

The Hereford Brand

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Survey: County lacks internal medical docs

By DONALD M. COOPER
Brand Editor

There are plenty of doctors in Deaf Smith County, but are there enough to meet the needs of the population? Yes and no.

There appears to be an adequate number of physicians to care for the county population, except in two areas. The county needs more internal medicine specialists, pediatricians and obstetrics/gynecology (OB/GYN) specialists.

According to a survey of the medical care offered in Deaf Smith County, the study concluded the appears to be a shortage of internal medicine physicians as part of the primary care mix. Also, family physicians deliver babies in the lack of an OB/GYN.

The survey found the current number of physicians for family practice to be slightly more than needed for the county's population of 20,035. That determination is based on the American Medical Association's recommendation of physician-patient ratio.

However, when looking at the current supply of specialists, the survey determined the county is significantly under its recommended level in the internal medicine, pediatric and OB/GYN specialties.

The survey was conducted by the Community Health Improvement Partnership, a grassroots organization that is examining the health care delivery system in Deaf Smith County.

The organization is directed by community health organizer Pat

Stone and includes 23 partners, who are representatives of all segments of the county population.

Since September, CHIP has been gathering information about the health care system in Deaf Smith County, with the goal of determining what improvements are needed.

As part of the process, the partners conducted interviews with residents about their opinions of the strengths and weaknesses of health care in the county. The partners also conducted surveys of the physicians and employers.

Other specialties also are lacking in the county, such as cardiologists, ophthalmologists and general surgeons.

Certain specialties are provided by Hereford Regional Medical Center. These include anesthesiology, emergency medicine, pathology, radiation oncology and radiology.

The survey determined visits to family practice physicians accounted for nearly twice as many visits for any other category, with an annual average of 13,751 visits.

Internal medicine accounted for 7,610 visits, while pediatrics was in third place with 7,175 visits.

The other specialties and number of visits included:

- OB/GYN, 4,892;
- Ophthalmology, 2,989;
- Orthopedics, 2,663;
- Dermatology, 2,446;
- General surgery, 1,359;
- Otolaryngology, 1,468;
- Psychiatry, 1,359;
- Urology, 1,033;

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Preparing parking lot

A grader prepares the ground Tuesday afternoon for construction of the parking lot on the west side of the new medical office complex being built adjacent to Hereford Regional Medical

Center. The parking lot is being built by Lipham Construction Co. of Hereford. Construction manager Shannon Wilburn said tenants should begin moving in this weekend.

HIGHWAY PORK?

Texans snag \$463 million in House highway bill

WASHINGTON (AP) - Texas Congressman Ron Paul votes against spending bills, tax measures and other legislative proposals so often that he's earned the nickname "Doctor No" on Capitol Hill.

Yet as House lawmakers scrambled in recent weeks to snag precious highway dollars, even Paul set aside his aversion to federal spending long enough to secure \$35 million for road improvements in his sprawling district, which stretches from the outskirts of Austin to the Gulf of Mexico.

Twenty of Paul's Texas colleagues also succeeded in snaring a piece of the \$9 billion allocated for so-called "highway demonstration" projects, according to an Associated Press review of the earmarks, which weren't designated by congressional district in the legislation approved last week by the House Transportation Committee.

In the 19th Congressional District, which includes Deaf Smith County, Lubbock Republican Larry Combest snared \$26 million for two projects in Lubbock.

Combest's earmarks are \$16.4 million for improvements to U.S. 82 between Memphis Avenue and University Avenue, and \$9.6 million for Texas Tech University Boulevard.

The full House this afternoon takes up consideration of a six-year, \$217 billion highway bill that includes the \$9 billion in highway earmarks.

Critics deride the earmarks as pork-barrel money, saying lawmakers would do better to leave the construction decisions up to their respective state highway departments. The bulk of the money for highways, calculated under a complex formula, is distributed to states without earmark.

Texas, for example, stands to receive \$1.9 billion in annual highway funds over the next six years under the House bill. Texas Department of Transportation officials would prefer to receive the money without strings, allowing them to determine the priority of projects on the basis of a statewide perspective.

Yet this year, as in years past when Congress has tackled multi-year bills

Kasich urges veto of highway bill
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funding improvements for highways, bridges, mass transit and public safety, lawmakers have rushed to obtain money specifically designated for their district.

The Texans obtained \$438 million of the \$9 billion in highway earmarks.

"I know that some people might say there's a lot of pork going on," said Rep. Solomon Ortiz, D-Corpus Christi, who had unusual success in claiming earmarked funds considering he is not a member of the House Transportation Committee. "But what to some is pork to us is dire need."

Rep. Nick Lampson, one of four Texans on the committee, defended the earmarking process.

"I think it's important that there be an opportunity for some designation of specific projects without the state ... being able to dictate every one of them," Lampson said. "It

gives us an opportunity to hear from local citizens about specific projects that are particularly critical to them."

In the hunt for specific earmarks, committee assignment is key.

Hence the nation's fifth most populous state, Pennsylvania, which is home to Transportation Committee Chairman Bud Shuster, claimed \$643 million in highway earmarks - second only to the nation's most populous state, California.

Three of the four Texans on the Transportation Committee are freshmen, only one of them in the Republican majority. Yet the three freshmen - Republican Kay Granger of Fort Worth and Democrats Lampson and Max Sandlin of Marshall - managed to obtain \$40 million or more for their districts.

Sandlin snagged \$56 million, making him the top recipient of add-ons in Texas. Next was House Majority Whip Tom DeLay of Sugar Land, who carries clout because of his assignment to the transportation appropriations subcommittee. DeLay took in \$41.6 million.

Hospital district lacks candidates for board

What if there were an election and no one ran?

That looks like it could happen in the Deaf Smith County Hospital District's election because no candidates had filed by Tuesday afternoon, according to administrative assistant Carolan Garza. The election will be May 2.

Candidates' petitions must be returned by 5 p.m. Thursday to the Hereford Regional Medical administration office, 801 E. 3rd.

Four positions will be on ballot. The positions are held by Mark Collier, Dean Crofford, Karen Solomon and the Rev. Jeremy Grant.

Solomon and Grant were appointed last fall to complete the terms of Larry Watts and Boyd Foster, who had resigned.

Petitions for candidates are available at the HRMC administration office. Drawing for ballot positions will be 9 a.m. Friday in the hospital board room.

Engler appeals

AMARILLO (AP) - An Amarillo cattleman has made good on his promise to appeal the high-profile libel case he lost against Oprah Winfrey.

A jury decided in February that Paul Engler and other cattlemen had no valid claim against Ms. Winfrey, her production company and a vegetarian activist under business disparagement laws. Plaintiffs said Ms. Winfrey's April 16, 1996, show dealing with mad cow disease damaged the cattle industry.

During the trial, U.S. District Judge Mary Lou Robinson decided that the cattlemen couldn't sue under Texas' "veggie libel" law, designed to protect food products from false disparagement. Twelve other states have similar statutes.

Engler appealed Friday to the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans, alleging the judge made incorrect rulings and other errors.

Winfrey's lawyer, Charles Babcock, said he hadn't expected Engler - one of the nation's largest cattle feeders - to follow through with his appeal.

"I thought, upon reflection, they would realize the futility of appealing this verdict," he said.



Talking business

Local businessman Larry Malaman, left, and Don Taylor, director of the West Texas A&M University/Small Business Development Center in Amarillo took a few minutes Tuesday evening to discuss business affairs during a business mixer hosted by the Deaf Smith Chamber of Commerce at the Hereford Country Club. About 50 local business people heard Taylor highlight ways to increase business at the mixer, which was open to chamber business members.

U.S. manufacturing shows gain in March

NEW YORK (AP) - Growth in the nation's manufacturing sector expanded at sharp clip in March, well ahead of analysts' expectations without showing signs of rekindling inflation.

The National Association of Purchasing Management said today its monthly index of business activity, compiled from interviews with corporate purchasing executives nationwide, surged to 54.8 last month from 53.3 in February.

Economists had expected the trade group's figure to be unchanged or slightly lower, reflecting a slowing of the economy because of Asia's financial woes.

There were no immediate signs in that report or the other two released today that the Asian fallout was hitting hard on American shores.

In Washington, the Commerce Department reported construction spending rose in February for the third consecutive month, with increases in housing and government construction offsetting a decline in commercial projects.

The 0.3 percent increase, to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$622 billion, followed stronger gains of 0.7 percent in January and 0.8

percent in December. In the third report, an important measure of future economic activity was up sharply in February, yet another sign of the economy's enduring strength.

The Index of Leading Indicators for February stood at 105.0, said the Conference Board, a private research group. Economists had expected the measure to gain a more modest 0.2 percent. It advanced 0.1 percent in January.

On Wall Street, stocks fell in early trading today as new signs of economic vigor prompted new speculation about whether the Federal Reserve will eventually move to raise interest rates.

A widely followed report on the manufacturing economy showed a surprisingly strong advance in March. Also, the leading indicators index was also higher than expected.

At 10 a.m. on Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average was down 41.85 at 8,757.96.

Declining issues outnumbered advanced by a 1-to-1 margin on the New York Stock Exchange, where volume came to 80.29 million shares. Broad-market indexes were mixed.

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Lifestyles

Senior Citizens

MENUS

THURSDAY-Sliced ham, cheese grits, stewed tomatoes, coleslaw, green onions, French bread, plum cobbler; or brisket, purple plums.

FRIDAY-Fried cod with lemon wedge, oven brown potatoes, buttered broccoli perfection salad, cornbread, sherbet; or Salisbury steak, D'zerta salad.

MONDAY-Beef stew with potatoes, onions, celery and tomatoes, fried okra, coleslaw, cornbread, apricots, oatmeal cookie; or chicken stew, diabetic cookie.

TUESDAY-Chicken fried steak with gravy, mashed potatoes, buttered baby carrots, frosted lime-walnut salad, roll, Boston cream cake; or stuffed bell pepper, D'zerta salad, peaches.

WEDNESDAY-Chicken strips, country gravy, mashed sweet potatoes, seasoned green beans, tossed green salad, roll, peaches, brownies; or meat loaf, Jello.

ACTIVITIES

THURSDAY-Pool classes, exercise class 10-10:45 a.m., oil painting 9-11 a.m., Thrift Store open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

FRIDAY-Pool classes, line dance 10-11 a.m., Thrift Store open 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

SATURDAY-Games 12 noon-4 p.m., dance and games 7:30-11 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., choir practice 1 p.m., Golden K Kiwanis Club 12 noon.

WEDNESDAY-Pool classes, ceramics 12 noon-4 p.m.

Varner presides at Toastmasters

Pat Varner presided at the recent meeting of Hereford Toastmasters. Dan Hall led the pledge and Clark Andrews gave the invocation.

Sharon Cramer served as toastmaster; Hall as timer; Oscar Barrera as grammarian and AH counter; and Dennis Detten as wordmaster introducing the word "trepidation."

Varner was topicmaster for Hall who spoke on "The Latest on Real Estate"; Detten on "Law Changes on Youth Crimes"; Mike Morrison on "New Technology"; and Dr. Milton Adams on "Changes in Eye Care."

Andrews and Wayne Winget were speakers for the meeting. Andrews spoke on "We Won Twice" and was evaluated by Sharon Cramer.

Winget's topic was "The Inside Story" and was followed by a round robin evaluation.

Winget was voted best speaker and the vote for best topic speaker was a tie between Morrison and Detten.

Duggan to be Flame speaker

Hereford Flame Fellowship will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday at Hereford Community Center. Guest speaker will be Jani Duggan of Hereford.

Duggan is a lifetime resident of Hereford. She is the wife of Dorman Duggan, pastor of Community Church. They have three children and three grandchildren who all live in Hereford.

The Duggans recently returned from a trip to Toronto, Canada, where their lives were greatly touched in a prophetic conference. They learned that the next prophetic wave will bring unity to the body of Christ as never before.

Everyone is invited to attend as Duggan shares more about the conference.

Hospital Notes

Report from Hereford Regional Medical Center for March 31:

Admitted: Gilberto Bautista, Johnny Tijerina, Barry Jones, Robby Metcalf, Luke Soto.

Dismissed: Robert Russell, Juanita Sifuentes, Marcelino Rodriguez, Virgie Davidson, Dannie Isbell, Petra Bastardo.

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Deaf Smith County 4-H members who composed the Senior Consumer Decision-Making team competing in the District contest Saturday in Amarillo were, from left, Toby Duncan, Erin Louder, Amber Brumley and Trae Blain. The team placed third in district competition as did the Intermediate team of Dawn Auckerman, Seth Hoelscher and Celeste Louder.

Consumer decision contest teaches 4-H'ers to 'think' when shopping

Eight Deaf Smith County 4-H members demonstrated their shopping skills and critical thinking abilities Saturday during District 4-H Consumer Decision-Making Contest in Amarillo.

Representing the local 4-H program were a Senior Team composed of Trae Blain, Toby Duncan, Amber Brumley and Erin Louder; an Intermediate Team including Dawn Auckerman, Seth Hoelscher and Celeste Louder; and Junior Individual, Nathan Louder.

The local Senior and Intermediate Teams both placed third at the district competition. Contestants were judged on their comparison buying knowl-

edge of CD players, in-line skates, tennis racquet, credit cards, book packs and contact lenses. The "mystery" class was household cleaning supplies.

In addition to the 4-H youth who advanced to district, the following 4-H members completed a consumer life skills project: Carissa Hicks, Cassidy Hicks and Craig Campbell.

The Consumer Decision contest teaches "thinking" skills. It is a project that instructs youth how to buy specific items, in pre-defined classes. Participants are taught how to compare quality of products and services, economic values and

personal preferences. Youth attended a series of local workshops led by Extension Agent Beverly Harder in preparation for the District-level competition.

All participants are required to complete a Consumer Life Skills project. Only one senior team of three or four 4-Hers can advance to district level. Other seniors are eligible to compete as individuals. Juniors and intermediates can compete as individuals or on a team.

Educational programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin.

Hints from Heloise

Dear Heloise: I'm tired of throwing out hardened brown sugar when I go to bake something. Is there any way to prevent brown sugar from getting hard and lumpy? And, once it's hardened, is there any way to get it soft and usable again? — A Cranky Cook in New York

You're right, hardened brown sugar can be a baking disaster, not to mention causing aggravation when you don't need it.

Brown sugar is naturally moist because of its molasses content and becomes hard and lumpy when it dries out, according to a major sugar producer.

If the sugar is already hardened, place it in a container with a tight-fitting lid and set a slice of white bread on top. The bread should restore enough moisture to the brown sugar to soften it to its original condition. Leave it for a day or so and remove the bread. The sugar should be softer. If it is still too hard, place another slice of bread in with it and check the sugar the next day. — Heloise

Dear Heloise: When preparing stuffed green peppers, I use a serrated grapefruit spoon to remove all the membranes and seeds. Works great. — Edith Clinkingbeard, Apache Junction, Ariz.

SPICE LABELING

Dear Heloise: I clipped and saved the information you gave concerning the shelf life of spices and herbs, as published in the Houston Chronicle. May I add a suggestion which I just recently implemented: Use a fine-line permanent marker to write the date of purchase on the spice can or bottle. Then you will know how long you have had the item.

I always read your column. Thanks for all your helpful ideas. — Helen Miirtsching, Sugar Land, Texas

Anyone who wants to share some of my favorite recipes to use those spices and herbs can order my pamphlet, Heloise's All-Time Favorite Recipes. Simply send \$2 and a stamped (55 cents), self-addressed, long envelope to Heloise/Recipes, PO Box 795001, San Antonio TX 78279-5001.



The Romans believed wearing a bay leaf wreath would protect them from lightning.

Ann Landers

Dear Readers: Since 1989, I have suggested that April 2 be set aside as Reconciliation Day. It would be a day for people to reach out to those with whom they have lost touch and put an end to long-ago grievances. Here's the letter that started it all:

Dear Ann Landers: I've suddenly become aware that the years are flying by. Time somehow seems more precious. My parents suddenly seem old. My aunts and uncles are sick. I haven't seen some of my cousins for several years. I love my family, Ann, but we've grown apart. Then, my thoughts turn to the dark side. I remember the feelings I've hurt, and I recall my own hurt feelings — the misunderstandings and unended fences that separated us and set up barriers.

I have a close friend in New York I haven't spoken to in three years. Another 28-year relationship in Seattle is on the rocks. We're both 41 now, and time is marching on.

I think of my mother and her sister, who haven't spoken to each other in five years. As a result of that argument, my cousin and I haven't spoken either. I don't know if she has children. Neither of us has met the other's husband. What a waste of precious time! I'm sure there are millions of people in your reading audience who could tell similar stories.

Wouldn't it be terrific if a special day could be set aside to reach out and make amends? We could call it "Reconciliation Day." Everyone would vow to write a letter or make a phone call and mend a strained or broken relationship. It could also be the day on which we would all agree to accept the olive branch extended by a former friend. This day could be the starting place. We could go on from here to heal the wounds in our hearts and rejoice in a brand-new

beginning. — Van Nuys

Dear Van Nuys: What a good idea to set aside a special day for reconciliation. Today is the day you ought to pick up the phone or write a letter that will bring so much joy to someone who might be in pain.

Life is too short to hold grudges. To be able to forgive can be enormously healing and life-enhancing. It's the best example of casting your bread upon the waters and getting back caviar sandwiches. Do it today.

Dear Ann Landers: Am I the only person who cringes every time a singer mangles our national anthem at a sporting event or other occasion on national television and embellishes the music so it becomes almost unrecognizable? I sometimes wonder what visitors from other countries think of this. Do they allow their national anthems to be messed up like we do?

I have no problem with singers "doing their thing" with othersongs. It just doesn't seem right with the Star-Spangled Banner, which is so important to our image. Am I just old-fashioned? — Seattle Reader

Dear Seattle Reader: Old-fashioned? Not in the least. You have written a letter that I have been waiting to see for a very long time. Thank you. I, too, have attended sports events and listened to tortured versions of our national anthem. It is an embarrassment. It sounds as if someone is auditioning for a record contract. I am certain many readers will be pleased that you wrote to express yourself. Put me at the top of that list.

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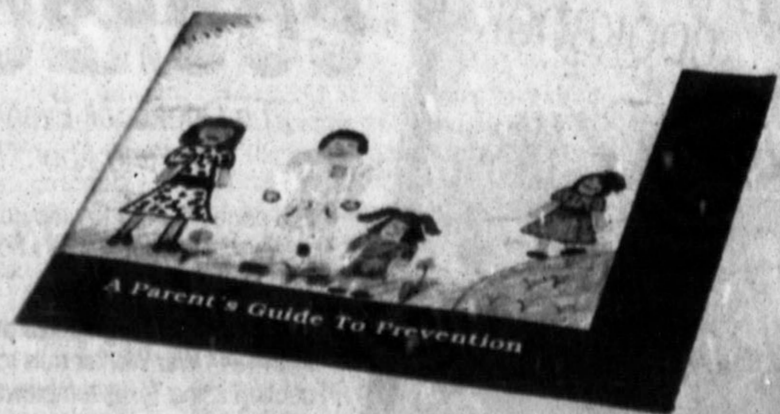
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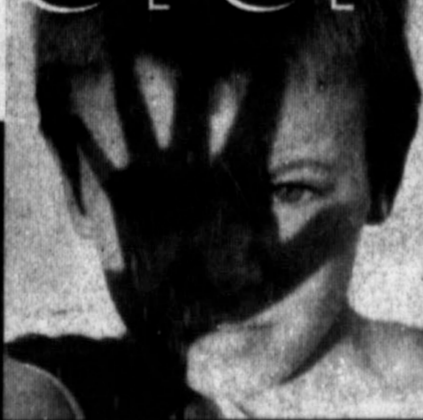


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Game Night preparation

Sharpening their skills for Pilot Club's "42" Game Night from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Thursday at Hereford Community Center are Polly Abney, Ora Mae Simpson, Leona Glenn and Ethel Gibson. Encouraging them is Mrs. Don Davidson. During the game night, a drawing will be held for a card table and chairs. Everyone who participated in any of the three game nights of the series will be eligible for the door prize.

Is there a substitute for chicken?

It's highly possible your'e outta cluck

By TERESA GUBBINS
The Dallas Morning News

DALLAS - There's something a little treacherous about the way chicken has been behaving lately. Crowding about how lean it was, the bird lured many American diners to break off their romance with red meat. Oh, how charmingly promiscuous chicken was: the way it mated so readily with alfredo, marinara, pesto. Its enthusiasm for any spice, be it sage, rosemary or thyme. Its willingness to snuggle contentedly beneath a blanket of melted cheese.

Lately, there's been a little trouble in paradise. In the March issue of *Consumer Reports*, a bunch of chickens purchased for a study were found with a germ, *Campylobacter*, that makes diners sick and can even kill them. Industry experts responded by saying that adequate cooking kills the germs.

Well, chicken, you're not the only fish in the sea. There are many other fine foods said to taste exactly like you.

Rabbit, for instance. Think not thoughts of adorable bunnies with droopy ears. This is dinner you are talking about, and rabbit is often described as tasting like chicken. True?

"Rabbit is said to be close to chicken, but it's a lot more tough," says Jean Marie Cadot, chef at Lavendou in North Dallas. "Still, I would recommend it, definitely."

But what if you love chicken cooked so tender, it almost slides off the bone?

Consider frog legs.

"Frog legs do have a similarity to chicken, at least in the texture of the meat," says Chef Cadot. "But frog legs are like snails - if you don't add garlic butter, they don't have too much flavor."

At Johnson Seafood in Garland, customers clamor for frog legs, comparing them to chicken wings - "but more tender," says employee Allen Tran.

"Frog legs don't look the same - it looks like a wishbone that's been

battered and floured and fried," he says.

At the Bistro, no one gave a whit about frog legs until chef-owner Jim Cantrell took them off the menu.

"People would say, 'Hardly anybody in Dallas has frog legs,'" he says. But he doesn't recommend frog legs in place of chicken.

"Frog legs have a stronger taste - they taste like fish," he says. "They've got almost a mud taste. I wouldn't recommend them as a substitute for chicken - I'd suggest alligator."

Ah, alligator - now you're talking a grade-A chicken replacement, says Tanner Scott, general manager at Lulu's Bait Shack, where an order of fried alligator tails and french fries goes for \$6.95.

"Alligator provides a great alternative to chicken," he says enthusiastically. Not everyone sees it his way.

"Some people do have reservations," he says. "It's basically a Louisiana-Florida thing. That's where most of your die-hard alligator eaters are from. There are still people that eat it and don't believe it's alligator. They think it's little chicken nuggets."

So how exactly is alligator like chicken?

"I would not classify it as tender as chicken - alligator is a little bit less tender meat. If you put it up against chicken, you could tell the difference because of the texture. It's a little more chewy."

But the flavor's a dead ringer. Right?

"I personally don't think it tastes like chicken," he says. "Because I've eaten chicken so long, I find it has a very bland taste. Alligator has a distinctive flavor, as if you were eating pork or lamb."

Or rattlesnake. According to Ken Becker, executive vice president of the Chamber of Commerce in Sweetwater, 200 miles west of Dallas, 90 percent of people who eat rattlesnake for the first time say it tastes like chicken.

Recently the town threw its annual rattlesnake roundup, the largest in the world - three days of fried rattlesnake nuggets and rattlesnake chili.

"After you eat it a few times, it doesn't taste like anything you'd compare it to," Becker says. "It has a gamey taste and it's a little more stringy than what chicken would be."

Plus, you have to go through an awful lot of rattlesnake to get a meal's worth.

"There's a lot of bone in rattlesnake," he says. "There's not a tremendous amount of meat. It's comparable to a chicken neck. You'd probably starve to death before you could eat enough, if you were really that hungry."

Maybe it's best to stick to the bird family: Ostrich, for example, tastes just like - beef. Next.

Duck, quail, pheasant - all have turned up on the menu at Lavendou. But their similarity to chicken is limited to the fact that they're all birds, says Chef Cadot.

"Duck is all dark meat, quail is darker meat," he says. Pheasant is "white meat, but pheasant would be more expensive."

There's the catch - chicken has always been so... affordable.

"Chicken was introduced because it was cheap," says Dallas restaurant consultant George Toomer. "People were saying, 'Beef is unhealthy and we need to eat more chicken.' But the real issue was, chicken was cheaper."

Toomer, who lends advice to restaurants such as Dick's Last Resort, Razzoo's and Preston's, has plenty of theories on chicken's popularity. Chicken has special culinary properties.

"The thing about the flavor of chicken is that it doesn't get in the way of the fried batter, or the barbecue sauce," Toomer says. "It's like salad - that's just a vehicle for dressing. Substitutions? Waste of time."

"If it tastes like chicken, why not just get chicken?" Toomer says. "Emu, ostrich, they're all a fad, for yuppie flotsam who want to eat the last of the species: 'Let's eat the last monitor lizard on Earth, it hasn't got a girlfriend anyway.'"

He's even got a surefire way to determine the true appeal of those novelty items.

"The thing is, you would never order these by yourself," he says. "You eat it not because you like it, but only if somebody is there to watch you."

Today in History

By The Associated Press
Today is Wednesday, April 1, the 91st day of 1998. There are 274 days left in the year. This is April Fool's Day.

Today's Highlight in History:
On April 1, 1945, American forces invaded Okinawa during World War II.

On this date:
In 1933, Nazi Germany began persecuting Jews with a boycott of Jewish-owned businesses.

In 1939, the United States recognized the Franco government in Spain following the end of the Spanish civil war.

In 1946, tidal waves struck the Hawaiian islands, resulting in more than 170 deaths.

In 1960, the first weather satellite, TIROS 1, was launched from Cape Canaveral, Fla.

In 1963, the daytime television drama "General Hospital" premiered on ABC.

In 1970, President Nixon signed a measure banning cigarette advertising on radio and television, to take effect after Jan. 1, 1971.

In 1987, in his first major speech on the AIDS epidemic, President Reagan told doctors in Philadelphia, "We've declared AIDS public health enemy number one."

Ten years ago: Independent counsel James C. McKay found insufficient evidence to warrant a criminal indictment of Attorney General Edwin Meese III in

connection with the Iraq-Jordan pipeline plan or his investment in telephone company stock. Jim Jordan, old-time radio's "Fibber McGee," died in Beverly Hills, Calif., at age 91.

Five years ago: In an impassioned plea for Russian aid, President Clinton told newspaper editors in Annapolis, Md., that America should help "not out of charity" but as a crucial investment in peace and prosperity.

One year ago: Federal authorities cautioned that thousands of schoolchildren across the nation might have been exposed to the hepatitis A virus by eating frozen strawberries imported from Mexico and processed in the U.S.

To Your Good Health

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I'm a devastated 26-year-old woman. After my Pap test, my doctor informed me that I have genital warts. She said they can cause cancer. She removed them but I have to come back for another exam to make sure they have not returned.

Having the warts is bad enough, but the cancer scare has really gotten to me. Can you offer any hope? - M.M.

ANSWER: The papillomavirus - the cause of genital warts - infects about 15 percent of people between the ages of 15 and 49. That's a staggering total of roughly 24 million infections, an epidemic if ever there was one.

We need to keep the cancer warning in focus. Not every genital wart turns into cancer. Only a small percentage does. However, your doctor cannot relax her vigilance in checking you regularly for a return of the warts.

Even after the warts have been removed, cure is not guaranteed. The wart virus can linger in normal-appearing skin adjacent where a wart was removed.

A ray of hope shines in the genital wart story:

Up to now, traditional teaching held that a papillomavirus infection was a lifelong affair. But reports are beginning to surface that the warts sometimes disappear on their own in a matter of three years.

Your partner should be checked for warts even if none are visible. Dabbing acetic acid on the genitals turns infected skin white. Treatment can then be prescribed.

The American Social Health Asso-

ciation has prepared an excellent brochure on genital warts. You can get a copy by calling the association's hot line during April, which has been designated "Sexually Transmitted Disease Month": (800) 677-4100.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I have excessive sweating on my hands and feet. I wonder if there is something I can do to prevent them from sweating. I used Drysol and found it is not effective for me.

Is there anything that stops sweating completely? - M.G.

ANSWER: Sweat, dripping from the hands and feet, has turned many people into social hermits, so embarrassed are they by their wet hands.

The condition does have an official name: hyperhidrosis.

It's too bad Drysol, a concentrated aluminum-chloride solution, didn't work for you. It has helped many other patients.

Have you heard of the Drionic device? It's a battery-powered unit with pads that you apply to your hands and feet. When the unit is turned on, a flow of electric current closes the sweat glands. After a few sessions, sweating stops for as long as six weeks. When or if it returns, you put the device back in action.

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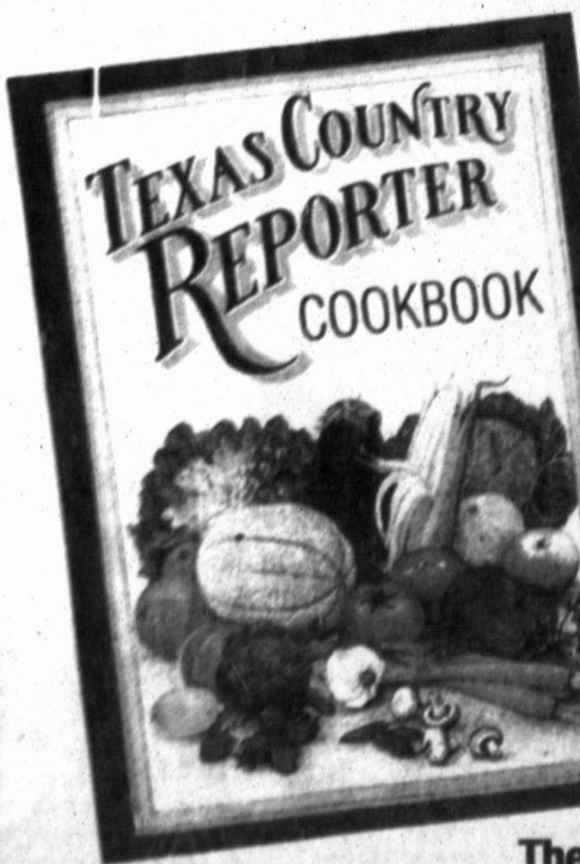
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Sports

Pools, cigars highlight '98 opening day

By BEN WALKER
AP Baseball Writer

Swimming pools, cigar bars. Devil Rays, Diamondbacks. Revamped Marlins, new-look Brewers. They were the stories on opening day -- until McGwire and Griffey.

Mark McGwire and Ken Griffey Jr. quickly showed what this expansion season may be all about. Both homered Tuesday, beginning the chase for Roger Maris' record of 61.

McGwire became the first St. Louis Cardinals player to hit a grand slam on opening day, highlighting a 6-0 win over the Rupert Murdoch-owned Los Angeles Dodgers.

"It's an awesome feeling," said McGwire, who hit 58 last year. "How can you not get chills?"

Griffey, who hit 56 last season for the Seattle Mariners, kept pace a few hours later. The AL MVP connected for a solo home run against Cleveland.

The Florida Marlins, meanwhile, also got off to a strong start. Having stripped nearly half their roster in a move to slash a \$53 million payroll to \$33 million, the World Series champions scored six runs in the first inning and beat the Chicago Cubs 11-6.

For at least one game, these Marlins looked a lot like last year's champs. World Series MVP Livan Hernandez was the winning pitcher and October stars Gary Sheffield and Charles Johnson hit three-run homers.

"Nobody should get carried away," Florida manager Jim Leyland said. "It's just one game, and we're a very young ballclub. We're going to take some bumps and bruises."

The Tampa Bay Devil Rays, however, looked exactly like the expansion team it is in an 11-6 loss to Detroit at St. Petersburg, Fla.

The Devil Rays fell behind 11-0 after five innings and the sellout crowd of 45,369 at Tropicana Field had little to cheer except for Wade Boggs' home run.

"This is one of 162. Unfortunately, it was a big one -- opening day -- but the others won't all go like this," Tampa Bay shortstop Kevin Stocker said.

The new team, though, had something that no one else in the majors has: A cigar bar inside its

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LOOKING IT OVER

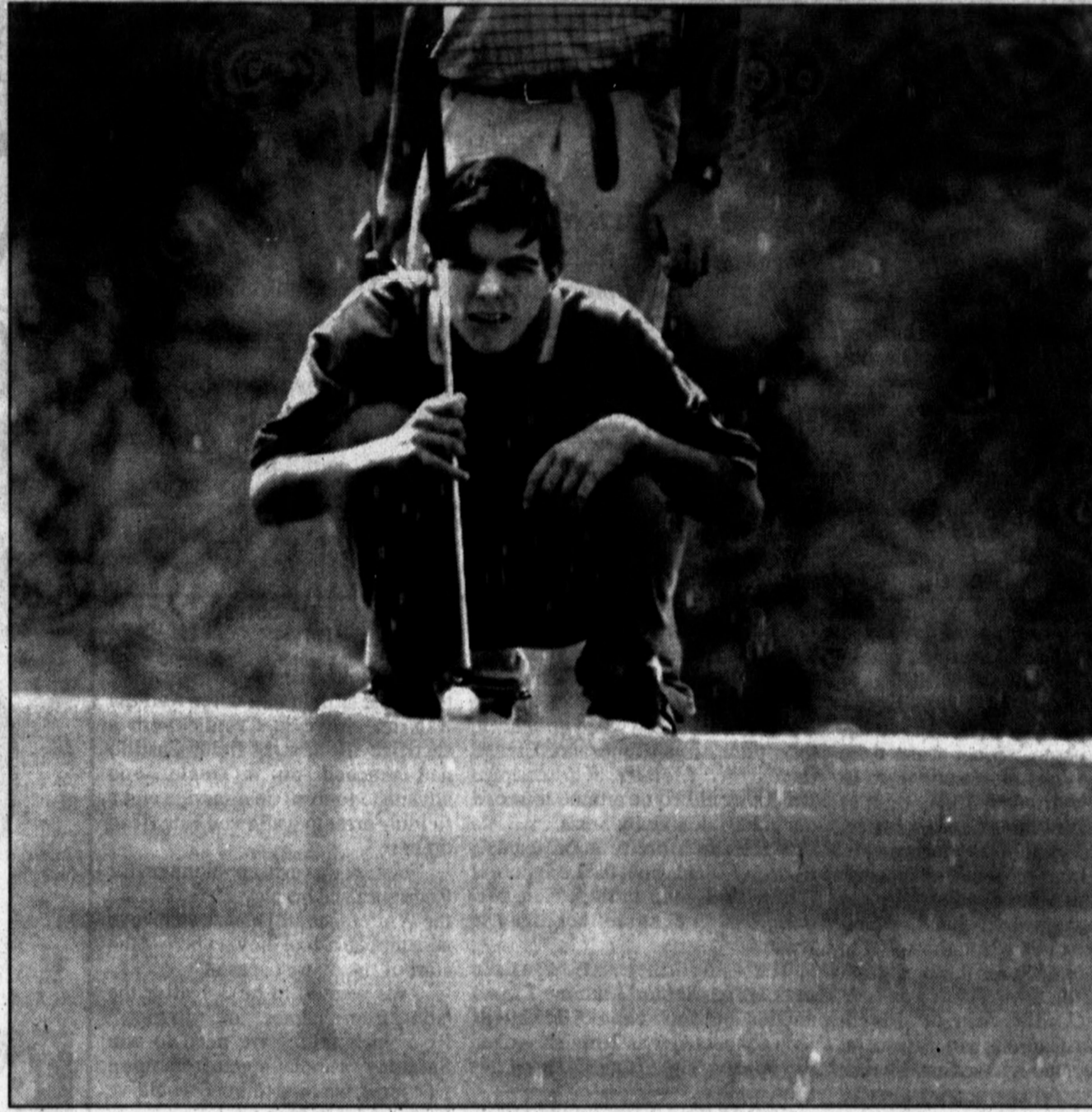


Photo by Mauri Montgomery

Hereford's David Maldonado eyes his putt Friday during the first round of the Deaf Smith County Chamber of Commerce Invitational Golf Tournament at John Pitman Municipal Golf Course. The Hereford boys and girls golf teams will travel to Borger for a District 1-4A meet Thursday at Huber Municipal Golf Course and Phillips Country Club.

'Horns rally past Herd

By BOB VARMETTE
Sports Writer

AMARILLO -- Baseball can be a cruel game.

Just ask Hereford head coach Pete Rodriguez.

The Hereford Whitefaces took a 3-2 lead over the Amarillo Caprock Longhorns into the bottom of the seventh inning, needing just three outs to run their District 1-4A record to 3-0.

They couldn't get them. Jarred Haws hit a two-out single up the middle scoring Michael Soria from second base to break a 3-3 tie and give Caprock a 4-3 win Tuesday night.

"It's a funny game," Rodriguez said. "It seemed like we had it all the way, then all of a sudden they get the game-winning hit. It's kind of like a punch in the mouth."

The loss spoiled a fine performance from freshman pitcher Ramiro Zambrano, who worked six innings for no decision. George Castillo (3-3) came on in the seventh inning and took the loss.

"We threw one of our guys who hadn't really thrown much before," Rodriguez said. "He (Zambrano) did well. He threw six innings and he kept us in it."

Haws, the senior ace of the Longhorns' staff, went the distance to earn the win, surrendering three runs on seven hits.

See HERD/Page 6A

Your turn

Hereford's Lyndi Carlile (right) hands the baton to teammate Toni Eicke during the 1,600-meter Relay Saturday at the Deaf Smith County Chamber of Commerce Track Invitational at Whiteface Stadium. The Hereford girls finished second at the meet to Pampa. The Lady Whitefaces and the Whitefaces will both compete Saturday in the Abilene Relays.



Photo by Julius Bodner

ChiSox pummel Texas in opener

ARLINGTON (AP) -- Optimistic as he may be, Jerry Manuel couldn't have expected his debut as manager of the Chicago White Sox to go this well.

The heart of his lineup -- Frank Thomas, Albert Belle and Robin Ventura -- each drove in two runs. outfielder Mike Cameron and rookie shortstop Mike Caruso made run-saving defensive plays. And starter Jaime Navarro finally looked worthy of his big contract.

The result was a 9-2 victory over the Texas Rangers in Tuesday's season opener that left Manuel with a big smile and a celebratory bottle of champagne courtesy of the Florida Marlins' Jim Leyland and Dave Dombrowski, his bosses last year.

"I'm satisfied," said Manuel, who replaced Terry Bevington following a disappointing 80-81 season. "The first game is behind me and we played well."

Manuel admitted he was "nervous, excited nervous" when the game began, probably even more so after Chicago's first 12 batters went down in order against John Burkett, bringing dreams of a perfect game to a crowd of 45,909, the second-largest for a Rangers opener.

Opening Day Firsts

By The Associated Press
Pitch: Swinging strike from the Texas' John Burkett to Chicago's Ray Durham at 1:35 p.m. CST.

Out/Strikeout: Burkett fanned Durham on three pitches to open the game.

Walk: Texas' Ivan Rodriguez by Chicago's Jaime Navarro with two out in the fourth inning.

Hit: Texas' Tom Goodwin beat out a grounder to shortstop in the first inning.

Steal: Goodwin stole second in the first inning.

Double: Texas' Kevin Elster hit a Navarro pitch off the left-field wall in the third inning.

Home run/RBI: Chicago's Robin Ventura hit a two-run homer off Burkett in the fifth inning.

Run: Albert Belle scored ahead of Ventura on the homer.

Boo: Chicago's Albert Belle during pre-game introductions.

Then, in the fifth, the heart of Manuel's lineup came through.

Belle got Chicago's first hit with a squib shot just over the glove of first baseman Will Clark. Three pitches later, Ventura hit a high drive that just cleared the center-field fence.

See PUMMEL/Page 6A

New super tracks may supercede older venues

By SIMON GONZALEZ
Fort Worth Star-Telegram
FORT WORTH -- When NASCAR comes to the Texas Motor Speedway in Fort Worth for this weekend's Texas 500, the best stock car drivers in the country will race at a multimillion-dollar, state-of-the-art facility before almost 200,000 spectators for a purse of more than \$4 million.

The stop after Texas on the Winston Cup circuit is Martinsville, Va., where the best stock car drivers in the country will race at a half-mile speedway that was born as a dirt track in front of 70,000 spectators for a purse of slightly more than \$1 million.



Wallace



Elliott

The two tracks symbolize NASCAR's internal tug of war of trying to grow into bigger markets while not forsaking the roots of the sport. And the course of events at TMS this weekend can again show how vital big-city, big-money

racing can be to NASCAR.

"Any time NASCAR expands, it's very important," said Bill Elliott, one of the star drivers on the Winston Cup circuit. "It's another place we can go and get recognized. For me, it just helps get the Southeast persona of where NASCAR used to be out of the system."

New tracks such as TMS, California Speedway and Las Vegas Motor Speedway covet a second Winston Cup date. Tracks in Kansas City, Mo., and Homestead, Fla., seek an inaugural race.

They are the big markets, the new facilities and the large purses. They are the future.

"I do like going to all the new tracks," said Rusty Wallace, the series points leader. "I like going to California and I like going to Las Vegas, I'll probably like going to Homestead next year; I love going to Texas. I do like to do different things."

Traditional tracks in Martinsville, Darlington, S.C., and Rockingham, N.C., are the small markets, the old facilities and the relatively tiny purses. They are the past. They also are the heritage, the birthplace.

And year after year, they get their same two races.

"Markets aren't the only thing that drives the sport," said Brian

France, NASCAR's vice president for marketing and communication and the grandson of founder Bill France Sr. "We have to be mindful of our heritage and our fan base that cares about those things. We'll balance that correctly."

Loyalty to the past means the traditional tracks continue to get two races. Growth could mean forsaking the past for the sake of the future.

"I'm one of those who struggles with that tug of war," TMS vice president and general manager Eddie Gossage said. "I'm a real loyalist. Nashville Speedway, the racetrack that I grew up with and started my career with, lost its two

Winston Cup dates in 1984. I'm not happy about that still. But I understand why they lost it. We'd outgrown it. It's a matter of survival of the fittest."

It might not be a matter of survival for a track like TMS to get a second Winston Cup race, but it's hard to truly taste success without it.

"Any new track that's built is going to cost at least \$100 million-plus, probably closer to \$150 million," said Humpty Wheeler, president of Charlotte Motor Speedway, the cornerstone of TMS developer Bruton Smith's empire.

See SUPER/Page 6A

Jr. High Track

Dumas Jr. High Track Meet at Dumas Friday
Hereford Results
7th Grade Boys
 400m Relay: 2. Hereford (Luis Perez, Jose Pecece, Bryan Gallan, Raymond Carrillo)
 800m: 3. Chris Fackman
 110m Hurdles: 6. Tyler Yenzer
 400m: 1. Jose Pecece, 5. Jeremy Cortez
 800m Relay: 2. Hereford (Stewart Carr, Tyson Yosten, Luis Perez, Bryan Gallan)
1,600m Relay: 4. Hereford (Russell Carr, Jeremy Cortez, Bryan Gallan, Jose Pecece)
 Long Jump: 1. Jose Pecece
 Pole Vault: 1. Luis Perez, 2. Stewart Carr, 3. Jason Edwards
 Shot Put: 6. Paul Gilmore
 Discus: 5. Paul Gilmore
 Triple Jump: 1. Jose Pecece, 2. Luis Perez, 6. Stewart Carr
8th Grade Boys
 2,400m: 4. Harvey Brown 8:45.6
 400m Relay: 3. Hereford (Carlos Perez, Rafael Ramirez, Juan DeSantiago, Cody Marsh) 48.48

800m: 2. Geoffrey Marquez 2:21.76, 3. Roman Alaniz 2:22.19
 110m Hurdles: 4. Andrew Villarreal 18.68
 400m: 5. Carlos Perez 58.58
 800m Relay: 3. Hereford (Andrew Villarreal, Isiah Valdez, Geoffrey Marquez, Cody Marsh) 1:43.36
 500m Hurdles: 1. Juan DeSantiago 47.16, 5. Rafael Ramirez 48.24
 200m: 6. Isiah Valdez 26.71
 1,600m: Will McGowen 5:42.87
 1,600m Relay: 2. Hereford (Roman Alaniz, Carlos Perez, Rafael Ramirez, Geoffrey Marquez) 3:57.20
 High Jump: 3. Cody Marsh 5-0, 5. Roman Alaniz 4-8
 Long Jump: 1. Cody Marsh 18-1 1/2, 5. Juan DeSantiago 17-1
 Shot Put: 2. Jesse Hernandez 39-2
 Discus: 3. Esteban Lopez, 4. Nathan Pesina
 Triple Jump: 2. Juan DeSantiago 35-2, 3. Geoffrey Marquez 35-1, 4. Cody Marsh 34-9 1/2
 Next meet: 7th and 8th grade boys at Valleyview Friday.



Courtesy Photo

13 and Under Boys Champs

The Jayhawks defeated the Raiders for the boys 13 and Under basketball championship March 21. The team members of the Jayhawks are (left to right), back row, assistant coach Justin Carroll, Josh Casey, Scott Murphey, Jake Porsch, James Lindsey, Tyler Myatt and coach Mack Nielsen; front row, Eleno Juarez, Sergio Reyes, Bennie Juarez and Paul Hammarbeck. Not pictured is Derek Tooley.

Frosh golf finishes 5th

From staff reports
DALHART -- Freshmen Trey Bezner and Kevin Huffman fired rounds of 87 to lead the Hereford freshman golf team to a fifth-place finish at the Dalhart Invitational Golf Tournament Monday.
 Perryton won the tournament. All

four teams that shot lower than the Hereford freshman team were varsity squads, according to Hereford head golf coach Stacey Bixler.

Hereford recorded a team score of 356. Tyler Keeling and Kane Wilt each shot 91 for Hereford, and Todd Dudley shot a 99.

Opening

ballpark.

"It's a fabulous place. Tampa was known as the cigar city a long time ago. We wanted it to reflect that heritage. That's why we put it in," Devil Rays owner Vince Naimoli said.

In Phoenix, some fans at the Bank One Ballpark also had a unique view -- from a pool, heated spa and a swim-up bar beyond the right-center field fence.

The aquatic area, which holds 35 people and costs \$4,000 per game to rent, was ready to make its debut when the Arizona Diamondbacks played host to the Colorado Rockies.

One warning: Fans in the pool had better bring their gloves, along with their swimsuits. Colorado Rockies star Larry Walker hit a ball into the water during batting practice Monday.

Pummel

"He went 2-0 on me and I just hit it," Ventura said. "I wasn't trying to do anything with it."

Cameron hit a two-run single with two outs, Thomas followed with an RBI double, and then Belle drove in two runs with his second single, knocking out Burkett.

Thomas' second RBI came in the seventh on another double. Chicago scored again in the ninth to go up 9-0 as Charlie O'Brien singled home Magglio Ordonez. O'Brien and Ordonez each had three hits.

Navarro, the winner, opened his second season with the White Sox with one of his best games since joining the club. He scattered five hits over six innings, walked just one and struck out two -- the last two he faced.

"I came into this game feeling really comfortable and confident," said Navarro, who allowed the most hits in the majors last season (267) while going 9-14. "I threw really strong and Charlie gave me a big target all day."

Texas rallied in the eighth with

Herd

Haws also had a good day at the plate, going 3-for-4 with the game-winning RBI. Soria also went 3-for-4 for Caprock with an RBI and a run scored.

Haws' game winner wasn't the only thing that left a sour taste in the mouth of Rodriguez. The bottom of the seventh saw three Caprock batters get on base without registering a hit.

Curry Brecht reached on an error after Gabriel Morales had doubled to the gap in right field ahead of him. Morales scored the Longhorns' first run of their rally all the way from second on the error.

After Castillo caught Brecht leaning, two Caprock batters were hit by pitches, although the first, Marcus Mendoza was erased at third when he was gunned down by Jeremy Scott on Soria's single. But the throw allowed Soria to move to second from where he would later score the game-winning run.

"I'm pleased with the way we played," Rodriguez said despite the tough loss on the road. "They've played tough, they've been in every ballgame."

The game was scoreless through two and a half innings before Caprock scored a pair of runs in the home half of the third.

Morales reached when he was hit by a pitch from Zambrano. Brecht then scored Morales with a triple. Brecht would come around to score on an RBI double by Soria.

"They're a pretty good team," Rodriguez said about the Longhorns. "They're a good hitting team. We only had one strike out against them."

Hereford got the runs back in their next at bat. Senior Anthony Lopez singled and sophomore L.J. Vallejo then connected for a 2-run blast over the fence in right center to knot the score at 2-2.

Vallejo went 2-for-3 with 2 RBI. Castillo and Lopez also had good nights at the plate for Hereford. Castillo was 2-for-3 with one run scored and Lopez went 2-for-4 and a run scored.

"We hit the ball well," Rodriguez said. "Haws didn't give us too much trouble. Some of the balls we didn't get for hits, we hit the ball hard, but

a lot of the balls were right at them, though."

The Whitefaces added a run in the top of the fifth inning when Andrew Ramirez drove in Castillo with a sacrifice fly to right field. Castillo had reached on a single, and advanced to third on a sacrifice and a fielding error that allowed Tate Head on base.

The loss was a disappointment for Rodriguez and his players, but he said the Whitefaces still have a chance to accomplish a goal they set before the start of the district season.

"We wanted to be 3-1 after the first four games of district," Rodriguez said. "We need to win Saturday (at home against Pampa). Of course, winning this one would've helped a lot in being 3-1."

Amarillo Caprock 4, Hereford 3
Tuesday
 Hereford 0 0 0 2 10 0-372
 Amarillo Caprock 0 0 2 0 0 2-483
 Two outs when winning run scored.
 R. Zambrano, Castillo (7) and Brown. Haws and Gadrinez, WP--Haws, LP--Castillo (3-3), 2B--HHS: Soria, Morales. 3B--CHS: Brecht. HR--HHS: Vallejo (1). Records--Hereford 7-9, 2-1; Caprock 1-2.
 Next game: vs. Pampa 1:00 p.m. Saturday at Whiteface Field.

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 Softball games will begin on Monday, April 20th, with playing times at 6:30 pm and 7:30 pm. (games will be 55 minutes or 7 innings)
 Game days will be Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays with make-up games on Fridays.
 Play will be at the Nazarene ball park.
 Teams must provide their own softballs (USSSA 50 core blue stitch)
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"The numbers don't work unless you have two major weekends of racing. So if you build a new track and you only have one Winston Cup race, the track may be able to operate profitably, but the profit won't be a great deal."

There's a limited number of ways for tracks in Texas, California and Las Vegas to get a second date, or for Kansas City and Homestead to get an inaugural race.

The schedule could be expanded from its 33 points races. But the drivers and teams oppose that.

"We would like to have the racetracks that have the most seating capacity and pay the most money have two," Wallace said. "We'd like to have the race tracks that have the least seating capacity and the least purses have one."

"I think that some of the racetracks that have had two dates for ever and ever will definitely be going back to one date. I just don't see any way around that."

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Curbing poured

Lipham Construction Co. workers had a good afternoon Tuesday to work on the new curbing around the site of the parking lot on the west side of the new medical office building being completed adjacent to Hereford Regional Medical Center. Tenants should begin moving in the new facility sometime this weekend, according to construction manager Shannon Wilburn.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

Judge nears decision on Paula Jones case

WASHINGTON (AP) - The trial judge in the Paula Jones case says she's close to deciding on a motion to dismiss the lawsuit against President Clinton, while there is dissension in the Jones camp over a decision to name a woman portrayed as a victim of sexual assault.

U.S. District Judge Susan Webber Wright did not specify when she would rule on Clinton's motion to throw out Mrs. Jones' sexual harassment lawsuit without a trial.

She mentioned her intentions Tuesday in an order to lawyers to never again identify women linked to Clinton who want to remain anonymous. Sanctions were threatened if the order was disobeyed.

Cost of Starr's Whitewater probe hits \$35 million

WASHINGTON (AP) - The four-year Whitewater investigation had cost taxpayers \$35 million by the end of September, an audit of the independent counsel's expenses shows.

The General Accounting Office audit shows spending by Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr of President Clinton's Whitewater dealings was the most expensive among six independent counsel probes that cost nearly \$8 million in the six months ended Sept. 30.

Starr has spent more than \$29 million and his predecessor, Whitewater special prosecutor Robert Fiske, about \$6 million. Starr appears on track to surpass the biggest-spending independent counsel of all, Lawrence Walsh, who ran up a \$40 million bill investigating the Iran-Contra arms and money case during the Reagan administration.

Bill would end ban on off-exchange commodities

WASHINGTON (AP) - Farmers and ranchers could buy farm commodity options at the local bank or grain elevator, under legislation designed to end a Depression-era ban on trading outside organized exchanges.

Sen. Pat Roberts, R-Kan., the bill's

author, said it would be another tool to help manage the risks of farming and ranching. It's backed by American Farm Bureau, National Cattlemen's Beef Association and a half-dozen major grain groups.

But Roberts cautioned that "I don't think we will get to passage quickly," saying he expects resistance from the Chicago Board of Trade and Chicago Mercantile Exchange.

McVeigh opposes request to unseal court records

DENVER (AP) - The possibility of a retrial makes a *Dallas Morning News* motion to unseal court records premature, Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh argues in a federal court motion.

McVeigh said Tuesday that court costs and other documents related to defense investigation and trial preparation are protected until the trial is completed.

He said codefendant Terry Nichols still has not been sentenced, and his appeals for a new trial have not been decided.

GOP: Tobacco bill headed for quick panel approval

WASHINGTON (AP) - Senate Republicans predict quick committee passage of Congress' leading tobacco bill despite dozens of changes lawmakers are proposing.

"My guess is that it will pass the Commerce Committee this week," bringing it a step closer to a Senate vote before the June 1 deadline set by senior Republicans, said Assistant Majority Leader Don Nickles.

Senate Commerce Committee Chairman John McCain will consider some of the 52 amendments submitted to his panel as of Tuesday night, mostly from Democrats who say his bill is too soft on the tobacco industry. He and other lawmakers have said that if the bill is to survive, it must pass the committee before the Easter recess begins Friday.

Conservatives attacking GOP budget in Senate

WASHINGTON (AP) - A Republican-written federal budget for

next year is under attack in the Senate, and not just from Democrats.

The Senate planned to resume debate on a \$1.73 trillion spending plan today with opposition coming from both left and right. Democrats say the measure shortchanges President Clinton's proposals to boost spending for education, child care and other domestic programs, while conservatives say it lacks sufficient tax and spending reductions.

Sens. Paul Coverdell, R-Ga., and John McCain, R-Ariz., were considering an amendment calling for nearly \$200 billion in tax cuts over the next five years.

Seventh-grader convicted in sex-ring case

FAIRFAX, Va. (AP) - A 13-year-old boy who told police he was known around school as "Mr. Pimp" was convicted of attempting to arrange sex-for-pay between girls and boys at his middle school.

The boy said he had a list of girls who paid to be part of a sex club at the school, but the seventh-grader confessed to police before he arranged any sexual encounters, prosecutor John Murphy said Tuesday.

"He was to be their pimp. They had to ante up \$10 apiece," he said.

The boy then approached other boys in his class at Langston Hughes Middle School in Reston and told them he could arrange sex with as many as three girls at once, the prosecutor said.

Pardoned governor can seek return to politics

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) - Once the state parole board cleared his name with a pardon, former Gov. Guy Hunt didn't take long to start his return to politics. He picked up the necessary forms only a few hours after being cleared to do so.

The parole board on Tuesday gave Hunt a pardon based on innocence, closing the book on his 1993 ethics conviction. That restored his voting rights and made it possible for Alabama's first Republican governor this century to run for political office again.

Study concludes Redux harmless

ATLANTA (AP) - Most of the 2 million Americans who took the diet pill Redux were probably not harmed by it, despite the scare over possible heart valve damage that forced it to be pulled from the market last year.

The first carefully controlled study of Redux's effects on the heart found no sign that it caused leaky valves in those who took it for a couple of months. Three-quarters of users took it no longer than this.

"These results should be reassuring for the majority of patients who have been on Redux," said Dr. Neil J. Weissman, who directed the Georgetown University study released Tuesday.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration pointed out that the study says nothing about what the prescription appetite suppressant might have done to those who took it for many months. It also did not examine whether the chemically similar phen-fen, which was pulled from drugstores at the same time as Redux, is bad for the heart valves.

"We believe there is a significant rate of valvular abnormalities," said Dr. Janet Woodcock of the FDA. "The data suggest it is related to the duration of exposure."

Since 1995, 14 million prescriptions have been written for fenfluramine or Redux, most of them for women. The government estimates between 1 million and 5 million Americans have taken the drugs.

The FDA has estimated that one-third of people taking the diet pills could have suffered significant heart valve damage as a result.

"This leaves the false impression that these drugs are safe," said Guerry Thornton, an Atlanta attorney who filed lawsuits for women who used the drugs.

Wyeth-Ayerst Laboratories, which made Redux, said 76 percent of patients used it for two months or less and 86 percent took it for no more than 90 days.

Wyeth-Ayerst Laboratories took both Redux and fenfluramine - the fen of phen-fen - off the market at the request of the FDA. The government acted after a Mayo Clinic team reported 24 cases of heart valve problems among people taking phen-fen.

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Bimbo Cereal Foods, Inc. has made application with the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission for Air Quality Permit No. 37806 to construct a Corn Flour Processing Facility in Dawn, Deaf Smith County, Texas. The location of the proposed facility is approximately 5.5 miles north on Highway 809 from Dawn, Deaf Smith County, Texas. Additional information concerning this application is contained in the public notice section of this newspaper. This notice is to be published on April 1st and April 2nd.

A TODAS LAS PERSONAS Y ENTIDADES INTERESADAS:

Bimbo Cereal Foods, Inc. ha hecho solicitud a la Comisión de Conservación de Recursos Naturales de Tejas (TNRCC o Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission) para el permiso Num. 37806 para construir un Molino de Harina de Maiz en Dawn, condado de Deaf Smith, Tejas. La dirección de la feilicidad propuesta es aproximadamente a 5.5 millas al norte de Dawn, en la Carretera 809, condado de Deaf Smith, Tejas. Mas informacion con respecto a esta solicitud se encuentra en la seccion de avisos publicos de esta publicacion. Este aviso se publicara en 1 de Abril y en 2 de Abril.

The 1 To See:
Jerry Shipman, CLU
 801 N. Main
 (806) 364-3161

State Farm Insurance Companies
 Home office: Bloomington, Illinois

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Names

ERIC CLAPTON

ST. PAUL (AP) - Eric Clapton celebrated his 53rd birthday in style, opening his U.S. tour with a 20-piece orchestra before a sold-out crowd.

"This is the best birthday I've had," Clapton told the audience Monday before launching into an encore of "Sunshine of Your Love," from his days with the 1960s power-trio Cream.

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VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE

The YMCA Co-ed Volleyball League will begin on Monday, April 20th.
SIGN-UP DEADLINE IS THURSDAY, APRIL 16TH.
 The length of the league will be for 8 games plus double elimination tournament at the end. Depending on the number of teams entered, divisions may be combined (with a minimum of four teams needed to form a division).

You may play on only one Co-ed team. There will be two divisions offered: Co-ed A - modified power rules and Co-ed B - recreational rules. All games will be played at the YMCA. Game days will be on Monday and Tuesday nights starting at 7:15 pm, (depending on number of teams signed). Let us know if you need to play on a certain day, we will try to be flexible.

Entry fee is \$102 per team. The roster must be final by April 30th and everyone on the team must be a full paid participant. T-shirts will be awarded to 1st and 2nd place winners in each division.

You may pick up a registration form at the YMCA office, for more information call **364-6990**

RACQUETBALL LEAGUE

The YMCA Racquetball League will offer two divisions in order to keep the league competitive. Division I will be for higher ranked players, and Division II will be for the lower ranked players. You may choose the division in which you would enjoy play the most.

The league is open to the first 24 paid entrants. Classifications offered are: Men's Open, A, B, C, D and Women's Open, A, B, C, D, type of league is singles handi-capped.

Entry fee is \$10.00 for Y-members and \$20 for non-members

DEADLINE FOR SIGN-UP IS MONDAY, APRIL 13th with games beginning on Thursday, April 15th at 7:00 pm.

Matches are best three out of five 12-point games. Length of the league will be for 6 weeks plus the playoffs. T-shirts will be awarded to 1st and 2nd place winners.

For more information please call Weldon Knabe, league supervisor at 364-6990.

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1983 Lincoln Town Car Leather, extra nice! \$4,495	1991 Mercury Capri Convertible Bright red \$5,995	1992 Geo Storm Black, sporty! \$5,995	1991 Chevrolet Lumina Z-34, 2 dr., black \$5,995	1990 Chevrolet Lumina Euro-Coupe Blue \$5,995
1990 Buick Riviera Gold, extra sharp! \$7,995	1996 Ford Ranger Sportside Pickup Blue, like new! \$9,950	1995 Oldsmobile Achieva 4 dr., white \$9,950	1997 Geo Metro Warranty, economical \$9,995	1994 Pontiac Grand Prix Coupe Dark green \$9,995