

The Hereford Brand



97th Year, Vol. No. 160 Deaf Smith County, Texas Wednesday, February 18, 1998 10 Pages 50 Cents

Closing to be felt in budgets of '99

By DONALD M. COOPER
Brand Editor

Holly Sugar's decision to shut down sugar beet processing at its Hereford plant will be felt in the budgets of area taxing entities.

In 1997, Holly Sugar was the top taxpayer in Deaf Smith County, Deaf Smith County Hospital District, Hereford Independent School District and High Plains Water District.

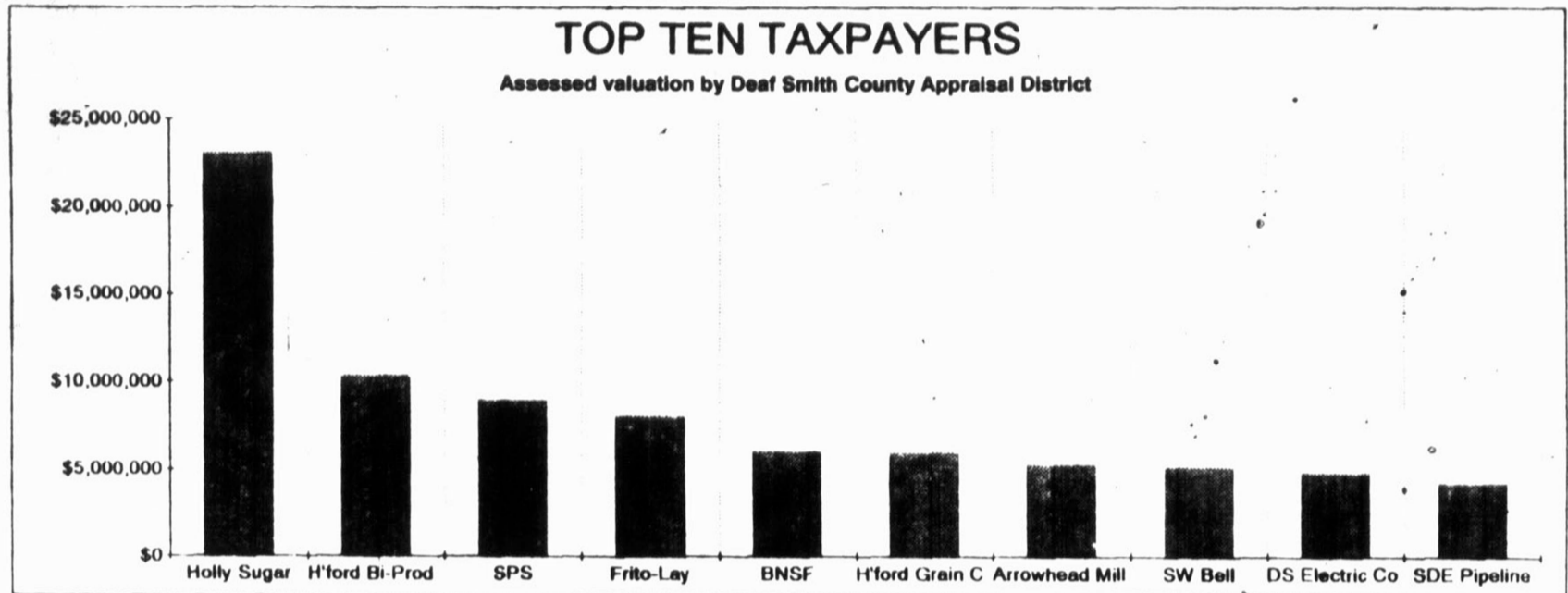
According to the county's appraisal district, the value of Holly Sugar property is about \$23.1 million.

Holly Sugar paid \$121,887 in taxes to the county; \$49,460 to the hospital district; \$322,611 to the school district; and \$1,936 to the water district.

Although the company is not on the city's tax rolls, Hereford certainly will feel an economic jolt because the beets and processing pumps about \$14 million in the local economy each year.

The Hereford-area growers spend

See TAXES, Page 2



Holly's decision leaves growers in a quandry

By DIANNA F. DANDRIDGE
Staff Writer

A long association between Holly Sugar and area sugar beet producers is coming to a close, leaving many people stunned, surprised and wondering about the next step.

Tony Brorman, a grower affiliated with Holly Sugar since 1964, said "I'm surprised, but not really shocked."

Brorman said he can understand the company's decision to close the processing plant and - like the farmers who wouldn't grow beets because they couldn't make a profit - have seen it coming for a number of years.

Kenneth Frye, president of the Texas-New Mexico Sugarbeet Growers Association, said the Holly decision "didn't just happen in the last year. It's been accumulating over the last three to four years."

"Our surprise came from the research done on test varieties," Frye said. "Growers in California had the same problems and they overcame them. I feel we could have turned the situation around in two more years."

Louise Leasure of the Texas New Mexico Sugarbeet Growers Association said she knew it was a distinct possibility that the plant would close, but she didn't know it would come this soon.

She said her office should be closed in the next month.

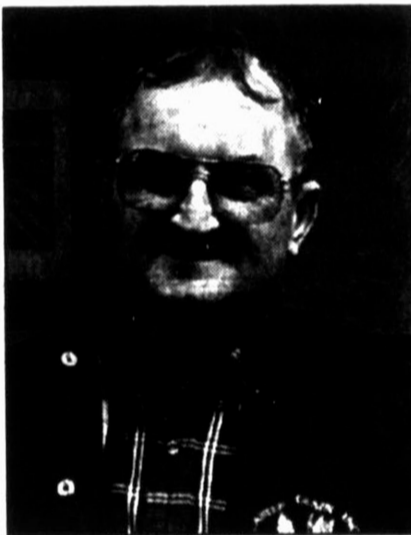
"This is truly a sad day for everyone concerned," she said. "Holly always referred to the Hereford plant as its crown jewel. It will be sorely missed."

"There are no fingers to point," Frye said. "We've always had a good relationship with Holly. This is business; it happened."

"Hereford's not the only town that will feel these repercussions. It'll be felt in the Mall in Amarillo, down in Lubbock. The ripples are there and it's gonna be felt."

Bear Denton, a Hereford seed dealer, said many of his customers are still evaluating the situation.

"They're not happy and they don't like it, but it's a done deal and I guess



KENNETH FRYE

the growers will move on to another crop," Denton said.

Denton acts strictly as a consignment seed dealer and hasn't brought in any sugar beet seed.

Charles Schlabs, a producer who has been growing sugarbeets for nearly 50 years, said he is disappointed and shocked and doesn't know how he will fill the gap.

"Partly with cotton, I guess. Normally, I plant about 200 acres of sugarbeets," he said.

Schlabs is one of the many producers who felt the industry was getting close to solving the weed and disease problems.

"We were expecting a Roundup ready seed by about the year 2000. Holly just couldn't hold out any longer, I guess," Schlabs said.

"We've seen a series of tough years. I'm afraid it's all written in concrete, already. It's going to affect the economy up and down the line."

Schlabs said during meetings with Holly officials, he got the impression that Holly was never going to try to reopen the plant as a processing facility. This sentiment was repeated a number of times by producers and employees.

It's not just the producers who are upset with the closing of the plant.

See HOLLY, Page 2



Brand Photo

Motorists traveling around Hereford can see proof that gasoline prices have been on the decline in recent weeks, even falling below \$1 per gallon for the first time in months. Gasoline prices in the U.S. are at their lowest level since May 1994.

Motorists pay less at pump

NEW YORK (AP) - Steadily declining gasoline prices have reached their lowest level in nearly four years, according to the American Automobile Association.

The average cost of the benchmark grade, self-service regular unleaded, was \$1.11 a gallon, said the AAA's monthly price survey released Tuesday.

The price is 4.5 cents cheaper than in January and 17.3 cents less than a year ago. It is also the lowest price since May 1994.

Gas prices began a gradual decline in September, following a drop in crude oil prices. Consistently low prices for oil, currently around \$16 a barrel, have helped push down prices at the pump, AAA spokesman Mike Morrissey said.

"A barrel of crude is about \$6 cheaper now than a year ago," he said. "As long as that holds, prices should stay low heading into the spring driving season."

The AAA report said mid-grade gas was selling for \$1.21, down 3.2 cents from January, and premium is down 4.5 cents to \$1.26.

The West was the most costly area to drive, with self-service regular unleaded going for \$1.25 a gallon, down 6.9 cents from last month. It is least costly in the Southeast at \$1.04, down 3.9 cents.

Other regional averages are: New England, \$1.16, down 4.7 cents; mid-Atlantic, \$1.11, down 4.3 cents; Great Lakes, \$1.06, down 1.7 cents; Midwest, \$1.05, down 3.6 cents; and the Southwest, \$1.10, down 4.8 cents.

Wholesale prices show drop in January

WASHINGTON (AP) - A steep decrease in energy costs pushed prices at the wholesale level down by 0.7 percent in January, the biggest one-month drop in more than four years, while housing construction remained at a high level.

The Labor Department said today that its Producer Price Index, which measures prices before they reach the consumer, was held down by a 3.7 percent fall in energy prices, the

biggest drop since a 5 percent decline in February 1991, the end of the Persian Gulf War.

The January decline was even better than the expected 0.2 percent drop and bolstered the belief that the Federal Reserve will feel no need to boost interest rates anytime soon.

Despite the fact that a robust economy has pushed unemployment to the lowest levels since the early 1970s, inflation measured by the PPI

and the more closely watched Consumer Price Index has been well behaved.

In a second report, the Commerce Department said today that construction of new homes and apartments remained at a high level - an annual rate of 1.54 million units in January.

That was down a slight 0.3 percent from the previous month, but December's performance was revised sharply higher. Instead of a decline

of 0.8 percent, the government said today that construction of new homes and apartments actually rose 1 percent in December.

Taken together, analysts said the reports showing continued strong activity in the housing sector and the absence of inflation highlighted how well the economy at present.

For all of 1997, wholesale prices fell 1.2 percent while consumer prices were up just 1.7 percent.

Project chief says lights now on in new medical complex

By DONALD M. COOPER
Brand Editor

Shannon Wilburn gave members of the Deaf Smith County Hospital District board a short report on the district's construction project, then had to leave to turn off the lights.

Wilburn, who is managing the construction of a new medical office complex adjacent to Hereford Regional Medical Center, told the directors the power has been turned on in the new facility. He also said the exterior work will not be finished by March 1; however, the April 1 target for occupying the new complex will be met.

The contractors are working inside the building, Wilburn said, and will complete the exterior, as well as the

parking lot and landscaping at the same time.

Wilburn also said specifications for the sprinkler/landscaping systems are being completed and bids will be solicited soon.

The board also received a report from Pat Stone, community organizer, about the progress of the Community Health Improvement Partnership's work.

Stone said the partners are "rounding first base ... some people in the community thought we're further along in the process than we are. We have completed 71 one-on-one interviews and sent raw data (from the Feb. 9 community meeting)" to health care consultant

Paul McGinnis for evaluation.

"What I want to stress is you have to take the information from all areas and then mesh (the information). ... The partners will be looking for consensus. They say if these 23 people can't agree on what needs to be done, then the county won't be able to reach an agreement," she said.

Stone also encouraged the board members to attend the partners' "marathon" meeting, which will be noon-5:30 p.m. March 10, tentatively at the Hereford Community Center.

In other business, HRMC administrator Jim Robinson reported consultants Bill Wagner and Will Simpson have agreements with the Hereford hospital, as well as hospitals in Dimmitt and Friona to develop

Deaf Smith County Hospital District

strategies for implementing a provider sponsored organization that will feature cooperation among the three health care facilities. The two consultants have completed work in Dimmitt and are expected to be back in Hereford and Friona in the next week, with results from the first phase of their work expected within 30 days.

In other business, the directors:

- Discussed hiring a computer consultant, but decided to seek additional information before taking any action;
- Accepted bids from Office

Center and Elliott/Russell for office furniture for the new medical office complex. The total of the two bids is \$59,625.30.

Office Center bid \$44,053.48, but did not submit proposals for every item listed in the specifications.

Elliott/Russell submitted a bid for every item on the specifications; however, its bid on those areas where both companies offered proposals was higher than Office Center's. However, its bid of \$15,571.82 for those items omitted by Office Center was accepted.

- Called an election for May 2. Four directors' positions will be on

the ballot. The positions are now held by the Rev. Jeremy Grant, Karen Solomon, Dean Crofford and Mark Collier.

- Heard a report on insurance coverage from Robinson.

Robinson said specifications for insurance coverage should be completed soon and the hospital will advertise for bids by the end of the month.

The bids should be received in time for the board's insurance committee to review and make recommendations before the board's April meeting.

- Received a departmental report from Mary Boeckman, director of the HRMC Cardio-Pulmonary Rehabilitation department.

FEB 18 1998

HEREFORD BRAND

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

On Sunday, Feb. 15, 1998, I was involved in an incident, which I feel the public needs to be made aware of.

My son, two young women and I were traveling down a county road—a dirt road that was slick with falling rain. Ultimately the truck slipped into a ditch and left us stranded.

After some discussion, my son and I decided it would be best to leave the young ladies in the pickup while we went for help.

At some point a vehicle passed us, turned around and stopped to inquire about us. The driver of the vehicle was the off-duty Sgt. Ed Toler of the Hereford Police Department.

When the truck stopped, I was leery of a stranger, but then recognized the driver and thought help was at hand.

To my chagrin, we were told by the off-duty officer that he would neither call someone to help us, nor would he give us a lift to the nearest house. He couldn't even be bothered to light our way up a long drive way to prevent dogs from possibly charging us.

I realize that many private citizens are fearful of stopping to help someone, especially on a cold, dark rainy night. But, for an officer—who is supposed to carry his service weapon with him and who has taken an oath to serve and protect—to leave two known and respected citizens of the community stranded is unpardonable.

Is this the type of officer we want serving our community? I take pride in the helpful, caring concern exhibited by most of the people of Hereford and Deaf Smith County. Unfortunately, I am now led to believe this caring and concern does not extend from this off-duty officer.

We were able to walk to a farm house, with nothing worse than taking a good soaking and, thanks to the kind people who live there, Luis and Petra Lopez, were able to contact some help. To these people, I offer my thanks.

Nora Guerrero

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

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

THE HEREFORD BRAND

Local Roundup

Golf tourney

Where's the beef? There will be plenty on hand when Hereford hosts the Beef Capital of the World Ice-Breaker Open Golf Tournament at John Pitman Golf Course Saturday and Sunday.

The two-person scramble will be limited to the first 40 paid teams. Entry fee will be \$120 per team and includes green fees, prizes and a beef dinner following Saturday's round. Carts will be extra. Checks should be made payable to the John Pitman Golf Course Association.

The tourney title, "Ice-Breaker Open," refers not only to the first tourney of the year but it will sound familiar to feedyard operators who may still be breaking ice so the cattle can get to the water.

There will be a shotgun start each day, and teams will be flighted after the first round by the JPGA tournament handicap committee.

Based on a full field of 40 teams (80 players), prizes will be \$300 for first place, \$180 for second and \$120 for third. For information, call 363-7139 or 1-800-687-6255.

SBA loan filing

Businesses in several Panhandle counties, include Deaf Smith and Castro, until March 2 to file applications for low-interest disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). The SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loans are available for businesses dependent on farmers and ranchers sustaining crop losses from snow storms, ice, freezing temperatures, high winds and driving rain which occurred April 24-25, 1997. Farmers and ranchers aren't eligible for the SBA loans.

For applications or more information, call the SBA toll-free at (800) 366-6303 or TDD (817) 267-4688.

Chance of rain or snow

Tonight, mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of light rain or light snow, low in the upper 20s, north to northwest wind 5-10 mph.

Thursday, partly cloudy with a high in the lower 50s, northwest wind 10-15 mph.

3-DAY FORECAST

Friday, partly cloudy, low in mid-20s, high around 60.
Saturday, mostly cloudy with a chance of rain, low in the lower 30s, high in upper 50s.
Sunday, partly cloudy, low in mid-30s, high in the lower 60s.

TUESDAY RECAP

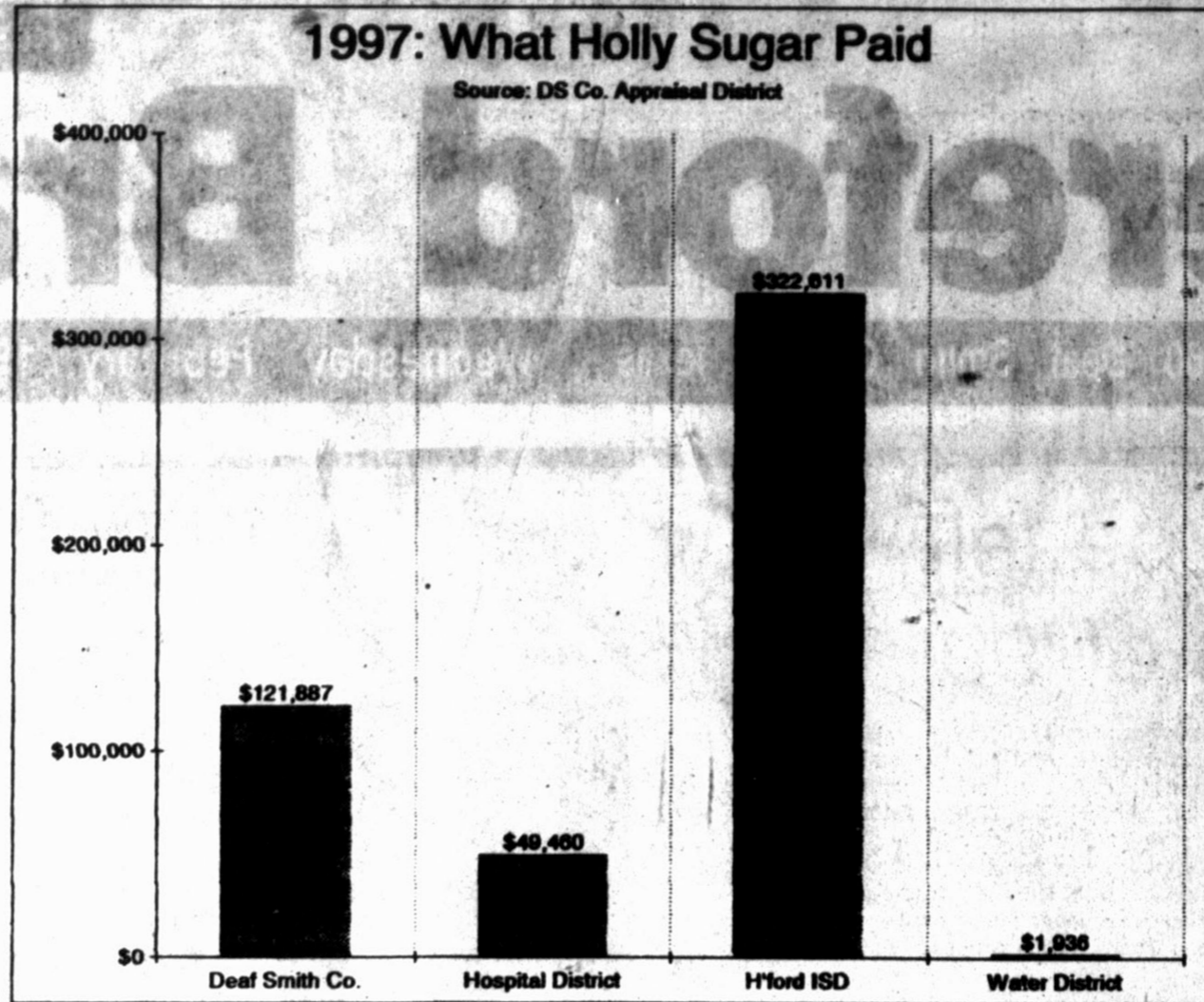
High, 49; low, 35; no precipitation.

ALTA spelling bee winners

Fourteen Hereford students competed in the annual ALTA Spelling Bee in Dallas on Saturday, Jan. 24. The students were successful in their respective divisions and twelve will be traveling to Dallas to compete in the finals in February.

The ALTA Spelling Bee emphasizes the phonetic approach to spelling, concentrating on the structural rules of English words.

Those competing were: Hereford Jr. High, Wally Walker, Joaquin Rodriguez, Matthew Collier; West Central students, Zack Ambold, Thomas Langford; Blubonnet students, Brandon Gresham, Becca Gallardo, John Cardenas, Marcos Escamilla; Shirley students, Eugene Abeyta, Derek Vela, Eddie Villalovos, Jonathan Martin, and Roy Rincon.



TAXES

as much as \$20 million annually to produce the beet crop, spending money on seed, fertilizer, pesticides, irrigation, harvesting, transportation and other needs to take the crop from seed in a sack to big, finished sugarbeets delivered to the plant.

The closing of the processing operation will mean some 325 season and about 80 permanent jobs will be lost, which will be felt in local stores.

Roger Hill, president and chief executive officer of Holly Sugar, said Tuesday the company will cease sugar beet processing at the plant it's operated here since September 1964.

However, the plant is not completely shutting down. The

company will continue to package and distribute refined sugar products from the plant to its current customer base.

Danny Jones, Deaf Smith County's chief appraiser, said the Holly decision will have no effect on the 1998 taxes.

"I can't see it having an effect on '98 taxes, but I think it will in '99," Jones said. "It depends on how much of it Holly leaves going (at the plant). The building value is about \$3.6 million, the overall appraisal is about \$23 million," Jones said.

"If they're just bagging and distributing, we're not sure. The building will still be there and it'll be

taxed," Jones said, adding there are too many factors to be considered now, especially since it's unclear what Holly will leave at the facility.

If the ion extractor, which is appraised at \$9 million remains at the Hereford facility, the total value would be about \$12 million, Jones said. Holly officials have not decided what to do about the ion extractor, which is used in the molasses desugarization process.

While acknowledging the value of the plant will be less with the shutdown of the beet processing operation, Jones said, "We're not going to lose the whole \$23 million."

Chamber banquet

Serving will begin at 6:30 p.m. Friday at the annual Deaf Smith County Chamber of Commerce banquet, 30 minutes earlier than originally scheduled, according to chamber director Don Cumpton.

Texas Gov. George Bush will be the keynote speaker. Everyone attending the banquet is asked to enter the Deaf Smith County Bull Barn at the end east, where the buffet lines will be located.

Also, because of the anticipated crowd, the Hereford Police Department will direct parking for the banquet. The HPD requests all motorists to enter the Bull Barn parking lot at the east end.

THE HEREFORD BRAND

Emergency services

Activities reported by emergency personnel for Feb. 17, include the following:

- Police Department Arrests**
 - A 48-year-old man was arrested in the 100 block of Fuller on a theft warrant.
 - A 17-year-old man was arrested in the 100 block of Avenue G.
 - A theft was reported in the 500 block of N. 25 Mile Avenue.
- Burglary of a habitation** was reported in the 700 block of Thunderbird.
- Criminal trespass** was reported in the 100 block of Avenue J.
- Dog at large** was reported in the 800 block of Irving.
- A runaway** was reported in the 100 block of Avenue H.
- Theft** was reported in the 2000 block of Plains.

--Welfare concern was reported in the 600 block of Avenue K.

- Sheriff's Department Arrests**
 - A 38-year-old man was arrested for violation of probation.
 - A 42-year-old man was arrested for violation of probation from Morris County.

Fire Department
--1:58 a.m., Feb. 18, firefighters responded to the Mechanical techniques for a smoke scare.

Farmers Insurance reducing its rates

AUSTIN (AP) - Farmers Insurance is cutting its auto rates by 3.8 percent statewide.

"This is the way we reward our customers when losses decline," said John Hageman, head of Farmers Texas. "This should send a strong and clear message that the Texas auto insurance market is alive and well and giving something back to our loyal customers."

Hageman on Monday said insurance claims involving bodily injury and uninsured motorists have declined, prompting the rate cuts. The cuts, effective April 15, affect

- 1.3 million drivers, including 780,000 covered by Mid-Century Insurance.
- Cuts will roughly be 3.8 percent for all Texas Farmers policyholders, the company said.
- In examples of the Mid-Century cuts, Hageman said drivers will see reductions of:
 - 6.1 percent in El Paso
 - 6 percent in McLennan, Tom Green, Maverick and Val Verde counties
 - 5 percent in Harris County
 - 5.9 percent in Nueces County
 - 3.9 percent in Travis and Bexar counties.

Crime Stoppers

The Hereford Police are investigating the unauthorized use of a motor vehicle which occurred on Feb. 13, 1998. The theft occurred in the 500 block of N. 25 Mile Ave. The suspect entered the fenced area of Western Ford, getting into a 1997 red Ford Mustang. The suspects then drove the car through the gate, and later struck a fence in the 400 block of Irving. Suspects attempted to burn the car. Anyone having information about the Crime of the Week or any other criminal activity is urged to call the Clue Line at 344-2583.

All callers may remain anonymous by using a code name or number.

Crime stoppers would like the public to be aware their number has changed. The new number is 344-2583.

THE HEREFORD BRAND

Obituaries



MILDRED X. RILEY
Feb. 16, 1998

SEAGRAVES - Funeral services for Mildred X. Riley, 90, will be 2 p.m. Thursday at the First Baptist Church in Seagraves with Rev. Rick Smith officiating. Burial will be in the Seagraves Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of Gililand-Watson Funeral Home.

Mrs. Riley died Monday at the West Gate Nursing Home. She was born Sept. 1, 1907 in Buxton, Iowa to Samuel Mckelvie and Amelia Covelier. She married Forest Knop Riley on Feb. 22, 1934, in Chicago. They came to Texas from Illinois in 1935. She moved to Hereford in 1994. She was a homemaker and member of the Dorcas Sunday School class of First Baptist Church of

Seagraves. Survivors include two sisters, Gertrude Jacobs of Hodgkins, Ill., and Jessie Gillies of Homewood, Ill.; three grandchildren, one from Hereford; seven great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her daughter Charlene Smith.

CLIFFORD R. GANDY
Feb. 16, 1998

Funeral services for Clifford R. Gandy, 93, of Hereford will be 10 a.m. Friday in the Temple Baptist Church with the Rev. H.W. Bartlett officiating. Burial will be in West Park Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of Gililand-Watson Funeral Home.

Mr. Gandy died Monday at the Hereford Regional Medical Center. He was born Oct. 10, 1904, in Goldwaite to James Pride Gandy and Cora Ellen Barker. He married Corene Julian on Oct. 26, 1935 in Plainview. He came to Deaf Smith county in 1934. He was a farmer and had served as Hereford's professional Santa Claus for more than 60 years.

Survivors include two sons, Julian R. Gandy of Hereford, and Troy M. Gandy of Modesto, Calif.; two daughters, Earle Dean Lowry of Houston, and Glenna F. Bell of Pampa; one brother, George S. Gandy of Wheeler; 10 grandchildren and 14

great-grandchildren. Memorials should be sent to the Gideon Society or the Temple Baptist Church.

LORENZA SHAW
Feb. 16, 1998

Graveside services for Lorenza Shaw, 83, of Hereford were 10 a.m. today at the West Park Cemetery with Rev. Travis Curry of the Bible Baptist Church officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Gililand-Watson Funeral Home.

Mr. Shaw died Monday at Westgate Nursing Home. He was born Sept. 15, 1914 in Boswell, Okla., to Jesse Shaw and May Middleton. He married Elsie Davis on August 26, 1940, in Telephone, Texas. They came to Deaf Smith County in 1950. He was a feedlot worker and a member of the Avenue Baptist Church.

Survivors include one son and three daughters all of Hereford, Sid Shaw, Sue Rogers, Kathy Weems, and Louise Jobe; one brother, Doyle Shaw of Canyon; four sisters, Jo Hardy of Lubbock, Eva Sanders and Nadine Beatty both of Clovis, Calif., and Ruth Peel of Fresno, Calif.; nine grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Memorials should be made to Texas Lions Crippled Childrens Home, c/o Past District Gov. Sid Shaw, 123 N. Texas, Hereford.

HOLLY

From Page 1

Some 85 full-time employees will be looking for work, either with the Holly Sugar Corp. in another facility or elsewhere.

All the seasonal workers, who work during the annual campaigns will be also be facing new job searches.

Dennis Printz, the agricultural manager at Holly Sugar, said the company doesn't know "when the layoffs will begin. Our human resource people will be here next week to look at the situation."

The human resource department staffers will be the ones who explain and present the severance packages and the possibility of transfers.

Elvira Mendoza, a Holly Sugar employee, said, "I'm hurting. Both financially and emotionally. I've worked out there 9-10 months of the year since '75. I don't have any prospects for work."

Many employees had little to say and were waiting for the results of employee meetings and meetings with the human resources department.

A spokesperson for the Texas Workforce Commission said a rapid response team will probably come in from Austin to deal with large number of persons who will be claiming unemployment.

Don Cumpton, executive vice president of Deaf Smith Chamber of Commerce, agreed that the closing of Holly will have an economic impact, "but, we as a community have enough unity and resolve to overcome the problems created by this situation."

"This is not the end of the world," Frye said. "The sun came up, the sun went down and we will survive. Holly never made Hereford. The people did. We will continue to live and grow. There is always the promise of something better on the horizon."



THE HEREFORD BRAND
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Managing Editor
Creation Mgr.

Lifestyles

Ann Landers

Dear Ann Landers: Like many who grew up during the Depression, my parents took great pride in pulling themselves up by the bootstraps. Their home was their castle, and they both worked diligently to maintain it.

When my mother died six years ago, my sister, "Anne," now 36, was living at home with the folks. She never moved out. Anne now has four dogs, and they have virtually trashed the place. The living room carpet smells like a cow barn. The house is covered with dog hair, and since the dogs sleep with Anne, her bedsheets are filthy.

Despite the fact that my parents financed her college education, Anne, who has always had a good job, pays rent only sporadically. My father's resentment is eating him alive. This would be easy for me to write off as none of my business, but I would like my children, ages 2 and 5, to spend more time with their grandpa. He is getting on in years, and I want to visit more often, but seeing the beautiful home I grew up in being turned into a dump is very painful.

Dad complains to me constantly about Anne's freeloading. He wants to remodel his home but says he won't do it as long as the dogs are there. The way things are going, I'm afraid the dogs will outlive him. Please tell me what to do. This is critical, and I'm beside myself. -- S.L. in Spencer, N.Y.

Dear Spencer: Have you heard of professional house cleaners? They usually work in teams and do a wonderful job. Look in the phone book, and make an appointment. You will wonder what took you so long.

If there are none in Spencer, hire a cleaning woman. I urge you to get going. The longer you wait, the worse it will be for all concerned.

Dear Ann Landers: My husband and I have been married for 15 years, and we have three children. Over the course of our marriage, my husband has had several affairs. This is well-known by a number of people because he appeared publicly with various women. The most visible affair (also the most painful for me) was his liaison with my sister. I nearly left him, but he promised "never again" if I would give him one last chance. I agreed.

My sister has two children. I have three. The question is, how much should I tell the children? This is a rather small town, and gossip travels fast. I would not be at all surprised to learn that they have already heard something. Will you please advise me? -- Indiana Mom

Dear Mom: I see no reason to tell them anything. Should they come to you and ask if the stories they have heard are true, you must be honest and say, "Yes, but that is all in the past, and we don't need to think about it anymore." To open a dialogue with children about their father's infidelity would be punitive and counterproductive.

Dear Ann Landers: We recently had a death in the family. The notice in the paper read "private graveside service." An in-law, who had neither seen nor spoken to a family member in 20 years, showed up at the cemetery and tagged along for the wake. I think this was in extremely poor taste. My husband disagrees. What do you say, Ann? -- Grieving in Gary, Ind.

Dear Gary: A graveside service is not a social event. Anyone who chooses to be present should be made to feel welcome.



Contest winners

Local fifth grade students who were winners in the safety poster contest sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary to Roy Wederbrook Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4818 were, from left, Maxie Smith, Shirley School, first place and \$10; Amanda Lucero, West Central School, second place and \$8; and Erasmo Dominguez, West Central School, third place and \$5.

Local genealogical society nears completion of cemetery project

L.J. Clark, president of the Deaf Smith County Genealogical Society, reported at Monday's meeting that the long term project of listing all graves at various Deaf Smith County sites is at last nearing completion.

Clark set a goal of having the work ready to publish by the end of the year.

Information to be included in the project will relate to Restlawn Cemetery, St. Anthony's Cemetery, West Park Cemetery, Wildorado Cemetery, La Plata Cemetery and a single grave at a location in the northwest part of the county.

There are still two graves in the Old Plata site where a Texas State Historical Marker was placed several years ago. These graves have been enclosed in a pipe fence and are being cared for.

Information cards made for the graves in each cemetery will be kept in a card file in the Genealogy Room at the Deaf Smith County Library.

All cemeteries in the county have

agreed to keep a copy of new burials and the Genealogical Society plans to regularly update the published records.

Nell Norvell reminded the group that Los Ciboleros Chapter NSDAR had reprinted the E.B. Black Funeral Home records and this book is available at the county library.

Program speaker for the evening was Mildred Sheffy. She reported on a new book purchased for the Genealogy Room at the county library, EVIDENCE - Citation and Analysis for the Family Historian by Elizabeth Shown Mills.

Sheffy noted that the two biggest mistakes often made by genealogists are failure to cite the source of work they have done, and the acceptance of work done by others without verification.

She said that even what are generally considered primary sources by genealogists contain errors. Each researcher must be responsible for rechecking all information for their

own records if validity is to be established.

Secretary Wilma Clark listed several upcoming genealogical meetings and workshops in Lubbock, Jacksonville, Hurst/Bedford, Austin, Fort Madison, Iowa, Pasadena, Calif., and Denver, Colo.

The Deaf Smith County Genealogical Society meets on the third Monday nights. Persons interested in genealogy are invited to become part of the group. Those interested may contact any member of the group.

Members at the February meeting were Miles Caudle, Don Minchew, Troyce Hanna, Jean Beene, Donita Rule, the Clarks, Sheffy and Norvell.

Alzheimer's support group to hold meeting Thursday

In affiliation with the Alzheimer's Association, Panhandle Chapter, the Hereford support group for family caregivers of persons with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, will meet from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Thursday in Fellowship of Believers Church, 245 North Kingwood (at Moreman).

A support group is a gathering of people with common problems, needs and interests to share their feelings, thoughts, questions and experience in a combined effort to better cope with and survive the challenge presented by persons with Alzheimer's

er's disease and related dementias.

The focus of this month's meeting will be a brief presentation by Lynn Gwyn, a group facilitator with the Amarillo Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association. Ms. Gwyn has had firsthand experience in caring for a family member with Alzheimer's.

There will be an opportunity to dialogue with Ms. Gwyn regarding any current situations being faced by the caregiver.

Group facilitator is Nathan L. Stone, Ph.D., pastoral counselor and former senior chaplain with Family Hospice of Temple.

Naples, Italy is the birthplace of pizza, which a baker at the royal court may have invented in the 1700s.

The game "Monopoly" has been sold in 19 different languages, most recently in Russian.

You are invited to attend

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FRIDAY-Baked fish with lemon wedge, cheese girts, Scandinavian vegetables, peach/cottage cheese salad, cornbread, bread pudding with lemon sauce; or McRibb, sherbet.

MONDAY-Pepper steak, seasoned noodles, Harvard beets, fruit salad, French bread, vanilla pudding; or sliced turkey in gravy, D'zerta pudding.

TUESDAY-Chicken fillet, Oriental rice, French green beans, cranberry/orange relish, roll, pineapple upside down cake; or roast pork smothered, cottage cheese, pineapple tidbits.

WEDNESDAY-Salisbury steak, scalloped potatoes, parsleyed buttered carrots, garden salad, cornbread, apricot cobbler; or sliced ham, apricots.

ACTIVITIES

THURSDAY-Pool classes, exercise class 10-10:45 a.m., oil painting 9-11 a.m., 55 Alive driving course 10 a.m.-12 noon and 1-3 p.m., Thrift Store open 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

FRIDAY-Pool classes, line dance 10-11 a.m., 55 Alive driving course 10 a.m.-12 noon and 1-3 p.m., Thrift Store open 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

SATURDAY-Games 12 noon-4 p.m.

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

TUESDAY-Pool classes, exercise class 10-10:45 a.m., decorative tile painting 1-3 p.m., Belton 10 a.m.-12 noon.

WEDNESDAY-Pool classes, ceramics 1-3 p.m.

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Musical instruments restored in exclusive Oak Lawn workshop

DALLAS - A Stradivarius cello is a source of wonder to Dennis McCaigue. He is particularly perplexed by the varnish.

"The varnish is very beautiful, but the varnish is a mystery," he said, touching the tea-colored back of the instrument. "For one thing, we don't know what its composition is. We know it was made from tree resin, but there are thousands of trees."

In his one-room workshop in Oak Lawn, McCaigue, 40, restores and repairs musical instruments worth the price of real estate.

The shop is part of Morris & Smith, a London-based firm that specializes in selling six-figure violins, violas and cellos used by some of the best musicians in the world.

The 271-year-old cello, which had needed adjustments to its base bar, was dropped off by its owner, Ko Iwasaki, an internationally known soloist, winner of the 1970 Tchaikovsky Competition and a teacher at Southern Methodist University.

Iwasaki was preparing to take the cello on tour to his native Japan, and McCaigue admitted to anxiety about whether the work would be found satisfactory.

He needn't have worried. "I was very impressed," Iwasaki said. "I like the sound better now. It has a more open sound. The quality is very much improved."

Morris & Smith opened its Dallas office last summer. Dallas is not immediately regarded as an arts mecca, but it has its advantages, said Michael Selman, a Morris & Smith partner.

"It's centrally located," he said. "If you're in New York or LA, you're sort of stranded on the coasts."

And it has a key ingredient necessary to high culture, which is to say, well, money.

"Traditionally, for example, with the Medicis in Florence, you had financial support. It's something that has to be there, and you have that in Dallas," Selman said.

McCaigue's workshop is believed to be the only repair shop between Chicago and Los Angeles for ultra-high-end instruments, Selman said. Previously, Iwasaki sent his cello to Chicago, New York or Europe for repairs.

It's not like having your shoes resoled.

The price of adjustments and simple repairs vary widely, but

Selman said a routine restoration of a fine violin could cost up to \$10,000.

Before entrusting the Stradivarius to Morris & Smith, Iwasaki quizzed McCaigue about his theory of cello repair.

"He had some of the same ideas about the instrument I had," Iwasaki said. "I felt comfortable leaving the instrument with him."

Iwasaki's cello was a relatively simple, if delicate, repair job. Elsewhere in McCaigue's workshop, a circa-1870 Bisiach violin with woodworm damage has been broken down, virtually, into its constituent parts.

McCaigue plans to gouge out the hole, then carve a piece of maple to replace the old wood. Filling the hole with putty would damage the instrument's sound, he said.

Each job requires its own strategy and often demands improvisation. When McCaigue cleans out old glue, he sometimes uses meat tenderizer.

Much of his work entails repairing previous repairs. Current thinking about restoring violins was developed early in this century, he said.

Before that, McCaigue said, "I think a lot of people used to go about it with the attitude that you could put a screw in it and it would be just fine."

Not that he has never made a mistake.

"You chip a piece of wood, and you gasp," he said. "But then you take a breath and say, OK, and move on. It's two steps backwards sometimes."

Nonetheless, he said, he believes that old musical instruments are worth the bother.

"There's something that happens to wood," he said. "First, it gets dry, and then it crystallizes. When I cut into old wood, I find I'm working with a different substance entirely. ... The columns of cells in the wood become almost like organ pipes."

McCaigue is fascinated with a violin's structure.

Minus the chin piece, he said, "the violin weighs less than a pound, and yet with its strings, it carries more than 70 foot-pounds of pressure. It's like an egg; nobody quite knows how it can hold so much pressure."

He is in love with his job.

"It's a little alchemy," he said, "it's a little varnishing and painting, it's a little woodworking, and it's a little interacting with people, with musicians, who are the most fascinating people in the world."

Today in History

By The Associated Press
Today is Wednesday, Feb. 18, the 49th day of 1998. There are 316 days left in the year.
Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 18, 1861, Jefferson Davis was sworn in as president of the Confederate States of America in Montgomery, Ala.

On this date:
In 1516, Mary Tudor, the Queen of England popularly known as "Bloody Mary," was born in Greenwich Palace.

In 1546, Martin Luther, leader of the Protestant Reformation in Germany, died.

In 1564, the artist Michelangelo died in Rome.

In 1885, Mark Twain's "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" was published in the United States for the first time.

In 1930, the ninth planet of our solar system, Pluto, was discovered.

In 1953, "Bwana Devil," the movie that heralded the 3D fad of the 1950s, opened in New York City.

In 1960, the Eighth Winter Olympic Games were formally

opened in Squaw Valley, Calif., by Vice President Nixon.

In 1970, the Chicago Seven defendants were found innocent of conspiring to incite riots at the 1968 Democratic national convention.

In 1972, the California Supreme Court struck down the state's death penalty.

In 1977, the space shuttle Enterprise, sitting atop a Boeing 747, went on its maiden "flight" above the Mojave Desert.

Ten years ago: Soviet Communist Party leaders dropped former Moscow party chief Boris N. Yeltsin from the ruling Politburo. Anthony M. Kennedy was sworn in as the 104th justice of the Supreme Court.

Five years ago: President Clinton hosted a campaign-style rally at St. Louis' Union Station to enlist citizen support for his economic plan.

One year ago: Astronauts on the space shuttle Discovery completed their tuneup of the Hubble Space Telescope after 33 hours of space-walking; the Hubble was then released using the shuttle's crane. Bill Richardson began work as U.S.

ambassador to the United Nations.

Today's Birthdays: Songwriter-musician Pee Wee King is 84. Actor Jack Palance is 77. Cosmopolitan editor Helen Gurley Brown is 76. Actor George Kennedy is 73. Sen. John Warner, R-Va., is 71. Author Toni Morrison is 67. Movie director Milos Forman is 66. Singer Yoko Ono is 65. Singer Irma Thomas is 57. Singer Herman Santiago (Frankie Lyman and the Teenagers) is 57. Singer Dennis DeYoung (Styx) is 51. Actress Sinead Cusack is 50. Actress Cybill Shepherd is 48. Singer Juice Newton is 46. Singer Randy Crawford is 46. Rock musician Robbie Bachman is 45. Actor John Travolta is 44. Game show host Vanna White is 41. Actress Greta Scacchi is 38. Actor Matt Dillon is 34. Rapper Dr. Dre is 33. Actress Molly Ringwald is 30. Rock musician Tommy Scott (Space) is 30. Actor Tyrone Dorrzell Burton ("The Parent Hood") is 19.

Thought for Today: "What is man but his passion?" - Robert Penn Warren, American author, poet and critic (1905-1989).

Husbands are meeting guests

Kingdom Seekers Sunday School Class of Avenue Baptist Church held its February meeting recently at K-Bob's.

Husbands of class members were special guests for the supper and fellowship.

In attendance were C.E. and Maxine Coleman, G.W. and Nancy Duncan, Jack and Trudie Gary, Andy and Perry Keyes, Rosic Wall, Jessie Sumner, Madeline Hutson, Dorma Kirby, Erma Bain, Ruby Stevens, Pauline Landers, Dorothy Carlile, Luella Thomas and Kathy Keyes.

Hospital Notes

Report from Hereford Regional Medical Center for Feb. 18:
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Hints from Heloise

Dear Heloise: I have looked everywhere for a recipe for a baking mix. I know that I should be able to make it for less than buying one that is already made. None of my cookbooks has a recipe. Can you help? - Kara Martin

Here's a baking mix recipe that my mom used to use all the time to make biscuits.

- For this recipe you'll need:
- 2 teaspoons salt
 - 8 teaspoons sugar (optional)
 - 1/3 cup baking powder
 - 8 cups flour
 - 1 cup solid shortening

Combine everything except the solid shortening and mix well. Using a pastry blender or two table knives, cut in the shortening until the mixture resembles coarse meal.

Now you can use the baking mix or store it in a container with an airtight lid. The mix can be stored on the pantry shelf or kept for a longer period of time in the refrigerator.

To make some delicious biscuits, just combine 1 cup of the mix with 1/3 cup of milk.

Make the biscuits by dropping tablespoonfuls on a cookie sheet, or pat out and cut them. Bake in a preheated 450-degree oven for 12 to 15 minutes. - Heloise

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

Heloise
PO Box 795000
San Antonio TX 78279-5000
or fax it to 210-HELOISE

DEVILED EGGS
Dear Heloise: No need for deviled eggs to slide around. Simply cut a small slice off the bottom of each (I halve mine the long way) and mash it in with the yolks. Makes for ample filling and each one has a flat side to sit on.

Now why didn't I think of that years ago? - Hannah Bates, Montgomery, Ala.

EASY DOES IT

Dear Heloise: My husband and I do a lot of baking. We don't like getting our hands greasy using paper towels to grease baking dishes.

Now, along with avoiding greasy hands, we have found a solution that also helps the environment a little. We simply keep the wrappers from butter and margarine sticks, fold them in half and keep them in the fridge.

When we need to grease a dish, we simply get a wrapper from the fridge, unfold it and use the butter already clinging to the wrapper to complete the task. When finished, we throw it away. - Jamey Piper, Laurel, Md.

Brown gives parenting program for Wyche FCE Club meeting

Shirley Brown gave the program at the recent meeting of Wyche Family Community Education Club in the Hereford Community Center.

Brown's program was titled "Surprise - A Change in Life," based on the current trend of more grandparents in the parenting role.

Vada Batterman led the pledges

and prayer. Brown, as hostess, gave the opening exercise while co-hostess Camelia Jones gave the hostess report.

Refreshments were served to members Argen Draper, Dorma Kirby, Audrey Russer, Carol Worthan, Batterman, Brown, Jones and guest Movida Busby.

Birkenfeld addresses conference

Father Darryl Birkenfeld, formerly of Hereford and founder and director of The Promised Land Network, will speak at the National Catholic Rural Life Conference Annual Meeting

Friday and Saturday in Washington, D.C.

Father Birkenfeld's talk is titled "Building a Web of Life in the Southwest."

CBS shows hockey without network fluff

No tear-jerking features, fluff interviews or stale coverage. Olympic hockey on CBS has been presented as something rare: a true sports event. The network has blessedly avoided the pre-packaged, tape-delayed entertainment pieces that have become an Olympic staple on American television.

And the live -- or slightly delayed -- coverage has been complemented by sharp analysis, telling the story of what happens on the ice instead of off it.

One example came Tuesday morning at the dramatic women's gold-medal game in which the United States beat Canada 3-1.

That the game was even televised is a credit to CBS. In Atlanta, NBC all but ignored the U.S. gold-medal winning softball and women's soccer teams, even showing a gymnastics exhibition instead of the softball game.

But with the United States a medal favorite, CBS decided a few months before the Olympics to show the championship game on a slight delay during its morning program.

Despite having to compress the game into a two-hour program, which was interrupted by traffic, news and weather reports, CBS delivered one of its best telecasts yet.

The credit goes to the two teams, which played a hard-fought, emotional game, and announcers John Davidson and Sean McDonough, who have meshed well in Nagano to become CBS' top announcing team.

Davidson, who broadcasts NHL games for Fox and Madison Square Garden Network, is the best analyst in any sport. He can communicate his knowledge effectively without hitting viewers over the head.

He also does two things most analysts don't -- admit mistakes and scout referees.

Davidson even provided insight in the less familiar women's game, noting how the high boards make it difficult for line changes, describing Canadian goalie Manon Rheau-

Commentary

By
Josh Dubow
AP Sports Writer

me's technique on stopping Cammi Granato's tip-in attempt and reporting that U.S. coach Ben Smith told his players to shoot high about one minute before the first goal.

That last tidbit was gathered by sideline reporter Darren Pang and relayed to Davidson. That's a much more effective use of the reporter than the gushing interviews with parents and self-serving comments by coaches and athletes.

While Davidson has been the star of CBS' hockey coverage, McDonough has done a more than capable job replacing Mike Emrick, CBS' play-by-play man in Lillehammer and Albertville and Davidson's partner at Fox.

McDonough made up for CBS' mistake from Saturday's Canada-U.S. women's game, when it failed to show postgame reaction. There was an argument between the teams, and Canada coach Shannon Miller said a U.S. player made a snide remark about a Canadian's recently deceased father.

CBS also ignored the controversy the next day when Bill Macatee interviewed three of the American players. But McDonough brought it up quickly in the telecast and even speculated it could have been a motivational ploy by Miller.

CBS smartly did not cut away from the postgame celebration by the U.S. team and the medal ceremony Tuesday, when it showed Granato in tears and the entire team singing the national anthem.

Luckily, fans have more hockey to look forward to this week, with the medal round of the men's tournament. But they will have to stock up on caffeine or videotapes because the games will be shown live during late-night coverage.

Spurs

The Pistons (23-28) suffered their sixth straight road loss and third straight on a road trip that will end with stops in Houston and Dallas.

Grant Hill, whose last-second shot missed for Detroit, scored 20 points, but was scoreless in the fourth quarter.

Tim Duncan's 28 points led the Spurs. Monty Williams, who had been playing sparingly, scored 16.

"When you lose your best scorer and defender, it hurts," Popovich said. "We had a different rotation on the floor that hadn't played together. I'm glad they stepped it up. It came at a great time."

Robinson sat out the game after

team physician Dr. David Schmidt prescribed rest for inflammation of his right knee that forced him to sit out the second half of last Saturday's 94-81 loss to Phoenix. He will miss Thursday night's game at Dallas and be re-evaluated again Friday.

Dr. Schmidt said if Robinson still has pain Friday, he wants to take a bone scan to look at the bone and muscle.

"Joe Fan doesn't have anything to be concerned about," Dr. Schmidt said. "The MRI showed no problems other than the wear and tear on a knee for a player who has been in the league as long as David has (ninth season)."

Count

win a gold medal someday." Stone said. "I can't believe it."

With four days of medals still to be won, the United States was nearing its best showing ever of 13 medals in Lillehammer. Germany, with 22 total medals, topped the medal list, followed by Norway (19), Russia (13), and Canada and Austria (12). The United States was tied for sixth with the Netherlands and Finland.

CROSS COUNTRY: Last week, Thomas Alsgaard cost Dahlie his chance at a seventh gold by surging past him in a race. Today, he made up for it by sticking his right ski across the finish line just ahead of Italy's Silvio Fauner to give Norway the gold in the 40-kilometer cross-country relay.

Alsgaard's late charge ended in victory when he got his right ski across the line two-tenths of a second ahead of Fauner. Italy took the silver and Finland the bronze.

"I was not thinking about it so much, but it means something to me," Dahlie said of the record. "I will appreciate it in a few years when I look

back on a fantastic career. But I was not concentrating on it here."

Dahlie has seven gold medals and 11 overall in three Olympics. He's won three in Nagano, including two golds.

SKIING: Another day, another postponed ski race. Even moving to a different mountain didn't help Alpine skiers, who seem to bring bad weather with them at these games.

An overnight blizzard that dumped more than 3 feet of snow on Mount Higashidate forced postponement of the men's giant slalom. That meant Italy's Alberto Tomba would have to wait another day to try to win a medal for an unprecedented fourth Olympics.

BIATHLON: Ole Einar Bjorndalen could have had reason to complain when they stopped a biathlon he was leading Tuesday because of heavy snow and fog. Instead, he simply came back to win the restarted 10-kilometer race. The Norwegian star used flawless shooting and steady skiing to top teammate Frode Andresen, who took second. The bronze went to Finland's Ville Raikkonen.

Dominator

But the Czechs are 3-1, their lone loss coming 2-1 to Russia in round-robin play. And with "The Dominator" in goal, they will be in every game.

Hasek, MVP in the NHL last season, has won three Vezina trophies as the league's top goalie. Using his unique, scrambling style, he has allowed only five goals in the Olympics. He had 38 saves Wednesday.

Seeking its first medal since the split of Czechoslovakia after the 1992 Olympics, the Czech Republic will meet either Canada or Kazakhstan in Friday's semifinals. Czechoslovakia won three silvers and three bronzes but never a gold.

Jaromir Jagr, the Czech Republic's only superstar-caliber offensive player, had a goal and an assist. Vladimir Ruzicka added a goal and Martin Rucinsky broke the Americans' will with a late second-period goal that Mike Richter should have stopped. Jiri Dopita scored with 39 seconds to play.

After Rucinsky scored on his innocent-looking wrist shot from 40 feet, giving Hasek an insurmountable two-goal lead, Richter kicked the ice with his right skate and slammed his stick in disgust.

U.S. coach Ron Wilson, loyal to Richter because of the goalie's incredible World Cup performance, stayed with the New York Rangers' star all tournament even though he wasn't at his best.

After Hasek kept the game scoreless with three outstanding saves -- including an arm stop on a 10-footer by wide-open Brett Hull -- the Americans broke through at 16:12 when Mike Modano chipped Amonte's pass over Hasek.

The Czechs responded by scoring three times in the second period, giving Hasek more than enough cushion.

At 8:21, Jagr's shot went wide but Ruzicka hacked the rebound past Richter, who hobbled the puck into the net.

Just 58 seconds later, Jagr displayed the brilliant individual skill that has made him the NHL's highest-paid player. The Pittsburgh Penguins marvel stole the puck from Gary Suter on the right boards, stickhandled between two U.S. players into the slot and wristed a shot past Richter's stick side.

Hasek made 15 more stops in the third period.

Cowboys

standing ovation when he was introduced by Dr. Louis J. Rodriguez, MSU president.

"Your facilities here are outstanding," Jones said of the university with an enrollment of close to 6,000 students. "The No. 1 reason we chose Wichita Falls was the -- enthusiasm, desire and interest the people here showed us."

Second, he said was the "promixity to our core base."

Wichita Falls, a city of 103,200, is located just about halfway between Dallas and Oklahoma City, approximately 125 miles from each city.

"Going to Wichita Falls will give us a fresh start under a new coach," said quarterback Troy Aikman. "We will be able to concentrate on football and that's good. That's what we need."

The Cowboys dropped to 6-10 last year and coach Barry Switzer was forced to retire.

The new coach, Chan Gailey, was in Wichita Falls Tuesday with Jones as they toured the facilities which included four grass practice fields.

Training camp is scheduled to end on Aug. 14.

Dallas trained for 27 years at Thousand Oaks, Calif., before moving to St. Edward's in 1990.

Previous training camps were at Pacific University in Forest Grove, Ore., St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minn., and Northern Michigan College, Marquette, Mich.

Since Dallas moved its training camps to Texas, the team has won three Super Bowls.

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NEWS in brief

Clinton's lawyers request dismissal of Jones' suit

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) - President Clinton's lawyers have asked a federal judge to dismiss Paula Jones' sexual harassment lawsuit, accusing her of trying to "humiliate and damage the president."

In their filing Tuesday, the lawyers also said a dismissal would protect future presidents from frivolous litigation.

Mrs. Jones, a former Arkansas state employee, claims in part that when Clinton was Arkansas governor he asked for sex then retaliated when she rejected his advances. But in excerpts of her sworn deposition, released Tuesday by Clinton's lawyers to support their request, she said Clinton never threatened her or her job.

She gives as an example of harassment an incident in which she didn't receive flowers on "secretary's day." And she acknowledged that she never examined her employment records before filing the lawsuit in 1994.

Clinton's lawyer, Robert Bennett, said that despite months of gathering evidence, Mrs. Jones has failed to establish her case. He accused her of "using the compulsory processes of the court in an attempt to humiliate and damage the president."

"There's no need even for a trial," he wrote.

The trial is scheduled for May 27.

Tripp's agent says concern about tapes prompted action

WASHINGTON (AP) - While President Clinton's lawyers sought to dismiss Paula Jones lawsuit and divulge some of her testimony, new information surfaced about what may have led a colleague of Monica Lewinsky to turn over to prosecutors

secret tapes suggesting a presidential affair and cover-up.

New York book agent Lucianne Goldberg said that a month before Linda Tripp provided her secret recording of conversations with Ms. Lewinsky to prosecutors, Tripp became concerned her tapes might be illegal and began looking for a new lawyer to seek immunity from prosecution.

Goldberg, who was advising Tripp last year, said in an interview Tuesday that it was that concern that eventually led Tripp to an attorney, and eventually, Whitewater Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr.

Report: U.S. jet didn't have map showing ski lift

NEW YORK (AP) - The crew of a Marine Corps jet that killed 20 people after hitting a ski lift in Italy did not have a map that showed the ski lift cable, the crew's Italian lawyers say.

Today, *The New York Times* reported why - because the Pentagon has a policy against using maps made by foreign nations.

The Times also reported the pilot had flown into an area the Italian government said was off-course and that his EA-6B Prowler was violating Pentagon rules by failing to fly 1,000 feet above the ground when the accident occurred.

The paper said the information was based on interviews with Italian and American military and law enforcement officials, the ski lift operator and others.

The accident has strained relations between the two nations and the Italian and American militaries are conducting a joint investigation to determine whether any of the jet's crew or its commanding officers should face charges.

Tobacco industry flexible on lawsuits

WASHINGTON (AP) - The tobacco industry, whose demands for a shield against future lawsuits have met a cold reception in Congress, says it is willing to consider alternatives but has heard nothing acceptable from the other side.

"We are not wedded to a particular method to deal with this problem," industry lawyers Meyer Koplow told reporters Tuesday. "If there are other suggestions that work as well for the industry but cause other people less difficulty, we certainly are prepared to talk to people about them."

"We just haven't heard anything that would fit that description raised so far."

Protections against lawsuits were included in a landmark settlement reached in June between cigarette-makers and the attorneys general of 40 states. In exchange, the industry would pay \$368 billion over 25 years and change some of its marketing practices.

Immunity from lawsuits has become the central issue as Congress debates whether to approve or rewrite the settlement. The Clinton administration has said it prefers a settlement without immunity but is willing to consider immunity if necessary to push the plan through Congress.

Congressional leaders have shown

little inclination to grant election-year favors to an industry that, according to papers recently released by cigarette makers, has looked for ways to hook children on tobacco.

In an interview later Tuesday, Koplow said his comments did not reflect a shift in the industry's strategy. In fact, he said, his statement match the testimony he gave to Congress last year.

The industry's goals remain the same, Koplow said. They include giving tobacco companies "absolutely certain amount of annual liability" without having to pay additional punitive damage payments and the legal ability to hold adult plaintiffs responsible for choosing to smoke.

"If there's a different way to get there than the June settlement, we will look at it," Koplow said. "But so far, in all of the months of negotiations, we haven't heard anything suggested other than what's in there that other people are prepared to agree to."

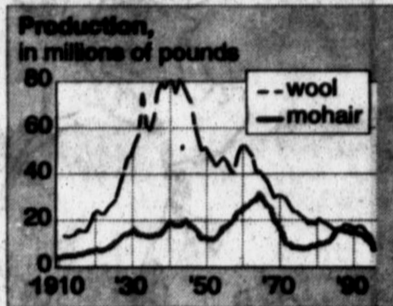
In the past, the industry has demanded that the settlement be approved as a package.

"When you start tearing down one end of the compromise, the whole thing starts to fray," Steven Goldstone, chief of RJR Nabisco, told Wall Street analysts in October during a speech about whether to raise the price of cigarettes.

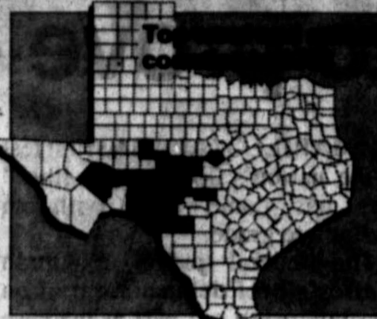
Keeping an eye on Texas

Wool and mohair a Texas tradition

Texas farmers and ranchers have been raising sheep for wool and Angora goats for mohair since the early 1900s. Although the federal government phased out subsidies to growers in 1995, Texas still leads in the U.S. in production of these natural fibers.



SOURCES: John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Texas Agriculture Statistics Service.



Echándole el ojo a Texas

Dos tesoros Tejanos: el mohair y la lana

Desde los principios del siglo, agricultores y ganaderos Tejanos han criado cabras para cultivar la lana y el mohair. El estado de Texas es el líder nacional en la producción de estos materiales naturales, aunque en 1995 el gobierno federal dejó de pagar subsidios por lo cual.



FUENTES: John Sharp, Contralor Estatal de Cuentas Públicas, Ministro de Agricultura, y el Servicio Estatal de Estadísticas Agrícolas.



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22 nations begin effort to revise global finances

WASHINGTON (AP) - An effort to revamp the global financial system to better handle future financial crises is off to a good start with general agreement among officials of 22 nations on several key points, participants say.

Deputy Treasury Secretary Lawrence H. White, who led the daylong discussions Tuesday, told reporters late in the day that the officials, representing finance ministries and central banks, had "laid some important groundwork for what will be an international effort going forward."

The preparatory talks among lower-level aides were designed to set the agenda for a conference of the same countries called by President Clinton for later this year, probably in April.

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Affirmative action's highway roadblock

WASHINGTON (AP) - States are counting on billions in federal funds to pay for highway and mass transit projects - the "pork" that congressmen like to lavish on their districts. But the seemingly unrelated issue of affirmative action could put up a roadblock.

Some Republicans want to kill a program that steers at least 10 percent of the transportation funds to minority- and female-owned businesses. But they face a fight from Democrats.

Republicans are by no means united on the issue, but the 1996 GOP platform put the party on record against affirmative action. Adding strength to the move was California's 1996 vote to ban consideration of race or gender in state hiring, public contracting and college admissions.

The merits of affirmative action are likely to be debated more than once in this election-year session of Congress.

Rep. Charles Canady, R-Fla., plans to reintroduce a bill to eliminate scores of federal programs that give advantages to women and minorities.

Other civil rights issues on the congressional table include President Clinton's call for an \$86 million spending increase for civil rights enforcement and his naming of Los

Angeles attorney Bill Lann Lee to the Justice Department's top civil rights post. Legislation to outlaw job discrimination against gays is also pending.

Canady and other conservatives, citing more than a dozen state proposals to end affirmative action programs, say the public is turning against "a system that reinforces prejudice and discrimination in our society."

"The politicians in Washington still have not gotten the message from the American people that it's time for us to put an end to the divisive policy of preferences," Canady said.

Rep. Maxine Waters, the Congressional Black Caucus chairwoman, said the failure on two previous occasions of Canady's bill shows Republicans are struggling with the issue.

"I would not like to have to fight them but should they continue, I think we are going to win," Waters, D-Calif., said in an interview.

The first vote on affirmative action is expected in March or April on a proposal by Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., to kill the highway program's set-aside provision.

Last year, lawmakers extended the previous highway and mass transit funding bill until May 1.

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