

Hereford BRAND

99th Year, Vol. Number 55 • Deaf Smith County, Texas

FRIDAY, September 17, 1999

10 Pages, 50 Cents

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Board approves tax abatement

By Julie L. Carlson
Hereford Brand Staff Writer

A Hereford business' request for a tax break was unanimously approved Thursday by the Deaf Smith Tax Abatement Board.

Top of Texas Inc., a feed mill equipment supply and erector company that has been named one of the nation's top 100 small businesses by *Entrepreneur* magazine, plans to expand its current facility. It is requesting

a five-year, 50 percent tax abatement. The minimum amount of money to request for an abatement is \$250,000. Top of Texas Inc. exceeds that amount.

Max Middleton of Top of Texas Inc. said the expansion will cost "upwards of a million dollars."

After hearing the request, the board voted unanimously to recommend approval of the request. The board members are County Judge Tom Simons

and Johnny Latham, county representatives; Roger Eades and Carey Black, city representatives; Carolyn Waters and Mark Landrum, school district representatives; and Bobby Owen, the representative from the hospital. Also present at Thursday's meeting were Beth Abernathy, Hereford Independent School District superintendent; Sid Shaw, executive vice president of the Deaf Smith County Chamber of Commerce; and Don Cumpton,

executive director of the Hereford Economic Development Corp.

Following the board's action, the affected taxing entities -- county, city and school district -- will vote individually on the abatement. The entities' approvals don't have to be unanimous; one entity could grant the abatement with their money and another may deny approval.

The question centers around the HISD board. In

the wake of the reports of discrepancies in the district budget, observers doubt the school board will approve the abatement.

Simons, who serves as chairman of the abatement board, said, "I don't think they ought to approve it."

The county will consider the abatement at Monday's meeting of the county commissioners. The city commission and school board are expected to take it up later.

Today's weather OUTLOOK



Mostly cloudy skies

Tonight, mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly after midnight, low 55 to 60, south to southwest wind 5-15 mph.

Saturday, partly sunny with a high around 80, southwest wind 10-20 mph with higher gusts. Saturday night, partly cloudy with a low in the upper 50s.

Extended forecast

Sunday, becoming cloudy, windy and turning much cooler with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms, high 65 to 70.

Monday, mostly cloudy with a chance of showers and thunderstorms, low 45 to 50, high around 70.

Tuesday, partly cloudy, low 45 to 50, high in the upper 70s.

Hereford weather

Thursday's high, 65; low, 56; no precipitation; year-to-date rainfall, 26.23 inches, according to KPAN Radio.

'MR. MIKE'



Mike Harris named 1999 Governor's Volunteer

Harris' work is recognized

By Dianna F. Dandridge
Hereford Brand Staff Writer

It's a prestigious honor being named a Governor's Volunteer, even if the only recognition is a blue and cream certificate on heavy paper, embossed with the Texas governor's seal.

But for Mike Harris - "Mr. Mike" as he is lovingly known by the community children - that certificate naming him as a 1999 Governor's Volunteer is more than adequate.

"Mr. Mike" doesn't talk much about what he does as a volunteer. His reasons are simple - he likes to see people smile and he likes knowing he can lighten someone else's load, if only for a little while.

"More than anything, Mike likes to just do what he does as quietly as possible. The less attention he gets, the better," wrote Karen Sherrod, former executive director for United Way of Deaf Smith County.

In a letter Harris wrote as a candidate for the Governor's Volunteer Award,

he states: "There is nothing more satisfying than seeing the smile on an innocent child's face. ... The things a senior citizen will tell a clown is amazing. The reason is trust. ... Just a few minutes of no pressure, no guilt, no pain. If only for a little while, laughter instead of tears."

"Mr. Mike" started volunteer work several years ago as "Sparky" the traveling clown. Showing up at hospitals and nursing homes wasn't enough so he started making visits as the world's happiest character - Santa.

He attended clown and magician classes, learned how to make balloon animals and more than anything else delighted in giving others a bit of happiness.

His letter says the reason he volunteers is selfish. "I am blessed by helping others."

"Mr. Mike" he is probably the only person who considers himself selfish.

Beverly Harrison, administrator of the Hereford Day Care Center, described him as far from selfish in her letter to the nominating committee.

Harrison details a man who plays Santa Claus every year for the children at the center, but instead of payment only wants a donation to be made to the "Make-A-Wish Foundation."

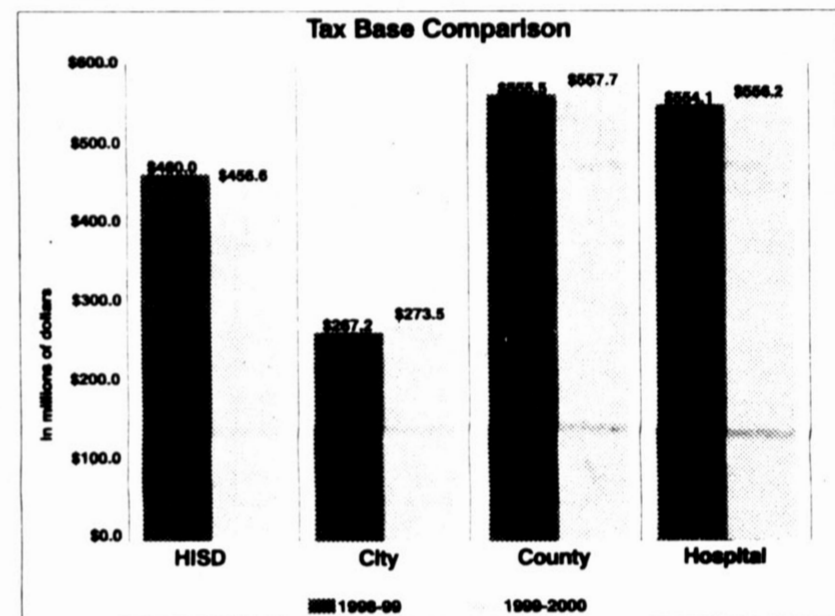
Harrison's letter tells of a memorial fund set up in memory of her daughter, Randi Brooke Harrison, by Harris, designed solely to help children with a financial need that is not being met through other means.

Most of "Mr. Mike's" volunteer work centers around children, but it's not just limited to clowning antics or playing the part a jolly old elf.

Harris is actively involved with local United Way; he sells tickets and cooks hamburgers for special events; and even recruits other adults to help with his favorite projects.

"Mr. Mike" is probably best known for his work in the children's ministry at the Hereford Church of the Nazarene, where it's not

Please see MIKE, Page A9



HISD tax rate to go up by 5¢

■ District's tax base hit by exemptions, declining enrollment

By Donald M. Cooper
Hereford Brand Managing Editor

Taxpayers within the Hereford Independent School District are looking at a major tax increase when the tax notices arrive in their mail boxes.

The tax increase is necessary because the school district could be looking at a \$16 million debt.

Superintendent Beth Abernethy last week told the HISD board the district is in deep financial trouble and apparently has been for at least three years.

When preparing the budget for the 1999-2000 school year, Abernethy saw what she described as "discrepancies" and contacted the Texas Education Agency to verify her concerns - discrepancies, which indicate the district may be in debt by \$16 million.

Among the problems cited by Abernethy, TEA verified the district had been overpaid by \$854,000. Overpayments by the TEA are not unusual because the agency estimates payments based on average daily attendance (ADA), which in HISD has been declining steadily for several years. Nor-

mally when schools receive an overpayment, it is deposited in an interest-bearing account until TEA asks for a return and districts return the overpayment and keep the earned interest.

However, HISD had spent \$854,000 which was not budgeted.

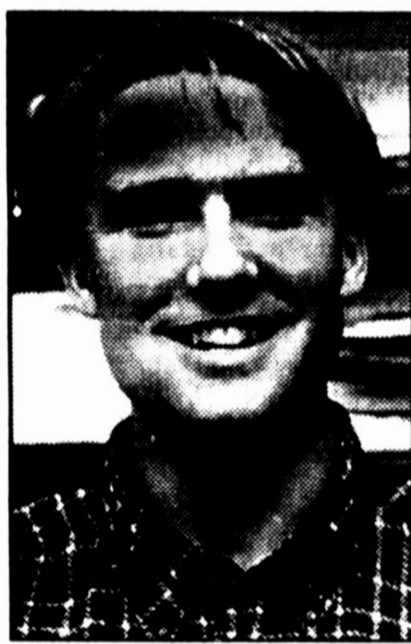
Largely due to increased expenditures, a declining tax base and a falling enrollment, HISD has been operating in the red since the 1996-97 budget year. In 1996-97, the budget reflects a \$480,000 deficit, following a \$790,000 deficit in 1997-98. Also, HISD's expenditures outstripped revenue by more than \$1 million last year.

Because HISD will be expected to reimburse the \$854,000 this year, as well as pay remaining obligations, the board is expected to approve a 5-cent tax increase that would generate about \$1 million additional state aid.

In addition to those problems, the school district has seen its tax base decline. In the recent property appraisals, the Deaf Smith County Tax Appraisal District pegged the district's tax base at \$456,596,719, down \$3.4 million from last year.

The other taxing entities in the county saw their tax bases gain over the year: The City of Hereford's tax base is

Please see HISD, Page A9



Grant to resign

Jeremy Grant said Thursday afternoon he is resigning as a member of the Deaf Smith County Hospital District board.

Grant, who has been serving as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, has accepted the pastorate of Covenant Presbyterian Church in Omaha, Neb.

Grant has been a member of the hospital board since September 1997, replacing Larry Watts who resigned.

WEEK 3

Headlines
7:30 today
Whiteface Stadium

Combest says changes needed in farm law

WASHINGTON (AP) — With lawmakers working on another multibillion-dollar bailout of the farm economy, the Republican chairman of the House Agriculture Committee says it's time to consider changes to the government's GOP-authored farm policy.

"I don't know how much more we have to be hit over the head with a 2-by-4 until we look at this," said Rep. Larry Combest, R-Texas.

Combest announced plans Thursday to hold hearings early next year with an eye toward implementing any changes to the 1996 "Freedom to Farm" law by next fall.

Republicans have so far resisted rewriting the law, which ended a Depression-era system of farm subsidies, but commodity prices plummeted last year because of a worldwide glut of grain and are expected to remain depressed through 2000.

The 1996 law scaled back price-supporting subsidies and ended restrictions on what farmers could plant. In return, farmers were guaranteed fixed but declining annual payments through 2002, when the law will expire. Critics say that doesn't provide enough help when



REP. LARRY COMBEST

commodity prices are low.

Congress gave farmers \$6 billion in additional aid last year and is working on a similar package that could exceed the \$7.4 billion approved by the Senate last month.

Republicans have faulted the Clinton administration, saying it hasn't pushed hard enough to open new markets

for U.S. crops. Rep. George Nethercutt, R-Wash., said he is "fundamentally supportive" of the 1996 law but added, "I also think there can be some fine-tuning."

Combest, who became chairman of the committee this year, only reluctantly supported the law in the first place after voting against an earlier version in 1995.

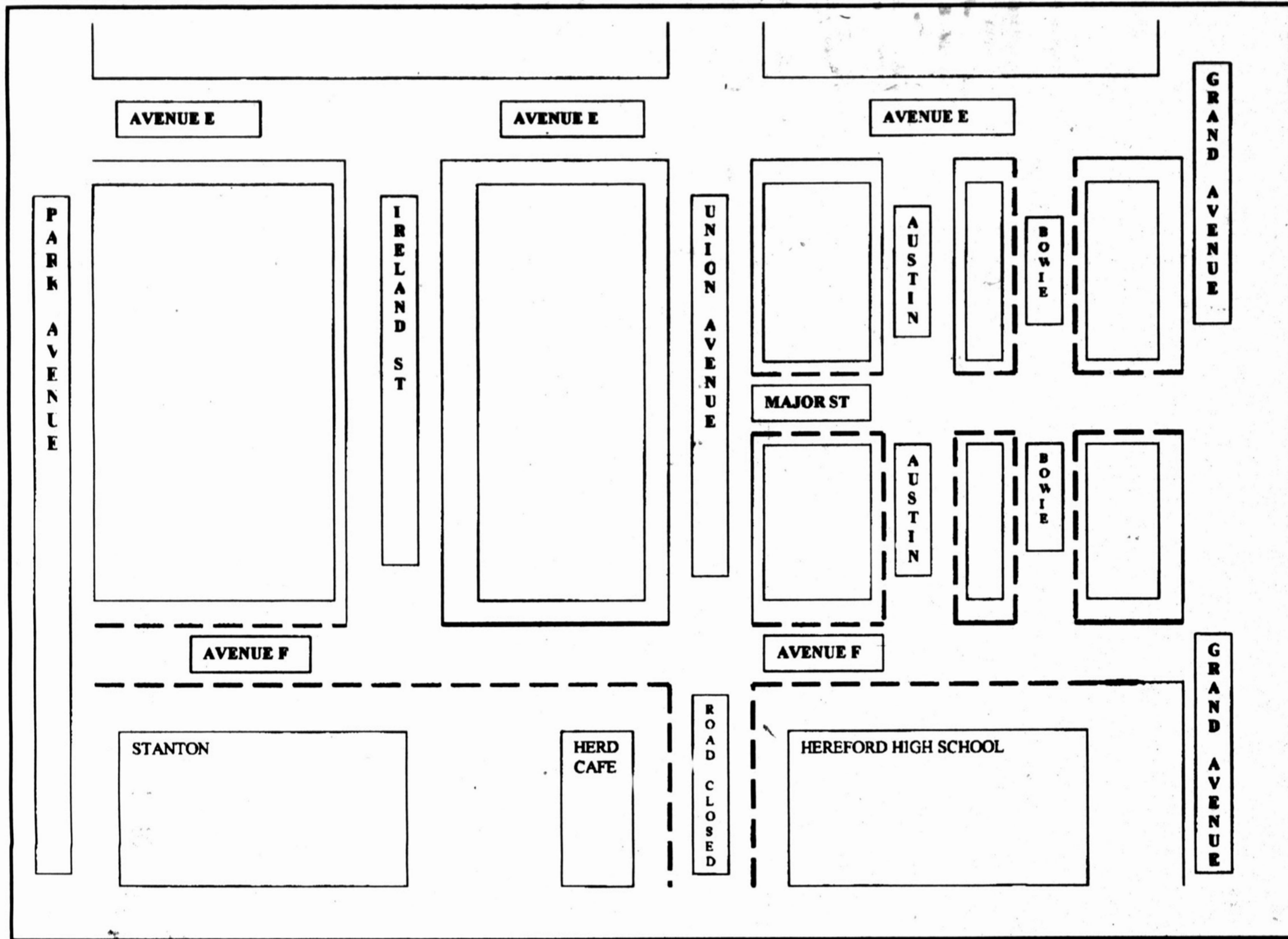
Both Combest and the American Farm Bureau Federation, the nation's largest

farmer organization, say they are interested in a proposal by Rep. Charles Stenholm, D-Texas, for a new system of subsidies that would be tied to crop yields and commodity prices.

The Farm Bureau has strongly supported the 1996 law and remains opposed to other changes sought by Democrats and organizations that tend to represent small-scale farm operations.

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INSIDE



High school parking raises questions

An ongoing shortage of parking spaces at Hereford High School and the ensuing parking citations for individuals parking illegally has resulted in numerous questions of "Where can they park?"

Hereford police department and HHS officials have issued this map detailing no parking zones.

Areas marked with broken lines indicate "No Parking" zones.

Individuals parking in these areas will be issued parking citations, said HPD officer Rob Roach.

Parking is not permitted at all along the east side of Avenue F from the Park Avenue intersection to the chain link fence around the construction site.

Union Avenue is closed between Avenue F and Whiteface Drive, so no parking is allowed.

Also no parking is allowed on most side streets within two blocks to the west of the high school.

This map is being run as a public service message in an effort to alleviate the confusion.

HEREFORD BRAND

Local roundup

Entities hold public hearing

Hereford Independent School District, Deaf Smith County Hospital District, City of Hereford and Deaf Smith County will have a public hearing to discuss an application for tax abatement from Top of Texas, Inc. The hearing will take place on Monday, Sept. 27 at 6 p.m. in the County Courthouse at the courthouse.

The Tax Abatement Board met on Thursday, Sept. 16 to discuss recommendation on the abatement and a unanimous decision was made by the board for referral to their individual entities.

This public hearing is the next step in the line of action for granting or denying the abatement.

FUMC Centennial Celebration

First United Methodist Church of Hereford will celebrate its 100th anniversary with activities this weekend.

A hamburger cookout will be held on Main Street in front of the church beginning at 4 p.m. Saturday to be followed by raising of the time capsule buried 10 years ago.

Sunday there will be a catered dinner in Fellowship Hall following the 10:45 a.m. service of worship.

Band Boosters to meet

Hereford High School Band Boosters will meet in the high school band hall at 7 p.m. Tuesday to discuss coming events and decorations of the band hall for marching contest.

All officers, Diamond Dancers, twirlers and class representatives need to attend.

Parents of all high school and junior high band students are welcome to attend.

Shirley sells cookie dough

Shirley School Library is sponsoring the Red Apple Cookie Dough in nine flavors including M&M mega-bite 2000.

Cookie dough is sold in three pound tubs for \$10 apiece.

To order contact a Shirley student or contact the office at 363-7670.

Cookie dough will be on sale through Sept. 22.

Shirley seeks alumni history

Shirley Intermediate School will celebrate 50 years of educating Hereford students and need the public's help.

School officials are asking residents with old pictures, names, history or memorabilia relating to Shirley to please contact Nancy Denison at 363-7670.

The official birthday party will be Tuesday, Oct. 19. Anyone with information, or stories from the last 50 years is asked to contact the school.

Humane Society meeting

The local Humane Society will hold its annual meeting 7 p.m. Monday at the Hereford Community Center. Among the items to be discussed will be the local animal shelter. All interested individuals are encouraged to attend.

Christian formation classes

San Jose Catholic Church will hold Christian Formation classes for grades K5 through sixth beginning at 10 a.m. Saturday in San Jose Community Center. Registration will be accepted at that time.

HerefordBrand

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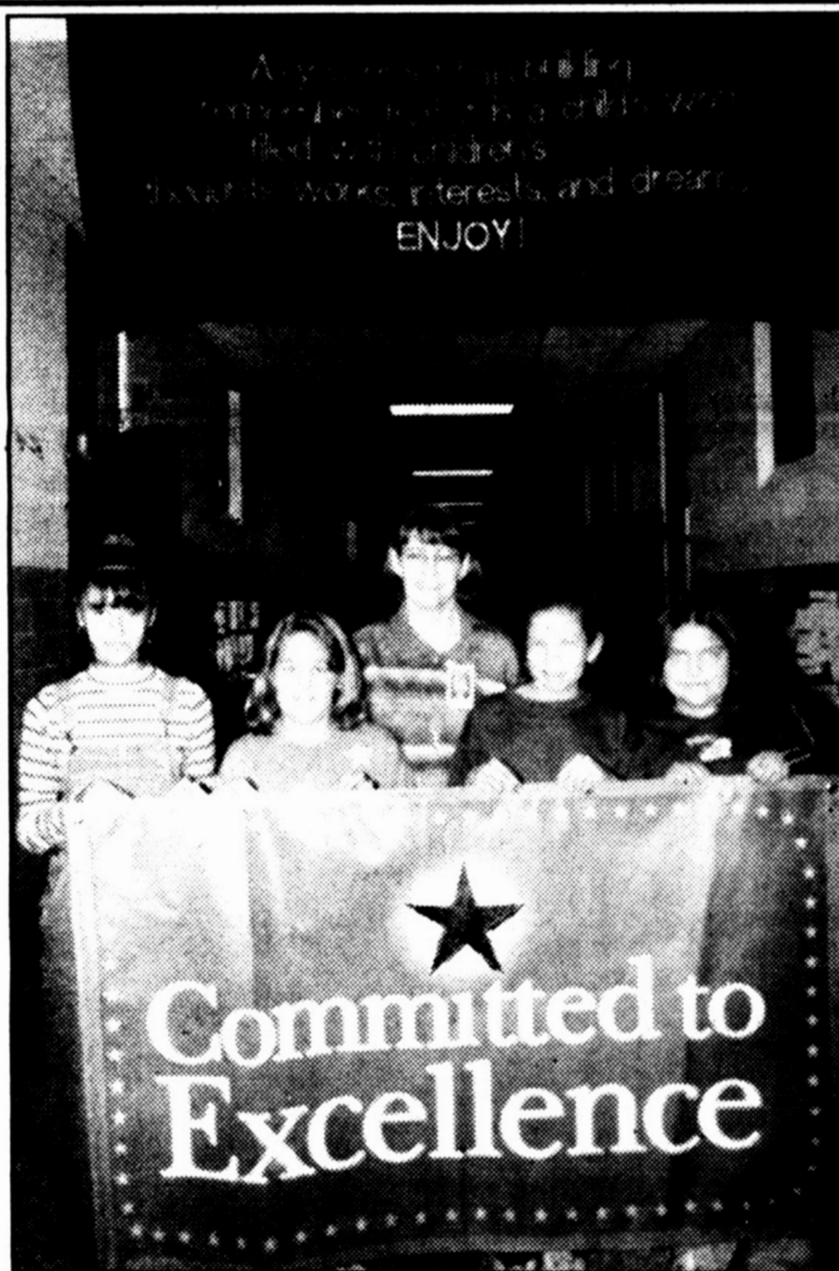
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O.G. Nieman (1928-99) Publisher Emeritus
Mauri Montgomery Publisher
Don Cooper Managing Editor
Jay Guerrero Circulation Manager



SEILS in action -- Shirley Intermediate school recently announced the officers of their student council body known as SEILS -- Students Enrolled in Leadership Skills. This year's officers from the left are Maria Aguillar, president; Rebecca Noggler, vice president; Sonya Varella, secretary; and Crystal Garza, treasurer. With the SEILS officer is one of the sponsors, Kelly Goodin.

HEREFORD BRAND Emergency services

Activities reported by emergency services personnel for Sept. 16, 1999, include the following:

POLICE DEPARTMENT Incidents

- Criminal mischief was reported in the 600 block of Irving.

- Disorderly conduct was reported in the 100 block of South Ranger.

- A traffic accident was reported on U.S. Highway 385 and Grand.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT Arrests

- A 39-year-old man was arrested and charged with public intoxication.

- A 23-year-old man was arrested and charged with theft by check over \$20, under \$500.

- A 29-year-old man was arrested and charged with theft by check over \$20, under \$500.

A&M minority enrollment drops

HOUSTON (AP) — A drop in minority enrollment in the freshman class at Texas A&M was expected because of efforts to shrink the overall first-year class, officials say.

The university enrolled 6,699 freshmen, compared with 7,354 a year ago. Last year, A&M had the largest freshman class nationwide.

University officials want a smaller class because of the problems providing enough classes and housing for so many students. Overall enrollment is a record 43,500 this fall.

The freshman class includes 181 black and 572 Hispanics, officials said Thursday. This compares with 197 blacks and 669 Hispanics a year ago.

Provost Ronald Douglas said he was not worried about the slightly lower number of minorities among freshmen because of the rising number of minority applicants, which shows more minority students want to attend the university.

Gates offers scholarships Computer tycoon makes higher education available

David McBride was in algebra class when he showed a friend the newspaper story about the billion-dollar college scholarship program for minorities being financed by software tycoon Bill Gates.

"It really put hope in his face," said the 16-year-old senior at San Francisco's Lowell High School. "He's part of a low-income family also."

McBride, who wants to be a pharmacist, is black and the fifth of six ambitious siblings. He could well become a candidate for the gifts announced Thursday by Microsoft Corp. Chairman Gates and his wife, Melinda.

Starting next fall, Gates Millennium scholarships will pay full tuition, room, board and expenses for 1,000 new students each year for college, as well as for graduate studies in education, engineering, math and science.

The 20-year program is aimed at high achievers lacking money for college.

Eligible students must have a 3.3 grade-point average, be nominated by a teacher or principal and commit to performing community service. Scholarship winners would have to maintain a 3.0 average.

"It's sent a lot of hope into a lot of people who didn't have it before," said McBride, whose mother is a teacher and father drives a bus. "It's put a lot of hope into me, because one of the colleges I would like to go to is the University of the Pacific. The education is wonderful, but it's very expensive."

The United Negro College Fund will run the scholarship program, along with the Hispanic Scholarship Fund and American Indian College Fund.

"Not only will we change individual lives, we will change the educational landscape," said William Gray III, president of the United Negro College Fund.

University of Illinois President James Stukel said the scholarships will allow educators "to tap a base of talent we haven't been able to tap for financial reasons."

Many students support families and juggle jobs along with their coursework, Stukel said. But it's tough for anyone short of means.

"Even the most generous scholarship programs don't cover all the expenses," he said.

Etta McMahan has seen

the difference scholarships can make.

As principal of David Starr Jordan High School in Los Angeles, set amid public housing, she tries to point many of the school's 2,100 students toward college. Last year, about 200 of its 234 graduates went on to higher education — the result, McMahan said, of more than \$2 million in scholarships, grants and donations she helped secure.

"That's the only way these students could go," she said.

LaTasha Gardner, a 17-year-old senior at Jordan, aspires to be a nurse. Raised by her mother, a store clerk, she needs outside help.

She's been told she is not deserving enough: "I really don't like that feeling."

HEREFORD BRAND Obituaries

JOHNNY GONZALEZ

Sept. 14, 1999

RUIDOSO, N.M. — Services for Johnny Gonzalez, 36, formerly of Lazbuddie were today in the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church with Rev. Alfonso San Juan officiating. Burial was in Muleshoe Memorial Park Cemetery by Ellis Funeral Home of Muleshoe.

Mr. Gonzalez died Tuesday in Albuquerque.

He was born in Lubbock and was a 1982 graduate of Lazbuddie High School. He was a member of the Catholic Church and a truck driver.

Survivors include two sons, John Matthew Gonzalez of Hereford and Jonathan Leonard Gonzalez of Ruidoso; one daughter, Danielle Gonzalez of Hereford; his parents, Leonardo and Isabel Gonzalez of a Lazbuddie; two sisters, Lydia Garcia of Houston, Anita Gonzalez-Onsures of El Paso; three brothers, Noe Gonzalez of Lubbock, Paul Gonzalez of Odessa and Tony Gonzalez of Dallas.

ASSOCIATED PRESS Texas lottery

Cash Five

The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Thursday by the Texas Lottery:

1-3-15-17-27

Pick 3

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Thursday by the Texas Lottery, in order:

LIFESTYLES

HEREFORD BRAND • Friday, September 17, 1999 • A3

Pajama party held by Toujours Amis Club

Toujours Amis Study Club held its opening party of the club year Tuesday with a pajama party in the parlor of First Baptist Church.

Members wore their favorite pajamas and, on arrival, were served popcorn, chips and dip, and cokes by the yearbook committee.

Additional refreshments of pizza and root beer or coke floats were served later after participating in such games as hula hoop, bubble gum blowing, and story telling.

A brief business meeting was conducted and thank you's were given for secret pal gifts.

Those attending were Teresa Allen, Chrystal Anuszkiewicz, Angela Baker, Kim Bigham, Sheri Blankenship, Melinda Bridge, Trish Brown, Christi Conger, Lisa Formby, Debbie Foster, Jill Harrison, Tonja Horrel, Sally Nolen, Lauri Paetzold, Jan Reeve, Becky Reinart, Jill Savoini, Amy Schueler, Donna West, Marsha Winget and Amy Yosten.



Hamburger cookout

The Hereford Lions Club hosted a hamburger cookout recently at King's Manor Methodist Home. Manor residents and guests, in photo above, dined on hamburgers with all the trimmings under the gazebo while Lions Club members, like Sid Shaw, in photo at left, tended the grill.

School Menus

HEREFORD I.S.D.

Breakfast

MONDAY-Mini corn dogs with syrup; or cereal, buttered toast, fruit punch juice, milk choice.

TUESDAY-Breakfast taco; or cereal, buttered toast, diced peaches, milk choice.

WEDNESDAY-Scrambled eggs, blueberry elfin loaf; or cereal, buttered toast, pineapple juice, milk choice

THURSDAY-Little smokie, biscuit and jelly; or cereal, buttered toast, orange quarters, milk choice.

FRIDAY-Hash browns, Texas toast; or cereal, buttered toast, banana, milk choice.

Lunch

MONDAY-Pepperoni pizza, garden salad with dressing, seasoned corn, cherry crisp, milk choice.

TUESDAY-Chicken nuggets with gravy, fluffy potatoes, green peas, whole wheat roll, strawberry apple dessert, milk choice.

WEDNESDAY-Corn dog with mustard, vegetable stix with dip, steak fries with catsup, rainbow freeze bar, milk choice.

THURSDAY-Cheese nachos with peppers and picante sauce, lettuce and tomatoes, Spanish rice, seasoned pinto beans, pear delite, cinnamon roll, milk choice.

FRIDAY-Chili dog with mustard, border beans, crispy potato cubes with catsup, fruit cup, no bake cookies, milk choice.

ST. ANTHONY'S SCHOOL

MONDAY-Chili beans, corn, cucumbers, cornbread, chocolate chip cookie, milk.

TUESDAY-Ham and cheese melt, tater tots, pork and beans, peach cobbler, milk.

WEDNESDAY-Baked chicken, green beans, mashed potatoes, hot rolls, pineapple, milk.

THURSDAY-Stuffed baked potatoes, sweet peas, homemade bread, applesauce cake, milk.

FRIDAY-Turkey sandwich, french fries, carrot sticks, apple cobbler, milk.

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Ann Landers



Dear Ann Landers: Here's my "how we met" story. I'd love to see it in print.

Ann Landers seven years ago, I met a brainy 34-year-old bachelor during Memorial Day weekend at a resort in the Adirondack Mountains in upstate New York. We were seated at the same dining room table, and danced together every night. It was a glorious three-day weekend.

When we were saying our good-byes, he asked for my telephone number. He did not, however, write it down, and I wondered if he was just being polite. I thought I would never hear from him, especially since he lived in Schenectady, and I lived in Manhattan. Little did I know about his ability to commit information to memory. Sure enough, he phoned a week later. For the next year, he drove 170 miles into Manhattan, more than four hours, every other weekend to see me.

We just celebrated our 46th wedding anniversary. His memory is still remarkable. As I was writing this letter to you, Ann, he recited my old phone number, which I haven't used for 46 years. — Still Dancing in Ohio

Dear Ohio: Not many of us can say our memories are as good today as they were 46 years ago, although I can remember some of those days with more clarity than what I did yesterday afternoon. P.S.: Our phone number in Sioux City 65 years ago was 86286. I faxed my sister, Dear Abby, and asked if SHE remembered the number. She did. Keep reading for another "how we met" story.

Dear Ann Landers: Dorothy was on the faculty of the University of California, Berkeley, in the graduate school of librarianship when I was a student there in 1941. I thought she was attractive, and was considering asking her for a date. A friend told me to forget it because faculty members did not date their students.

Then, Pearl Harbor came, and the draft board scheduled me to enter the Army after my graduation in the spring of 1942. By March, I

got up the nerve to ask Dorothy to go to a movie, thinking that if she refused, at least she would know I was interested in her. To my delight, she said "yes." We had five dates before I went into the Army Air Force as a private. Meanwhile, Dorothy moved to another librarian position. After being shipped to three different posts, I ended up at Wright Field in Dayton, Ohio, as a second lieutenant.

In March 1943, I wrote to Dorothy and asked her to marry me. She accepted, left her job and took a train to Dayton. We were married on May 8, and honeymooned at the old Golden Lamb Hotel in Lebanon, Ohio.

During our marriage, Dorothy has been my partner, my best friend and my mentor as I pursued a career in public librarianship. It is now 56 years later, and we are two retired librarians — or should I say, "old bookies" — just as much in love as ever. — M.T. in San Diego

Dear San Diego: Thanks for a charming letter. One of these days, I'm going to do a booklet of these "how we met"

letters. So many readers have asked for one, and it's on the back burner. Please be patient.

Dear Ann Landers: Someone sent me this little poem on the Internet, and I thought you might want to share it with your readers. It's a take-off on the Serenity Prayer from Alcoholics Anonymous. — A Princeton Pal

Dear Prince: Thanks for being a Prince of a pal. Your prayer is a good one, and I'm pleased to round off my Saturday with this Laugh for the Day:

God grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked,

The good fortune to run into the ones I do,

And the eyesight to tell the difference.

Ann Landers' booklet, "Nuggets and Doozies," has everything from the outrageously funny to the poignantly insightful. Send a self-addressed, long, business-size envelope and a check or money order for \$5.25 (this includes postage and handling) to: Nuggets, c/o Ann Landers, P.O. Box 11562, Chicago, Ill. 60611-0562.

Kingdom Seekers Class of ABC has monthly business meeting

The Kingdom Seekers Sunday School Class of Avenue Baptist Church had its monthly business meeting Tuesday morning at the Pancake House.

The opening prayer was led by Erma Bain.

Items included during the business meeting were introduction of new officers, making plans for the October meeting and making plans to serve the December birthday

party at Westgate Nursing Home.

The October meeting will be at the church and there will be an auction of home-baked goods.

Those present were Pauline Landers, Rosie Wall, Trudie Gray, Erma Bain, Madalena Hudson, Nancy Duncan, Dorothy Sargent, Jessie Sumner and Nell Saul.

Mani & Pat's Gift Shop

We have a variety of items! 1406 W. 1st Street (806)364-2350 Order Your Mum Now & Get a 10% DISCOUNT

(by Pizza Hut across from Ranch House)

Lots of gifts to choose from! Balloons of all shapes and sizes!

Wedding, Anniversary, & Baby Shower Accessories

We make Homecoming Mums or we sell the materials to make them at home.

We also send faxes, \$1.00 per page, \$3.00 each page for international numbers.

Come and see our remodeled building!

Happy 40th Birthday

Deseree

We love you, Mom, Dad, Robert & Samantha

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Hereford ISD will hold a public meeting at 6:00 PM, September 28, 1999 in Hereford ISD Administration Bldg., Board Room.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$1.3891	\$0.0000	\$1.3891	\$1,611	\$3,270
Less State-Funded Tax Relief	\$0.0770	\$0.0000	\$0.0770	N/A	N/A
Last Year's Rate Adjusted for Tax Relief	\$1.3121	\$0.0000	\$1.3121	N/A	N/A
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service **	\$1.3090	\$0.0000	\$1.3090	\$1,335	\$3,638
Proposed Rate	\$1.4391	\$0.0000	\$1.4391	\$1,663	\$3,927

* The Interest and Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

** The Rate to Maintain the Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service does not reflect revenue available to the district in the 1999-2000 school year for the pay raise for classroom teachers, full-time librarians, full-time counselors, and full-time school nurses enacted by the 76th Legislature. The estimated cost of the pay raise for the 1999-2000 school year is \$999,000.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$36,348	\$37,730
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$21,348	\$22,730
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$1.3891	\$1.4391
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$296.55	\$327.11
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes	\$30.56	

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$1.4965. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of \$1.4965.

Fund Balances

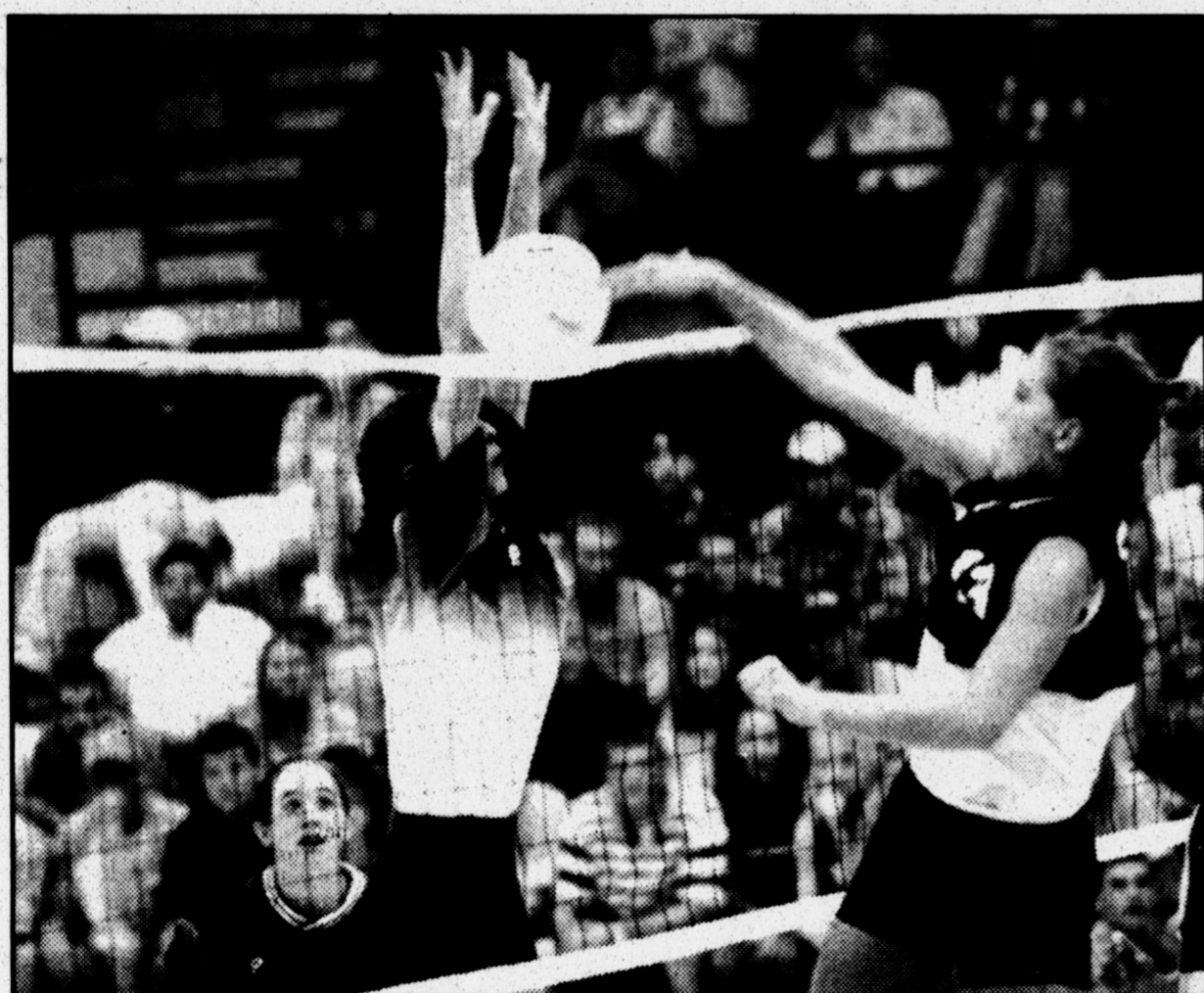
The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$1,600,000
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$0

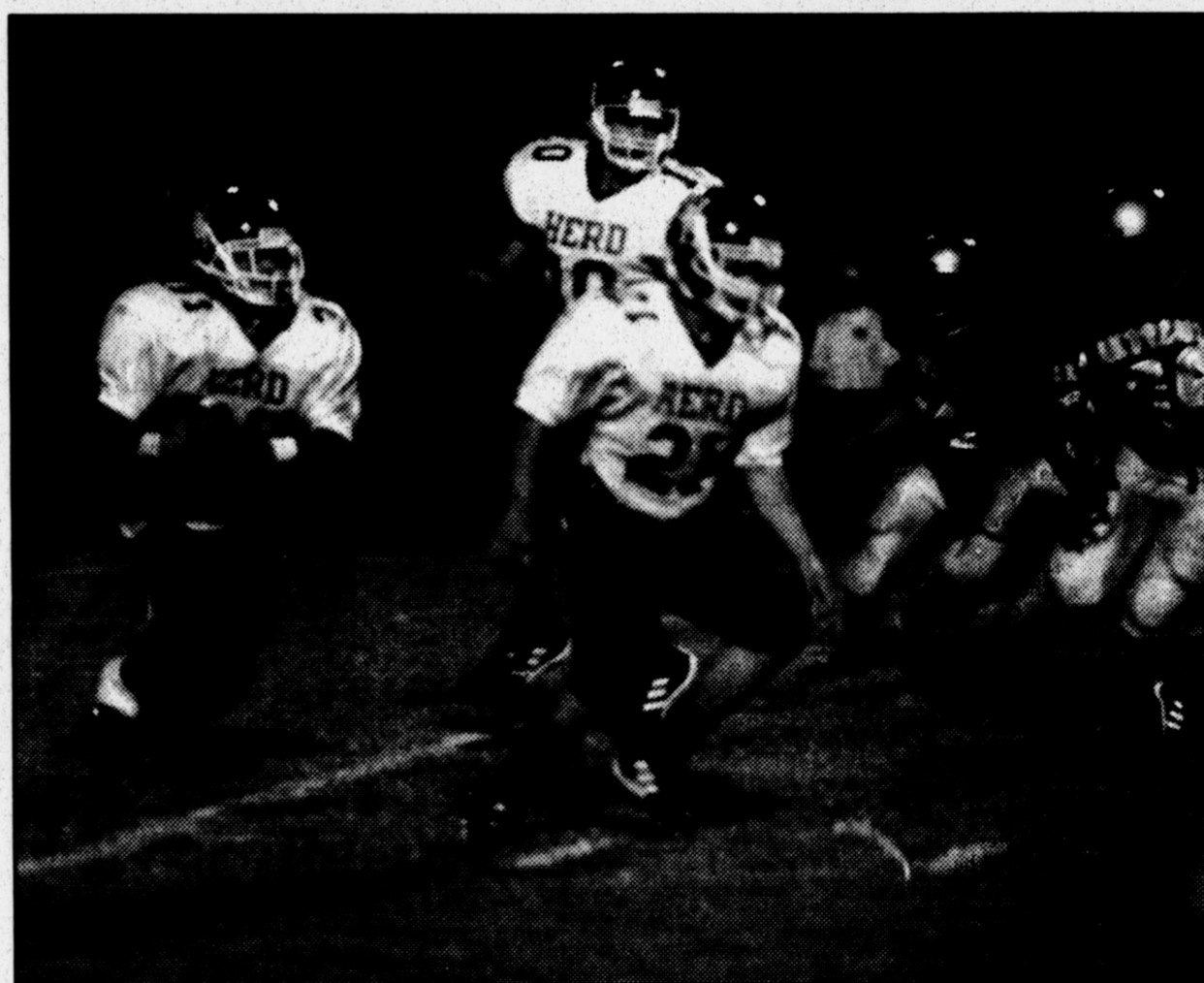
SPORTS

HEREFORD BRAND • Friday, September 17, 1999 • A5

Final Tune-Ups



Brand/Julius Bodner



Brand/Riek Castaneda

Start Your Engines — (Above, left) Sarah Griffin attempts a block against Amarillo High during action from Sept. 7. (Above, right) L.J. Vallejo follows the lead from fullback Kyle Artho as Cody Hodges watches, while Andrews defense pursues the play during action from Sept. 10. Both teams are playing their final tune-up games before district play. The Lady Whitefaces play Saturday against Canyon Randall at 10 a.m. at Randall high School. Then they begin district 3-4A play on Tuesday, Sept. 21, when they travel to Dumas to play the always-tough Demonettes. The Lady Whitefaces' next home game will be Saturday, Sept. 25, when they will host Amarillo Palo Duro. The football team will play host to Wolfforth Frenship tonight at 7:30 p.m. at Whiteface Stadium. They play on the road next Friday at Canyon Randall before the Oct. 1 Homecoming Showdown against Canyon High. The Whitefaces will open district play Oct. 8 at Dumas.

Ropers to compete at Tri-State

From Staff Reports
Two Hereford cowboys will be participating in the first-ever Tri-State Fair Calf Roping Invitational in Amarillo

some of the top 20 ropers from the PRCA, including world champion Fred Whitfield.

Wilson, a two-time qualifier for the National High School Finals Rodeo in calf roping, will compete this Saturday in a high school rodeo competition in Dumas. He's a senior at Hereford High School.

Lewis recently won the 1999 Junior World Calf Roping Championship in Denton. He's attending West Texas A&M and is a member of their rodeo team.

Sub-varsity games postponed for Saturday

The Hereford Whitefaces

sub-varsity football teams have postponed their games from Thursday, Sept. 16, to Saturday, Sept. 18, due to weather.

The Whitefaces will play at Wolfforth Frenship. The 9th Grade A team will play at 10:30 a.m. The junior varsity will play immediately after the freshman game.

Rangel hits hole-in-one at Pitman Golf Course

Chon Rangel hit a hole-in-one on Monday at John Pitman Golf Course.

He hit the hole in one on the 14th hole and drove it 165 yards with a nine-iron.

Witnesses included Carlos Mendez, Arturo Rodriguez, Richard Davila and Joel Sturgeon.

QB Club to meet Monday at K-Bob's

The Whiteface Booster Club will have the Quarterback Club Luncheon on Monday at Noon at K-Bob's Steakhouse.

The luncheon will feature Whiteface head football coach Craig Yenser, who will show film from the previous Friday night game.

Yenser will also talk about the previous game as well as the upcoming game for the Herd.

All Whiteface fans are welcomed to the luncheon.

Nazarene Eagles go 3-0

From Staff Reports
The Nazarene Christian Eagles yet had another opponent on the ropes in six-man flag football action.

This time, they won a 36-32 shootout against St. Andrews Academy.

Coming off a 50-0 blasting of Lubbock All-saints Academy, the Eagles found themselves trailing 16-14 against St. Andrews, despite two touchdown passes from Edward Silva at John Casey.

Silva again connected late

in the game with Casey, giving Nazarene Christian a 36-24 lead and never looked back.

Silva gave the Eagles a 20-16 lead on a 40-yard run.

After St. Andrews regained the lead with a touchdown, Mitchell Sanders catches another touchdown strike

from Silvan to put Nazarene ahead to stay.

Silva, Sanders, and Keeton Walden intercepted passes from St. Andrews.

Nazarene Christian is 3-0 on the year.

Sports Roundup

Sunday.

The roping will, begin at 6:30 at Bill Cody Arena at the Tri-State Fairgrounds.

Rodey Wilson and Monty Lewis are among some of the calf ropers to receive an invitation and entered the event. The roster includes

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'Moose' Johnston's career in peril

IRVING (AP) — Two years after neck surgery, Dallas Cowboys fullback Daryl Johnston is again facing an athlete's toughest decision: Is it worth risking permanent injury to continue playing the game he loves?

Johnston said Thursday he has a bulging disc in his neck, just above the two vertebrae that were fused in October 1997. He may be able to avoid another operation, but his season is over, and possibly his career, too.

"This is not the same as two years ago, but it has the potential to be," Johnston said. "That's why there's the necessity to sit down this year and try to prevent that."

Johnston, 33, will go through a rehabilitation similar to his last one, then be re-evaluated after the season. Another fusion procedure is a last resort, because it could substantially reduce his range of motion.

If Johnston was willing to retire now, he could skip the long hours of rehab and live a normal life without the neck bothering him. But, he said, it's not that easy.

"It just gets in your blood, I guess," Johnston said. "I started playing organized football when I was 8. That's 25 years of my life. I can look at the things I've accomplished in my life and a lot of them are related to the game of football."

Johnston acknowledged the circumstances are different this time.

"There's some new things to consider this time," said Johnston, whose wife is expecting their first child in

January. "It's going to be a tough decision."

Last month, Chris Spielman gave up his comeback from a neck injury after a hit left him temporarily paralyzed. Johnston was lucky his problem was revealed before anything that drastic occurred.

A hit by Washington defensive lineman Marco Coleman early in the fourth quarter of Dallas' 41-35 overtime victory left Johnston with a burning sensation in his shoulder.

Although it was the first "burner" he'd felt since the previous injury, he only missed a few plays. Shortly after returning, he recovered a fumble that kept alive the Cowboys' comeback from a 21-point deficit.

To be safe, Johnston underwent an MRI on Wednesday. Doctors compared it to an MRI taken last October and discovered a change in the space between the discs above the fusion.

"You could test any player in the NFL and they're going to have changes to their spine," Johnston said. "But because of my history, I think the doctors are taking a little more caution."

Johnston said he was surprised by the diagnosis, because he doesn't have any pain. The last time, he was extremely uncomfortable.

What's bothering him most is the frustration of not being able to improve on what he considered a disappointing 1998 season.

"I've been getting my strength back and my weight up,"

he said. "I was looking forward to the type of year I expect myself to have."

Johnston came to the Cowboys as a second-round pick in the 1989 draft, the same year Dallas took Aikman first overall. Also rookies that year were Jimmy Johnson and Jerry Jones.

Emmitt Smith came along the next year and Johnston paved the way to his success. Known as "Moose," Johnston was essentially a sixth offensive lineman charging out of the backfield to pry open holes for Smith.

Johnston was durable despite the pounding, playing in 149 straight games until the neck injury sidelined him six weeks into the 1997 season.

Thanks to Johnston, the fullback position was added to the Pro Bowl roster for the 1993 season. He made it that year and the following one. Dallas also won Super Bowls following the '92, '93 and '95 seasons.

"I've been blessed up to this point in my career," Johnston said.

The Cowboys placed Johnston on injured reserve and signed fullback Tim Lester off waivers. He was released by Jacksonville after starting the last three seasons in Pittsburgh as Jerome Bettis' lead blocker.

Lester practiced Thursday afternoon and is expected to start Monday night against Atlanta. The only other fullback on the roster, Robert Thomas, had been a linebacker until the last week of training camp.

Yankees beat team with best record in majors, Cleveland, 9-5

CLEVELAND (AP) — It wasn't difficult to tell which team is in the middle of a pennant race.

The New York Yankees hustled on the basepaths, looked sharp in the field and threw in a little gamesmanship for good measure in a 9-5 win over Cleveland on Thursday night.

The Indians, on the other hand, made four errors and looked at times like they can't wait for October to arrive.

"Cleveland doesn't have to win. We have to win," New York manager Joe Torre said. "Right now, they are thinking home field and we are thinking win the division. Of course, we keep winning and it takes care of both."

Encouraged by Torre before the game to throw hard from the outset, Hideki Irabu pitched pitched seven strong innings, and Paul O'Neill and

pinch-hitter Chili Davis each had two RBIs for New York.

"I told him to give us his best shot from the first pitch, and we got that tonight," Torre said of Irabu.

Irabu (11-6) allowed five hits, walked two and struck out eight. The right-hander won for the first time since Aug. 20 and improved to 4-1 in five career starts against Cleveland.

"He looked pretty good," Indians shortstop Omar Vizquel said. "He had a live fastball and he looked skinnier than he did before. He looked like he was in pretty good shape."

Irabu lasted just two innings in his last start, equaling the shortest outing of his career and giving the Yankees second thoughts about putting him on their postseason roster.

Torre pulled Irabu into his

office before facing the Indians and told the pitcher to stop pacing himself and to let it loose.

"I've been pretty bad the last three weeks, so I felt I had to do something," Irabu said. "I went out and threw as hard as I could and didn't worry if I lasted half the game."

Torre was pleased with the new Irabu.

"I saw an encouraging effort from the first pitch of the game," Torre said. "I thought his effort and concentration were there."

The victory helped the Yankees open a four-game lead over the idle Boston in the AL East. It also moved New York within one game of Cleveland for the best record in the AL and home-field advantage throughout the playoffs.

Hargrove said he's

more concerned about getting his team to the playoffs in one piece and with fresh legs than locking up home-field advantage. The Indians have already clinched the AL Central.

"I would rather have rested people going into the playoffs than have home-field advantage and have their tongues hanging out," he said.

O'Neill homered for the Yankees, who are 19-8 at Jacobs Field since it opened in 1994.

Dave Burba (14-8) had won his last five starts, but was done in by clutch Yankee hitting and sloppy Cleveland fielding.

The Indians, who have lost four of five, made three errors behind Burba. They got two-run homers from Jim Thome and Sandy Alomar, but once again had a costly injury as second baseman Roberto

Alomar left in the first inning with a bruised left wrist. He is day-to-day.

The Yankees snapped a 2-2 tie in the sixth, scoring three times off Burba, who struck out 10 in six innings, but dropped to 0-5 in five career starts vs. New York.

Bernie Williams and Tino Martinez reached on infield singles, and Darryl Strawberry's liner to center moved Williams to third. Jorge Posada's single brought in the go-ahead run, and Davis, batting for Luis Sojo, drove in two more with a double.

"Two infield hits is basically what got me," Burba

said. Banged up by injuries all year and only now starting to get their regulars back, the Indians began the game with their strongest starting lineup since late April.

It stayed intact for exactly three outs.

"We should have known better than trying to do that," said Hargrove, who has had his opening-day lineup four times all year.

Alomar's injury came after third baseman Travis Fryman misplayed Derek Jeter's grounder, and David right for his 17th homer and the 29th allowed by Burba this year.

Hurricane Floyd having effect on sports events on east coast

(AP) — Hurricane Floyd washed away part of the sports calendar for a third straight day as it swept up the East Coast on Thursday.

The Oakland Athletics and Baltimore Orioles, who were rained out on Wednesday, lost their second game to the storm. The games probably will be made up as part of a doubleheader Sept. 23, an off-day for both clubs.

Even playing indoors didn't guarantee that the games would go on.

Heavy rain and flooded roads caused postponement of NHL exhibitions matching the Detroit Red Wings and Rangers in New York and the Washington Capitals against the Flyers in Philadelphia. The Caps-Flyers will play Sept. 27. No new date was set for the game at Madison Square Garden.

The opening round of the BC Open in Endicott, N.Y., was postponed, but organizers still hoped to get in all four sessions before sundown

Sunday.

In Loudon, N.H., Thursday's time trials for Saturday's New Hampshire 100 at New Hampshire International Speedway were rained out. The 44-car starting lineup was set based on the current 1999 championship point standings and postmarked entries for the event.


Belmont Park in New York was closed after the track became too wet and muddy for the horses and jockeys.

Across the Hudson River in New Jersey, Monmouth Park, which is hard by the seashore, and The Meadowlands in East Rutherford both called off their cards.

The aptly named Carolina Hurricanes of the NHL lost two preseason games this week to Floyd.

Their meeting with the Florida Panthers on Tuesday in Fort Myers, Fla., was called off, as was Wednesday's exhibition against the Atlanta Thrashers in Greenville, S.C.

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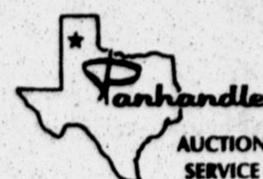
LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice An application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a private club and a Food and Beverage Certificate by Juan Guerra De La Paz and Juanita Ibarra De La Paz, dba JD's Place, to be located at 1801 E. 1st., Hereford, Deaf Smith County, Texas.

Officers of said club are as listed: President - Juan Guerra De La Paz Secretary - Juanita Ibarra De La Paz.

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DAILY CRYPTOQUOTES

DAILY CRYPTOQUOTES — Here's how to work it: AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

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.

9-17 CRYPTOQUOTE

A.R.C.D.M.Z.W. — M.J.Z.'K. — R. — C.Y.J.K. RBK — Y.Z.S. Q.I.J.K., M.Z. J.Y.Q.S. ARV. W.S.K. KY KES WRBRWS.

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Table with columns for CATTLE-FUTURES (CME) and CATTLE-LIVE (CME) with prices and dates.

GRAIN FUTURES

Table with columns for GRAIN FUTURES (CBOT) and GOVERNMENT (CBOT) with prices and dates.

METAL FUTURES

Table with columns for GOLD (COMEX) and SILVER (COMEX) with prices and dates.

FUTURES OPTIONS

Table with columns for CATTLE-FUTURES (CME) and CATTLE-LIVE (CME) with strike prices and dates.

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KIDFISH has been POSTPONED for a few weeks until Saturday, October 23rd. All who have already registered, please hold on to forms until that date.

HISD

From Page A1 \$273,495,540, up \$6.3 million; Deaf Smith County's tax base was put at \$557,706,185, a \$2.2 million gain; and, the Deaf Smith County Hospital District has a tax base of \$556,241,838, up from \$554,079,701 last year.

Chief Appraiser Danny Jones said recently the increase in valuations in the city, county and hospital district was the result of increases in rural and residential reappraisals.

HISD saw its tax base decline because the district offers \$15,000 homestead tax exemptions, unlike the other local tax districts, according to Jones.

In 1998, as part of a statewide property tax relief measure, school districts saw the homestead exemption increased by \$10,000, rising from \$5,000 to \$15,000.

The homestead exemption takes \$45,365,598 out of the HISD tax base. Within HISD, 3,204 property owners claim the homestead exemption, with 1,170 of those being claimed by property owners who are over 65 years old. Senior citizens can receive an additional \$10,000 exemption for a total of \$25,000.

Jones said the school also loses \$3,975,830 in tax revenue each year because of tax abatements it has approved.

When the school board meets Sept. 28, it is scheduled to approve a tax rate of \$1.4391 per \$100 assessed valuation. The current tax rate is \$1.3891 per \$100.

The effective tax rate, which is the rate required to generate the same amount of revenue as the previous budget year, is \$1.4138 per \$100, Jones said.

The rollback rate, which is the highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval, is \$1.4965 per \$100.

If the school board approves the tax rate Sept. 28, Jones said the tax notices could go out by Oct. 5.

"They normally go out at the last of September, but because the school district won't set its rate until Sept. 28, we should run the tax rolls within five days," Jones said.

THE CLASSIFIEDS Call 364-2030 Hereford BRAND

Mike

From Page A1

unusual to find him playing some character in a Christian-based skit.

With the acquisition of a Harley-Davidson motorcycle, Harris has broadened the scope of his volunteer work, by bringing his bike into the Children's Church and taking on whole new roles.

Pastor Carol Haile, youth minister, wrote glowingly to the nominating committee. "Mike brings laughter where there was sadness — hope where there was none.What a difference this one man has made."

Harris was nominated by his mother-in-law, Nicky Walser, earlier this year and received notice only a short time ago he had been named as a Governor's Volunteer for 1999.

Harris didn't want a big to-do made over the award. He was busy taking care of the needs of others.

When Santa starts making his appearance, remember there is none better qualified to play the part of the jolly old elf, than the man who only wants to replace a frown with a smile.

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Pastor Ray Sanders</p> <p>CATHOLIC
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Mgr. Orville R. Blum, Pastor</p> <p>CHURCH OF CHRIST
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148 Sunset • 364-1804
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15th & Blackfoot</p> | <p>La Iglesia De Cristo
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Jose Sales
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364-5380
Rev. Woody Wiggins</p> <p>CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
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St. Thomas Episcopal Church
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111 Avenue H • 364-5763</p> <p>LUTHERAN
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Pastor Erik Stadler</p> <p>METHODIST
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Trinity Fellowship
401 W. Park Avenue
364-0373
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Christian Assembly
South Main Street • 364-5882</p> <p>Fellowship of Believers
245 Kingwood • 364-0359
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