

The

Hereford Brand



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HISD preparing spending plan for '98-99 year

By DIANNA F. DANDRIDGE

Staff Writer

Hereford Independent School District, like so many other county and city entities, is getting down to work on its budget for the 1998-99 school year.

Superintendent Jack Patton said the biggest hurdle to overcome will be the ever-decreasing state funds.

"We lost about 170 students last year and those losses affect the ADA (average daily attendance), which is how a big portion of state funds are allotted."

Patton is deeply concerned about the loss of this many students, and realizes that for the school district to maintain certain state funding, students must be kept in the schools.

"The city and the chamber (of commerce) are really working hard to encourage new businesses, which will help to stabilize the migrant student population," he said.

Factors other than ADA also affect amount of state and federal education funds available to school districts.

Each child is scored in regards to individual needs with special needs children, including gifted and talented students, receiving higher funding.

"This helps schools provide a better learning experience for all

children, not just the special ed kids, not just average students, and it doesn't single out the very talented. It just lets us help all students to learn at their level," Patton said.

The loss of Holly Sugar won't greatly impact this year's school budget because school districts usually work a year behind, but Holly's loss will probably be felt more next year.

"We've already got a wish budget," said Patton. "About 86 percent of our budget is already dedicated to teacher salaries. I'm hoping to have the budget approved by Aug. 7."

The district has filled all but five positions vacated by teachers and staff, and Patton expects to be able to fill those remaining posts within the budgeted salary allotment.

The state requires schools approve budgets by the end of August, but often appraisal districts don't provide appraisal values until after that date.

"Right now, I don't really expect an increase in the tax rate," Patton said. "But if there are changes after our budget is set, the law allows us to make amendments to our budget. I really think it will either remain the same or go down, but it is still just a guess."

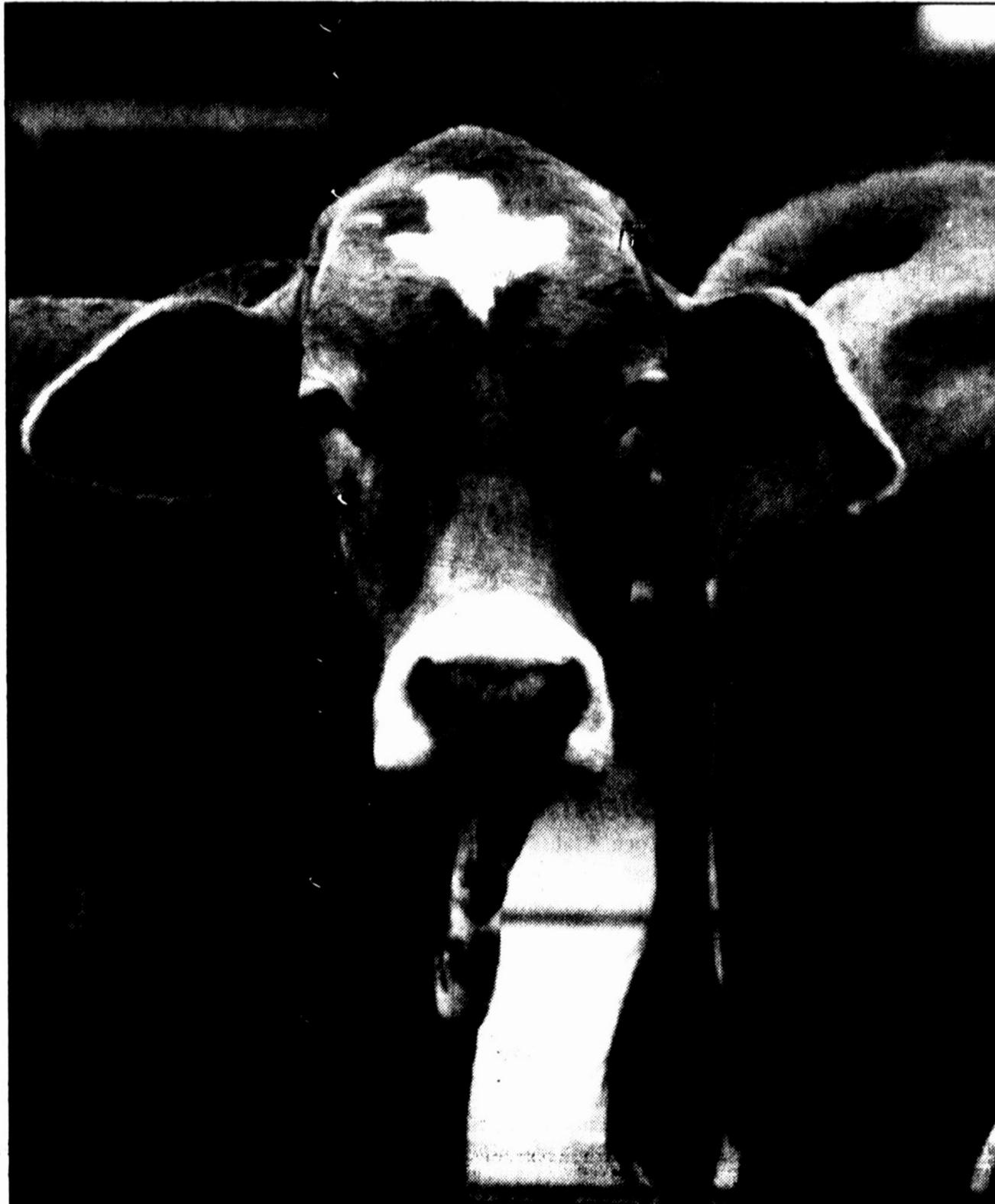


Photo by Wyman Meinzer

Relief from heat forecast

By The Associated Press

As soaring temperatures baked New England in suffocating heat wave blamed for deaths from coast to coast, Frank Hagan needed a jacket.

Hagan had one fear as his work

day hanging meat inside a freezing Boston meat locker came to an end: going back outside.

"It seems like 105 to us once we get off work," he said.

See HEAT, Page 9

"Official" Centennial steer

This cross-bred steer at Bartlett II Feedyard, 22 miles northwest of Hereford, won its stamp of approval at birth by carrying the outline of the state of Texas on its forehead. Feedyard management says the marking has guaranteed the steer a longer lifespan than many of its cousins. There are no plans to send this bovine to the packers.

Holly Sugar workers clean up small chemical spill

By DIANNA F. DANDRIDGE

Staff Writer

An industrial chemical spill often is a community's worst nightmare - a nightmare, that should it become a reality, has the ability to disrupt lives and cause residents to question the health factors of living near an industrial center.

Possibly hazardous situations are only exacerbated when rumors of massive chemical spills or unsafe practices make their way to the public.

This week the ionization office at the Holly Sugar plant experienced this situation.

Governmental agencies and media representatives received anonymous calls that Holly Sugar was responsible for spilling thousands of gallons of hydrochloric acid (HCL) into a ditch after discovering a cracked holding tank.

The anonymous tipster also said Holly management failed to notify proper authorities and then refused to let Environmental Protection

Agency officials or members of the Occupational Safety Hazards Agency onto the supposed dumping site.

Plant general manager David Duncan said Wednesday plant officials knew of the allegations about the spill.

Duncan said the plant uses HCL to lower the pH level of highly buffered solutions.

The acid is held in 82,000-gallon bulk holding tanks. Each holding tank is inside a concrete moat capable of holding a minimum of 110 percent

the amount in the tanks.

If a crack or leak is discovered, the moat is lined with limestone which actually neutralizes the acid. After hydrochloric acid is neutralized with limestone, it simply becomes calcium carbonate and is dissolved in water.

"The neutralized solution, when it is within a certain pH range, can be discharged," Duncan said.

Early Sunday afternoon, a small crack was located in one tank. Plant officials drained the tank to below the damaged level into specifically

designated emergency vats.

Limestone was added to the moat; pH levels were monitored; the Texas Department of Health and the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission were notified.

When all parties were satisfied the spill was not dangerous and had been completely neutralized, the solution and sediment were discharged.

TDH and TNRCC officials later confirmed Duncan's account of the incident.



Photo by Don Cooper

Picnic under the trees

Temperatures might be near the century mark and the sun might be blistering, but it's pleasant under the shade of the trees. Nubia (left) and her friend, Yohandra, found the shade to be ideal for a picnic.

Clinton, GOP differ over slashing taxes

WASHINGTON (AP) - House Republican leaders want to sell their plans for a fat election-year tax cut to rank-and-file lawmakers and skeptical GOP senators, even as President Clinton brands the idea "a return to irresponsibility."

House Budget Committee Chairman John Kasich, R-Ohio, planned to resume the sales job today. On Wednesday, he met with House GOP leaders and said he won their support for \$700 billion in tax cuts over the next decade while reserving the same amount to buttress Social Security for the coming retirement of Baby Boomers.

At a later meeting, Senate Republican leaders said they want a tax package but remained wary of Kasich's, said participants who spoke on condition of anonymity. They worry it would prompt stinging political attacks from Clinton, and that it would be hard to find the 60 votes that for procedural reasons would be needed for it to pass the 100-member Senate.

The money for Kasich's idea would come from the \$1.55 trillion surplus that the Congressional Budget

Office now envisions through 2008. That is a huge sum that Republicans say would let the government both reduce taxes and shore up the massive pension system for the elderly and disabled.

Kasich's proposal does not specify which taxes Republicans would cut.

"If the government doesn't need the money, by what right does the government take the money from the American people," House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., told reporters.

Kasich said the more than \$60 billion annually he would save for Social Security is the amount by which the payroll tax that supports the pension system exceeds its expenses. To date, Clinton hasn't said how much he believes a Social Security fix will cost.

"We want to solve the Social Security problem for three generations, and also help the American people today get some of their money back," Kasich said.

"Fiscal responsibility has driven this economic expansion," said Clinton. "A return to irresponsibility would put that prosperity at risk."

Registration can be made much easier

Special to The Brand

Parents registering their children for 1998-99 classes in Hereford elementary schools may speed up the registration process if they follow a few tips.

Carrying the student's final report card from last year and the continuing immunization form will greatly speed the process, according to school officials.

Parents also are reminded that students who may need a well-child examination may schedule appointments with the Texas Department of Health, which will have representatives present at the Intake Center registration, which will be July 28-29.

Registration will be 7 a.m.-6 p.m. both days.

Kindergarten and pre-kindergarten registration is July 28; all others may register July 29. Parents with children in other grades, but who are registering kindergarten or pre-K students on July 28, may also register the other children at the same time.

All others must wait until July 29.



Opera troupe visited in '20

In March 1920, the French Grand Opera Artists made a Saturday night appearance in the Hereford High School auditorium.

The troupe, which had completed the season with the New Orleans Grand Opera Co., had a Friday night engagement in Amarillo and an open date the following night.

Through the efforts of the Hereford Music Study Club, troupe agreed to perform in Hereford. The performance included both opera selections and popular numbers, with many of the numbers done in costume.

CENTENNIAL QUIZ

Nineteen men have served as police chief, or city marshal in the early days.

Who holds the record for most years of service. He was chief, 1969-91.

Also, the city's first traffic officer rode a motorcycle in the early 1920s.

See ANSWER, Page 9

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HEREFORD BRAND*Local roundup***Jubilee singers needed**

All churches who wish to have a group sing at the communitywide church service during Jubilee week need to contact Lani at the Church of the Nazarene 364-8303.

Churches are asked to bring five to 10 freezers of homemade ice cream and bowls for the ice cream social.

Audience members should bring their own blankets and lawn chairs.

Country clean-up day

A "Texas Country Clean-up Day" will be 8 a.m.-noon Aug. 6 at the Deaf Smith County Bull Barn.

During the morning, empty, rinsed plastic pesticide containers, used motor oil and filters, old tires (less than 24.5 inches) and lead acid batteries will be accepted for recycling.

The clean-up day is sponsored by the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission, Texas Agricultural Extension Service, and the Department of Agriculture.

For more information, contact the Deaf Smith County Extension Office at 364-3573.

Mostly cloudy

Tonight, mostly cloudy with a 50 percent chance of thunderstorms, low in the upper 60s, east to southeast wind 5-15 mph.

Friday, partly sunny with a 30 percent chance of thunderstorms, high around 90, southeast wind 10-20 mph. Friday night, mostly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of thunderstorms, low in the upper 60s.

Extended forecast

Saturday through Monday, partly cloudy with a chance of afternoon and nighttime thunderstorms, lows in the mid- to upper 60s, highs in the upper 80s to lower 90s.

Wednesday recap

High, 98; low, 69; no precipitation.

NEWS*in brief***Closing arguments set in former cadet's murder trial**

NEW BRAUNFELS (AP) - An "all-or-nothing" defense claim that former Air Force Academy cadet David Graham was not present when a 16-year-old girl was killed gets tested today before a jury that heard six days of testimony.

"There's nothing about this case that's easy," lead defense attorney Dan Cogdell conceded after resting his case Wednesday without calling a single witness.

In closing arguments today, Cogdell planned to ask a seven-man, five-woman jury to believe the contention he put forth at the start of Graham's capital murder trial - that Graham's then-fiancée Diane Zamora acted alone in shooting Adrienne Jones to death Dec. 4, 1995.

Diane Zamora did kill Adrienne Jones. David Graham did not. David Graham was not there," Cogdell told jurors.

Miss Zamora was convicted of capital murder in February and is serving a life prison sentence.

Regulators, utility company tell Texans: Cool now, pay later

AUSTIN (AP) - Many Texans living on low or fixed incomes are facing what could be a life-or-death decision: spend their money on food and medicine - or electricity to run air conditioners.

Janee Briesemeister, of Consumers Union, said people shouldn't be forced to make such decisions, especially during the state's ongoing deadly heat wave that has claimed 87 lives.

Officials from the Texas Public Utility Commission and Texas Utilities Electric agree. In a meeting Wednesday, PUC and TU officials tried to send a clear message to worried consumers: leave the a.c. on and deal with the bill later.

"We are not going to disconnect your services during these hot times," said TU vice president Ron Keeney. "We're going to work with you."

Pearl Johns, a 95-year-old widow who lives alone in south Dallas, said she's gotten the message.

Feds treating dealers whose drugs kill like murderers

PLANO (AP) - Federal prosecutors are pursuing a new approach to dealers who sell lethal drugs - they are treating them like murderers.

Taking advantage of the national spotlight surrounding the rash of heroin overdoses in this affluent Dallas suburb of 188,000, federal investigators announced a 36-count indictment against 29 alleged drug pushers Wednesday.

Twenty-four of those are accused of having passed along the very drugs that led to four fatal overdoses and one near-fatal overdose in a five-month span.

And for that suspected crime, they face the potential of life in prison under a little-used federal sentencing provision.

"This is the first time we've used this provision of the law in the Eastern District to specifically link drug dealing to drug-overdose deaths," said U.S. Attorney Mike Bradford of the Eastern District of Texas.

Boys who found space rock will sell it

MONAHANS (AP) - Seven boys who found a meteorite will soon find out how far something that came down can go up.

The boys and a meteor broker hired by their families have invited meteorite collectors around the country to attend an auction Friday in this West Texas city.

The iron ore meteorite has blue salt crystals in it, making it a rarity, said Steve Arnold, a Tulsa, Okla., broker representing the children in the sale.

Jim Kloon, a NASA scientist, said the rock should be studied.

"You always hope that these rocks end up in the hands of a university ... where they will be taken care of and studied properly," Kloon said.

Minimum bid for the meteorite is \$20,000 and bidding will close at midnight Sunday.

First of five headed home

DALLAS (AP) - Victor Zuniga says five is enough.

The first of his quintuplets is going home today from the hospital where they were born June 8.

The babies, born 10 weeks premature, all weighed in at less than 3 pounds but were healthy, said officials at Parkland Health & Hospital System.

Doctors used in vitro fertilization to help Sonia Zuniga, 30, conceive.

The hospital said the Zunigas had been trying to conceive naturally for four years before their first fertility treatment.

Aldo, the second born, is the first to leave the hospital. Still hospitalized will be Edgar, Diego, Ivan and Alexa.

Elsewhere:

SWAT TEAM: Police say a man suspected of killing his ex-wife and holding his two daughters hostage was shot to death by a police sharpshooter. After a standoff of almost six hours, the man fired two shots, then went outside and brandished his weapon at police.

Executives testify against Microsoft corp.

WASHINGTON (AP) - Microsoft, the 800-pound gorilla of the computer software industry, can expect to take it on the chin at a Senate hearing called by a frequent critic, Sen. Orrin Hatch.

Executives from some of Microsoft's toughest rivals also were testifying today as the Senate Judiciary Committee, which is chaired by Hatch, R-Utah, looks into competition in the software industry.

Billionaire Bill Gates, who declined to appear for the congressional grilling, will be at home 2,300 miles away.

Microsoft, fighting a landmark antitrust lawsuit against the Justice Department and 20 states, declined to send any of its executives from its headquarters in Redmond, Wash.

Microsoft said previously it would be inappropriate to appear during the

court case and, noting Hatch's longtime criticism of the company, said, "It's not clear that additional testimony from Microsoft will serve any useful purpose." The antitrust trial is set for September.

Executives scheduled to testify included Oracle Chairman Larry Ellison, a colorful rival of Gates, Ellison's Oracle 8 database, popular among large corporations, competes directly with Microsoft's latest offering, SQL Server.

Also on the witness list was Lotus Chairman Jeff Papows, whose company is a subsidiary of IBM and also among the largest software companies, and Sybase Chairman Mitchell Kertzman, whose database company ranks behind Ellison's.

The committee said other witnesses included Michael Jeffress,

a vice president at TV Host of Harrisburg, Pa. The company alleged it shared its idea of electronic TV listings, only to see Microsoft include the feature free in Windows 98.

A former Microsoft senior vice president, Robert Glaser, also was expected to testify. Glaser is founder and chairman of RealNetworks, which makes software that allows people to watch video across the Internet.

Microsoft's contract to include RealNetworks software within Windows expires today, and Microsoft recently introduced a competing product available free, called the Windows Media Player.

Marc Andreessen, who co-founded rival Netscape Communications, said today's hearing would "reasonably fan the flames" over Microsoft's

behavior in the industry. Andreessen was in Washington on Wednesday for an unrelated technology conference.

"The role of government is going to become very important to the growth of the Internet," he said. "For the computer industry to grow, there needs to be much more communication with the regulatory process."

Hatch, whose state includes the headquarters of Microsoft rival Novell Inc., warned that Microsoft was trying to dominate the market for software that lets people communicate, watch news and entertainment and buy products online.

"There is little question that Microsoft ... is seeking to extend its desktop monopoly, in effect to control these other technologies and, to a large extent, the (Internet) network itself," Hatch said.

Kelly AFB operations head to rival Utah base

SAN ANTONIO (AP) - Despite protests from San Antonio boosters, the Air Force has ordered Kelly Air Force Base to start preparing to shift hundreds of jobs to a rival depot in Utah.

The San Antonio Express-News reported today that a June 30 memo from the Air Force Materiel Command, which oversees Kelly, orders base officials to "please begin the early move" of the base's gas turbine engine workload to Hill Air Force Base in Ogden, Utah, "as soon as possible."

Kelly spokesman Glen Whitton said none of the 600 or so engineering-maintenance jobs at the base has yet moved to Utah.

But some will move to Utah in September, Hill spokesman Bruce Collins told the newspaper.

Word of the Air Force's decision came as a blow to Mayor Howard Peak and others who have tried to keep the work in Texas when Kelly closes in 2001.

"I'm always disappointed, but unfortunately over time have ceased to be at least completely surprised," by news about jobs leaving Kelly, Peak told the paper.

"You win some, you lose some in these situations," said U.S. Rep. Ciro Rodriguez, D-San Antonio.

The future of Kelly's gas turbine engine work has been in question for months as Rodriguez and others in Washington have fought Air Force plans to move it to Utah.

A bipartisan coalition of lawmakers led by U.S. Sens. Phil Gramm and Kay Bailey Hutchison, both R-Texas, and Rodriguez has sought to move the Kelly jobs to the Corpus Christi Army Depot.

At stake are several hundred jobs now at Kelly that are pegged for transfer to Hill at the start of 2000. The Air Force has said that 290 maintenance jobs and 97 white-collar jobs likely will go to Utah.

However, Collins said the number of workers could rise as high as 600, with most of the workload transfer to be complete as Kelly closes in 2001.

Old friends get a new look

Local State Farm Insurance agent Jeff Torbert, his wife, Sonya and their daughter Lauren were joined by the Deaf Smith County Chamber Hustlers and board of directors to celebrate the ribbon cutting of the new location of Torbert's State Farm Insurance at 145 West Third.

War hero honored posthumously

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas (AP) - A street named for a black military hero has been rededicated in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of integration of the military.

Descendants of Warren G.H. Crecy gathered with military officials Wednesday in front of the Corpus Christi Army Depot for the ceremony. The name of the street was named in Crecy's honor in 1980.

Crecy fought in two wars for the U.S. Army, received six medals, was wounded seven times and led many men, the Corpus Christi Caller-Times reported.

But in October 1952, when a mortar shell exploded in his face and he was sent home, black men were rarely recognized as heroes.

He was referred to as "the baddest man" in his World War II unit, the 761st Tank Battalion, by Trezzvant W. Anderson, an author who documented the group's history. But when Crecy came home from war he had to sit in the back of the bus.

"That he fought and fought and sacrificed for this country, was proud

to fight for his country and loved the country that had treated him that way, is just incredible to me," Arnold Villarreal said.

The racial injustice is what led Villarreal to seek recognition for Crecy, who died in 1976 after numerous surgeries and skin grafts to replace the lower portion of his face destroyed during a Korean War battle.

"That I was finally able to get the street named after him is one of the proudest moments of my life," said Villarreal, who worked in civil service for 33 years before retiring as executive assistant at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi's supply department.

In March 1941, nine months before Pearl Harbor, 98 black enlisted men reported to the Armored Forces School at Fort Knox, Ky. - the beginning of the first blacks in history to serve in armor units.

The 761st had all white officers in the beginning, but Fort Knox was also training black officers, who eventually replaced white officers through attrition, according to John Purde, a

spokesman at the Patton Museum of Cavalry and Armor at Fort Knox.

The 761st was commissioned April 1, 1942, but its extensive training didn't get the all-black unit to war.

Military officials had a lot of questions on whether they should be allowed to fight because of their race, Purde said.

Eleanor Roosevelt lobbied on the unit's behalf and the group was first sent to England and then went to battle in 1944. During the long march across Europe, the men of the 761st served 183 days in combat, were awarded 11 Silver Stars, 69 Bronze Stars, three certificates of merit and 29 Purple Hearts.

Crecy, who had enlisted as a private, won a battlefield commission, a Silver Star, a Bronze Star and four Purple Hearts in his service in World War II and Korea.

After World War II ended, Crecy remained in Germany, where he was a prison officer during the Nuremberg trials of Nazi leaders accused of crimes against international law. He came home in 1950 and later shipped out for the Korean War.

He died in 1976 and was buried in a local cemetery in Corpus Christi.

His wife, Sonya, and daughter, Lauren, were joined by the Deaf Smith County Chamber Hustlers and board of directors to celebrate the ribbon cutting of the new location of Torbert's State Farm Insurance at 145 West Third.

The street was renamed in honor of Crecy, who died in 1976.

Villarreal, who organized the event, said the street was named in honor of Crecy.

"It's a great honor to have a street named after him," said Villarreal.

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Lifestyles

Vital vegetables

Learn basics for perfect results

By ANN CRISWELL
Houston Chronicle

HOUSTON - Ask a produce expert what the best vegetable is, and you'll probably hear, "Whatever is in season locally." Good advice, but in this world of asparagus in November and butternut squash in July, how can you tell what's local?

Clues are a newspaper ad, a sign over the produce touting its local origin, a sticker on each piece confirming its authenticity (such as those on 1015 onions) or a trip to the farmer's market. It also helps to know the seasons for Texas produce.

Sometimes the seasons overlap. Peak seasons vary with the weather and region.

"Everything is running about three weeks late this year," said Ken Faour of Schoenmann Produce Co. Blame it on El Nino, the weather, or the smoke and haze from the fires in Mexico. Locally, yellow squash and zucchini are in good supply along with cucumbers, pickling cucumbers, Kentucky Wonder and Harvester green beans, and new potatoes.

Many crops are late this year. Local eggplants began trickling into the market about two weeks ago, but should be in good supply this week. Home-grown tomatoes are starting their seasonal peak, said Lawrence Pilkinton of Canino's at the Farmer's Market, 2520 Airline.

Pilkinton and Faour say that Roma and cherry tomatoes, red potatoes, squash and cucumbers are good buys here now. So are fresh black-eyed peas and purple-hull peas from the Valley, and corn, okra, carrots and parsley from other growing areas.

If you can't find locally grown produce, look for good seasonal buys from out-of-state - currently, corn from Florida and Georgia; iceberg lettuce and leafy lettuces (romaine, so dear at \$40 a case wholesale a few weeks ago, has dropped to \$15); and sweet potatoes from California. Bell peppers and hot peppers are coming in from the Southeast at good prices.

but July is the top month for chilies in this area, Faour said.

The outlook is not so rosy on fruit because crops are running weeks behind in California. A spokeswoman for the California Tree Fruit Agreement says that last year at this time, growers had shipped about 2 million boxes; as of last week, only 400,000 boxes had been shipped this year. Pilkinton said they have had no California plums yet this year.

Big, premium Texas blueberries should arrive in markets this week or next. You'll see lots of full-pint baskets at value prices, Faour said.

Smart shopping

For the best produce, buy it as fresh as possible, handle it properly and cook it promptly.

Select vegetables that look fresh and unblemished. Choose them piece by piece so you get the best quality.

Don't wash vegetables until you are ready to cook them. If you suspect they have been sprayed or waxed (turnips, rutabagas and slow-selling vegetables often are), wash with a mild detergent and rinse well before peeling.

Don't peel edible skin unless necessary; many nutrients are lost by peeling.

Store onions, potatoes and tomatoes in a cool place, but do not refrigerate. Also store garlic, shallots, winter squash, root vegetables and tomatoes in a cool place.

The average recommended storage life for fresh asparagus is 2 to 3 days; broccoli, 3 to 5 days; cabbage, 1 week; carrots, 2 weeks; cauliflower, 1 week; celery, 7 to 10 days; corn, 1 day; lettuce, 1 week.

To extend storage life, keep produce in green Evert-fresh plastic bags or perforated vegetable bags, or use food preservers such as Food Fresh, a thin 8-by-6-inch box that you affix to the interior wall of the refrigerator or freezer to help control humidity and odors. Food Fresh is a natural, nontoxic lime mineral that

reduces humidity by 43 percent. The mineral, sorbite, is found in the Mojave Desert in California. It retards the production of ethylene gas by more than 40 percent. Ethylene contributes to fruit and vegetable spoilage. Food Fresh also reduces odor and taste contamination.

Using the product enables vegetables to stay fresh for longer periods (three weeks for lettuce, about a week for strawberries). It also increases the shelf life of milk, cottage cheese, bread and other refrigerated foods. One panel takes care of a 25-cubic-foot refrigerator. It is guaranteed for three years and costs \$14.95. A smaller version for 14-cubic-foot refrigerators (such as those in recreational vehicles) is \$9.95. It is available at Whole Foods Markets and Health Food Outlets.

To refresh Food Fresh, remove the panel every three months, hit it against a counter to loosen the material and microwave on high power 1 1/2 minutes, or let it sit in the sun for an hour, then reinstall.

To avoid losing nutrients, leave the skin on vegetables whenever possible.

(See VEGGIES, Page 4)

Classifieds Work!!
Call 364-2030



MOVIES 6

Sugarland Mall 400 N. 25 Mile Ave. Hereford, TX

Business Office: 364-0101

Starts Movie Hotline: 364-8000

Friday, July 24th - Thursday, July 28, 1998

THE MASK OF ZORRO

SUMMER MATINEES FRIDAY-THURSDAY EVENINGS

1:15 4:10 7:00 & 9:40

SAVING PRIVATE RYAN

SUMMER MATINEES FRIDAY-THURSDAY EVENINGS

1:00 & 4:10 8:00

MAFIA

SUMMER MATINEES FRIDAY-THURSDAY EVENINGS

2:00 4:00 7:20 & 9:20

THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT MARY

SUMMER MATINEES FRIDAY-THURSDAY EVENINGS

2:10 & 4:30 7:15 & 9:30

ARMAGEDDON

SUMMER MATINEES FRIDAY-THURSDAY EVENINGS

1:00 & 4:10 7:00 & 9:50

LETHAL WEAPON 4

FRIDAY-THURSDAY EVENINGS 9:35

SMALL SOLDIERS

FRIDAY-THURSDAY EVENINGS 7:10

Adults: \$5.00 - Kids & Seniors: \$3.00

Bargain Matinees: \$3.00



Lions plan drawing

Hereford Lions Club president Stan Fry Jr., left, and club sweetheart Emily Fry display an authentic Troy Aikman autographed photo and two tickets to the Dallas Cowboys vs. Carolina Panthers game in Texas Stadium on Oct. 11. The Lions Club is selling chances on the photo and tickets for \$1 each. A drawing to determine the winner will be held during the Town and Country Jubilee. Proceeds will benefit Texas Lions Camp for Crippled Children.

Ann Landers

Dear Ann Landers: I sent you a letter, without my wife's knowledge, about "how we met." I told you I met a beautiful young girl at a party and the only information she would give me was that her last name was Cohen and she lived in Brooklyn. I made 40 calls a night until I found her.

A short time after I wrote to you, my wife fell and broke her hip. I had to put her in a nursing home. While she was there, my letter appeared in your column. I cut it out and brought it to her.

She was so honored and thrilled that our story was in the paper, she showed it to all her visitors. Five months later, my darling passed away peacefully in her wheelchair. That column was in her hands when they found her. God bless you for giving my dear wife those last few moments of happiness. -- Norman in Sunrise, Fla.

Dear Norman: I remember your letter clearly. Her name was Rose. I am honored that I was able to give her those last few minutes of happiness. Thank you for letting me know.

Dear Ann Landers: I met a wonderful divorced man soon after my own divorce, and we began dating. "Bill," who is 13 years my senior, is great with my children and treats me beautifully.

We've been together for seven years, and I've brought up the subject of marriage several times. Bill says he loves me and wants us to date exclusively but will not commit to the future. He says that our relationship is great the way it is.

I have no doubt that Bill is faithful. He calls me every night, and we spend weekend evenings together, but in seven years, we have gone away together only twice. On weekend mornings, he is out the door at the crack of dawn. I was not invited to his daughter's out-of-town wedding because it was "a family affair," and he was staying with his mother.

I am in love with Bill and can't imagine life without him, but I am beginning to feel like a long-term mistress. I realize he needs space, and I am not a possessive person. However, the idea of waiting to see

what the future brings is getting harder and harder. I hate to end a wonderful relationship that might have the opportunity to grow, but it's making me an emotional wreck. -- Still Hanging in Florida

Dear Hanging: Are you willing to be treated like a permanent long-term mistress? If the answer is "yes," you have the perfect companion. Do you want to be a wife? If so, deep-six this Romeo because he isn't interested in marriage.

P.S.: You went with this gink for seven years and didn't get invited to his daughter's wedding!!!! Wake up and smell the herring. Something is mighty fishy.

Dear Ann Landers: A while back, you printed a column about Reconciliation Day. It rang a bell with me. My parents and I had been estranged for six years, and the split was so bitter, I felt there would never be a reconciliation. When I saw that column, I decided to write my parents and enclose it. I kept my fingers crossed and prayed for a miracle.

What followed was incredible. My parents received my letter and your column on April 18. On the previous day, my brother had been killed in a head-on collision on the highway. They lost one child and "found" another.

Thank you a million times over, Ann, for printing that letter. You are directly responsible for making us a family again and helping us heal. It never would have happened without you. -- E.R. in Folsom, Calif.

Dear Folsom: My heartfelt condolences on the loss of your brother. How miraculous that in the moment of such grief, you came back into your parents' lives. Bless you for letting me know I helped.

Do you have questions about sex, but no one to talk to? Ann Landers' booklet, "Sex and the Teenager," is frank and to the point. Send a self-addressed, long, business-size envelope and a check or money order for \$3.75 (this includes postage and handling) to: Teens, c/o Ann Landers, P.O. Box 11562, Chicago, Ill. 60611-0562. (In Canada, send \$4.55.)

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AQUATIC PAVILION
Yolanda Gavina
Sunday, July 26
6:00 - 9:00

NW CORNER DAMERON w/V-BALL
Christina Lucio
Sunday, July 26
9:00 - 9:00

VETERANS PAVILION
New Beginnings Church
Sunday, July 26
10:00 am to 10:00 pm

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

CITY OF HEREFORD

Hospital Notes

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Horse shoeing demonstration

Ron Shirley, local farrier, will give horse shoeing demonstrations at the Deaf Smith County Museum on Historical Heritage Day, August 7. Special activities will be held inside and outside the museum from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. and will be followed by the dedication of the Ruby K. Sears Garden at 6:30 p.m.

Area Events

PANHANDLE

Author James Haley of Austin will present a talk on the Red River Indian War at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, August 1 at the Square House Museum in Panhandle.

The date marks the 124th anniversary of the War Department's directive ordering federal troops into the field against the combined tribes of the Texas Panhandle.

The Red River War of 1874-75 was one of the largest and most significant Indian wars in United States history, yet it remains one of the least known. Haley's talk will deal as much about researching the Red River War as it will with the details of the various engagements.

"Art of the Red River Warriors," a special exhibit of paintings by 20th century Cheyenne, Comanche, and Kiowa artists, is hanging in the auditorium of the Hazlewood Arts and Education Building where Haley will speak.

For more information, call the Square House Museum at 806-537-3524.

AMARILLO

The "TEXAS" Company will showcase its talent at the 31st Anniversary Scholarship Production of "TEXAS Originals." This year's benefit show will be held on August 9 at the Amarillo Civic Center in Amarillo. One Gala Performance will be held starting at 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children.

"TEXAS Originals," started as a fund-raising vehicle to assist outstanding "TEXAS" company

members as they continue their education and careers, includes 22 diverse acts that accentuate excellence in dance, acting, and vocal and instrumental performance.

Following the Gala Performance, scholarships will be awarded to selected company members of the Musical Drama "TEXAS" on the basis of their contribution to the show, financial need, and academic achievement.

CANNON AFB

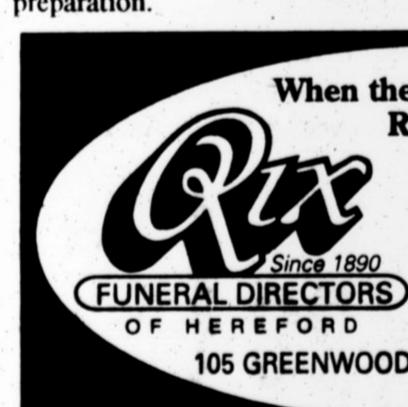
Cannon Fest, summer happening in the Eastern New Mexico/West Texas area, is scheduled for Saturday, August 29.

Inexpensive flea market spaces are available for this event which features three bands, rides, car and motorcycle shows, and much more, and attracts close to 8,000 people.

For more information, call 505-784-6381.

DALHART

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VEGGIES

(From Page 3)

Grit in greens

Bunches of greens, such as spinach, can harbor lots of sand and grit. Cut off the stems, separate leaves and drop into a sink full of tepid, not cold water. Tepid water relaxes the leaves just enough for them to release hidden grit, according to the Joy of Cooking by Irma Rombauer, Marion Rombauer Becker and Ethan Becker (Scribner, \$30).

Wash the leaves through the water with your hands, or rinse leaves individually. It may be necessary to repeat the process several times until no sand is visible in the sink.

Vegetables that have been treated with wax or spray should be washed, peeled and washed again. Pesticide residue cannot be washed off most vegetables.

Cooking methods

The most basic cooking method for vegetables is to drop them into a small amount of boiling water, return to a boil, cover and simmer until tender. The microwave is perfect for cooking vegetables, because it needs little liquid and preserves nutrients and color.

Put vegetables and a small amount of water (usually no more than 1/4 cup) in microwave-safe dish, cover and cook until crisp-tender (an average of 6 minutes per pound). Season and add margarine or butter after cooking if desired. Consult your microwave manual for specific suggestions.

Among new cooking methods that have become popular in the past few years are grilling, roasting, steaming and sauteing.

Grilling: "The Vegetarian Grill" by Andrea Chesman (Harvard Common Press, \$14.95) includes a handy grilling guide with techniques and timing for more than 25 vegetables including corn with and without husks.

Summer squash, for example,

should be sliced 3/8 inch thick, brushed or tossed with oil or marinade, and grilled 8 to 10 minutes. The book includes recipes for Basil Grilled Leeks, Sherry-Marinated Mushrooms, Grilled Okra, Charred Corn Salsa, Pitas With Red Pepper Hummus and Grilled Vegetables, and Teriyaki Vegetable Kabobs. Vegetables can be grilled on the grid or wrapped in aluminum foil.

Chesman says that almost every vegetable benefits from grilling, including greens such as radicchio, bok choy and endive, as well as broccoli, cauliflower and root vegetables, and suggests you try different vegetables.

"If you've ever had a roasted vegetable you enjoyed, expect that you will also appreciate it grilled," she writes.

Roasting: Oven-cooking is time-consuming, but is a good method to use for vegetables that have a thick skin such as winter squash. Vegetables often can be roasted along with meat. Pierce the skin of the vegetable in several places to prevent the vegetable exploding from built-up steam (also pierce similar vegetables when cooking in the microwave).

Coat the vegetable with oil, or roast at a low enough temperature that the inside cooks before the outside dries out.

Steaming: Use a collapsible steamer basket, or metal or bamboo steamer in a large pot with tight-fitting lid, or an electric skillet or special steamer. Heat water to boiling (don't let it reach above the level of the basket), add vegetables, cover tightly and cook as desired. Remove basket. Liquid can be reserved for soups or another use.

Sauteing: Cut vegetables in a uniform size and thickness; cook in an open shallow pan such as a skillet or saute pan in a small amount of hot

Makes 6 servings.

fat, preferably a mixture of butter and oil.

Parsley Buttered New Potatoes

From Chronicle files.

2 pounds new red potatoes

1/4 cup butter or margarine

2 tablespoons snipped fresh parsley

1/2 teaspoon fresh lemon juice or more to taste

Remove 1/2 inch of peel around center of each potato with a vegetable peeler. Place potatoes and 1/4 cup water in glass dish, arranging them in a circle with the smaller potatoes in the center. Cover with lid or vented plastic wrap. Microwave on high power 14 minutes. Let rest, covered, 6 to 7 minutes. Place butter, parsley and lemon juice in 1-cup glass measure. Microwave on high power 1 minute or until hot. Drain potatoes and pour sauce over them. Serve hot.

Makes 6 servings.

South-of-the-Border

Squash Saute

From "Good Housekeeping Best Recipes 1998" (Hearst Corp., Time Inc., \$24.95).

1 tablespoon olive oil

4 small (about 6-ounce) yellow squash, each cut lengthwise in half, then cut crosswise into 1/2-inch-thick slices

1/4 teaspoon each: ground cinnamon and salt

1/8 teaspoon coarsely ground black pepper

1 medium tomato, diced

2 tablespoons whipping cream

1/3 cup loosely packed fresh cilantro leaves, chopped

In nonstick 12-inch skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat until hot. Add squash slices and cook 5 to 7 minutes until lightly browned, stirring occasionally. Add cinnamon, salt and pepper; cook 3 minutes longer.

Stir in tomato; cook 1 minute. Stir in cream; cook 30 seconds. Sprinkle with cilantro to serve.

Makes 3 cups (4 side-dish servings),

each: 95 calories, 2 grams protein, 9 grams carbohydrates, 7 grams fat, 10 milligrams cholesterol, 145 milligrams sodium.

Smothered Okra

From "The Evolution of Cajun & Creole Cuisine" by chef John D. Folse, (Wimmer Brothers, Inc., \$19.95). To order, send check for \$22.45 (covers postage and handling) payable to: The Evolution of Cajun & Creole Cuisine, P.O. Box 1128, Donaldsonville, La. 70346. Keep Smothered Okra on hand in the freezer for gumbo.

2 quarts fresh sliced okra

1/4 cup vegetable oil

1 cup each, chopped: onion and celery

1/2 cup chopped bell pepper

1/4 cup diced garlic

3 cups diced tomatoes

1/2 cup hot water

Salt and cracked black pepper to taste.

Dash of red hot-pepper sauce

Choose only young, tender okra for smothering. Heat oil in 4-quart saucepan over medium-high heat. Sauté okra, onion, celery, bell pepper and garlic about 30 minutes or until okra stops stringing. Okra will become slimy during this process and should be stirred constantly until stringing ceases. Add tomatoes and hot water, bring to a low boil and cook about 1 hour, stirring occasionally. Season with salt, pepper and pepper sauce.

If desired, add lump crab meat or shrimp at the end of cooking, and serve as a side dish. Freeze in small portions for future use. Makes 6 to 8 servings.

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Sports

Nebraska, MLB ROUNDUP

Aggies tabbed Big 12 favorites

DALLAS (AP) -- Nebraska and Texas A&M, who met in last year's Big 12 championship game, are picked to repeat as division champions in a preseason balloting of media members who cover the league.

Texas running back Ricky Williams and Texas A&M linebacker Dat Nguyen were voted the preseason offensive and defensive players of the year and highlight a preseason all-conference team picked by reporters.

The lists were released Wednesday in advance of the league's annual media day, to be held Thursday and Friday in Dallas.

The Cornhuskers, winners of the first two North division titles under coach Tom Osborne, were favored to win a third straight crown under first-year coach Frank Solich. Kansas State was picked second, followed by Colorado, Missouri, Kansas and Iowa State.

The Aggies were expected to remain atop the South, followed by Oklahoma State, Texas, Texas Tech, Oklahoma and Baylor.

Nebraska defeated Texas A&M 54-15 in last year's Big 12 championship in San Antonio. This year's title game will be played in St. Louis on Dec. 5.

Williams, winner of last year's Doak Walker Award after rushing for a school-record 1,893 yards and a national-best 25 touchdowns, is joined on the all-conference offense by teammates Derek Lewis, a tight end, and offensive lineman Ben Adams.

Kansas State led the way with four offensive selections: quarterback Michael Bishop, receiver Darnell McDonald, lineman Ryan Young and kicker Martin Gramatica, last year's Lou Groza Award winner.

Other picks included Oklahoma running back De'Mond Parker, Texas Tech receiver Donnie Hart, Missouri lineman Todd Neimeyer, Nebraska center Josh Heskew and Oklahoma State lineman Adam Davis.

Nguyen, who had 130 tackles last year, leads a defense that again was dominated by four Kansas State players.

Rounding out the defensive team were lineman Kelly Gregg and defensive back Gana Joseph of Oklahoma, lineman Mike Rucker and defensive back Ralph Brown of Nebraska, Texas Tech lineman-linebacker Montae Reagor and Missouri defensive back Harold Piersey.

BIG 12 FOOTBALL POLL

The Associated Press

The preseason Big 12 football poll, as picked by media members who cover the league. Teams are ranked in order of predicted finish, with last year's conference record and finish in parentheses.

NORTH
 1. Nebraska (8-0, 1st)
 2. Kansas State (7-1, 2nd)
 3. Colorado (3-5, T-4th)
 4. Missouri (5-3, 3rd)
 5. Kansas (3-5, T-4th)
 6. Iowa State (1-7, 6th)

SOUTH
 1. Texas A&M (6-2, 1st)
 2. Oklahoma State (5-3, T-2nd)
 3. Texas (2-6, T-4th)
 4. Texas Tech (5-3, T-2nd)
 5. Oklahoma (2-6, T-4th)
 6. Baylor (1-7, 6th)

Yankees 13, Tigers 2

NEW YORK -- Chuck Knoblauch, Darryl Strawberry and Jorge Posada each homered and Orlando Hernandez won for the fifth time in nine major league starts as the New York Yankees routed the Detroit Tigers 13-2 Wednesday.

Hernandez (5-2) was staked to a 5-0 lead after two innings and when the Tigers narrowed the gap to 5-2, Knoblauch hit a three-run homer in the Yankees' third to make it 8-2.

Hernandez allowed seven hits in six innings, walking two and striking out seven and also balked in the second run in the Tigers' two-run third. Tino Martinez drove in four runs with a double, single and an RBI groundout.

Tony Clark's RBI double drove in Detroit's first run and sent Bobby Higginson, who had singled, to third before Hernandez was called for a balk with Luis Gonzalez at bat, scoring Higginson.

Hernandez then retired 11 of the last 14 Tigers he faced before Darren Holmes worked the final three innings for his first save.

Brian Powell (1-2) allowed seven hits, 10 runs -- nine earned -- walking five, striking out two, hitting two batters and giving up Knoblauch's 10th homer and Strawberry's 13th.

Devil Rays 7, Mariners 5

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. -- Bobby Smith's two-run single capped a four-run seventh-inning rally against Randy Johnson that gave Tampa Bay a 7-5 victory over Seattle on Wednesday night.

Randy Winn and Miguel Cairo also singled to drive in runs in the seventh as the Devil Rays won for just the third time in 18 games this month.

Alex Rodriguez had given Seattle a 5-3 lead with his 31st homer, a two-run shot off Rolando Arrojo in the sixth inning. The towering drive finished a four-run rally that also featured a two-run homer by John Marzano.

Albie Lopez (6-2) pitched two shutout innings to get the victory with help from Roberto Hernandez, who worked the ninth inning to get his 18th save.

Five of Tampa Bay's seven runs off Johnson (9-9) were unearned, including all four in the winning rally. The Seattle starter allowed 10 hits, struck out five and walked none before departing after the seventh.

Blue Jays 4, White Sox 0

TORONTO -- Roger Clemens pitched eight shutout innings to win his seventh straight decision and Jose Canseco homered as the Toronto Blue Jays beat the Chicago White Sox 4-0 Wednesday night.

Clemens (12-6) allowed three hits, struck out four and walked two. Paul Quantrill gave up one hit in the ninth.

After allowing a leadoff double to Ray Durham in the first, Clemens didn't give up another hit until Magglio Ordonez's infield single with two outs in the seventh.

Clemens, a four-time Cy Young Award winner, has allowed seven or fewer hits in 11 of his last 12 starts.

Canseco gave the Blue Jays a 4-0 lead in the third with his 27th homer, a 431-foot shot into the fourth deck of SkyDome.

White Sox rookie starter Jim Parque (2-3) gave up four runs -- three earned -- and six hits in six innings. The left-hander struck out seven and walked two.

Pirates 6, Marlins 4

PITTSBURGH -- Todd Van Poppel pitched 6 1-3 innings to win his NL debut, and Tony Womack

went 3-for-3 to extend a 16-game hitting streak as the Pittsburgh Pirates beat the Florida Marlins 6-4 Wednesday night.

Kevin Young had a pair of run-scoring singles for the Pirates, who have won five of six to exit last place in the NL Central. All of their runs came off rookie Ryan Dempster (1-5), who is 0-4 in his six road starts.

Dempster gave up eight hits and four earned runs and threw a wild pitch in 4 1-3 innings and didn't get much help from a defense that committed three errors, including shortstop Edgar Renteria's run-scoring error in the fifth.

The last-place Marlins opened a 3-1 lead against Van Poppel (1-0), but the Pirates tied it with a two-run third and went ahead with a three-run fifth.

Van Poppel, whose 6.30 ERA is the second highest in major-league history for a pitcher with so many innings pitched (4682-3), yielded eight hits and three runs.

Braves 14, Phillies 2

PHILADELPHIA -- Andres Galarraga homered twice and Tom Glavine struck out 10 for his 14th win Wednesday night, leading the Atlanta Braves to a 14-2 rout of the Philadelphia Phillies.

Galarraga has 32 homers and seven two-homer games this year. The Braves, shut out by Kenny Wood on Tuesday, recovered to pound out 16 hits.

Glavine (14-4) allowed four hits and two runs in seven innings. He surrendered a single to Scott Rolen and a homer to Rico Brogna in the fourth, but otherwise handcuffed the Phillies.

The Braves took command early with their first three hitters scoring in the first. They broke the game open with a five-run second against Phillies starter Carlton Loewer (4-3), who gave up seven hits and eight runs in one-plus innings.

Orioles 5, Athletics 4

BALTIMORE -- Rafael Palmeiro homered with two outs in the bottom of the ninth inning Wednesday night to give the resurgent Baltimore Orioles their 12th win in 13 games, 5-4 over Oakland.

Palmeiro hit a 2-2 pitch from Mike Fettner (1-4) over the center-field wall, his 31st homer of the season and second in two games.

Chris Hoiles and Jeff Reboulet also homered for the Orioles, who moved within a game of .500 (50-51) for the first time since May 16. Baltimore has won nine straight at home.

By winning the first two games of the three-game series, the Orioles have won five straight series for the first time this season. Baltimore officials decided Tuesday to keep the team intact for a possible charge at a third straight playoff berth.

Armando Benitez (3-2), the fifth Oriole pitcher, worked a perfect ninth inning.

Matt Stairs and Ryan Christensen homered for the Athletics, who have lost four of five. Rickey Henderson stole his 39th base to become the second-oldest player to steal as many bases as his age; Davey Lopes stole 47 at age 40.

Indians 4, Red Sox 3

CLEVELAND -- Jim Thome's 27th homer capped a three-run rally in the seventh and gave Charles Nagy his first win since May 31, a 4-3 victory over the New York Mets Wednesday night as the New York Mets beat the Milwaukee Brewers 6-1 to sweep their doubleheader.

Nagy (4-8), who had given up a total of five hits in his previous two games, allowed five hits and one run in seven innings against the Brewers. He also struck out nine and had two singles.

Mets 6, Brewers 1, 2nd game

Mets 7, Brewers 5, 1st game

MILWAUKEE -- Edgardo Alfonzo, the hero of the first game, and Todd Pratt each drove in two runs and Hideo Nomo won his second straight decision Wednesday night as the New York Mets beat the Milwaukee Brewers 6-1 to sweep their doubleheader.

Nomo (4-8), who had given up a total of five hits in his previous two games, allowed five hits and one run in seven innings against the Brewers. He also struck out nine and had two singles.

See MLB/Page 6A

8-3 on May 31. The major-league leader in homers allowed did not yield one in his second straight strong outing. The right-hander allowed three runs and six hits in seven innings.

Paul Assenmacher and Mike Jackson combined on a perfect eighth, and Jackson got out of an one-out jam for his 24th save.

After David Justice singled off Rich Garces (1-1) and stole second with two outs, Thome hit a 413-foot Homer to center field on a full count to give Cleveland its 4-2 lead.

Angels 5, Twins 3

MINNEAPOLIS -- Garret Anderson's two-run double in the ninth inning lifted the Anaheim Angels to just their fifth win of July, a 5-3 victory over the Minnesota Twins on Wednesday night.

Anderson, who earlier in the game extended his career-best hitting streak to 19 games, lined reliever Greg Swindell's first pitch just inside the right-field line to snap a 3-3 tie.

Troy Percival pitched the ninth for his league-leading 28th save, pulling the Angels within a half-game of Texas in the AL West. Shigetoshi Hasegawa (5-1) got two outs in the eighth inning for Anaheim, which is 5-13 in July.

Minnesota's Paul Molitor took over sole possession of 10th place on the career hit list with a third-inning single. That gave him 3,256 hits, one better than Eddie Murray and 27 behind Willie Mays in ninth place.

Swindell (2-3) came on to start the ninth and gave up a one-out single to Justin Baughman. Darin Erstad hit a foul popup to the catcher for the second out, but Tim Salmon walked on four pitches before Anderson came through.

Cubs 9, Expos 5

CHICAGO -- Sammy Sosa hit a three-run homer, his 37th, with two outs in the eighth inning Wednesday night to lift the Chicago Cubs to their fourth straight win, 9-5 over the slumping Montreal Expos.

The Cubs snapped a 3-3 tie by scoring six runs in the eighth, highlighted by Sosa's first homer since July 17.

Vladimir Guerrero and Chris Widger homered for Montreal, which dropped its sixth straight.

In the eighth, Jeff Blauser reached on an infield single, his third hit, against Miguel Batista (2-5). Jose Hernandez reached on a bunt single when Batista slipped trying to retrieve the ball.

Scott Servais sacrificed and pinch-hitter Mark Grace, bothered by a sore groin, was intentionally walked to load the bases, then lifted for pinch-runner Jeremy Gonzalez. Lance Johnson then singled up the middle, scoring both Blauser and Hernandez.

Terry Adams (7-5) picked up the win in one inning of relief. Widger hit a two-run homer in the ninth off Rodney Myers, and the Expos put two on with one out before Rod Beck got his 28th save.

Mets 6, Brewers 1, 2nd game

Mets 7, Brewers 5, 1st game

MILWAUKEE -- Edgardo Alfonzo, the hero of the first game, and Todd Pratt each drove in two runs and Hideo Nomo won his second straight decision Wednesday night as the New York Mets beat the Milwaukee Brewers 6-1 to sweep their doubleheader.

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See MLB/Page 6A

Spicer Gripp roping slated for Aug. 1-2

From staff reports

The Spicer Gripp Memorial Roping competition is scheduled to bring world-class ropers to the Hereford area, according to a release from the Deaf Smith County Chamber of Commerce.

The competition will be Aug. 1-2 at the Circle A Arena eight miles west of Hereford on FM 1058, and will be segmented into three events.

The open calf roping will get underway at 10 a.m. Aug. 1; the invitational team roping, a new event, will begin at 10 a.m. Aug. 2. The Top 20 team ropers in the world are expected to compete, including as many as 10 world champions, according to the release.

The invitational team roping will start at 1 p.m. Aug. 2.

Several other events are scheduled

in concert with the roping competition. The Hereford Veterans of Foreign Wars post will host an introduction of the calf ropers July 31 at the VFW hall immediately following the Emilio concert. The VFW will also host an introduction of team ropers and steer ropers during a meal at 8 p.m. Aug. 1.

Also scheduled is a special match roping between Hereford residents Rodey Wilson and Monty Lewis. The match roping will be during the intermission of the steer roping competition.

Admission will be \$5 with children younger than age 12 admitted free of charge. Proceeds from this event will go to the rodeo scholarship program at West Texas A&M University in Canyon and to a fund to construct an outdoor special events center for Hereford.

Palmer, Royals crown Texas, 7-4

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) -- Dean Palmer stole a little thunder from his more famous former teammate.

But that wasn't what the Kansas City Royals third baseman was thinking about after his three-run homer helped the Royals wipe out an earlier three-run shot by Juan Gonzalez in the Royals' 7-4 victory Wednesday night.

"We just wanted to get a win," said Palmer. "I was kind of surprised that (Rangers' starter Aaron) Sele threw a ball that straight. It kind of stayed up there and I didn't even get that good of a swing. I hit it off the end of my bat."

But the three-run homer helped the Royals put a 15-5 rout by Texas on Tuesday night behind them.

"We needed this win," said Kansas City starter Pat Rapp, who gave up Gonzalez's homer. "I didn't want to walk anyone tonight, but maybe I should have taken a walk since July 17."

See TEXAS/Page 6A

RODEO

FRONTIER DAYS

SECOND GO-ROUND

1. Ty Murray, Stephenville, Texas, 77 points;

2. Shawn Tibbs, Dupree, S.D., 76; 3. (tie) Jim Brown, Stephenville, Texas, 74; 4. Ron Hogan, Bonneville, Tenn., 72; Casey Joens, Eagle Butte, S.D., 72; Justin Salicci, Skull Valley, Ariz., 72; 8. Brett Crowder, Tucson, Ariz., 70; Bill Harris, Circle, Mont., 70; Leighton Redmond, Bellfield, N.D., 70.

CUMULATIVE

AREA HAPPENINGS**Foursome wins scramble with 32**

From staff reports

The foursome of Steve Stevens, Ed Durrett, Don Goddard and Don Davison shot a nine-hole score of 31 to win the Wednesday Night Scramble at John Pitman Municipal Golf Course.

Three teams tied for second one

shot back at 32. The team were Kelly Kelso, Bill Brown, Gayle Cornelius and Jake Monroe; Jerry Ripley, Joe Saucedo, Doc Weaver and Tanner Murphy; and Roy Riley, Bill Acton, Jr., Doug Schilling, Colt Perrin and Keith Norvell.

Lions Club schedules tourney

The Hereford Lions Club Golf Tournament will be Aug. 22 at John Pitman Municipal Golf Course.

The two-man scramble will get under way at 9 a.m. Entry fee is \$45 per player with proceeds to benefit Hereford Children's Eye Glass Fund.

The entry fee will include green fees, cart, drinks and a cookout.

Prizes for closest to the pin, longest drive, longest putt and lowest team score will be awarded.

For more information, contact Dave Anderson at 363-2300 or Sam Metcalf at 364-6067.

Report: Bulls hire Floyd as new coach

CHICAGO (AP) -- The Chicago Bulls are calling Michael Jordan's bluff, hiring the coach he said he wouldn't play for: Tim Floyd.

The next move is up to Jordan.

Floyd will join the Bulls for a news conference Thursday. A source told The Associated Press he is coming as coach, and ESPN also reported that, according to an NBA source, Floyd would become coach.

WMAQ radio and the Chicago Tribune reported that Floyd will be named director of basketball operations, with the decision on whether he'll become coach to be determined later -- a ploy that would allow Jordan some space to possibly warm to the new arrival.

Floyd arrived in Chicago on Wednesday morning, a few hours after resigning at Iowa State.

"I really can't comment any further right now," Floyd said. The Bulls also refused to confirm Floyd's hiring.

Iowa State athletic director Gene Smith said Floyd was leaving "to pursue another opportunity with the Chicago Bulls." Asked if Floyd would be the coach, Smith said: "You're going to have to ask the Chicago Bulls about that."

Floyd met with three players Wednesday morning, speaking with the others by phone.

"He just said I'm resigning to take another job, it's the opportunity of a lifetime and I can't pass it up," said Tony Rampton, a redshirt junior center and one of the players whom Floyd met personally.

As the Bulls' coach-in-waiting the past two years, Floyd's hiring hardly

comes as a surprise. But Jordan's dislike of Floyd is no secret, either, saying just last week that he wouldn't play for him.

"I don't know Tim. I don't have anything against Tim Floyd," Jordan said July 16. "To (play for him) is like starting all over again and that's what I don't want to do. He may want to do that, but I don't."

"I don't condemn him. I don't condemn (the Bulls) for hiring him," Jordan added. "But I just don't feel that I want to start with someone who doesn't really know me and doesn't know the way I play the game of basketball."

Jordan won't make an official announcement about his future until the NBA lockout ends, and Floyd's hiring won't change that, said David Falk, Jordan's agent. The NBA lockout bars the Bulls -- and their new coach -- from having any direct contact with Jordan.

Jordan did not react publicly to news of Floyd's hiring.

"Michael needs to take his time to see how all of the pieces fall into place," Falk said. "We only have one piece of the picture. It may be that piece is of sufficient weight to outweigh everything else. Only time will tell."

A fishing buddy of general manager Jerry Krause, Floyd was the top candidate to replace Phil Jackson long before Jackson left. That alone was enough to earn the scorn of Jordan, who derisively calls him "Pink," as in the rock group Pink Floyd.

As the Bulls' coach-in-waiting the past two years, Floyd's hiring hardly

MLB

Rookie Bronswell Patrick (4-1) lost his first game of the season, giving up 11 hits and three runs.

In the first game, Alfonzo's two-run double capped a three-run ninth inning as the Mets rallied to win 7-5. Dennis Cook (5-3) got the victory in relief and John Franco pitched the ninth for his 19th save.

In the nightcap, the Mets took a 3-0 lead in the fourth on an RBI single by Nomo and a two-run single by Alfonzo.

Milwaukee made it 3-1 in the seventh on an RBI single by Darrin Jackson.

The Mets added three runs in the eighth to increase their lead to 6-1. Butch Huskey, who pinch-hit for Nomo with the bases loaded and one out, drove in the first run with a sacrifice fly. Todd Pratt, pinch-hitting for Lenny Harris, then doubled home two runs.

Dodgers 6, Astros 4

LOS ANGELES -- Charles Johnson quickly won back Dodgers fans with a home run after committing a baserunning blunder, and Los Angeles went on to beat the Houston Astros 6-4 Wednesday night.

Gary Sheffield and Eric Karros homered on consecutive pitches by Jose Lima in the fifth inning and Brian Bohanon (3-6) earned his first victory in three starts with the Dodgers since coming over in a trade with the New York Mets.

Bohanon allowed a run and two hits in six innings, including an RBI double to Derek Bell in the first.

Johnson and Karros both

illustrated why every batted ball has to be run out.

The slow-footed Karros hustled to first base and was barely safe after shortstop Ricky Gutierrez charged his grounder and dropped the ball as he took it out of his glove.

But Johnson stood at home plate on a popup he hit down the left-field line in the second, and didn't run until third baseman Bill Spiers collided with Gutierrez and the ball fell to the turf. An embarrassed Johnson had to settle for a single instead of a double as the home crowd of 31,365 booed.

Those same fans were on their feet in the fourth when Johnson drove a 1-1 pitch from Lima (8-6) into the left-field bullpen for his 14th home run and a 3-1 lead.

Cardinals 3, Giants 2

SAN FRANCISCO -- Bobby Witt threw five solid innings for his first NL victory since 1995 and Gary Gaetti hit a two-run homer as the St. Louis Cardinals defeated the slumping San Francisco Giants 3-2 Wednesday night.

Witt, starting in place of the injured Juan Acevedo, allowed two runs on four hits, walked three and struck out four. He was making his first start for the Cardinals since being acquired in a June 22 trade with Texas.

Witt (1-1), who spent the 1996-97 with the Rangers, got his previous NL victory while pitching for the Florida Marlins.

-- THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Texas

there. He crushed it."

Following the homer, Rapp retired the next 13 batters before being ejected by first base umpire Eric Cooper for arguing.

Rapp took a throw from first baseman Jeff King and thought he beat Tom Goodwin to the bag.

"I just disagreed with the call," Rapp (9-9) said. "I didn't know he had such a short fuse. I was walking away and he came after me. I was talking, but I didn't say anything about his mother or anything like that. I hated to put the bullpen in that situation, but the guys really came through."

Ricky Bones pitched one scoreless inning, Scott Service allowed one run in two innings and Jeff Montgomery pitched a scoreless ninth to pick up his 23rd overall save and 12th in a row.

Gonzalez's 30th homer landed in the water fountain in left field and increased his major-league leading RBI total to 113. He has four homers and 10 RBIs in his last three games after going nine games without an RBI.

"Juan is having an incredible season," Texas manager Johnny Oates said. "Nothing he does surprises me."

Western

II 0 II *

DOWN



'97 LUMINA

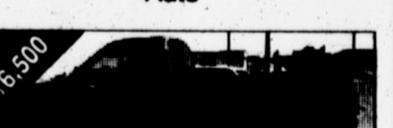
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ADMITTING MISTAKES

Networks balk at saying they're sorry

By DAVID BAUDER
AP Television Writer

NEW YORK - In retracting its story about U.S. military use of nerve gas during the Vietnam War, CNN said something you don't often hear from television news divisions: We're sorry. We were wrong.

Television's willingness to admit mistakes is being watched more closely this summer in the midst of a bad stretch for the news media. Conservative and liberal watchdog groups on the media agree on little but this: Owning up to errors has always been hard for networks.

"They do 22 minutes of nightly newscasts and hours and hours of prime-time news. How often do you see them make corrections? It's virtually nil," said Jeff Cohen, director of the liberal Fairness & Accuracy in Reporting, based in New York.

Television news shows make corrections "as seldom as they can manage," agreed Reed Irvine, founder of the conservative Washington organization Accuracy in Media. "It's very tough for them to acknowledge or admit to errors."

Major retractions happen about as often on network television as El Nino. News executives say that's a reflection of pre-broadcast standards far more rigorous than those applied by CNN on the nerve gas story.

NBC's last major retraction came in 1993, when the network admitted it had faked an explosion in a "Dateline NBC" report on truck safety. ABC in 1995 apologized three times for alleging that tobacco companies manipulated the level of nicotine in cigarettes; that was part of a lawsuit settlement with the companies.

CBS's top executive for monitoring broadcast standards can't remember that network's last major retraction.

Few errors, however, are on such a large scale. Many errors are relatively minor, or don't become fully apparent until later. It's how these errors are handled that says much about the industry.

Unlike many newspapers and magazines, few television outlets set aside a specific spot to correct errors. Some executives say there's not enough time on air.

The first days of the Monica Lewinsky case, with the hyper-competitive news world operating in full steam, became a measuring stick of the importance of accuracy. As the new magazine *Brill's Content* reported in meticulous detail, there were many cases of reporters following blind alleys and blurting less-than-solid information.

Brill confronted *Newsweek*'s Howard Fineman, who on MSNBC talked about his magazine hearing

a tape of President Clinton's voice on Lewinsky's answering machine. There's still no evidence that such a tape exists.

"Television is definitely more loosey-goosey than print," Fineman told Brill later. "And I have loosened up myself, sometimes to my detriment ... and said things that were unfair or worse ... It's like you're doing your first draft with no layers of editors and no rewrites and it just goes out to millions of people."

Just last week, NBC's Tim Russert reported on the "Today" show that "people close to Ken Starr" believe that the Secret Service may have helped conceal relationships for the president. By noon, when appearing on MSNBC, Russert cited "congressional sources" for the story. He didn't acknowledge that any change had been made.

Top executives believe it's unfair to say television won't own up to errors. That doesn't take into account the efforts made to be accurate, they say.

NBC News has an ombudsman, appointed in the wake of the "Dateline NBC" truck incident. Although the network doesn't do much to make the public aware of David McCormick and what he does, the ombudsman said people with complaints usually have no trouble finding him.

Some newsmagazines, like "Dateline NBC" and "60 Minutes," use viewer mail and follow-up stories as a way of addressing errors.

Last month, ABC's "World News Tonight" revisited a story about a California teen-ager who died after taking a nutritional supplement. To set the record straight, the network noted that a coroner subsequently blamed the youth's death on a pre-existing heart condition.

ABC generally corrects a mistake on the air only in cases where the error alters the way a reasonable person would understand the story, said Dick Wald, senior vice president of editorial quality.

Often, the subject of a story doesn't want an error corrected because bringing the topic up again rehashes unfavorable publicity, he said.

"If you want to correct an error, it requires that you explain what it is you got wrong and correct it," Wald said. "For a very minor error, there is just too much complication involved."

ABC apologizes for some minor errors in a letter, he said.

"On the evening news you have 21, 22 minutes of a news hole," agreed Linda Mason, CBS vice president for public affairs. "Unless an error is really major, it probably doesn't warrant a correction."

PBS scores in Emmy picks

NEW YORK (AP) - Programs such as "Frontline" and "Nova" and historical programming that included a look at the Bay of Pigs invasion helped PBS top this year's Emmy nominations for news and documentary awards.

The publicly funded network received 27 nominations, followed by CBS with 24, NBC with 21 and ABC with 20.

Coverage of the Princess Diana tragedy generated the most selections for CBS, NBC and ABC in the breaking news categories. Flooding in Grand Forks, N.D., was the second-most nominated story of the year.

"The large number of entries ... reflect broadcasters' continuing emphasis on news and documentary programming," said John Cannon, president of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

PBS swept through the categories of historical programming and individual achievement for the work of writers, engineers, music editors and lighting and graphic designers.

"CBS Evening News" and "60 Minutes" gave CBS the most nominations in the news categories.

Other cable networks with nominations included Discovery with 11, TBS with seven, TLC with six and Cinemax and CNN with four each.

Awards will be presented Sept. 8 in New York.

Television

THURSDAY

JULY 23

6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM
NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	Eyewitness	Wild World	Mystery!		Airport			Charlie Rose	Newshour	
Rescue 911	Wildest Daredevils 2	Movie: My Name Is Bill W. (1989) James Woods. ***						700 Club	Bonanza	
News	Ent. Tonight	Friends	Suddenly	Seinfeld	Just Shoot	ER		News (13) Tonight Show		
Movie: A Goofy Movie ** 'G'	(20) 'N Sync in Concert			Movie: No Dessert Dad				Walt Disney Presents	Zorro	
Griffith	(05) Goodwill Games							(05) Goodwill Games		
News	Fashion/Beauty	World Fashion Premieres From Paris						News	Seinfeld	Nightline
Fam. Mat.	Coach	Movie: Sleeping With the Enemy (1991) ***						Beverly Hills, 90210	Heat	
News	Home Imp.	Promised Land	Diagnosis Murder		48 Hours			News (13) Late Show		
Mad-You	Simpsons	Wildest Police Videos	Fox Files		Earth: Final Conflict			Frasier	Cops	Real TV
Sportscenter	Golf U.S. Senior Open -- First Round				Billiards			Sportscenter	Baseball	
(5:30) Movie: Dreamride	Movie: Donnie Brasco (1997) Al Pacino, Johnny Depp.	(15) Movie: Dead Men Can't Dance Michael Biehn. 'R'						Stargate	Dukes	
Movie:	Movie: Naked Gun 2 1/2: Fear	Movie: The Beautician and the Beast Fran Drescher.						Hookers: Going Out Again	Ariels	
Movie: Places in the Heart	Movie: The Year of Living Dangerously Mel Gibson.	Movie: Sleepers (1996) Kevin Bacon, Robert De Niro. *** 'R'								
(5:00) Movie: Tom Thumb	Movie: The Long, Long Trailer (1954) Lucille Ball. ***	Movie: Forever Darling (1956) Lucille Ball. **								
Waltons	Championship Rodeo	Prime Time Country						Dallas	Dukes	
Gimme Shelter	Wild Discovery	Unknown	Movie Magic	Wings				Justice Files	Wild Disc.	
Law & Order	Biography	Unexplained						Law & Order	Biography	
Intimate Portrait	Unsolved Mysteries	Movie: Shattered Trust: The Sharl Karmen Story (1993)						Attitudes	Golden Girls	Golden Girls
Last Word	FOX Sports	This Week in NASCAR	Goin' Deep					Major League Baseball Houston Astros at Los Angeles Dodgers		
Babylon 5	Movie: A Death in California (1985) Cheryl Ladd. ** 1/2	Movie: A Death in California (1985) Cheryl Ladd. ** 1/2								
Doug	Rugrats	Hey Arnold! Happy Days	Happy Days	Happy Days	Happy Days	Happy Days	Happy Days	Happy Days	M.T. Moore	
Highlander: The Series	Walker, Texas Ranger	Movie: Casino (1995) Robert De Niro. *** 1/2						Silk Stalkings	Highlander	
20th Century	Vivo por Elena	Pueblo Chico, Inferno	Bienvenidos					P. Impacto	Noticiero	Festival
Human Nature	Reel Dracula	Dalton Gang	Saving Private Ryan					World at War	Dracula	
	AnimalDr	Emergency	Rescues	Emergency	Among Mountain Gorillas			AnimalDr	Emergency	Rescues

FRIDAY

JULY 24

7 AM	7:30	8 AM	8:30	9 AM	9:30	10 AM	10:30	11 AM	11:30	12 PM
Barney	Arthur	Sesame Street	Puzzle Place	Reading	Teletubbies	Mr Rogers	Arthur	Barney	Chesapeake	
Rescue 911	Christy					Burnett	Diagnosis Murder	Home		
Today			Leeza			Geraldo Rivera	Sunset Beach	Days-Lives		
Goof Troop	Mickey	Mermaid	Pooh	Bear	Katie-Orbie	Chip 'n' Dale	Madeline	Mermaid	Pooh	Jungle-Cubs
Gilligan's 3's Co.		Little House		Little House		Mama	Mama	Matlock		Movie:
Good Morning America			Live - Regis & Kathie Lee	The View			People's Court	News		
Channel 11	Captain	BugsDaffy	Animaniacs	PinkyBrain	Batman	Griffith	Griffith	News	Baseball	
This Morning				Ricki Lake		Price is Right	Young and the Restless	News		
Bobby	Life-Louie	101Dalmts	X-Men	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Life-in-Word	Kenneth C. Robison	Judge Judy	
Sportscenter								Sportscenter	Equestrian	
Movie:	Movie: 3 Ninjas Victor Wong. ** PG'									
Movie:	Movie: Batman & Robin Arnold Schwarzenegger. 1/2									
Movie:	Movie: Eye of the Wolf Jeff Fahey. **									
Movie:	Movie: Hollywood Canteen (1944) Betty Davis, Jack Carson. ***									
Movie:	Movie: Till There Was You Jeanne Moreau. PG-13'									
Movie:	Movie: The Very Thought of You (1944) (45) Movie: To the Victor									
(ON Air)	Club Dance									
Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Interior Mot.	Start	Home Matters		Housesmart!	Interior Motives			
McMillan and Wife						Equalizer	Quincy	Northern Exposure	Law & Order	
Barbara W.	Barbara W.	Sisters		L.A. Law		Thirtysomething	Night Court	Attitudes	Mysteries	
FOX Sports News	Fit TV Body Waves			Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	High Points	
CHIPS	CHIPS									
CharlieB	Rugrats	Little Bear	Blue's Clues	Busy World	Muppets	Wubbulous	Gullah	Little Bear	Blue's Clues	Rupert
Facts of Life	Facts of Life	Gimme B.	Strangers	Wings	Major Dad	Major Dad	Major Dad	Movie: Circumstances Unknown (1995)		
(6:00) Despierta America										
Classroom	Real West									
Animal	Acorn	Pet Con.	Absolutely	Pet Line	Wild About	Amazing	AnimalDr	Pet Con.	Absolutely	Pet Line

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221 Star, Thursday & Friday 8 to 2 and Saturday 8 to 12. China Cabinet, tables, sofa, stereo, girls clothes, kitchen items, home decor and much more. 36867

Three Family Garage Sale: 609 Blevins, Friday & Saturday. Baby clothes & furniture, youth clothes, women's clothes, curtains, cake pans, spray gun for cakes, vacuum (Kirby), bedspreads & dishes, storm windows. 36869

Liquidation Sale: 1 blk South of Hospital, Friday & Saturday. 36870

Garage Sale: (1 day only) Saturday (25th), 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Furniture, grill, typewriter, sleeper/sofa, microwave & clothing. 200 North Kingwood. 36871

Garage Sale: Exercise Bike, Computer Desk, large Antique Trunk, clothing, golf clubs, bowling ball, lamps, much more. 710 Baltimore (1 Block South of Country Club) 8 to 5. 36874

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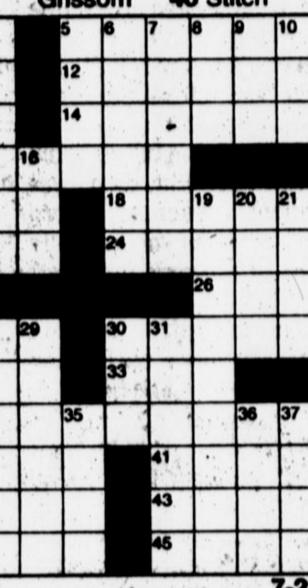
by THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS	DOWN
1 Fisher-man's hope	1 Rum cake
5 "Death on the Nile" sleuth	2 Tennis star Land
11 Bard's river	3 Slow critters
12 Verdi opera	4 Whole
13 Homer's boy	5 Toll
14 Saws	6 Chooses from the menu
15 Caribbean isles	7 Soon
17 Metal source	8 Joplin piece
18 Printer's proof,	9 Small bill
22 Welded	10 Third word of "America"
24 Cone fill	11 Conducted
25 Owns	12 Marine mammals
26 Dull routine	13 Astronaut Grissom
27 Like neon	14 Rake
30 Stares open-mouthed	15 Numero -
32 Focused beam	16 Gls' maritime needs
33 Numero -	17 "Forget it," slantly
34 Gls' maritime needs	18 Sailing
38 "Forget it," slantly	19 Harvest
41 Sailing	20 Latest
42 Birthing-ham-born singer	43 Questions
43 Harvest	
44 Latest	
45 Questions	

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	ROME LIRA
	IRONS BULLY
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Yesterday's Answer

21 Chooses	31 Turkish capital
22 Musician Collins	35 Tiff
23 Turner of film	36 Classy wood
28 Couch-potato's need	37 Drains of power
29 Picks up the bill	38 "Oui" opposite
30 Astronaut Grissom	39 Keats creation
40 Stitch	



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For Sale by Owner: 216 Northwest Drive, 4 BR, 2 Bath, 2400 Sq. Ft. completely remodeled. Crown molding throughout, new paint, new carpet. Call Robbie at 364-3955. 36847

For Sale By Owner: 238 Douglas, approximately 2,223 Sq. Ft. (garage included), 3 BR, 2 Baths. Call 364-6558 or 364-8826. 36854

For Sale: Trailer House. See At Coronado Acres, Lot #53-C. \$1200.00. 36855

FOR SALE, 401 S. 25 Mile Ave., 3 BR, 1 bath, 3-car garage, basement, new central unit, large corner lot, assumable, qualifying loan. Could be converted to a business. Call 363-6411. 36851

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Wanted: Airdyne Exerciser. Call 364-4231 (shop) or 364-2949 (home). 36872

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NEWS in brief

GM-UAW battle quiet; arbitration under way

DETROIT (AP) - After weeks of increasing threats, both sides in the labor battle between General Motors Corp. and the United Auto Workers have turned down the rhetoric as an arbitrator considers the legality of the strikes.

Independent arbitrator Thomas T. Roberts was to begin taking GM's testimony today. He heard opening arguments Wednesday.

Roberts, GM and UAW officials declined to comment after the closed-door hearing.

GM is pushing for a quick ruling on its claim that the strikes at two parts of Flint are in violation of the UAW-GM national contract. The contract allows strikes for only a few local issues, such as health and safety violations and production standards.

If Roberts agrees with GM, he could order the strikers back to work while negotiations continue. Union officials, however, likely would appeal such an order, and have said they could quickly call strikes elsewhere.

Conspiracy law blamed for dismissal of charges

BRANDON, Miss. (AP) - Charges were dropped against three teens accused of plotting a deadly shooting rampage last fall at Pearl High School because prosecutors said conspiracy cases are tough to win in Mississippi.

Conspiracy charges were also dropped Wednesday against two other teen-agers who still face counts of being accessories to murder.

The charges stemmed from the Oct. 1 killings of two students at the school in a Jackson suburb.

"Handling conspiracy cases is like walking through a mine field," said District Attorney John Kitchens, who requested the dismissals. "We probably have a hundred cases in our files that will present to us a grave problem concerning these conspiracy cases."

Maryland prosecutor: no political influence in Tripp case

TOWSON, Md. (AP) - The Maryland prosecutor investigating Linda Tripp for possible violation of state wiretap law denied suggestions the investigation was politically motivated and offered as evidence details of every communication he's had about the case.

Lawyers for Mrs. Tripp, the Pentagon employee who recorded conversations with 25-year-old former White House intern Monica Lewinsky, remained unconvinced Wednesday by the prosecutor's details of his contacts in the investigation.

The tape-recorded conversations about Lewinsky's relationship with President Clinton triggered the perjury and obstruction-of-justice investigation against them.

Republicans contend any prosecution by state Prosecutor Stephen Montanarelli, a Democrat, would be politically motivated.

Congress won't delay plan to assign medical IDs

WASHINGTON (AP) - House Republicans considered delaying a program to give every American a computer identification number to track health care from birth to death, but decided not to change the new law just yet.

Congress directed the Clinton administration to implement the plan in a 1996 health insurance reform law, but the administration has moved slowly out of concern that sensitive information about health and medical treatments could land in the wrong hands.

The ID numbers are meant to aid insurance companies that need to track medical histories as patients move from one plan to another, and to help health researchers by providing unprecedented data about the effect of treatments over a lifetime.

Child porn found on computer of man who admitted killing

FARGO, N.D. (AP) - A man who confessed on the Internet to killing his daughter in a house fire told a fellow member of an online support group that he also molested the girl, documents obtained by The Associated Press show.

The documents, including an affidavit from an FBI agent, say Larry Froistad Jr. claimed at least twice online that he sexually abused his 5-year-old daughter, Amanda. Investigators also seized hundreds of images of explicit child pornography from his home, the documents show.

The evidence means federal authorities could charge Froistad with sexual exploitation of a minor ending in the victim's death, a charge that could lead to the death penalty.

Judge: King's 'I have a dream' speech belongs to public

ATLANTA (AP) - The famous "I have a dream" speech by Martin Luther King Jr. belongs to the public, and CBS News did not infringe copyright by reproducing it for a documentary series, a federal judge ruled.

"As one of the most public and most widely disseminated speeches in history, it could be the poster child for general publications," U.S. District Judge William O'Kelley said Wednesday in ruling against the King estate, which had sued CBS News.

King made the speech on Aug. 28, 1963, before 200,000 people at a civil rights rally at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington. He successfully applied for a copyright of his speech the next month.

But O'Kelley concluded that the civil rights leader forfeited any copyright interest in the speech when he distributed advance copies without any copyright notice, placed no restrictions on what use could be made of the speech and generally encouraged wide distribution of it.

Report: Iran tested weapon that could reach Israel

NEW YORK (AP) - Iran this week successfully tested a missile with a range of about 800 miles, meaning it could hit Israel or Saudi Arabia and U.S. forces in the region, according to published reports today.

U.S. intelligence agencies detected the test late Tuesday or early Wednesday, tracking the launch and path of the medium-range missile called Shahab-3, *The New York Times* and *The Washington Times* reported today.

The officials, while sure of the test, could not provide immediate information on the location of the launch or landing, both inside Iran.

"This weapon would allow Iran to strike all of Israel, all of Saudi Arabia, most of Turkey and a tip of Russia," a senior Clinton administration official told *The New York Times*.

More Viagra deaths told

WASHINGTON (AP) - The Food and Drug Administration has confirmed 39 deaths among American men using the popular impotence pill Viagra, but says it remains convinced Viagra is safe when used by the proper patients.

The FDA updated Viagra information on its Internet site late Tuesday. The agency revealed that it also has received an additional 38 reports of possible deaths among Viagra users, but it has not been able to verify those reports' accuracy. Twenty-four were hearsay or media reports, eight failed to show whether the men actually took Viagra, and six involved foreign patients, the FDA said.

Even the 39 verified reports, however, don't prove the drug was to blame, the FDA cautioned.

Viagra carries safety warnings. Doctors must not prescribe it to men who take nitroglycerin or other nitrate-containing drugs because the mix can kill.

Lawyer wins worst-writing competition

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) - Striving to be the worst of the worst, Bob Perry mixed a little crime melodrama with a few overdone food clichés.

Voila! Perry took top dishonors Tuesday in the 17th annual Bulwer-Lytton Fiction Contest, which challenges entrants to compose bad opening sentences to imaginary novels.

But let the corporate lawyer write for himself:

"The corpse exuded the irresistible aroma of a piquant, ancho chili glaze enticingly enhanced with a hint of fresh cilantro as it lay before him, coyly garnished by a garland of variegated radicchio and caramelized onions, and impishly drizzled with glistening rivulets of vintage balsamic vinegar and roasted garlic oil; yes, as he surveyed the body of the slain food critic slumped on the floor of the cozy, but nearly empty bistro, a quick inventory of his senses told corpulent Inspector Moreau that this was, in all likelihood, an inside job."

What could be better ... er, worse?

Perry, 46, was the runner-up in the contest's detective writing category in last year's contest organized by San Jose State University's English department. Since then, he's honed his horrid craft.

"I'm not sure - maybe I'm getting progressively worse over time," Perry said. He got his idea for the grand-prize winner, which he entered again in the detective category, by perusing local papers in his hometown of Milton, Mass.

"I read through a few restaurant reviews, and being a restaurant critic must be an entry-level position at the local newspapers," Perry grouched. "I just think it's a little bit funny to see a food critic write a 20-word sentence about boiled rice or iceberg lettuce."

"They always seem to be diving for their thesauruses."

For his winning entry, Perry will receive much local adulation and "a pittance," contest organizers said

By The Associated Press
Some of the winning entries announced Tuesday in the 17th annual Bulwer-Lytton Fiction Contest honoring dishonorable writing:

ROMANCE: "My heart skipped a beat as the bearded walrus gently nudged me in the small of my back with one smooth, curved tusk, expelling a warm breath of air into my upturned face, its smell of peanuts reminding me of that precious night on Coney Island: the night when I became a woman ... a woman and a convict."

- Alison M. Kelly, Vero Beach, Fla.

WESTERN: "It was a majestic weapon, a masterpiece of form and function, hand-crafted by master gunsmiths, accurate to a 100 yards, its bright silver body and long barrel glistening in the sunlight, the hand-carved ivory inlay warm against the palm, and mom got a good dollar for it after my brother was shot in the back."

- Terry Mayer, Oshawa, Ontario.

SCIENCE FICTION: "While the technician finished his work, Elmodine Jaatrix reflected upon how badly the evening was going: the ionizer on her Acme 2100 E-Z Klean dishwasher had burned out, the window-bot had developed an attitude and the Instafashion clothing dispenser would only produce athletic supporters and Calvin Klein IX synthawool peasants blouses, and as she stared at the gibbous moon slowly rising in front of her, she pondered morosely, 'If they can build cities in the rings of Saturn, why can't they make pants for repairmen that don't droop?'"

- Hwei Oh, Australia.

Spending measures split on environment

WASHINGTON (AP) - Two major spending bills before the House are setting the stage for another confrontation between Congress and the administration over protecting the environment - and the idea is to see who blinks first.

The House was expected today to approve a \$13.4 billion bill to fund the Interior Department and then take up another bill that provides money for the Environmental Protection Agency and other environmental programs. Both bills contain what Vice President Al Gore calls "anti-environmental riders" that could make them subject to a presidential veto.

The Interior legislation rejects a request from the administration for sharp increases in spending for energy efficiency programs and renewable energy technology research.

Energy efficiency programs would get \$632 million, about \$200 million less than what Clinton had wanted. The shortfall would have been more had not lawmakers agreed Wednesday to add \$45 million for energy efficiency.

While the bill would boost overall spending for operating national parks, it ignores another one of the administration's environmental priorities: an aggressive campaign to purchase selected parcels of land for Acadia National Park in Maine to the historic Bacha Ranch in the Southwest and additions to Florida's Everglades National Park.

Rep. Ralph Regula, R-Ohio, the Interior spending bill's floor leader, said the money is better spent for maintenance and other park programs. As a result, the administration's \$270 million requests for public land purchases was cut in half and \$362 million approved last year has not been released.

The bill would scrap a six-state Columbia River ecosystem management program in the Northwest. Critics call it a failure that infringes on property rights and local rule. Supporters say the program is essential to protect natural resources and species, including the salmon. Administration officials say a veto is likely if language killing the program remains in the bill.

Other provisions prompting controversy:

- Disagreement over spending for

endangered species protection. The administration wanted an additional \$36 million, but got little of it. Without the money it won't be able to pursue 16 of 45 "habitat conservation" agreements, Interior officials say.

A shortfall in what the administration wanted for Interior and Forest Service clean water programs. It wanted a \$128 million increase, but got little of that money.

- Increases in timber sales over what the administration sought.

- A mandate for a road easement across the Chugach National Forest in Alaska that would prevent the federal government from imposing safeguards for environmental protection.

Regula defended the spending levels. He said, for example, if the administration were to get all the energy efficiency money it wanted, spending for other programs would have to be cut. "It's a matter of balance," he said. Instead of money for new land purchases, Regula thinks the money ought to go for increased park maintenance.

Meanwhile, a separate EPA spending bill has prompted even greater outcry from the administration because it would impose restrictions on spending for programs addressing climate change - mainly for efficiency programs and research to spur into renewable energy technology.

The bill would increase EPA spending \$60 million to \$7.4 billion. But it falls \$368 million short of what the administration had sought, largely because of less money for Superfund toxic waste cleanup.

Most controversial, the bill would bar money from being spent on activities related to the global warming agreement reached in Kyoto last December until the treaty comes before Congress. And it would prevent the EPA from promoting the climate debate.

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