

The

Hereford Brand



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Non-political?

Region's lawmakers engage in lovefest

By DONALD M. COOPER
Brand Editor

It was a lovefest Wednesday when the Panhandle legislative delegation came to Hereford on a swing through the region.

The four members of the Panhandle delegation - Sen. Teel Bivins, R-Amarillo; and Reps. John Smithee, R-Amarillo; David Swinford, R-Pampa; and Warren Chisum, R-Pampa - were joined by an "almost Panhandle" lawmaker, two-term Rep. Gary Walker, R-Plains.

Walker's District 80 abuts the Panhandle, and he can be considered a member of the Panhandle delegation because of common interests.

The lawmakers were under some constraints in their visit because the Hereford Lions Club, which served as the host of the event, doesn't sponsor political activities.

So, the lawmakers' visit was "non-political," or as non-political as anything involving politicians seeking re-election to public office can be.

The five lawmakers spent most of their remarks showering each other with accolades and emphasizing the Panhandle needs a team that "speaks with one voice."

The necessity of a unified Panhandle delegation was underscored by Walker, who pointed out that the Houston area alone has 25 members in the Texas Legislature, while the entire state west of Interstate 35 (which runs from the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex through Austin to Houston) has just 25 members.

In the only statement directly addressing significant issues affecting Texans, Chisum said the next Legislature will take up school financing and property tax relief - "and without an income tax."

He also pledged the Legislature will work to see that inequities in taxation are eliminated, noting that the service industry is both growing and largely escaping paying taxes, which he said largely fall on property owners.

Bivins, who is chairman of the Senate Education Committee, said it is imperative the Legislature deal with school financing, noting that the way school districts are funded have gradually evolved from state support with local supplements to locally funded with state supplements.



Photo by Mauri Montgomery

State Sen. Teel Bivins (left) greets Deaf Smith County Justice of the Peace Johnnie Turrentine during a stop in Hereford. Bivins, R-Amarillo, and four other Panhandle legislators were making a swing through their districts Wednesday to promote themselves as a team.

Bivins also said the Legislature must address the way taxes are administered, noting that the current tax system is a "19th century system that must be brought up to the 21st century."

The lawmakers all stressed the cooperation and "teamwork" that has made the Panhandle delegation effective and allows it to wield a power that far exceeds its numbers.

Because the event was "non-political," the legislators, particularly Bivins and Smithee whose districts encompass Deaf Smith County, did not ask for votes - although they implied it would be best for the region if they were returned to Austin.

During remarks at the Hereford Municipal Airport, the lawmakers announced their plans to seek re-election to the Texas Legislature.

The delegation also made stops Wednesday in Pampa, Dumas, Plains and Midland.

NEWS in brief

VIDEOTAPES SHOW CLINTON SMOOZING WITH DONORS

WASHINGTON (AP) - With hugs, handshakes and backslaps, President Clinton got up close and personal with controversial Democratic donors, thanked contributors for supporting his campaign and subtly let them know that they had to keep the cash coming in, videotapes of fund-raising events show.

"Many of you have been very generous, I thank you for it," Clinton told donors at a May 21, 1996, dinner at the White House. But, he quickly adds, "This thing could get away from us in a hurry."

Federal law prohibits soliciting donors in government offices. More than 100 hours of long-sought tapes of dinners at swanky hotels, White House breakfasts and Saturday radio addresses in the Oval Office were turned over by the White House to Republican investigators Tuesday and Wednesday.

In several shown to reporters in a makeshift screening room at the Old Executive Office Building, Clinton appears alongside Charlie Trie, John Huang, James Riady, Johnny Chung and other Democratic fund-raisers whose activities in the 1996 election thrust their party into controversy.

SURVEY: AMERICANS FAILING TO PLAN FOR RETIREMENT

WASHINGTON (AP) - Americans' confidence in their retirement security seems to be soaring with the stock market, but it may be a case of ignorance is bliss, a survey suggests.

Most aren't bothering to figure out how much savings they'll need to live comfortably and many of today's workers - even those in their 50s - have saved less than \$10,000 or even nothing at all.

One bright spot: Workers age 25 to 33, worried about Social Security's staying power, are starting to save for retirement at a younger age than their parents and older siblings.

The survey, financed by insurance and mutual fund companies and the American Association for Retired Persons, was released today, as the Social Security Administration was preparing to announce the smallest annual cost-of-living increase in a decade.

FORMER OFFICER MUST DECIDE ABOUT MODIFIED DUTY RULES

BOSTON (AP) - When Boston police Detective Kathleen O'Toole disclosed to her supervisors 10 years ago that she was pregnant, they let her decide when to exchange her beat for an office job.

They didn't ask if she could run up 10 flights of stairs, mow the stationhouse lawn or rope a horse and pull it off the roadway.

Today, O'Toole, now the state's secretary of public safety, has to come up with a new policy on pregnant troopers after some officers complained that they were pulled off the beat because they couldn't complete such tasks.

The physical requirements became mandatory in April, and the state police physician - not the woman's doctor - was put in charge of determining when a pregnant officer should be put on modified duty. Officers on modified duty can't walk the beat, make traffic stops or even drive police vehicles.

Four veteran investigators complained to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission that the new policy was unfair. On Wednesday, acting Gov. Paul Cellucci ordered O'Toole's office to rewrite the rules.

GTE BIDS \$28 BILLION TO TAKE OVER MCI

NEW YORK (AP) - MCI Communications Corp., once a scrappy underdog to Ma Bell, is suddenly the hottest merger prospect in business history.

GTE Corp. on Wednesday offered to buy the nation's second-largest long-distance telephone company for \$28 billion. It would be the largest all-cash deal ever, topping the 1989 sale of RJR Nabisco Inc. for \$25 billion.

The unsolicited bid intensifies pressure on WorldCom Inc., which offered \$30 billion in stock for MCI two weeks ago. British Telecom, which has a 20 percent stake in MCI, earlier had offered \$21 billion in stock and cash.

MCI said its board would soon meet to review the GTE and WorldCom bids. Shareholders are scheduled to vote on British Telecom's offer in December.

The offer for MCI is the latest jolt to the nation's telecommunications industry. A federal law intended to force more competition has touched off attempts by the biggest players to buy their way into each other's businesses.

A combined GTE-MCI would be an industry behemoth, with \$40 billion in annual revenue, more than 21 million local business and residential customers and 24 million long-distance lines.

CHOLERA OUTBREAK FOLLOWS IN WAKE OF HURRICANE

ACAPULCO, Mexico (AP) - Frail and exhausted on her hospital bed, Juanavilla Rojas managed a wan smile when a nurse patted her on the arm and told her she'd be out in no time.

"I have no idea how I got it," said Rojas, 59, one of 18 people being treated for suspected cholera at the General Hospital of Acapulco's flood-ravaged industrial suburb of Renacimiento.

Without massive intervention, hospital director Jorge Alberto Chida said, the cases could mark the start of a cholera epidemic brought on by contaminated water and fecal dust unleashed by Hurricane Pauline last week.

The storm triggered floods and mudslides that killed at least 150 people in Acapulco and more than 230 in all as it roared through Guerrero and Oaxaca states on Oct. 8-9.

With some 50,000 people homeless, food scarce and Acapulco's water system crippled, the spread of disease is the latest peril of Pauline.

Social Security adjustment's 2.1%

WASHINGTON (AP) - The 44 million Americans getting Social Security checks will see them grow by just 2.1 percent next year, the lowest cost-of-living raise in a decade.

Social Security Commissioner Kenneth S. Apfel said today the cost of living adjustment, or COLA, means the average monthly check for retirees will rise by \$16 to \$765.

"It is low, but that's the direct result of low inflation and that is extremely good news for all Americans, particularly those on fixed incomes," said Apfel.

The maximum monthly payment for 6.5 million low income individuals receiving Supplemental Security Income, known as SSI, also will rise 2.1 percent, boosting their checks by \$10 to \$494. For a couple, the maximum goes to \$741 from \$726.

Monthly checks from the government's biggest benefit program are adjusted annually to keep inflation from eroding their buying power. Since 1975, the adjustment has been automatic, requiring no vote by Congress. It is calculated based on changes in the Consumer Price Index from the third quarter of one year to the corresponding quarter of the next.

Because of low inflation, the yearly benefit boosts have been below 3 percent since 1994. Next year's gain, which will begin to show up in Social Security checks received in January, is the smallest since a record low 1.3 percent raise in 1987.

In the late 1970s double-digit inflation drove the cost-of-living increase up to a record 14.3 percent in 1980.

For 144 million working Americans, the maximum annual earnings subject to Social Security payroll taxes next year will also rise to \$68,400 from \$65,400, though the rate at which the earnings are taxed remains at 6.2 percent. That means a maximum Social Security tax of \$4,241.

Even though this will be the second-smallest increase in history, some economists argue that the CPI is overstating inflation, even at these low levels.

Last December, a team of five prominent economists led by Stanford economist Michael Boskin said the CPI could be off as much as 1.1 percentage points annually, an error they said would cost the government \$1 trillion over 12 years in too-generous government benefits and lost tax revenue. The CPI is also used to adjust tax brackets each year.

Some members of Congress have proposed reducing the CPI adjustment as a possible solution to the financial crunch looming for Social Security when the huge baby boom generation retires in the next century.

President Clinton objected to changing the inflation index in this year's balanced budget agreement but has said he will explore that along with other options for a major overhaul of Social Security before the end of his second term.

State considering proposals to lower speed limit in rural areas

AUSTIN (AP) - Speed limits could be lowered on some Texas roads under proposals to be considered by the state Transportation Commission in the wake of safety concerns.

The proposals, to be taken up Oct. 30, wouldn't automatically lower maximum speeds. But they would give engineers more flexibility to recommend lower speeds to the state commission.

The action comes after a jump in Texas traffic deaths following the repeal of the federal speed limit.

Speed limits were raised as high as 70 mph on many highways in December 1995. The following year, the number of people killed on Texas roadways jumped 17.8 percent to 3,738.

"This rise reversed a long-standing downward trend in the fatality rate. While there is no evidence that this rise is solely due to higher speed limits, there is no denying that the rise coincides with increased speed limits," Carlos Lopez, deputy director of Transportation's traffic operations division, has said.

The increase prompted 26 public hearings around the state. Among comments gathered at those meetings were general support for the 70 mph speed limit; a desire for greater enforcement; the need for an

education program to promote driver courtesy and responsibility; and proposals to lower posted speed limits on rural two-lane roadways.

"One of the main issues that kept coming up was the concern that citizens had about the speed limits on rural, narrow highways. This is to help give us some flexibility to better address those concerns that have been raised," agency spokesman Randall Dillard said Wednesday.

The proposals would allow engineers greater leeway in recommending lower speed limits on:

- Roadways with pavement widths of 20 feet or less.
- On these roads, engineers could recommend that posted speed limits be lowered up to 10 miles per hour from the so-called 85th percentile - the speed which 85 percent of motorists are traveling at or below. Engineers currently can recommend up to a 5 mph difference.

- If the locations have a higher-than-average crash rate, the speeds could be lowered up to 12 mph, compared with the current 7 mph.
- Roadways with pavement widths greater than 20 feet.

Engineers would be given the same leeway to recommend lower speeds, but only based on certain factors such as curves, driveway density, crash history, rural residential or developed areas or a lack of improved and striped

shoulders.

The proposals "would give those engineers a little greater flexibility in making the recommendations to the Transportation Commission. It doesn't guarantee anything would change," Dillard said.

Dillard noted that the agency can't arbitrarily lower limits under state law.

"We've got to back it up through traffic and engineering studies," he said.

A third proposal would implement a state law allowing the Transportation Commission, at the request of a county commissioners court, to lower speed limits on farm-to-market or ranch-to-market roads that are 20 feet wide or less.

Engineering and traffic investigations aren't required under this law, but it says speed limits must be based on accepted engineering principles. Dillard said the agency is looking into exactly what that entails.

Jerry Johns of the Southwestern Insurance Information Service said excessive speed "is one of the major contributors to highway fatalities and auto insurance rates."

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Lifestyles

Ann Landers

Arm-wrestling contest leads to on-job surprise

Dear Ann Landers: I recently took a job offer and moved to Florida. An old college roommate invited me to a party when I first arrived. It sounded like an interesting group, and indeed, it was. Within minutes, I found myself involved in a friendly debate over male and female athletic prowess. One fellow was being slightly obnoxious and ridiculed my statement that some women could compete with men on equal terms. I challenged him to an arm-wrestling contest, and he promptly accepted.

I work out regularly and am in good shape. I beat him easily. When I pinched his cheek and said, "Not bad for a wimpy guy," he was embarrassed and left the party a few minutes later. I felt a bit guilty but figured I would never see him again.

When I was introduced to my supervisor the first day at work, my jaw nearly hit the floor. It was the man I had arm-wrestled at the party. He made no mention of the incident, but his manner was very formal and low-key. Needless to say, this is a dismal way to begin a new job. Should I apologize or let the matter rest? I'd appreciate an answer soonest. -- Miss Showoff Who Goofed

Dear Showoff: Forget it, and hope he does, too. Meanwhile, please give up arm-wrestling at parties. Winning at this male macho sport will not enhance your standing with either males or females. And crowing about it made you look even worse. Lesson learned.

Dear Ann Landers: I read your column about the woman who had cancer but whose health insurer was reluctant to refer her to a more

expensive specialist. Let me tell you my story.

Ten years ago, I noticed a small lump on the side of my neck. When I pointed it out to my doctor, he said, "Don't worry about it." Every time I went for a physical, I mentioned the lump. His response was always the same.

I was scheduled for gall bladder surgery and asked the surgeon if he would remove the lump at the same time. He agreed and expressed surprise that my regular doctor had ignored it for so long. The lump was removed and biopsied. It was malignant, and I was diagnosed with lymphoma.

Fortunately, I'm doing well, but I hope my letter will serve as a warning to others. Even if your doctor says, "It's nothing, don't worry about it," insist on a biopsy. Thank God I did. -- Lucky in Ocala, Fla.

Dear Lucky: When a patient discovers a lump and the doctor says, "Don't worry about it," that's the time to find another doctor.

Dear Ann Landers: I hope you will print this essay by Elbert Hubbard for your readers who are dissatisfied at their jobs. -- LaVerne in Unadilla, N.Y.

Dear LaVerne: Elbert Hubbard is the working man's Sir Winston Churchill. There's a lot of wisdom there. Thanks for sending it on.

"If you work for a man, in heaven's name, WORK for him. If he pays you wages which supply your bread and butter, speak well of him; stand by him and the institution he represents. If put to a pinch, an ounce

(See ANN, Page 4)



Family meal planners aid in culinary variety

When it comes to preparing family meals, nobody likes being a short-order cook. Yet that's exactly how I feel when faced with whipping up dinner on very short notice.

Usually the chances for spectacular culinary variety are dim! I scrounge through a fridge full of leftovers while shouting out the choices. Other times I rely on delis, fast-food chains and our neighborhood bagel shop to silence the growling stomachs. When I finally have the time to pull together a healthy meal, the one ingredient I need the most is invariably missing from the pantry. Sound familiar?

Family meal planner to the rescue! Here's a way to make meal choices, planning and shopping into a family activity.

Gather everyone together to list favorite dinner and weekend recipes. Write each recipe on one side of an index card and a shopping list of ingredients the recipe requires on the back. Store the cards in a recipe box divided by sections for easy retrieval, beginning with appetizers and ending with bedtime snacks.

Before you head for the grocery store, pull the cards for meals the family will prepare the following days, taking note of the ingredients you already have on hand. If you stick to this plan, you may have just written your last grocery list, except for the occasion when you want to surprise everybody with arugula!

Watch "Donna's Day with Donna Erickson" on your local PBS station.

L'Allegra Study Club hears hospice program

Crown of Texas Hospice was the topic of the program presented by Mona Romo at the recent meeting of the L'Allegra Study Club.

The Hospice program is committed to providing competent, compassionate, comprehensive, quality care for patients and their families.

"Hospice is not a giving up of hope; it is the development of "new hope" -- hope to be comfortable and to spend time with family and friends; hope for quality of the last days of life -- to live each day to its fullest," Romo said.

President Shelly Moss explained

directives as pertaining to caregivers or families and the importance of having them.

The meeting was held in the home of Dr. and Mrs. Bruce Clarke. Shelly Menke was co-hostess and shared with other members some family photos and her interests during the "get acquainted" segment of the program.

Other members present were Kitty Gault, Diana Griffin, Barbara Kerr, Sylvia Khuri, Kim Lawlis, Karen Payne, Hilda Perales, Jody Skiles, Jan Weishaar and Suzanne Smith.

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!

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Make Reservations Early For Your Park Activity!

CURRENT PARK RESERVATIONS

AQUATIC PAVILION
SARAH HUERTA
Sunday, October 19
12:00 - 6:00 PM

VETERANS PAVILION
CAROLYN SEPEDRA
Sunday, October 19
2:00 - 6:00 pm

Reservations are taken for a specific park location on a first come, first served basis. Reservations must be made in person at the City Hall.



Food detectives solve 'murder' mystery

By KITTY CRIDER

Austin American-Statesman
AUSTIN - What killed the Lemonade Pound Cake?

This game of culinary Clue was done in the kitchen. That much we knew. And we knew who. It was not Col. Mustard, Mrs. White or Miss Scarlett. But Mrs. Fisher of Elgin, Mrs. Whipple of Kingsland, Mrs. Fairchild, Mrs. Lowengrub, Mrs. Stephen, Mrs. McMillon and others of Austin, including this Mrs. Crider.

But what was the weapon? Was it the pan? The oven? The cake mix? The lemonade? The mixer?

That was the mystery to be solved. And cooks across Central Texas, as well as one in Louisiana, have been playing the sleuth game. But now it's over. We think.

We have a winner - by our declaration - in Lillian Fisher.

She's made the Lemonade Pound Cake three times. The first two fell. When another cake recipe also had a sinking spell, she took her new heavy-duty mixer back to the store and swapped it for an inexpensive one. Her third lemonade pound cake turned out fine.

"I was determined. I'm hard-headed, I know," she said with satisfaction.

The cake in question is a five-ingredient recipe printed in this newspaper several weeks ago. The recipe came via the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. That paper's food editor, Beverly Bundy, had tested the recipe, sent in by a reader, with no problem. The Star-Telegram printed

the recipe. As did we:

One 18-ounce white cake mix, 3 eggs, a cup of sour cream, 3 ounces of cream cheese and a 6-ounce can of thawed lemonade. Combine all ingredients at low speed to moisten. Beat for 4 minutes at high speed. Bake in greased and floured 10-inch tube pan for 50 minutes at 350 degrees. Cool for 10 minutes in pan before removing.

Cooks were excited because the recipe was so simple.

Not long after publication, the phone rang. It was Mrs. Fisher in Elgin, reporting failures Nos. 1 and 2.

We immediately whipped up the cake. It was beautiful in the pan when we removed it from the oven. But within 10 minutes, it had fallen about an inch. Mrs. Fisher had our sympathy.

We printed a warning in the next food section. It prompted calls and letters from other cooks who had tried the recipe. Nearly all had experienced failures, but they were an understanding lot, looking for answers.

Bundy was stunned. She had not heard from any readers with negative results. We joked about Austin's cooking karma.

The game of culinary Clue got under way.

Back in our kitchen, we made the cake with white mixes from Duncan Hines, Betty Crocker and Pillsbury. It fell all three times: The cakes still were edible, to be sure. In fact, some of our colleagues who breakfasted daily on fallen cake pronounced them

delicious. They liked the dense slices, which had a lemon curd-like layer on the bottom.

But other cake bakers were dissatisfied.

Meanwhile, Bundy got some interesting mail - a slice of fallen cake and a picture of the Bundt pan in which it was baked in Louisiana.

We called cake mix companies for clues. Pillsbury found the cake recipe in its database. It was a Bake-Off recipe from the '70s. (The only difference was the Bake-Off recipe was more specific on baking time: from 50 to 65 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the center came out done. We had been doing that all along.)

So what crime were we committing?

The recipe worked fine 25 years ago, but cake mixes have been reformulated since then, says Marlene Johnson, director of Pillsbury's product communications. The company's most recent reformulation was in 1995, and this recipe had not been retested with the new mix. The Pillsbury home economists immediately baked the recipe twice with the new cake mix. Both cakes fell.

Pillsbury's cake mixes today are made with pudding for a much moister, denser cake than those produced by previous mixes, Johnson

(See MYSTERY, Page 4)

Set An Example for Fitness

You've always known it. Your children pay more attention to what you do than what you say. Isn't it time that you get off the couch and make fitness a family activity? Children will follow your lead, so find an activity the entire family can enjoy together. Try walking, swimming, bicycling, hiking... anything you can do together.

When you buy your children new toys, remember to choose ones that require physical activity: push toys or climbing structures for toddlers, jump ropes, bikes or skates for older kids.

Whatever you decide to do, include your kids. It could be the most precious legacy you leave your children.

October is Family Health Month

This good health message brought to you by

Hereford Regional Medical Center

"Neighbors Caring for Neighbors"

Fall Spectacular!

CLADDIN 58 oz. Patterned Berber \$16.95 (12' or 15' width Reg. \$19.95)

GALAXY Heavy-Textured 100% Polyester w/Scotchgard \$14.95 (12' or 15' width Reg. \$19.95)

MOHAWK 100% DuPont Stainmaster Plus Nylon Textured Plush \$12.95 (12' or 15' width Reg. \$15.95)

Ceramic Tile 100%

WEBSTER CARPET
206 N. 25 Mile Avenue
364-5932

Early Childhood Education Clinic

October 17, 1997 at the Hereford ISD Administration Building 601 N. 25 Mile Ave.

Hereford Independent School District's Special Education Departments is offering a FREE clinic for children 3, 4 and 5 years of age. This clinic is to identify children who may need early classroom experiences because they seem to have problems in...

- Hearing
- Talking
- Seeing
- Playing like other children
- Learning about their world
- Using their hands

or may have a PHYSICAL HANDICAP.

Certified specialists will be working with children at the administration building on October 17th from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm APPOINTMENTS ARE REQUIRED and can be made by calling 363-7600.

A Parent or Legal Guardian will need to accompany the child to the screening to provide permission and needed developmental information.

If you need additional information, call Annie Mercer at 363-7600.

Clinica Interventiva Para Niños

Octubre 17, 1997 en el Edificio de Administracion 601 N. 25 Mile Avenida

El Departamento del Educacion Especial del Distrito Escolar de Hereford (HISD) ofrecera una clinica GRATIS para niños entre los 3-5 años de edad. La clinica es para identificar aquellos niños que puedan necesitar educacion o intervencion temprana porque aparecen tener dificultades con:

- El Sentido de Oír
- El Habla
- La Vista
- Jugar con otros niños
- Adaptarse a sus alrededores
- Uso de las manos

o quizás tengan un IMPEDIMENTO FISICO.

Especialists certificados examinaran a los niños el 17 de octubre desde las 8:30 AM hasta las 5:30 PM. SE REQUIEREN CITAS! Haga su cita llamando al 363-7600.

El Padre/Madre/o Guardian debera acompañar al niño para que de-permiso e informacion tocante el desarrollo del niño.

Para mas informacion, llame al 363-7600 y pida hablar con Annie Mercer.

MYSTERY

From Page 3

says. As a result, the home economists speculated, the recipe now has too much liquid and too much fat. "The recipe is way out of proportion with today's ingredients requested," said Johnson. In trying to salvage the recipe, their first experimental suggestion would be to omit one of the eggs and cut the sour cream in half.

We tried those suggestions. The cake fell.

The fallen cake of the summer of '97, however, was not unique to the Pillsbury brand of cake mix, and some cooks had experienced success. We tried again. (This cake is not so outstanding as to merit baking a half-dozen times, but daily calls and correspondence from interested cooks warranted the effort.)

Many things can cause a cake to fall, including too much liquid and overbeating. Both were prime suspects in this case. Then again, maybe it was the specific flavor of mix.

A white cake mix is a lot more delicate than other flavors, said Lara Berry, consumer service representative

for Duncan Hines. It cannot take the kitchen tinkering that home cooks like to do.

We tried the lemonade recipe with a yellow cake mix instead of white. Success. It held up.

But could we make the recipe work with a white cake mix?

It was our belief that cooks were overbeating the batter. Most contemporary cake mix packages call for beating 2 minutes on medium. This decades-old recipe specified 4 minutes on high, and the resulting batter had a whipped texture after beating.

Four minutes whips a lot of air into the cake, said Berry. And while the cake was still in the oven, with a heat source, it rose fine. But once removed, without the support of the heat, it collapsed.

The mixing is definitely too long, Berry said. Cut back to 2 minutes, she suggested, and if there is still a problem, reduce the lemonade.

We tried a new Duncan Hines Moist Deluxe White Cake mix, which has been out a couple of months, beating only a couple of minutes. This time, the cake did not fall. The shorter mixing

time worked.

An anonymous reader called to say that she, too, had a nice cake with only 2 minutes of beating. We repeated the test with a Pillsbury Moist Supreme White Cake mix and the 2-minute beat. Success again.

Cake mixes may have changed since the recipe was created, providing the moister, denser formulas that companies say today's cooks prefer. But our conclusion is that the mixer is the weapon in this mystery.

Cooks using inexpensive mixers did not tend to overbeat the batter, even at 4 minutes on high. We think that's why Mrs. Fisher's third effort was a success and why Mrs. Virginia Warren, who calls herself a very poor cook, never had a problem at all.

"I took mine to a card party for 12 ladies. It was the most wonderful cake. It was perfection. I used a Bundt pan," she said of the cake she made with a white Betty Crocker Supreme Moist mix.

Bundt pan? Wait a minute. Bundy used a Bundt pan, too, and hers

turned out fine. We had baked in a traditional tube pan. Could that be part of the problem?

No, the Louisiana lady proved that. Remember the picture of her Bundt pan? Besides, the original recipe from Bake-Off 25 had called for either a tube pan or Bundt pan.

But why didn't Bundy's cake flop?

It's got to be the mixer and mixing. We used a heavy duty mixer (but never higher than medium setting). Bundy used a 1935 mixer.

Professor Margaret Briley, who teaches a course in experimental foods at the University of Texas, agrees with the overbeating assessment. When the excess fat in the recipe (from the sour cream and the cream cheese) becomes whipped, it incorporates more air. And most white cake mixes probably do not have enough structure to support the cake after it comes out of the oven. She, too, advises beating only 2 minutes.

Open the envelope of cards in the center of the culinary Clue game. We say it was done with the mixer.

History related during Rebekah's anniversary

Hereford Rebekah Lodge #228 met Tuesday evening in open meeting with fifteen members and guests present.

In observance of the 95th anniversary of the Hereford lodge, Susie Curtisinger gave a short history. She began with the signing of the charter by the following, whose names are still familiar to our area: A.J. Lipscomb, Lizzie Dale, Mollie Smith, George Dale, and Mrs. C.L. Kibbe, granted by the Grand Lodge

and Rebekah Assembly of Texas. True to the dedication of its earliest members to "visit the sick, relieve the distressed, bury the dead, educate the orphan and protect the widow," Hereford members recorded 579 visits to the sick, 812 cheer cards, 430 dishes of food delivered and 125 flowers or memorials since October 1996.

A membership drive is underway and anyone seeking information may call 364-4114 or 364-4528.

ANN

From Page 3

If you do that, you are loosening the tendrils that are holding you to the institution, and by the first high wind that comes along, you will be uprooted and blown away, and probably will never know the reason why." -- Elbert Hubbard

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Area Events

WTAMU



JOE ELLA CANSLER

Joe Ella Cansler, instructor of music at West Texas A&M University and the daughter of Mrs. Lloyd McGee of Hereford, will present a voice recital at 3 p.m. Oct. 26 in Mary Moody Northern Recital Hall on the WTAMU campus.

Selections will include pieces by Bach, Schubert, Sibelius, Thomas and Debussy. A series of Swedish and Irish folk songs will also be included in the recital.

Cansler will be assisted by Karla Qualls, piano; Dr. Robert Krause, oboe; Doug Storey, clarinet; Adrienne Gifford, cello; Sally and Heather Turk, flute; and Ron Lemon and Stephen Edwards, French horn.

Admission to the recital is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Cansler at 806-656-2847.

CANADIAN

Canadian - Hemphill County Chamber of Commerce will hold its

40th annual Fall Foliage Festival Saturday and Sunday.

The heart and soul of the festival is the unescorted foliage touring.

Other events include a photo exhibit, arts and crafts fair, Kountry Kitchen, Mexican cafe, doll show, quilt show and Tri-State Rodeo.

A complete schedule of the weekend events, maps, directions and tickets are available at the information booth located on the corner of Second and Main.

TURKEY

The South Plains Playboys, celebrating its 10th anniversary this year as South Plains College's premier western swing ensemble, has been invited to be the opening band Oct. 25 in Turkey for a benefit concert featuring country music legend Ray Price.

The concert spotlighting Ray Price and the Cherokee Cowboys will raise funds for renovation of the Gem Theater in Turkey.

Concert times are 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the old Turkey High School Auditorium.

Tickets are \$15 per person for the matinee performance and \$20 per person for the evening performance. Interested persons can contact Lawana Cruse, president of the Turkey Heritage Foundation, for ticket information at 806-423-1273.

AMARILLO

"Walking in Widowhood - Present Tense/Past Tense/Future Tense" will be the theme of a conference conducted by Widowed Persons Service of Amarillo (WPS) from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Oct. 25.

Workshops will address the different stages of being widowed and

will offer help and encouragement to every widowed individual, no matter how recent or how long they have been widowed.

WPS is sponsored by the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) and community organizations. The week of Oct. 19-25 is AARP Public Awareness Week and AARP Public Awareness Day is Oct. 25.

The conference will be held at Paramount Terrace Christian Church at 4000 S. Mays (in the new Education Building south of the Main Building) in Amarillo.

There will be many activities including two keynote speakers, eight workshops, entertainment, exhibit booths and a raffle.

All widowed persons and their families and friends and all interested parties are welcome to attend. Membership in AARP is not required.

Cost of the conference is \$10 and includes lunch. Reservations are requested. Send \$10 to Joyce Pennington, #13 Lancaster, Amarillo, Texas 79124. For information, call Pennington at 806-353-8092, Eunice King at 806-353-3856 or Jo Bryant at 372-3449 or 355-9622.

The Harrington String Quartet will hold the first of three performances in its 1997-'98 season at 8 p.m. Nov. 1 at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2525 Wimberly Road in Amarillo. In addition to performing as a quartet, the four members are also principal string players in the Amarillo Symphony and string faculty in the Music Department at WTAMU.

Subscription tickets for the concert series are \$20. Single tickets are \$7. For ticket information, call the symphony office at 376-8782.

Garcia benefit fund established

A benefit fund for a Hereford woman, Beatrice C. Garcia, 51, who was diagnosed with cancer in December 1996, has been established at Hereford State Bank.

Mrs. Garcia must rely on public contributions to cover some of her expenses, according to a daughter, and any donation, however small, will be appreciated.

Residents who wish to help can make a contribution in the name of Mrs. Garcia at the bank.

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This names were inadvertently omitted from the Hereford High School 1st six weeks Honor Roll published in the October 12th edition of the Hereford Brand.

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 10th Grade:
Audrey Cabezueta
Lynita Dotson
Tan Nguyen | 11th Grade:
Crissey Barrick
Cynthia Bedolla
Robin Bell
Jessica Gaitan
Edith Montoya
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Drive-in donation

Whiteface Booster Club president, Tom Bailey, left, received a \$300 donation to the booster club from local McDonald's manager Rick Robillard Wednesday after the restaurant broke a franchise record for the number of cars served in its drive-through during a one hour period. McDonald's offered a discount on one of its menu items and the offer of a donation to the booster club as an incentive for customers to participate in the event.

REPORT: STEMPEL OFFICER GOT MONEY, DIDN'T MOVE
 AMARILLO (AP) - The top officer of an office products manufacturer that filed for bankruptcy after being lured here received \$65,000 from taxpayers for housing expenses despite never moving to town, according to the *Amarillo Globe-News*.

The newspaper's copyright story Wednesday cited a letter from Stempel Manufacturing showing Hugh Stempel, the 70-year-old majority owner of the company, received tens of thousands of dollars for a cost differential in housing.

Stempel said grant money from the Amarillo Economic Development Corp., which gave the company a multimillion-dollar incentive package to relocate, enabled him to buy a home in Longview - where his daughter lives - while his home in Coleman was up for sale.

The residence has since sold, but there was never any agreement to return the \$65,000 to the AEDC, Stempel said.

AEDC Executive Director Michael Bourn said the payment to Hugh Stempel was inappropriate and should be returned, but he said an AEDC grant to Stempel Manufacturing contained no stipulations on how the grant could be spent.

FOREIGN-OWNED PLANE MAKES EMERGENCY LANDING
 LAKE CLEAR, N.Y. (AP) - A United Arab Emirates-owned cargo plane on a military training mission was forced to land at an airport in the Adirondack Mountains after a propeller broke off and tore through the fuselage.

None of the 12 people aboard - two from Pakistan and 10 residents of the United Arab Emirates - was injured during the emergency Wednesday night, state police said. The crew was taken to a motel in nearby Saranac Lake.

NEWS

in brief

7 STATES SUE TO HALT HERBAL ECSTASY SALES
 PHOENIX (AP) - Seven states have filed lawsuits to end the sale of Herbal Ecstasy, a product its maker says is a dietary supplement and not an illegal drug like the well-known Ecstasy.

The suits filed Wednesday contend Herbal Ecstasy, made by Global World Media Corp. of Venice Beach, Calif., is illegal because it has not been approved as a drug by the Food and Drug Administration.

Sean Shayan, president and founder of Global, said no injuries or deaths have been linked to the pills he described as diet helpers. He acknowledged targeting youths as customers.

Herbal Ecstasy and similar brands were banned in Florida after the 1996 death of a 20-year-old New York student on spring break who took a similar product, Ultimate Xphoria.

Both contain ephedrine, found in the Asian ephedra, or ma huang, plant. The FDA classifies it as a dietary supplement.

Makers of products sold as alternatives to street drugs say ephedrine produces euphoria and increased sexual awareness. But the FDA has linked ephedrine-laced dietary supplements to at least 17 deaths and 800 illnesses, including nerve damage, strokes and heart attacks.

The states suing are Arizona, California, Illinois, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, Texas and Wisconsin. The lawsuits seek not only to stop sales of the product but also civil penalties, court costs and refunds for buyers.

PAINKILLER LINKED TO LIVER DAMAGE
 NEW YORK (AP) - People who take too much of the popular painkiller acetaminophen can suffer liver damage, particularly if they are alcoholics, according to a new study reported today.

"People don't have a healthy respect for it," said researcher Dr. William Lee. "They don't realize that there's any downside to it."

Warnings about dosage limits already appear on products with acetaminophen, such as Tylenol. People should pay attention to those labels and not exceed dose limits "when you're seeking pain relief and get frustrated," Lee said.

Alcoholics appear to be particularly vulnerable to damage, said Lee, who reported his findings in the *New England Journal of Medicine* with colleagues at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas.

They studied 71 patients admitted to the hospital over three years who either had liver damage from acetaminophen or who had taken enough of the drug to risk damage.

EXPERTS DOWNPLAY CHANNEL BLOCKER REPORT
 NEW YORK (AP) - Women should not stop taking calcium channel blockers, experts said, despite a study that found older women who took

the drugs were twice as likely to develop breast cancer.

The result is far from proof that calcium channel blockers, which are used to combat high blood pressure and heart disease, raise the risk of breast cancer, the authors of the study and other experts warned.

Women should consult with their doctors before they decide to stop taking the drugs, they said. The risk of uncontrolled high blood pressure may outweigh any possible added risk of breast cancer, the National Institutes of Health said.

Calcium channel blockers are sold under a variety of names, such as Adalat, Cardizem, Procardia, diltiazem, nifedipine and verapamil. Prior studies have disagreed on whether they affect cancer risk.

The new study found no sign of an effect on cancers overall. The research was reported in Wednesday's issue of the journal *Cancer* by Annette Fitzpatrick of the University of Washington in Seattle, Janet Daling of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle, and others.

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Kirby Ramirez

Inflation stays low

WASHINGTON (AP) - Consumer price inflation remained subdued in September despite the second consecutive sharp monthly increase in gasoline and other energy costs.

Declines in vegetable and pork prices and auto financing charges helped hold the overall increase in consumer prices to a seasonally adjusted 0.2 percent, the Labor Department said today.

It was the third month at that level and surprised economists, who had expected a large 0.5 percent pickup in prices paid to factories and other producers to filter through to a more worrisome 0.3 percent price rise at the retail level.

For the first nine months of the year, the Consumer Price Index has risen at an annual rate of just 1.8 percent compared with a 3.3 percent increase in 1996.

Easing inflation means Social Security recipients will receive a scant 2.1 percent increase in their benefits next year, the smallest since 1987.

September's benign inflation cheered the bond market, pushing yields on the benchmark 30-year Treasury bond to 6.35 percent this morning, from 6.39 percent late Wednesday.

Economic reports have come under intense scrutiny on Wall Street where traders are worried the Federal Reserve will boost short-term interest rates to dampen inflation by slowing the economy's momentum.

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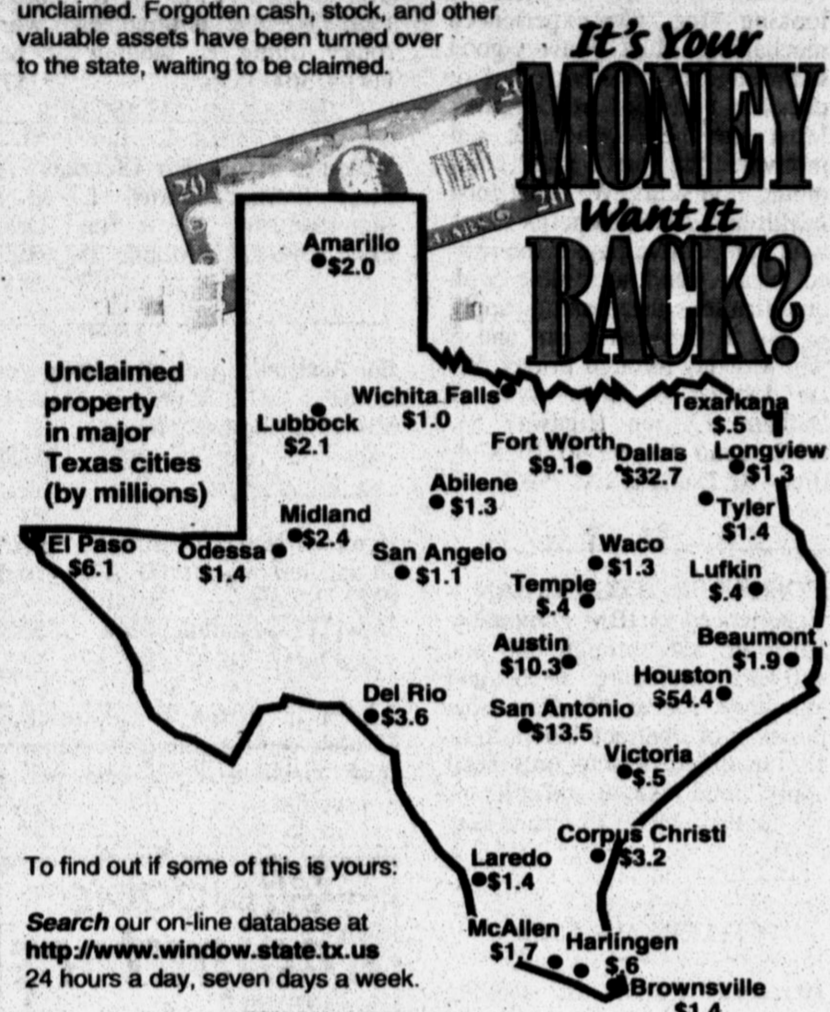
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Keeping an eye on Texas

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Last year more than 29,000 Texans claimed \$35 million worth of abandoned property, but there's still more than \$700 million left unclaimed. Forgotten cash, stock, and other valuable assets have been turned over to the state, waiting to be claimed.



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SOURCES: John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.

News Digest

TEAMSTER OVERSIGHT FUNDS SOUGHT

WASHINGTON (AP) - The Justice Department wants Congress to continue financing government oversight of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters elections to keep organized crime from regaining a foothold in the union.

"Unsuccessful attempts at such influence were made in 1991, and the department had been apprised by government informants of both the importance of the IBT to the organized crime families and of the intended efforts to regain control of the IBT in the 1996 election," Acting Assistant Attorney General John Keeney told a House panel Wednesday.

Keeney defended the \$17.5 million the government spent on the 1996 union election and urged House Republicans to drop opposition to a request for \$7.4 million to underwrite a rerun ordered after Teamsters President Ron Carey's victory was overturned.

LOGGING CANCELED AFTER DEMONSTRATIONS

WASHINGTON (AP) - Citing threats to troubled salmon, the Forest Service is canceling the remaining logging planned on a national forest in Oregon where dozens of environmental activists have been arrested in demonstrations.

The agency said Wednesday it will spend \$411,000 to buy back the 1.8 million board feet of standing timber that had been sold to the Rough and Ready Lumber Co. of Cave Junction, Ore.

The old-growth groves represent only about 14 percent of an overall clear-cut logging project, known as the China Left timber sale, on the Siskiyou National Forest in southwest Oregon.

About 12.7 million board feet in the other clear-cut units already has been logged. A board foot is 1 foot square and 1 inch thick. It takes about 10,000 to build a typical single-family home.

Over the past 18 months, environmental activists had built blockades, scaled trees and chained themselves to gates to protest the planned logging of the trees, some as old as 500 years.

"This is what we were asking for all along ... a buyback of these units," said Debbie Lukas of the Coalition for China Left.

JUDGE RULES ADOPTED RUSSIAN GIRLS NEGLECTED

NEW YORK (AP) - In a custody ruling, a judge said a couple accused of abusing two adopted Russian girls on a flight from Moscow to New York were neglectful, but not necessarily abusive.

Karen and Richard Thorne were arrested and charged with assault, harassment and child endangerment in May when other passengers said the couple screamed at and slapped the girls.

Family Court Judge Joseph Lauria gave temporary custody of the girls to Mrs. Thorne's brother, pending a Nov. 7 hearing. His ruling Wednesday does not affect criminal charges pending against the Thornes.

Lauria condemned the couple's treatment of the girls, saying they used excessive force. He ordered the Thornes to undergo psychological evaluation by child welfare officials in Arizona, where they live.

"In quieting these 4-year-old, non-English-speaking children, the instinctive response by both parents was to shout at them in English, to slap their faces and bodies and further manhandle them," Lauria said.

The couple said nothing as Lauria issued his decision.

"We're disappointed," Thorne said outside the courthouse. "We just want to get the girls home. That's our goal. We love them."

DEFENSE CONTRACTOR ACCUSED OF FAKING TESTS

SYRACUSE, N.Y. (AP) - A company which tested electronic devices slated for use in space shuttles, missile systems and the Hubble Space Telescope denied claims by former lab workers that it faked its research.

Oncida Research Services Inc., five of its executives and a government inspector were indicted Wednesday on charges they falsified critical tests of military and aerospace equipment.

The devices also were meant for use in aircraft, submarines, space shuttles and satellites. The tests were designed to detect excessive moisture, which can cause corrosion in circuitry and lead to malfunctions.

The company, one of six labs worldwide involved in such research, had its government testing license permanently revoked in March 1996, said Donald McNamara, agent in charge of the Defense Criminal Investigative Service in Syracuse.

McNamara declined to say whether any of the parts tested by the company were ever used. The company, based in Whitesboro, N.Y., declined comment.

LAKE POISONING'S EFFECTS SHOWING

LAKE DAVIS, Calif. (AP) - Dozens of dead fish lay in a greenish sludge on the shore of poison-laced Lake Davis, where state Fish and Game officials are attempting to eradicate the predatory northern pike to protect downstream trout and salmon fisheries.

Authorities began pouring 16,000 gallons of liquid and 60,000 pounds of powdered poison into the 7-mile-long lake shortly after dawn Wednesday, after arresting seven people who protested the operation. The toothy corpses began collecting by evening.

The state, despite neighbors' protests, plans to kill all the fish in the lake and restock it with 750,000 trout.

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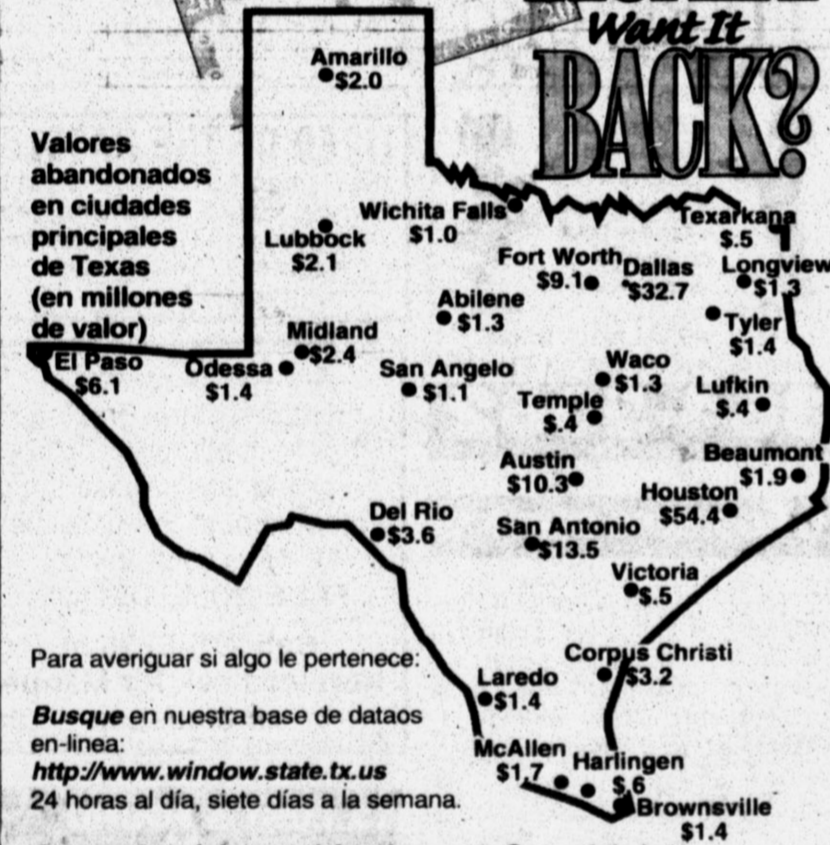
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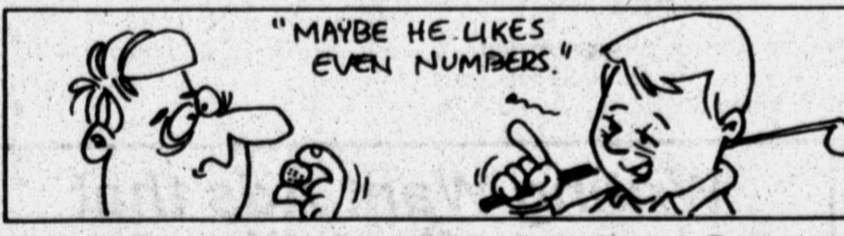
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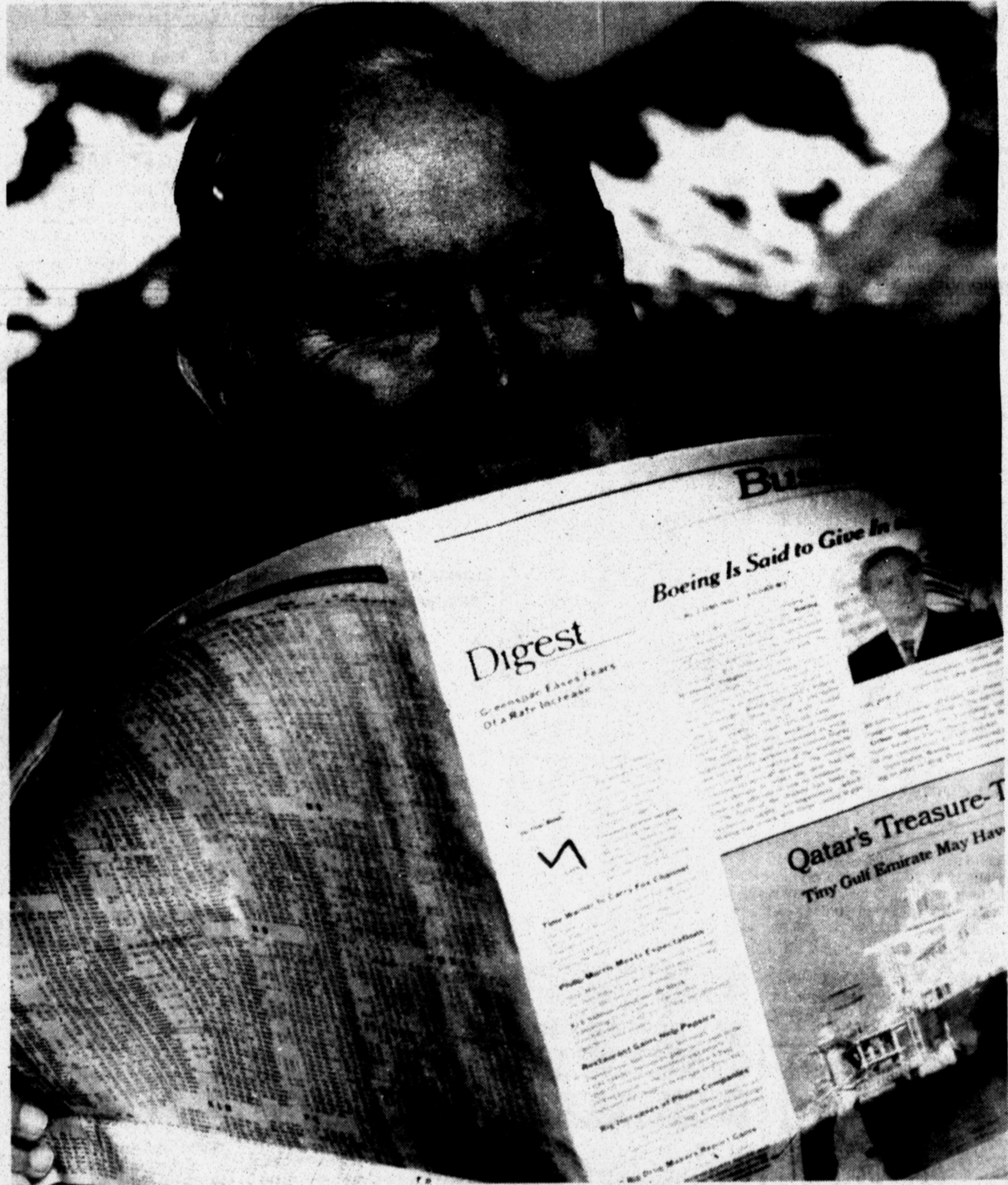
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NEWS

in brief

RAMSEY PROBE EYES FORMER BOULDER RESIDENT
BOULDER, Colo. - An investigator for the district attorney's office has asked police in California to help track down a convicted child abuser who lived close to the home of JonBenet Ramsey and disappeared shortly after her death.

Investigators said the man, whose name was not released, was not a suspect. The 6-year-old beauty queen was found strangled in her home Dec. 26. There have been no arrests.

Police in Oceanside, Calif., told the *North County Times* of Escondido that Lou Smit, an investigator for the Boulder district attorney, was seeking information on the man, who had been arrested 32 years ago in Oceanside.

"He was interested because this guy lived six blocks from JonBenet Ramsey and disappeared right after the killing occurred," police Sgt. Mike Goldsmith said. "They were looking for anybody and anything that might be related to the case and this guy lived nearby."

SCRIPPS ACQUIRES HARTE-HANKS

CINCINNATI (AP) - The E.W. Scripps Co. has purchased six newspapers and the Food Network, a cable television network.

The deal is worth \$700 million. Scripps said Wednesday it bought six newspapers - five in Texas and one in South Carolina - plus stations KENS-TV and KENS-AM in San Antonio, Texas, from Harte-Hanks Communications.

Scripps then traded the KENS stations to A.H. Belo Corp. in exchange for Belo's 56 percent controlling interest in the Food Network and \$75 million in cash.

Transfer of the KENS broadcast licenses to Belo is subject to government approval.

The deal includes these Harte-Hanks daily newspapers in Texas: the *Corpus Christi Caller-Times*, *Abilene Reporter-News*, *Wichita Falls Times Record News*, *San Angelo Standard-Times* and *Plano Star-Courier*, and the *Anderson Independent-Mail* in South Carolina.

The Food Network, based in New York, began operating in 1993. It now reaches more than 25 million homes across the country through cable television systems and direct broadcast satellite. Its programming focuses on cooking and food preparation, nutrition and at-home entertaining and restaurants.

ADMIRAL DENIES CONFRONTATION WITH IRAN

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) - Despite Iranian warnings for American ships to keep their distance, a senior U.S. Navy commander says neither side has come close to a confrontation in the Persian Gulf.

"In no case have we had what I would call a contentious passing with the Iranian forces," Rear Adm. John Nathman, commander of the USS Nimitz battle group, said Wednesday in a telephone interview.

Tension has risen in the gulf, through which more than one-fifth of the world's oil supplies pass, since Iranian air attacks on Iranian opposition bases inside Iraq. The Sept. 29 raids violated a no-fly zone patrolled by the United States and its allies. Iraq sent up two fighters in pursuit, again violating the zone.

In response, Washington sent a seven-ship battle group led by the Nimitz to the gulf two weeks ahead of schedule. The ships arrived in the gulf on Sunday. Since then, Iran has twice accused the U.S. Navy of trying to spy on major naval exercises it began on Saturday.

SRI LANKA STOCK EXCHANGE HIDDEN

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) - Sri Lanka's stock exchange was moved to a secret location today, a day after a truck bomb ravaged its headquarters along with other parts of Colombo's business district.

Eighteen people were killed in the bombings and subsequent gun battles with rebels in the Sri Lankan capital.

Isuru Tilakawardena, a senior official of the Colombo Stock Exchange, told The Associated Press that the exchange was closed but trading was likely to resume Friday despite considerable damage to the main computer system. Work would resume at a secret location for security reasons, he said, declining to give further details.

Tilakawardena said a few brokerage houses that, like the stock exchange, were located in the World Trade Center were facing logistical problems following Wednesday's violence.

GUNMEN ATTACK PRESIDENTIAL GUARDS' BASE

DUSHANBE, Tajikistan (AP) - Gunmen attacked the headquarters of the presidential guards in the strife-ridden central Asian nation of Tajikistan early today, killing 14 servicemen.

A force of 70 gunmen opened fire on the compound with automatic weapons and grenade-launchers, according to presidential guard commander Maj. Gen. Gaffar Mirzoyev. The gunmen seized two guard posts, then stormed a barracks, shooting five sleeping officers at close range, Mirzoyev said.

More than 20 guards were injured in the ensuing battle, which raged for 90 minutes before the attackers were forced to retreat, he said. Some of the attackers also were killed and injured, but the number was not immediately known.

DIANA'S BODYGUARD JOINS INVESTIGATION

PARIS (AP) - Bodyguard Trevor Rees-Jones has formally joined the investigation into the crash that injured him and killed Princess Diana, Dodi Fayed, and their driver, French judicial sources said today.

By joining the investigation as a civil party, Rees-Jones, the only survivor of the Aug. 31 crash, would have access to all court papers. Should criminal charges be filed, Rees-Jones could seek damages against the defendant.

The family of Fayed, who was Diana's companion, already is a civil

party to the case.

Medical opinions sought by a French judge also have determined that the amnesia from which Rees-Jones is suffering is "rarely reversible," according to the judicial sources in Paris, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Rees-Jones spent more than a month in a French hospital and was under heavy anesthesia during operations to repair his jaw, which was severely injured in the crash.

Now that Rees-Jones has filed suit, under French law he can no longer be interrogated by investigators except in the presence of his lawyer, the judicial sources said.

CONGRESS WITHHOLDS SOME AID TO ISRAEL

WASHINGTON (AP) - Congress is holding back on releasing some of the \$3 billion in foreign aid destined for Israel, in part because of that country's refusal to extradite a Maryland teen-ager accused of murder in the United States.

A spokesman for Rep. Sonny Callahan, R-Ala., chairman of the House appropriations subcommittee that oversees foreign aid, said Wednesday that the panel is withholding consideration of \$75 million in economic assistance "until such time as we can resolve how Middle East funding is going to be divided."

Jo Bonner acknowledged that Callahan and other members of Congress are concerned over Israel's refusal to extradite Samuel Sheinbein, a teen-ager charged in the killing and dismemberment of another Maryland teen-ager.

ARMY'S EX-TOP EM DENIES ALLEGATIONS

WASHINGTON (AP) - On the eve of his arraignment on sexual misconduct charges, former Sgt. Maj. of the Army Gene McKinney said he has "a lot of faith" he ultimately will be acquitted.

McKinney said he was somewhat surprised when the Army earlier this week named a replacement for him as its top enlisted soldier.

"I thought I did a good job, was doing a good job, with it. Of course, I was out of the business for eight months," he said on CNN's "Larry King Live" program.

The Army removed McKinney from his post after ruling he should face a court-martial on sexual misconduct charges related to accusations by six women. McKinney was relieved of his duties in February, when the first sexual misconduct charges were disclosed, but retained his title until last week.

McKinney was scheduled to be arraigned today at Fort Belvoir, Va. "I believe I will be vindicated of all these charges," he said Wednesday night.

JONES WANTS CLINTON'S MEDICAL RECORDS

WASHINGTON (AP) - A spokeswoman for Paula Corbin Jones wants President Clinton's lawyers to turn over medical records and agree to an independent examination to check for any "distinguishing characteristic" on his genitals.

As evidence in her \$700,000 sexual harassment lawsuit against Clinton, in which she accuses him of exposing himself and asking for oral sex, Mrs. Jones contended in a sworn affidavit that his sexual organ featured a "distinguishing characteristic."

The president's lawyer, Robert Bennett, vehemently denied that claim over the weekend, saying "the president is a normal man" and citing his recent annual physical at Bethesda Naval Hospital.

On Wednesday, Susan Carpenter McMillan, who serves as Mrs. Jones' spokeswoman, issued a press release asking Bennett for the results of a urologist's exam made during that physical.



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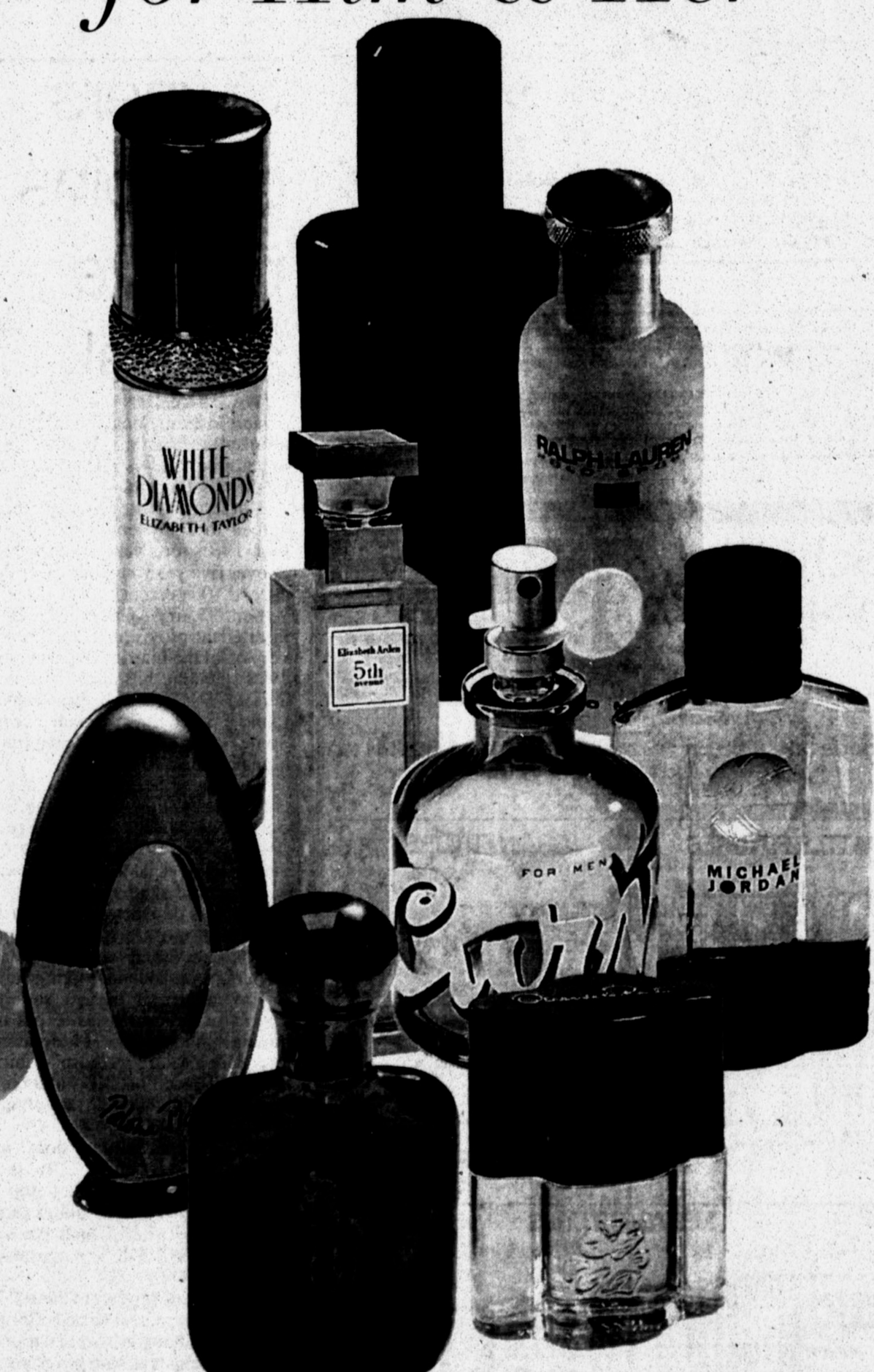


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The Hereford Brand welcomes letters to the editor on subjects of interest to our readers. Short letters are most likely to be chosen for publication, but the use of any material is at the discretion of the editor. The editor reserves the right to edit letters to meet space requirements, for clarity, or to avoid obscenity, libel or invasion of privacy.

Although letters discussing overall political situations may be considered, we will not publish letters endorsing or denouncing any particular candidate. All letters must bear the handwritten signature of the writer and include the address and phone number for verification purposes. Address and phone number will not be printed unless necessary. Letters published do not necessarily reflect the editorial policy or beliefs of this newspaper.

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