

Hustlin' Hereford, home of Sharon Hodges

# The Hereford Brand



98th Year, Vol. Number 148 Deaf Smith County, Texas Tuesday, February 2, 1999 10 Pages 50 cents

## Storm damage



Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative crews have been busy since the weekend repairing damage to downed power lines. Power poles were sheared off and lines downed by the ice and snow resulting from the winter storm moving through the area over the weekend. These downed lines were in the Nazareth area.  
BRAND/Mauri Montgomery



## Storm caused havoc

### Special to The Brand

Numerous Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative power lines were damaged over the weekend by the ice and snow accompanying a winter storm sweeping through the area.

About one-third of the cooperative's customers were without power for varying lengths of time after the storm moved across the Panhandle.

Line crews from Littlefield, Lubbock and Tahoka were called in to assist the cooperative crews restore electrical service.

Most of the damage consisted of broken cross arms,

broken poles and downed electric lines.

Main electric feeders have been restored; however, crews are still working on some isolated taps in the Dimmitt-Nazareth area.

Cooperative general manager Steve Louder expressed concern for those still without power. He also thanked customers for patience during the outage.

Louder also urged anyone who is thinking about adding an electric generator to restore their power to contact the cooperative or a qualified electrician. If the generator is not connected properly, one of the lineworkers could be electrocuted, Louder said.

## City gives its blessing

### Commissioners OK move of HEDC, chamber offices

By Don Cooper

Hereford Brand Managing Editor

When a new executive director takes the helm of the Hereford Economic Development Corp., he (or she) will be occupying a new office.

Members of the Hereford City Commission voted Monday night to relocate the HEDC to space in the Hereford Community Center.

The HEDC has occupied an office in City Hall since it was organized in 1994, and City Manager Chester Nolen said the agency's board had requested the relocation because it needs more space for its operations.

At a recent workshop, the commissioners discussed the request to move the HEDC and the Deaf Smith County Chamber of Commerce into the community center, providing the economic development agency with more visibility and reducing expenses for the chamber.

The HEDC and chamber would occupy space on the northwest corner of the community center after some remodeling is completed. The activities which have been taking place in the space will be relocated to other parts of the community center or to the Nita Lea Community Building (former Campfire Lodge).

HEDC and the chamber will pay for the remodeling, although the city will provide the labor.

At the same time the commission approved the relocation, it also directed Nolen and City Attorney Terry Langehenning to draft a contract providing for rent and payment of utilities.

Chamber manager Don Cumpston told the commissioners the chamber directors see

the relocation as an "opportunity" that will be good for Deaf Smith County and Hereford.

"We're looking forward to it," he said.

The commissioners also called a municipal election for May 1. The positions to be on the ballot are mayor, Place 1 commissioner and Place 3 commissioner.

The incumbents are Bob Josseland, mayor; Tom Coneway, Place 3 commissioner; and Silvana Juarez, Place 1 commissioner.

The polling place on Election Day will be the community center, 100 Ave. C.

Early voting by personal appearance will be 8 a.m.-5 p.m. April 14-27 at the County Clerk's Office in the Deaf Smith County Courthouse, 235 E. 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Applications for mail-in ballots should be sent to County Clerk David Ruland, Deaf Smith County Courthouse, Hereford 79045. The applications must be received on or before April 23.

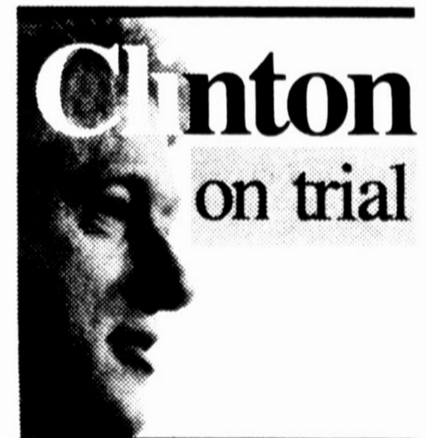
In other business, the commissioners:

- Appointed Jack Patton to the Panhandle Plains Higher Education Authority board. Patton will complete the term of the late John Sherrod. At the same time, the commissioners reappointed Waldo Baxter to a new term on the board;

- Accepted the recommendation of Mike Harris as the city's nominee for the 1999 Governor's Volunteer Awards. The recipients of the awards are selected from throughout the state. Harris, who is an employee of West Texas Rural Telephone, does volunteer work with United Way of Deaf Smith County.

- Approved a resolution approving the Panhandle Plains Higher Education Authority's issuance of a maximum of \$200 million in bonds, which will be used to purchase student loan notes, refund outstanding obligations of the authority, paying expenses relating to the bond issuance.

## House managers turn to Clinton pal



### The Associated Press

Vernon Jordan and one of the House prosecutors in President Clinton's impeachment trial entered a secure area of the Capitol today to begin questioning of the Clinton confidant about what he knew of Monica Lewinsky's relationship with the president.

A few senators were watching Ms. Lewinsky's videotaped deposition, which was taken Monday and made available today at closed Capitol sites to the senators who will resume Clinton's trial on Thursday.

Jordan faced a deposition under oath in a room normally used by the Senate Intelligence Committee. House prosecutor Asa Hutchinson, R-Ark., was seen entering the secure area, along with Sens. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., Fred Th-

ompson, R-Tenn., and Sen. Mike DeWine, R-Ohio, three of the Senate observers assigned for the session.

Lawyers for the president were to have the opportunity to question Jordan after House managers finished. Each side was to have as many as four hours.

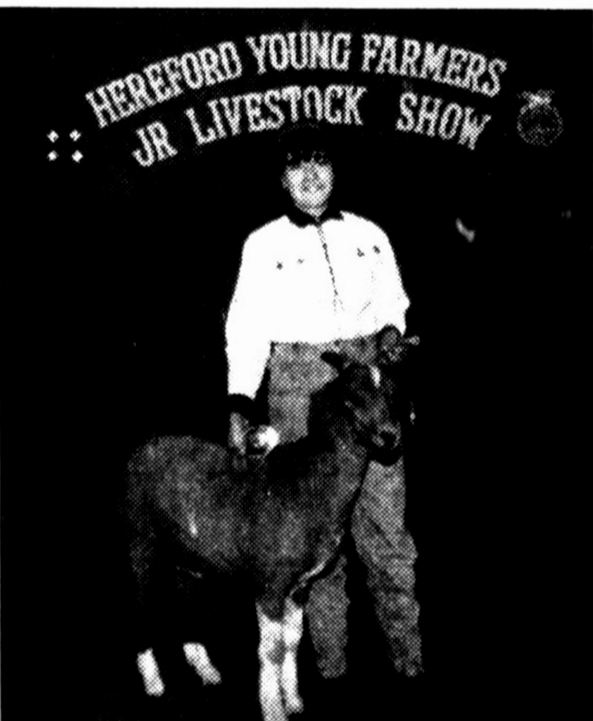
As senators for the first time got access to Ms. Lewinsky's videotaped deposition, prosecutors were to focus their questions on some of the discrepancies that emerged between her grand jury testimony and Jordan's last year.

Today marked the first time Jordan, a Washington attorney and longtime Clinton friend, had testified since Ms. Lewinsky began cooperating with Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr.

In contrast to Jordan, Ms. Lewinsky gave the grand jury specific details that linked Jordan to conversations about gifts she received from Clinton, destroyed notes to the president and a false affidavit in which she denied an affair.

On Monday, in the first time she was exposed to possible questioning by Clinton's lawyers, Ms. Lewinsky gave testimony that closely tracked her earlier grand jury account.

## Buyers get pigs (and steers, sheep) in a poke



BRAND/Dianna F. Dandridge  
Carley Lassiter carried away the prizes from the 1999 Goat Show with both the Grand Champion and Reserve Champion animals.

### Top animals in all classes sold, but weather keeps stock from being viewed

By Dianna F. Dandridge

Hereford Brand Staff Writer

Buyers at the 1999 Hereford Young Farmer's Stock Show and Sale didn't get a chance to see the steers they were purchasing Saturday, but the annual auction closed with the sale of the top animals in all classes.

Because of the inclement weather Saturday, most steer exhibitors chose not to bring the animals back to the ring, so most of the animals weren't available for viewing by the buyers.

The top-selling steer, a second-place lightweight English breed, owned by Cory Marsh, sold for \$4,484.

The Grand Champion Steer, weighing 1,250 pounds and owned by Chad

Christie, brought \$3 per pound, or \$3,750.

Reserve champion, owned by Craig Campbell sold for \$2.25 a pound, for a total of \$2,812.50.

Jackie and Clayton Patton each sold their American breed champion steers for \$1,875.

Brent Carlson's Reserve Breed Champion English steer brought \$1,854 and Amanda Wall's Reserve Breed Exotic animal sold for \$1,232.

As with the steers, the high-selling hog was not the show champion, but instead belonged to Amanda Moss with her third-place Duroc.

The 250-pound hog sold for \$6 per pound, making a total of \$1,500.

A number of pigs sold for more than the reserve champion, with sale amounts ranging from \$1,392 down to \$492.75.

Both the Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion goat were

See SHOW, Page A9

See TRIAL, Page A9

FEB 02 1999



# LIFESTYLES

HEREFORD BRAND • Tuesday, February 2, 1999 • A3



**Double presentation**—Melinda Henson, Girl Scout leader, is presented a check for \$75 from George Pacheco, president of the American Business Club of Hereford (AMBUCS) as she presents Pacheco with a box of Girl Scout cookies. Henson gave a program on the status of Girl Scouting in Hereford at the AMBUCS meeting Monday at the Ranch House Restaurant.

## Deaf Smith County Historical Society Museum Meanderings

By TROYCE HANNA

The last of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. The beginning of a new year of activities and the culmination of a century of many changes. We have much to look forward to as we enter this new year.

The Deaf Smith County Historical Society begins the year with a change in staff. Paula Edwards is now serving as the executive director of the Deaf Smith County Museum and E.B. Black House.

A life membership was presented to Donna Brockman following a Proclamation of Appreciation for her nine years as executive director. She contributed much to our community through her unselfish service.

Jane Coplen is a new member of the Board of Directors and Valerie Artho and Amy Gilliland have been appointed to the Executive Board.

The historical society still has cookbooks for sale. These are special because they are a once-in-a-lifetime centennial keepsake. They make really nice gifts for birthdays or special occasions. The price is \$15 and they are available by calling the museum at 363-7070. A copy has been placed in the Deaf Smith County Library if you would like to just look at a copy.

Claudia McBrayer will chair the fashion committee. She urges those who have not seen the display of the early 1900s to visit the museum before fall when the display will be changed.

The most recent accession is a display from the Campfire organization. It includes an Indian Campfire dress made by Cassie Dowell who organized Campfire in the 1920s. It also has bead work, albums, woven baskets and other items of interest. Helen Langley was instrumental in making this display available.

A video committee co-chaired

by Cindy Cole and Helen Rose will be doing special interviews with those who have lived in the county for many years and have contributed much to the early day history. Suggestions of people to interview would be appreciated. Call the museum for further information.

The trunk presentations, started in our schools several years ago, are still very popular with the students. Valerie Artho chairs the committee and continues to make new presentations. Cindy Cole and Jeri Bezner have helped with this project also. Currently the trunk presentations include Indian, Cowboy, Pioneer, and Dinosaur, with World War II to be completed soon. These make excellent programs for any group needing a guest program. Call the museum if you are interested.

The museum and E.B. Black House will be closed Feb. 21-27 for waxing and polishing the floors; however, the staff will be working in the downstairs storage area and will be available by phone.

The Annual Meeting has been set for 11 a.m. on May 11 at Hereford Country Club. Election of new officers and reports will be on the agenda.

Membership in the Deaf Smith County Historical Society is open to anyone and supports the Deaf Smith County Museum and the E.B. Black House. Members of the historical society receive the newsletter and notices of special events.

Memberships are available for only \$5 per person. Life memberships are a one-time fee of \$250. Memorials and/or honorariums are also accepted and when a gift is received, if designated, the friend or loved one is notified with no mention of the amount.

All contributions to the Deaf Smith County Historical Society are tax deductible.

Syndicated Columnist

## Ann Landers



Ann Landers

**Dear Readers:** I just read a terrific booklet entitled "Stepping Back From Anger." The booklet was printed by the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers to help parents protect their children from some of the harmful effects of divorce. Here is an excerpt:

Every year, more than 1 million American couples get divorced. For those men and women, it is often the most emotionally exhausting and expensive experience they will ever have. For their children, it can be even worse.

Imagine you are 6 years old, and suddenly, the two people you have always relied on most are at each other's throats. You believe you are the cause of their anger. To make matters worse, you find yourself alone and bewildered because the two people you usually go to for comfort are too wrapped up in their own anger and grief to be of much help.

Divorce makes its mark on children both in the short term and the long term. Young children whose parents are divorcing often suffer from depression, sleep disorders, loss of self-esteem, poor academic performance, behavioral regression and a host of other physical and emotional disorders.

Long after the divorce is final, children of divorce often have trouble entering into committed relationships of their own, fearing their relationships will end as their parents' did. In addition, a Princeton University study showed that children who live apart from one of their parents are more likely to drop out of school, become unmotivated and have a child before reaching the age of 20.

Here are 10 tips for divorcing parents:

1. Never disparage your former spouse in front of your children. Because children know they are "part Mom" and "part Dad," the criticism can batter the child's self-esteem.

2. Do not use your children as messengers between you

and your former spouse. The less the children feel a part of the battle between their parents, the better.

3. Reassure your children that they are loved and that the divorce is not their fault.

4. Unless your former spouse was a molester, encourage your children to spend time with him or her. Do everything you can to accommodate the visitation.

5. At every step during your divorce, remind yourself that your children's interests, not yours, are paramount, and act accordingly.

6. Resist the temptation to let your children act as your caretakers. Let your peers, adult family members and mental health professionals be your counselors and sounding boards.

7. If you have a drinking or drug problem, get counseling right away. An impairment inhibits your ability to reassure your children and give them the attention they need at this difficult time.

8. If you are the non-custodial parent, pay your child support. The loss of income, facing many children after divorce puts them at a disadvantage that has a pervasive effect on the rest of their lives.

9. If you are the custodial parent and are not receiving child support, do not complain to your children. It feeds into their sense of abandonment and further erodes their stability.

10. If at all possible, do not uproot your children. Stability in their residence and school life helps buffer children from the trauma of their parents' divorce.

For a free copy of this booklet, write to the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, 150 N. Michigan Ave. Suite 2040, Chicago, Ill. 60660 (www.aaml.org), or call toll-free, 1-877-4-THE KIDS.

ANN LANDERS (R) COPYRIGHT 1999 CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.

Wedding information must be submitted by 5 p.m. Wednesday to be included in the Sunday edition of *The Hereford Brand*. Wedding information forms, as well as those for engagements, showers and anniversaries, are available at the news office, 313 N. Lee.

## Legion, Auxiliary meet tonight for covered dish meal, business

American Legion Post #192 and Auxiliary Unit will host a covered dish meal tonight, Tuesday, at 6:30 p.m. in the American Legion Hall.

The American Legion will furnish the meat, bread and drink. Auxiliary members are asked to bring the vegetables and salads. Hostesses will furnish dessert.

A program and business meeting will follow the meal.

All members are urged to attend.



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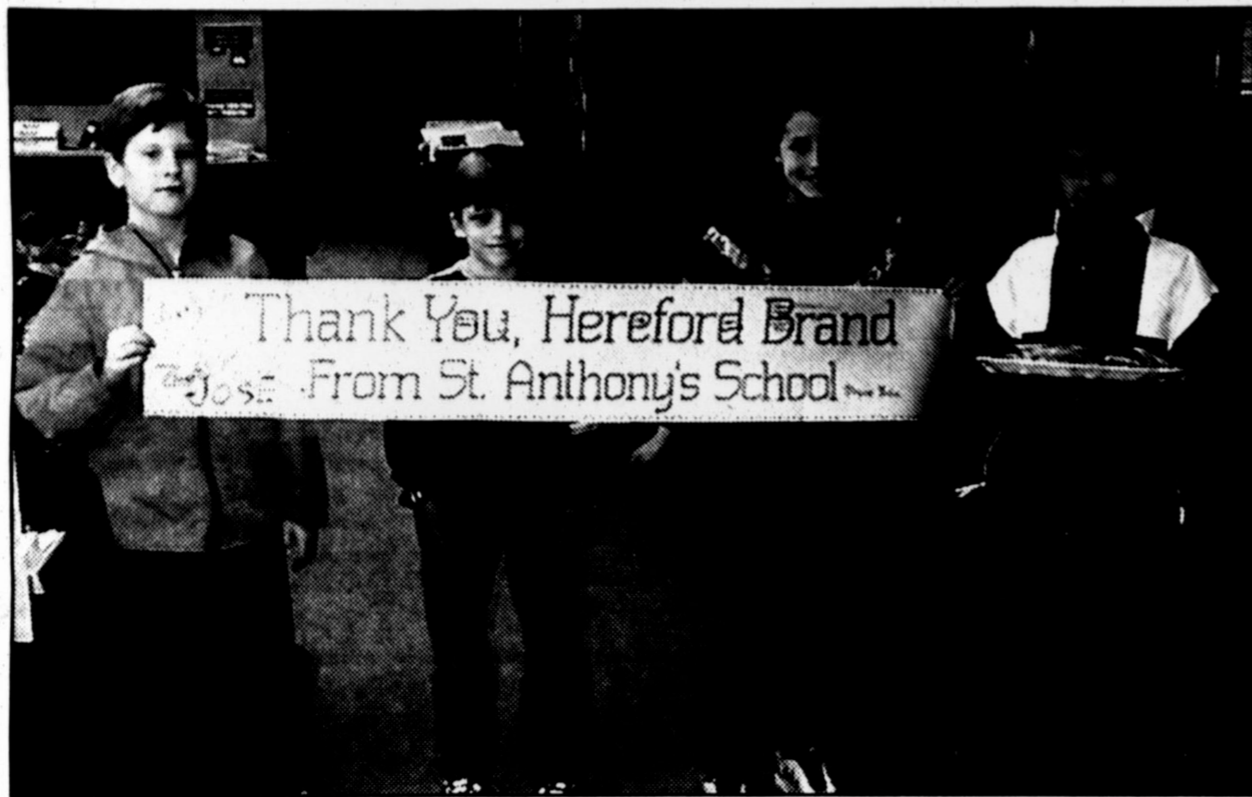
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**Community appreciation**—Numerous students from St. Anthony's School visited local businesses Monday and expressed appreciation for support of the school by presenting a "Thank You" banner and a plate of homemade cookies. Making the presentation at The Brand offices were, from left, Jeff Lawlis, Blake Martin, Megan Gerber and Jose Enriquez. This was a part of the observance of Catholic Schools Week. On Tuesday, students will be recognized with an ice cream party; Wednesday, the nation will be recognized in prayer and song at the flag pole; Thursday, volunteers will be honored with a luncheon; and Friday, there will be a school liturgy to celebrate Catholic schools and a luncheon for the staff.

Looking Back

## Today in History

**By The Associated Press**  
Today is Tuesday, Feb. 2, the 33rd day of 1999. There are 332 days left in the year.

**Today's Highlight in History:**

On Feb. 2, 1848, the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, ending the Mexican War, was signed. The treaty turned over to the United States a huge portion of the present-day Southwest, including Texas, New Mexico and California.

**On this date:**

In 1536, the Argentine city of Buenos Aires was founded by Pedro de Mendoza of Spain.  
In 1653, New Amsterdam — now New York City — was incorporated.  
In 1876, the National League of Professional Base Ball Clubs was formed in New York.  
In 1882, Irish poet and novelist James Joyce was born near Dublin.  
In 1897, fire destroyed the Pennsylvania state capitol in Harrisburg. A new statehouse was dedicated on the same site nine years later.  
In 1942, a Los Angeles Times column urged security

measures against Japanese-Americans, arguing that a Japanese-American "almost inevitably ... grows up to be a Japanese, not an American."

In 1943, the remainder of Nazi forces from the Battle of Stalingrad surrendered in a major victory for the Soviets in World War II.

In 1945, President Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill departed Malta for the summit in Yalta with Soviet leader Josef Stalin.

In 1971, Idi Amin assumed power in Uganda, following a coup that ousted President Milton Obote.

In 1996, dancer, actor and choreographer Gene Kelly died at his Beverly Hills, California, home; he was 83.

**Ten years ago:** President Bush met at the White House with Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, after which both leaders sounded upbeat about U.S.-Japanese relations.

**Five years ago:** The Commerce Department reported that its Index of Leading Economic Indicators rose for the fifth straight month.

**One year ago:** President Clinton unveiled a \$1.73 tril-

lion budget claiming the first surpluses in 30 years and pumping billions to schools, health and child care. The government released statistics showing deaths from AIDS fell by almost half during the first half of 1997, a decrease attributed to increased use of powerful combinations of medicines.

**Today's Birthdays:** Actress Elaine Stritch is 73. Actor Robert Mandan is 67. Comedian Tom Smothers is 62. Rock singer-guitarist Graham Nash is 57. Actor Bo Hopkins is 57. Television executive Barry Diller is 57. Country singer Howard Bellamy (The Bellamy Brothers) is 53. Actress Farrah Fawcett is 52. Model Christie Brinkley is 45. Actor Michael Talbot is 44. Actress Kim Zimmer ("Guiding Light") is 44. Rock musician Robert DeLeo (Stone Temple Pilots) is 33. Rock musician Ben Mize (Counting Crows) is 28. Rapper T-Mo (Goodie Mob) is 27.

**Thought for Today:** "The great temptation is to have an alibi." — George Abbott, American theatrical producer (1887-1995).

## Pie in the sky? No...in the eye.



Staff members at Hereford Care Center appeared to be good sports as they took part in Pie Day — all on the receiving end. And it wasn't eating the pie! Wearing the pie are, from left, Irene Gerber, director of nurses; Angie Balderas, housekeeping staff member; and Cindy Sublett, activities staff member.

## Low-cost breast cancer screening being offered for area women

The Women's Center of the Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center and Baptist/St. Anthony's Health System will conduct a breast cancer screening at South Plains Health Care Providers, Inc., 603 East Park, on Feb. 12.

Participants will receive a low-cost screening that includes a mammogram and instruction in self-examination by a registered nurse.

A minimum of 15 women needs to register in order for

the mobile mammography clinic to come to area towns. All exams are done by appointment only.

This clinic is available only to women who need financial assistance. Funding is available through the Texas Department of Health for Texas residents who qualify for assistance.

Call 806-356-1905 or 1-800-377-4673 for more information.

## New Arrivals

Kristi and Kent Hollingsworth are the proud parents of a daughter, Holly Rose Hollingsworth, born Jan. 21 in Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo.

She weighed 5 pounds, 12 1/4 ounces.

Grandparents are Sue and Alton Hollingsworth and Rose Mary and Philip Shook.

Great-grandparents are Vennie and Ross Shook of Denver City and Robert Sefcik of Iowa Park.

## Hospital Notes

Patients in Hereford Regional Medical Center on Feb. 1:

Milton C. Adams, Carrie M. Doak, Poppie Entwistle, Francisca Galvan, Katherine I. Hubbard, Anthony Irlbeck, Elaine Z. Rowan, Billie J.

Whitehorn.

Patients on Feb. 2:

Milton C. Adams, Carrie M. Doak, Poppie Entwistle, Francisca Galvan, Anthony Irlbeck, Christine Leon, Gregoria Perez, Elaine Z. Rowan, Billie J. Whitehorn.

**The #1 To See:**  
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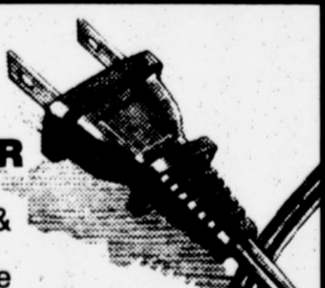
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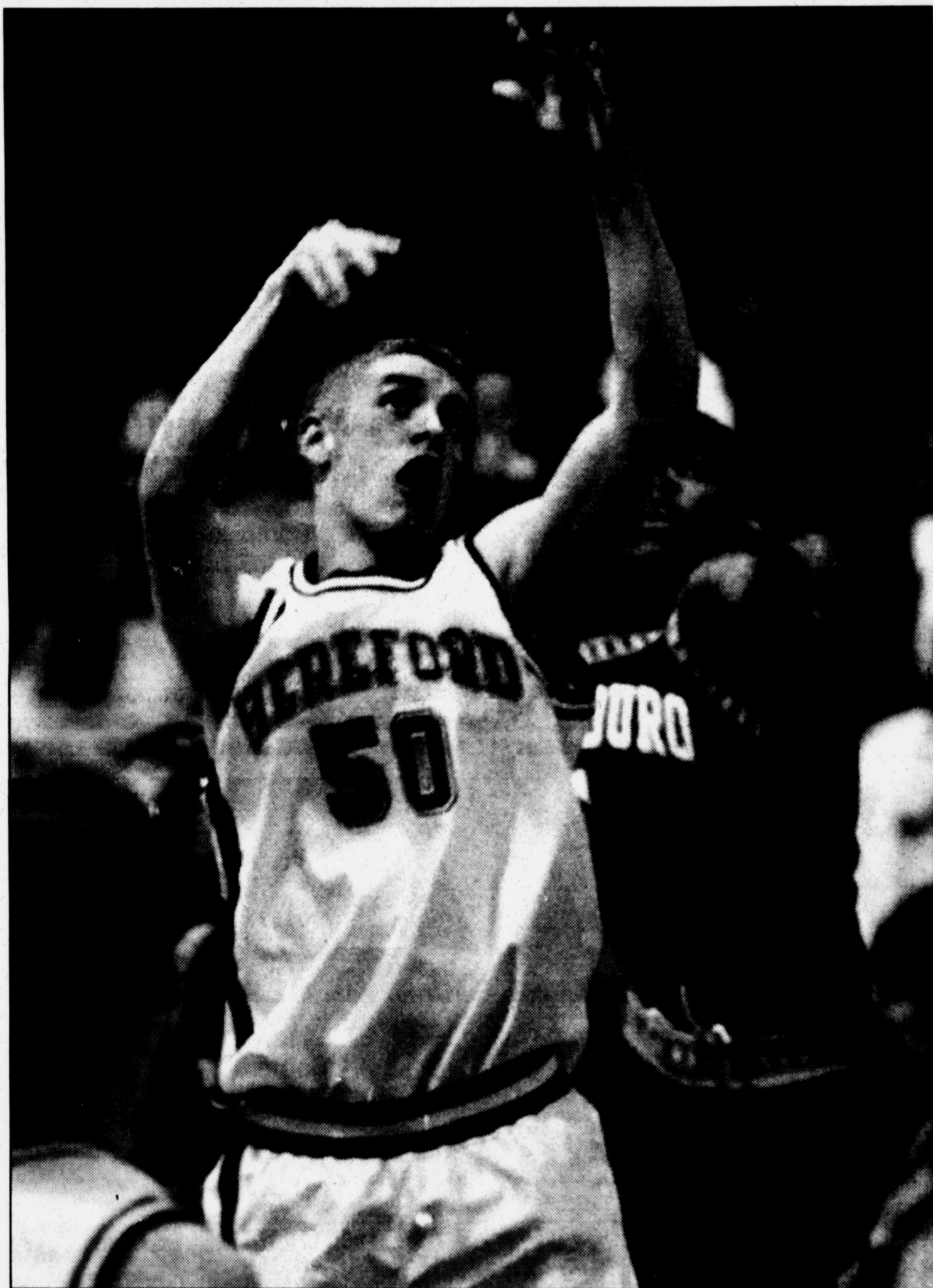
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# SPORTS

HEREFORD BRAND • Tuesday, February 2, 1999 • A5

## Giving them a Chase



BRAND/Julius Bodner

**Too late** — Whiteface cager Chase Rives releases and connects on a shot during Hereford's 3-4A game against Amarillo Palo Duro here Monday night. Rives led Hereford with 12 points in the struggle.

## Herd stumbles against top-ranked Palo Duro

Third quarter  
HHS errors  
push Amarillo  
to 50-44 win

By Mauri Montgomery  
Hereford Brand Publisher

Head varsity basketball coach Randy Dean and his Hereford Whitefaces had no illusions going into Monday night's rescheduled 3-4A bout with the top-ranked Amarillo Palo Duro Dons here.

Dean knew there would be little room for error against the district dreadnought — especially if Hereford were to defy the odds and dethrone the unbeaten Dons.

He also had no illusions about where Hereford went wrong in its gut-wrenching 50-44 loss to Amarillo before a nearly packed home side at Whiteface Gym.

Hereford after trailing by only one point going into halftime, turned the ball over on 4-5 possessions in the dawn of the third quarter and lost a potential spoiler's all-important handle on the game — staying within easy scoring reach of APD.



BRAND/Julius Bodner  
Hereford's Slade Hodges (30) forces his way inside for two

The Whitefaces slipped to 3-2 in loop play and 18-8 overall after the loss while Palo Duro improved to a perfect 5-0 slate in the first round of district competition; and 24-1 for the year.

"The third quarter. That's what hurt us," said Dean. "We turned the ball over on four possessions and we missed a layup on a fifth, and they (Palo Duro) converted most of those turnovers into points."

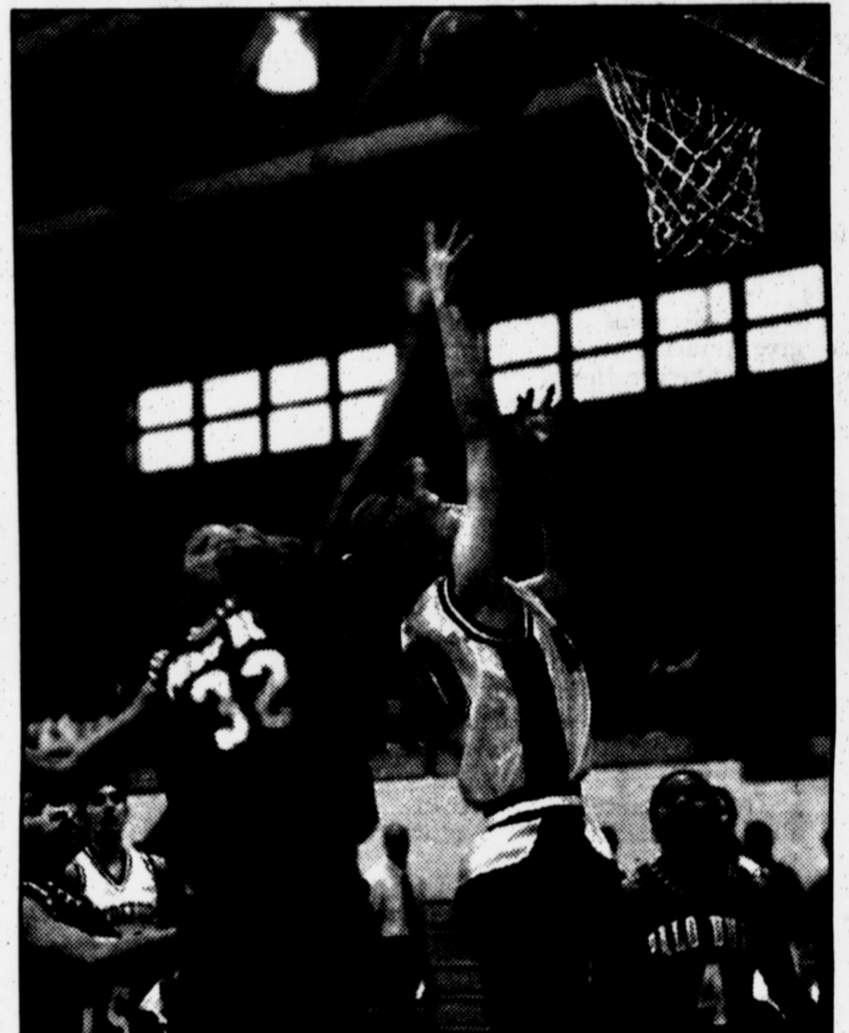
Leading 24-23 coming out of the half, the Dons used less than a minute to score back-to-back fastbreak layups off steals to give PD a quick 28-23 lead in the physical contest.

Hereford was called for traveling on its next possession and then missed a scoring opportunity before losing the ball again on a turnover.

Palo Duro seized the chance to score again. This time PD's Brandon

Please see **HERD**, Page **A6**

## Lady Whitefaces lose 3-4A thriller to Amarillo, 50-47



BRAND/Julius Bodner

**Finding the hoop** — Toni Eicke (20) puts up a shot in the company of Amarillo Palo Duro's Sarah Grant (15), Casey Jackson (32) and Joyce Benson (4).

**T**he Lady Whitefaces are probably wondering why, at least once in a blue moon, they can't seem to get things to fall in their favor in a close game.

Hereford, despite three quarters of aggressive and solid play, dropped yet another close 3-4A thriller, 50-47, to Amarillo Palo Duro here Monday night at Whiteface Gymnasium.

The loss tumbled the Lady Whitefaces to 3-4 in district and 18-12 overall, while Palo Duro advanced its district lead to 6-1 and 24-6 on the season.

Hereford came into the battle ready to play.

The Monday game, postponed Friday and Saturday due to heavy snowfall, had given the Lady Whitefaces at least one more day to hone their play. And the extra time almost paid big dividends.

Hereford, led by the scoring barrages of Tori Walker with 14 and Valerie Guzman who netted 13; whittled a four-point 11-7 lead over the Lady Dons after the first period of play.

But Palo Duro grasped control of the tilt with 2:05 remaining in the second period and outscored the Lady White-

faces 13-9 behind the charge of junior PD shooter Casey Jackson, who capped 17 points as Amarillo's leading scorer.

Ironically, Palo Duro only shot 33% from the field to Hereford's 58% in the first half. But Palo Duro demolished the Lady Whitefaces on rebounds and put the ball up twice as many times.

The aggressive play put Hereford's Tori Walker in foul trouble early. The HHS junior had three fouls before the end of the second quarter, but Makesha Rives and Valerie Guzman combined some great defensive play with some well-placed hits at the rim to keep Hereford alive going into halftime.

Still, it wasn't enough. Both teams traded almost equal scoring flurries in the second half of the contest.

### GIRLS

HEREFORD	11	19	35	47
PALO DURO	7	20	38	50

H—Tori Walker 14, Valerie Guzman 13, Toni Eicke 10, Makesha Rives 8. PD—Casey Jackson 17, Julianna Morrison 13. RECORDS: Hereford 18-12, 3-4; PD 24-6, 6-1.

## Can the Broncos pull a three-peat?

MIAMI (AP) — Now it's time for the Denver Broncos to deal with their place in history.

Do the two-time Super Bowl champions rate with other great teams of the modern era? Lombardi's Packers? The Steel Curtain? America's Team?

The one way to prove with certainty that the Broncos belong in such company is for

Denver to win again next year. As commanding as those other champions were, none of them won three successive Super Bowls.

Can these Broncos, particularly if John Elway retires? "The only way we've done it is because we're always hungry," coach Mike Shanahan said Monday, hours after the

See, **BRONCOS**, Page **A6**

## High School tennis program schedules six-week course

The Hereford High School tennis program has announced plans to host a six-week tennis Drill Group for 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade students beginning Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>.

Instructors for the course, which will introduce basic tennis fundamentals to students each Tuesday and Thursday from 6:30 - 8 p.m., will be Amarillo Tennis Center professional Michael Thackerson and H.H.S. assis-

tant tennis coach Michael Brewer.

Cost for the six week course is \$100, and pre-registration is preferred.

More information regarding the course or registration for the course may be obtained by calling head H.H.S. tennis coach Ed Coplen at 364-6969 after 5 p.m.; or Michael Brewer at 364-5247 after 5 p.m.











THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**News in brief****Cheap gasoline proving bonanza for government**

WASHINGTON — Carefree American drivers and their sport-utility vehicles are guzzling cheap gas at the pumps, and that's having an extra payoff for the federal government: up to \$1.5 billion in unanticipated fuel tax collections.

No matter how low the price of gas goes, drivers still pay their local, state and federal governments an average of 43 cents per gallon in taxes. The federal share is 18.4 cents, and the Clinton administration and the Republican-controlled Congress are already fighting over what to do with this revenue bonanza.

Under the nation's new \$203 billion highway bill, gas tax revenues were split 80/20 between highway and mass transit programs. Any unanticipated money was supposed to be restricted to highway construction, traffic reduction and air quality improvements.

But with some \$25 billion already in the pipeline for highway construction projects, the new Transportation Department budget outlines a different way to divvy up the \$1.456 billion in extra gas tax revenues the administration now expects.

**Explosion rocks Ford plant**

DEARBORN, Mich. — The explosion rocked the massive Ford Motor Co. River Rouge Complex, then plunged it into darkness. Fire shot up into the sky as workers scrambled for safety.

"I thought we were dead because of the way the stuff fell on us and pushed us to the ground," worker Brian Papke said. "It was black and hard to breathe and the debris — I didn't think we were going to get out of there."

One person was killed and 12 critically injured in the explosion Monday in the coal-powered generating station that fuels the sprawling complex's operations.

Twenty-one workers were initially treated at Oakwood Hospital, said spokeswoman Jennifer George Robinson. Three were released and three others were in stable condition. The rest, including the critically injured, were transferred to other hospitals because of the severity of their burns.

The cause of the explosion at the No. 3 boiler was not immediately known, Ford officials said.

**NATO deadline draws near**

PRISTINA, Yugoslavia — Serb leaders and ethnic Albanian rebels are running out of time to decide whether they will commit to peace talks, described as the "last chance" to resolve the Kosovo conflict without NATO military intervention.

The United States and five European powers have summoned the two sides to start talks Saturday in France aimed at ending 11 months of fighting over Kosovo Albanians' demand for independence.

"This is the last chance, and I would like to make a call for negotiations in good will to solve this tragedy," NATO Secretary-General Javier Solana said in Germany.

NATO has authorized Solana to take military action if the warring parties haven't started talks in a week and reached a deal by Feb. 19.



BRAND/Julius Bodner

**Presents plaque** — Tom Bailey (right), president of the Whiteface Booster Club, presents a plaque to Dave Charest, president of the Hereford Independent School District board of trustees, during a ceremony at Tuesday's Hereford-Palo Duro basketball game. The plaque contains the names of all individuals and businesses contributing to the booster club's drive to purchase a new activity bus for the school district.

**Clinton budget good for Texas**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Weapons programs made in Texas would receive billions of federal dollars under a six-year budget blueprint offered Monday by the Clinton administration.

The proposal, which features the biggest increase in defense spending since the end of the Cold War, would benefit North Texas defense contractors, in particular those making the F-16, F-22 and V-22 Osprey.

The Clinton plan also has billions more earmarked for Texas-related projects, including NASA, state military bases, highways, regional bus transportation and the Houston

Ship Channel.

Ten F-16s, which are built in Fort Worth, would be funded next year under the plan. Purchases of the fighters manufactured by Lockheed Martin have been on the wane, with just one purchased this year. The Air Force, however, wants 30 additional F-16s over the next four years to replace older ones.

The F-22, Lockheed's next-generation stealth fighter program, would receive \$3 billion next year. The company's Fort Worth plant has a share of the production of the F-22, which will go into low-rate initial production this fall.

The V-22 Osprey, manufac-

tured by Bell Helicopter Textron in Fort Worth, would hit peak production one year earlier than anticipated under the plan, with 30 copies in 2003.

The Pentagon would purchase 10 V-22s next year, 16 in 2001 and 20 in 2002 before reaching the 30-a-year peak.

The defense budget, which proposes \$261 billion in spending in fiscal 2000, also seeks to reverse an erosion in military readiness. The administration is proposing a 4.4 percent across-the-board military pay raise, improved retirement benefits and enlistment bonuses.

**Clinton's attorney seeking inquiry of Starr**

WASHINGTON (AP) — A federal judge is being asked to widen an investigation into whether Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr's office has improperly leaked grand jury information in the Monica Lewinsky investigation.

The new request Monday by President Clinton's lawyer, David Kendall, was prompted by a weekend report that Starr had concluded a federal grand jury has the constitutional authority to indict the president while he is in office.

Kendall asked U.S. District Judge Norma Holloway Johnson to order Starr to show why he and his staff should not be held in contempt for improper violations of grand jury secrecy.

Kendall told reporters that Starr's office "engaged in illegal and partisan leaking" related to the weekend report in *The New York Times*.

Starr released a statement saying he was "deeply troubled" by the article.

Starr, asked outside his home whether he planned to seek an indictment of the president, said, "It is premature for us to be commenting at all on this, so we're not going to comment."

Johnson last year appointed an investigator to look into Kendall's previous allegations that Starr's office was responsible for leaks of grand jury material in the investigation of whether Clinton illegally tried to cover up his affair with Ms. Lewinsky. Starr contended the White House and defense lawyers were the prime suspects.

**THERE'S SOMETHING****OPPEEAL****IN HEREFORD BRAND CLASSIFIEDS**

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