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Hereford Brand

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DEE ANNE TROTTER
... Memory honored

Contributions to Trotter fund eclipse \$85,000

Special to The Brand
CANYON -- Family and friends of the late Dee Anne Trotter of Hereford, a 1981 graduate of West Texas A&M University and a member of the WTAMU Foundation board, have contributed more than \$85,000 to a scholarship fund established in her memory for WTAMU music majors.

The \$85,000-plus is the largest amount of money contributed to a memorial endowment through the WTAMU Foundation, according to university records. The endowment will fund two President's Honor Scholarships.

Trotter died Dec. 30, 1997, after a four-month bout with cancer. "She had an incredible love for music," her husband, Johnny, said. "Her love of music and for helping other people is what made her memorable."

Trotter's mother, Jeanie Caison of Hereford, said her daughter loved to play for people.

"Music was always a part of her life," Caison said. "Dee Anne could sit down and play anything from classical music to country and western music, and she was good at it. She could play it all."

Johnny and Dee Anne Trotter,

married in July 1981, were co-owners and managers of the Bar G Feedlot in Hereford, one of the largest single-location cattle feedyards in the United States, according to Geneva Schaeffer, chairman of the WTAMU Foundation board of directors and a friend of Trotter.

"Her focus was first on God, then her family and then music," Schaeffer said. "Music was very important to her. This endowment is a wonderful tribute to Dee Anne and a testimony to her life of helping students interested in music."

Contributions for the endowment have been received from all over the

United States.

"Dee Anne knew a lot of people," Johnny Trotter said. "Our son, Eddie, made the All-American trapshooting team, and she would take him to the competitions all over the U.S. She was a real vivacious person who loved to meet people."

Caison said her daughter held family values very close to heart.

"Her husband and her son were her life," Caison said. "She taught Eddie everything."

According to her husband, Trotter put herself through college by playing in a band with her siblings, Sandy Walden, now of Amarillo, and

Rodney Caison of Hereford.

"Their band was called Caison Kids," Johnny Trotter said. "They played in country clubs and for other kinds of gatherings in Amarillo, Hereford and just about anywhere else."

Dee Anne Trotter, the daughter of G.D. and Jeanie Caison, was born and raised in Hereford. She was a 1977 graduate of Hereford High School, where she was a feature twirler and band member. In 1977, she was named Miss Hereford and later competed in the Miss Texas Pageant.

See TROTTER, Page 9

WINTER'S BACK



Brand Photo

The calendar is on the mark, it's just been the weather's been off the mark lately. But snow began falling this morning, covering these shrubs with its white blanket. The snowfall is a reminder that winter will still be around for a few more weeks.

Archer asks to revise capital gains

WASHINGTON (AP) - The chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee plans to include in his tax-cut bill this year a proposal to simplify the complex capital-gains rules.

"For 16 million Americans, capital gains have become a capital headache," the chairman, Rep. Bill Archer, R-Texas, said in a statement Wednesday. He wants to repeal an aspect of the 1997 tax reduction bill that requires taxpayers to hold stocks or other assets for more than 18 months to qualify for the best capital-gains tax rate.

But people who "flip" stocks - buy and sell within a year - won't see any benefit from the new law. The Clinton administration pushed for the 18-month holding period in order to discourage speculative trading.

Archer and others said this holding period, among other changes, makes it much more difficult to calculate capital-gains taxes.

"Eliminating the complicated 18-month holding period will be a major simplification of the tax code," Archer said.

Treasury Department spokesman Howard Schloss defended the holding period.

"This was part of last year's bipartisan agreement, and it was done for sound policy reasons," Schloss said.

NEWS in brief

Whitewater prosecutors offer deal to Susan McDougal for her testimony

WASHINGTON (AP) - In a last-ditch effort to secure her cooperation, Whitewater prosecutors have offered to let Susan McDougal testify by videotape away from a grand jury but suggest if the plan is rejected, she risks further prosecution.

In a Jan. 21 letter, the text of which was obtained by The Associated Press, the prosecutors called their offer "quite extraordinary and to our knowledge without precedent."

Ms. McDougal, one of two former Whitewater business partners of President Clinton and his wife, Hillary, has been jailed on civil contempt charges for the past 17 months for refusing a federal judge's order to answer Whitewater prosecutors' questions before a federal grand jury.

In recent months, she has portrayed herself as a political prisoner, even denied needed medical care for a breast tumor. She says she refuses to testify because she believes Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr is trying to get her to lie to incriminate the president in decade-old Arkansas business dealings.

Starr's office repeatedly has denied her allegations and stated she would be freed by a judge as soon as she testifies, calling her testimony essential since her former husband, James McDougal, began cooperating in 1996.

"The purpose of this letter is to make a proposal that I hope and believe can resolve Ms. McDougal's contempt situation entirely," Associate Independent Counsel Michael W. Emmick wrote Ms. McDougal's lawyers.

"Ms. McDougal has offered a number of reasons

why she refuses to testify before the grand jury," Emmick wrote. "It goes without saying that we regard your client's concerns as unwarranted."

Pentagon keeping close watch on sky in preparation for attack on Iraq

WASHINGTON (AP) - Military planners pay as much attention to the waxing and waning of the moon as young lovers and mythical werewolves: A dark sky with little or no visible crescent is the best time to launch an attack.

The U.S. Naval Observatory, which keeps track of the lunar calendar, says the next new moon will be Feb. 26, creating a potential window of opportunity for a possible U.S. strike on Iraq. The 1991 Persian Gulf War was launched Jan. 17, two days after the new moon arrived Jan. 15, continuing a long military tradition of surprising the enemy in the dead of night.

"There are three or four nights of darkness on either side of the new moon," Geoff Chester, a spokesman for the observatory, said Wednesday. "It certainly helps to have no moon. When it's full, it illuminates the sky."

The Clinton administration hasn't decided whether to launch an attack on Iraq with the stated goal of knocking out suspected sites of chemical and biological weapons making. But Secretary of State Madeleine Albright has said such a strike could come in a matter of weeks if Iraq hadn't complied with U.N. resolutions allowing international inspectors full access to such suspected sites, including Saddam Hussein's many presidential palaces.

Defense Secretary William Cohen, who began a U.S. military buildup in the Persian Gulf region after the Iraqi crisis began in the fall, has said he has enough military might to do the job - two aircraft carriers, 320 aircraft and more on their way and about 30,000 troops stationed in the region.

Now, the only question - if diplomacy fails - is when to strike. So far, the administration says publicly there is no deadline for Iraq to comply.

A full moon could make attacking planes easier targets for Iraq's anti-aircraft artillery and surface-to-ground missiles, according to military planners.



Incumbency pays off in campaign donations

WASHINGTON (AP) - Incumbency has its rewards.

As Texas congressional candidates head into an election year, they are carrying a gigantic financial advantage over their challengers, illustrating one of the basic precepts of politics: Campaign money overwhelmingly flows to those already in power.

Democrats and Republicans campaigning for re-election in 29 of the state's 30 House districts (only veteran Rep. Henry B. Gonzalez of San Antonio isn't seeking another two-year term) boasted a 9-to-1 lead over challengers in contributions raised last year.

The incumbents collected \$9.1 million from individual contributors and special interests alike in 1997, according to an Associated Press review of year-end campaign finance reports filed recently with the Federal Election Commission.

The 49 major-party challengers, by contrast, posted just over \$1 million in receipts for all of 1997.

Flush with contributions, incumbents kicked off the new year with war chests totaling \$8.3 million. Major-party challengers headed into an election year with less than \$800,000 in cash on hand, according to the FEC filings.

"It's definitely typical to see the incumbents raising drastically more money than their challengers," said Paul Hendrie of the Center for Responsive Politics, a public-interest watchdog group that tracks the flow of money in Washington. "The ability of incumbents to raise this kind of money has to do, we think, with the lack of real competition in many cases."

Ninety percent of incumbents nationwide were re-elected to the House in 1994 - the year Republicans ended a four-decade Democratic lock on the House. Two years later, the incumbent re-election rate was 94 percent.

Texas has closely mirrored those national trends, seeing only five incumbents bested by challengers in the last two election cycles: Demo-



LARRY COMBEST
... incumbent

crats Jack Brooks, Bill Sarpalis and Craig Washington in 1994; and Republicans Greg Laughlin and Steve Stockman in 1996.

Unlike the rollicking 1996 election cycle, when Texas was a major battleground for both political parties, this year's election picture appears far more placid with less than a handful of targeted races.

In fact, eight of the 29 House members seeking re-election face no opposition in the March primary or November general election: Republicans Dick Arme of Irving, Sam Johnson of Plano and Lamar Smith of San Antonio; along with Democrats Lloyd Doggett of Austin, Chet Edwards of Waco, Gene Green and Sheila Jackson Lee of Houston, and Silvestre Reyes of El Paso.

Lack of opposition hasn't kept some from building their already sizable war chests.

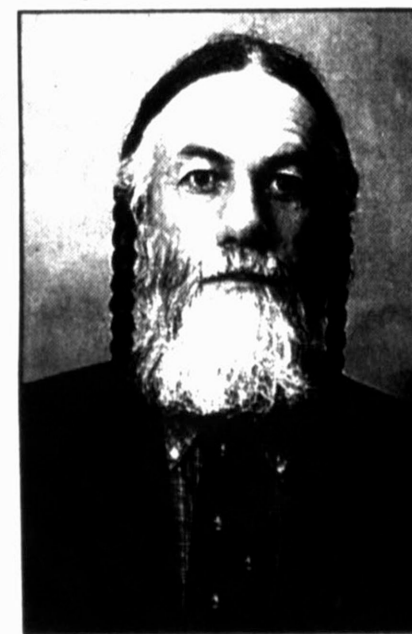
Arme, who is No. 2 in the House Republican leadership, raked in more money last year than any other Texas politician in Washington except for GOP Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison. She took in just under \$2 million last year, while Arme raised \$1.3 million for his campaign coffers.

Neither Mrs. Hutchison nor the state's senior senator, Republican Phil Gramm, face re-election this year. But with her term up in 2000, Mrs. Hutchison already has \$4.3 million in the bank. Gramm, who doesn't have another date at the Texas polls until 2002, has more than \$600,000 on hand.

In Texas' 19th District, which includes Deaf Smith County, incumbent Republican Larry Combest has raised \$165,405. Combest has spent \$90,557 and has \$402,817 on hand. About 36 percent of Combest's contributions are from PACs. Combest has no primary opposition.

Combest's Democratic opponent in November, Sidney Blankenship of Adrian, reported no campaign activity.

Bulging campaign accounts serve in many instances to warn off potential challengers, Hendrie and other critics of the current campaign finance system contend. "It affects challengers first of all by scaring off people who otherwise might have the credentials, the resume and the ideas," he said. "Secondly, it prevents them from getting their message across."



SIDNEY BLANKENSHIP
... challenger

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THE HEREFORD BRAND

Local Roundup

Four day weekend for HJHS

Hereford Junior High School students will have a school holiday on Tuesday, Feb. 17. This day is in combination with the scheduled President's Day holiday. The staff will have a professional development day to study the TAAS. The extra holiday is for Jr. High Students only. All other schools will have normal classes. Students are reminded not to go onto other school campuses on Tuesday.

Southern Plains Study Club

The Promised Land Network will sponsor its 1998 Southern Plains Study Club meeting at 7 p.m. Feb. 19 at the Catholic Student Center in Canyon.

The meeting is open to the public, and will focus on the topic: "Environmentalism and Agriculture: Do We Have the Same Goal?"

The agenda includes a facilitated discussion of the book "Changes in the Land: Indians, Colonists, and the Ecology of New England" by William Cronon. Participants will review an additional essay by Cronon entitled, "The Trouble With Wilderness, or Getting Back to the Wrong Nature." reading material provides some important ideas for bridging the concerns of agriculture and environmentalism.

Short presentations will be given by Lynn Neimeyer of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Department and Canyon High School teacher Bill Stocker concerning the Buffalo Lake Refuge near Umbarger.

For more information, contact PLN office at 364-4445.

Sewing clinic

"Sewing with Rebecca" is a community service adult education program sponsored by the Deaf Smith County Library. The class, taught by Rebecca Walls, is for anyone interested in improving sewing techniques, whether beginner or accomplished seamstress. Classes will meet Monday nights from 6-8 p.m. in the Story Room of the library.

March classes will feature selection, placement, and alteration of patterns. Rebecca welcomes any requests for special needs. All classes will include instruction on the care of sewing machines. To make your reservations, please call Rebecca at 364-1206.

Decreasing cloudiness

Tonight, decreasing clouds with a low in the mid-20s, light and variable wind, becoming southwest 10-15 mph.

Friday, partly cloudy with a high around 60, southwest wind 15-20 mph with higher gusts.

3-DAY FORECAST

Saturday, becoming mostly cloudy with a slight chance of showers, low in lower 30s and high near 60.

Sunday, mostly cloudy with a slight chance of rain, low around 30 and high in the upper 50s.

Monday, cloudy with a chance of rain, low in the lower 30s and high in the lower 50s.

WEDNESDAY RECAP

High, 56; low, 33; no precipitation.

NEWS

in brief

Victims' parents outraged after 13-year-old given probation
FORT WORTH (AP) — The families of three girls who were molested by a 13-year-old boy expressed outrage and cursed a judge after the boy was released on probation.

The boy, who admitted molesting three girls, ages 4, 5 and 6, was given probation Wednesday by District Judge Jean Hudson Boyd.

Angry relatives and friends called the sentence a "slap on the wrist" and said the teen-ager robbed their children of their innocence.

"You know what they did? They told him that's OK," said the 4-year-old's godmother.

The judge prohibited the boy from unsupervised contact with children and ordered him to undergo sex-offender therapy. She also ordered the teen to wear an electronic monitor and report to the sex-offender unit at the juvenile probation department.

Man sentenced for hiring teens to kill his wife

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A man convicted of hiring two teenagers to kill his estranged wife has been sentenced to 25 years in prison.

Robert E. Lee, 34, had asked for probation, but jurors deliberated for less than three hours before setting punishment for the former coin laundry operator who had no prior criminal record.

Lee had been convicted on charges of conspiracy to commit capital murder and criminal solicitation of a minor to commit capital murder. Jurors set his punishment at 25 years in prison on each charge. The sentences will run concurrently.

Kimberly Lee was granted a divorce from her husband of 12 years in December. She and her two children were abducted on April 14. The teenagers cut her throat, burglarized her home and stole her truck.

Testimony in Lee's trial revealed he hired two Edison High School students to kill his wife for \$6,000.

Organic farmers oppose proposed rules

AUSTIN (AP) — Proposed organic labeling rules fall short of the standards people expect from such groceries, a Texas growers' group says.

"Consumers should care because the consumers' perception is the product they're buying, taking home and preparing for their families doesn't have any of these (synthetic) materials in it. A consumer has to trust in the organic label," Steve Sprinkel, vice president of the Texas Organic Growers Association, said Wednesday.

If there are loopholes in the rules, "then the consumer won't have anything to trust," said Sprinkel, who has farmed for 25 years.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has delayed action on the new rules following an outcry from pro-organic groups.

Committee considering 'civil commitment' law

AUSTIN (AP) — A legislative committee is considering a proposal to implement "civil commitment," a new law that would allow the state to institutionalize some violent sexual predators for treatment after their prison terms end.

The legislation would give the state a new method of dealing with such criminals if it is determined that they are a continuing danger to the public and likely to commit further sex offenses.

"The status quo is simply not sufficient to handle this type of unique threat to our communities," said Sen. Florence Shapiro, R-Plano, who chairs the Senate Interim Committee on Sex Offenders.



VASE participants

Hereford High School students in Gayla Kimball's art classes recently completed in the UIL Visual Art Scholastic Event (VASE). They earned a total of 16 first place medals and 20 certificates and two students came away with state qualifying pieces. Students who participated are, front row from left, Alex Celaya, Crissey Barrick, Charlotte Parman, Vickie Hernandez, Nora Claudio; back row from left, Brady Parker, Chris Hendershot, Matt Cosby, Carlos Martinez-state qualifier; and Jacob Fenhaus-state qualifier. Not pictured are Nick Celaya, Kitt Jennings and Robert Chavarria.

Texas, La., upgrades cost UP \$570 mil

After rejecting offers from two competitors to operate some congested Houston-area lines, Union Pacific Railroad says it will spend about \$570 million in Texas and Louisiana over the next two years to upgrade its system.

The company also said Wednesday it will evaluate operations and infrastructure requirements along a 1,200-mile corridor between El Paso and New Orleans. The analysis also will include its rail complex at Houston and north-south connecting routes.

"We are developing a strategy to cover the next three to five years that will align our railroad operations, route structure and capacity investment with our customers' business plans," Union Pacific chairman Dick Davidson said in a statement issued by the company.

Fort Worth-based Burlington Northern Santa Fe is Union Pacific's biggest competitor in the Houston area. It offered joint ownership with Union Pacific of a line between Houston and New Orleans.

Kansas City Southern, based in

Kansas City, Mo., has offered to run its own route through Houston and allow Burlington Northern to use that route for trains running to New Orleans. That proposal is backed by the Texas Railroad Commission and shippers calling for more competition in the Houston market.

Union Pacific, based in Omaha, Neb., has rejected both offers.

The rail congestion on the Union Pacific lines has caused an estimated \$2 billion in economic losses nationwide since July, said Bernard Weinstein, director of the Center for

Economic Development and Research at the University of North Texas.

Weinstein said most the disruptions have been centered around Houston.

The company said over half of its planned capital investment is scheduled this year in Houston and for lines linking Houston and New Orleans. That would represent 20 percent of all of the company's spending for track work, capacity and facilities for the 35,000-mile system in 23 states, Union Pacific said.

Of this year's plans, Union Pacific said:

- \$220 million will be spent to upgrade major routes, terminals and industrial areas. That will include new rail and ties, signals and bridge upgrades.

- \$53 million will be spent on expanding the system's capacity.

- \$13 million will be spent on facilities to meet specific customer needs.

Union Pacific said major projects in the Houston area include construction of tracks at its Strang yard and storage-in-transit tracks for the chemical business in Spring. Other storage-in-track construction and extension is scheduled for Longview, Texas.

The company said its long-term study is designed to determine what upgrades are needed to keep pace with chemical plant expansions on the Gulf Coast and other business expansions.

The study will include all operations, including gateways to and from Mexico, in the El Paso-New Orleans corridor, the company said.



8th Grade UIL competitors

Students in Hereford Jr. High band compete last weekend at WTAMU's UIL solo and ensemble competition. The students received good, excellent and superior ratings for their work. Eighth grade students who participated were Aaron Landers, Ammie Wharton, Amy Bell, Brandy Solano, Brandy Jesko, Brittney Brown, Danielle Parmon, Hannah Williams, Heather Brown, Kristi Garza, Lisa Dominguez, Dominique Brown, Regina Condarco, Stefan Friemel, Tyler Martin, Eric Pesina, Drew Denison, Juan Aguillon, Philip Curtis, Lacey Rowe.

THE BRAND

Obituaries

CHRISTOPHER PIERCE

Jan. 26, 1998

Memorial services for Christopher Glenn Pierce, 26, of Big Spring were Feb. 2, 1998, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home Chapel, with Rev. Flynn Long officiating. Interment was in the Roy Cemetery in Roy, N.M.

Mr. Pierce died Jan. 30, at the Scenic Mountain Medical Center after a long illness. He was born March 25, 1971, and was a lifelong resident of Big Spring.

He was the founder of the Howard County Coalition for the Environment, and was active in the West Texas Chapter of Multiple Sclerosis Society and was their 1992 Ambassador.

Survivors include his parents, Glenn and Barbara Pierce of Big Spring; one brother, Brian Pierce of Odessa; one sister, Dana Gregory of Sherman; maternal grandmother, Obara Zachary of Roy, N.M.; paternal grandparents, U.V. and Wilma Pierce of Hereford; six nieces and nephews and a number of aunts, uncles, and cousins.

The family suggests memorials to the National MS Society, West Texas Chapter, P.O. Box 4636, Midland, Texas, 79704.

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

Allstate info questioned

AUSTIN (AP) — Allstate Insurance is trying to trick Texans into lower accident settlements, a consumer group complained Wednesday. Allstate said it's doing no such thing.

THE HEREFORD BRAND

Emergency services

Activities reported by emergency services personnel for Feb. 11, 1998 include the following:

Police Department Arrests

--A 45-year-old man was arrested in the 600 block of Whittier Street for public intoxication.

--A criminal mischief, damage to a mailbox, was reported in the 100 block of Pecan.

--A two car accident was reported in the 200 block of Avenue H. No injuries were reported.

--A two car accident was reported at the intersection of 25 Mile Avenue and North Lee. No injuries were reported.

Sheriff's Department Arrests

--A 33 year-old man was arrested for parole violations.

--A 28 year-old man was arrested for driving while intoxicated.

The Texas Insurance Department is looking into the matter.

The complaint revolves around a "Quality Service Pledge" Allstate mails to people involved in wrecks with drivers carrying insurance with the company.

The pledge says Allstate will do everything possible to explain the claims process and to keep the people involved fully informed.

It also explains that while drivers have a right to hire an attorney, they don't necessarily need one and might actually get less money if using an attorney.

"Attorneys often take up to one-third of the settlement you receive after deducting expenses incurred. If you settle with Allstate, however, the total amount of the settlement is yours," the letter says.

TDI spokesman Mark Hanna said the agency is investigating.

"We're just checking out the words on it to make sure they say something an insurance company should be saying," he said.

At least three other states have taken some action against Allstate's letters, including a state law prohibiting them in Connecticut, according to Dan Lambe, of Texas Citizens Action.

"Allstate is trying to pull the wool over the eyes of Texas drivers and Texas families," he added.

Nonsense, replied Allstate spokeswoman Sharon Cooper.



TEXAS LOTTO

AUSTIN (AP) — No ticket correctly matched all six numbers drawn Wednesday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

The jackpot was worth an estimated \$4 million.

The numbers drawn Wednesday night from a field of 50 were: 29-31-33-34-36-39

Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated \$8 million.

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday by the Texas Lottery, in order: 1-8-8

THE HEREFORD BRAND

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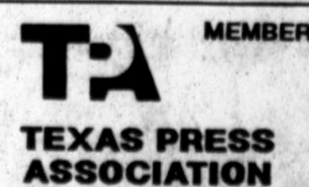
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Lifestyles

Ann Landers

Being forthright, firm with parents may eliminate 'caged bird' feelings

Dear Ann Landers: I am in my mid-40s, never married and have lived on my own and supported myself since I became an adult. Several years ago, my aging parents and I moved into adjacent housing so I would live near enough to help care for them as their health declined. I had reservations about this but felt I needed to be there for them. My four siblings live out of town so I can't depend on them for day-to-day help.

It has become an unbearable situation. I have no privacy. My mother looks out her window to make sure my car is in the driveway. She waits up until I come home, becomes upset if I stay out later than usual and wants to know where I am at all times. She asks for the phone numbers of my friends so she can call and check on me. It is embarrassing when my friends call and ask, "Are you OK? Your mother was looking for you last night."

My parents think I should spend all my days off with them, and they resent any time I spend with my friends. I feel like a caged bird. I love my parents and want to help them, but I need to have some space to live my own life. Please help me. I am desperate. -- No Name, No City

Dear No Name: If it is at all possible, I suggest that you move. If this option is not feasible, you must explain to your parents, as you did to me, that their phoning friends to check on you is embarrassing and must stop. Be forthright and firm

about it, and please don't let that demon "unearned guilt" deter you from getting your well-deserved independence.

Dear Ann Landers: A while back, a reader from Topeka said we have to develop a better work ethic in this country. I've got news for Topeka. We HAD a fine work ethic in this country. It was murdered in the '80s and '90s by thousands of layoffs caused by greedy corporate raiders piling up debt on companies in order to make a quick killing. Solvent companies laid off hundreds of workers just to fatten up their bottom lines so that Wall Street would bid up their stocks.

Why should anybody give their best effort on the job? No one cares about the worker anymore. Growing up in the '60s, we were taught that giving your best would always ensure your employment. That's baloney. It's all a matter of random chance whether or not your job continues. I've been laid off twice through no fault of my own. This is why there's no work ethic in this country. Wake up, corporate America! -- Disgusted in Merrick, N.Y.

Dear Merrick: Thanks for your frank appraisal of corporate America. Hello, LaSalle Street, Chicago. Hello, Wall Street, N.Y. Greetings, Silicon Valley, Calif. Does a member of the establishment wish to respond? If so, I'll print it.

Dear Ann Landers: Since the cold and flu season comes every year,

I have a gripe against my church. We belong to a Catholic parish, and before we receive communion, we offer the people around us -- front, back and either side -- the wish of "peace be with you." We end up shaking their hands.

Ann, these are people who are constantly coughing and sneezing, who have runny noses and who--knows-what-else. Shaking hands is one of the most common ways of transferring the cold virus. I'm all for acknowledging people and wishing them well, but why do I have to touch them? -- Shaking in Wisconsin

Dear Wisconsin: You can politely decline to shake hands. I put this same question to a politician friend of mine several years ago, and this is what he said, "I go to the washroom immediately after the handshaking and scrub my hands with soap and warm water. Occasionally, I wash my face, too, since some women want to kiss me." He then added, sheepishly, "If I think it's going to be a close race, I let 'em."

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. (In Canada, send \$5.15.)



Computer program

Randy Williams, right, member of the American Business Club of Hereford (AMBUCS) checks out Hereford's web page at a recent AMBUCS meeting. A program on computers and use of the Internet was presented by Foster Electronics employees Shannon Redwine, left, office manager, and Chris Trice, service technician. Hereford AMBUCS have planned other activities in observance of February as National AMBUCS Month.

Hospital Notes

Report from Hereford Regional Medical Center for Feb. 12:
Admitted: Marissa Alanez.
Dismissed: Willie Stansbury.

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Plank recipient of achievement award from Amarillo Women's Network

Former Hereford resident Faye Plank has been selected by Amarillo Women's Network as the 1998 Lifetime Achievement Award winner.

Plank and 1998 Career Achievement Award winners will be honored at a reception at 5:30 p.m. Feb. 19 in the Virgil Patterson Auditorium of Boatmen's First National Bank of Amarillo.

Career Achievement Award winners are Jeanne Archer, Sally Holt Emerson, Debbie Hendricks, Barbara Miller, Janine Park, Mary Pullum and Lois Rice.

Plank, 84, the Lifestyles Editor of the *Dalhart Daily Texan*, began her career as a journalist after she was 60.

She has owned her own public relations firm and served as a correspondent for the *Amarillo Globe News* and the *Lubbock Avalanche Journal*.

In 1996 Plank was honored with the Women's Forum Distinguished Service Award and represented Texas at the National Leadership Training Conference for the Texas Extension Service. She was named Dalhart Citizen of the Year in 1993. She was recognized as the New Mexico Woman of Achievement in 1981 and Hereford Citizen of the Year in 1960.

Her community involvement has included the American Cancer Society, 4-H, United Methodist

Church, Extension Homemakers, Camp Fire, Cattle Capital, New Mexico and American National Cowbelles, Dalhart area Fine Arts Association, Keep Dalhart Beautiful and Dalhart Area Chamber of Commerce.

Plank is a member of the Panhandle Press Association, National Federation of Press Women's Association, Texas Press Women's Association and Texas Press Association.

She graduated from Pampa High School and attended Texas Wesleyan University, West Texas State University and Eastern New Mexico University.

Telephone scams in Spanish are on rise

BROWNSVILLE, Texas (AP) -- Telephone scams targeting Spanish-speaking customers are on the rise, with complaints to the state Public Utility Commission increasing nearly seven times since September.

In an effort to combat the problem, PUC Chairman Pat Wood traveled to the Texas-Mexico border this week to offer residents some tips on how to avoid falling prey to unscrupulous solicitors.

"The main point here is that they

do not have to get anything other than what they really want," Wood said Tuesday in Brownsville.

In September, the PUC received 22 complaints from Spanish-speaking customers about fraudulent telephone practices. That number increased to 153 last month, Wood said.

The problems include a practice known as "slamming," in which a person's long-distance company is changed without permission, and "cramming," where phone compa-

nies charge customers for items they did not ask for, such as caller ID and call waiting.

Brownsville resident Juan Jose Rodriguez said he noticed three months ago that his phone bill listed a new long-distance company. However, Rodriguez said neither he nor his wife remembered switching services.

Still, Rodriguez said he didn't mind the mix-up.

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Area Events

PANHANDLE

An exhibit titled "Buddies: Soldiers and Animals in World War II" is on display at the Carson County Square House Museum in Panhandle.

The exhibit will be in the Opal Weatherly Purvines gallery in the Square House Annex until the middle of March.

"Buddies: Soldiers and Animals in World War II" is an exhibition of photographs commemorating our animal allies in World War II.

The photographs, which are drawn from the National Archives extensive still picture collections, illustrate the various roles these animal companions played in World War II. Horses and mules were enlisted to transport soldiers and supplies. War dogs guarded posts and equipment, carried messages and rescued downed pilots. Other animals served as mascots or pets. For the adopted dog, cat, or bird, being in a soldier's care meant survival; for the soldier, the pet meant comfort and companionship.

The Square House Museum is open from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday

through Saturday and on Sunday from 1-5 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call 806-537-3524.

CANYON

St. Ann's Catholic Church in Canyon will serve their seventh annual Czech Dinner from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on March 1 in the parish family center.

Menu includes sausage, sauerkraut, creamed parsley potatoes, green beans, dessert and all the trimmings.

Music during the dinner will be provided by Dr. Dudley Moore Jr. and his "Fabulous 5," an ensemble providing music from the 30s, 40s and 50s.

A number of additional events will be held in conjunction with the meal. They include an arts and crafts show, a country store, children's games and a drawing.

AMARILLO

"Back in Control," a parenting class for parents of the adolescent, is

being offered by the Texas Panhandle Mental Health Authority Child and Adolescent Services on Feb. 21 from 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 1100 Harrison, Amarillo.

The "Back in Control" curriculum is written by Gregory Bodenhamer, a former probation officer. He is a nationally renowned expert on parenting difficult children. Staff instructors are Gene Ann Grant, BBA, and Janet Byars, LPC.

Cost of the class is \$10. Child care is unavailable. Pre-registration is required. All classes are open to the public. Call 806-354-2191 to register.

PAMPA

This month the ARTRAIN comes to Pampa, sponsored by the Pampa Fine Arts Association. On its 1998 tour around the country, it carries an exhibit from the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C., entitled "Art in Celebration." The exhibit was done by contemporary American artists,

commissioned by the Smithsonian, to celebrate something -- from as simple as a birthday party to the commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the voyage of Columbus in 1992.

The ARTRAIN is a five-car train, using historic railcars, pulled by a Burlington-Northern Santa Fe engine. The scheduled stop will be at the Attebury Grain Elevator in mid-town Pampa on U.S. Highway 60. The train will be in Pampa a total of six days, with two days open to the general public.

Feb. 19, 20, 23 and 24 are restricted to school tours only. The public is invited to enjoy free tours of the train on Feb. 21 and 22. Hours for these tours are 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. daily.

For more information, call the Pampa Fine Arts Association at 806-665-0343.



Sweets for Valentines

Sugar Works Cake Decorating Club is holding a Valentine bake sale beginning at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at B&R Thriftway, 610 McKinley. Proceeds from the sale will benefit Hereford Satellite Center. Carol Odom is pictured with special treats like those that will be offered at the sale.



Goldfish have been reported to live over 50 years in China. A goldfish was reported to live 41 years in Great Britain.

Forensics team earns trophy

Hereford High School forensics team brought home a Sweepstakes trophy from the Tascosa High School invitational tournament over the weekend.

The tournament featured stiff competition among more than 40 schools from across the Panhandle-South Plains, the Permian Basin, and the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Pacing the performance by HHS orators were Tamara Diller and Andrew Del Toro, who placed second in cross-examination debate.

Justin Betzen placed third in U.S. extemporaneous speaking and Darren Sliney was sixth in that event.

Eddie Montoya placed fourth in poetry and Brandon Stowe was fifth in humorous interpretation. Montoya and Stowe teamed in duet acting to receive eighth place.

Jaime Steiert finished fifth in dramatic interpretation.

Carey Lyles placed eighth in informative speaking.

Accompanying students to the event were HHS forensics instructor Lana Hall and Joe Don Cummings.



Taste of heaven

Beverly Harder, Deaf Smith County Extension Agent for Family and Consumer Sciences, presented a portion of the program on delectable sweets and coffees Monday night as a part of the "Ladies Night Out" series sponsored by the Family Living Committee. Sherry Harder, Oldham County CEA, and Marilyn Neal, CEA-FCS for Castro County, also made presentations.

Driving class offered at HSC

American Association of Retired Persons 55 Alive Driving Course will be offered at Hereford Senior Center on Thursday and Friday, Feb. 19 and 20.

Class hours will be 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Drivers who complete the course will be eligible for a discount on liability insurance.

Instructors are Benny and Joan Womble.


Girl Scout News

Sarah Freethy, Senior Girl Scout, will hold a bake sale from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at Homeland.

Proceeds from the sale will help defray expenses of her trip to Europe.

Cadet Troop 283 is taking orders for Valentine balloon bouquets. Call 364-1857 or 364-3613.

Girl Scout cookie deliveries will begin Feb. 24. Girl Scouts are still taking orders so if you would like to order cookies, see any Girl Scout or call 364-1926.



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College Report

Karen Manchec, daughter of Mal and Pat Manchec of Hereford, has been named to the President's List for the fall semester at Wayland Baptist University in Plainview.

The President's List recognizes students who receive a 4.0 grade point average while handling a class load of at least 12 semester hours.

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Sports

New season brings changes to baseball

By BEN WALKER

AP Baseball Writer

PHOENIX -- So, where were we? Moises Alou, Kevin Brown and Robb Nen were winning the World Series for the Florida Marlins.

The Milwaukee Brewers were playing in the American League. Pedro Martinez was in Montreal. Chuck Knoblauch in Minnesota and Kenny Lofton in Atlanta.

Davey Johnson still had a job. The Tampa Bay Devil Rays and Arizona Diamondbacks didn't have any players, not really.

Has it really been just 108 days since Edgar Renteria's two-out single

in the bottom of the 11th inning ended Game 7 in Miami?

Now, it's time for the sweetest sound of spring. No, not the shush of the Olympic bobsleds nor the swish of Michael Jordan's jumper.

Those magic words that baseball fans wait all winter to hear: It's time for pitchers and catchers to report to spring training.

When camps start opening Thursday -- the Marlins, Cleveland and Cincinnati will be the first to get going -- much of the major league landscape will have changed.

When the Marlins, who shed 12 members of their 25-man World

Series roster in a salary purge, play the first exhibition game of the year Feb. 25, many of the differences will be readily apparent.

There will be 30 teams this season. The expansion Diamondbacks and Devil Rays are well-stocked with familiar names, too.

Arizona signed Andy Benes and Jay Bell and traded for Matt Williams and Devon White, while Tampa Bay signed Roberto Hernandez, Wilson Alvarez and Wade Boggs and traded for Fred McGriff.

Good enough to contend for a playoff spot? Maybe not, but in an era in which the Marlins zoomed from

novices to No. 1 in only five years, anything is possible, especially when big bucks are involved.

"We're not going to be a typical expansion team by any stretch of the imagination," Arizona owner Jerry Colangelo said.

The Diamondbacks will head two hours south of Phoenix and train in Tucson, Ariz., and the Devil Rays will work out at St. Petersburg, Fla., just a few minutes from their home field.

Several clubs will be in new places this spring. The Chicago White Sox left Sarasota, Fla., and shifted to Tucson, while the Cincinnati Reds

packed up from Plant City, Fla., and moved into Sarasota.

The St. Louis Cardinals left St. Petersburg and will share a camp in Jupiter, Fla., with the Montreal Expos, who had been in West Palm Beach. The Atlanta Braves also left West Palm and will take up residence at the Disney Wide World of Sports complex in Kissimmee, Fla., near the entrance to the Magic Kingdom.

The Brewers will change suburbs in Phoenix, leaving Chandler and moving to Maryvale. Milwaukee already has shifted from the AL to the

See BASEBALL, page 6A

Martin wins cart lawsuit PGA declares it will appeal judge's ruling

EUGENE, Ore. (AP) -- A judge ruled Wednesday that Casey Martin can ride a cart on the pro golf tour, a landmark victory in the first case invoking federal disabilities laws to compete in a major sport.

When U.S. Magistrate Thomas Coffin announced his ruling, Martin smiled slightly, nodded his head while looking at his parents, then turned to his lawyers and said: "We won."

"I hope five to ten years from now, if I'm still able to play golf, the PGA will lean back and scratch their heads and say, 'Why did we fight this guy?'"

"I realized if I win, it would open the way," he said. "That's something to feel good about."

Martin's lawsuit sought to use the Americans With Disabilities Act to force the PGA Tour to accommodate his rare circulatory disorder that makes it painful and even dangerous to walk. His doctors say too much stress on his withered right leg could cause it to break, and may force amputation.

Coffin, who deliberated just three

hours, faulted the tour for failing to consider Martin's individual medical condition.

Instead, tour lawyers emphasized principles of competition, arguing a cart would give Martin an advantage and remove the fundamental of athleticism and stamina that walking gives the game at its highest levels.

The judge acknowledged that the walking-only rule was "substantive" but said the PGA Tour failed to prove that waiving the rule for Martin would fundamentally alter competition.

As for the argument that walking the course is a test of stamina, Coffin said walking 18 holes over a period

See CART, page 6A

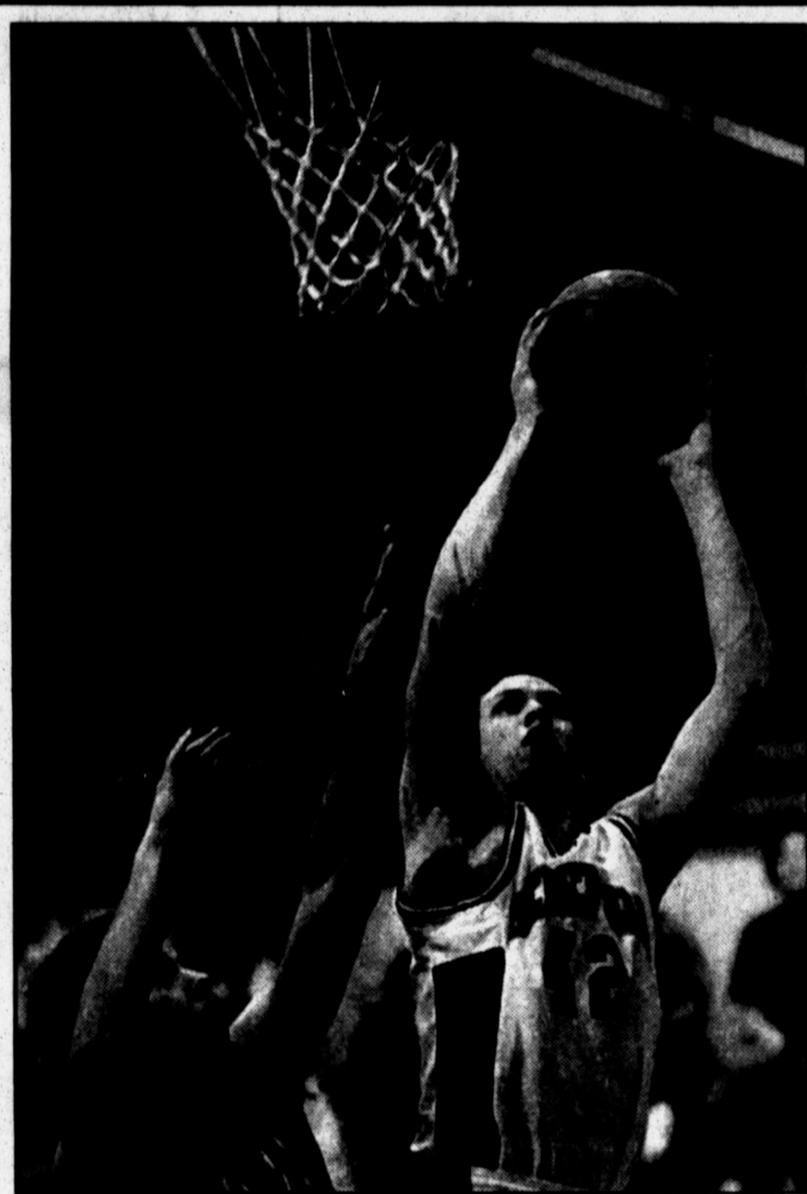


Photo by Julius Bodner

Getting position

Hereford's Bryant McNutt slides inside of Canyon defender Cliff Martin during a District 1-4A game Tuesday at Whiteface Gymnasium. McNutt scored 24 to lead Hereford to a 74-65 win that secured the district's second playoff seed.

TEXAS NBA ROUNDUP

76ers 91, Mavericks 90

PHILADELPHIA (AP) -- Allen Iverson was having a poor game, with just 11 points and nine turnovers. Then came the final quarter.

Iverson capped his 16-point fourth quarter with the game-winning 3-pointer with 2.9 seconds left as the Philadelphia 76ers ended a seven-game losing streak Wednesday night, beating the Dallas Mavericks 91-90.

"We deserved it," said Iverson, who finished with 27 points and six assists. "We'll take it because we fought hard."

Dallas led by 14 points in the fourth, and still held a two-point lead with under 10 seconds left when Theo Ratliff stole an inbound pass by Dennis Scott and handed it off to Eric Snow. He dribbled upcourt and passed to Iverson for the game-winner.

"I saw I was open and I wanted to end it," said Iverson, who had 27 points and six assists. "My eyes got wide when I saw I was behind the line and no one was on me."

Michael Finley made a jumper at the buzzer, but a referee waved it off despite the fierce protests of Finley and coach Don Nelson.

"I clearly thought the ball was in the

air," said Nelson. "The ref said the ball was still in his hand and he's more objective than I am. The way I look at it, we didn't inbound the ball. We didn't deserve it."

Philadelphia's biggest comeback this season handed Dallas its fourth straight loss and 22nd consecutive loss on the road.

Jim Jackson added 19 points and Tim Thomas 16 for the 76ers. Derrick Coleman had 13 rebounds.

Dennis Scott led Dallas with 24 points and Finley had 17.

Despite an anemic, slow-motion offense, the Mavericks went up big by converting Philadelphia's 24 turnovers into 33 points.

"We pressure ourselves at times to get somebody the ball instead of waiting and swinging, swinging, swinging until somebody's open," Jackson said. "And once you turn it over a few times, you start to think a little more instead of relaxing."

SuperSonics 106, Spurs 105

SAN ANTONIO (AP) -- Vin Baker's 14-foot fallaway jumper with 1.9 seconds left gave the Seattle SuperSonics a 106-105 victory over the San Antonio Spurs on Wednesday

night. The Sonics improved the NBA's best record to 38-11 after overcoming an 11-point deficit (98-87) with eight minutes left.

Seattle handed the Spurs their sixth straight loss of the series between the teams.

San Antonio had won five in a row overall and 15 straight at the Alamodome.

Baker led the Sonics with 24 points. Detlef Schrempf added 21 and Gary Payton 20. But it was Sam Perkins, who scored eight straight points down the stretch, who led Seattle back from a 102-96 deficit and gave them a 104-102 lead.

Chuck Person's 3-pointer with 1:15 left made it 105-104, and neither team scored again until Baker, isolated on the left side, went one-on-one against Robinson and scored on a fadeaway jumper over the 7-footer.

San Antonio had one last chance, but a lobbed inbound pass from midcourt was knocked away at the buzzer.

Tim Duncan and David Robinson led the Spurs with 26 and 20 points, respectively. But Robinson had the only two points of the fourth quarter for the All-Star duo.

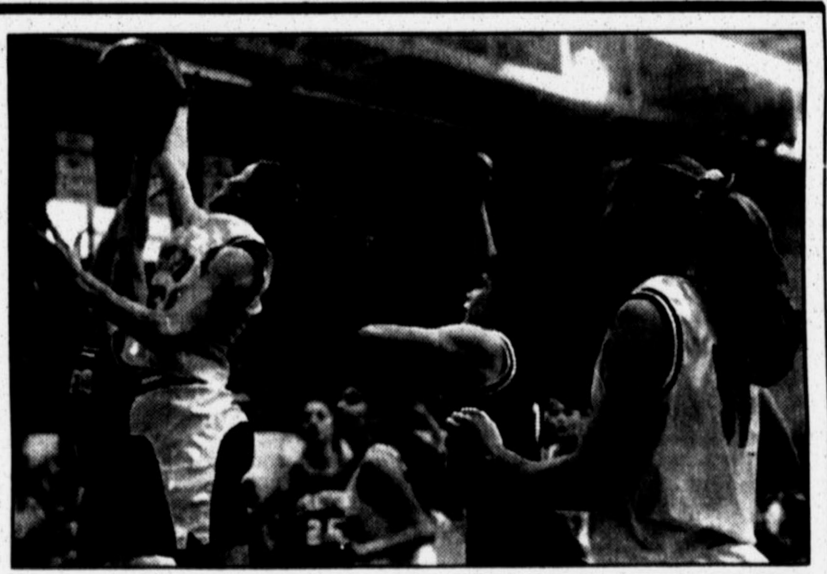


Photo by Julius Bodner

Battle on the boards

Hereford sophomore Tori Walker and an unidentified Stratford player fight for a rebound Feb. 3 during a non-district game at Whiteface Gymnasium as Stratford's Lynz Browning and Hereford's Kristin Fangman watch the action. The Lady Whitefaces begin their playoff run 7 p.m. tonight when they take on Plainview at West Texas A&M Fieldhouse in Canyon in a Class 4A bi-district game.

WINTER OLYMPICS

Canadians support disqualified athlete

TORONTO (AP) -- Ten years after the Ben Johnson scandal, the Nagano Games were supposed to be Canada's best Olympics ever.

But dismay replaced pride when news broke that the country's new snowboarding hero faced losing his gold medal after drug tests turned up traces of marijuana in his system.

"It's a bit like deja vu and a nightmare all over again," said Canadian Olympic Association chief Carol Anne Letheran.

But if Canadians felt betrayed by Johnson, they rallied behind snowboarder Ross Rebagliati.

"No one's angry or embarrassed," said John Wells, editor of the twice-weekly newspaper in Rebagliati's hometown of Whistler, British Columbia. "If anything, they're quite protective of Ross."

Rebagliati was a front-page national hero Monday after winning the first-ever Olympic snowboarding event. He was back on the front pages Wednesday, and the focus of virtually every TV and radio newscast as Canadians tried to absorb the bad

See CANADIANS, page 6A

Norwegian sets medal mark

NAGANO, Japan (AP) -- A star

is Bjorn.

Norway's Bjorn Dahlie, the hometown hero of the Lillehammer Games, became the first man to win six career Winter Olympic gold medals with his victory in the men's 10-kilometer cross-country ski race.

The record-breaking Nagano gold now joins the three that Dahlie won in 1992 and the pair he collected in 1994. The five medals had tied Dahlie with two speedskaters: Eric Heiden of the United States and A. Clas Thunberg of Finland.

Dahlie, in a steady rain, led from wire to wire on the Snow Harp course. The victory followed Dahlie's stunning 20th-place finish in the 30K event, when the Norwegian used the wrong wax on his skis.

Nagano Games may set Olympic record for non-coverage of events/Page 6A

Nagano's first double gold medalist came from Snow Harp, too-Russian cross-country skier Larissa Lazutina, who captured the 10-kilometer freestyle Thursday (Wednesday night CDT). Lazutina, 32, had already won a gold in the 5K and a silver in the 15K.

While Dahlie stormed to his record-setting medal, a wintry mixture of snow and rain -- augmented by whipping winds and heavy fog -- postponed the weather-cursed men's downhill yet again.

In the first five days of the Alpine

schedule at the Olympics, only one gold medal has been awarded -- Picabo Street's narrow victory in the women's super-G on a sunny Wednesday.

Street was not the lone American on the medal stand; freestyle skier Jonny Moseley captured the first U.S. gold in the moguls. On the same day, the Canadians watched their only gold medal go up in smoke when snowboarder Ross Rebagliati tested positive for marijuana.

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING: Lazutina wasn't the only multiple medalist after the women's race; teammate Olga Danilova added a silver to her gold in the 15K classical style. Katerina Neumannova of the Czech Republic took the bronze.

Dahlie was followed to the finish line by Markus Gandler of Austria, while Mika

See MEDAL, page 6A

On the Sidelines

Olympic Medals

By The Associated Press
Through 4 of 5 medals, Thursday
(21 of 22 total medals)

Nation	G	S	B	Tot
Germany	4	4	4	12
Norway	2	3	3	8
Russia	4	3	0	7
Austria	0	2	4	6
Finland	2	1	2	5
United States	2	0	2	4
Italy	0	3	1	4
Japan	2	1	0	3
Canada	1	1	1	3
Netherlands	1	1	0	2
Switzerland	1	0	1	2
Czech Republic	0	1	1	2
Bulgaria	1	0	0	1
France	1	0	0	1
Ukraine	0	1	0	1
Belarus	0	0	1	1
Belgium	0	0	1	1

IN BRIEF

CU rips Red Raiders

BOULDER, Colo. (AP) -- Charlie Melvin had 27 points and 19 rebounds -- both career highs -- and Colorado outscored Texas Tech 16-5 in the second overtime Wednesday night for an 91-80 victory.

Marlon Hughes had 17 points and Ronnie DeGray added 12 points and 16 rebounds for Colorado (12-9, 6-5 Big 12), which scored the first 10 points of the second overtime and ended Texas Tech's four-game winning streak.

Cory Carr, the Big 12's leading scorer, had 28 points and backcourtmate Rayford Young had 27 for the Red Raiders (12-9, 6-5), who fell to 3-11 in their series with Colorado.

Manning wins award

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) -- Peyton Manning, who failed to win the Heisman Trophy, can take heart: The Sullivan Award is all his.

The Tennessee quarterback on Wednesday became only the fourth football player in 68 years honored as the nation's top amateur athlete.

The announcement in Orlando, Fla., by the Amateur Athletic Union confirmed reports he had won.

Manning, who was driving to Knoxville for a funeral, could not be reached for comment. Archie Manning called the Sullivan Award a wonderful honor for his son.

TGCA honorees

From staff reports
Hereford seniors Julie Rampley and Meredith Tabor were selected to the Texas Girls Coaches Association Class 4A Volleyball All-State Team announced Wednesday.

Rampley and Tabor helped lead the Lady Whitefaces to a 29-6 season and their second consecutive Class 4A title.

Twelve players in Class 4A were selected to the team by TGCA members.

Rampley and Tabor joined six other Hereford senior volleyball players in being named to the TGCA Class 4A Academic All-State Team -- Katie Betzen, Jamie Marquez, Staci Betzen, Kendra Wright, Kate Denison and Briar Baker.

Kids to swim

The St. Anthony's Catholic Church Junior High Youth will not be bowling because the bowling alley was double-booked.

The group will instead be swimming at the Hereford Aquatic Center from 2-4 p.m. Sunday. Cost will be \$2.50 per person.

Tech summaries

TEXAS TECH (12-9): Bonewitz 4-16-0-0, Roberts 1-3-2-2-4, Phillips 2-3-4-4-8, Young 9-21-7-7-27, Carr 10-25-3-6-28, Barnes 0-10-0-0, Patterson 0-0-0-0, Myers 0-0-0-0, Carmichael 1-30-0-2, Totals 27-72-16-19-80.

COLORADO (12-9): Smith 1-7-5-6-7a, DeGray 5-11-2-2-12, Melvin 8-19-11-13-27, Price 4-15-4-14, Hughes 7-14-3-5-17, Frier 5-11-2-3-12, Jones 0-2-0-0-0, Renfro 1-2-0-0-2, Thomas 0-1-0-0-0, Mosley 0-0-0-0-0, Totals 31-82-27-33-91.

Halftime--Colorado 35, Texas Tech 32. 3-Point goals--Texas Tech 10-31 (Carr 5-11, Bonewitz 3-12, Young 2-7, Barnes 0-1), Colorado 2-14 (Price 2-11, Jones 0-2, Hughes 0-1). Fouled out--Carmichael, Phillips. Assists--Texas Tech 11 (Carr, Young 3), Colorado 17 (Frier 5). Total fouls--Texas Tech 25, Colorado 17. A-4,327.

OKLAHOMA (9-13, 4-7): M. Workman 3-10-4-8-12, Whaley 10-12-10-11-30, Anderson 1-7-3-4-5, Breedlove 4-9-2-5-10, Long 0-6-2-2, Taylor 1-6-0-0-2, Hardeman 1-3-0-0-2, K. Workman 0-0-0-0-0, Totals 20-54-21-28-63. Texas Tech (17-4, 10-1): Hanebutt 4-8-0-8-11, Thompson 15-27-2-5-34, Brazier 2-8-0-4, Schmucker 0-1-0-0-0, Lake 3-6-1-2-8, Washington 0-0-0-0-0, O'Neal 4-7-0-0-8, Gibbs 1-3-0-0-2, Walker 0-0-0-0-0, Dickerson 4-9-4-7-12, Martinez 0-1-0-0-0, Johnson 0-1-0-0-0, Totals 33-71-7-14-79.

Halftime--Texas Tech 33, Oklahoma 22. 3-Point goals--Oklahoma 2-11 (M. Workman 2-4, Breedlove 0-1, Anderson 0-2, Long 0-2, Hardeman 0-2), Texas Tech 4-7 (Hanebutt 3-5, Lake 1-1, Schmucker 0-1). Fouled out--Anderson. Rebounds--Oklahoma 37 (Whaley 9), Texas Tech 41 (Hanebutt 8, Dickerson 8). Assists--Oklahoma 11 (Breedlove 7), Texas Tech 21 (Schmucker 7). Total fouls--Oklahoma 17, Texas Tech 21. A-7,816.

Games coverage boring, annoying

If I had the time, I could probably write as many columns about the Nagano Games as there have been televised figure skating practices.

By now, you've figured this much out. If you watch a lot of the Winter Olympics, you probably don't see much of the Winter Olympics.

That's because CBS and TNT spend precious little time actually televising events, unless, of course, it's figure skating. Instead, you get to watch endless feature stories, figure skating previews, even figure skating practice sessions for skaters who won't be skating until next week.

But let's start with something positive.

I will give TNT some credit. Tuesday afternoon, they showed the entire third period of the men's hockey game between Kazakhstan and Slovakia. It was tape-delayed, but still they did show it.

By the way, it was a pretty good game to watch. The underdog Kazakhstan team upset Slovakia 4-3, sending them into the medal round instead of the favored Slovaks.

Tuesday afternoon, TNT also showed a replay of the women's 5K cross country. From what I could tell, it was shown nearly in its entirety.

I enjoy watching cross country skiing. True, not a lot is happening if you're looking for action. But if one sport epitomizes the Winter Olympics, it's cross country skiing.

Individual medal sports should have some foundation in practicality. You don't have to look far to find it in cross country skiing.

You really have to use your imagination (and perhaps some banned substances) to find any practical aspects to snowboarding and freestyle skiing.

Besides, I also like to see the countryside.

Let's see what else we've been watching.

The weekend late night show is a waste of the 19 1/2 hours it seemed to have lasted. It lends new meaning to the word interminable.

I'm sorry, I can only take so much Michelle Tafoya and Al Trautwig chatting in front of the cozy fire before I wish the flames would leap from the fireplace and consume the set, talking heads included.

Sunday night, they had popcorn.

Saturday night, other than chatting with each other, they managed to introduce these wonderfully insightful packages (that's my TV word for the day):

-- "Rock and Roll Highlights" This was a collage of freestyle skiing and snowboarding coupled with some Alternative track I've never heard of. I couldn't under-

The Toy Department By Bob Varmette



stand any of the words so I can't say as to whether it fit with the highlights.

-- "Late Night Information Bite" This was a short feature on the time differences between Nagano and various other places in the world, and the history of time zones. It was actually interesting from a historical point of view, boring from a sports point of view.

-- "Heading for the Hills" This feature showed people trekking up into the mountains around Nagano to see Japanese Snow Monkeys beg for food, jump on people and scratch themselves.

There were also features on buying food at a Nagano supermarket and the torch lighting ceremony.

The only thing that had anything to do with sports during this entire hour was a feature on the luge competition.

From just my informal survey of this first four days of TV coverage, you get 1 1/2 hours of feature stories, previews, and figure skating practice, of course, for every hour of actual event coverage either live or taped.

We did learn a few things.

After watching most of the third period of the China-USA women's hockey game the awful reality of hockey is this: If you take athleticism away from the game, it's soccer on skates. And after the novelty wears off, it's not much fun to watch.

My first question, why do they wear pads?

The game looked like it was in slow motion. Plus, they don't hit each other, and I didn't see anyone hit the puck hard enough to break a pane-glass window.

Now to the most important aspect of TV coverage of these Nagano Games.

What is the deal with the noise? What are those, horns? Am I the only one who notices this?

I really noticed it Wednesday night during CBS's coverage of the women's Super-G. But I've also noticed it during cross country events. I even heard it during the Kazakhstan-Slovakia hockey game.

Is it generated by the Japanese Alps? Is CBS broadcasting subliminal messages to get us to watch the only thing that's more annoying than that noise -- figure skating?

Medal

Myllylae of Finland was third. Phillip Boit, the first Kenyan to compete in the Winter Games, finished dead last -- 20 minutes after Dahlie, who greeted the African with a hug at the finish line.

-- **HOCKEY:** NHL star Paul Kariya won't play in the Olympics, dealing a blow to the Canadian Olympic team and keeping the top goal scorer from returning to his father's native land. The Anaheim Mighty Ducks star, sidelined by a concussion suffered Feb. 1 in a game with Chicago, was replaced on the roster by Mark Recchi of the Montreal Canadiens.

On Wednesday, the American women posted a third victory in as many games, winning a hard-fought 4-2 decision over Finland. The victory allowed the United States to keep pace with the undefeated Canadians in the first women's Olympic ice hockey tournament.

In other women's action, Canada won 5-3 over Sweden and China trampled Japan, 6-1.

-- **SNOWBOARDING:** The United States added a pair of medals to its Nagano cache, collecting bronze medals in the men's and women's snowboarding halfpipe competition. Shannon Dunn and Ross Powers survived a heavy downturn to lift the U.S. medal total to four -- two golds, two bronzes.

Dunn, of Steamboat Springs, Colo., was leading until she nearly wiped out during a driving rainstorm on her last run.

Nicola Thost of Germany took the gold medal and Stine Brun Kjeldas of Norway won the silver.

Cart

of five hours is "not significantly taxing."

"The fatigue level from his condition is easily greater than of an able-bodied person walking the same course," Coffin said.

PGA Tour spokesman Bob Combs said the tour disagreed with the ruling and would appeal, but would obey the judge. "Now we have the obligation to furnish Casey Martin a golf cart, and we will."

Fred Couples, with a chronically sore back, said it's "much easier to play golf riding a cart."

"I don't understand how anyone can say, in golf, you don't expend any energy playing it," Couples, in Honolulu for this weekend's Hawaiian Open, said Wednesday. "That's the biggest farce in the world. That's the only thing that irritates me about this."

Added Paul Azinger, "Why is it for only one guy? If a guy really needs a cart to get around, then there are a lot of other guys that could use a golf cart as well."

"I guess some of the questions some of the players have had, but not me, is does he take a wheelchair from the 18th green to his car?"

Martin plans to play in Austin March 3 on the second-tier Nike tour. Riding a cart under a temporary injunction last month, the 25-year-old golfer won the tour's Lakeland, Fla., event. He missed the cut in his next

event.

Martin's case caused a national debate over the rights of the disabled to compete in professional sports, and generated an outpouring of support for him. He was featured in a Nike "I Can" ad campaign, won the support of former presidential candidate Bob Dole, and says he has been getting book and movie offers.

Added Martin's lawyer, Martha Walters: "It's so important to so many people. The ruling sets a legal precedent as the ADA applies to sports. I would hope the PGA would see this doesn't cause them a problem."

Walters told the judge in her closing argument that Martin doesn't want special treatment, just a chance to compete.

"Casey Martin would not be here if it meant he would be asking for anything -- anything -- like sympathy," Walters said.

Pointing to Martin's atrophied, stick of a leg, Walters said: "You cannot look at that leg and believe for one instant that Casey Martin would have a competitive advantage."

Martin said afterward he hopes to live up to the public's expectations of him now and doesn't want to be treated as an outcast on the tour.

"I don't view myself as a victim," he said. "I've been too blessed in life to be a victim."

Baseball

NL, marking the first team in the majors to change leagues since the 1892 season.

The Detroit Tigers also made a move, going from the AL East to the AL Central. That let Tampa Bay take its geographically correct spot in the AL East, and Arizona will join the NL West.

Not all of baseball's top players will be in action right away, however.

All-Star catcher Todd Hundley may miss the entire year because of elbow trouble and former Cy Young winner John Smoltz is expected to start the season on the disabled list because of elbow surgery.

NL MVP Larry Walker also is having elbow trouble, and ace pitchers David Cone and Kevin Appier are taking it easy. Florida pitcher Alex Fernandez will be sidelined the whole season after a torn rotator cuff finished him in the NL playoffs -- at least he remained on the roster, unlike Alou, Brown, Nen, White, Al Leiter, Jeff Conine and a half-dozen others.

Brett Butler, Eddie Murray and Ryne Sandberg retired. But career saves leader Lee Smith, who retired last July, is trying a comeback with the Royals.

"I don't like sitting around doing nothing. I'm going to have to play some ball so I can relax a little bit," Smith said.

MOOVIES 6

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From your friends.

Keeping an eye on Texas

Rodeo season is in full swing in Texas. The largest, the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, begins February 20. The action doesn't slow until the final weekend rodeo in Mesquite in October.



Texas' largest rodeos

	1997 attendance*	1998 rodeo dates
Houston	1,013,100	Feb.-Mar.
San Antonio	200,000	Feb.
Fort Worth	150,500	Jan.-Feb.
Mesquite	131,800	Apr.-Oct.
Austin	53,000	Mar.
El Paso	26,400	Feb.
San Angelo	23,800	Mar.
Odessa	23,400	Jan.
Arlene	21,000	Sept.
Lubbock	20,000	Apr.
Gladewater	18,000	June
Beaumont	16,000	Apr.-May

* Attendance figures for most rodeos include some complimentary tickets.

SOURCES: John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, and rodeos listed.

Echándole el ojo a Texas

La temporada de rodeo está en plena marcha en Texas. El Houston Livestock Show y Rodeo es el más grande del estado y comienza el día 20 de febrero. La acción del rodeo continúa hasta el último fin de la semana en octubre y termina en Mesquite.



Los rodeos más grandes de Texas

	1997 asistencia*	1998 fechas de rodeo
Houston	1,013,100	feb-mar
San Antonio	200,000	feb
Fort Worth	150,500	enero-feb
Mesquite	131,800	abril-oct
Austin	53,000	mar
El Paso	26,400	feb
San Angelo	23,800	mar
Odessa	23,400	enero
Arlene	21,000	sep
Lubbock	20,000	abril
Gladewater	18,000	junio
Beaumont	16,000	abril-mayo

* La cifra de asistencia para la mayoría de rodeos incluyen algunos boletos complementarios.

FUENTES: John Sharp, Contralor de Cuentas Públicas, y rodeos en listados.

Mudslides next blast of El Nino

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) - Chased from their home by the threat of another El Nino-driven storm, John Obertelli and his wife were good-natured as they decided what to pack into a van and what to leave behind.

Several crates of books made the cut. So did carpets, kitchen gear and a barbecue grill from the couple's moss-covered home in Rio Nido, where the threat of mudslides forced officials to order evacuations of about 100 hillside homes along the Russian River by mid-morning today.

"We have no reason to cry," Obertelli said. "If we have to start over, we'll have something to start over with."

One of the wettest Februaries on record already produced flooding that has displaced thousands of people from their homes, caused at least \$275 million worth of damage and killed seven people. A professional snowboarder died in a Sierra Nevada backcountry avalanche Wednesday.

The latest storm system fanned by El Nino - the warm-water phenomenon - was expected to crash into northern California early today. Another storm was due to strike Saturday. All the water comes on top of last week's drenching rain.

"I don't know why we're giving forecasts - it's a day break, then more storm, then a day break, then more storm," said National Weather Service meteorologist Michael Mercer.

By next week the wave of storms should veer toward Southern California.

The series of El Nino-driven storms already has made its mark in history.

Only two Februaries have been wetter in San Francisco, where records have been kept since the Gold Rush. The 9.73 inches of rain that has accumulated through Wednesday ranked behind only the 12.52 inches in 1878 and 10.06 inches in 1936.

California nurseries grow nearly 70 percent of the nation's cut roses. Despite the gloomy skies, growers said the Valentine's Day rose crop looked good.

Thank you, productivity

NEW YORK (AP) - While the economic fraternity focused last year on what was seen as the coming inflation, a very welcome factor, but apparently scentless factor, seemed to have developed right under their noses.

That factor was an improvement in productivity or efficiency of output, which is really the only certain way of raising living standards. Without it, inflation sets in and all the extra effort merely goes up in smoke.

A large percentage of economists last year thought that the fires of inflation would almost certainly set in. They had reasons: incomes were rising, the trained labor pool was drying up, companies were spending heavily and plant capacity was being tested.

But rather than heating up, inflation cooled off, and the only logical explanation was that productivity had improved more than was being realized. And now, the final figures for the year showed that was the case. Productivity rose 1.7 percent.

The explanation was there all the time, but it was easily overlooked by economists who had come to believe that inflation was an ever-present devil ready to spring at the first opportunity. Alan Greenspan, the Federal Reserve chairman, was among them.

Throughout the first half of the year, Greenspan kept the financial and investment communities on edge whenever he expressed his worries publicly. He suggested that the rising

JOHN GUNNIEFF

Business Mirror

stock market had departed reality and could come back to earth with a thud.

That pronouncement scared investors only temporarily, and they quickly returned to their buying ways. Prices continued to rise, inflation remained in check and rumors spread that the chairman might resign.

"Nonsense," the chairman stated, reassuring some but not all; among the latter, some considered him a nettling disturbance in a party that should be enjoyed. How could the party go on with such a glum presence in its midst?

Eventually, facts spoke more eloquently than the theories. If inflation wasn't arriving on schedule, then something was holding it back. It looked like the explanation was in productivity gains, but the numbers weren't that convincing.

Greenspan began to suspect the numbers. In an address at Stamford University, he lamented that it was easier to produce a pound of electrolytic copper or a yard of cloth in the past than a unit of software or a medical procedure today.

The structure of the economy was changing, and among the changes was the shift from the production of goods to that of services.

"How does one evaluate the price

change of a cataract operation over a 10-year period when the nature of the procedure and its impact on the patient has been altered so radically?" he asked. A dangerous operation had become simplified, costs reduced and lives improved. That's productivity.

The latest measurements for the year 1997 show output per hour of work rose 1.7 percent atop a 1.9 percent gain in 1996, considerably higher than the 1.1 percent average annual gain that had prevailed since the 1970s.

The gains weren't only because of higher productivity in services. Manufacturing was very strong, gaining 4.4 percent over the year before. Executives attributed much of the gain to better management, but computers made management better.

The change in the economy is now called structural, meaning that today's economy has changed so fundamentally that it is difficult to compare with those of the past. But it remains comparable in some ways, including being vulnerable to inflation.

Yes, inflation remains a threat as it was in the past and probably always will be in the future, and you may expect Greenspan, the nation's most powerful economic official, to remind us of this.

Movie stars draw criticism

WASHINGTON (AP) - Burt Reynolds and Kim Basinger, just Oscar-nominated for best supporting roles in "Boogie Nights" and "L.A. Confidential," have garnered another distinction.

They're among the stars who were chided Wednesday for making glamorous the once-shameful recourse to bankruptcy.

One witness at a Senate subcommittee hearing said people like Reynolds, Basinger and singer Toni Braxton, all of whom have filed for bankruptcy, were partly responsible for the soaring rate of consumer bankruptcy filings.

But consumers and credit card issuers were also blamed.

Experts are wondering what's happened to the social stigma of

bankruptcy - the scarlet "B."

Oakley Orser, vice president for credit of the retail chain Belk Stores, offered this example: Reynolds and Basinger both filed for bankruptcy protection in recent years and their actions were widely publicized.

And Braxton, who filed for bankruptcy in January, "couldn't get by on \$170 million," said Orser, who was representing the National Retail Federation. "She filed and continues to be celebrated. I can't help but believe that this sends a message to the public."

Whoever's at fault, the situation clearly is getting worse. The number of Americans filing personal bankruptcies last year jumped to 1.3 million - up more than 300 percent since 1980 - intensifying criticism

that people take court protection from creditors too lightly.

Financial experts and lawmakers are puzzled about why the increase has occurred during a time of sustained economic prosperity.

Now, in the early days of Congress' new session, lawmakers are being presented with competing proposals for reshaping the bankruptcy laws.

"The most disturbing trend ... is the lack of personal responsibility for one's actions," Sen. Lauch Faircloth, R-N.C., said at the hearing of his Senate Banking subcommittee on financial institutions and regulatory relief.

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HEDC	\$24,934.70	\$27,216.11	\$24,069.48
County YTD	\$53,910.74	\$27,855.16	\$54,255.95
City YTD	\$104,301.61	\$54,432.22	\$101,428.55
HEDC YTD	\$52,150.81	\$27,216.11	\$50,719.28
Employment			
Civilian Labor Force	8,416	8,501	8,702
Unemployment Rate	5.1%	5.6%	6.5%
Total Employed	7,986	8,022	8,139
Total Unemployed	430	479	563
Financial			
Mortgage Rates (30 yr)	7.375%	7.250%	8.120%
Utility Connections			
Gas	5,268	5,268	5,246
Water	5,291	5,298	5,246
Construction			
Building Permits	\$1,000	\$1,644,625	\$114,800
Building Permits YTD	\$1,000	\$4,283,668	\$114,800
Residential Starts YTD	\$0	\$140,500	\$0
Agricultural			
Wheat per bushel	\$2.95	\$2.80	\$4.03
Corn per Cwt	\$4.90	\$4.80	\$4.94
Grain Sorghum per Cwt	\$4.38	\$4.12	\$4.04
Fat Cattle per Cwt	\$63.62	\$65.93	\$64.97

Judge delays long-distance

WASHINGTON (AP) - A federal judge has decided to postpone implementing an order that would have given at least three regional Bell companies an unobstructed path to compete in the \$80 billion long-distance business.

Acting on requests from the government, AT&T, MCI and Sprint, U.S. District Court Judge Joe Kendall of Wichita Falls, Texas, decided Wednesday to delay his surprise Dec. 31 ruling, which overturned key provisions of a 1996 telecommunications law, until an appeal is heard.

SBC Communications, US West and Bell Atlantic expressed disappointment but said they were optimistic Kendall's Dec. 31 ruling would be upheld.

At the same time, the Bells were heartened by Kendall's decision denying long-distance companies' request for an injunction to prevent the Bells from selling or preparing to sell long-distance service.

"This is yet another indication of the strength of our case," SBC said in a statement.

MCI attorney said Kendall's denial of the injunction his company sought does not make it easier for the Bells to provide long-distance.

Federal Communications Commission Chairman Bill Kennard

agreed, saying Kendall's action means that a 1996 law governing entry into the long-distance business and his agency's enforcement of it remain "in full force."

MCI, AT&T and the FCC predicted that Kendall's Dec. 31 ruling would be reversed on appeal.

But Kendall thought otherwise: "Defendants have not shown a likelihood of success on the merits," he wrote.

US West welcomed this, saying it "makes us optimistic that the stay will be short-lived and that millions of American consumers will get greater choice in long-distance in the near future."

With the judge delaying the order, SBC Communications, US West and Bell Atlantic will have to abide by key provisions of the 1996 law, just as the other Bells do.

Those provisions require all five Bells to open their local phone markets to competitors as a condition of winning federal approval to offer long-distance service to local phone customers.

Kendall had ruled that these provisions discriminate against the Bells because they do not apply to GTE Corp., Southern New England Telephone Co., Frontier Corp. and other local phone companies.

If Kendall's ruling had taken effect, it would have cleared the way for SBC, US West and Bell Atlantic

to offer long-distance service without first having to open local phone markets to rivals.

SBC took the case to court, with US West and Bell Atlantic subsequently joining the suit. They have not decided what their next legal step will be.

The government and long-distance companies are preparing to appeal Kendall's Dec. 31 decision that declared the 1996 law's provisions governing Bell entry into long-distance unconstitutional.

Under the provisions Kendall declared unconstitutional, the Bells enjoyed unprecedented access to the long-distance market because the provisions superseded a 1982 consent decree that barred the Bells from the business. That decree broke up the Bell System into a long-distance company, AT&T, and seven regional Bell companies to provide local phone service. After mergers, five regional Bells now exist.

In his order Wednesday, Kendall also said the provisions he declared unconstitutional don't affect the rest of the 1996 law. "This means that the consent decree does not come back to life ever," said John Thorne, Bell Atlantic's associate general counsel. Long-distance companies had argued that the consent decree could be resurrected if the disputed provisions weren't legally severed from the rest of the law.

TROTTER

From Page 1
where she was named Miss Congeniality. She also competed in the Miss Texas America and Miss Texas USA pageants.

While at WTAMU, she was named to the President's Honor Roll for four years and was president of Zeta Tau Alpha, a social and service sorority.

Garry Nall, a professor of history at the university, remembers her as an excellent campus leader.

"She was very classy and always extremely pleasant," Nall said. "I know she was an excellent student during her years at WTAMU, and in the past couple of years, she was still involved with the university."

Trotter served a four-year term as president of the Hereford Cattlemen and was president of the L'Allegre Study Club. She was a Sunday school teacher for 11 years and pianist for nine years at the First United Methodist Church of Hereford.

"She learned to play the piano at 4 years old," Johnny Trotter said. "She had to have a special chair to sit on because she was so small."

Dee Anne Trotter was appointed to the WTAMU Foundation board in June 1997.

"She was devoted to her husband, her son, her church and her community," Schaeffer said. "She was excited about serving on the Foundation board. She planned to use her position to raise money for scholarships. The people who knew her are doing this in her memory, carrying on her work."

Jeanie Caison agreed, saying the endowment was the nicest thing that could be done in her daughter's memory.

"Dee Anne touched a lot of lives," Caison said. "She did more in her 39 years than most could do in two lifetimes. The scholarship is in her memory, and it will last forever."

Eligibility preferences for the Dee Anne Trotter Memorial President's Honor Scholarships require the student to be a music or dance major, maintain a cumulative 3.4 grade point average with a minimum 15-hour course load, demonstrate a strong commitment to the field of music and provide leadership and service to WTAMU and the community. If all criteria are met, the scholarship will be renewed automatically.

Scholarships will be awarded on interest earned from the endowment. A minimum award of \$1,000 per student per semester will be awarded to two students.

For more information about funding or establishing a scholarship, contact the WTAMU Foundation office at (806) 651-2065.

Impeachment process starts

WASHINGTON (AP) - House leaders are talking about how to fund and staff a congressional inquiry if independent counsel Kenneth Starr turns over evidence incriminating President Clinton.

In an interview Wednesday, Rep. Henry Hyde, chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, declined to provide details of the discussions, saying only that they focused on "hypotheticals" such as, "How many people might we need?" and "How long might it last?"

"I cannot deny that we have thought about it and talked about some hypothetical problems," Hyde said in his talks with Gingrich.

"But I do not want to make that leap and make it look like we are getting ready for an impeachment," he added. "We are not. And we won't until we have evidence, and we do not have evidence. And we won't unless and until the independent counsel turns it over to us."

For his part, Gingrich has refused to discuss the matter.

Starr's investigation, which originally concerned Clinton's Whitewater real-estate venture, has focused in recent weeks on whether Clinton had an affair with former intern Monica Lewinsky, lied about it under oath and asked her to do the same. Clinton has denied the charges.

The independent counsel law requires that any evidence of a crime involving the president be turned over to the House Judiciary Committee, which would decide whether an impeachment inquiry is warranted. A vote of half the House and two-thirds of the Senate is required to remove a president from office - something that has never happened.

Republican aides say Hyde and Gingrich have talked with other GOP leaders about how to pay for such an inquiry, including the possibility of dipping into a \$4 million fund. The talks have drifted to other logistical matters, such as where evidence from Starr would be kept under tight security until Hyde could decide

whether it warranted an inquiry, aides said.

Senior House aides close to the matter stressed that the preparations are still preliminary. The increased staff - Hyde has asked for a funding boost of 20 percent - would be part of an effort already in the works when the intern controversy erupted. Spurred by frustration over Attorney General Janet Reno's recent refusals to appoint an independent counsel to investigate Democratic fund-raising irregularities, Hyde's committee is seeking to increase its oversight of the Justice Department.

Asked on Wednesday whether those new lawyers would be used to staff an impeachment inquiry, Hyde replied: "I don't know of any rule that doesn't give me the flexibility to assign the committee staff members where they're needed."

No lists of prospective hires exist in writing, and lawyers have not been contacted for job interviews, the aides said.

Reuters chief: "Possible" employees stole information

NEW YORK (AP) - The chief executive of Reuters Holdings said it was "possible" that employees misinterpreted company policy and stole information from rival Bloomberg, *The Wall Street Journal* reported today.

Peter Job insisted that he had no information that any of his employees did anything wrong. Asked whether employees might have committed crimes in trying to gain ground on Bloomberg, Job said: "Anything is possible."

Reuters has said a federal grand jury is investigating whether one of the news agency's units, Stamford, Conn.-based Reuters Analytics Inc., persuaded a consulting firm and subscriber to Bloomberg to pass along financial information.

Ivy League schools opening doors to middle class

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (AP) - Carrie Wingate decided it was worth sacrificing her retirement savings to send her daughter to Yale University.

But starting next year, Ms. Wingate will no longer have to put her retirement planning on hold so her daughter can get a high-priced Ivy League education.

Yale, following Princeton's lead, has revamped its financial aid policy to make it easier for middle-class families.

The moves by Princeton and Yale, where tuition, room and board will top \$30,000 next year, may force

NEWS

in brief

other highly selective schools to follow suit.

"It's wonderful. Now I'll be able to put some money away and still put her through school," said Ms. Wingate, 42, a single mother and writer. "For a lot of people like me in the middle-income brackets, retirement savings is where the only extra money is."

Researcher: Bear repellent could attract bears

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) - It's not what backpackers and hikers want to hear - the pepper spray they count on to scare off bears may actually attract the big beasts, like catnip does cats.

The evidence, so far, is just anecdotal. But the stories are worrisome - bears chewing up plane pontoons doused with the spray and crowding into recently sprayed camp sites, U.S. Geological Survey researcher Tom Smith said.

Smith discovered the attraction in November when he saw a bear rolling on a rope sprayed just a week earlier with powerful red pepper extract. He was recording brown bear activity near salmon streams in the Katmai National Park and Preserve, 240 miles southwest of Anchorage.

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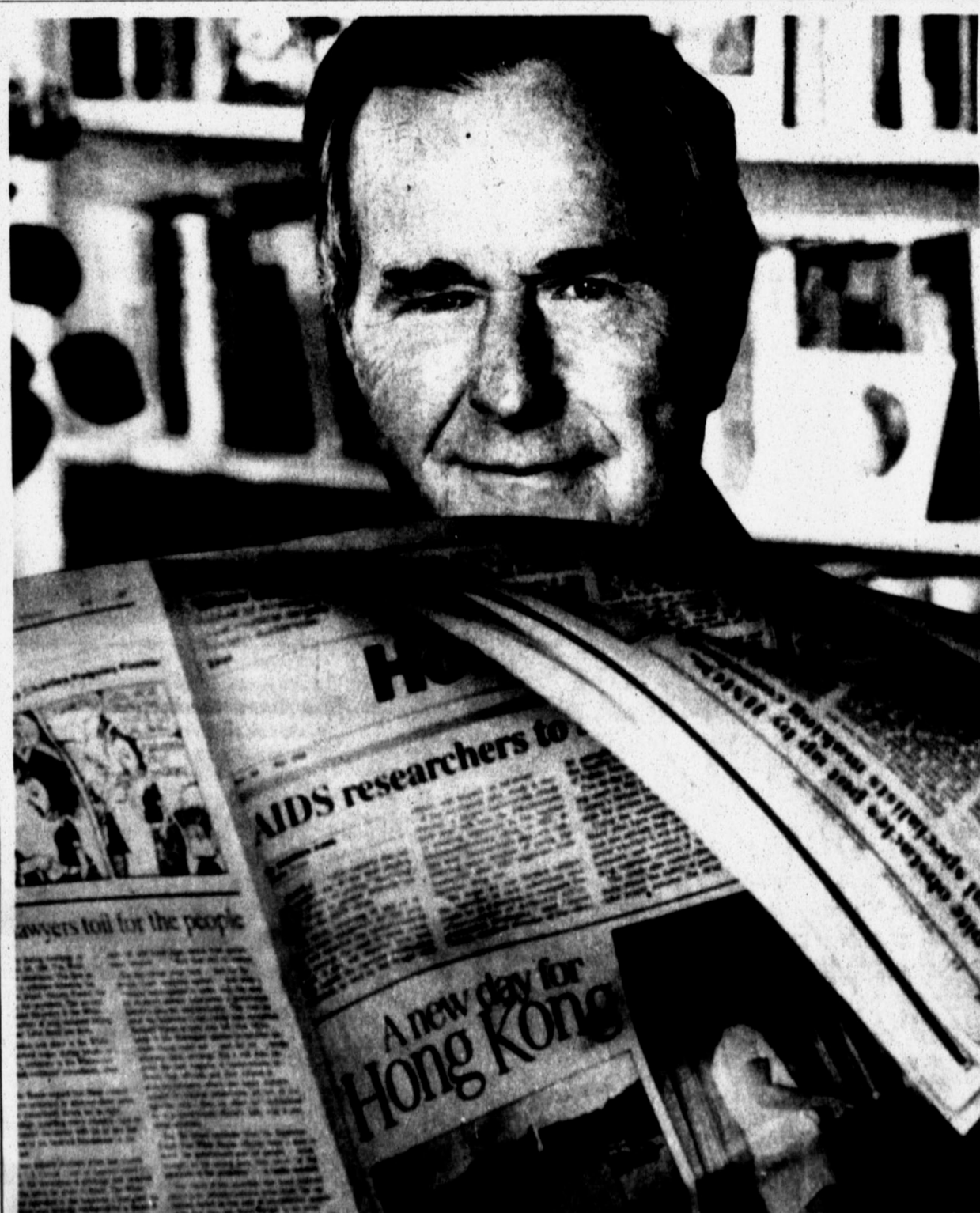
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The Roads of Texas and The Roads of New Mexico are for sale at The Hereford Brand in book form. Texas maps are \$14.95 plus tax, and New Mexico maps are \$14.95 plus tax. Discover roads you never knew were there. Hereford Brand, 313 N. Lee. 24757

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. Repossed Rainbow, G-3 Kirby Self-propelled vacuums for sale. 32086

For Sale: Black BB Gun, Non CO2 powered. Just \$15.00. Call 364-8723 after 4:00 PM. 35677

For Sale: Refrigerated Box Car, located in Dimmitt Area. Call (915) 537-9657. 35878

The Gift Garden

220 N. Main • 364-0323
in Merle Norman Cosmetics

New products for Valentine's Day: *Snack Cafe Cookies, Coffee Companions (chocolate teaspoons), Coffees & Teas, Fat Free Quick Breads.*

Personal Pampering Products like lotions, bath gel, soaps, perfumes & all kinds of cosmetics.

Journals, inspirational gifts, "affies", Bibles, Bible covers, books.

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

Save a fistfull of dollars when you use Brand Classified Ads. Call 364-2030.

LIONS CLUB Pancake Supper

Thursday, February 26th
5:00 pm to 8:15 pm
High School Cafeteria

1A. GARAGE SALES

Yard Sale: 904 S. Schley, Thursday, Friday, & Saturday, 10 til 5. Clothes, microwave, doors, windows, little bit of everything. Weather permitting!! 35882

2. FARM EQUIPMENT

Growers needed for Oat Seed Production. call Gayland Ward, 258-7394 or 364-2946. 35815

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

1996 GMC SLE, 3rd door, SW, Indigo Blue/Tan Interior, towing package, keyless entry, spray in bed liner, the works, 16K. \$18,800.00. Call 364-0187. 35876

For Sale: 1989 Chevy Suburban, dark blue/tan. Clean. \$6500.00. Call 364-6176. 35883

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

Office Building for lease or sale: Approximately 3200 sq. ft. Located at 325 N. Lee. Call 364-6598 or 364-5090. 35745

For Sale or Lease: Two country homes on 5.5 acres. Three miles from town on pavement. Call 364-5627, leave message. 35814

Used 16x80 3/2, will finance! 1-800-372-1491. Oakwood Mobile Homes, Inc. 35822

Used Mobile Homes for sale, will finance. 1-800-372-1491. 35823

Used Double Wide, will finance! Call 1-800-372-1491. Oakwood Mobile Homes, Inc. 35824

For Sale By Owner: Irrigated farm 5 1/2 miles North Of Hereford on Highway 385 and 3/8 miles west. 3 wells, house, barn. Call 1-405-321-0107. 35860

FSBO: 815 Knight-2 BR, 1 Bath, newly remodeled. \$1790.00 down, \$240.00 month. Call Rob. 364-3955. 35872

Come see the 5 bedroom doublewide, or maybe you would prefer a study, retreat or a porch. Call Portales Homes 800-867-5639

D1 366. Clovis location, 505-762-3488. D1 772. 35874

For Sale: 540 acres-Deaf Smith County, 6 wells. Texas Sunbelt Services, Inc. 249-2122, or 249-8541. 35880

5. HOMES FOR RENT

APARTMENTS:

Blue Water Gardens
HEAT, A/C
LIGHTS INCLUDED

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

CROSSWORD

by THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Luge song
5 Volume setting
10 Adore with a point
11 Jolson standard
12 Actor Guinness
13 Anneal quarters
14 Sea-related
16 Xylo-phones' kin
20 Café
23 Lawyer's org.
24 Dentist's need
25 Warehouse aid
27 Simile center
28 Kane's portrayer
29 Bright flower
32 Spaghetti-sauce choice
36 Fine linen
39 Actor Roberts
40 Saws
41 Trig function
42 Has a bout
43 Droops DOWN
1 Bridge feat
2 Kinks

DOWN

3 At any time
4 Number
6 Women's
7 Finish
8 Grant's foe
9 Swamp
11 Top
15 Follow
17 Fancy dance
18 Competent
19 Utters
20 First
21 Bear in the sky
22 Tale teller
25 Sandwich shop
26 Age
28 Laborers
30 Sight
31 Argon
33 La Scala song
34 Fight site
35 Top cards
36 Bit of paint
37 Fuss
38 Upper limit

CITR BEAD

ADAGE LARVA
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Yesterday's Answer

name? and neon
21 Bear in the sky
22 Tale teller
25 Sandwich shop
26 Age
28 Laborers
30 Sight
31 Argon
33 La Scala song
34 Fight site
35 Top cards
36 Bit of paint
37 Fuss
38 Upper limit

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

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

AVON--Wants Individuals who want to earn \$8-\$15/hr. F/P Time. No door to door required. 1-800-378-3020. Ind/Sls/Rep. 35573

No Experience, \$500 to \$900 weekly/potential processing mortgage refunds. Own Hours. Call 1-800-449-1036 Ext. 1241. 35751

Immediate positions available for Truck Driver. 25 years or older with Class A/CDL. (806) 647-5384. 35864

Secretary/Receptionist needed, 40 to 50 hours per week. 10 key, typing & computer skills necessary. Send resume to P. O. Box 673 CB. 35865

Wanted Bartender: Dimmitt VFW, references required. Contact Bill Henderson, (806) 647-4342 or (806) 647-4707. 35879

Welder to tie in sprinkler and booster pumps. Will need to be able to weld underneath pipes. Call Dave at 364-0855 (days) or 364-0639 (nights). 35881

Scott Oil Change Quick Lube Manager Position Open

Good salary, benefits offered. Auto mechanic experience preferred. Must be able to communicate and get along with the public. Call Clarence Scott at 364-2633 for an appointment.



The Melo Joe Corporation

Now accepting applications for all shifts at Texas Work Force 700 25 Mile Ave. Opening around Feb. 20, 1998. Interviews will be conducted at Texas Work Force.

HEREFORD REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER is currently accepting applications for the position of:

E.R. REGISTRAR: Must have computer and ten key experience. Register inpatients/outpatients for treatment in hospital.

BUSINESS OFFICE FLOATER: Responsible for coverage in Admitting Office. Must have computer and office skills experience.

CONTACT: HUMAN RESOURCES
HEREFORD REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
801 E. 3rd, Hereford, Tx, 79045
(806) 364-2141.

9. CHILD CARE

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

HEREFORD DAY CARE

Offering an excellent program of learning and care for your children 0-12! State Licensed

Also - SPECIAL AFTER-HOURS pick-up for Kindergarten Children!

364-5062

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

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

Hereford RIGHT TO LIFE

"Alternatives to Abortion"

24-Hour Hot-Line 364-2027

"PRECIOUS FEET"

unborn baby's feet at 10 weeks.

Educational programs, materials, emotional support for those suffering from unplanned pregnancy, post abortion trauma, miscarriage/still birth.

For more information contact Alice Hund at 364-3218, Krista Detten at 364-7563 or Kim Leonard at 364-8760.

Westway Country Kitchen

New Hours

10:30 am - 2:00 pm

5:30 - 8:30 pm

Monday thru Saturday

Beginning Feb. 16th

Come try our dinners!!

ATTENTION HORSEMEN

GIANT

SADDLE & TACK AUCTION

SUN. FEB 15TH 2:00 PM

AMARILLO CIVIC CENTER

WESTERN SUPPLIES, FROM ALBANY, TX IS RETURNING TO YOUR AREA WITH A TRAILER LOAD OF WORK & SHOW SADDLES BY BILLY COOK, RICO, CIRCLE T & AMMERMAN (S.V.R. GUARANTEE) MANY STYLES TO CHOOSE FROM. 100'S OF TACK ITEMS BRING YOUR USED SADDLES TO TRADE IN FOR AUCTION CREDIT BEFORE SALE TIME. AUCTIONEER: TOMMY WILLIAMS FOR INFO OR FREE CATALOG (800)856-3133.

Affordable Computers

Service

Supplies

Upgrades

CICS

319 N. Main • 364-6067

LEGAL NOTICES

The Deaf Smith County Commissioners court will conduct a Public Hearing on changing the names of nine (9) streets in the San Jose Community and assigning names to three (3) streets in the northeast quarter of Section 78, Block K-3 of Deaf Smith County. The Public Hearing will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, February 23, 1998, in the County Courtroom, 235 E. 3rd Street, Hereford, Texas. A copy of the proposed order may be seen during normal business hours at the County Clerk's Office, 235 E. 3rd Street, Room 203, Hereford Texas.

The first duty of friendship is to leave your friend his illusions.
—Arthur Schnitzler

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.

Supreme Court justice speaks to TSU law students
HOUSTON (AP) — Law school students should sharpen their analytical skills and develop an intensity about learning and practicing the law, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas says.

Thomas spoke Wednesday to classes at Texas Southern University and became the first Supreme Court Justice to visit the predominantly black university since a 1976 visit by Thurgood Marshall.

The students were advised to discard emotions and tackle problems with reason.

"You cannot decide cases by feeling," Thomas said. "You have to think your way to conclusions."

Thomas, 49, a graduate of Yale law school who was appointed to the Supreme Court in 1991 by President Bush, said he worked hard in law school and knew he could count only on himself.

Lottery backs Morales opinion
AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Lottery is taking steps to begin forcing lottery sellers to get rid of their eight-liner gambling machines.

Lottery Commission Chairwoman Harriet Miers on Wednesday said the three-member commission supports Attorney General Dan Morales' legal opinion that the casino-style machines are illegal.

About 2,200 of the lottery's more than 16,000 retailers operate some 4,400 eight-liner machines, the commission estimates. Lottery officials have been concerned that the machines are responsible, at least in part, for a recent decline in overall lottery sales.

Executive Director Linda Cloud said under orders from the commission, lottery security officers will begin reporting to local law enforcement officials the lottery retailers who have eight-liners. That would start a process that could cause the retailers to lose their lottery business.

"We don't want to revoke our retailers," Ms. Cloud said after a late lottery commission meeting. "It's a serious issue they need to think on."

Audit: Improvements made, more work needed
AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Education Agency is addressing problems identified by state audits, including inaccurate dropout data, but more can be done to improve operations and school oversight, the state auditor's office says.

An audit of the agency released in 1996 said weak TEA oversight had allowed school districts to misspend up to \$160 million in state program funds in 1994 and resulted in a reported dropout rate that was less than half the real rate. Agency officials said the issues already were being addressed.

Another audit that year said a lack of internal controls over pay, leave and contracts had resulted in lapses such as a supervisor received reimbursement for travel not related to state business and contractors starting work before a contract was signed.

In a report released Wednesday, State Auditor Lawrence Alwin's office said TEA initiatives are addressing the auditor's recommendations, but that it's too early to evaluate their overall success.

Initiatives have included strengthening management control systems, as well as improving the monitoring systems for public education and the quality of data used in calculating the school dropout rate, the report said.

Bingo operator claims players ripped-off
AUSTIN (AP) — A charitable bingo operator claims others in his industry are ripping off players of the chance to win big prizes in pull-tab bingo.

Chuck Bertani, of Houston, late Wednesday told the Texas Lottery Commission — which oversees the charitable bingo industry — that many operators stop selling tickets from batches of instant bingo games when they are certain the game's biggest prizes are left among those unsold.

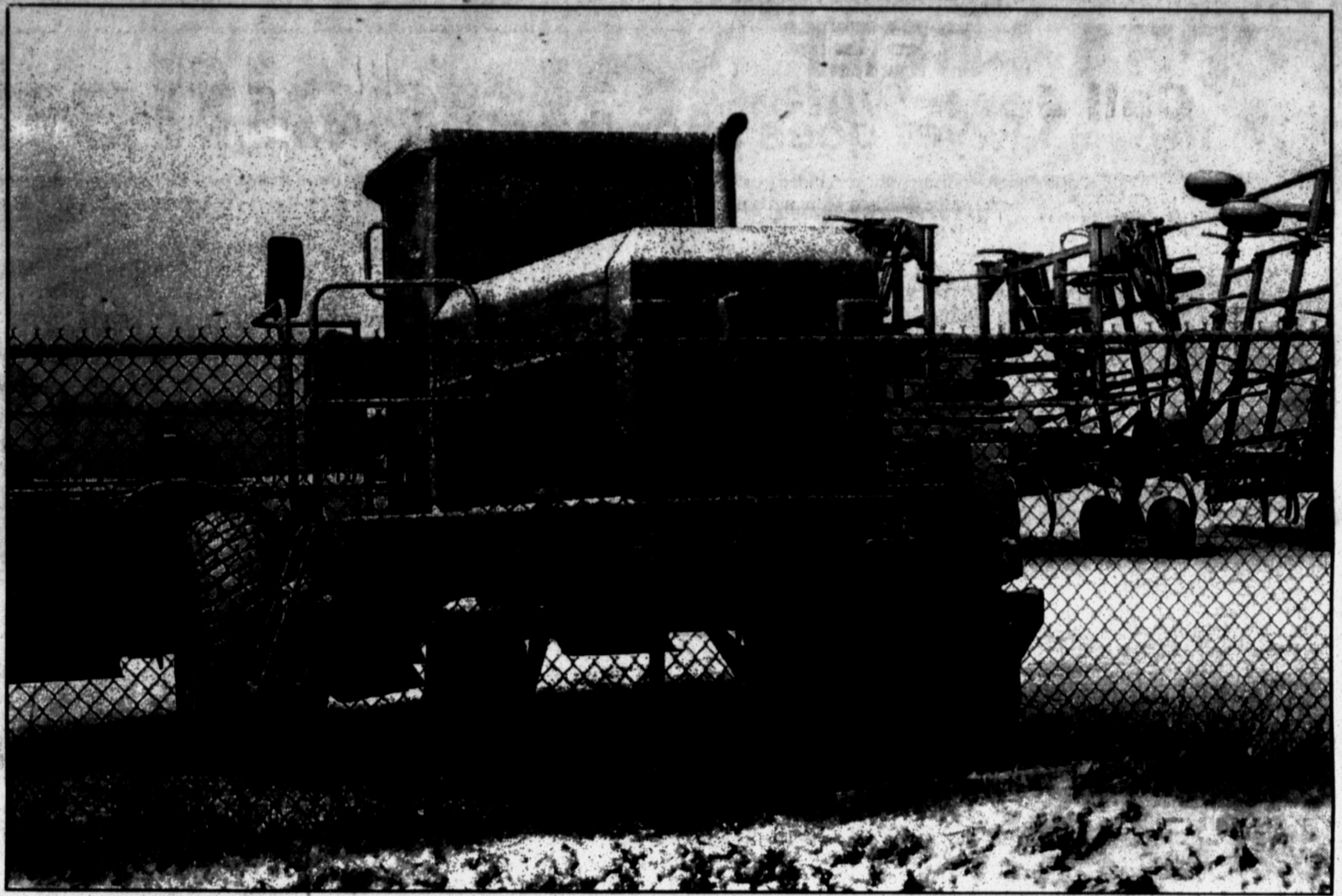
"It's cheating, what else can you call it?" Bertani said.

Commissioner John Hill, calling the allegation extremely serious, ordered a formal investigation.

"It goes to the heart of what we're about: the integrity of the games," Hill said.

Prison firm must draft plan for problem-plagued jail
ANGLETON (AP) — The private prison company that bought out the troubled Capital Correctional Resources has until April to convince Brazoria County officials they can run a jail where apparent abuse was videotaped.

Milford, Mass.-based CiviGen Inc. agreed to buy CCR earlier this month, taking over its leases, which included a contract to fill 512 beds in the Brazoria County Detention Center.



Covered by snow

Snow began falling this morning, and these tractors parked outside a farm equipment firm on U.S. Hwy. 385 North stand as a

reminder that winter's still with us, even though Ol' Man Winter has been hiding for the past few days.

Bloom's on the peach, but it's disturbing to the growers

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — The bloom is on the peach in Texas, and growers don't want that yet, according to the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

Dr. Larry Stein, Extension horticulturist in Uvalde, said early peach varieties are beginning to bloom. He said although the number of flowers on the trees looks good, growers don't want peaches to bloom yet.

"We would like them to stay dormant another two weeks," Stein said. "Typically full bloom is in March."

He said a certain amount of chilling is needed to break dormancy and he's not sure if the peaches have received enough yet.

"January was a relatively warm month and I'm not sure how effective the weather was on the peaches," Stein said.

Stein said Uvalde usually averages around 500 to 600 chill hours per dormant season, but this area only received about 450 hours this season. He said he thinks the peaches have had enough of a chill but it's too early to tell for sure.

He added the good amount of moisture the area has received is a good sign.

Dr. Nancy Roe, Extension horticulturist in Stephenville, said she is concerned about the early peach varieties that are starting to open in the area.

"Once the flower is out, it is very susceptible to a freeze," she said. "That's what's scaring us now."

Roe said if the peaches have had enough chilling and if they don't experience another freeze, they should be fine.

"But the chances for that are slim," she said.

Roe said that because of El Nino, Texas could experience another cold spell later in the year, for instance, March.

Extension horticulturist Jim Kamas of Fredericksburg said numbers suggest the area has received enough cool weather to break dormancy. He said he expects bloom to be pushed back another two to three weeks.

"As long as the weather stays cool, we just might squeak by," Kamas said.

Lin Wilson, Extension director in Corpus Christi, said yard trees of low-chill peach varieties are blooming and setting fruit.

"The fruit will be lost if we have a late freeze," Wilson said.

Most counties in Texas report mild weather conditions.

In the southwest region of the state, Extension economist Jose Pena of Uvalde said it appears spring is here early.

"Grasses are greening up and forage availability has improved substantially from mid-January 1998 when forage conditions were below average," Pena said.

Lin Wilson said winter forages have improved with recent rainfall.

He said spring garden preparations also are under way.

"Farmers are taking advantage of good soil moisture in the fields," he said.

Extension horticulturist Dr. Julian Sauls of Weslaco said the cool nights and warm days has been good for field work.

"The cabbage, spinach and carrots harvest is in full swing," he said.

Tony Douglas, Extension director of Overton, said crops are making excellent progress with the adequate moisture conditions and milder temperatures.

"Oats are improving with the open weather," he said. "And garden preparations continue as soils dry."

Extension director Jett Major of Lubbock said land preparation, herbicide and fertilizer applications are that area's main activities.

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

PANHANDLE: soil moisture short to adequate. Ranges, pastures fair to good condition. Cattle in good condition; supplemental feeding continues. Wheat is rated fair to good; mild weather allowed some growth. Grazing conditions improving.

SOUTH PLAINS: soil moisture short to adequate. Wheat and pastures in fair condition. Supplemental feeding of livestock still required. Land preparation, herbicide and fertilizer applications main activity.

ROLLING PLAINS: soil moisture short to adequate. Ranges, pastures

continue to improve with moisture. Cattle in good condition. Conservation Reserve Program land is being burned to improve grass. Warm, sunny days giving wheat good growing conditions.

NORTH TEXAS: soil moisture adequate to surplus. Ranges, pastures very poor to excellent. Cattle in good condition; winter pastures have received plenty of moisture. Wheat need dry weather in Rains County. Continuing pruning of peach trees; spraying dormant oil.

EAST TEXAS: soil moisture adequate to surplus. Winter pastures improving. Livestock conditions good; calving season under way. Ample hay supplies. Oats improving. Garden preparations continue. Pecan harvest complete. Some early peach varieties blooming.

FAR WEST TEXAS: soil moisture short to adequate. Ranges, pastures very poor to good. Most cattle in good condition; some supplemental feeding. Wheat needs moisture before harvest. Tomato farm in full production. Peach, pecan tree planting under way.

WEST CENTRAL TEXAS: soil moisture very short to adequate. Pastures fair. Livestock good. Wheat stands need moisture. Greenbug and spider mite problem persists in oats. Soil bed preparation for spring planting under way. Peach tree pruning winding down.

CENTRAL TEXAS: soil moisture adequate. Winter grasses providing light grazing for cattle. Hay feed continues. Increase in demand for supplemental feeding for cattle. Land preparation for spring planting under way.

SOUTHEAST TEXAS: soil moisture adequate to surplus. Winter grazing is good; annual grasses are fair. Potatoes are being planted. Ground is being prepared for spring planting of corn, cotton and peanuts. Blueberries and peaches blooming.

SOUTHWEST TEXAS: soil moisture short to adequate. Ranges, pastures excellent. Livestock in good condition. Harvesting of cabbage, southern greens, spinach continues; excellent yields, markets reported. Recent moisture improves chances of early spring planting.

COASTAL BEND: soil moisture short to surplus. Ranges, winter pastures good. Field preparations active; most cropland is fertilized. Cattle in good condition; hay and protein supplements continue. Early corn planting under way. Low-chill peach varieties setting fruit.

SOUTH TEXAS: soil moisture short. Range grasses remain dormant with some green grasses. Cattle in fair to good condition. Cabbage, spinach and carrots harvest in full swing. Sugarcane harvest continues with good harvesting conditions.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS Names in the news

AXL ROSE

PHOENIX (AP) — Axl Rose was arrested on charges of cursing out a security officer who wanted to inspect his bag at an airport.

The Guns N' Roses lead singer began yelling obscenities Tuesday night when the officer wanted a look at an unidentifiable item that showed up on the X-ray screen, police said.

Rose spent a few hours in jail before being released early Wednesday.

"A lot of people would have been quiet," Rose publicist Bryn Bridenthal said. "The other response is to say something back. It isn't like he assaulted anyone. In our world, it's kind of a non-incident."

Bridenthal said Rose had spent the weekend in Phoenix with friends and the bag contained a glass art piece he had received as a gift. She said Rose was concerned it would get broken by rough handling.

RICHARD RIORDAN NANCY DALY

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Mayor Richard Riordan will marry longtime friend Nancy Daly on Valentine's Day — provided his divorce from second wife comes through.

Riordan separated from Jill Noel Riordan in 1992 and filed for divorce in 1996. The uncontested application for divorce was not taken up by a judge until Monday.

It was not immediately known why the divorce was not finalized sooner, or how long it would take the judge to decide.

"She's the most beautiful woman, spiritually, intellectually and physically, that I have ever known," Riordan said Tuesday of Ms. Daly after a gossip column disclosed their marriage plans. "Why she picked me, only she can say."

DONALD TRUMP

PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — The battle between Donald Trump and town leaders over restrictions on his private club is being pulled out of court.

"We agree it's much better to solve certain issues outside the courtroom than inside," Trump said.

The developer and the town have been in court since December 1996, after the local council turned down Trump's request to lift membership, traffic and parking limits on the club at his Mar-a-Lago estate.

Trump said he again will ask the council to ease the restrictions he agreed to in 1993 when he opened the club.

"I've always found that conversations with the town go better when we haven't got a \$100 million lawsuit hanging over our head," Council President Lesly Smith said.

Any Ideas or suggestions?

If it's news to you, then it's news to us. If you have any ideas or suggestions for news or feature stories, just give us a call at The Brand, 364-2030.

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HEREFORD
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COMMODITY SERVICES

1500 West Park Avenue • 364-1281
Richard Schlabs Amber Griffith

Phone 364-1286 Each Trading Day After 5:30 P.M.
for Recorded Commodity Update

Prices effective: Wednesday, February 11, 1998

CATTLE FUTURES

CATTLE-FUTURES (CME) 50,000 lbs., cash per lb.	
Mar 75.00 76.00 75.10 76.00 + 15 64.50 72.50 73.50	
Apr 75.00 76.00 75.10 76.00 + 15 64.50 72.50 73.50	
May 75.00 76.00 75.10 76.00 + 15 64.50 72.50 73.50	
Jun 75.00 76.00 75.10 76.00 + 15 64.50 72.50 73.50	
Jul 75.00 76.00 75.10 76.00 + 15 64.50 72.50 73.50	
Aug 75.00 76.00 75.10 76.00 + 15 64.50 72.50 73.50	
Sep 75.00 76.00 75.10 76.00 + 15 64.50 72.50 73.50	
Oct 75.00 76.00 75.10 76.00 + 15 64.50 72.50 73.50	
Nov 75.00 76.00 75.10 76.00 + 15 64.50 72.50 73.50	
Dec 75.00 76.00 75.10 76.00 + 15 64.50 72.50 73.50	

GRAIN FUTURES

CORN (CBOT) 5,000 bu., cash per bu.	
Mar 2.75 2.76 2.75 2.76 + 1/4 2.75 2.76 2.75	
Apr 2.75 2.76 2.75 2.76 + 1/4 2.75 2.76 2.75	
May 2.75 2.76 2.75 2.76 + 1/4 2.75 2.76 2.75	
Jun 2.75 2.76 2.75 2.76 + 1/4 2.75 2.76 2.75	
Jul 2.75 2.76 2.75 2.76 + 1/4 2.75 2.76 2.75	
Aug 2.75 2.76 2.75 2.76 + 1/4 2.75 2.76 2.75	
Sep 2.75 2.76 2.75 2.76 + 1/4 2.75 2.76 2.75	
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Nov 2.75 2.76 2.75 2.76 + 1/4 2.75 2.76 2.75	
Dec 2.75 2.76 2.75 2.76 + 1/4 2.75 2.76 2.75	

METAL FUTURES

GOLD (COMEX) 100 troy oz., 1 per troy oz.	
Mar 380.00 381.00 380.00 381.00 + 1.00 380.00 381.00	
Apr 380.00 381.00 380.00 381.00 + 1.00 380.00 381.00	
May 380.00 381.00 380.00 381.00 + 1.00 380.00 381.00	
Jun 380.00 381.00 380.00 381.00 + 1.00 380.00 381.00	
Jul 380.00 381.00 380.00 381.00 + 1.00 380.00 381.00	
Aug 380.00 381.00 380.00 381.00 + 1.00 380.00 381.00	
Sep 380.00 381.00 380.00 381.00 + 1.00 380.00 381.00	
Oct 380.00 381.00 380.00 381.00 + 1.00 380.00 381.00	
Nov 380.00 381.00 380.00 381.00 + 1.00 380.00 381.00	
Dec 380.00 381.00 380.00 381.00 + 1.00 380.00 381.00	

SILVER (COMEX) 5,000 troy oz., 1 per troy oz.	
Mar 11.00 11.01 11.00 11.01 + 1/100 11.00 11.01	
Apr 11.00 11.01 11.00 11.01 + 1/100 11.00 11.01	
May 11.00 11.01 11.00 11.01 + 1/100 11.00 11.01	
Jun 11.00 11.01 11.00 11.01 + 1/100 11.00 11.01	
Jul 11.00 11.01 11.00 11.01 + 1/100 11.00 11.01	
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Nov 11.00 11.01 11.00 11.01 + 1/100 11.00 11.01	
Dec 11.00 11.01 11.00 11.01 + 1/100 11.00 11.01	

FUTURES OPTIONS

CATTLE-FUTURES (CME) 50,000 lbs., cash per lb.	
Mar 75.00 76.00 75.10 76.00 + 15 64.50 72.50 73.50	
Apr 75.00 76.00 75.10 76.00 + 15 64.50 72.50 73.50	
May 75.00 76.00 75.10 76.00 + 15 64.50 72.50 73.50	
Jun 75.00 76.00 75.10 76.00 + 15 64.50 72.50 73.50	
Jul 75.00 76.00 75.10 76.00 + 15 64.50 72.50 73.50	
Aug 75.00 76.00 75.10 76.00 + 15 64.50 72.50 73.50	
Sep 75.00 76.00 75.10 76.00 + 15 64.50 72.50 73.50	
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Nov 75.00 76.00 75.10 76.00 + 15 64.50 72.50 73.50	
Dec 75.00 76.00 75.10 76.00 + 15 64.50 72.50 73.50	

GOLD (COMEX) 100 troy oz., 1 per troy oz.	
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Apr 380.00 381.00 380.00 381.00 + 1.00 380.00 381.00	
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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.

2-12 CRYPTOQUOTE

BVZ DVMBZ KSRICKMWQ MP
PT DVMBZ BVRB MB IRGGTB
KZ PZZZ RGQ BVZ KSRIC
KSRICKMWQ MP HZWZSE MBP

PVRQTD.—NFSZP WZGRWQ
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OPRAH-BEEF

Winfrey's lawyer goes after livestock dealer

AMARILLO, Texas (AP) - Oprah Winfrey's lawyer chided a cattle trader who admitted he placed a "sell" order at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange before he even viewed an episode of Ms. Winfrey's show on mad cow disease.

Tim Brennan, a futures trader and member of the exchange, testified Wednesday in Ms. Winfrey's \$10.3 million beef defamation trial. He said a colleague tipped him to the show's topic moments after it went on the air - and he hastily placed a "sell" order.

By 10:30 a.m., 90 minutes after the show went on the air in Chicago - cattle prices had fallen by \$1.50 per pound, Brennan said.

That prompted Ms. Winfrey's lawyer to suggest it was the traders themselves who caused the biggest cattle market plunge in a decade - and not the talk show host.

"You think (Ms. Winfrey) ought to pay \$10 million because you thought what she said would stop housewives from buying hamburgers?" defense lawyer Charles Babcock asked.

"This is true," Brennan replied.

The trial, now in its fourth week, was to resume today.

Texas cattlemen are suing Ms. Winfrey, her production company and vegetarian activist Howard Lyman over an April 1996 show on which Lyman,

a former rancher, said feeding ground-up cattle parts to livestock - a practice that's now banned - could spread mad cow disease in this country. Ms. Winfrey swore off hamburgers.

Babcock told jurors they must decide whether it was the show's producers or cattle traders like Brennan who caused the market plunge.

Brennan was forced to clarify remarks he had made in a TV news interview the day after the "Oprah" show aired. In a clip that was played for jurors, Brennan seemed to blame the price drop on another factor.

"We're not here because of Oprah Winfrey's segment yesterday. The biggest ingredient is extraordinarily high grain prices," Brennan said on videotaped news clip.

Asked by cattlemen's lawyers what he meant, Brennan testified: "What I was talking about was (price) levels at the time compared to where we were a year ago. 'The Oprah Winfrey Show' was a hammer, an explosive event at the time."

Another trader, Fred Moore, testified that the program caused a flood of selling that morning.

Mad cow disease has ravaged herds in Britain for a decade but never has been detected in the United States.

Parental right to school records gains backing

WASHINGTON (AP) - Sandy Delancey was angry to discover her son was part of a behavior study and even angrier when she learned his Pittsburgh elementary school didn't need her permission for the third-grader to participate.

The Pennsylvania woman is part of a group of parents who allege in a lawsuit that researchers in the 1995 study delved into whether children ever forced anyone to have sex or tortured animals. Kyle Delancey, now 10, was so upset he suffered severe headaches, his mother said.

"I wasn't even told, let alone asked," she said. "I was surprised that the only way I could get the problem resolved was to take people to court."

Parents across the nation are waging court battles over their right to information concerning their children's education. Members of Congress are proposing a measure to bolster parents' rights and penalize noncompliant schools by withholding federal money.

Federal law, enacted in 1974, is too vague, said Rep. Todd Tiahrt, R-Kan., a sponsor of the new bill. The statute says parents should have access to files and other materials directly related to a student, but it doesn't spell out what a parent is entitled to see - and it doesn't require parental consent for students to undergo counseling or psychiatric evaluation.

Industry, government join to improve airline safety

WASHINGTON (AP) - Faced with the threat of seven to 10 airline crashes a year in the next century if they fail to act, government and the airline industry have joined forces to find ways to cut the accident rate.

"We need to focus on where we get the biggest return for our money, not the issue du jour," Mike Rioux, senior vice president of the Air Transport Association, the airline industry trade group, said Wednesday.

He said the airlines, manufacturers of aircraft, engines and components,

NEWS

in brief

and government agencies have formed the Commercial Aviation Safety Strategy Team to organize their efforts.

"We weren't coordinated before. ... We needed to focus on trying to bring a government-industry partnership together," Rioux told reporters.

Clinton tested to win over Congress on IMF bailouts

WASHINGTON (AP) - Despite warnings from two former presidents about a "dangerous drift" away from global responsibilities, the Clinton administration is finding it's not easy to get Congress to provide the International Monetary Fund an extra \$18 billion in emergency money.

In an effort to step up the pressure, Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin and other administration officials have begun to warn of threats to the U.S. economy if the financial crises that have toppled currencies and stock markets throughout Asia are not contained.

"That is what this whole focus in the IMF is about: protecting our workers, our farmers and our businesses against the possibility ... that there could be a reversion or enlargement of this crisis," Rubin said Wednesday after a three-hour appearance before a House Appropriations subcommittee.

The sales effort was to continue today with Rubin, Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman and Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan briefing members of the House Agriculture Committee on the Asian crisis. Agriculture Department officials estimate the Asian troubles could result in a loss of \$2 billion to \$3 billion in U.S. farm exports, depending on how long recovery takes.

FEC fines law firm of Demo fund-raiser

WASHINGTON (AP) - While Democratic fund-raising practices in the 1996 election remain under scrutiny, the Federal Election Commission found the party solicited donations from foreigners at least three years earlier.

The FEC fined the law firm of major Democratic fund-raiser Marvin Rosen \$77,000 for seeking contributions from a German developer, Thomas Kramer.

And the agency's general counsel found "reason to believe" that another top Democratic fund-raiser, Miami business executive Howard Glickman, knowingly sought additional contributions from Kramer, who, as a foreign national, could not legally contribute to U.S. campaigns.

U.S. tells Israel how much land to yield

WASHINGTON (AP) - The Clinton administration is now telling Israel how much more of the West Bank it should turn over to the Palestinians right away - between 12 percent and 15 percent.

But the top Palestinian negotiator, Saeb Erekat, rejected the U.S. figure as too skimpy. "The percentages the Americans are proposing are unrealistic," Erekat said Wednesday.

And State Department spokesman James P. Rubin said "no great progress" emerged from talks that U.S. mediator Dennis Ross held this week with Israeli and Palestinian delegations, separately Tuesday and together Wednesday.

Report: Russia tried to sell weapons to Iraqis

WASHINGTON (AP) - Defense Secretary William Cohen said today it's up to the United Nations to investigate reported Russian

negotiations to sell equipment to Iraq that could be used to develop biological weapons.

Cohen said he could neither confirm nor deny a report by The Washington Post today that U.N. weapons inspectors found a document prepared by Iraqi officials in 1995 that discussed negotiations leading to a multimillion dollar deal for such equipment. It said the U.N. asked Russia for an explanation six weeks ago but has not heard back.

"I don't have any basis to either confirm or contradict that particular story," Cohen said this morning on NBC's "Today" show.

Lyrics to Diana tribute auctioned for \$400,000

LOS ANGELES (AP) - The handwritten lyrics to the ballad Elton John sang at Princess Diana's funeral sold for \$400,000 to a children's foundation created by Walt Disney's daughter.

Three pages of handwritten lyrics of "Candle in the Wind 1997" and a printed final version autographed by songwriters Bernie Taupin and John were sold at auction Wednesday night to the Lund Foundation.

"It's beyond our wildest dreams," Taupin said of the bid. The money will go to Children's Hospital Los Angeles.

The Lund Foundation, a nonprofit group that funds programs for disadvantaged children, was created by Sharon Disney Lund, who died in 1993. Her son, Bradford, was treated at Children's Hospital until he was six months old.

Jury acquits club owner of drug charges

NEW YORK (AP) - To courtroom cheers, a jury acquitted a New York City nightclub owner of charges that he approved drug sales as a way to attract patrons to his popular Manhattan discos.

Peter Gatien, 46, was depicted by prosecutors as a key player in a wide-spread conspiracy that funneled cocaine, Ecstasy and other drugs to his clubs' mostly youthful clientele.

He had been charged with racketeering and drug conspiracy.

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<p>'95 Thunderbird #21388 \$291 mo.</p>	<p>'95 Town Car #22222 \$396⁵⁶ mo.</p>
<p>'95 Mark VIII #21393 \$416 mo.</p>	<p>'97 Tracer #30564P Green \$189 mo.</p>
<p>'95 Escort #21212 \$149 mo.</p>	<p>'96 F150 S/C 24,000 miles, 48 Mo. Balloon \$342 mo.*</p>
<p>'95 F150 Pickup 34,000 miles #21366 Tan, Stepside \$332 mo.</p>	<p>'97 F150 S/C #21306 \$332 mo.</p>

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