

The Hereford Brand



97th Year, Vol. No. 117 Deaf Smith County, Texas Wednesday, December 17, 1997 12 Pages 50 Cents

NEWS

in brief

CLINTON TO DELAY DEPORTATION OF 20,000 HAITIAN REFUGEES

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Clinton is expected to delay tough deportation rules covering up to 20,000 Haitians who fled the military regime that was later forced from power by an American-led peacekeeping force. The president will grant protection to the Haitians through a rarely used executive authority, a senior administration official said Tuesday night. "This provides the legal basis for the temporary stay for these individuals," according to the official, who spoke only on condition of anonymity. It will allow them to remain in the United States for at least a year. Clinton was expected to act within the next 10 days or so, the official said.

ALBRIGHT, RUSSIAN FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSS SITUATION IN BOSNIA

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) - Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and her Russian counterpart consulted today on the situation in Bosnia, a day after NATO foreign ministers took a hard look at plans for extending their mandate there. Moscow has said it will participate in any extension of the 34,000-member force's mandate beyond the present June 1998 deadline. Albright and Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov dealt with the Bosnia issue at their hour-long breakfast meeting at the two-day NATO foreign ministers' gathering. The two have met many times and get along extremely well, American officials said after the meeting. Primakov and Albright also discussed a deepening of Russia's new partnership with NATO, according to the officials, who refused to release details of the meeting and spoke on condition of anonymity.

PRESIDENT DESCRIBES SADDAM AS "MADDENINGLY STUPID"

WASHINGTON (AP) - Iraq's Saddam Hussein is "maddeningly stupid" and the Iraqi people's own worst enemy, Russia's Boris Yeltsin is over his "little illness," President Clinton says, and war-ravaged Bosnia is moving toward a lasting peace. In a marathon, tour-the-globe news conference Tuesday - fittingly, from a State Department auditorium named for the late statesman Dean Acheson - Clinton offered his view on topics as distant as Cyprus, Taiwan and even Guyana. Clinton offered an upbeat appraisal of world affairs, even to the point of portraying the past 23 months of enforced peace in Bosnia as "the beginning of a resurgence of democratic processes." The president said he intended to announce his plan for a future U.S. role in Bosnia before he goes there early next week to visit the American troops.

JURORS BEGIN TO DELIBERATE FATE OF ACCUSED BOMBER

DENVER (AP) - Presented with dueling images of Terry Nichols as either gentle family man or enraged killer lashing out at his government, jurors at the second Oklahoma City bombing trial began deliberations with an admonition to set aside concerns over public opinion. Unlike jurors who convicted Timothy McVeigh of murder and conspiracy and then sentenced him to death for the April 19, 1995, bombing, the panel deciding whether Nichols is guilty of 11 identical charges have more options. They can consider second-degree murder or manslaughter charges, neither of which carry the death penalty. McVeigh's jurors, who reached their verdict after 23 hours of talks over four days, didn't have those options. After U.S. District Judge Richard Matsch read the instructions and jurors heard emotional pleas from the attorneys, the panel discussed the case for about three hours Tuesday before going home for the night.

JAPANESE CARTOON SENDS YOUNGSTERS INTO EPILEPTIC-LIKE SPASMS

TOKYO (AP) - Colors exploded on TV screens across Japan, a cartoon character flashed his sparkling eyes - and hundreds of young viewers were felled by fits of spasms and nausea. More than 600 viewers of the hit cartoon "Pokemon" suffered epilepsy-like seizures about 20 minutes into Tuesday night's show and were rushed to the hospital, TV Tokyo reported today. TV Tokyo is canceling the segment on 30 other stations scheduled to show it. The bizarre sickness has officials considering new programming guidelines and mothers concerned that Japan's wildly popular cartoons could be harmful. "I'm worried," said Keiko Murakami, who watched the program with her three children at their suburban Tokyo home, though none of them got sick. "I have to warn my kids that the program could be dangerous."



Photo by Mauri Montgomery

Elderly man killed

Hereford Emergency Medical Services personnel on Tuesday try to resuscitate Arnold Morgan, 84, who was pinned between a pickup and a telephone pole. About 5 p.m., Melba Hickman of 311 Austin Rd. went to check on a pickup in the alley, and found Morgan pinned between the vehicle and a telephone pole. Investigators believe the man planned to use the dumpster in

the alley between the 800 block of South McKinley and South Schley. The pickup apparently began to roll backwards, and Morgan tried to regain control of it, but he was pinned between the open driver's side door and a telephone pole. There apparently were no witnesses to the accident. Morgan was pronounced dead at the scene.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Victims must take steps to break chain of abuse

Last in a series
By DIANNA F. DANDRIDGE
Staff Writer

Domestic violence - an ongoing cycle of threats, confusion, disorder, pain and even death - happens in every neighborhood, in every town and in every social stratum, but it can be stopped. Stopped by people and entities who are no longer willing to look the other way and pretend it doesn't happen. Victims, social service personnel, law enforcement, medical staff, and the batterers themselves must be educated to a different way of life, according to Kathryn Musser, coordinator of the Women's and Children's Crisis Center. The newly re-opened center in Hereford provides counseling, referrals to other agencies, legal advocacy, temporary emergency shelter, emotional support, help with the victim's compensation and other support services, Musser said. "But, the victims have to call and let us help them. The education is so important," Musser said. "It helps people realize they don't have to put up with this kind of abuse and that there is a better way to live." It has long been accepted that children of batterers grow up to be batterers, which makes domestic violence learned behavior. "The fact that domestic violence is not OK has to be reinforced again and again," said Musser. "When children see the violence at home, but

are told at school that domestic violence is wrong, they remember what happens at home and that's what they learn." National statistics report a woman is beaten every 12 seconds, and a woman is sexually assaulted every five minutes. Local statistics also indicate an alarmingly high incidence of domestic violence and sexual assault. The Hereford Police Department reported 252 domestic violence calls and 27 incidents of sexual assault in 1996. The Deaf Smith County Sheriff's Department reported three additional sexual assault cases in the same year. So far this year, the police department has received 465 domestic disturbance calls. Of those calls, 174 assaults were reported. Officers arrested 110 batterers on the scene, with 39 listed as Class A misdemeanors and 71 as Class C misdemeanors. To put the magnitude of the domestic violence problem into perspective, consider that stray pets in the United States can find temporary shelter in any of 4,000 animal rescue shelters. A battered woman can only take her pick of only 1,200 women's shelters. In Texas, there are only 64 shelters. Steve Storie and Cindy Dyer, two speakers at last week's domestic violence awareness seminar in Hereford, stressed the need for strong local policies which aid in prosecuting violent offenders. Hereford Police Capt. Pat Michael, a 17-year veteran, firmly believes

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Board rejects all bids for insurance plans

By DONALD M. COOPER
Brand Editor

When it doubt, throw 'em out. That could be described as the philosophy of the Deaf Smith County Hospital District's directors after they considered bids for insurance coverage. The directors decided Monday night to extend the current policy with FirstCare for a minimum of 30 days more and readvertise for bids from insurance carriers. The directors also plan to provide more detailed information in the bid specifications, which they believe will enable them to obtain better bids -- or at least obtain bids with fewer variables that could drive up the costs. Rodney Bailey, financial officer at Hereford Regional Medical Center, presented the analyses of the bids, which offered either self-insured or fully insured coverage. The directors have been discussing shifting to a self-insured plan. In his presentation, Bailey said the two lowest bids for a self-insured plan came with risks, financial and legal.



Brand Photo

A grader prepares the site for the foundation of the new medical office building

The lowest annual bid (without dental coverage) was \$513,145 from Ted L. Parker. The Parker bid, however, could increase because of the specific and aggregate claims, Bailey said. The risk to the hospital district under the Parker bid is financial, because the aggregate

(total) claims had exceeded the total in each of the last three years the hospital formerly had a self-insurance plan, Bailey said. He added there is no reason to believe the aggregate amount wouldn't be exceeded again during the next year. The second lowest bid, which

Bailey described as essentially equal to the Parker bid, was \$528,147 from Eagle of Amarillo. The risk to the hospital district is legal, Bailey said, noting that the Eagle bid was submitted 49 minutes after the

See HOSPITAL, Page 11

CHRISTMAS STOCKING FUND

Christmas will be brighter than expected for some less-fortunate families in Hereford and Deaf Smith County, thanks to the giving, sharing attitude of local residents. The Christmas Stocking Fund is a holiday charity administered by an anonymous committee, with the sole funding coming from contributions in the community. That total passed the \$11,000 mark Tuesday as individuals and businesses answered the need to fund more food baskets this year.

Contributions can be made in person at *The Hereford Brand*, or mailed to CSF in care of Box 673. Some deliveries will be made Friday by the CSF group.



Balance forward:	\$8,007.00
Anonymous	50.00
La Madre Mia	100.00
Scott & Robbi Hudgens	25.00
In memory of Doug Jossnerand,	
by Nancy & Bob Jossnerand	200.00
M/M Don T. Martin	200.00
Della Stagner	50.00
Anonymous	100.00
Anonymous	100.00
Anonymous	200.00
Glen & Helen Nelson	25.00
Audine Dettmann	100.00

Anonymous	25.00
KPAN Radio	200.00
Buddy Pickens	25.00
M/M Ronald Fuhrmann	30.00
M/M Dean Herring	50.00
Don & Melba Spurgin	50.00
Mary Harman	25.00
Chuck & Sue Cosper	50.00
Lucille Posey	50.00
Anon-mous	50.00
Jim & Emily Pavlicek	100.00
Dr. & Mrs. Howard Johnson	300.00
Frank & Betty Barroff	100.00
Anonymous	10.00
In memory of Charlie Bell,	
by Jolene Bledsoe	25.00
M/M Lloyd Newton	100.00
Ray & Nadine Berend	50.00

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THE HEREFORD BRAND

Local Roundup

Title I parent meeting, music program

All parents of Hereford Junior High School students are invited to the fall title one parental involvement meeting on Dec. 18, at 6:30 in the HJHS cafeteria.

Participants will enjoy the holiday music of the HJHS orchestra, choirs, and the bands. In addition, the school report card will be shared along with the Title I school-parent compact.

Please bring one can of food per family for the local food bank. Students will bring home invitation when it is returned the students will have their names placed into a drawing for prizes.

Partly cloudy

Tonight, partly cloudy, low 30 to 35 and south wind 5-15 mph.

Thursday, partly sunny and breezy, high in lower 60s and southwest wind 15-25 mph. Thursday night, becoming mostly cloudy, low around 30.

5-DAY FORECAST

Friday, mostly cloudy with a chance of showers and high in mid-40s.

Saturday, cloudy and cold with a good chance of snow, low in the mid-20s and high in the lower 30s.

Sunday, mostly cloudy with a chance of snow early, low near 20 and high near 40.

TUESDAY'S RECAP

High, 56; low, 26; no precipitation.

NEWS

in brief

WINDMILLS MOVED TO PERMANENT LOCATION

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) - What is believed to be the largest collection of antique windmills in the world may soon have a permanent home in a Lubbock city park.

In January, City Council members will consider allowing National Windmill Project Inc. to use a 20-acre section of Yellowhouse Canyon Park to display the 173 historic windmills.

The windmill collection has been in storage since 1993, when the city used \$65,000 in hotel and motel tax revenues to buy 50 historic windmills from Mitchell, Neb.

The National Windmill Project was assigned the task of building and maintaining a museum facility that, initially, was to have been placed on the Texas Tech campus near the Ranching Heritage Center.

But after more windmills were acquired, it was decided that the site would be too small.

Coy Harris, executive director of the National Windmill Project, said he is hopeful that an agreement will be approved. He predicted that windmills will begin going up at the new site as early as this spring.

"I think everybody is excited about it," he said. "We finally found a home."

Harris said the park with its elevated terrain would provide a natural setting for the windmills.

"For photographic purposes it will be beautiful," he said.

LAWYERS FOR SIMMONS, DAUGHTERS MAY SETTLE

DALLAS (AP) - A judge initiated last minute negotiation talks between lawyers for Dallas businessman Harold C. Simmons and two daughters who are suing to end his control of two family trusts.

Tuesday, jurors failed for the third full day to reach a verdict in the eight-week trial.

Sources close to the case told *The Dallas Morning News* that, based on notes jurors sent to probate court Judge Nikki DeShazo, the jury appears ready to find against Simmons on the allegation that he hasn't been living up to his fiduciary duties to his daughters.

LAWYER CHALLENGES SUPREME COURT OVER REFERRAL

AUSTIN (AP) - A Washington lawyer targeted by Texas Supreme Court justices over a legal motion that called them "nine nutty professors" says he had nothing to do with the motion.

He accused the court Tuesday of political motives in referring him to a grievance committee.

"I see this as a purely political thing," lawyer Barry Nace, a Democrat, said of the action by the predominantly Republican court. Nace, one of three lawyers handling a birth-defects case in which the motion was filed, was one of two attorneys referred to a grievance committee by the court for possible discipline.

HOLOCAUST MUSEUM REJECTS DONATION FEE

HOUSTON (AP) - The student newspaper at Rice University has apologized for publishing an advertisement that expressed skepticism that the Holocaust occurred.

Rice University president Malcolm Gillis said Tuesday that the newspaper, *The Rice Thresher*, apologized for running the ad and had donated the entire \$130 advertising fee to the Holocaust Museum Houston.

However, Abraham J. Peck, executive director of the museum, said the donation won't be accepted.

"This money is tainted and its purpose is to deny the murder of millions of human beings, Jews and non-Jews alike, and aims to deny Holocaust survivors the opportunity to bear witness for those who cannot speak for themselves," Peck told *The Houston Chronicle*.

Peck also said he hasn't received an apology from the newspaper.

UT NAMES FAULKNER AS PRESIDENT

AUSTIN (AP) - A University of Texas graduate and onetime professor is now the school's president.

Larry R. Faulkner, provost at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, was named Tuesday to the post.

Faulkner, 53, was selected by regents from among four finalists, all of whom hold high-ranking university posts outside Texas.

Regents announced the decision after a full day of meetings and interviews with the finalists.

"The Board of Regents is delighted that Dr. Faulkner has accepted the presidency," said board chairman Donald L. Evans.

HEROIN USE ON RISE IN TEXAS

AUSTIN (AP) - Heroin is being made even more dangerous by the peddling of purer and more lethal forms of the drug, according to a new report by the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse.

"Heroin is readily available in Texas and it is extremely addictive," Jane Maxwell, head of TCADA's research branch, said Tuesday. The number of people seeking treatment at TCADA-funded facilities for heroin addiction increased to 12 percent of the total number treated this year, up from 9 percent four years ago, according to the report.

TCADA still is compiling statewide numbers but says the number of overdose deaths in Dallas County rose from 33 in 1995 to 40 last year. In Tarrant County the number increased from 19 in 1995 to 27 last year.

This is the latest indicator that the heroin use in Texas has increased, officials said. The National Office of Drug Control Policy ranked San Antonio sixth in the nation in the number of heroin users last month. It also reported that heroin was the drug of choice in that city.

Starving children removed from home

JOHNSON CITY, Tenn. (AP) - Forced to forage through trash cans for food and drink from a toilet, a 5-year-old boy weighed just 20 pounds when welfare workers took him from his parents.

Donald and Kimberly Higbee, who were investigated for child abuse in California and Houston before they moved their family to Gray, Tenn., in 1996, worked in fast-food restaurants and kept food in the house. But it was locked away, forcing their 5-year-old son to scrounge for scraps.

The couple were charged Monday with one count each of felony aggravated child abuse and neglect. Each was jailed on \$75,000 bond and could face up to 60 years in jail if convicted.

The boy, his 4-year-old brother and 7-month-old sister were removed from their home in August and placed in foster care.

The boy, who has since gained 9 pounds, was "stoic, reserved, intimidated and very fearful of all things" when he was found, said Sgt. Tom Frayer of the Washington County Sheriff's Department.

"He looked like someone who had been starved," Frayer said.

His brother and sister were in much better shape.

"The parents have really said very little," Frayer said. "We have never been able to determine a motive" for why the oldest child was targeted.

The children sometimes were left home alone while their parents worked and were not regularly in day

care, said Sheriff Fred Phillips. He said it was one of the worst cases of child abuse he had seen in 20 years.

Higbee, 27, and his 25-year-old wife were "lower middle-class. (But) they're not destitute," Frayer said.

The state Department of Children's Services received an anonymous tip and began an investigation in October 1996, three weeks after the family moved from Houston to Gray, a small community in northeastern Tennessee. No charges had been filed in California and the case is still open in Houston.

An unidentified witness in Gray saw the boy "eating food from the trash can and drinking water from the bathroom toilet," according to an affidavit.

The sheriff's department opened

a criminal investigation last month.

"This abuse and neglect consisted of depriving the child of food to the point of starvation, locking the child in his room, and both mental and physical abuse causing the child to develop far below his normal rate," Frayer wrote.

A teacher with a Head Start program once noticed that the 5-year-old boy was mesmerized by an apple he saw on her desk, so she gave it to him.

"He was so engrossed with that apple, he had to get a bite of it," Frayer said.

Now that he's putting on weight, the boy is showing other signs of improvement.

"He's in good care and he's thriving," Frayer said.



Turkey raffle funds

Students at West Central Intermediate School took an active part in filling shelves for the Christmas Stocking Fund. The students sponsored a turkey raffle before Thanksgiving. Students sold 600 tickets at 25 cents apiece for a total of \$150. Presenting the check were the West Central Student Action Committee officers Sabrina Garcia, secretary, Seth Hoelscher, historian, Marisa Soliz, vice president, and Seth Hatley, president. Accepting the check on behalf of the Christmas Stocking Fund was Mauri Montgomery.

Oldest baby bones located

PARIS (AP) - On a sheet of white paper, researchers displayed a few tiny brown teeth and two doll-sized forearm bones Tuesday: fossils of the youngest humans ever found.

They came from two children, under 3 years old when they died, who lived in South Africa some 2 million years ago.

"The fossil babies are the youngest-known representatives of their species, the flat-faced ape man, and are the precursors to modern man," Andre Keyser said in announcing the discovery by French and South African researchers.

Keyser, of the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa, said "fossil babies" are extremely rare - only a few exist in the world, and none of those were from children under 6.

The finds include a jaw with several baby teeth, one permanent molar, a frontal bone and two tiny forearm bones.

The university co-sponsored the dig with France's Natural History Museum and the National Center for Scientific Research.

Keyser said the specimens are from two distinct but related hominid groups - homo and paranthropus - that lived in southern and eastern Africa about 2 million years ago.

The discoveries were made last summer at Drimolen, a fossil-rich site in South Africa about 30 miles from Pretoria, by French paleoanthropologists Dominique Gommery and Jose Braga. They were working under Keyser.

Keyser said one baby tooth and two forearm bones were discovered less than three feet apart, embedded in rock.

"You can't imagine the emotion when you're digging with a trowel," he said. "It's absolute fear because it's so easy to damage the fragile bones."

He estimated the babies were younger than 3 when they died. He speculates they were devoured by leopard-like cats that roamed the grassy plains in search of food.

"We have no proof, but it's quite easy to imagine the cats preying on small babies, and dragging their bodies into caves where they could

eat without being attacked by other animals," he said.

Frontal bones outlining small eye sockets suggest that one baby's skull was about the size of a small grapefruit - much smaller than that of a 3-year-old toddler today.

"The skull of a young flat-faced ape man was about the size of the skull of a modern full-term fetus," Keyser said.

Skull size indicates brain size and development, and is crucial to grasping the extent of primitive man's early childhood development.

Drimolen houses a network of caves that became filled with sediment over the years. The area under excavation is nearly 200 feet long.

"Drimolen preserved fossils that would have been destroyed just about anywhere else," Keyser said. "It's a unique site."

Some scientists think Drimolen might have been a shelter for hominids fleeing the same cold and rainy weather conditions that exist in the area today.

Big 3 automakers look at incentives

DETROIT (AP) - Have you driven a hard bargain at Ford lately?

The weak yen will force the Big Three automakers to increase rebates, discounts and low-interest loans by \$200 to \$300 next year, according to analyst Scott F. Merlis.

"This is an absolutely great time for consumers to buy a car," he said.

It's not quite as good for Ford Motor Co., General Motors Corp. and Chrysler Corp., faced with a weakening yen that allows Japanese carmakers to keep their dollar-based prices down in the United States while still bringing home plenty of yen. One dollar bought just 80 yen in May 1995, but at current rates it buys about 130 yen.

"We're going to feel a lot more pressure in the United States," Ford Chairman Alex Trotman said Tuesday. "Whether we respond with incentives or how we respond, we'll have to stay nimble on that and do whatever it takes."

U.S. automakers have held 1997 vehicle prices at or slightly above 1996 levels. A slightly softening U.S. market forced them to add incentives to keep up the pace.

Now comes the new challenge from the weak yen. Comerica Bank, which tracks the auto industry, said Monday that the problem will help shrink the Big Three market share from 63.5 percent this year to about 61.5 percent next year.

"It does tilt the playing field toward the Japanese producers," said Merlis, president of Merlis Automotive International Inc.

Merlis said GM already has accelerated cost-cutting efforts. Ford

may manage to triple its goal of \$1 billion in cost cuts this year, but Trotman said there are limits to what Ford can do next year.

"It would be an extremely tall order to aim for the same number in 1998," he said.

G. Mustafa Mohatarem, GM's chief economist, said the company must cut costs and be open to incentives if the Japanese are aggressive on pricing. "We are not only going to defend our share, but we plan to increase it," he said.

Chrysler President Thomas Stallkamp said the automaker has not ruled out using incentives, but he hoped to avoid discounts at least for new products.

Japanese automakers downplay the yen's effect. Japanese imports are up this year because of stronger demand for small, Japanese sport utility vehicles, said William Duncan, general director of the Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association.

"Other things may very well be playing a much greater role than a yen factor," he said.

Wes Brown, an analyst with Nextrend, said U.S. automakers are suffering from the yen - but not in the way they think. The strong yen in 1995 forced Japanese automakers into a massive cost-cutting spree, which has allowed them to hold down and even cut prices in 1997.

Brown said Honda Motor Co. and Toyota Motor Co. will keep prices flat for the popular Accord or Camry cars. "The 130 yen will solidify the fact that we will not see price increases any time soon," he said.

'Net funds less than expected

WASHINGTON (AP) - Schools, libraries and rural health care providers will be getting less money than expected to pay for hooking up to the Internet next year.

The Federal Communications Commission, in a 4-1 vote Tuesday, agreed to provide \$625 million in subsidies to schools and libraries and \$50 million to rural health care providers for the first half of 1998. Later next year, the FCC will consider what to do for the second half of 1998.

In May, the FCC said it would provide schools and libraries with a maximum of \$2.25 billion a year in subsidies and rural health care providers with up to \$400 million a year.

The FCC decided to lower initial funding to avoid increases in monthly phone bills and better match anticipated demand for Internet discounts.

It would be the first time the government would provide such subsidies. Telecommunications companies are to begin paying for the subsidies Jan. 1. But schools and libraries probably would not actually get the subsidies until late in the spring.

By not addressing the matter in its order, the FCC left it up to telecommunications companies to decide whether to detail on phone bills various subsidies, including those for schools, libraries and rural health care, that are built into phone rates. Historically, those subsidies have not been broken out, but some companies have said they will.

"We have not prohibited any disclosure," FCC Chairman Bill Kennard said.

Commissioner Harold Furchtgott-Roth dissented from the order, saying that the new subsidy figures were not publicly debated.

"I was not a party to these negotiations. I suspect that hundreds of millions of American consumers were not a party either," he wrote in his dissent. "I am reluctant to support any new fees or taxes on consumers. I will never support any new fees or taxes negotiated in secret without public notice and comment."

Kennard disagreed, saying that the new subsidies were adequately discussed and that the FCC received more than 110,000 pages of public comments on the matter.

Furchtgott-Roth also said he agrees with House Commerce Committee Chairman Thomas Bliley, R-Va., that the subsidies program should be delayed to fully assess its impact on phone bills.

Emergency Services

Incidents reported by emergency services personnel for Dec. 16 include the following.

- Police Department**
- Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 400 block of Avenue J.
- An assault was reported in the 400 block of Avenue H.
- An assault was reported in the 200 block of Avenue F.
- A theft was reported in the 100 block of south 25 Mile Avenue.
- Criminal mischief was reported in the 100 block of Pecan.
- An assault was reported in the 700 block of south Main.
- A theft was reported in the 600 block of Avenue G.
- An animal bite was reported in the 600 block of east Park.
- An attempted theft was reported in the 400 block of Center.
- Loud music was reported in the 100 block of Avenue H.
- One minor accident was reported in the 200 block of Ironwood.

LOTO

AUSTIN (AP) - The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery: 3-21-28-29-31

AUSTIN (AP) - The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery, in order: 4-8-7

THE HEREFORD BRAND

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Lifestyles

Ann Landers

Dear Ann Landers: I am 73 and have been referred to as "part of the slag heap." I have been in and out of marriage, and I say out is better. For the last 17 years, I've been without a man, and I absolutely love being single.

I don't have to cook or clean if I don't feel like it. Nobody tells me who I should see, where I should go or what I can or cannot buy. Nobody crowds me out of bed, hogs the covers, snores in my ear or expects me to get up in the morning and make coffee. If I want to keep the light on and read all night, I do it. Lord, it's wonderful!

My generation was male-dominated.

Dad ran things. Mom took orders and kept her mouth shut. I now know that no woman needs a man in her bed in order to be complete. Marriage is the hardest job in the world, and I have nothing but praise for those who succeed at it. (I didn't.) But having been both married and single, I can truthfully say that single is one heck of a lot better.

Please print this for the single women in your reading audience who think a man would be the answer to their prayers. -- Fresno, Calif.

Dear Fresno: You sound self-assured, strong and fiercely independent. You also sound like a woman who had a lousy marriage.

Many women (and men) have made the discovery that it is OK to live singly, but never say never. Remember that life is what happens to you when you are busy making other plans.

Dear Ann Landers: Well, you certainly proved how little respect you have for hard-working 15-year-olds when you responded to that girl in North Carolina who signed herself "Already an Adult." She said her mother expected her to cook, clean and take care of her younger sister. You said she should talk to her mother about getting someone to help so the girl could have a little social life.

You ignored the fact that her mother won't compromise. It would serve that self-righteous, slave-driving woman right if she had to go to jail for violating the child-labor laws. Is it any wonder some kids resort to violence?

Respect is a two-way street. Parents don't have the right to exploit their children the way this woman is doing. Did she have kids because she wanted them or because she was looking for free labor? If that mother were the CEO of a major auto company, she'd be in the middle of a very long and ugly strike. -- A Fortytish Reader in Bloomington, Ind.

Dear Bloomington: Most people who grow up in middle America are expected to do some work around the house and help take care of younger sisters and brothers. They don't have governesses, maids and butlers.

This 15-year-old, however, seemed to be carrying too heavy a load, and I suggested that she ask her mother to get some paid help. I believe my advice was right, and I pray that the mother will listen to me.

Dear Ann Landers: Here's another one for your "wacky lawsuit" file. I read about it in the Orlando Sentinel, and it cracked me up.

A man was charged with first-degree murder for stabbing a tavern worker to death with two screwdrivers. He wants a judge to declare the death penalty unconstitutional because it violates his freedom of speech. The assistant public defender said that seeking the death penalty against his client violates the man's rights because "if someone died, it would restrict his right to freedom of speech."

Duh! -- Apopka, Fla., Reader
Dear Apopka: When I received your letter, I checked it out. I couldn't believe it, but I do now. Methinks the public defender needs someone to defend HIM.

Is life passing you by? Want to improve your social skills? Write for Ann Landers' new booklet, "How to Make Friends and Stop Being Lonely." Send a self-addressed, long, business-size envelope and a check or money order for \$4.25 (this includes postage and handling) to: Friends, c/o Ann Landers, P.O. Box 11562, Chicago, Ill. 60611-0562.

DALEINE T. SPRINGER
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History portrayed

Joe D. Rogers, Hereford High School history teacher, gave a program on "Pennsylvania History Portrayed" at the recent meeting of Los Ciboleros Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution held in the home of Marline Watson.

History portrayed is topic at DAR meeting

Joe D. Rogers, history teacher at Hereford High School, followed the theme of Historical Preservation Through Reenactment and gave a program titled "Pennsylvania History Portrayed" for the December meeting of Los Ciboleros Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution.

Nell Norvell, program committee chairman, introduced Rogers, who told of "walking the land" with his family each summer at a different historical location. He told of first person reenactment by characters portraying historical personalities at Valley Forge and Gettysburg, stating that reenactment is a "state hobby" in Pennsylvania.

He told of quilt and antique tool buying and visiting Niagara Falls and Boston. Rogers is scheduled to demonstrate the carpentry craft at Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum during Museum Day on May 16.

The meeting was held in the home of Marline Watson with Lois Gilliland and Barbara Burkhalter as co-hostesses.

Ruth Newsom, regent, led the Opening Ritual assisted by Burkhalter, acting chaplain.

Patricia Robinson presented the National Defense report and reminded members that Bill of Rights

Day was Dec. 15. Helen Rose, Constitution Week chairman, gave a Constitution Sidelight.

Resumes for DAR Good Citizen have been received from Friona, Dimmit and Hereford high schools and from Community Christian School, according to Margaret Bell, DAR Good Citizen committee chairman.

Robinson, chairman of service for veteran patients, reported that gifts from the chapter, valued at more than \$300, had been delivered to the Amarillo Veterans Hospital for their Christmas Gift Shop.

Newsom advised that Argen Draper, chapter chairman of the Flag of the United States of America committee, had given a large United States flag from the chapter to Faith City Mission in Amarillo. The flag will be used twice a day at the mission after prayer and before a devotional, an invitation and mealtime.

Refreshments were served to Patsy Smart, Mary Williamson, Bell, Newsom, Norvell, Robinson and Rose by the hostesses.

The next meeting will be Jan. 8 in the home of Margaret Bell.



RENEE BANNER

Banner to get nursing degree

Renee Rachel Banner, daughter of Mark and Janie Banner of Hereford, is scheduled to receive a Bachelor of Science in nursing degree from West Texas A&M University Friday.

A pinning ceremony will be held at 2 p.m., with commencement exercises at 7 p.m.

Banner has been employed by the Diocese of Amarillo in the development office in Canyon.

She is a 1993 graduate of Hereford High School.

Program slated for women in ag business

A business management program for women in agriculture will begin early in 1998, according to local County Extension Agent Beverly Harder, CEA-FCS.

Enrollment in each unit is limited; there will be two sessions of Unit 1 offered in 1998. The first will be held at the College Station Hilton Jan. 28-30 and the second is scheduled at the Lubbock Holiday Inn Lubbock Plaza Feb. 25-27.

The registration fee for each unit is \$175 per person, covering all seminar materials and two lunches. Lodging is not included in the

registration fee.

The program is designed to help farm and ranch women develop their business management knowledge and abilities. The sessions will be targeted to women working on or off the farm, as well as women who run their own farm or ranch business. Sponsor is the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

Further information is available from Harder at the local Extension office or from Tami Tesauro/Danny Klinefelter, Department of Agricultural Economics, Texas A&M University (Phone: 409/845-7171 or Fax 409/845-7444).



The first Christmas tree set up in the U.S., historians say, was in Cambridge, Massachusetts in 1832.

CHRISTMAS

Clearance Sale!

50% Off

All Christmas items
Excluding Crinkle Claus & Eddie Walker collectibles.

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Homecoming reception set at Community School

Community Christian School is hosting a Homecoming Reception from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 19 at Community Church to honor those students who graduated from CCS from 1981 through 1997.

Anyone who attended, or taught at, CCS through any of these years is

urged to attend the reception. Sandwiches will be served.

Following the reception, the Graduate Ceremony will be held at Stanton Gym where the CCS Warriors and Lady Warriors will host Plainview in basketball games.

Blessed is he who expects nothing for he shall never be disappointed. —Alexander Pope

Please join us!

Christmas Eve candlelight & carols worship service

Wednesday, December 24th
at 6:00 pm

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Lunch served

Members of the Deaf Smith County Volunteer Board served lunch Saturday to county residents in the aged and disabled program and members of their families. Contributions from local businesses, organizations and individuals made it possible for each person in the program to receive a door prize and a Christmas basket.

County awarded funds for emergency program

Deaf Smith County has been awarded federal funds under the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board programs.

Deaf Smith County has been chosen to receive \$10,475 to supplement emergency food and shelter programs in the area.

The selection was made by a national board that is chaired by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and consists of representatives from The Salvation Army, American Red Cross, Council of Jewish Federations, Catholic Charities, USA, National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. and United Way of American which will provide the administrative staff and function as fiscal agent.

The board was charged to distribute funds appropriated by Congress to help expand the capacity of food and shelter programs in high-need areas around the country.

A local board made up of representatives from the business sector, city and county, school, churches and individuals will determine how the funds awarded to Deaf Smith County are to be distributed among the emergency food and shelter programs run by local service organizations in the area.

This local board is responsible for

Names in the news

ORANGE, Calif. (AP) - The Rev. Robert H. Schuller has been released from a hospital after being treated for a mild heart attack.

The 71-year-old televangelist left the University of California, Irvine, Medical Center on Monday, the hospital said Tuesday.

Schuller plans to return to the pulpit for his Christmas Eve candlelight service. His "Hour of Power" at the Crystal Cathedral in neighboring Garden Grove reaches 20 million television viewers worldwide.

Schuller drove himself to the hospital Friday after feeling chest pain. He had angioplasty surgery Saturday to remove a blockage.

"Dr. Schuller is recovering at the rate that we expected, and he is doing well," said his physician, Dr. Thomas Cesario.



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Friday, Dec. 12 Thursday, Dec. 18, 1997	
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THE RAINMAKER	7:00 - 9:30
ANASTASIA	7:10
MORTAL KOMBAT	9:15
FLUBBER	7:05 - 9:00
FOR RICHER OR POORER	7:05 - 9:25
Adults: \$5.00 - Kids & Seniors: \$3.00	
Savain Matinee: \$3.00	

recommending agencies to receive these funds and any additional fund available under this phase of the program.

Under the terms of the grant from the national board, local government or private voluntary organizations that choose to receive funds must: 1) be non-profit, 2) have an accounting system, 3) practice nondiscrimination, 4) have demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs, and 5) if they are a private voluntary organization, have a voluntary board.

Qualifying organizations are urged to apply. Deaf Smith County has distributed emergency food and shelter funds previously with the American Red Cross and Hereford Food Pantry participating. These agencies were responsible for providing 36,406 meals and 137 utility-bills.

Further information on the program may be obtained by contacting Judy Baker, Deaf Smith County Social Services.

To Your Good Health

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: My husband, age 71, passed away from myelodysplastic syndrome. He had been ill for six months. Is myelodysplastic syndrome the same as aplastic anemia? — H.J.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: My 77-year-old husband was diagnosed as having myelodysplastic syndrome. He also has refractory anemia. What causes the syndrome to appear? — D.S.

ANSWER: Here "myelo" refers to bone marrow, the factory for blood-cell production. "Dysplastic" indicates that a monkey wrench has been thrown into the assembly line for the normal blood-cell output.

Myelodysplastic syndrome encompasses five different illnesses, one of which is refractory anemia, which resists treatment attempts. It is not the same as aplastic anemia.

The condition usually strikes people in their 70s and 80s. In most cases, a cause cannot be tracked down.

Symptoms hinge on which blood-cell line has been most affected. If it's red blood cells, then anemia symptoms predominate. Fatigue, weak-

Today in History

By The Associated Press
Today is Wednesday, Dec. 17, the 351st day of 1997. There are 14 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
On Dec. 17, 1903, Orville and Wilbur Wright took the first successful man-powered airplane flights, near Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.

On this date:
In 1777, France recognized American independence.

In 1830, South American patriot Simon Bolivar died in Colombia.

In 1925, Col. William "Billy" Mitchell was convicted of insubordination at his court-martial.

In 1939, the German pocket battleship Graf Spee was scuttled by its crew, ending the World War II Battle of the Rio de la Plata off Uruguay.

In 1944, the U.S. Army announced the end of its policy of excluding Japanese-Americans from the West Coast.

In 1957, the United States successfully test-fired the Atlas

intercontinental ballistic missile for the first time.

In 1969, the U.S. Air Force closed its Project "Blue Book" by finding no evidence of extraterrestrial spaceships behind thousands of UFO sightings.

In 1975, Lynette Fromme was sentenced to life in prison for her attempt on the life of President Ford.

In 1986, Eugene Hasenfus, the American convicted by Nicaragua for his part in running guns to the Contras, was pardoned, then released.

Ten years ago: With election results showing him the winner, South Korea's president-elect, Roh Tae-woo, appealed for "national harmony" while his opponents claimed he had won through fraud.

Five years ago: President-elect Clinton tapped former San Antonio Mayor Henry Cisneros to be Secretary of Housing. President Bush, Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari signed the North American Free Trade Agreement in separate ceremonies.

One year ago: Peruvian guerrillas took hundreds of people hostage at the Japanese embassy in Lima. (All but 72 hostages were later released; the siege ended April 22, 1997, with a commando raid that resulted in the deaths of all the rebels, two commandos and one hostage). Six Red Cross workers were slain by gunmen in Chechnya. Kofi Annan of Ghana was appointed United Nations secretary-general.

Today's Birthdays: Newspaper columnist William Safire is 68. Actor Armin Mueller-Stahl is 67. Magazine publisher Robert Guccione is 67. Singer-actor Tommy Steele is 61.

Thought for Today: "A fool and his money are soon parted, but you never call him a fool till the money is gone." - Anonymous.

The 1 To See:
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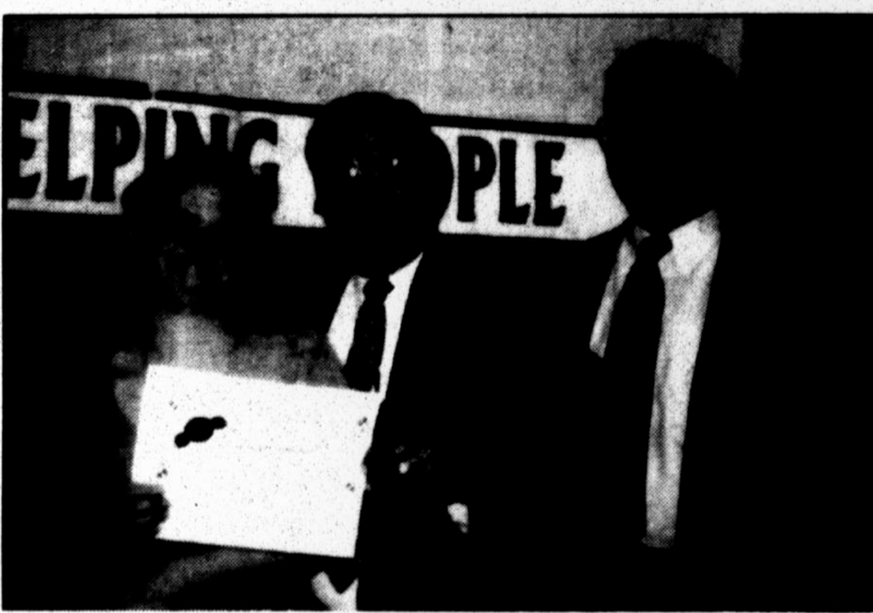
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SCHWAN'S Frozen Food Truck
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Family Dollar lot on Park Avenue
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Saturday, December 20th from
9:30 am to 7:30 pm



Special recognition

Evonne Hendricks, left, a client at Hereford Satellite Center, recently attended an appreciation dinner in Lubbock. She received a certificate of appreciation from Sam Guzman, center, of the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, for her volunteer services at Guadalupe Economics. Also pictured during the presentation is Guzman's assistant.

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Sports

On the Sidelines

NBA

Tuesday's Games
 Utah 103, Miami 95
 Cleveland 103, Phoenix 90
 L.A. Lakers 109, Minnesota 96
 New York 83, Detroit 78
 Houston 118, Vancouver 91
 San Antonio 99, Denver 85
 Seattle 109, L.A. Clippers 94
 Golden State 103, Dallas 82
 Sacramento 94, Portland 87

Wednesday's Games
 Miami at Washington, 6 p.m.
 Boston at Toronto, 6 p.m.
 New York at Indiana, 6 p.m.
 Detroit at New Jersey, 6:30 p.m.
 Minnesota at Philadelphia, 6:30 p.m.
 Milwaukee at Charlotte, 6:30 p.m.
 Cleveland at Atlanta, 6:30 p.m.
 L.A. Lakers at Chicago, 7 p.m.
 Vancouver at San Antonio, 7:30 p.m.

NHL

Tuesday's Games
 Tampa Bay 1, Pittsburgh 1, tie
 N.Y. Islanders 2, Washington 2, tie
 Carolina 2, Ottawa 1
 New Jersey 4, N.Y. Rangers 3
 Calgary 4, Chicago 3, OT
 San Jose 5, Detroit 1

Wednesday's Games
 Buffalo at N.Y. Islanders, 6:30 p.m.
 Boston at Tampa Bay, 6:30 p.m.
 N.Y. Rangers at Florida, 6:30 p.m.
 Detroit at Colorado, 8 p.m.
 Vancouver at Phoenix, 8 p.m.
 Chicago at Edmonton, 8 p.m.
 Toronto at Anaheim, 9:30 p.m.

NCAA Basketball

EAST
 Harvard 80, Dartmouth 55
 Villanova 68, Temple 57
 West Virginia 101, Robert Morris 52

SOUTH
 Ala.-Birmingham 57, Chattanooga 55
 Auburn 89, Jacksonville St. 61
 Charleston Southern 72, Furman 62
 Coppin St. 79, Florida A&M 54
 Grambling St. 60, NW Louisiana 59
 Mississippi St. 73, James Madison 67
 North Carolina 92, Hampton U. 69

MIDWEST
 Detroit 77, Cent. Michigan 53
 Ill.-Chicago 75, Illinois St. 67
 South Alabama 79, Mo.-Kansas City 52

SOUTHWEST
 No major team scores reported from the SOUTHWEST.

FAR WEST
 Loyola Marymount 88, Portland St. 84, OT
 New Mexico St. 61, Ark.-Pine Bluff 53
 Oregon St. 73, St. Mary's 61
 St. Mary's, Cal. 73, Fresno St. 65
 Stanford 63, San Diego St. 42

IN BRIEF

Rockets may move

HOUSTON (AP) -- The Houston Rockets may move to the suburbs because of doubts the city can support both a new football stadium and a new arena for basketball, a Rockets executive says.

In a letter to the chairman of Houston's new sports authority, Rockets senior vice president John Thomas asked for clarifications to "certain concerns and questions" that arose during a recent meeting.

"You have indicated that football is driving the process: that you already know the outcome of the discussions; and that the Houston Rockets should look for another location outside of Houston," Thomas wrote.

Smith honored

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. (AP) -- Dean Smith, who had more victories than any other college basketball coach when he retired in October, was honored Tuesday as Sports Illustrated's Sportsman of the Year.

The ceremony took place at the basketball arena that bears his name.

"Any honor for a coach is really an honor for all the people who have played and worked with him," Smith said.

Sub-varsity glance

7th Grade boys 'A'
Monday at Dumas
 Hereford 18 15 9 12-54
 Dumas 7 10 7 10-34

Hereford -- Israel Silva 14, Jorge Gonzalez 11, Stewart Carr 8.
 Next game -- Borger at Hereford, 5:30 p.m. Jan. 8, 1998.

7th Grade boys 'B'
Monday at Dumas
 Hereford 10 12 11 8-41
 Dumas 13 3 2 17-35

Hereford -- Brice West 8, Jeremy Blakely 7, Robert Gil 6, Glen Castro 6.
 Next game -- Borger at Hereford, 6:45 p.m. Jan. 8, 1998.

8th Grade boys 'A'
Monday at Dumas
 Hereford 8 4 6 13-31
 Dumas 4 12 11 9-38

Hereford -- Geoffrey Marquez 13.
8th Grade boys 'B'
Monday at Dumas
 Hereford 7 9 5 20-41
 Dumas 6 8 13 21-48

Hereford -- Matt Rivera 13, Andrew Villareal 12.

Sports calendar

Friday Basketball
 Hereford boys, sophomores, junior varsity and varsity, at Borger, 4:30 p.m., 6 p.m., 7:30 p.m.
 Hereford girls, junior varsity and varsity, at Borger, 4:30 p.m., 6 p.m.

Rice breaks kneecap, out for season

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP) -- Jerry Rice's touchdown in his astonishing return from major knee surgery came at an awful price: He cracked his kneecap when crashing to the ground and will miss the rest of the season.

"It was very surprising, and the word (team doctors) used was it was a fluke," San Francisco coach Steve Mariucci said Tuesday.

"It's very unfortunate. He was playing very well. He felt very good. After the play, he did get up slow. But

that's where the fracture took place, when his knee hit the ground."
 "Obviously, it was a shock to him and a disappointment."

Rice's touchdown catch was the 49ers' first score in their 34-17 win over Denver on Monday night which clinched home field for San Francisco throughout the playoffs. He underwent surgery Tuesday to repair the left kneecap which was broken across the middle and likely will need a screw or wire inserted into it to hold it together and promote

healing.

Rice made a leaping grab of Steve Young's pass in the end zone between defenders Darrien Gordon and Steve Atwater, whose jolting hit sent Rice to the ground. He lay there for a few seconds before getting up and walking off on his own power, but he didn't go back into the game.

Team doctors suspected the kneecap might be broken after X-rays late Monday night and an MRI scan Tuesday confirmed the fracture.

The surgery was performed by

team physician Michael Dillingham, who repaired shredded ligaments in the same knee when Rice went down in the season opener at Tampa Bay on Aug. 31, the first major injury in 13 years in the NFL.

Mariucci said doctors told him the two injuries were unrelated, and Rice's reconstructed knee escaped any ligament or cartilage damage.

He also said the titanium brace Rice wore offered mostly protection from a hit on the side rather than a frontal blow to the kneecap. Rice

wasn't wearing a knee pad, which could have cushioned the blow. NFL receivers and defensive backs frequently don't wear knee pads because they say it slows them down.

Rice, the NFL's career leader in touchdowns, receptions and receiving yardage, was not available for comment. Dillingham also was unavailable.

Mariucci said he had no regrets about allowing Rice to return from

Please see RICE, page 6



Showing off the hardware

The Hereford Lady Whitefaces volleyball team recently displayed trophies won during their second-straight Class 4A championship season. The Lady Whitefaces are (left to right), front row, Monica Dominguez, Mandy Klein and Yvette Nava; middle row, Kate Denison, Jamie Marquez, Kendra Wright, Briar Baker, Makesha

Rives and Christy Schumacher; back row, assistant coach Pam Dean, assistant coach Kristi Lytal, Tori Walker, Meredith Tabor, Catie Betzen, Julie Rampley, Staci Betzen, Lyndi Carlile, Kristin Fangman and head coach Brenda Kitten. Hereford finished the season at 29-6.

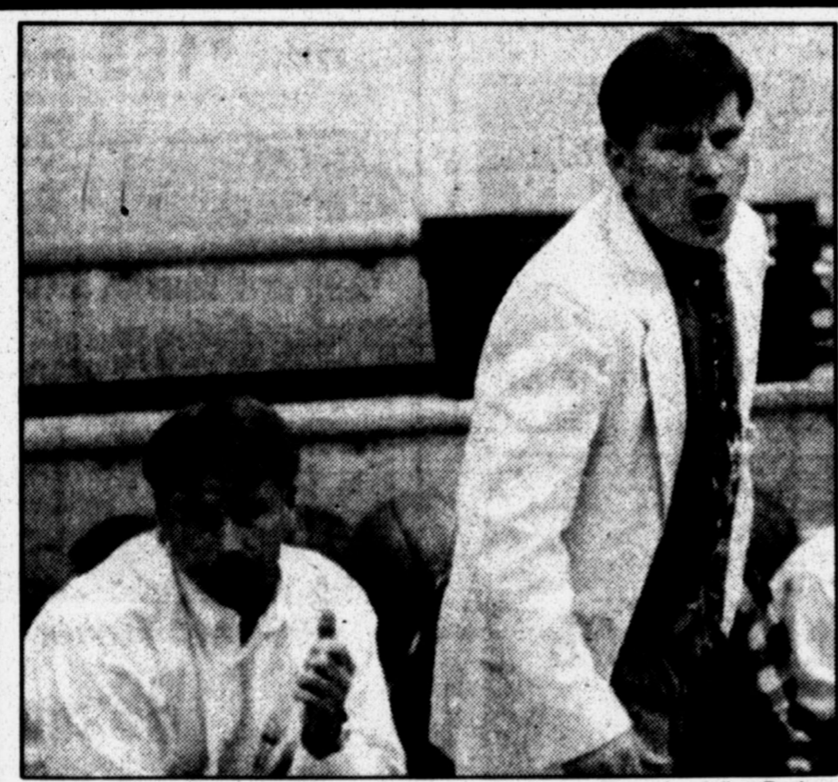


Photo by Julius Bodner

On the move

Hereford head boys basketball coach Randy Dean walks the sideline exhorting his team during a non-district game with Lubbock Monterey Dec. 9 at Whiteface Gymnasium as assistant coach Key Harrison watches the action. Hereford won its District 1-4A opener with Amarillo Caprock Monday night and has now won five straight games.

TEXAS NBA ROUNDUP

Rockets 118, Grizzlies 91

HOUSTON (AP) -- Clyde Drexler had 22 points, 10 assists and five steals as the Houston Rockets jumped on the Vancouver Grizzlies early and cruised to a 118-91 victory Tuesday night.

Kevin Willis led the Rockets in scoring with 23 points and also had 10 rebounds, but it was Drexler's all-around play that helped the Rockets rebound from Sunday's loss to the Grizzlies.

The Rockets used a pair of runs in each of the first two quarters to take a comfortable 62-43 halftime lead, with 15 points apiece by Willis and Drexler.

The Rockets went on a 19-4 run midway in the first quarter that started with the Grizzlies leading 17-11. Matt Maloney led that charge with seven points.

Leading 35-29 early in the second period, the Rockets had a 16-4 run that put them in control of the game. Willis led that one with eight points.

The Rockets didn't ease up in the second half. Willis scored the first six Rockets points of the third quarter and Maloney, who finished with 14 points, had a pair of 3-point baskets. The Rockets were up 85-75 to start the final period.

Six-for-12 shooting from 3-point range helped the Rockets take control in the first half but they cooled off in

the second half, finishing 9-for-23 from 3-point range.

Shareef Abdur Rahim led the Grizzlies with 18 points.

Warriors 103, Mavericks 92

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) -- Joe Smith scored a season-high 28 points and Donyell Marshall added 22 as the Golden State Warriors defeated the Dallas Mavericks 103-92 Tuesday night.

The Warriors are 3-4 without Latrell Sprewell, placed on the suspended list on Dec. 1 for attacking coach P.J. Carlesimo.

Dallas lost its sixth straight game. Michael Finley led the Mavericks with 26 points, Dennis Scott had 19 points and Samaki Walker 17.

The Mavericks closed within five points at the end of the third quarter when Finley made a 3-pointer at the buzzer. The Warriors, who have won four straight at home, made seven of their first 10 shots in the fourth quarter to open an 11-point lead.

Dallas dropped to 1-6 under coach Don Nelson, a former Warriors coach who took over in Dallas from Jim Clemons on Dec. 4.

The Warriors went on a 13-3 run, started by Erick Dampier's dunk with 1:01 left in the first quarter, to take a 34-25 lead they never relinquished.

Dampier, who scored 17 points, made 6 of 7 shots in the first half. His

only miss came on a slam-dunk attempt.

Spurs 99, Nuggets 85

DENVER (AP) -- David Robinson and Tim Duncan figured to be a potent one-two punch. The Denver Nuggets found out how potent.

Robinson had 22 points and 14 rebounds and Duncan added 20 points and eight rebounds as the San Antonio Spurs defeated the cold-shooting Nuggets 99-85 Tuesday night.

"I like to play them a lot together because they are both very good players," San Antonio coach Gregg Popovich said. "David set the tone by being a monster on the boards and a great defender underneath."

Robinson and Duncan have posted big numbers against the Nuggets this year. Robinson has averaged 21.5 points and 13.5 rebounds and Duncan 17.5 points and 9 rebounds in two games against Denver.

"We've got two 7-footers, and almost every team we play doesn't have two guys that can guard both of us," Robinson said. "We try and dominate the inside and dominate the boards because that is where our success is going to be."

Danny Fortson had 18 points for the Nuggets, who shot a season-low 35 percent from the field. Denver has lost five straight and nine of its last 11.

Woodson deserves Heisman Trophy

I was told the look was priceless.

I didn't get to watch the Heisman Trophy award ceremony on television Saturday night, but a friend of mine did. He told me I missed quite a show, even if it only lasted for a few seconds.

As Charles Woodson of Michigan was announced as the 1997 Heisman winner, the camera focused on Peyton Manning. The look they got was one of utter disbelief.

The Tennessee quarterback who had rewritten just about every Volunteer and Southeastern Conference passing record, and spurned the NFL after his junior year, simply was aghast.

He couldn't believe it. I can. Woodson deserved the Heisman.

That's because the Heisman isn't awarded to the best college football player, or the player with the most impressive stats. It's

The Toy Department

By Bob Varnette



really given to the most popular college football player -- in other words, a beauty contest.

The Heisman is a joke, and this isn't the first year the best college football player, however you might define him, hasn't won the award. Manning should've expected what happened.

Take nothing away from Woodson, he's a great football player. And nobody more than a former defensive back like me would want to see a defensive player win the

award.

But Woodson's winning the award was a fait accompli. He played for Michigan, one of the biggest media darlings in sports.

That's how you win the Heisman. You have to play for a team that receives tremendous national media exposure in a Heisman race that's close.

If Manning had played for a big eastern school, say Penn State or Syracuse, or even an over-exposed West Coast program in California, and had the year he had, he would have won it easily.

But Manning played for Tennessee. Woodson played for a big eastern school. That's why he deserves the award.

Woodson had a good year, and he had great game on national television against Ohio State. But his seven interceptions didn't lead the nation. There were other defensive backs in the country who

made more interceptions and made more tackles.

Woodson also had the opportunity to play on offense and special teams, but his numbers weren't overwhelmingly high. He just played for the right school in the right part of the country and had a good year, but not a great year.

The Heisman has never been about who's the best college football player.

Technically, any player in divisions I, I-AA, II and III can win the award. But no player outside of Division I has ever won the award. The Harlon Hill Trophy was even created so a Division II player could win an award.

And the Heisman is even about who has media exposure. God knows Manning had plenty of that.

There is a bias in this country, and it's reflected in those who vote for the Heisman. That bias assumes as fact if you play for a big

eastern school, you are a better player on a better team playing against better competition.

The Heisman isn't the only award that shows this bias. In just about every case, if you play in the South, the Midwest or the West (except California), you have to have an absolutely incredible year to win any award. Either that or there have to be no other credible candidates.

That's why Iowa State running back Troy Davis didn't win the Heisman last year. That's why Washington State quarterback Ryan Leaf didn't win it this year.

Do you honestly believe that someone playing in Pullman, Wash., or Ames, Iowa, will ever win the Heisman?

In the last few days, I've read several stories on the Associated Press wire about the shock and

Please see HEISMAN, page 6

Cardinals sign Mercker for \$3.75M

NEW YORK (AP) -- In case they don't wind up with Andy Benes, the St. Louis Cardinals got another starting pitcher Tuesday, agreeing to a \$3.75 million, two-year contract with Kent Mercker.

The 29-year-old left-hander was 8-11 with a 3.92 ERA in 25 starts and three relief appearances last season with the Cincinnati Reds.

"Mercker has proved to be one of the most versatile left-handers in the league," Cardinals general manager Walt Jocketty said. "He gives us a solid two-way option as both a starter and a reliever, and his experience far outweighs his age."

Mercker made \$1.7 million in 1997 and will get \$1.25 million in 1998 and \$2.5 million in 1999. His salary in the second year could increase to \$3 million, depending on performance. Mercker's option for 2000 is at \$1.75 million to \$4.5

million, depending on performance. Baseball's Player Relations Committee voided the Cardinals' \$30 million, five-year contract with Benes, deciding it occurred after the Dec. 7 deadline. The players' association may file a grievance and a hearing may be scheduled for Friday. If arbitrator Dana Eischen rules against the union, the Cardinals can't re-sign Benes until May 1 at the earliest.

San Diego also added a starter, re-signing right-hander Pete Smith to an \$850,000, one-year contract that gives him the chance to make \$400,000 more in incentives.

He was 7-6 with a 4.81 ERA in 1997 and is projected as the No. 5 starter behind Brown, Hamilton, Andy Ashby and Sterling Hitchcock.

Minnesota, which probably will have one of the oldest rosters in the majors, agreed late Monday to a

\$1.45 million, one-year contract with 38-year-old right-hander Mike Morgan.

Morgan, 9-12 with a 4.78 ERA last season for Cincinnati, has a team option for \$1.5 million to \$1.8 million, with the amount depending on his performance next season. If the option isn't exercised, the Twins would have to pay a \$150,000 buyout under the terms of the deal agreed to late Monday.

Morgan will join the recently signed Orel Hershiser (37), the recently re-signed Paul Molitor (41), pitcher Bob Tewksbury (37), reliever Rick Aguilera (36) and catcher Terry Steinbach (35) on the Twins.

Seattle agreed to one-year deals with left-hander Tony Fossas (\$700,000) and infielder Pat Listach, and Detroit agreed to a minor-league

contract with infielder Bill Ripken. Oakland agreed to one-year deals with left-hander Mike Mohler (\$525,000) and infielder Mike Blowers, and Anaheim agreed to a \$475,000, one-year contract with switch-hitting catcher Matt Walbeck.

Texas signed five low-profile free agents to minor-league deals: infielder Bret Barberie, outfielders Warren Newsum and Les Norman, right-hander Terry Clark and left-hander Scott Watkins. The Rangers also sold the contract of right-hander Keiichi Kojima to the Chunichi Dragons of Japan's Central League.

To complete the Nov. 11 trade in which they acquired outfielder Moises Alou from Florida, the Houston Astros sent right-hander Mark Johnson to the Marlins.

Rice

his first injury, which was initially believed to be season ending. Rice spent 3 1/2 months rehabilitating the first injury and he received medical clearance from Dillingham and a confirming clearance from San Diego Chargers team physician Gary Losse.

"If we had to do it again, we would do the same thing," Mariucci said. "He was cleared to go. He felt good. He wanted to go and that's when you put a player back in. The injury was very unfortunate. That's what happens sometimes in football and as hard as it is, you've got to live with it."

Despite Rice's second major injury

in as many games, Mariucci added that what Rice accomplished in coming back from torn knee ligaments shouldn't be overlooked. "He spent 106 days of tortuous rehabilitation to contribute to this team," Mariucci said. "He didn't want to catch another pass. That's all nice. He's got a million catches and a million touchdowns and a million yards. He wanted to contribute to this team's success."

"He set a date. He met the date. He was tremendous and from that standpoint, it was an incredible feat. We all know how it ended. We've got to live with that."

Bulls eagerly await Pippen's return

CHICAGO (AP) -- What once was an optimistic target date for Scottie Pippen's return is now just another night that the Chicago Bulls will have to struggle to win without him.

"Even though it sounds like an excuse, it's a good one," said Steve Kerr, whose Bulls are 14-9 after being 20-3 at a similar stage last season. "Scottie's great. With him, we'd probably have the best record in the league."

When Pippen had foot surgery two months ago, the Bulls said he'd be out until January. A few weeks later -- but before Pippen's bombshell that he was so upset at management that he never wanted to play for Chicago again -- he hinted at a much earlier return.

Speculation centered around a mid-December, nationally televised home game against the Los Angeles Lakers.

Well, that game has arrived -- it's Wednesday night -- but Pippen will be on the bench in designer clothes instead of on the court in a Bulls uniform.

He's had recurring foot pain, isn't practicing regularly, and said last week that he doubted he'd be ready to play for Chicago or any other team until January. He missed Tuesday's practice at the United Center.

Pippen's trade demand hasn't stopped his teammates from pining for him.

Most believe he'll relent and return to help the Bulls go for their sixth

title this decade.

"I certainly miss that other scoring threat and his all-around skills," Michael Jordan said Tuesday. "The defense has to focus on someone like a Scottie Pippen. Right now, the defense is not focusing on anyone but me."

Jordan is shooting 42 percent and averaging 26.4 points. He entered the season averaging an NBA-record 31.7 points on 51 percent shooting.

Bulls coach Phil Jackson said before Monday's victory over Phoenix that Jordan, who turns 35 in two months, looked tired.

"That's not true. I feel good," Jordan said. "We have to do ... our jobs so one man is not really the focal point."

Jordan will be the focal point as long as he's with the Bulls, but he's not the only one hurt by the absence of Pippen, who in past seasons ran the team like a point guard, rebounded like a power forward and defended the other team's small forward.

"Scottie's not here and it affects the whole team, from one through 12," Kerr said.

"I can't wait until Scottie returns, because we need him."

Bulls general manager Jerry Krause said Jackson, Jordan and Dennis Rodman were re-signed during the offseason with the intention of winning another championship, so it's unlikely that he'll trade Pippen.

Barry

Facing perhaps his last week as coach of the Cowboys, Switzer was in an almost jolly mood at Valley Ranch. He was wishing everyone "Merry Christmas" and said a big priority next week was shopping.

"You know, I live by myself, so I have to do my own shopping," Switzer said. "I've only got a couple of days."

Switzer said all the speculation about his ouster hadn't hurt him.

"It hasn't bothered me at all, not one bit," Switzer said. "It's probably affected my family members more than anyone else."

Switzer talked some about the meaningless game with the Giants on Sunday. New York will host a wild-card team in a first-round game, and that won't change regardless of a loss.

A loss for Dallas could help propel the Cowboys in the top 10 on draft day and give them a fourth-place finish and a much easier schedule

next year.

Switzer said the Cowboys, although they will play some young players, will go all out.

"We're going to try to win a football game," Switzer said.

Switzer said the careers of several veterans, such as tackle Mark Tuinei and special teams star Bill Bates, could be winding down.

"This is a business," Switzer said. "Some of the guys had great careers but it comes a time when everyone has to move on."

Switzer said he didn't think 15-year offensive tackle Mark Tuinei would be back.

"The last two years have been a disaster for him physically," Switzer said.

He said 12-year guard Nate Newton could return if he gets in better shape.

"Nate could drop 40 pounds in the off-season and still be a force if he wanted to," Switzer said.

Heisman

disbelief resonating throughout the state of Tennessee about Woodson being honored over Manning. But you see, they don't really know what the award is all about.

If they did, they would have glumly accepted the fact Woodson won it, and would have accepted the fact Manning never really had much of a chance.

It was a done deal. And there's nothing to be done about. Nothing will change.

The eastern bias will always be there. What the rest of the country needs to accept is that the Heisman Trophy is meaningless as a measure of who is truly the best college football player.

And think about this. How many Heisman trophy winners

have actually gone on to have productive NFL careers?

I can name a few -- Eddie George of Ohio State being the most recent to actually do something in the NFL. The odds are heavily against Woodson being the kind of player in the NFL that Heisman voters thought he was in college.

Woodson will more than likely go the way of Gary Beban, Archie Griffin, Andre Ware, Gino Torretta, Bo Jackson and countless others.

Into mediocrity and obscurity. That's why Woodson deserves the Heisman. Manning should be elated he didn't win.

And just for the record, Leaf is the best college football player.

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'93 Ford Taurus SHO Stk#21335 \$225 mo. "0" DN + TT&L 8995 SP 48mo. WAC	'97 Super Cab Stk# 21310 White \$395 mo. "0" DN + TT&L SP 18500 60mo. WAC 9.9 APR
'96 Ford Tracer Stk 30527P \$188 mo. "0" DN + TT&L SP 8995 9.9 APR 60 mo. WAC	'90 F150 Reg. Cab Black, Low Miles, Stk#21341 \$168 mo. "0" DN + TT&L SP 4995 - 12.5 APR 36mo. WAC
'94 Taurus Wagon Stk 30606PF \$235 mo. "0" DN + TT&L SP 10995 9.9 APR 60 mo. WAC	'95 Super Cab 24,000 Miles, Red, Fully loaded. Remote Keyless Entry
'97 Ford Mustang Stk# 30592P \$295 mo. "0" DN + TT&L SP 13995 9.9 APR WAC	'94 S-10 Pickup Stk# 21266 \$185 mo. "0" DN + TT&L SP 7995 - 9.9 APR 54mo. WAC
'95 Dodge Neon Stk#21354 \$165 mo. "0" DN + TT&L SP 6995 60 mo. WAC	'97 Chevy Silverado Ext. Cab Teal, 3rd Door, 24,000 Miles "0" DN + TT&L SP 10995 9.9 APR 60 mo. WAC

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NEWS

in brief

CLINTON NAMES HIS NEW POOCH

WASHINGTON (AP) - Like many inside-the-Beltway decisions, it involved a public outpouring of suggestions, consensus-building and discussion between the president and his closest advisers.

On Tuesday, President Clinton, after consultation with first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and daughter Chelsea, named his recently adopted 4-month-old chocolate Labrador retriever.

The verdict: "Buddy."
At an afternoon news conference, the president explained that his new pooch was named after a favorite great-uncle.

Henry Oren "Buddy" Grisham, who died in June, was not only a companion and father figure for young Bill Clinton, but a dog trainer for more than 50 years, the president said. "When I was a child growing up, we talked about ... (dogs) a lot," he recalled.

"Mostly, it's a personal thing," Clinton explained. "It was the name ... (the dog) responded best to of all the names we tried out on him."

TYPHOON PAKA LEAVES GUAM REELING

AGANA, Guam (AP) - Trees flew sideways across the ground and up to 3,000 families saw their homes blown away as Typhoon Paka bore down on Guam for 12 harrowing hours, with one wind gust recorded at 236 mph.

No deaths were reported from today's storm; hospital officials said low barometric pressure induced nine pregnant women to give birth.

Sustained winds reached 150 mph and the National Weather Service reported the wind gust of 236 mph, the highest ever recorded. "People just hunkered down and hung on for dear life," said Philip Brady, a spokesman for the governor.

Electricity was knocked out for nearly the entire island and the airport was shut down indefinitely, as were schools. Many were without drinking water.

"Everything was parallel to the ground, picking things up, throwing them, snapping trees like toothpicks," Brady said. "When the eye passed through ... that's when all the wheels came off. It was literally driving water through walls."

Gov. Carl Gutierrez asked the White House for a federal disaster declaration, but did not immediately get an answer. A state of emergency was declared and the National Guard was called out to maintain order.

Damage was estimated at \$200 million.

LION SPOTTED, BUT ELUDES PURSUERS

KISSIMMEE, Fla. (AP) - Nala, the 450-pound lion that escaped from a roadside zoo near Disney World, wants to go back to her cage but is agitated and spooked, zoo officials say.

The full-grown female lion was spotted several times by helicopter and on the ground Tuesday by wildlife officers trying to safely capture her. Each time, she managed to get away.

At one time she was next to a fence enclosing the seven-acre JungelLand Zoo.

"She's very close to the perimeter. She's ready to go home," said Kathy Bacon, JungelLand's marketing director.

The lion escaped Monday from JungelLand Zoo while her handlers tried to fix her cage to raise her above flooded ground. Nala, named after a character in the Disney movie "The Lion King," ran into a wooded swamp behind the zoo. The swamp is surrounded by hotels, restaurants and expensive homes in a popular tourist district.

\$1 BILLION GETTY CENTER FINALLY OPENS

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Thirteen years in the making, the Getty Center is not your typical art museum - boulders for the kids to play on, an electric tram from the parking lot, astonishing views of snowy mountains and the Pacific Ocean.

Organizers are counting on its 24 acres of uniqueness to attract everyone, not just the mostly old and mostly white who used to visit the old Getty Center. Judging by the reaction at Tuesday's public opening, the \$1 billion center already has new fans.

"It's been decades of anticipation," said Ian Fraser, a paintings curator at the Indianapolis Museum of Art. "I'm extremely impressed with the galleries."

"The intensity of the closed galleries," he added, "then you go along up a hallway where there are these wonderful views over the city, that's just breathtaking, and it refreshes the spirit."

SUIT CLAIMS DRIFTERS WERE FAKERS

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP) - They paid \$25 to see The Platters, The Drifters and The Coasters.

Instead, they were served up impostors passing themselves off as the real rock 'n' roll legends, according to a New Jersey couple that filed a class-action suit over the discrepancy.

The lawsuit, filed by Christopher and Delores Wilhelms of Hunterdon County, says the groups that played Harrah's Casino Hotel on Oct. 14 through Oct. 26 featured no performers associated with the "unique and original sounds" of groups that hit the charts with "This Magic Moment," "On Broadway" and "Charlie Brown."

"The persons ... were merely performers pretending to be the real Coasters, Drifters and Platters who enhanced the illusion of their authenticity by making reference to 'our hits' during the show even though none of these persons were in any way associated with those original and popular recordings," the suit said.

JUDGE STRIKES DOWN OREGON TERM LIMITS

SALEM, Ore. (AP) - A federal magistrate has thrown out Oregon's term limits law, saying it violates the constitutional rights of voters who want to elect experienced candidates.

"No right is more precious in a free country than that of having a voice in the election of those who make the laws under which ... we must live," U.S. Magistrate Tom Coffin wrote Tuesday.

The ruling could allow two dozen lawmakers who appeared headed for forced retirement to run for re-election next year. The state attorney general's office said it would appeal and wanted the 22 representatives and two senators to be barred from running until the case is concluded.

"There's no sense in rushing to let these folks file to run when there's so much more at stake than just this election cycle," said office spokeswoman Kristen Grainger.

Oregon's law was approved overwhelmingly by voters in 1992, touted as a way to keep out career politicians and bring in fresh ideas. It limits legislators to three two-year House terms and two four-year Senate terms, not to exceed 12 years overall.

WOMAN WHO HELD POLICE AT BAY RELEASED

ROBY, Ill. (AP) - A woman who held state troopers at bay for 39 days before being placed in a mental hospital is back at her rural Illinois home, cleaning house and getting ready for Christmas.

A Christian County circuit judge ordered Shirley Allen, 51, freed after a psychiatrist testified Tuesday that she posed no danger to anyone. Allen, who had spent 47 days in a mental health care center, returned home the same day.

"Shirley's just so happy to be home, she just wants to sit in her chair and get back to home life again," said her attorney, Lindsey Reese. "She's not going to go out and do anything crazy."

The siege began Sept. 22 after relatives, fearing she might be mentally ill, won a court order to have Allen taken for an examination by a psychiatrist.

A spokesman for the Illinois State Police said Allen would not be prosecuted for firing a shotgun during the standoff because police believe she was mentally disturbed.

GOODYEAR APOLOGIZES FOR RACIALLY INSENSITIVE AD

AKRON, Ohio (AP) - A racially insensitive TV commercial that ran briefly in Peru drew an apology from the head of Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. and a change in the company's policies on ads.

The Spanish-language ad portrays a black man and a man who appears to be Hispanic standing in front of tires.

The black man points to the other actor's fat stomach, joking that it is like a spare tire. The other man then points to the black man's lips and compares them to tires.

Samir Gibara, Goodyear's chairman, president and chief executive officer, apologized in a letter to Kweisi Mfume, president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

"I would like to extend my personal apologies to you and the African-American community for this improper situation," said Gibara. Mfume accepted the apology.

"We'll wait to see if it is followed by positive actions," Mfume said. "It was appropriate for Goodyear to take responsibility for this shameful ad and then make amends to those who were rightfully offended by it."

THE WIZ FILES FOR BANKRUPTCY PROTECTION

NEW YORK (AP) - Nobody Beats The Wiz is admitting a defeat.

The Wiz Inc., the metropolitan area's largest electronics retailer, filed Tuesday for protection from creditors under federal bankruptcy laws. The company said it would close 17 of its 50 stores, mostly those outside New York City.

The electronics, music and video retailer has its headquarters in Carteret, N.J., employs 4,200 people and has annual sales of more than \$1 billion. The company did not say how many jobs would be lost as it tries to restore its financial health.

The filing comes after July's announcement that The Wiz Inc. would close all three of its Massachusetts stores and two in Connecticut.

This time, the company blamed a "general softness in the consumer electronics industry" for sagging sales that harmed its ability to support its less profitable outlets, according to a statement.

CITICORP MAY ACQUITE AT&T BUSINESS

NEW YORK (AP) - The nation's largest credit-card issuer, Citicorp, is on the verge of adding AT&T Corp.'s Universal Card to its portfolio for a price of between \$3 billion and \$4 billion, *The Wall Street Journal* reported today.

The agreement could be reached as early as today, the newspaper said, citing people familiar with the situation.

AT&T in October announced that it was selling its Jacksonville, Fla.-based credit-card operation, then the eighth-largest in the nation. AT&T Universal Card is one of the largest issuers of MasterCard and has more than 18 million cardholders for its combined credit card and telephone calling card.

The credit-card arm recently completed a financial turnaround by reducing credit losses below industry levels, decreasing operating costs and expanding its managed receivables to \$14 billion. The company has about 3,000 employees in Jacksonville, 750 in Salt Lake City and 250 in Columbus, Ga.



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N.J. ABORTION RESTRICTION PUT ON HOLD

TRENTON, N.J. (AP) - One day after state lawmakers outlawed a controversial abortion procedure, a federal judge handed abortion-rights supporters a restraining order that temporarily bans the ban.

U.S. District Judge Anne E. Thompson made Tuesday's order effective until Dec. 24, when she scheduled another hearing.

Senate President Donald DiFrancesco and Assembly Speaker Jack Collins urged the judge to deny the injunction. They said the Legislature intends to vigorously defend the law, but has not yet retained a lawyer.

Gov. Christie Whitman did not send a state lawyer to defend the law, which was enacted Monday night over her veto.

The attorney general normally would defend state laws against legal challenges, but the Whitman administration contends the law is unconstitutional. The American Civil Liberties Union and Planned Parenthood of Central New Jersey went to court immediately after the Senate narrowly overrode Whitman's veto.

Sponsors of the law say it bans a specific procedure that opponents call partial-birth abortion, which involves the extraction of the fetus late in pregnancy. It contained an exception for cases where the life of the woman is in danger.

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The YMCA Basketball League is designed for elementary boys and girls ages 13 and under. All girls and boys are eligible to play regardless of athletic ability. Teams are coached by adult volunteers. Every game is supervised and referees are provided. The league specializes in wholesome competition while teaching the fundamentals of team play and good sportsmanship. Every girl and boy plays in every game.

There will be three divisions: 8 & Under • 10 & Under • 13 & Under
Teams will be drawn at the YMCA Office
Division determined by age of participant on Sept. 1st, 1997.
PROOF OF AGE IS REQUIRED!
*Parents may choose to have their child play up a division based on child's athletic ability. (Please do not request players to be on certain teams)

Restrictions: Elementary grades only. *Exception:* Kindergarten children who meet the age requirements for the 8 & Under division.

Dates: Teams play and practice once a week after the season starts. Practice starts the week of Jan. 12th (depending on availability of gyms) and games begin Saturday, Jan. 17th.
*Coaches will be notified of game location and date of Coaches Meeting.

League Fee and Eligibility: League fee will be \$20.00. Additional children in same family \$15.00 each. All participants must be YMCA members. YMCA Memberships for youth are \$25.00 a year. (Partial memberships are available)
***ENTRY FEE MUST ACCOMPANY REGISTRATION FORM!

Equipment needed: Girls and boys supply their own shoes. (Only tennis shoes will be permitted for play and practice)
All teams will wear pullovers provided by the YMCA.

Scholarships are available for those who need and qualify for assistance.
Contact Weldon or Norma Jean at 364-6990.
For any additional information or registration forms, please call...

364-6990

TRENT LOTT PASCAGOULA, Miss. (AP) - Sea. Trent Lott has lost his head.

A bronze recreation of it, that is. Authorities were searching Tuesday for the bust, which was dislodged from a stone column and stolen this past weekend from the front of the Trent Lott Middle School in Pascagoula.

"I think it's some pranksters," said police Capt. Mike Ezell.

The bust, valued at about \$3,000, was dedicated Aug. 27 with Lott in attendance. Assistant Superintendent Steve Pugh noticed it was missing Sunday.

"We searched the entire school but didn't come up with anything," Principal Anthony Ladner said.

KRISTI YAMAGUCHI

GREENSBORO, N.C. (AP) - Kristi Yamaguchi and two members of the Carolina Hurricanes made an ice cream come true for a 10-year-old girl.

Natalie Wells skated and took a few shots Monday with the Olympic figure skater and pro hockey players Jeff O'Neill and Enrico Ciccone at Greensboro Coliseum.

"I haven't skated in so long," Natalie told Yamaguchi as they walked toward the ice rink while their mothers chatted in the stands.

"I've just always loved Kristi," Natalie said afterward. "I guess since I saw her in the Olympics."

Her visit came courtesy of the Make-A-Wish Foundation, which helps gravely ill children realize their fantasies. Natalie's family has not revealed the life-threatening illness for which she's being treated at Duke Medical Center.

After skating with Yamaguchi, she traded shots with O'Neill and Ciccone.

GERALDO RIVERA

TOM BROKAW NEW YORK (AP) - That full embrace that Geraldo Rivera was seeking from NBC News apparently doesn't include a hug from Tom Brokaw.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS Names in the News

Rivera won't be appearing anytime soon on Brokaw's flagship "NBC Nightly News," an indication that a reported \$30 million contract with the network hasn't completely ended questions about Rivera's reputation.

The new contract allows Rivera, 54, to keep his CNBC program on legal issues, develop a new nightly series on the cable channel and headline four prime-time programs for NBC News.

But before the contract was signed, Brokaw made it clear to NBC News President Andrew Lack that he didn't want Rivera on the nightly news program, spokeswoman Julia Moffett said on Tuesday.

"He does what he does, and I do what I do," Brokaw told The New York Times. "There's very little common ground between us."

"I was thinking of banning Tom from 'Rivera Live,' but in the spirit of the holidays decided not to," Rivera retorted to USA Today.

Both men said Tuesday they didn't want to talk about the matter any more.

"THE CAPEMAN"

NEW YORK (AP) - "The Capeman" has been grounded for nearly two weeks while new material is added and extra rehearsals run for the Paul Simon musical.

The \$11 million Broadway show will open Jan. 29 instead of Jan. 8 at the Marquis Theater, show spokesman John Barlow said Tuesday.

"The Capeman," for which Simon wrote the music and co-wrote the book and lyrics, stars Ruben Blades, Marc Anthony and Ednita Nazario.

It tells the real-life story of Salvador Agron, who stabbed two teen-agers to death in 1959 in the Manhattan neighborhood known as

Hell's Kitchen.

LARRY FLYNT

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Larry Flynt has a new business gamble: He wants to buy a bankrupt casino for \$8 million.

A federal bankruptcy court granted the Hustler magazine publisher permission Monday to purchase the Eldorado Club, which he promised to run as a clean business.

"I've been a gambler all my life. I enjoy it a great deal," Flynt said.

Flynt has until Feb. 17 to buy the 29,000-square-foot club in suburban Gardena, its property and liquor and gaming licenses for \$7.1 million. Another \$900,000 will go for city bonds to build a neighboring parking structure.

His interest in the property was prompted by a casino employee's letter asking if he would take over.

"I just felt he was the person who could run this place," said Maggie Mundet. "Mr. Flynt is a fabulous person. He is intelligent and witty. He is going to make a terrific owner."

PRINCE WILLIAM

PRINCE HARRY LONDON (AP) - Prince William and Prince Harry watched Camilla Parker Bowles participate in a fox hunt this week, marking what is believed to be the first time the boys have crossed paths publicly with their father's longtime mistress.

Prince Charles was nowhere to be seen Monday as Harry, 13, and William, 15, watched Mrs. Parker Bowles participate in the Beaufort Hunt.

The young sons of the late Princess Diana followed the hunt in separate all-terrain vehicles as Mrs. Parker Bowles and Princess Michael of Kent rode just a few miles from Charles'

country mansion.

Diana, who was killed in a car crash last August, had blamed Mrs. Parker Bowles for the breakup of her marriage to Charles.

CRAIG KILBORN

NEW YORK (AP) - Comedy Central wasn't laughing at Craig Kilborn's comments about a co-worker.

The network on Monday suspended the host of "The Daily Show" for a week without pay for "inappropriate" remarks in an Esquire interview about show co-creator Lizz Winstead.

Kilborn and Winstead have reportedly long fought over the show's direction. He was quoted in the magazine's January issue as saying "there are a lot of bitches on

the staff and hey, they're emotional people."

He said Winstead "does find me very attractive" and suggested she would have sex with him if he wanted.

Kilborn apologized for his "regrettable" remarks.

"Though my comments were said in jest and not intended for publication, I realize I have made a terrible mistake for which I am truly sorry," he said.

MARTHA STEWART

WESTPORT, Conn. (AP) - Do call before dropping in on Martha Stewart.

A crew from radio station WHTZ-FM in Secaucus, N.J., talked their way past Stewart's maid Friday, went on the air and found themselves

under arrest on trespassing charges.

The maid thought they were a production crew that was expected. Stewart wasn't home, but when the maid realized her mistake she called Stewart, who told her to call police.

The three, Greg Tyndorf, Scott Boudin and John J. Cunningham, were fined \$77 each.

Boudin is the producer of the station's Z Morning Zoo show. Tyndorf plays Greg T the Frat Boy on the show and Cunningham, the host of a cable access show called Driveways of the Rich and Famous, was a guest.

"This is not something that was initiated by Martha," said Stewart spokeswoman Susan Magrino. "This is something that they initiated themselves by going to her house uninvited."

Television

WEDNESDAY

DECEMBER 17

Television schedule for Wednesday, December 17, listing programs from 6 PM to 11 PM across various channels.

THURSDAY

DECEMBER 18

Television schedule for Thursday, December 18, listing programs from 7 AM to 12 PM across various channels.

Television schedule for Thursday, December 18, listing programs from 12:30 to 5:30 PM across various channels.

Television schedule for Thursday, December 18, listing programs from 6 PM to 11 PM across various channels.

Comics

The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



Marvin

By Tom Armstrong



Blondie

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Barney Google and Snuffy Smith

By Fred Lasswell



Seafood safety rules tightened

WASHINGTON (AP) - Every seafood processor must follow strict new rules starting Thursday to keep tainted fish from reaching Americans.

Hoping to prevent up to 60,000 seafood poisonings a year, the government is requiring processors to prove they do everything from buying only clean, fresh fish off boats to forcing employees to wash their hands.

"There's not a moment when you can let your guard down," said Dr. Michael Friedman, acting commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration.

The long-awaited rules mark the first industrywide test of a touted safety program that the government plans to expand into other foods, starting with meats next month. And because half the seafood eaten in the United States is imported, FDA inspectors will monitor seafood importers for the first time, even send inspectors into some foreign plants, to make sure they meet safety standards.

But consumer advocates say the rules aren't enough, because the FDA won't police fishing boats or retail stores. The question is how effective each seafood plant proves at fighting contamination.

"It's going to take a couple of years before we see ... if the rules really have an impact," said Caroline Smith DeWaal of the Center for Science in the Public Interest.

The FDA actually wrote the new rules two years ago, but gave seafood plants until Thursday to comply.

About 9,000 Americans die every year from food poisoning, but no one knows how many deaths are caused by tainted fish. The FDA estimates 114,000 Americans are sickened by bad seafood each year and that the new rules will prevent up to 60,000 of them.

Seafood is vulnerable to pollution, viruses, bacteria, even natural toxins that emerge if the fish isn't properly chilled.

Democrats target fears about health

WASHINGTON (AP) - Congressional Democrats, getting ready for a major push toward regulating managed care and other health plans, are highlighting public fears that the quality of health care is declining.

"Managed care at its best offers the opportunity to provide high-quality care in a cost-effective way," said Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., who chaired a hearing on the subject Tuesday. With Rep. John Dingell, D-Mich., Kennedy has proposed a "bill of rights" to give patients greater control over their health care plans.

"But, in too many cases today, the pressure for higher profits and lower costs lead to lesser care," Kennedy said.

The panel - all Democrats - heard testimony from patients who have endured medical ordeals under managed care and other plans that try to keep medical costs down by restricting patients' choices of doctors and access to treatments.

ABUSE

From Page 1

in the aggressiveness of the local policy.

"If an assault takes place, someone goes to jail. No exceptions," he said. The minimum situation leading to the arrest of a batterer can be as little as a slap which leaves a red mark or welt. The perpetrator is then charged with a Class C misdemeanor and is taken to jail to wait arraignment.

"This is the victim's chance to get an emergency protective order," Michael said. "We take the weight of the arrest off the victim, but then it's up to her what she does. She has to make the next step."

Unfortunately, there are no enhancements of the simple assault laws. An individual can be charged repeatedly for simple assault.

At the time of the arrest, responding officers will notify trained volunteers and do necessary paperwork to get an immediate emergency protective order issued, but the victim has to request it, Michael said.

"Our volunteers bring in a human element. The officers need to get the facts without an involvement," he said.

There have been dramatic changes since Michael began his career, but he said they are changes for the better.

"We're problem solvers," Michael said. "It was terribly frustrating when officers were not allowed to make an arrest. Now it's only a temporary solution, but it gives the victim a chance to decide what the next step is."

During the seminar, Storie said that alcohol and drugs play a minor role in domestic violence, but Michael disagrees.

"The vast amount of abusers are drunk or high or both when we get on the scene. I can't help but believe drugs and alcohol play a tremendous role in domestic violence," said Michael.

However, both Storie and Michael agree there is a control factor in domestic violence.

"These people are control freaks. They control everything about their families' lives," he said.

Everyone involved with domestic violence agrees that the situations which allow domestic violence to continue must stop. Each agency has its own role to play in breaking the cycle, but the bottom line comes down to the victim's choice.

The victim has to make a choice to decide to call for help. The victim has to decide to apply for a protective order and the victim has to decide to stay out of that situation.

Once any of these choices are made, victims can get help - they just have to ask.

Anyone can be the victim of domestic violence. Anyone who needs help in making the first step to break the cycle should call the Women's and Children's Crisis Center at 363-6727 or 1-888-235-2990.

There also will be a crisis volunteer training session in the spring. For more information on volunteer training, call 363-6727.

4 picked for CofC posts

Four persons have been elected to three-year terms on the Deaf Smith County Chamber of Commerce board of directors, it was announced Wednesday by Don Cumpston, executive vice president.

The new directors to be installed in January are Dee Hamilton, KPAN Radio; Sam Metcalf, Custom Integrated Computer Solutions; George Ochs, West Central School principal; and Mike Veazey, Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative.

Directors were elected by the membership of the chamber in a mail ballot.

FUND

From Page 1

Good Sam Chapter	100.00
AZ's Cattle Co.	200.00
Anonymous	100.00
Lamplighters Sunday School	
Class, E.R.C.	40.00
Earline Schneider	35.00
Frank & Margaret Zinser	100.00
In memory of Ken McLain, Roger	
Rahifs & golf buddies	36.00
Ivan & Frances Block	100.00
Don & Linda Cumpston	100.00
Lynn & Elaine Jones & Martha Wagoner,	
in memory of Stella Wester	
and Robert E. Wagoner	100.00
Bone Train Display	55.00
Children's SS Classes of	
Immanuel Lutheran Church	64.00
Carl & Helen Kleuskens	100.00
TOTAL 12-16-97:	\$11,391.00

YMCA MEN'S 5 ON 5 BASKETBALL

The YMCA Men's Basketball League is designed for men (no age limit) to show their athletic ability in b-ball games and to try their hand in winning a trophy. (1st place, 2nd place, 3rd place). Length of the league will be 6 weeks plus double elimination tournament. The team captain or manager will be responsible for the collection of the entry fee and to have all players listed on the roster in accordance with league guidelines by the start of the third game of the league. Out of town residents may participate in the league. Players must play at least 1/3 of the regular season games to be eligible for the tournament. Games will have 2 referees paid and scheduled by the YMCA.

Sign-up Deadline: Tuesday, January 13th, 1998 at 3:00 pm.

Starting Date: Games will be played on Sundays starting at 1:00 pm, First game will be Sunday, January 18th.

Entry Fee: \$290.00 per team (Teams will not be entered until fee is turned in)

Uniforms: Teams may provide their own or use pullovers provided by the YMCA.

Unsportsman-like Conduct Penalties:

- 1) 1 warning, 2nd one out of the game
- 2) 2nd time out of the game and out of the league
- 3) Cheapshots or undercutting or any unnecessary play that could cause serious injury shall result in immediate ejection from the game. (Consumption of alcohol will not be tolerated)

Rosters will be available at game site. Individual players must have name on roster and be properly registered with their team before playing. As soon as a player participates in a league game they shall be deemed as starting the season. There will be no grace period. Team may start with 3 players, if they are not present then it will be called as a forfeit. Anytime players on the court or on the bench join an altercation that team/teams shall forfeit.

Teams arriving without enough players to field a team may enlist temporary substitutes in order to field a team. The game will be a forfeit but this will allow those present the enjoyment of playing. If there is an odd number of teams, one team will play twice on game day. Intentional foul will be 2 free shots and ball out of bounds.

If you have questions please call the YMCA at... 364-6990 "A United Way Agency"

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We will be closed at 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Plan To Shop Early!

MEAT DEPARTMENT

PORK PICNIC ROAST 89¢ Lb. <small>60¢</small>	FAMILY PACK GROUND BEEF 98¢ Lb. <small>51¢</small>
T-BONE STEAK \$3.99 Lb. <small>1.50</small>	FAMILY PACK PORK CHOPS \$1.39 Lb. <small>60¢</small>
BEST CHOICE TURKEYS ANY SIZE! 69¢ Lb.	

GROCERY DEPARTMENT

YOUR CHOICE 6 PK. 12 OZ. CANS OR 3 LITER COKE, DIET COKE, DR. PEPPER 2/\$3 <small>\$1.00</small>	BEST CHOICE 30ct. EGGS 2/\$5.00 <small>90¢</small>
CHRISTMAS BOUQUET \$4.99	JINGLE BELL PLANT \$12.99
CHRISTMAS TREES 1/2 PRICE \$9.98	LARGE SELECTION OF TOYS BEST PRICES IN TOWN
18 PKG. REG. OR LIGHT COORS \$9.39 <small>\$3.00</small>	

PRODUCE DEPARTMENT

CALIFORNIA NAVEL ORANGES 10/\$1.00 <small>50¢</small>	CORN HUSKS FOR TAMALES 7 oz. bag 99¢ <small>80¢</small>
---	--

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CLASSIFIED
 364-2030
 Fax: 364-8364
 313 N. Lee

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

Times	RATE	MIN
1 day per word	.15	3.00
2 days per word	.26	5.20
3 days per word	.37	7.40
4 days per word	.48	9.60
5 days per word	.59	11.80

CLASSIFIED DISPLAY
 Classified display rates apply to all other ads not set in solid-word lines-those with captions, bold or larger type, special paragraphs; all capital letters. Rates are 5.10 per column inch.

LEGALS
 Ad rates for legal notices are 5.10 per column inch.

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

1. ARTICLES FOR SALE

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

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

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

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

Wood-woven blinds, 6 ft. 2 in. wide by 5 ft.; wood plus orange/gold weave. Very reasonable if you can use them. Call 364-6957. 35636

For Sale: Black BB Gun, Non CO2 powered. Would make a great Christmas gift! Just \$15.00. Call 364-8723 after 4:00 PM. 35677

Who is, Hubert D's?

Senior Citizens Thrift Store
 All skirts & blouses are 50¢ each
 1306 E. Park Ave. • Open Thursday-Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm • Restocked Weekly

2. FARM EQUIPMENT

Custom CRP Planting: Call Kirk Marnell, at 346-2708 or 258-7326. 35618

For Sale: Round Bales, \$25.00. Call 276-5521. 35647

Hereford leading supermarkets and grocery stores advertise in the pages of The Hereford Brand. Shop The Brand ads to look for money-saving coupons and to compare prices. Many Hereford households use The Brand ads to do their shopping at one of Hereford's fine supermarkets!

3. VEHICLES FOR SALE

For Sale: 91 Buick Rivera, Loaded - including a disk player and all works. White with blue leather interior. Clean, Good Tires, \$6700.00. Call Bob Sims at 364-4030 (daytime) or 3646903 (nights). 35634

For Sale: 1988 Lincoln Towncar. Runs good, good tires. \$2500.00. Call 364-0302. 35661

For Sale: 1996 Chevrolet Silverado Pickup, extended cab, tinted windows, v6 automatic. 364-5055 before 3 pm & on weekends. 35663

For Sale: '83 Winnebago, 27 ft., low mileage, in excellent condition. Call 364-4119. 35664

1979 3/4 Ton Ford Pickup, new radial tires, good body, needs head gasket. \$750.00. Call 258-7577. 35667

For Sale: 1990 Lincoln. Call HTFCU and ask for Troy Don, 364-1888. 35673

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

4. REAL ESTATE - CITY

For Sale: Only \$4995.00, 14x48 Mobile Home. 2 BR-A/C, Central Heat. Ideal to move to lake or great for couple. Call 364-6420. 35267

OAKWOOD Homes of Amarillo
 \$499 Down on Single wide... homes O.A.C.
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Best deal in town, 1 bedroom efficiency apartments. Bills paid, red brick apartments. 300 block West 2nd. 364-3566. 920

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

Self-lock storage. 363-6212. 1360

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

For Rent: 1 BR apartment, \$200.00 month. No smoking, no drinking, references needed. Call 364-2179. 35547

Apartments for Rent: 2 & 3 Bedrooms. Stove & Refrigerator furnished. No deposit. Call 364-8805. HUD accepted! 35565

Small apartment-1 person. You pay utilities with only \$10.00 on water bill. \$180.00 with private parking. Call 363-6569. 35678

CROSSWORD

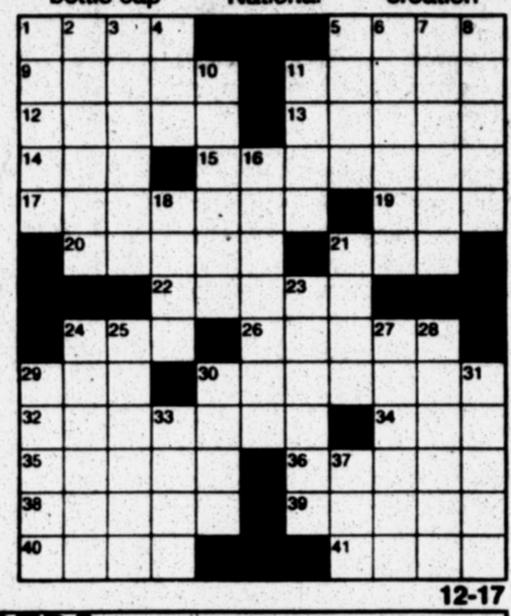
by THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS
 1 Robin Cook book
 5 Agents, for short
 9 By the way
 11 Cap
 12 Crest
 13 Blazing
 14 Genesis name
 15 Truck accessory
 17 Fate
 19 "My Party"
 20 Shocks
 21 Stag's mate
 22 Nouveau
 24 Fire
 26 Morocco city
 29 Sea dog
 30 City near the Dead Sea
 32 Clique
 34 Decimal base
 35 Refers to
 36 Wed secretly
 38 Stuffed-dough treat
 39 Arrested
 40 Church branch
 41 Garden pest

DOWN
 1 Gave a hoot
 2 Martini garnishes
 3 Diffident
 4 Director Lee
 5 Rhythmic phrase
 6 Actor
 7 Pittsburgh player
 8 Dance units
 10 Zodiac twins
 11 Lord's wife
 16 Remove a bottle cap
 18 Rotate
 21 Skater Thomas
 23 Less easy
 24 Eyetooth
 25 Extremely cold
 27 Play start
 28 Horse in "National"
 29 Clock output
 30 Kid
 31 Without break
 33 Take a break
 37 Senate creation

SUPERB PASS
 AZALEA IDOL
 NICEANDEASY
 CREAM
 FITS ZAPS
 JARS GENIUS
 AXE MAD NEE
 BENGAL NUDE
 DEAN POPE
 RISEN
 HARDANDFAST
 EDIE ARABIA
 MOON POTENT

Yesterday's Answer



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-454-7377/199¢ per minute, touch-tone / rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

9. CHILD CARE

Experience Child Care openings for infants & toddlers under 5 years. Call Bonnie Cole at 364-6664. 35298

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 Offering an excellent program of learning and care for your children 0-12! State Licensed
 Also - SPECIAL AFTER-HOURS pick-up for Kindergarten Children!
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KING'S MANOR METHODIST CHILD CARE
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 Monday - Friday
 6:00 am - 6:00 pm
 Drop-ins Welcome
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10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 1-888-My New Auto
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11. BUSINESS SERVICES

Defensive Driving Course is now being offered nights and Saturdays. Will include ticket dismissal and insurance discount. For more information, call 289-5851. #C0023-C0733, McKibben ADS. 700

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

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

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

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

Hereford Music Instrument repair - Guitar lessons, 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM. Monday - Saturday. Call 363-1111, Sugarland Mall. 35260

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 • Supplies
 • Upgrades
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 319 N. Main • 364-6067

13. LOST & FOUND

LOST: 1 full grown male SHAR-PEI (blind), tan color with maroon collar. Call either (806) 364-0480 after 5:00 pm or (806) 265-3480 anytime. REWARD OFFERED!!!! 35656

ST. JUDE Novena
 May The Sacred Heart of Jesus be Adored, Glorified, Loved and Preserved throughout the world, Now and Forever, Sacred Heart of Jesus Pray for us. St. Jude worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude Help the Hopeless, Pray for us. Say this prayer 9 times a day. By the 8th day your prayer will be answered. Say it for 9 days. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised.
 Thank You St. Jude

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 Rent based on income. Accepting applications for 1, 2, 3, 4 bdrms. CALL Debra or Janis TODAY for information & directions. 12-5pm (806)364-6661. Equal Opportunity.

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FOR RENT
 Office Space - 415 N. Main
FOR LEASE
 Warehouse, dock high, 4,000 sq. ft.
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 364-1483 (Office) or 364-3937 (Home)

6. WANTED

ROOFING, small hot ROOFS and General Roofing Repairs. Weldon Toews - 276-5763. 35079

Custom CRP Mowing, Kenneth Williams, Box 433, Vega, Texas, 79092. Call (806)267-2474. 35299

Shredding - cotton, milo, corn stalks. Other types of plowing also. Reasonable rates. Call 364-4263 or 344-4263. 35579

Experienced CRP sowing--Rodney Hunter, 647-5539 or Richard Hunter, 276-5357. 35657

8. HELP WANTED

Hereford Care Center needs R.N.'s, L.V.N.'s, Medication Aides, & C.N.A.'s. Come by 231 Kingwood or call 364-7113. 33472

Kings Manor Methodist Nursing Home has opening for Med-Aides, CNA's, LVN's. Opening for weekend RN. Contact Kings Manor, 400 Ranger, Hereford. 34525

NEEDED: Treatment Nurse, flexible hours available. Call or come by Hereford Care Center, 231 Kingwood, 364-7113. 35581

Whales are born tail first.
 When giving birth, mother whales are often helped by other whales.

Knowles Trucking, Amarillo, Tx. needs single & team OTR drivers. Must have CDL/Hazmet, 2 years experience. Good MVR. Competitive pay scales & benefits. Call 800-241-6679 or 806 371-7146. 35628

Experienced drivers & or lease operators needed for established trucking company. Must have tank experience and be 25 + years of age. If you qualify, call 800-737-0047. 35665

Wanted 32 people: Are you ready to lose those 20 + unwanted pounds? Call (303) 480-8217. 35669

Needed pen rider--must have at least 6 months experience. Apply in person, ask for Jared at Catletown, Inc. 35681

HELP WANTED

LVN Treatment Nurse Position available 6-2 and 2-10. Must have current Texas LVN license. Must be dependable and have good people skills. Apply at Kings Manor Methodist Retirement Center 400 Ranger Hereford, Texas

CLERICAL OFFICE POSITION

Position requires experience with Data-entry, filing, telephone and general office skills. Must fill position next week. Send resume & references to:

P. O. Box 2257
 Hereford, Texas 79045
 Attn: Rodney

The City of Hereford will accept applications for the following position:

LEAD LIFEGUARD
 Salary: \$1,200 month

Job description and application forms may be picked up at the City Hall, 224 N. Lee, Hereford.

Town & Country FOOD STORES
 COME EXPERIENCE THE TOWN & COUNTRY DIFFERENCE
 Now hiring part-time & full-time employees, excellent benefits, health insurance, paid sick leave, 1st year 2 wks. paid vacation, retirement plan, stock purchase plan & college reimbursement program.
 Applications are available at your nearest Town & Country location. Drug testing required. E.O.E.

Writing Want Ads that really sell!

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.

JOHN GUNNIFF

Business Mirror

What 60 years of taxes say

NEW YORK (AP) - Taxes do more than just finance government, provide benefits and drive millions of taxpayers into a frenzy around April 15. They also provide something of a social and economic history lesson.

By The Associated Press
A sampling of editorial opinion from Texas newspapers:
The Galveston County Daily News on Karla Faye Tucker execution:
In rejecting an appeal from Karla Faye Tucker, the U.S. Supreme Court ... cleared the way for the nation's second execution of a woman since capital punishment resumed in 1976.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS Editorials

Fort Worth Star-Telegram on Bill Lann Lee nomination fight:
With the Senate in recess, President Clinton has announced that he will appoint the son of Chinese immigrants as assistant attorney general for civil rights...

The Courier (Conroe) on Karla Faye Tucker execution:
For Gov. George W. Bush, it's probably one power he'd rather not have, at least for the moment.
Bush will get to determine whether he will be the governor who permits the first execution of a woman in Texas since 1863.

San Antonio Express-News on rebuilding America's national parks:
The National Park Service, which oversees national parks, battlefields and historic sites, is in trouble.
The parks are extremely popular, but Park Service officials and the members of Congress who oversee them have made bad decisions about these grand places.

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

The Dallas Morning News on falling expectations for Pan American summit:
Is the Clinton administration wimping out on free trade?
Three years ago, President Clinton convened a Pan American summit in Miami. Every American republic except Cuba was represented. All agreed to create a Pan American free-trade area by 2005.

The Monitor (McAllen) on neglected facility:
McAllen officials must be frustrated with their inability to take over the abandoned armory along Expressway 83. The National Guard Army Board has rejected the city's bid to rent the facility until the city can buy it outright.

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Richard Schlabs Amber Griffith

Price effective: Tuesday, December 16, 1997.
CATTLE FUTURES
GRAN FUTURES
METAL FUTURES
FUTURES OPTIONS

Now, don't get us wrong. Education is good. Education is important. It has always been on the leaders' agenda. But that's not what made them so giddy in Miami. The proposal to integrate the hemisphere's economies did that.

HOSPITAL
From Page 1
deadline for accepting bids.
The bids received by the hospital district were:
SELF-INSURANCE
- Ted L. Parker, \$513,145;
- Eagle (Amarillo), \$528,147; and
- Texas Municipal League, \$761,779.

Received a report on the installation of a new telephone system. The installation has required relocation of the phone room and rerouting of some lines, all of which is being done by the hospital maintenance staff, Bailey said.

UTILITY PROPOSES TWO YEARS OF RATE CUTS
DALLAS (AP) - Texas Utilities Electric Co. plans to cut rates over the next two years, a move that would save many residential customers almost \$100 during the period.

POLITICS OF CARS: Autos are driving issue in Mauro's campaign

By RON FOURNIER
AP Political Writer
WASHINGTON - For the latest trend in politics, look no farther than your driveway: Insurance and tax rates on cars, issues that drove November governors' races in Virginia and New Jersey, are catching the eye of candidates in 1998 campaigns.

Garry Mauro, trying to unseat heavily favored Texas Gov. George W. Bush, is promising to eliminate the sales tax on cars and shrink auto insurance rates. He wants to portray his opponent as uncaring and boost his campaign's credibility with the test-driven themes.

Consultants of all stripes predict cars will be an issue in many midterm campaigns.

"I think the nature of politics is we all sit on the back of the truck observing the events that just passed - and then copy them," said Chicago-based Democratic consultant David Axelrod.

"We are a nation of automobiles. We love our automobiles. Autos are the American way. So when you start talking about what they're taxed and how much it will cost to operate them, that has great importance to the American people," said consultant Karl Struble, who helped make the issue fashionable as a consultant to

New Jersey Democrat James McGreevey.

Though cars were not the only issue in November, exit polls showed that McGreevey's focus on car insurance rates nearly cost Gov. Christie Whitman her job and Republican James Gilmore's pledge to kill a personal-property tax on cars was a key to his victory in Virginia.

Mauro, who has hired McGreevey pollster Mark Penn, accused Bush last week of creating a windfall for insurance companies through tort reforms that have not reduced rates for Texans.

Bush conceded in a news conference that rates had risen since

he took office in 1995, but said he had "laid the groundwork" to reduce them in the future.

Mauro also wants to eliminate the 6.25 percent sales tax on cars. His campaign says Mauro would save Texans \$200 a year in insurance premiums and about two months worth of car payments in sales taxes.

What works in Hoboken may not work in Houston.

New Jersey has the highest-in-the-nation car insurance rates; Texas is below the national average. Gilmore attacked a property tax that came due at election time; Mauro is targeting a sales tax that is absorbed in the purchase price of

cars. Gilmore and McGreevey were in tight races; Bush is 50 points up in the polls and raising \$16 for every \$1 Mauro gets.

"It's going to take something more explosive than cars to win," said University of Texas political science professor Bruce Buchanan.

Mauro argues that Bush's record on car taxes and insurance proves that the incumbent does not understand the hardships of average Texans. "George Bush and Austin insiders put corporate families ahead of Texas families," he said.

A longtime friend and adviser of President Clinton, Mauro said his campaign will focus on health care

and education. Yet he does not hide from the fact that he stole the car issues from New Jersey and Virginia. "Gosh, you noticed," he said with a chuckle.

"It gives credibility to my candidacy," Mauro said. With pundits dismissing his chances against Bush, Mauro said using a successful tactic from outside Texas will make political reporters and Democratic donors take note.

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Business owner in ag race

AUSTIN (AP) - Citing his business experience and ties to agriculture - while acknowledging he has never made a living as a farmer - Hamp Hodges launched his bid for the Republican nomination for Texas agriculture commissioner Tuesday.

"I am a businessman ... I am the only candidate that has successfully put together a business and managed it that is as big or larger than the Texas Department of Agriculture," said Hodges, 59, from Paris, Texas.

Hodges founded a natural resources and light manufacturing company, Fort Worth-based Buffton Corp., which he said grew into a \$100 million business. He now is on the board of directors of BFX Hospitality Group Inc., which has properties including the Fort Worth Stockyards Hotel and Houston's Cabo restaurants.

The Texas Department of Agriculture has a \$22.6 million annual budget, he said.

While Hodges said he hasn't earned a living as farmer or rancher, his grandfather, father and wife were raised on-farm and ranch operations near Paris, Texas. He said he worked on cattle and hay operations as a youth until entering West Point. He said he served eight years in the Army, including combat duty in Vietnam, resigning as a major.

Hodges is a landowner and a former ranch owner in Lamar County, according to his campaign literature, and has owned ranch land in Midland since 1978. He has run unsuccessfully for Congress.

His campaign treasurer is his longtime friend, retired Alabama football coach Gene Stallings, who before Alabama coached at Texas A&M and with the St. Louis Cardinals and Dallas Cowboys in the NFL.

Also seeking the GOP nomination for agriculture commissioner is former state representative Susan Combs, a fourth-generation rancher who is a former Dallas assistant district attorney.

"Susan Combs combines business experience with vitally needed background in agriculture. Susan has run a small business for 17 years, a cow-calf operation in West Texas. Additionally, she has experience working for the regional administrator of the General Services Administration, and of course that organization has a big budget and lots of employees," said campaign spokesman Reggie Bashur.

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