 412.40 412.00 - 1.10 420.00 411.20 4.970
Dec	416.00 417.20 414.40 414.00 - 1.10 420.00 413.20 4.970
Jan	418.00 419.20 416.40 416.00 - 1.10 420.00 415.20 4.970
Apr	420.00 421.20 418.40 418.00 - 1.10 420.00 417.20 4.970
June	422.00 423.20 420.40 420.00 - 1.10 420.00 419.20 4.970
Aug	424.00 425.20 422.40 422.00 - 1.10 420.00 421.20 4.970
Oct	426.00 427.20 424.40 424.00 - 1.10 420.00 423.20 4.970
Dec	428.00 429.20 426.40 426.00 - 1.10 420.00 425.20 4.970
Jan	430.00 431.20 428.40 428.00 - 1.10 420.00 427.20 4.970
Apr	432.00 433.20 430.40 430.00 - 1.10 420.00 429.20 4.970
June	434.00 435.20 432.40 432.00 - 1.10 420.00 431.20 4.970
Aug	436.00 437.20 434.40 434.00 - 1.10 420.00 433.20 4.970
Oct	438.00 439.20 436.40 436.00 - 1.10 420.00 435.20 4.970
Dec	440.00 441.20 438.40 438.00 - 1.10 420.00 437.20 4.970
Jan	442.00 443.20 440.40 440.00 - 1.10 420.00 439.20 4.970
Apr	444.00 445.20 442.40 442.00 - 1.10 420.00 441.20 4.970
June	446.00 447.20 444.40 444.00 - 1.10 420.00 443.20 4.970
Aug	448.00 449.20 446.40 446.00 - 1.10 420.00 445.20 4.970
Oct	450.00 451.20 448.40 448.00 - 1.10 420.00 447.20 4.970
Dec	452.00 453.20 450.40 450.00 - 1.10 420.00 449.20 4.970
Jan	454.00 455.20 452.40 452.00 - 1.10 420.00 451.20 4.970
Apr	456.00 457.20 454.40 454.00 - 1.10 420.00 453.20 4.970
June	458.00 459.20 456.40 456.00 - 1.10 420.00 455.20 4.970
Aug	460.00 461.20 458.40 458.00 - 1.10 420.00 457.20 4.970
Oct	462.00 463.20 460.40 460.00 - 1.10 420.00 459.20 4.970
Dec	464.00 465.20 462.40 462.00 - 1.10 420.00 461.20 4.970
Jan	466.00 467.20 464.40 464.00 - 1.10 420.00 463.20 4.970
Apr	468.00 469.20 466.40 466.00 - 1.10 420.00 465.20 4.970
June	470.00 471.20 468.40 468.00 - 1.10 420.00 467.20 4.970
Aug	472.00 473.20 470.40 470.00 - 1.10 420.00 469.20 4.970
Oct	474.00 475.20 472.40 472.00 - 1.10 420.00 471.20 4.970
Dec	476.00 477.20 474.40 474.00 - 1.10 420.00 473.20 4.970
Jan	478.00 479.20 476.40 476.00 - 1.10 420.00 475.20 4.970
Apr	480.00



AUSTIN — During his second "State of the State" address, Gov. George W. Bush last week unveiled a long-awaited plan to cut school property taxes.

Bush's tax relief plan would reduce school property taxes by an average of 40 percent, hike the state sales tax by a half cent to 6.75 cents per dollar and impose new levies on businesses.

The sales tax increase is expected to raise about \$800 million in revenues and the business tax could bring in about \$1.3 billion.

"Property taxes are too high. They are among the highest in the nation ... (and) are threatening the Texas dream," Bush told lawmakers in a joint session of the Senate and House.

"By dedicating the money to the school trust, we say to Texas that education is our No. 1 priority," he said.

Most lawmakers praised the governor's plan. But a few criticized the trust fund idea, saying that dedicating money to a single purpose diminishes the flexibility of budget-writers.

"He had a lot of courage, a lot of honesty in suggesting these changes," Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock said. "I share his goal to cut local taxes and view this as a great opportunity and not as one of the great unsolved mysteries of Texas."

Bush's plan would roll back

school property taxes beginning in 1998, but first would have to be approved by voters through a constitutional amendment.

His proposed business activity tax of 1.25 percent would be a levy on the difference between a business's external costs, such as raw materials, and gross revenues. The first \$500,000 in activity would be tax-exempt.

Also, the plan would give profits from the Texas Lottery to the public education fund.

Bush Inks Anti-Stalking Bill

After only three weeks into the legislative session, Gov. Bush signed an anti-stalking bill that returns protections to victims.

In September, the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals struck down the previous law, saying it was so vaguely worded that lawful protesters could conceivably be prosecuted for stalking, the *Dallas Morning News* reported.

The court's ruling forced prosecutors statewide to dismiss about 900 stalking cases.

Bush declared the issue an emergency, and the House and Senate voted unanimously to adopt the bill, whose main sponsors were Sen. Mike Moncrief, D-Fort Worth and Rep. Brian McCall, R-Plano.

Bill Would Protect Employers

A bill to protect employers from liability when they give an employee or former employee a bad job reference has been filed by Rep. McCall.

McCall's bill would provide immunity from civil damages to an employer who gives a job reference unless the aggrieved employee or former employee proves the employer knew the information was false.

McCall said the bill is needed because employers, fearful of being sued, are reluctant to give more information than "name, rank and serial number" on a job reference.

Ogden Wins Senate Seat

State Rep. Steve Ogden, R-

Bryan, emerged the victor in a special election to fill the seat of Jim Turner, D-Crockett, who was elected to the U.S. House in November.

In defeating Bryan accountant and Democrat Mary Moore, Ogden gave the Republicans a 17-14 seat majority in the Senate.

State GOP party chairman Tom Pauken said the Republican majority in the Senate "will result in (Lt. Gov.) Bullock's control of that body dimming over a period of time." Bullock presides over the Senate.

But Ogden's win does not allow the GOP to run roughshod over the Democrats. Senate rules require that bills have the support of 21 members to reach the floor.

Other Capital Highlights

■ U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Texas, has been named a co-chair of the Congressional Oil and Gas Caucus, a bipartisan group of House and Senate members working to help the domestic energy industry.

■ An optional good-student discount of 10 percent on automobile insurance premiums went into effect last week, but so far, only State Farm Insurance has informed the Texas Department of Insurance of its plans to offer the discounts. State Farm said the discounts will be offered in June.

■ The Texas Department of Public Safety has purchased 1,009 acres about 20 miles south of Killeen to build a driving track for high-speed training, a 20 acre diver-training lake and shooting ranges for handguns, shotguns and rifles. Before construction can begin, the DPS needs \$15 million in the bank to pay for phase one of the project, but the agency only has about \$10 million in money and property seized — mostly from the drug trade.

■ Elizabeth Watson, Austin's chief of police since December 1992, resigned to accept a \$241,000 fellowship from the U.S. Department of Justice.

Texas crop report

Producers wait for rain to start spring planting

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — Producers in South Texas are waiting for rain and warm weather to raise soil moisture and soil temperatures in time for spring planting, reports the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

Producers are plowing the fields to plant cotton and grain sorghum in hopes that the cold, dry land will yield fairly large harvests.

"We expect 200,000 acres of cotton to be planted and 300,000 to 400,000 acres of grain sorghum," reports John Norman, Extension agent from Westlaco. "This land will be farmed and insured for dryland crops."

He explained that water stored in reservoirs will not be used to water cotton and grain sorghum crops, but instead will be used to irrigate sugar cane fields.

Norman also said that soil temperatures are too varied to plant now. A soil temperature of 65 degrees Fahrenheit for several days would create perfect planting conditions.

"Although soil temperatures have not been ideal, we do not expect a problem," said Norman.

However boll weevils may cause some difficulties. September rains prevented a clean "plow out" allowing for boll weevils to feed and reproduce on the cotton regrowth, Norman said.

In order to remedy this situation producers may have to apply several pesticide applications, he added.

Although it is illegal to intentionally regrow cotton, Norman said that the regrowth could not be prevented.

"We are not expecting anything less than normal for grain sorghum either," Norman added.

While South Texas is planting cotton and grain sorghum, Coastal Bend producers remain undecided on which crop will best survive the lack of soil moisture.

"Moisture is going to be the biggest problem producers will face," reports Dr. John Bremer, Extension weed specialist.

Producers do intend to plant cotton and sorghum but they see a delay in germination, said Bremer.

While producers in South Texas are getting ready to plant spring cotton, North Texas producers are nearing the completion of their harvest.

"The cotton harvest is almost completed in the Rolling Plains," said Galen Chandler of Vernon, district Extension director. "All cotton that has not been harvested probably will be shredded."

The following specific livestock, crop and weather conditions were reported by district Extension directors:

PANHANDLE: short. Pasture, range conditions are fair, but dry. Cattle in good condition; supplemental feeding continues. Wheat condition good. Soil moisture short for spring crops.

SOUTH PLAINS: short. Pastures, ranges dry. Wheat condition fair. Oats need moisture. Supplemental feeding continue for livestock. Land preparation for most spring crops under way. Cotton not yet harvested.

ROLLING PLAINS: short to adequate. Pastures, ranges suffering; increasing dry conditions. Wildfires are a major concern. Cattle require supplemental feeding; hauling water to cattle. Cotton harvest nearly complete. Wheat fields fair to poor.

NORTH TEXAS: adequate to surplus. Pasture, range conditions vary from poor to excellent across the district. Livestock condition good; supplemental feeding decreased. Wheat growth slowed due to cold. Pruning peach and pear trees.

EAST TEXAS: adequate. Winter pastures recovering; grazed short. Cattle in fair to good condition; calving under way. Hay supplies short; supplemental feeding needed. Fair progress in wheat and oats. Peach pruning under way.

FAR WEST TEXAS: very short to short. Pastures, ranges dry and in poor to fair condition. Forage dry and scarce. Cattle in fair to good

damage; moisture needed for growth. Cattle in fair to good condition. Peanut harvest complete. Land being prepared for spring crops.

SOUTHEAST TEXAS: adequate to surplus. Wet conditions preventing field work. Cattle feeding required. Winter crops being planted. Corn growers ready to plant. Taking soil samples. Oat stands good; heavily grazed. Spraying peaches.

SOUTHWEST TEXAS: short to adequate. Pastures, ranges lack moisture; regrowth slow. Cattle condition fair to poor. Wheat fair condition; ungrazed. Planting of spring crops is virtually complete. Vegetables damaged by early freeze.

COASTAL BEND: adequate to surplus. Winter pastures show good growth. Cattle feeding continues. Hay supplies adequate. Wheat conditions good with warmer weather. Oat forage yields expected to be high.

Inventory of cattle drops

AUSTIN (AP) — Hit by the drought and high feed costs, the inventory of cattle and calves in Texas dropped to 14.1 million head on Jan. 1, down 6 percent from last year, the Texas Agricultural Statistics Service reports.

Texas continued to rank first in the nation in the total number of cattle and calves, with 14 percent of the U.S. inventory, according to Tuesday's report.

"The statewide drought during most of 1996, coupled with high feed costs, forced many producers to significantly reduce or liquidate cattle herds," said statistician Dennis Findley.

The national inventory of all cattle and calves totaled 101.2 million head on Jan. 1, down 2 percent from last year's inventory of 103.5 million head.

1988 Suzuki Samurai 4x4 \$3,500
MARCUM MOTOR CO.

1994 Ford Ranger Supercab \$9,800 V-6
MARCUM MOTOR CO.

1993 Chevrolet Blazer 4 door, blue \$13,900
MARCUM MOTOR CO.
415 N. 20th Avenue, 364-3565

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MEAT SELECTIONS

FAMILY PACK GROUND BEEF 89¢ LB. SAVE 50¢	FAMILY PACK PORK CHOPS \$1.59 LB.	FAMILY PACK CHICKEN DRUM ORTHIGHS 89¢ LB. SAVE 40¢
---	---	---

FAMILY PACK CHUCK STEAKS \$1.69 LB. SAVE 60¢	BONELESS BEEF RUMP ROAST \$1.59 LB. SAVE 60¢
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GROCERY SELECTIONS

BEST CHOICE CAN DRINKS ASST. FLAVORS 24 PACK 12 OZ. CANS \$3.89	BEST CHOICE TOMATO SAUCE 5/99¢ 8 OZ. CAN
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KELLOGGS CEREAL CORN FLAKES 20 OZ. BOX 2/\$4.00	ANGEL SOFT BATH TISSUE 79¢ EACH 4-ROLL PKG.
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PRODUCE SELECTIONS

RUSSET POTATOES \$1.99 20 lb. Bag	JUMBO YELLOW ONIONS \$1.00
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JUMBO PEACHES & NECTARINES \$1.29 LB.	GRAPES GREEN, RED OR BLACK 99¢ LB.
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