

# The Hereford Brand



98th Year, Vol. Number 112 Deaf Smith County, Texas Wednesday, December 9, 1998 10 Pages 50 cents

## Big impact

If pheasant hunter numbers in Deaf Smith County today were equal to their estimated high of 10,000 in the hunting heyday of the 1970's, the economic impact here would be \$10,830,000.

## Colorful gamebirds mean big bucks

By Jim Steiert

Special to The Brand

They're hard not to notice as they descend on the area the second weekend of December. They create no-vacancies at local motels, crowd the restaurants and cafes at mealtime, buy gas and snacks at convenience stores and gas stations, and stand in line at the check-out stands at local stores carrying sporting goods and other necessities of an adventure affield.

Just what impact do pheasant hunters, once numbering nearly 10,000-strong on opening weekend, have on the

local economy?

They won't be as numerous next weekend as they once were in the glory years of pheasant hunting locally, but based on data from the U.S.

Fish & Wildlife Service and some help with projections from the Department of Range & Wildlife Management at Texas Tech University, the average pheasant hunter that

comes here from elsewhere in the state, or out-of-state will spend about \$1,083.

That spending includes licenses, transportation, lodging, meals, gasoline, ammuni-

tion, incidentals, hunting lease or guide fees, and possibly even airline tickets to make the trip to the High Plains. Once they're here, many of these hunters will stay for at

least a couple of days.

Based on "best guess" projections used to formulate a report on the value of wildlife

See IMPACT, Page A2



A blocker watches closely as pheasant hunters move through a field

COURTESY PHOTO/Wyman Meinzer

## Consultants focus on problems

"We're not here to sell anyone a new hospital. We're just here to do a study and an evaluation and to present our findings to interested parties."

Robert Morris, architect, Parkhill, Smith & Cooper Inc.

## Building said to be outdated

By Dianna F. Dandridge

Hereford Brand Staff Writer

Representatives of a Lubbock consulting firm sat down Tuesday with civic leaders, doctors and members of the community to discuss the condition of Deaf Smith Regional Medical Center and obtain information about possible solutions to the hospital's problems.

"We're not here to sell anyone a new hospital," said Robert Morris, an architect with Parkhill, Smith & Cooper Inc. "We're just here to do a study and an evaluation and to present our findings to interested parties."

Morris said he and some associates, including medical specialists and a hazardous waste team, have walked every inch of the hospital, looked at original blueprints and found both positive and negative factors regarding the facility.

"The building is old and deficient in many areas," Morris said. "Many of the systems are failing and can no longer even be repaired because they are no longer manufactured."

When the hospital was built, it was up to code at that time, but the newest renovation was nearly 25 years ago and many codes and technologies have changed, Morris said.

The inspectors found the building contains asbestos, which was once used as fire



BRAND/Dianna F. Dandridge

Consultants Robert Morris (left) and Mike Smith (second from left) discuss the condition of Hereford Regional Medical Center with Vaavia Edwards and Hereford Police Chief David Wagner. Edwards and Wagner were members of the Community Health Improvement Partnership, which conducted a year-long evaluation of the Deaf Smith County health care system. The CHIP report was presented to the hospital board of directors, which has been reviewing its conclusions and recommendations.

protection, and one corner of the building is sinking.

"The asbestos doesn't have to be removed unless walls need to be moved or torn down during renovations," Morris said.

The asbestos removal would be necessary if parts of the hospital were remodeled into speciality rooms, which are badly needed.

The most positive thing about the current hospital is the staff, described as dedicated and committed and fighting the environmental odds of the old facility.

A high percentage of the staff have been employed at the hospital for more than 10 years, which says a lot about people wanting to maintain a local health care facility, Morris said.

Morris presented three case scenarios for dealing with the hospital:

- Carry on as always;

- Bring the current facility up to state standards, although not state of the art;

- Build a new hospital. "To stand still is to lose ground," he said. "The hospital district captures only about 35 percent of patients. Some of that loss is due to the perception residents have."

Current records show that most patients admitted to HRMC are either on Medicare, Medicaid or considered indigent. This means most of the insured patients are seeking medical assistance elsewhere.

"Currently, regulators have returned adequate reviews and most patient surveys are satisfactory," Morris said. "But the fact remains, there is still hazardous materials; it's not anywhere near handicap-accessible and the most modern unit is 23 years out of date."

Morris compared the likelihood of bringing the hospital

up to state standards with keeping an old car running.

"With enough money and will, you can keep it going, but is it worth the cost?"

The final case is the idea of a whole new facility, which also brings up the idea of how to pay for it.

Most residents oppose raising taxes, which would be required to build a new hospital, Hereford Police Chief David Wagner said.

Dr. Nadir T. Khuri said more money going into the old building is a waste of tax dollars. He said he would rather see tax money go for a newer, more modern facility than to try to renovate the existing one.

Khuri also said the current building could be sold or rented to other agencies.

Morris said finding the funding and educating the public would be the administrator's job.

"I've seen a lot worse hospitals stay open and I've seen lots better close their doors for simple lack of clients. That's the bottom line," Morris said. "What do we have to do to get paying clients to stay here for their medical care?"

"Why not recognize our limited field of action and at the very least end this sad chapter in our history with a strong statement of rebuke rather than nothing at all?"

Rep. Amo Houghton, R-N.Y.

## Impeachment Clinton appealing to GOP moderates

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House hoped to win over GOP moderates with a new, energetic impeachment defense, while unmoved Judiciary Committee Republicans drafted formal charges against President Clinton.

One of the Republicans the president's strategists are trying to reach, Rep. Amo Houghton of New York, said today he opposes impeachment.

Writing in today's editions of *The New York Times*, Houghton said he intended to vote against impeachment, expressed certainty that Clinton would not be convicted in a Senate trial and asked: "Why not recognize our limited field of action and at the very least end this sad chapter in our history with a strong statement of rebuke rather than nothing at all?"

Chief White House counsel Charles Ruff was to focus today, in scheduled testimony, on evidence that Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr left out of his report alleging impeachable conduct.

Committee Republicans left no doubt that neither Ruff's new, exhaustive, 184-page rebuttal — nor expert witnesses who testified for Clinton on Tuesday — were persuading them.

"I've been very disappointed today that we've had very little discussion of the actual facts of the case," said Rep. Charles Canady, R-Fla.

Committee Chairman Henry Hyde, R-Ill., said a preliminary review of the rebuttal "appears to contain no new evidence or challenge the truthfulness of any testimony the committee now possesses."

Hyde mocked a footnote in the brief that denied Clinton committed perjury when he testified, in the Paula Jones sexual harassment case, that he couldn't recall whether he was ever alone with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky.

"On page 77, we read: 'The term "alone" is vague unless a particular geographic space is identified,'" Hyde said.

In Judiciary Committee offices behind the hearing room, the Republican staff — with help from some members of Congress — continued to rework draft language on three or four proposed articles of impeachment.

Committee officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said a possible perjury article alleges that Clinton testified falsely under oath, but doesn't spell out each alleged lie.

There was a possibility the article could be separated into two articles, one dealing with Clinton's deposition in the Jones case and the other with his grand jury testimony, the sources said. One source said the committee wanted to emphasize the grand jury perjury allegation as the most serious charge.

Other proposed articles focus on obstruction of justice and abuse of power.

The White House challenged a number of Starr's allegations, including:

"To stand still is to lose ground," he said. "The hospital district captures only about 35 percent of patients. Some of that loss is due to the perception residents have."

Morris

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## THE HEREFORD BRAND

## Local roundup

## Christmas Band Concert

Sounds of the holiday season will be featured 7 p.m. Tuesday at the High School auditorium during a Christmas concert presented by the Hereford High School and Junior High bands.

Instrumental Christmas music will be performed by the HHS Honors, Symphonic and Concert Bands, as well as the seventh and eighth grade bands.

The public is invited and asked to bring canned food items for local charities.

## Hereford Jr. High Title I meeting

The Hereford Jr. High School will have their fall Title I meeting and school report card meeting 7 p.m. Monday at the HJHS library.

Overview of the title one programs will be discussed and the HJHS computer club students will help present the school report card.

## Cloudy

Tonight, cloudy with a 30 percent chance of light snow, low in the lower 20s, north to northeast wind 15-20 mph with higher gusts.

Thursday, cloudy and cold with a 40 percent chance of light snow, high near 35, north to northeast wind 15-20 mph, diminishing late. Thursday night, a 20 percent chance of light snow early, otherwise gradually decreasing cloudiness, low 15 to 20.

## Extended forecast

Friday, partly cloudy and warmer, high around 50. Saturday, mostly clear and warmer, low in the mid-20s, high in the upper 50s. Sunday, mostly clear, low in the upper 20s, high in the lower 60s.

## Tuesday recap

High, 48; low, 23; no precipitation.

## THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## New in brief

## Barber execution set for this evening

HUNTSVILLE, Texas (AP) — Danny Barber says he's not the same depressed alcoholic who went on a nearly two-year killing spree 20 years ago in Dallas County and shouldn't be put to death today.

"I've turned my life around," Barber, 43, said in a recent interview, pleading with reporters that he didn't deserve the lethal injection set for this evening.

"I don't feel I'm a threat to anybody. I've learned my lesson," he said.

The Torrance, Calif., native, who confessed to four murders, would be the third Texas inmate in as many days to be put to death. A fourth execution was set for Thursday.

On Tuesday night, Jeff Emery, 39, was executed for the Oct. 12, 1979 fatal stabbing of LaShan Muhlinghaus, who was attacked at her College Station apartment when she stumbled on Emery who was inside committing a burglary.

## Jurors award \$12.5 million in lawsuit

AMARILLO, Texas (AP) — Jurors have awarded \$12.5 million to the family of an 88-year-old man who claimed negligence by nursing-home operators caused his 1994 death.

A seven-man, five-woman jury deliberated for more than two hours Tuesday before reaching the verdict, which followed a finding that Comprehensive Health Care Associates Inc. and Amarillo Health Properties Inc. caused the death of Winston E. Trostle Sr.

The two companies own or operate Olsen Manor Nursing Home, where Trostle died. His wife, Inez, and son Winston E. Trostle Jr. alleged that the elder Trostle was injected with a lethal dose of insulin.

Jurors awarded Inez Trostle \$1 million in past damages and \$500,000 in future damages. Her son received \$600,000 in past and \$400,000 in future damages.

## Substitute teacher accused of choking boy

CARROLLTON, Texas (AP) — A substitute teacher faces three felony child abuse charges for allegedly choking a 9-year-old boy and slinging two girls by the arm, police said.

Defense attorney Ted Steinke refused comment until he can learn more about the charges against Deena Murdoch.

Ms. Murdoch, 52, was expected to surrender today to authorities investigating the alleged Nov. 18 incident during a creative dramatics class at Indian Creek Elementary School in the Lewisville Independent School District.

The teacher apparently became angry during a game of charades and grabbed a fourth-grade boy by the neck for about six seconds, said Carrollton Police Sgt. Jim Adams.

The boy was treated that night at Trinity Medical Center in Carrollton, where doctors found he had sustained soft-tissue damage in his neck and several visible bruises, Adams said.

## Impact

From Page A1

resources for the 1998 Great Plains Symposium on the Ogallala Aquifer, if the total number of pheasant hunters in the High Plains numbered 38,256, pheasant hunting would pump \$41,431,248 into the regional economy.

If pheasant hunter numbers in Deaf Smith County today were equal to their estimated high of 10,000 in the hunting heyday of the 1970's, the economic impact here would be \$10,830,000.

Given the drought, and the expected downturn in both pheasants and pheasant hunters this year, a projection of 3,500 pheasant hunters might be reasonable for this season.

Their "guesstimated" economic impact in Deaf Smith County? A cool \$3,790,500—all in just 16 days.

Those figures sound too high? What if only 2,000 hunters participate in the pheasant season here this year? That's still an estimated impact of \$2,166,000.

Colorful gamebirds cause some serious bucks to come to town.

## The Hereford Brand

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Don Cooper  
Jay Guerrero

Publisher Emeritus  
Publisher  
Managing Editor  
Circulation Manager

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Poarch Brothers, Inc. of Hereford was recognized Tuesday by the Deaf Smith Chamber of Commerce for the contribution it has made to Hereford's industrial sector. The chamber's business retention committee chairman, Sue Hyer, presented company president Ken Walsler, front, with a plaque commemorating the event. Poarch Bros., founded in 1947, is a custom metal fabrication plant which serves a national industrial client base. The 94-employee company recorded \$8 million in sales during 1997.

## Report questions Medicaid spending

HOUSTON (AP) — More than a dime of every Medicaid dollar the state paid for acute-care health services for the poor during the fiscal year ending in August 1997 was questionable, according to a draft report of an investigation.

Texas Journal of The Wall Street Journal reports that a draft report from the state comptroller's office identified \$250 million in possible fraudulent or excessive payments for care given under the Medicaid program.

"As astonishing as this figure is, it probably underestimates the actual dimensions of the problem," Comptroller

John Sharp wrote in the report.

If possible fraudulent claims that were already under investigation when the review began had been included, another \$133 million in possible overpayments would have been added to the total, the report said.

The \$250 million included about \$1 million paid to dead people left on the state's Medicaid rolls, according to the report.

Officials with the Health and Human Services Commission, the Department of Human Services and the Texas Department of Health, which administer the Medicaid pro-

gram, said they have no immediate comment on the draft, which they received last week.

The \$250 million in over-spending for the fiscal year ended Aug. 31, 1997, accounted for more than 10% of all Medicaid spending on acute-care health services for the poor, including hospital and home health care, physician and dental visits and medical supplies, the report said.

The report recommends a mix of technology and better record-keeping to reduce fraud and overpayments. For instance, it found that a lack of valid telephone numbers and

addresses for many Medicaid recipients made it impossible to determine whether benefits were being properly paid.

"The poor state of present record-keeping can hardly be overstated," the report said.

For example, the report says that it costs Texas \$160 million in unnecessary administrative fees when Medicaid payments continue after an enrollee dies but continues to receive Medicaid benefits because of lax scrutiny from state overseers.

The study, requested by the Legislature in 1997, is the first of its kind in Texas. A final version of the report is expected to be released by Dec. 31.

## Armadillos take up Tennessee residence

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Tennessee in recent years has had its share of fauna from other regions: fire ants, zebra mussels and coyotes.

Now it's armadillos. "It's all quite bizarre," said David Withers, a zoologist with the state's Natural Heritage Program.

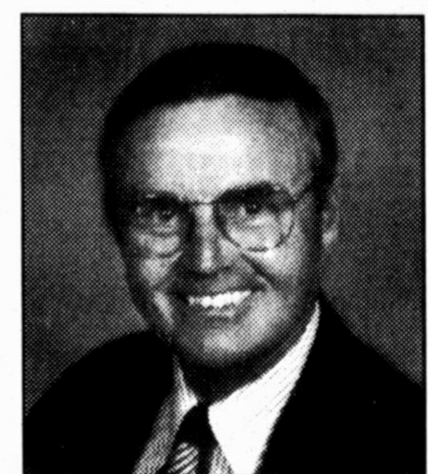
"We really do not know why

they are coming here, or what their effect on the state's ecology is going to be."

The armadillo — nicknamed possums on a half-shell because of its likeness to an opossum, but with a shell — was first seen in West Tennessee a few years ago, even though it's most commonly spotted in areas like Texas.

## THE HEREFORD BRAND

## Obituaries



BOBBY DWIGHT BOYD  
Dec. 9, 1998

Funeral services for Bobby Dwight Boyd of Hereford will be 11 a.m. Saturday at First United Methodist Church with Dr. Tom Fuller officiating. Burial and graveside services will be 4 p.m. in Idalou Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of Gililand-Watson Funeral Home.

Mr. Boyd died Wednesday at his home.

He was born Aug. 3, 1933, in St. Jo, Texas, to Ernel Parker Boyd and Vurda Mae Embry. She married Bera Faye Spann on August 2, 1959, in Munday. They came to Deaf Smith County in 1970 from Amarillo.

He was a member of the First United Methodist Church; Gideons International; Kairos Prison Ministry and a

lifetime member of the Texas State Teachers Association. He had been a school teacher in Hereford for many years. He earned his BBA from Texas Tech and his M.Ed. from WTA&M. He was named Hereford Whiteface Booster club "Fan of the Year" in 1997-98. He was also a member of the Hereford Retired Educators; a charter member of the Hereford Chamber Singers, and former member of United Way Board - Big Brothers, Big Sisters.

Survivors include his wife, Bera Faye Spann Boyd, of Hereford; one son, Robert Brent Boyd of Houston; one daughter, Bethany Jane Boyd Houpt of San Antonio; two brothers Herbert Boyd of Lorenzo; Wayne Boyd of Keller; two sisters, Norma Sue Hoyle, of Wolforth, and Mary Margaret Boyd of Lubbock; five grandchildren.

## THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Texas lottery

## Pick 3

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery, in order: 0-1-2

## Cash Five

The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery: 10-13-22-31-39

# LIFESTYLES

HEREFORD BRAND • Wednesday, December 9, 1998 • A3

## Senior Citizens

### MENUS

**THURSDAY**-Beef/ham loaf, macaroni and cheese, seasoned sliced carrots, stewed tomatoes, biscuits, peach cobbler; or beef brisket, peaches.

**FRIDAY**-Salmon patties with dill sauce, cheese hashed potatoes, fried okra, coleslaw, cornbread, lemon cake; or smothered roast chicken, D'zerta gelatin.

**MONDAY**-Beef stew with potatoes, celery, carrots and tomatoes, cheese sticks, fried squash slices, 5-cup fruit salad, cornbread, chocolate chip cookies; or chicken stew, vanilla wafers.

**TUESDAY**-Baked chicken with gravy, mashed potatoes, blackeyed peas, rosy applesauce, biscuits, pound cake with whipped topping; or Polish sausage.

**WEDNESDAY**-Swiss steak, corn O'Brien, mixed greens, perfection salad, cornbread, chocolate cup cake; or chicken and noodles, D'zerta salad.

### ACTIVITIES

**THURSDAY**-Pool classes, exercise class 10-10:45 a.m., oil painting 9-11 a.m., DSHH BP/BS 9 a.m.-noon, Thrift Store open 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

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

**SATURDAY**-Holiday dinner 6 p.m.

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

**TUESDAY**-Pool classes, exercise class 10-10:45 a.m., Miracle Ear 9 a.m.-noon, Golden K Kiwanis Club noon.

**WEDNESDAY**-Pool classes, ceramics noon-4 p.m., birthday social for Nov. and Dec. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.



**Items donated**—Deaf Smith County FCE club members, represented by Dolores Brorman, left, donated non-stamp items to the Community Care for the Aged and Disabled program, represented by Judy Baker. The items will be distributed to clients during a Christmas party Saturday at Hereford Community Center.

## Baby's Coming Shop needs gifts for infants

Donations of cash and new or gently used baby clothing and merchandise are being accepted by the Baby's Coming Shop that serves women in Deaf Smith County as well as the other 25 counties of the Texas Panhandle.

This unique store provides free gifts of baby merchandise to moms who enter prenatal care within the first 12 weeks of pregnancy and complete a schedule of prenatal care and education as part of the Coalition of Health Service's 2CARE for MOMS program.

"There are few joys greater than selecting gifts for babies," Holly Hancock, 2CARE for MOMS program director, said. "We hope individuals, businesses, churches, civic clubs and youth groups will contribute to the Baby's Coming Shop during this season of giving. Donors will help the shop benefit more new moms and babies."

Hancock said there is a need for items such as strollers, high chairs and bassinets, as well as smaller items ranging from baby bottles and bathtubs to care products and diapers.

Deaf Smith County's link to the 2CARE for MOMS program is through Hereford Regional Medical Center, Hereford Women and Children's Health Clinic and South Plains Health Care Providers in Hereford.

Clinics enroll moms-to-be in the 2CARE for MOMS incentive program when they complete their initial prenatal visit to a doctor or nurse practitioner within the first 12 weeks of pregnancy.

The Baby's Coming Shop

officially began serving moms in late October. Operated by the Coalition of Health Services and the High Plains Division of the March of Dimes, the Baby's Coming Shop is located in Amarillo. Merchandise, however, is provided to eligible women across 26 Texas counties.

Only 64 percent of pregnant women in the Texas Panhandle receive prenatal care within the first 12 weeks of pregnancy. This rate is among the lowest in Texas and substantially lower than the national average of 85 percent.

The mission of the 2CARE for MOMS program is to promote early and continued consistent prenatal care across the Panhandle in an attempt to increase the number of women accessing early prenatal care.

2CARE for MOMS offers a toll free phone number where women across the Panhandle may call to get information about providers in their community.

When moms-to-be enter prenatal care within the first 12 weeks of their pregnancy, with a participating health care provider, they receive a free gift card. Then as they continue to see the provider throughout their pregnancy, they accumulate points.

Also, as they attend prenatal educational classes, Lamaze classes, nutrition and any other class that would benefit them and their baby, they accumulate points.

Then after the baby is born they may exchange these points for gifts for their baby at the Baby's Coming Shop.

## Special interest topics discussed

### HRMC Auxiliary holds December luncheon

Hereford Regional Medical Center Auxiliary met recently for its December luncheon meeting. The dining room had been decorated with a Christmas scene by Billee Kelley.

Before the business meeting started, two programs of interest to the auxiliary were presented. Sherri Nevins of the Women and Children's Crisis Center told of the need for a shelter for the victims of rape and domestic violence in Hereford. Plans are presently underway and the auxiliary was asked to help in the ongoing fund-raisers.

Nova Neuhaus from the

Retired Senior Volunteer Program introduced Ginger Robertson, director of the Seniors for Childhood Immunizations program. A video tape showing the participation of volunteers in this program was viewed by the auxiliary members.

President Leona Schilling then opened the business meeting by having Mary Jane Burrus read the Auxiliary Prayer.

Committee reports showed 208 hours volunteered and 28 baby books distributed.

Special guests Opal Walterscheid and Marian

Yosten were welcomed by members.

Members present were Janis Bell, Lupe Cerda, Ann Cummings, Margarette Daniels, Bettie Dickson, Patsy Giles, Gene McDaniel, Irene Reinart, Mary Schlabs, Anna Stindt, Bonnie Sublett, Quanta Waits, Mary Williamson, Burrus, Kelley and Schilling.

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Have a beautiful  
**Holiday Feast**  
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Come by & register for a  
**\$100 Gift Certificate**  
 from B&R Thriftway  
 1105 W. Park Avenue in Hereford  
 to be given away on  
**Monday,**  
**December 21st!**

Drawing is open to the  
 public from Dec. 1 - Dec. 21,  
 with no purchase necessary to enter.  
 Only one entry per person,  
 must be 18 years of age or older,  
 need not be present to win.

## VFW Auxiliary auction is Fri.

The Ladies Auxiliary to Roy Wederbrook Veteran of Foreign Wars Post 4818 will hold its annual auction Friday at the Post Home in Veterans Park. A chili supper, open to everyone, begins at 6:30 p.m., followed by the auction.

The auction is the auxiliary's sole fund-raiser for projects to aid veterans and their families.

One item which has proven popular in the past will be offered again this year, a handmade king-size quilt.

Chances on another king-size quilt will be sold and the drawing will be held during the auction.

## Hospital Notes

Patients in Hereford Regional Medical Center on Dec. 9:

Carl R. Caperton, Frank E. Clements, Elizabeth L. Manley, Lola B. Noyes, George A. Paschel, Georgie R. Pinkerton, Doris Rush, Dora H. Silva, Dale Smith, Della Stagner, Natalia Valdez, Ollie Walker, Imogene C. Zinck.

## MOOVIES 6

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

Business Office: 364-0101

Movie Hotline: 364-8000

See Dec. 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31

**R** **PSYCHO** FRIDAY-THURSDAY EVENINGS

1:10 & 3:15 7:00 & 9:10

**G** **BUGS LIFE** FRIDAY-THURSDAY EVENINGS

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

**R** **ENEMY OF THE STATE** FRIDAY-THURSDAY EVENINGS

1:45 & 4:20 7:15

**BABE PIG IN THE CITY** | STILL WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER

FRIDAY-THURSDAY EVENINGS FRIDAY-THURSDAY EVENINGS

1:00 7:10 3:10 9:20

**G** **RUG RATS** FRIDAY-THURSDAY EVENINGS

1:50 & 3:45 7:05 & 9:00

**Pg 13** **WATER BOY** FRIDAY-THURSDAY EVENINGS

1:30 & 3:50 7:15 & 9:05

Adults: \$8.00 Kids & Seniors: \$3.00

Bargain Matinees: \$3.00

**FRESH CUT**

Northern New Mexico Christmas Trees:

- Blue Spruce
- White Fir
- Piñon

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**BABY'S 1st CHRISTMAS**

Make your baby's first Christmas unique, by putting his/her picture on the Christmas page.

Just fill out the form below and get it to us before the deadline:  
 No later than 3:00 pm  
 Dec. 16, 1998.  
 The special page will run Dec. 24th

**This will make a Special Keepsake for ONLY \$20**

Jasmine Rose Medrano

6 months - Born April 18  
 Parents: Rosie & Gabriel Medrano  
 Grandparents: Richard & Rosemary Davila  
 Mr. & Mrs. Humberto Medrano

**Baby's 1st Christmas Form**

Baby Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parents Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Grandparents: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail or bring Check or Money Order w/picture to  
 313 N. Lee to Advertising Dept.



**Hereford Bucks winner**—Madeline Rosson, left, was the winner of \$25 in Hereford Bucks presented in the door prize drawing held by La Madre Mia Study Club at the conclusion of the annual Tour of Homes Sunday. Making the presentation is Betty Taylor, ticket chairman.

### Aggie Moms to hold open house

The annual Aggie Alumni Christmas Open House is being sponsored by the Golden Spread Aggie Moms on 6:30 p.m. Dec. 10 in the E.B. Black House, 508 W. Third.

Guests will be served a festive meal and invited to view the decorated home.

The evening also features a live auction benefitting the Aggie Scholarship Fund. Scholarships are annually awarded to area incoming freshmen. Auction items include baked delicacies and decorator items.

All Texas A&M University alumni and supporters are invited. If unable to attend and wishing to make a bid or for more information, contact Ginger Olson at 647-2698 or Eileen Alley at 364-2619.

**The 1 To See:**  
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# Can This Be Correct?

Select group of VCRs **\$69**

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Large selection camcorders **25% off**

**Thursday, Friday & Saturday ONLY!**  
 9:00 am to 5:30 pm  
 Sale good while quantities last!

## Gold Nugget PAWN SHOP

211 S. 25 Mile Avenue • 364-8386

### Syndicated Columnist

## Ann Landers



**Ann Landers**

**Dear Ann Landers:** I am the manager of a urology group in the Northwest that treats males with erectile dysfunction. I continue to be frustrated by letters you print that suggest Viagra has turned docile men into sex-crazed animals.

Viagra does not affect a male's libido. A male with no interest in sexual activity will not develop an interest if he takes this drug. What some wives and partners are experiencing is the difference in a man who had a strong libido all along but was unable to act on it. Viagra helps him function sexually.

Please correct the misconception that this is a miracle drug. No male can get an erection by simply swallowing a pill. There must be some activity that helps him get in the mood. That is the key. A loving partner who is willing to "help him along" can make a world of difference.

If a male pops a pill but has not been properly stimulated, he will not be able to function. To suggest that an "old geezer" took Viagra and then abused a woman for ignoring his advances is ridiculous. The man was a lunatic BEFORE he took the pill. Don't blame it on Viagra.

This medication has helped thousands of couples restore a satisfying part of their relationship. Viagra is not the enemy. The enemy is a lack of information and poor communication. I hope this letter will put to rest some of the bizarre claims people are making regarding this drug. — S.C.S. in the Northwest

**Dear S.C.S.:** You have set the record straight, and I thank you.

**Dear Ann Landers:** What can I do, short of outright rudeness, to convince an in-law that I do not want her discarded clothes? I don't want her new clothes, either, because her taste is so different

from mine. Unfortunately, nothing I say seems to make any difference.

My daughters feel the same way about this woman's clothes. We are all short, small-boned, short-waisted ash blondes. Our "benefactress" is a tall, slim brunette who looks terrific in colors none of us can wear. She is also a shopaholic with an eye for what looks best on her and has plenty of money to spend. Even when she buys something new for one of us, it is in her style, not ours, the color looks hideous, and the shape is all wrong. We end up wasting a lot of time returning things.

I have tried to tell this relative tactfully that I don't want any more of her clothes, but she continues to bring over dresses, coats, blouses and so on. Some people would say this isn't anything I should complain about, but it's beginning to irritate me, and I'd appreciate your help. — Perplexed in N.C.

**Dear N.C.:** You have already told "Miss Bountiful Gift Giver" that you don't want any more of her clothes. If she persists in bringing them over, simply say, "These lovely things are going to Goodwill and a few other charities that I am interested in. I am sure they will be appreciated." That ought to do it. P.S. Keep reading for another excellent charity you might consider:

**Dear Ann Landers:** This letter is about giving to charities. I would like to see a plug for one that will give you the biggest bang for your buck. I am talking about the Salvation Army. Its handling of contributions and disbursements of funds is so superb that it was recently written up in Forbes magazine as an example of astute management. How about a word of praise from you, Ann? — Joyce in Murfreesboro, Tenn.

**Dear Joyce:** I have been beating my tambourine for several years in praise of the Salvation Army. Thanks for the opportunity to do it once again.

### Veleda attends Madrigal Dinner

Veleda Study Club observed the onset of the Christmas season with its Husbands' Christmas Party which was a trip to West Texas A&M University for the 17th annual Madrigal Dinner.

De Aun Sisson and Margaret Zinser were hostesses.

Entertainers and servers at the dinner were dressed in costumes of the period. Mary Jane Johnson, as Queen Mary, sang "In the Bleak Midwinter." Joe Ella Cansler sang "En! Natus eat Emanuel" with the faculty quartet.

The dinner started with wassail, potato cabbage soup, bread and fresh vegetables. The main course was Cornish game hens with barley dressing and sweet potatoes. Dessert was apple cake with caramel and vanilla sauce.

Those making the trip were Juanita and Gid Brownd, Frances Crume, Bettie Dickson, Mary Dziuk, Carole McGilvary, Joyce and George Ritter, De Aun and Billy Wayne Sissons, Norma and Bill Walden and Margaret and Frank Zinser.

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# SPORTS

HEREFORD BRAND • Wednesday, December 9, 1998 • A5



Julius Bodner/Brand

Toni Eicke of Hereford (right) and Friona's Jamille Hand reach for the ball Tuesday night during a nondistrict game at Whiteface Gymnasium. The Lady Whitefaces improved to 9-4 on the year handing the Squaws their first loss of the year, 41-34.

## Eicke, Walker lead Herd girls by Friona, 41-34

By Bob Varmette  
Hereford Brand Sports Writer

Juniors Toni Eicke and Tori Walker each had 10 points to lead Hereford to a 41-34 nondistrict win over previously unbeaten Friona Tuesday night at Whiteface Gymnasium.

In a game it seemed neither team wanted to play, Eicke and Walker were two of only three players to reach double figures.

And they all just barely reached double figures.

The other player — senior post Sheri Fiel — led Friona (8-1) with a game-high 11 points. Kristin Fangman and Ashley Fangman each added eight points for Hereford (9-4).

The Lady Whitefaces did shoot the ball reasonably well, hitting 17 of 37 from the field (45.9 percent), but managed eight fewer shots than the Squaws who went 15-for-45 (33.3 percent) for the night.

Hereford came out with a full-court press, but the Squaws fought through it to take an 8-4 lead with 3:06 left in the first quarter. Friona added to the lead ever so slowly and led 11-6 when Hereford spent a 20-second time out with 37.53 seconds left in the period.

It must have worked to some degree as the Lady Whitefaces picked up two quick buckets to cut the Friona margin to one — 11-10 — heading into the second quarter.

The Whitefaces continued their march to the lead and held their first advantage at 15-13 with 7:03 left in the first half when Walker canned a 14-footer from just inside the free throw line. After the Squaws tied the game at 15-all, Hereford went on a 6-0 run to hold a 21-15 margin with 2:55 remaining in the second quarter.

Hereford took a 25-17 lead into the half, aided by 11-for-19 shooting in the first half, and

**FRIONA (8-1):** Pope 2-10 0-0 4, Hendley 0-2 0-0, Morton 1-7 0-0 2, Ellis 4-8 0-0 9, Hand 1-2 0-0 2, Dow 3-6 0-0 6, Fiel 4-10 3-3 11. Totals 15-45 3-34.  
**HEREFORD (9-4):** Ferrin 0-0 0-0 0, Yosten 0-0 0-0 0, Eicke 4-11 2-2 10, Rives 2-7 1-2 5, Martin 0-0 0-0 0, A. Fangman 2-5 4-4 8, Walker 5-8 0-0 10, K. Fangman 4-6 0-0 8. Totals 17-37 7-8 41.  
Halftime—Hereford 25, Friona 17. 3-Point goals—Friona 1-8 (Ellis 1-1, Pope 0-4, Hendley 0-1, Morton 0-2), Hereford 0-5 (Eicke 0-2, Rives 0-3). Fouled out—Walker. Rebounds—Friona 21 (Fiel 8), Hereford 16 (Rives, K. Fangman 4). Turnovers—Friona 17, Hereford 13. Total fouls—Friona 10, Hereford 9. A-350 est.

despite getting outboarded by the Squaws 10-7. Kristin Fangman scored all eight of her points in the first half on 4-for-5 shooting.

Fiel led Friona in the first half with seven points and had four rebounds.

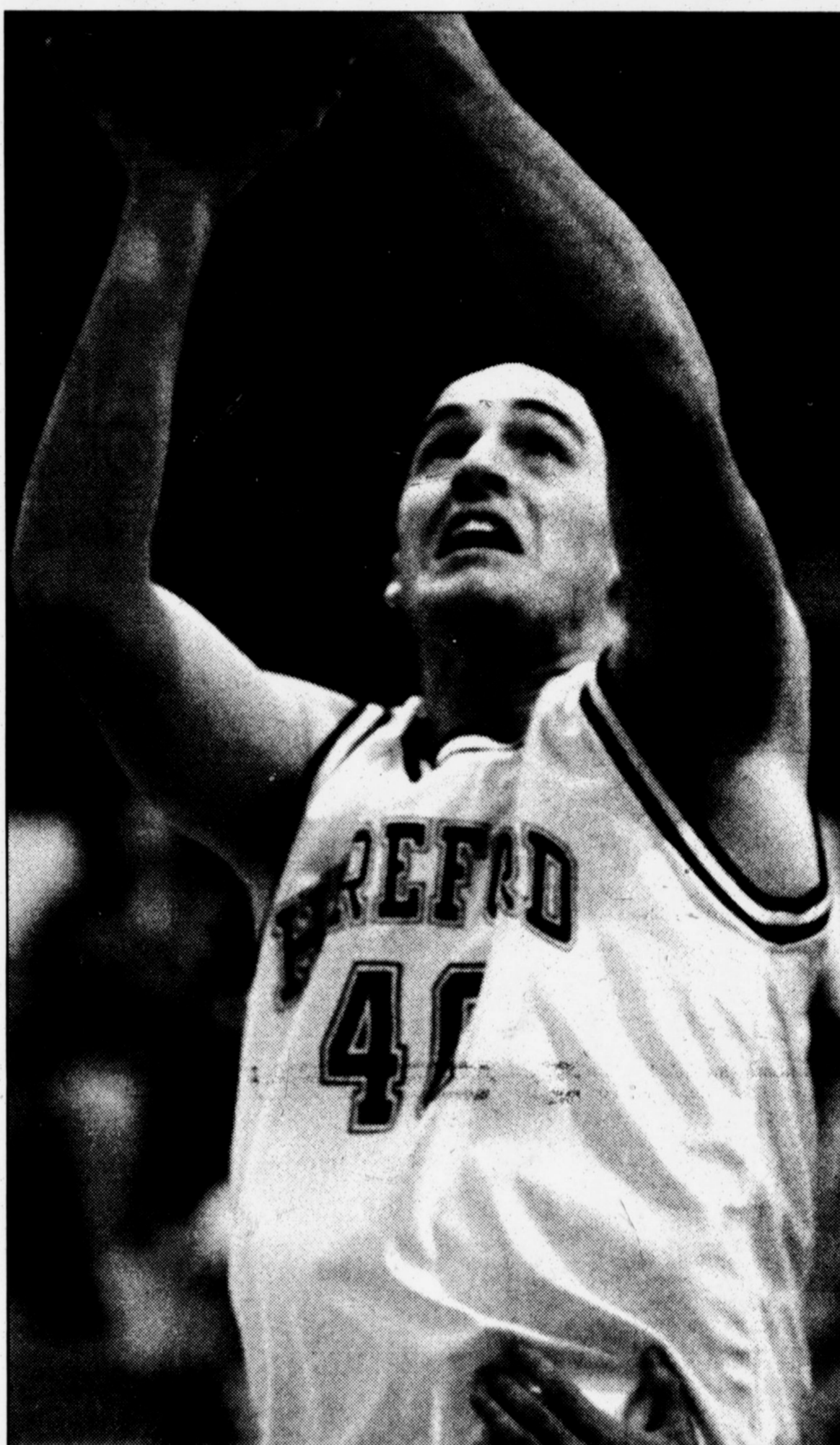
Friona jumped out in the third quarter with the first seven points drawing to within one point of Hereford at 25-24. The Squaws then used a pair of free throws from Fiel at the 3:44 mark to take the lead at 26-25 when Walker drew her third personal foul.

Friona advanced its lead to 28-25 completing an 11-0 run, capitalizing upon 0-for-5 shooting from the Lady Whitefaces to start the second half. The Squaws shot 4-for-8 from the field during the run.

Hereford was back on top shortly, though. Eicke got loose for a layup underneath to end the Hereford drought and draw the Lady Whitefaces within one point. Hereford then regained the lead when Ashley Fangman hit a pair of free throws to send Hereford into the final quarter with a 29-28 advantage.

In the first three minutes of the final quarter, the teams exchanged points and Hereford led 33-32 before Walker picked up a pair of unanswered buckets to put the Lady Whitefaces up 37-32 with 2:59 left in the game. The Squaws never challenged the Hereford lead for the rest of the game.

## CLOSE ONE



Julius Bodner/Brand

Mitch Wagner of Hereford goes up for a shot against Friona Tuesday night during a nondistrict game at Whiteface Gymnasium. Wagner scored 11 points to lead the Whitefaces. Hereford won, 47-37.

## Hereford holds off Friona

By Bob Varmette  
Hereford Brand Sports Writer

When a team wins ugly, nobody goes home happy.

Certainly not the losing team, and not the winning team either, especially when they struggle more with themselves than with the other team.

Hereford got its sixth straight win, but Hereford coach Randy Dean was somewhat unimpressed with the 47-37 nondistrict win over Friona Tuesday night at Whiteface Gymnasium.

"I was real disappointed in our

effort," Dean said. "We just kind of went through the motions all night long. Nobody ever had any intensity or any fire. It just seemed like the whole gym was dead tonight and we didn't do anything to liven it up."

Hereford (6-3) shot a miserable 35.3 percent from the field (18-for-51) and was only 3-for-15 (20 percent) from 3-point range.

"It all goes back to your intensity level that you show up to play the game with," Dean said. "We were flat from the start."

See **HEREFORD**, Page A6

**FRIONA (4-4):** Patterson 1-1 0-0 2, King 2-9 1-2 5, Avalos 1-1 0-0 2, Neil 0-3 0-0 0, Martin 0-1 0-0 0, Daniel 9-26 0-0 20, Rando 4-8 0-0 8. Totals 19-49 1-2 37.  
**HEREFORD (6-3):** Vallejo 2-6 0-0 4, Nielson 0-0 0-0 0, Ewing 2-6 0-0 4, Chavarria 0-1 0-0 0, McNutt 3-9 0-0 6, C. Hodges 2-8 2-4 7, S. Hodges 3-6 0-0 7, Huseman 3-5 0-0 6, Wagner 3-6 5-11, Northern 0-1 0-0 0, Matthews 0-0 1-4 1, Rives 0-3 0-2 0. Totals 18-51 7-11 47.  
Halftime—Hereford 25, Friona 14. 3-Point goals—Friona 2-7 (Daniel 1-3, C. Hodges 1-4, S. Hodges 1-2, Vallejo 0-1, McNutt 0-3, Wagner 0-1). Fouled out—None. Rebounds—Friona 28 (Daniel 12), Hereford 32 (C. Hodges 7). Total Fouls—Friona 12, Hereford 8. Turnovers—Friona 19, Hereford 14. Junior varsity—Hereford 64, Friona 27. A-500 est.

## DAT'S THE GUY

Wrecking Crew's Nguyen wins Lombardi award

By Michael A. Lutz  
AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON — The smallest guy on the dais walked off with the big prize.

Linebacker Dat Nguyen, Texas A&M's career tackles leader despite his 5-foot-11, 221-pound size, was named winner Tuesday night of the 29th annual Lombardi Award as the nation's top collegiate lineman.

Nguyen beat Ohio State linebacker Andy Katzenmoyer (6-4, 265), Wisconsin tackle Aaron Gibson (6-7, 370) and Georgia tackle Matt Stinchcomb (6-6, 295) for the honor.

"You take all the positive adjectives used to describe a person and they all fit Dat Nguyen," Texas A&M coach R.C. Slocum said. "What he has done in football and how he has handled the success is amazing."

Nguyen, the smallest of the finalists, had 517 career tackles with the Aggies, including 17 in last week's 36-33 upset of Kansas State in the Big 12 championship game.



Nguyen

"Dat plays the game at such a high level because of his desire and instincts," Slocum said.

"He has an uncanny eye to know where the ball is going. He's not a player who has a good game this week and not next. He has great games every week."

Nguyen will play his final college game Jan. 1 against Katzenmoyer and Ohio State in the Sugar Bowl at New Orleans.

"It's an honor to be here and represent my school and my teammates," Nguyen said. "I don't like to be singled out. I came to A&M because of the Wrecking Crew defense. I didn't do this by myself."

Nguyen was disenchanted when he first arrived at A&M because he didn't get to play immediately. But once he got on the field, the Aggies knew they had a player.

"To be honest we didn't know how good he was," Slocum said. "We knew he was good because we gave him a scholarship but early that first year we put him in a game and figured that this guy is pretty good."

Nguyen has had to overcome more obstacles than his smallish frame.

Dat's parents fled Vietnam in 1975 with his five brothers and sisters and Dat, the sixth child, on the way. Nguyen was born in a refugee camp in Arkansas before the family moved to Texas and Nguyen gave up soccer to

See **NGUYEN**, Page A6

## Big Spring minor-league star wouldn't change a thing

By John A. Moseley  
Big Spring Herald

BIG SPRING — Few people will admit that if given the opportunity to live their lives over, they wouldn't change a thing.

But that's exactly what minor league baseball legend Pat Stasey told his audience in Arlington last month when he was inducted into the Texas Baseball Hall of Fame.

"I don't have many regrets," Stasey said during a recent visit to Big Spring from his home in San Angelo where he spent time reminiscing with former players Al Valdes and Tito Arencibia. "You really can say I lived the American dream ... just like it said in the induction ceremony program."

Stasey, a strong-armed outfielder

who batted .300 or better in 12 of the 16 seasons he played professional baseball, was virtually a household word in West Texas and eastern New Mexico during the decade immediately following World War II.

One of the founders of the old Longhorn League in 1947, Stasey was owner, manager and right fielder for the Big Spring Broncs a team many considered the New York Yankees of their class.

In the 10 years Stasey served as player-manager for teams in Big Spring, and Roswell and Hobbs, N.M., they finished in the the league's second division just twice. The Broncs won the championship three times, finished third once and second once.

To Valdes, who played catcher for Stasey's Broncs in 1948 and 1949, and

*"I don't have many regrets. You really can say I lived the American dream ... just like it said in the induction ceremony program."*

— Pat Stasey

then again in 1952, it was Big Spring's run to the championship in 1949 that was the absolute best of times.

"We won the pennant by 24 1/2 games that year ... the people here were just crazy about us," Valdes

recalled. "You hit a home run ... people would put money in the fence. Sometimes there'd be \$100 or more stuck in the backstop. Let me tell you, \$100 in 1949 looked like \$1 million does today."

It was that kind of support, Stasey said, that prompted his visit to Big Spring late last week.

"I just want the people of Big Spring to know how much I appreciate the start I got here," Stasey explained, recalling his first start with the Big Spring team in the old West Texas-New Mexico League in 1938 and 1939. "Of course, a lot of the people who were so important when I first started playing professional ball are dead now, but I've always felt everyone in this community made a difference in my success."

When Stasey arrived in Big Spring in 1938, he pitched and played outfield, appearing in 78 games and hitting .322. "The next year, I just played in the outfield ... had a tremendous year," he said of the 1939 season when he batted .344 in 138 games.

"After that, the owner of the team, Tony Rigo, sold me, Billy Capps (now a scout for the Chicago Cubs) and Jody Marek to Tulsa," Stasey added. "I wound up in Moline (Ill.) in the American Association for a couple of years and they optioned me to Jersey City in the International League."

After 14 games with Jersey City and a 19-game stint with Knoxville in the Southern Association, Stasey like some many other players of his day,

See **STAR**, Page A6









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Impeachment Apologies

How much contrition is enough?



TOM RAUM The Associated Press

Inside Politics

Could President Clinton escape an impeachment recommendation by the House if he showed more contrition?

That's one of the threads running through the House Judiciary Committee's inquiry. The president's legal team was wrapping up its two-day presentation today.

As both sides sought to sway the 20 to 30 moderate Republicans viewed as swing votes if the impeachment issue reaches the House floor, the president's attitude has become a central element.

"He has acknowledged the wrongdoing. He has himself acknowledged that he was evasive, that he misled people, and that he went out of his way to conceal," White House special counsel Gregory Craig told the committee.

But Republican members continued to express annoyance Clinton hasn't been more contrite and has refused to say he committed perjury. Furthermore, they're unhappy with what they consider his legalistic answers to the 81 questions submitted to him by committee Chairman Henry Hyde, R-Ill.

Democratic Rep. Charles Schumer of New York questioned the validity of a contrition litmus test.

"The American people may wake up next week and find out that the Congress impeached the president for not being contrite enough to certain members of Congress," said Schumer, who moves to the Senate next month. He wasn't addressing panel members — whose minds, on both sides, appear made up — as much as those undecided GOP moderates.

Some of those moderates have suggested they might be more inclined to side with

Clinton if he were more forthcoming, and less lawyerly, over the next few days.

The apology route is one Clinton has taken before.

On Sept. 11, Clinton told religious leaders: "I have sinned. ... I have repented." His eyes were moist and his voice choking as he addressed the annual National Prayer Breakfast.

Those apologies followed adverse reaction to his combative August speech in which he admitted misleading the nation and his family about his relationship with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky.

But then came Democratic gains in November's midterm elections, and polls suggesting public dissatisfaction with the Republican handling of the impeachment inquiry.

Republican Judiciary Committee members expressed dismay Tuesday that Clinton's team continued to refuse to say that Clinton lied under oath — or to summon witnesses with direct knowledge of the case.

"He doesn't believe that he lied," insisted Craig, the White House counsel.

"You're taking back all of his apologies, aren't you," asserted Rep. Bob Inglis, R-S.C.

Even so, the administration was taking a less confrontational stance than it had late last month, when Clinton's personal attorney, David Kendall, squared off against Independent Counsel Kenneth

Starr. As recently as Monday, White House spokesman Joe Lockhart told reporters, "The contrition is real and is there." On Tuesday, the White House presented as witnesses a series of academics and legal experts and former House members who testified on the differences with Watergate 25 years ago.

Schumer asked them their views on the relevance of contrition — or lack thereof.

"There is no constitutional standard for lack of contrition," said Sean Wilentz, a Princeton University history professor.

Bruce Ackerman, a Yale Law School professor, said: "The operational question is whether the conduct alleged represents a clear and present danger to the foundations of the republic. And contrition, it seems to me, does not enter into that."

Wayne Owens, a former Democratic congressman from Utah who sat on the 1974 House Judiciary Committee, even suggested President Nixon might have saved his presidency if he had apologized, at least in the early going. "The public then did not want to impeach even that unpopular a president," Owens said.

But Rev. Robert Drinan, a Georgetown Law School professor and a Democratic member from Massachusetts on that 1974 panel, doubted Nixon had it in him. "He never apologized. He never really said that he was sorry."

Many eyes, Republican and Democratic, are watching Clinton to see if the House's apparent march toward impeachment produces a new round of public contrition.

Tom Raum covers national and international affairs for The Associated Press.

Networks leaving coverage of the hearings up to cable

NEW YORK (AP) — So far this week, President Clinton's impeachment hearings are basically a cable television phenomenon.

With the exception of PBS, broadcast networks passed on showing live coverage of Clinton's defense during the House Judiciary Committee hearings, leaving extensive coverage to cable.

Broadcast executives say the decision is a reflection of a perceived lack of interest in the proceedings, despite their historical importance. Networks and their affiliates also stand to lose millions of dollars in advertising revenue if they cancel daytime programming.

NBC broke into daytime programming three times for brief special reports on the hearings Tuesday. ABC and CBS mentioned the story during regular news updates between daytime programs.

CNN, Fox News Channel, MSNBC, Court TV and C-SPAN all stuck with the lengthy proceedings. PBS also had live coverage.

"I have the impression that a limited number of politicians, pundits and cable networks are absorbed with the impeachment of a president," said Marvin Kalb, director of the Joan Shorenstein Center

"I have the impression that a limited number of politicians, pundits and cable networks are absorbed with the impeachment of a president. I don't believe that the American people seem to be taking it all that seriously." Marvin Kalb

on Press and Politics at Harvard University. "I don't believe that the American people seem to be taking it all that seriously."

Broadcast networks should be sending a signal to Americans that the issue is important and covering the full proceedings, Kalb said.

The ongoing story has made for several tough calls for broadcast executives this year. When President Clinton's grand jury testimony was publicly released in September, ABC, NBC and CBS ran the entire tape after initially signaling that they might not.

The three networks also trained their cameras on Kenneth Starr's testimony before the impeachment committee last month, but didn't stick with him for the full day. One prominent NBC affiliate cut Starr off after 16 minutes.

ABC, CBS and NBC all say

they plan live coverage of any vote on impeachment articles by the committee.

The number of cable networks covering Tuesday's hearing was a factor in NBC's decision not to broadcast it, said Bill Wheatley, NBC News vice president. Lost advertising was not discussed, he said.

"I think there's some public interest," he said. "But it's not overwhelming."

Kalb covered House Judiciary Committee impeachment hearings on President Nixon for CBS during the 1970s. He said the three chief broadcast networks all covered the opening of the hearings, then quickly set up a rotation system where one would cover the hearing and the other two would maintain normal daytime programming.

If all three networks abandoned daytime programming on Tuesday for the hearings, an estimated \$30 million to \$40 million in advertising revenue would be lost, said Dick Kurlander of Petry Television, a company that buys ad time for local stations.

Kurlander said he believed the networks made the proper decision given public interest.

"The majority of viewers are not going to sit there and be glued to this," Kurlander said.

ABC captures ratings top spot

NEW YORK (AP) — It's been a long time between wins for ABC, so allow the Alphabet Network a little time to celebrate.

ABC had its first prime-time Nielsen Media Research ratings victory since the March airing of the Academy Awards, helped mightily by "Forrest Gump" and Rick Schroder's debut as a detective on "NYPD Blue."

For the week, ABC had a 9.6 rating and 16 share. CBS was second with a 9.3 rating and 15 share, NBC had an 8.2 rating and 14 share and Fox had a 6.3 rating and 10 share, Nielsen said Tuesday. "Forrest Gump" was ABC's highest-rated Thursday movie since Stephen King's "The Stand" in 1994. It also pulled viewers away from NBC's powerhouse Thursday lineup, which aired reruns.

ABC was also boosted by the Southeastern Conference championship football game on Saturday.

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DAILY CRYPTOQUOTES

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

12-9 CRYPTOQUOTE JYZYM KDYJ RGY LKKM RK B OURROY ZUAY OYTR B CMYBR KJY YJRYM HURG UR - KOL BLBCY

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: ALL THE TREASURES OF EARTH CANNOT BRING BACK ONE LOST MOMENT.—FRENCH PROVERB

Study: Reduction of secondhand smoke lessens respiratory distress

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Since California banned smoking in bars early this year, bartender Oscar Delcastillo has noticed a few things — he's less tired, his eyes don't bother him as much and he can breathe a lot easier.

Researchers say the Los Angeles bartender is not alone. Scientists interviewed 53 San Francisco bartenders before the smoking ban took effect in January. At that time, about three-fourths of them reported symptoms of respiratory distress, things like wheezing, coughing and phlegm.

Two to three months after the ban was imposed, 59 percent of the bartenders said their symptoms were gone, according to a study in today's issue of The Journal of the American Medical Association. Bartenders' lung function also improved, according to a test that measures the rate at which a patient exhales air and the total volume exhaled.

While earlier studies have examined the effects of second-hand smoke, especially in children, this is the first to look at a particular group of workers before and after their workplace is cleared of smoke, said the report's lead author, Dr. Mark Eisner.

# U.S. trade deficit up during quarter

WASHINGTON (AP) — The overall U.S. trade deficit surged to \$61.3 billion from July through September, a fourth consecutive record, as the Asian financial crisis crashed even harder against America's shores.

The Commerce Department reported today that the current-account deficit rose 8.1 percent in the third quarter compared to a deficit of \$56.7 billion in the spring. Overseas sales of American farm products and manufactured goods continued to fall.

It marked the fourth straight quarterly record for the current account, the broadest measure of America's international performance, which tracks not only trade in goods and services but also investment flows and foreign aid.

Financial markets showed little initial reaction to the trade figures, which were worse

than had been expected. The Dow Jones industrial average was down slightly at midmorning before turning up. The quarterly trade report adds investment and foreign aid figures to the monthly trade deficit which tracks goods and services.

While the U.S. economy overall has continued growing at a healthy pace despite the turmoil in foreign markets, American manufacturers and farmers have not fared as well.

They have been battered this year by the loss of Asian markets and a flood of imported goods, made cheaper by foreign currency devaluations.

The current-account deficit is on its way to a record high of \$220 billion, far surpassing last year's deficit of \$155.2 billion and topping the previous record of \$168 billion set in 1987.

## Social Security

### Closed-door meetings described as warmup

WASHINGTON (AP) — Clinton administration officials say today's closed-door meetings with lawmakers on Social Security's future are just a warm-up for difficult negotiations yet to come.

"The purpose of the sessions are to see what it's going to take to reach common ground," said Social Security Commissioner Kenneth S. Apfel. "It's clearly a challenge."

Without changes, the nation's retirement program is expected to run short of cash by 2032, after more than 75 million baby boomers begin collecting benefits.

During congressional election campaigns this fall, Republican leaders and President Clinton pledged to tackle the problem next year. Clinton held a public meeting with public policy advocates on

Tuesday and the private talks with lawmakers that are scheduled for today.

But the options for refinancing Social Security are limited, and any change to the government's biggest benefit program is likely to be unpopular.

The biggest gulf is over the idea of setting up a system of personal accounts so that workers could invest some of their Social Security contributions in the stock market: business and conservative groups favor it while labor unions and civil rights groups are opposed.

Because of the political dangers, some Republican leaders say action on Social Security will be stalled until the president sends legislation to Congress.

However, Sen. Bill Roth, R-

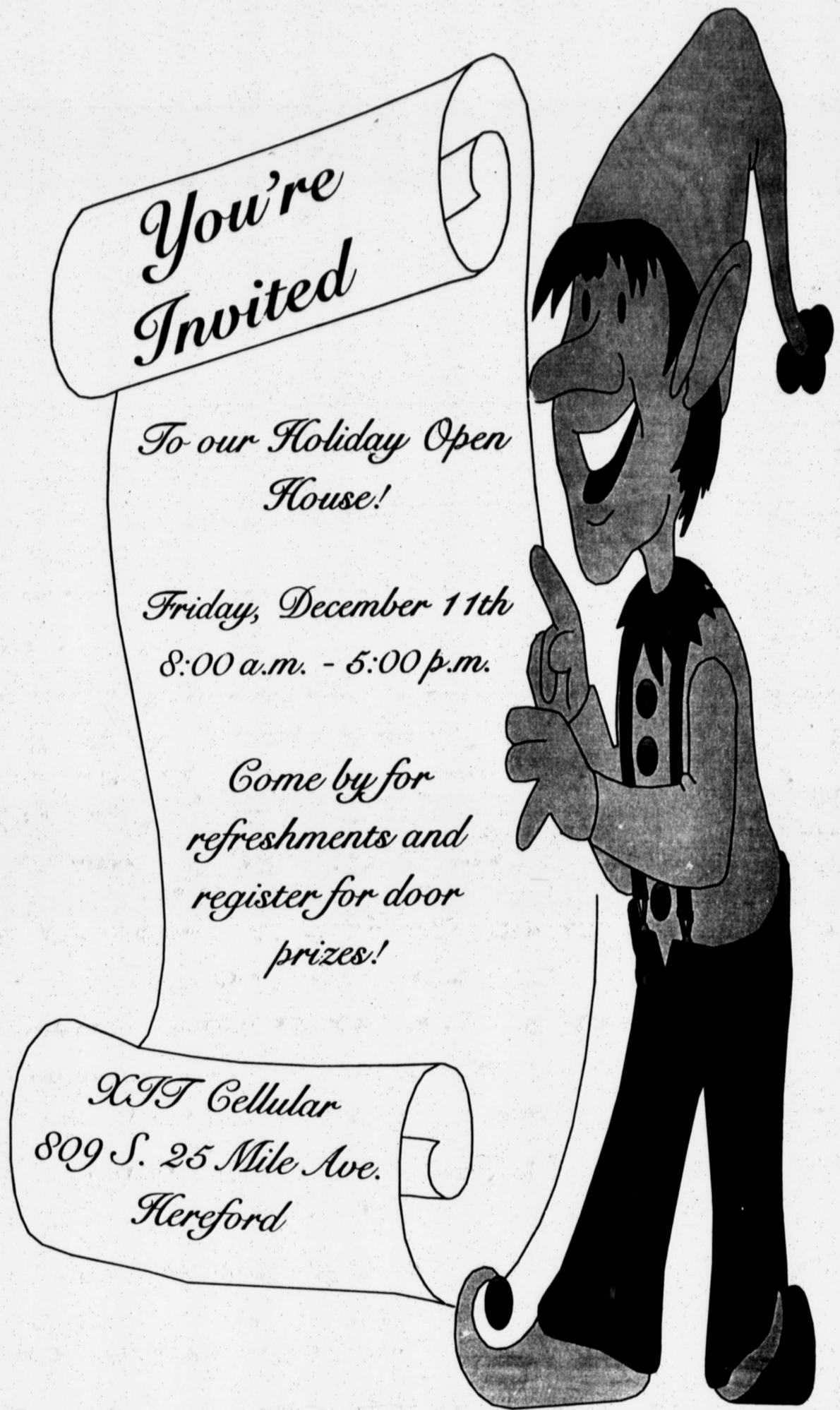
Del., chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, said Tuesday that even without Clinton's go-ahead, he may move next year to use government surpluses to start personal retirement accounts for working Americans.

"We would not touch Social Security until we could reach a consensus on reform. Instead, personal retirement accounts would be an interim step while we consider the choices we face," Roth said.

House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt, D-Mo., signaled that there might be conditional support from Democrats for such a step.

"Individual accounts can be part of this answer, but in my view they should be a supplement, not a replacement to Social Security," Gephardt said.

Clinton, however, offered no new clues about his preferences at the public meeting on Tuesday and is not expected to reveal any more in a private session with lawmakers today.



## Impeachment

from Page 1

The contention that Clinton orchestrated a scheme with Ms. Lewinsky to conceal gifts they exchanged: The White House noted that Ms. Lewinsky testified that Clinton "didn't really discuss" the concealment.

The allegation that Clinton obstructed justice by trying to help Ms. Lewinsky find a job in New York to buy her silence or false testimony about their sexual relationship: The White House cited testimony by Ms. Lewinsky and presidential friend Vernon Jordan, her main helper in the search, denying any link to her testimony.

The assertion that Clinton tried to influence the testimony of his secretary, Betty Currie, after the Jan. 17, 1998 Jones deposition: The White House said Starr omitted Mrs. Currie's testimony that she felt no pressure — "none whatsoever" — from her boss. Nor had she even been called yet as a witness, the White House asserted.

But the rebuttal also stuck to some legal hairsplitting that has infuriated many Republicans and even made Democrats uncomfortable.

In the president's deposition in the Jones case, the rebuttal said, Clinton believed he did not commit perjury because his sexual relationship with Ms. Lewinsky did not meet the definition approved by the judge or the dictionary definition.

And, in Clinton's Aug. 17 grand jury testimony, the rebuttal said the president did not lie when he denied having "sexual relations" with Ms. Lewinsky, because he admitted to "inappropriate intimate contact." Again, the rebuttal said Clinton believed his contact didn't meet the definition of sexual relations.

In other comments certain to cheer the White House, Sen. Alfonse D'Amato, defeated for re-election last month, praised fellow New York Republican Rep. Peter King, who has said he opposes impeachment. D'Amato said the GOP will have to have "the courage to say they will not march to a partisan drum" if the party wants to remain in control of Congress.

Meanwhile, Rep. Ray LaHood, R-Ill., was the leading candidate to preside over the House during an impeachment debate — a job that neither outgoing Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., nor Rep. Bob Livingston, R-La., the speaker-in-waiting, wishes to perform.

"It would be an honor to do it if that's what Speaker Gingrich or Speaker Livingston wants me to do," he said in a telephone interview, adding that he had received a call to be ready.

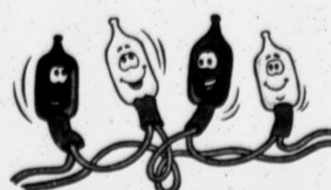
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