

Hereford BRAND

99th Year, Vol. Number 129 • Deaf Smith County, Texas

TUESDAY, January 4, 2000

10 Pages, 50 Cents

HUSTLIN' HEREFORD
HOME OF
Key Harrison

County incumbents draw foes

Today's weather OUTLOOK

Partly cloudy skies

Tonight: Becoming partly cloudy with a low in the mid-20s, southwest wind 10 to 20 mph.

Wednesday: Partly sunny and breezy, high in the mid-50s, southwest wind 15 to 25 mph and gusty.

Wednesday night: Becoming mostly cloudy with a few snow flurries, low in the lower 20s.

Extended forecast

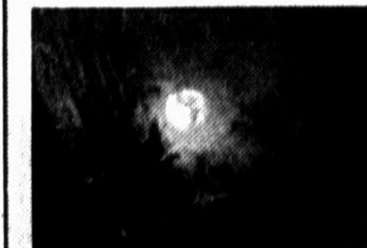
Thursday: Mostly cloudy with a slight chance of snow early, high in the mid-40s.

Friday: Partly cloudy, low near 20, high in the lower 50s.

Saturday: Partly cloudy, low in the lower 20s, high 50 to 55.

Hereford weather

Monday's high, 35; low, 15; no precipitation.



Winter making return to Texas

Winter is returning to wide sections of Texas today in the wake of the latest cold front, which brought bone-chilling gusts up to 30 mph, according to The Associated Press.

Winds continued to gust from the northwest, pushing low clouds across northern and western parts of the state. Elsewhere, winds were 5 to 20 mph.

Early-morning lows ranged from the teens in the Panhandle to mid-50s along the gulf coast. It was 35 degrees at Junction and 56 at Port Isabel.

Behind the clouds and in the western one-third of North Texas, skies were clear and readings were colder.

Low temperatures through Friday were expected from the teens to lower 50s, with a few readings in the upper 30s. Winds should be north to northwest at 15 to 20 mph and gusty.

A developing high-pressure system should diminish in strength, dropping wind speeds to light in some areas.

High temperatures were expected to range from the 50s to mid-60s.

From Staff Reports

Unlike the 1998 election in which most of the incumbents were unopposed, there are plenty of candidates for Deaf Smith County offices this year.

When filing wrapped up Monday afternoon, both incumbent county commissioners are facing opponents in the Republican primary, as well as foes lining up in the Democratic primary.

In Precinct 1, Wayne Betzen's bid for another term is being challenged by Alfred Ortiz, while Troy Don Moore will try to fend off a challenge from Mike Brumley.

On the Democratic side, Armando Gonzalez, Joe Henry and Margaret Del Toro, the county tax assessor/collector, are seeking the nomination for the Precinct 1, commissioner's

seat.

With Del Toro vacating her office, chief deputy Teresa Garth, is seeking the post on the Democratic ticket. Jeannine Zimmerman has filed as a Republican for the tax assessor/collector post.

Incumbent Joe Brown, a Democrat, is seeking another term as sheriff, while Fidel Reyna is seeking the GOP nomination for sheriff as well as Brent Harrison. Incumbent Brian Hedrick has filed as a Republican for constable.

Filings through Monday include:

DEMOCRATIC

Commissioner, Precinct 1

Armando Gonzalez;

Joe Henry;

Margaret Del Toro.

Sheriff

(1) Joe Brown.

Tax Assessor/Collector

Teresa Garth.

REPUBLICAN

Commissioner, Precinct 1

(1) Wayne Betzen;

Alfred Ortiz.

Commissioner, Precinct 3

Mike Brumley;

(1) Troy Don Moore.

Sheriff

Fidel Reyna;

Brent Harrison.

Constable

(1) Bryan Hedrick.

Tax Assessor/Collector

Jeannine Zimmerman.

In the 19th Congressional District, which includes Deaf Smith County, incumbent Larry Combest of Lubbock has a free ride to another term.

Combest, who serves as chair-

man of the House Agriculture Committee, is unopposed in

the Republican primary. He also drew no Democratic opponent.

Incumbent John Smithee, an Amarillo Republican, is seeking another term as the Texas House District 86 representative.

Smithee, who was unopposed in the 1998 general election, has no opponent in the GOP primary and no Democrat filed for the seat.

Prayer will be mixed with politics on the Texas GOP



Veteran lawmakers, U.S. Rep. Larry Combest (left) and state Rep. John Smithee are unopposed in the primary and general elections.

primary ballot.

State party officials have voted to place a non-binding referendum on the GOP ballot that asks voters: "Shall student-initiated prayer be allowed at school sporting events?"

The referendum responds to recent court rulings banning student-led prayer before football games and gives Texans a chance to express their "outrage," said Susan Weddington, Republican state chair.

Demos don't enter several state races

AUSTIN (AP) — The Democratic Party, which dominated Texas politics for most of the last century, entered the new millennium lacking candidates in several statewide races.

At Monday's 6 p.m. primary filing deadline, Democrats had no candidates for two seats on the Railroad Commission, three seats on the Texas Supreme Court and one seat on the Court of Criminal Appeals.

Democrats failed to win a single statewide post in 1998 or 1999. Party spokesman Mike Hailey said Democrats are focusing on legislative and congressional races and are less concerned about the statewide ticket in this, a rebuilding year.

"It just wouldn't make sense for one of our best candidates going off on a long shot deal and hurting their chances of being part of a strong statewide ticket in 2002," Hailey said.

"We're approaching this like a CEO would a smart business strategy, and sometimes that requires you to make the tough decisions and to be patient. We're looking just beyond instant gratification here, we're looking at the future for the party and for Texas," he said.

Clearly pleased by the state of affairs, Texas Republican chair Susan Weddington described hers as "an emerging majority party."

"One thing we know now that the new year has started, the only place in the entire world that seems to have had a Y2K glitch is the Texas Democratic Party," she said.

"You don't build by not getting out there and running statewide races," Ms.

STATEWIDE CANDIDATES

President
Democrats: Bill Bradley, Al Gore, Lyndon H. LaRouche Jr.
Republicans: Gary Bauer, George W. Bush, Steve Forbes, Orrin G. Hatch, Alan Keyes, John McCain

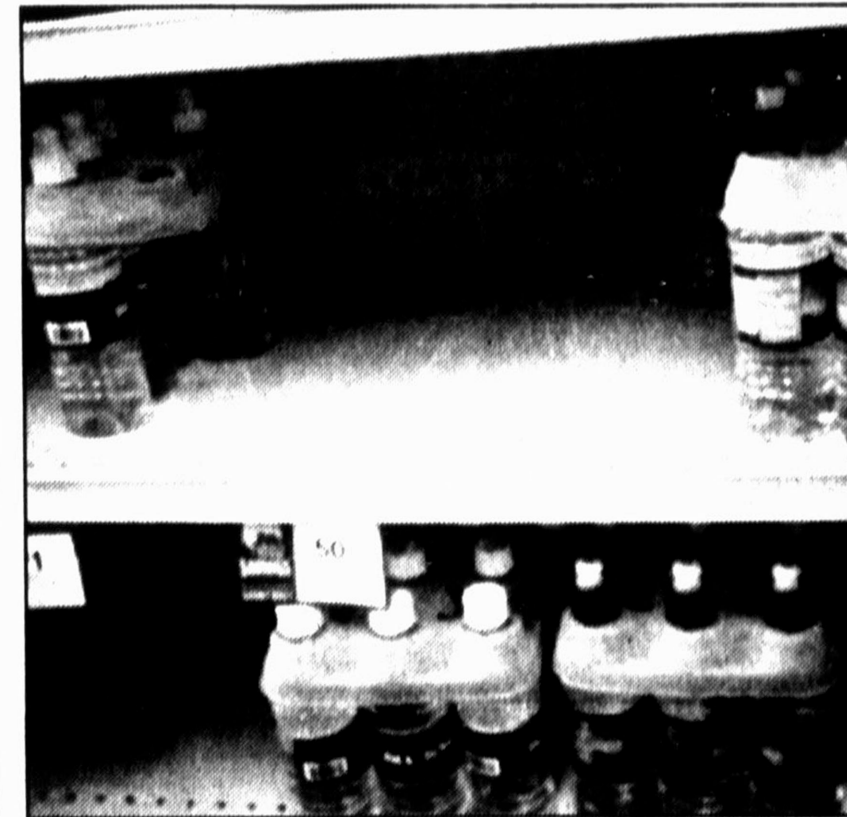
U.S. Senate
Democrats: H. Gerald Bintliff, Don Clark, Charles Gandy, Gene Kelly, Bobby Wrightman-Cervantes
Republicans: Kay Bailey Hutchison (1)

Railroad Commission
Full term:
Democrats: None
Republicans: Charles Matthews (1)
Unexpired term:
Democrats: None
Republicans: Andy Draughn, Michael Williams (1)

Texas Supreme Court
Place 1
Democrats: None
Republicans: Valorie W. Davenport, Nathan Hecht (1)
Place 2
Democrats: None
Republicans: Priscilla Owen (1)
Place 3
Democrats: None
Republicans: Al Gonzales (1), Rod E. Gorman

Court of Criminal Appeals
Presiding Judge
Democrats: Bill Vance
Republicans: Sharon Keller, Connie Kelley, Tom Price, J. Gary Trichter

Place 1
Democrats: None
Republicans: John Boston, Alan Curry, Tom Greenwell, Charles Holcomb, Guy Williams
Place 2
Democrats: William R. Barr
Republicans: Pat Barber, Barbara Parker Hervey, W.B. "Bennie" House, Sally L. Ray, Jim Wallace.



Bottled water was snapped up before New Year's Eve by some area residents who were worried about the Y2K computer bug. Although no computer-induced disasters happened, Y2K-worriers will have another chance to panic next month.

Feb. 29 may pose next Y2K hurdle

Programmers say computers may not recognize leap year

WASHINGTON (AP) — February 29 could pose the next problem for computers not programmed to recognize the first "extra" leap year in 400 years.

There's typically an extra day in February every four years and this leap year one is particularly unusual.

Leap day 2000 is "the exception to the exception," explained Rick Weirich, the Postal Service's vice president

for information technology.

Some computers may not expect a leap day this year, and thus skip ahead to March 1, he explained.

Because the actual year is slightly longer than 365 days, an extra "leap" day is added every fourth year.

But that still doesn't make things come out quite even over time, so leap days normally are skipped in years ending in 00.

Except — and here's the problem — if the year ending in 00 can be divided evenly by 400 it still is a leap year.

Thus 1600 was a leap year and 2000 will be too, but 1700, 1800 and 1900 were not.

4-H to have some new programs

By Julie L. Carlson

Hereford Brand Staff Writer

A new year brings new 4-H activities and programs to Deaf Smith County.

Deaf Smith County 4-H Extension Agents and members of the community have spent several months searching through numerous ideas and preparing a variety of programs for both 4-H members and the community.

At the Dec. 13 meeting of the county commissioners, the county extension agents reported on new ideas and plans which have been compiled for the years 2000-2003. High lights on the agenda include:

- Continued development of farm safety coalition;
- Pesticide protection for the family;
- Food and safety sanitation;
- Leadership development;
- Responsible physical/

mental health; and

• Economic development.

The Deaf Smith County Texas Community Futures Forum (TCFF) and county extension office also have compiled a step-by-step manual outlining each plan the extension agents will work on during 2000-2003. The manual is titled "Extension Action Plan: 2000-2003."

Each of Texas' 254 counties held its own forum to ask local residents what they felt were critical issues affecting them, their families and the community. Seventy-three Deaf Smith County residents participated in the local Futures Forum events.

The top three items discussed during this forum were water, quantity or lack of loss of agricultural marketing, and air quality, pollution from feedlots and wastewater pond odors.

The goal of the water issue is for Deaf Smith County residents to take precautions when using water and help stabilize water levels.

According to the "Extension Action Plan: 2000-2003," agriculture income was about \$370 million in 1998, which was down from about \$450 million in 1997, due to severe drought conditions.

The action plan to be worked on during the next three to five years is to encourage local farmers to plant water-efficient crops, use high efficiency irrigation systems, educate farmers and residents of water conservation and for an accurate survey of water used by feed yards to be performed.

Due to lack of competition, high costs and loss of information about the agricultural community, Deaf Smith County, as well as several

other Texas counties, has suffered a loss of agricultural marketing ability as well as agricultural education.

The objectives for this concern are to provide training and more opportunities for young people to get involved in the agricultural industry. Through the tactics in which the plan will be carried out, the public will be more knowledgeable of the impact agriculture has on the economy and crop producers will be able to maintain marketing and management skills to allow for a more competitive market.

Hereford, being the beef capital of the world, has a day-to-day odor of feedlots as well as wastewater, which leads to the third issue discussed at the Focus Forum — air quality. The concern was focused on feedlot dust and odors from different sources,

especially from water waste ponds.

The goal is to decrease the amount of feedlot dust, odor and wastewater with an objective to offer proper management techniques to feedlot owners, managers and manure handlers. The action plan is offer feedlot owners information on handling and disposing of manure and to educate personnel about the sources and causes of dust and cer-

Weddington said. "It's kind of surprised me for a party to be dominant for so many years to have to fall back to such a defensive mode."

Rice University political scientist Bob Stein said Democrats are hurting badly at the

Deaf Smith County Youth Involved in 4-H

4-H Clubs	Youth Involved
Community Clubs	175
Special Interest Programs	82
Curriculum Enrichment	604

Deaf Smith Adult 4-H Volunteers

Volunteer Leaders	Volunteers
Club Managers	42
Project Group Leaders	155
Indirect Volunteers	322
Teen Leaders	15

Source: Deaf Smith County Extension Office

Please see 4-H, Page A9

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HEREFORD BRAND

Local roundup

Lion's accept nominations

Past Presidents of the Lion's Club are now accepting nominations for the Hereford "Citizen of the Year." Submit nominees name and a short resume as to why he or she should be Hereford's Citizen of the Year. Nominations must be received by noon on Jan. 11 at the Deaf Smith County Chamber of Commerce or mailed to P.O. Box 192.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News digest

Atheist plotted disappearance

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Atheist leader Madalyn Murray O'Hair and her two children cooperated with the men suspected in their disappearances because they wanted help in leaving the country to flee the Internal Revenue Service, according to the San Antonio Express-News.

But an ex-convict accused of kidnaping and robbing the trio suggested that they picked the wrong benefactors and are now believed to have been slain, according to the newspaper's copyright report today.

Gary Karr, in statements given to IRS and FBI agents and a Dallas County sheriff's detective last year, said Ms. O'Hair persuaded her former office manager to help her leave the country to avoid mounting tax problems because "they were fed up with all of it, including their organization and the people in it."

Karr, who along with ex-manager David R. Waters are suspected in the 1995 disappearance of Ms. O'Hair and her two children, contradicted federal authorities' assertion that the trio were kidnaped at gunpoint and then murdered for a half million dollars' worth of gold coins.

A convicted murderer, Waters has pleaded guilty to stealing more than \$50,000 from atheist accounts and was assessed 10 years' probation along with a restitution order.

Ms. O'Hair, 77, son Jon Garth Murray and adopted daughter Robin Murray O'Hair have never been located. A massive search over several days last April involved more than three dozen FBI agents using dogs, a backhoe and a helicopter with night-vision equipment at a 5,000-acre ranch about 120 miles west of San Antonio. But the search was not fruitful.

HEREFORD BRAND

Emergency services

Activities reported by emergency services personnel for Dec. 31, 1999, through Jan. 3, 2000, include the following:

POLICE DEPARTMENT Arrests

- A 56-year-old man was arrested at 408 N. Main and charged with public intoxication.

- A 19-year-old man was arrested at Second and Clements and charged as a minor in possession of alcohol.

- A 26-year-old man was arrested at Park and Avenue F on municipal warrants.

- A 28-year-old man was arrested at 13th and Avenue K and charged with driving while intoxicated.

- A 17-year-old man was arrested in the 700 block of Union and charged with public intoxication.

- A 28-year-old man was arrested in the 1200 block of East First and charged with driving while intoxicated.

- A 20-year-old woman was arrested in the 100 block of Higgins on municipal warrants.

- An 18-year-old man was arrested in the 800 block of West Park and charged with public intoxication.

- A 39-year-old man was arrested in the 100 block of North Avenue K and charged with domestic assault.

- A 29-year-old man was arrested at Avenue A and Grand and charged with public intoxication.

- An accident with injuries was reported in 600 block of South 25 Mile Avenue.

Incidents

- A domestic assault was reported in the 400 block of Sycamore Lane.

- Child abandonment or endangering a child was reported in the 600 block Irving.

- A theft was reported in the 500 block of North 25 Mile Avenue.

- An assault was reported in the 300 block of Bradley.

- A theft was reported in the

300 block of Greenwood.

- Criminal mischief was reported in the 400 block of Avenue C.

- Unauthorized use of a motor vehicle was reported in the 100 block of North Avenue K.

- Criminal mischief was reported in the 600 block of West Second.

- Burglary of a habitation was reported in the 500 block of Avenue G.

- Lost property was reported in the 100 block of Lawton.

- Criminal mischief was reported in the 200 block of Roosevelt.

- Failure to comply with requirements after striking an unattended vehicle was reported in the 400 block of North Main.

- Theft was reported in the 900 block of 13th Street.

- Theft was reported in the 500 block of South 25 Mile Avenue.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT Arrests

- A 19-year-old man was arrested and charged with felony theft.

- A 33-year-old man was arrested and charged with theft by check over \$20, under \$500.

- A 21-year-old man was arrested and charged with sexual assault.

- A 29-year-old man was arrested and charged with escape.

- A 29-year-old woman was arrested on surrender of surety for criminal non-support and theft by check.

- A 63-year-old man was arrested and charged with felony theft.

- A 24-year-old man was arrested and charged with burglary of a building.

FIRE DEPARTMENT Jan. 3

- 2:30 p.m. Firefighters responded to a vehicle fire five miles south of Dawn.

- 6:42 p.m. Firefighters responded to an alarm malfunction at 231 Douglas.

The whole hog



One of many -- Ryan Hoelscher, 9, knows the Hereford Young Farmer's Stock Show and Sale is only a few weeks away and he took advantage of last weeks nice weather to prepare Mudpie, one of several pigs he will show at what he hopes will be one of several

shows. Ryan, who will be showing for the first time this year didn't just take advantage of the fair weather, but is also taking advantage of his brother's experience in showing animals. Ryan will show several pigs, but Mudpie is his favorite.

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HEREFORD BRAND

Obituaries



JOSEPH E. MARSHALL Jan. 2, 2000

Services for Joseph E. Marshall, 81, will be 2 p.m. Thursday at Avenue Baptist Church with Rev. Jim Bulin, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in Restlawn Memorial Park under the direction of Gilliland-Watson Funeral Home.

Mr. Marshall died Sunday at Hereford Regional Medical Center.

He was born July 26, 1918, in St. Paul, Va., to Woodrow Wilson Marshall and Sarah Elizabeth Hillman. He married Bonna Throckmorton on Nov. 3, 1943, in Wewoka, Okla., and graduated from West Texas State University in 1946. Mr. Marshall came to Deaf Smith County in 1984 from Perryton. He was a member of the Avenue Baptist Church and had served in the Air Force.

Survivors include his wife; one sister, Charlotte Purdue of Charlottesville, N.C.; one brother, Ray Marshall of Bristol, Va.

Hereford Brand, Jan. 4, 2000

BETTY COLEMAN Dec. 31, 1999

COLEMAN - Services for Betty Coleman, 69, formerly of Hereford were Monday at North Coleman Baptist Church with Rev. Billy Roberts officiating. Burial was in Olton Cemetery under the direction of Stevens Funeral Home.

Mrs. Coleman died Friday in Round Rock.

She was born May 10, 1930, in Olton, to Albert Lee Walthall and Era Maye Peters. She married Jackie Neil Coleman

on July 20, 1947, in Olton. She lived in Hereford for 13 years. Mrs. Coleman was an active member of the North Coleman Baptist Church.

Survivors include one son, Jack Bentley Coleman of San Antonio; two daughters, Lysa Bean of Round Rock and Jeanna M'Lee Waltrip of Odessa; one sister, Norma Jean Bledsoe of Odessa; five grandchildren; two great-grandchildren.

Hereford Brand, Jan. 4, 2000

VENNIE PAULINE SHOOK Jan. 1, 2000

DENVER CITY - Graveside services for Vennie Pauline Shook, 86, of Denver City were Monday at the Denver City Memorial Park with Rev. Weldon McCormick officiating and Rev. Darren Skinner, minister of the First United Methodist Church assisting. Memorial services followed at the First United Methodist Church under the direction of Ratliff Funeral Home.

Mrs. Shook died Saturday at the Yoakum County Hospital.

She was born Jan. 16, 1913, in Crowell. She married Ross Shook on Nov. 8, 1932, in Thalia. She was a homemaker and a member of the Methodist Church.

Survivors include her husband; two sons, Phillip Shook of Hereford and Maurice Shook of Dallas; four brothers, R.E. Johnson and Woodrow Johnson, both of Amarillo, O'Neal Johnson of Thalia and Bob Johnson of Marshall; four sisters, Louise Price of Garland, Willie Mae Tucker of Thalia, Mary Jo Sullivan of Fisherville, Va., and Claudia Neill of Oxnard, Calif.; four grandchildren; five great-grandchildren.

Hereford Brand, Jan. 4, 2000

BILL STRUVE Jan. 1, 2000

Services for Bill Struve, 80, of Hereford were Monday at the Frio Baptist Church with Rev. Larry Perkins officiating and Rev. Cliff Hargrove of Sudan assisting. Burial was in West Park Cemetery under the direction of Parkside Chapel

Funeral Home.

Mr. Struve died Saturday at Hereford Care Center.

He was born March 29, 1919, in Olton to Stephen and Sofia Struve. He married Florene Whitford on July 25, 1940, in Plainview. He was a World War II Army veteran. He had worked as a farmer and realtor in the Hereford area.

Mr. Struve was a member of the Frio Baptist Church and a charter member of the Easter Lions Club. He was a self taught wood worker and specialized in hand crafted dominoes.

Survivors include his wife; one son, Kerry Struve, of Hereford; one daughter, Kita Hargrove of Sudan; one sister, Bertha Grant of Scottsdale, Ariz.; five grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Hereford Brand, Jan. 4, 2000

JOSE LUIS MARTINEZ Jan. 1, 2000

Graveside services for Jose Luis Martinez, 46, of Hereford will be 10 a.m. Wednesday in West Park Cemetery with Deacon Jesse Guerrero of La Iglesia De San Jose officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Gilliland-Watson Funeral Home.

Mr. Martinez died Saturday in Mexico.

He was born June 13, 1953, in Por Venir, Mexico, to Saturnino Martinez and Maria Vargas. He was a member of La Iglesia De San Jose.

Survivors include his mother, Maria De Jesus Martinez of Hereford; three sons, Joel Martinez of Hereford, Jose Luis Martinez Jr., of Perryton and Miguel Logan Martinez of Washington; two daughters, Jo Anna Marie Martinez and Melissa Martinez, both of Washington; six sisters, Olga Martinez, Carmen Martinez, Sara Martinez, Rosa Martinez, Roberta Martinez and Alejandra Medina, all of Hereford; three brothers, Saturnino Martinez, Jr., Robert Martinez and Joe Martinez, all of Hereford.

He was preceded in death by his father in 1996.

Hereford Brand, Jan. 4, 2000

MONTIE LEE SMITH Jan. 1, 2000

BORGER - Memorial services for Montie Lee "Jack" Smith, 71, of Borger were today at the Bible Baptist Church with Rev.

Leonard Forsythe officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Minton/Chatwell Funeral Directors.

Mr. Smith died Saturday.

He was born in Chickasha, Okla., and was a long time resident of Fritch and Borger. He was a retired welder for Anderson Welding and was the former owner of J&M Horseman Supply. He served as a Seabee during World War II and was a 32nd degree Mason and a Baptist.

He married Carma Sue Herin in 1959, in Juarez, Mexico.

Survivors include his wife; four sons, Montie Hardin of Dallas, Darwin Ashford of Hot Springs, Ark., Ricky Smith of Borger and Robert Reiley of Phoenix, Ariz.; three daughters, Tammy Hysmith and Ross Barber, both of Fritch and Pamela Garcia of Borger; one brother, Billy Smith of Hereford; one sister, Johnetta Fletcher of Bakersfield, Calif.; 16 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials be made to Crown of Texas Hospice, 1000 S. Jefferson, Amarillo.

Hereford Brand, Jan. 4, 2000

DOMINGO GUARDIOLA Jan. 4, 2000

Services for Domingo Guardiola, 77, of Hereford are pending with Parkside Chapel Funeral Home.

Mr. Guardiola died Tuesday at Hereford Regional Medical Center.

Hereford Brand, Jan. 4, 2000

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS Texas lottery

Cash Five

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

16-36-2-17-29

Pick 3

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday by the Texas Lottery, in order:

6-3-1

Panhandle Press Association General Excellence winner 1999

Hereford Brand
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O.G. Nieman Publisher (1972-96)
Mauri Montgomery Managing Editor
Donald M. Cooper Managing Editor
Jay Guerrero Circulation Manager

LIFESTYLES

HEREFORD BRAND • Tuesday, January 4, 2000 • A3

Blueprint for a strong family

By Donna Erickson
Building a strong family is like building a house. We do it brick by brick, one day at a time. Here's my blueprint for this year: It's the little things that yield big results: It's the little things we remember from childhood, like playing catch with Mom or jumping into a pile of leaves with Dad on Saturday morning.

Make the ordinary extra-ordinary: Take a moment with childhood to appreciate the joy and wonder of the world around them.

Look through a different pair of glasses: Everyone has a unique frame of reference. Encourage kids to see things from another point of view.

Share what you love with your child: Parents are kids' No. 1 teachers. You're an expert.



Share your talent or hobby with your kids.

Teach, but never stop learning: Learning is a two-way street. Don't know how to inline skate? Having trouble with the computer? Chances are your kids can help you out.

Make a mess a minute: Kids love a good mess. Let's face it - a mess is most often the sign of a good time!

Carry out traditions and start your own: Traditions connect us through generations. It might be a special candlestick that comes out once a year, a recipe, a special way of saying "thank you." Share the old and create the new.

Give the gift of time: The formative years matter. The moments you spend with your children now will help mold them into giving and caring adults.

Cancer screenings offered

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 Jan. 14.

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 1-800-377-4873 for more information.

Trust.

A child shows it instinctively with its first faltering steps. Over the years, trust becomes a precious gift given only to special friends.

Trust. A quality we've earned.



Creators Syndicate

Ann Landers



Ann Landers

Dear Ann Landers: You did your readers a disservice by giving the impression that if infertile couples would "just relax" they

could conceive. This might work for the lucky few, but it does NOT work for the rest of us.

There are over 6 million women who are currently seeking advice, diagnosis and treatment for infertility. Technology is getting better every day, and some couples are finally achieving their dream of becoming parents, but the cost is high, and yes, it is stressful. But please get it right, Ann. Infertility causes stress, not the other way around. — New Orleans

Dear New Orleans: You are right. The wet noodle comes out of semi-retirement. Keep reading for more clobbering. It was richly deserved.

From Seattle: I am a 29-year-old woman with polycystic ovarian syndrome. No amount of relaxing will help me get pregnant. I have a hormonal imbalance, which means I can't ovulate. I resent being told to relax. I have suffered many insensitive comments from parents who think they know everything about pregnancy. Your

column gave them more ammunition. For most unfortunate women (and men), infertility is a MEDICAL condition, not an emotional problem.

Anywhere, USA: I was insulted by your column on infertility. The reason I was unable to conceive is because my ovaries were encased in endometrial tissue. Relaxing could not help me.

Anonymous in Michigan: I was stunned by your advice to "relax" in order to get pregnant. I agree that some relaxing might help, but for most of us, it won't make any difference. My husband was born with a chromosome disorder, and he produces no sperm. We will have to use donor sperm to conceive. Please be aware that most infertile couples need medical assistance.

Houston: I was thrilled that you could come up with five letters from people who succeeded in getting pregnant by relaxing. However, most of those examples came from couples who had been told they were infertile 20 or 30 years ago. I suspect those people were simply misdiagnosed. This sort of "evidence" does not impress me.

I have a hormonal imbalance that prevents me from ovulating, and this condition is quite common in women of child-bearing age. After 18 months of treatment with a

specialist, I am now pregnant with the help of medical technology and fertility drugs. For most infertile couples, insurance covers little or none of the expense of treatment. Your column will not help correct that.

Minneapolis: Someone should tell my fallopian tubes that all I need to do is relax to get pregnant. I have suffered through three painful ectopic pregnancies in the last four years, which could hardly be considered relaxing. My final option for pregnancy is in vitro fertilization, an expensive and daunting process, with no guarantee of success. It's depressing.

New York: One of your readers wondered what the statistic was for women who would hear from others who had a similar experience. No one is going to write out of the blue and say, "Dear Ann: I just adopted a baby, and I'm not pregnant yet. How come?" A lot of infertile couples will be angry with you, but I'm glad you printed that column on infertility and relaxing. Now, you will hear from the

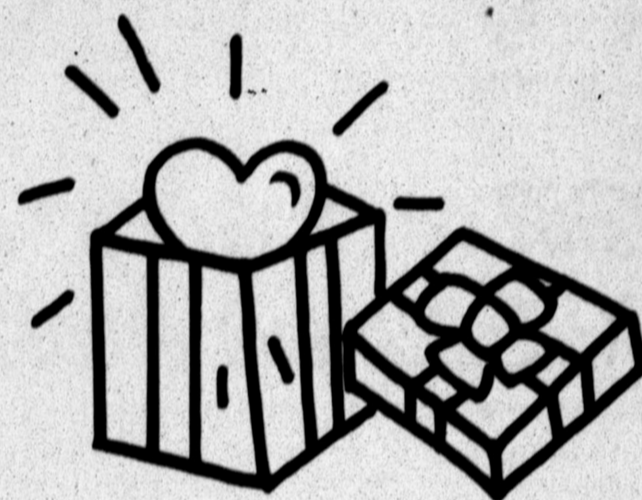
rest of us.

Drugs are everywhere. They're easy to get, easy to use and even easier to get hooked on. If you have questions about drugs, you need Ann Landers' booklet, "The Lowdown on Dope." Send a self-addressed, long, business-size envelope and a check or money order for \$3.75 (this includes postage and handling) to: Lowdown, c/o Ann Landers, P.O. Box 11562, Chicago, Ill. 60611-0562. (In Canada, send \$4.65.)

To find out more about Ann Landers and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com. ANN LANDERS (R) COPYRIGHT 2000 CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.



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The YMCA Basketball League is designed for elementary boys and girls grades K-5 thru 6th. All girls and boys are eligible to play regardless of athletic ability. Teams are coached by adult volunteers. Every game is supervised and referees are provided. The league specializes in wholesome competition while teaching the fundamentals of team play and good sportsmanship. Every girl and boy plays in every game. We will have three divisions: K-5 - 2nd, 3rd & 4th and 5th & 6th grades. The teams will be drawn at the YMCA offices. PLEASE DO NOT REQUEST PLAYERS TO BE ON CERTAIN TEAMS!!!

ENTRY DEADLINE: December 31, 1999

RESTRICTIONS: Grades K-5 to 6th Only

DATES: Teams play and practice once a week after the season starts. Practice starts the week of January 10th (depending on availability of gyms) and games begin Saturday, January 15th.

LEAGUE FEE & ELIGIBILITY: League fee will be \$23.00. Additional children in same family \$18.00 each. ALL participants must be YMCA members. YMCA membership for youth are \$7.25 for three months.
*** ENTRY FEE MUST ACCOMPANY REGISTRATION FORM!!!***

SCHOLARSHIP: Scholarships are available for those who need and qualify for assistance. (Contact Weldon or Norma Jean at 364-6990)

For any additional information or registration forms, please call...

364-6990

Health care program is rewarding new parents

Special to the Brand

Parents of newborn children in Borger, Childress, Hereford, Pampa and Perryton have extra incentive to complete their child's well-child checkups and immunizations thanks to a new program of the Coalition of Health Services. Parents can enroll in the 2CARE for Babies program at their infant's first well-child checkup and earn points that lead to a free gift for baby on his or her first birthday. Through a grant from the Texas Department of Health, 2CARE for Babies works in cooperation with participating clinics in these communities to award points for well-child checkups and immunizations completed during the baby's first year. Completing an infant's first well-child checkup within two weeks after birth is worth extra points. Additional points are awarded to mothers and fathers who attend educational classes related to raising children such as car seat safety and CPR and to mothers who breast-feed their infants.

his or her points can be exchanged for a free gift at Toddler's Corner in the Baby's Coming Shop, based at 104 W. 6th, Suite 301, in downtown Amarillo. The Baby's Coming Shop serves participants of both 2CARE for Babies and 2CARE for Moms, a Coalition of Health Services program that encourages early and continuing prenatal care.

Camille Stanley, Director of 2CARE for Babies, said, "By working hand-in-hand with physicians, nurse practitioners and clinic staff, 2CARE for Babies hopes to improve infant health, increase breast-feeding rates and ensure 90 percent completion of well-child checkups and immunizations in these communities."

Stanley added, "Preventative health care and immunizations play an important role in learning and lifelong health. 2CARE for Babies is designed to reward parents for making their infant's health care a priority."

The Baby's Coming Shop was established in 1998 by 2CARE for Moms in cooperation with the March of Dimes, and donations of

cash and merchandise are welcomed. According to Stanley, the addition of Toddler's Corner means that even more contributions are needed.

In the communities served by 2CARE for Babies, five clinics currently participate in the program. In addition, the program enjoys the support of Childress Regional Medical Center, Hereford Regional Medical Center, Pampa Regional Medical Center, Golden Plains Community Hospital in Borger and Ochiltree General Hospital in Perryton. These hospitals are affiliates of the Coalition of Health Services, a nonprofit organization of 20 area hospitals working to enhance community health.

Parents of infants born in Borger, Childress, Hereford, Pampa and Perryton should receive information about 2CARE for Babies upon dismissal from the hospital. To receive additional information or to make a donation to the Baby's Coming Shop, call toll free 888-89-2CARE (2273). Se habla español.

Gift exchange highlights Xi Epsilon Alpha meeting

The home of Peggy Hyer was the site of the recent meeting of Xi Epsilon Alpha Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority. Adopted sister Billie Brown was recognized as a special guest by the 17 members present, and she received a special Christmas gift from the chapter.

Special program for the evening was the exchange of Christmas presents between Secret Sisters. Buffet-style dining featured special holiday goodies brought by each member. Beverages were served by the social committee.

A brief business meeting was held prior to the festivities. President Shelley Lewis led opening ritual. She announced that the Texas State Convention has been set in Lubbock on June 23-25 at the Holiday Inn-Civic Center. Among the highlights will be a chuck wagon meal at the Ranch/Heritage Center.

In the service committee report, Melinda Henson gave a fun word game concerning "Merry Christmas" and then collected final money for the Christmas Stocking Fund.

Program and yearbook committee chairman Hyer said the next meeting will be Jan. 4 in the home of Tamara Mimms. The Jan. 18 meeting will be "Bingo Night" and will benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Social committee co-chairman Kami Eades reported that the Christmas couples party held Dec. 14 was attended by 10 couples. Desserts and a Christmas ornament exchange were featured.

Closing ritual and Mizpah were repeated by members Pattie Urbanczyk, Gaye Reilly, Linda Arellano, Kay Williams, Sharon Bodner, Deann Harris, Kim Hollingsworth, Debbie Holmes, Diane Kreig, Connie Matthews, Susan Shaw, Stacey Urbanczyk, Lewis, Hyer, Eades, Mimms and Henson.

Looking Back

Today in History

By The Associated Press
Today is Tuesday, Jan. 4, the fourth day of 2000. There are 362 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 4, 1965, President Johnson outlined the goals of his "Great Society" in his State of the Union Address.

On this date:

In 1809, Louis Braille, inventor of a reading system for the blind, was born in Coupvray, France.

In 1821, Elizabeth Ann Seton, who would be the first native-born American saint, died in Emmitsburg, Md.

In 1885, Dr. William W. Grant of Davenport, Iowa, performed what is believed to have been the first appendectomy; the patient was 22-year-old Mary Gartside.

In 1896, Utah was admitted as the 45th state.

In 1948, Britain granted independence to Burma.

In 1951, during the Korean conflict, North Korean and Communist Chinese forces captured the city of Seoul.

In 1960, French author Albert Camus died in an automobile accident at age 46.

In 1965, poet T.S. Eliot died in London at age 76.

In 1974, President Nixon refused to hand over tape recordings and documents subpoenaed by the Senate Watergate Committee.

In 1987, An Amtrak train bound from Washington to Boston collided with Conrail engines approaching from a side track in Chase, Md., killing 16 people.

Ten years ago: Charles Stuart, who had claimed a gunman had killed his pregnant wife and wounded him, leaped to his death from a Boston Harbor bridge after he

became a suspect. Deposed Panamanian leader Manuel Noriega was arraigned in federal district court in Miami on drug-trafficking charges.

Five years ago: The 104th Congress convened, the first entirely under Republican control since the Eisenhower era; Newt Gingrich was elected speaker of the House.

One year ago: Europe's new currency, the euro, got off to a strong start on its first trading day, rising against the dollar on world currency markets. Former professional wrestler Jesse Ventura was sworn in as Minnesota's 37th governor.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Jane Wyman is 86. Actress Barbara Rush is 73. Football Hall of Fame coach Don Shula is 70. Former heavyweight boxing champion Floyd

Patterson is 65. Actress Dyan Cannon is 63. Opera singer Grace Bumbry is 63. Maureen Reagan is 59. Country singer Kathy Forester (The Forester Sisters) is 45. Actress Ann Magnuson is 44. Rock musician Bernard Sumner (New Order) is 44. Country singer Patty Loveless is 43. Rock singer Michael Stipe (R.E.M.) is 40. Actor Dave Foley is 37. Actress Julia Ormond is 35. Tennis player Guy Forget is 35. Country singer Deana Carter is 34. Rock musician Benjamin Darvill (Crash Test Dummies) is 33. Actor Jeremy Licht is 29.

Thought for Today: "Our civilization is still in a middle stage, no longer wholly guided by instinct, not yet wholly guided by reason." — Theodore Dreiser, American author (1871-1945).



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SPORTS

A5 • HEREFORD BRAND • Tuesday, January 4, 2000

It's national title time in New Orleans

By Richard Rosenblatt

The Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Wait no longer, it's time for the national championship.

Florida State hasn't played in 45 days; Virginia Tech 39 days. Players from both teams are sick of strolling down Bourbon Street, watching fans whoop it up while trying to keep themselves out of trouble.

"I'm tired of eating at Popeye's and gumbo," Seminoles wide receiver Ron Dugans said.

"I'm ready to take care of business," Hokies kicker Shayne Graham said.

And that business is the Sugar Bowl on Tuesday night at the Louisiana Superdome, where the team that was able to stay sharpest after all the time off will most likely win the title.

"The layoff could affect us and it could affect them," Florida State coach Bobby Bowden said. "We'll see."

All-Americans Sebastian Janikowski and Corey Moore didn't wait for the game to be affected.

Janikowski, Florida State's kicker/party animal, missed curfew New Year's Eve and had to run extra laps and stay in his room the next night. Moore, Virginia Tech's defensive end, had a media meltdown Friday, cursing reporters then returning for a few interviews before clamming up for the rest of the weekend.

Both will be ready to play. "I don't have a Warsaw rule," Bowden said of his Polish-born kicker. "If he's breathing and alive, he'll kick off that game."

Virginia Tech coach Frank Beamer said Moore was "apologetic."

"Corey's a good person. He's just intense," the coach said.

Last year's title game, the first under the Bowl Championship Series format that tacked on a two-day wait, will be remembered for more than just Tennessee's 23-16 win over Florida State in the Fiesta Bowl.

Both teams looked out of

sync and there were 21 penalties for 165 yards, many of them in the first half. The Seminoles were flagged 12 times for 110 yards.

At Monday's final pre-game news conference, Bowden responded by saying, "We have prepared them correctly as good as we know how."

Beamer added: "The layoff is not an excuse for penalties. We've had enough practice time to focus."

Style points, though, don't count in national title games. Just score one more point than the other guy, a fact not lost on the top-ranked Seminoles. Since giving Bowden his first national championship in 1993, Florida State has failed to win a second one two times in the past three seasons.

Lose again, and this label awaits: Florida State, college football's version of the Atlanta Braves and Buffalo Bills. Win, and the Seminoles are the Team of the Decade.

"We've been so close," said Peter Warrick, the All-American wide receiver who's been around for the title losses to Tennessee and Florida in the '97 Sugar Bowl. "This is the last one, and I don't want to let this one go by like the other two."

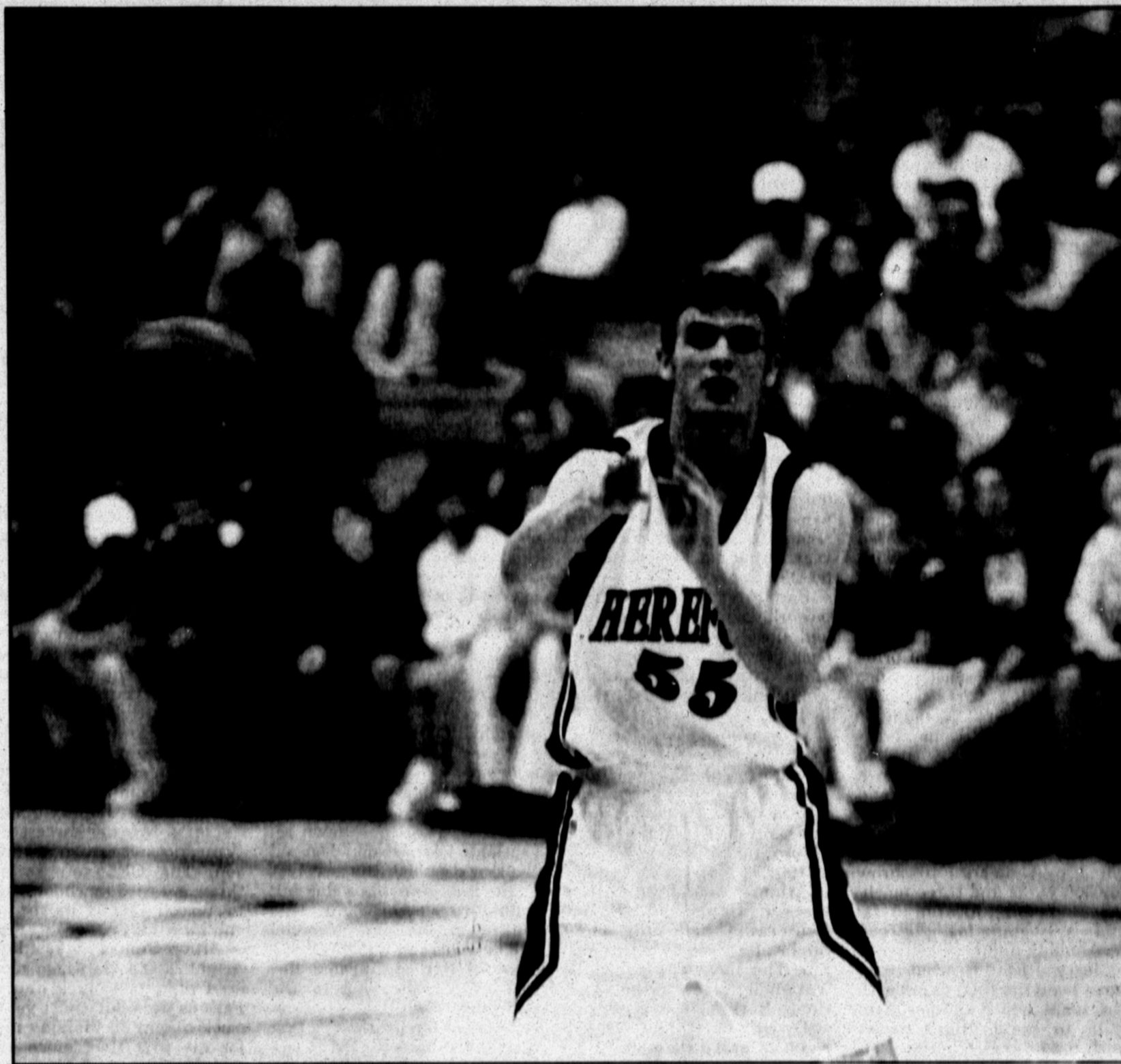
Florida State has been the dominant team of the 1990s with a record 108 wins and a 12-year string of top-four finishes in The AP poll. The most memorable victory this season was Bowden's career win No. 300 — 17-14 over Clemson in college football's first father vs. son coaching matchup.

A victory over the Hokies would also give Bowden the first perfect season in his 40 years as a head coach, and it would make Florida State the first team to go wire-to-wire in The AP poll since the pre-season ratings began in 1950.

"Yes, if we won this one, it would be better than the last," Bowden said. "The last time it was more of a relief. 'God, we finally got a national championship.' They can't say Bobby

See TITLE, Page A6

Passing on to a New Millennium



Brand/Julius Botner

Going At It Again — Steven Northern, seen here passing the ball against Canyon, will look to do more passing and scoring when the Whitefaces take on Tulia at 7:30 p.m. tonight in Tulia. The Lady Whitefaces also play at Tulia at 6 p.m.

At 8-8, Cowboys like their playoff credentials

■ Dallas hopes to forget season struggles and focus on Vikings in first-round playoff matchup

By Jaime Aron

The Associated Press

IRVING (AP) — Seeing all the newcomers in the NFC playoffs, then checking their own postseason credentials, makes the Dallas Cowboys feel a little better about their chances — even if they are limping in at 8-8.

"One of the things you like to do when you're David fighting Goliath is make sure you have a good sling and good rocks. I feel like we have that," Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said. "I'm pretty excited about the challenge."

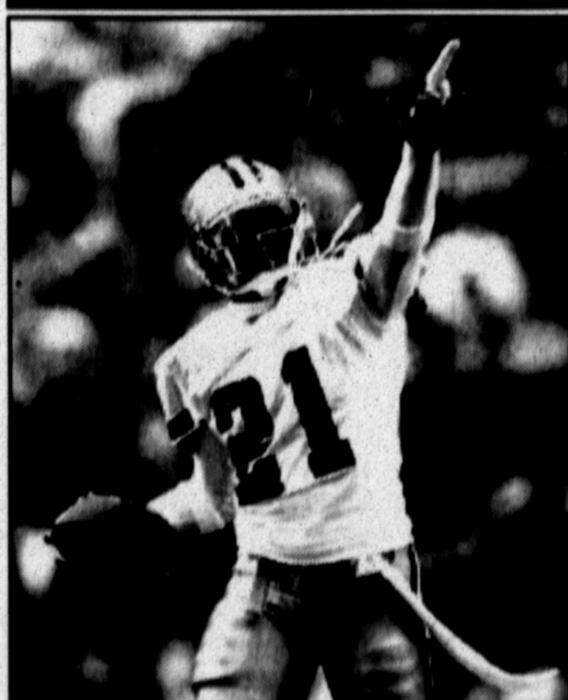
Despite a playoff pedigree carved by winning Super Bowls in 1992, '93 and '95, Dallas barely made it in this season.

The Cowboys thought they were out of it after consecutive losses to teams without playoff hopes, then finally beat one Sunday to snag a wild card. Their reward is a game Sunday in Minnesota.

Dallas and the Vikings (10-6) are the only NFC teams from last year's playoffs that are back again. The last team to win the Super Bowl after not making the playoff the previous season were the Washington Redskins in strike-shortened 1982.

That doesn't mean whoever wins their first-round game

becomes the favorite, especially considering neither even won their division. But it does prove that playoff experience helps.



Deion Sanders and the Dallas Cowboys hope to forget the season's struggles and focus on the playoffs as they face the Minnesota Vikings on Sunday.

"There's a lot of teams lumped together," Dallas quarterback Troy Aikman said. "Anybody can win this thing. People say it every year, but I think this year it's probably more true than in the previous seasons that I've been a

part of. "It's just a matter of who gets hot at the right time and if things go their way."

Aikman is 11-3 in postseason games. Minnesota quarterback Jeff George and Washington's Brad Johnson are each 0-1. The other three NFC playoff quarterbacks have never taken a postseason snap.

Dallas also has Emmitt Smith and several offensive linemen, plus defensive stars such as Deion Sanders and Darren Woodson who understand the difference between playoff games and regular-season games.

"We have to count on that being an edge for us and getting that type of leadership," Cowboys coach Chan Gailey said.

Safety George Teague said the guys who've had success in the playoffs can help the players who've never been there.

"Someone like Emmitt or Troy can go to a young guy and say, 'Hey, this is what it takes. We've got to crank it up a few notches and be more focused,' or whatever they need to say to let them know it's different. Because it is different now," Teague said. Dallas better hope things are different in the playoffs.

See DALLAS, Page A6

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YMCA MEN'S 5 ON 5 BASKETBALL

The YMCA Men's Basketball league is designed for men (no age limit) to show their athletic ability in b-ball games and to try their hand in winning a trophy. (1st place, 2nd place, 3rd place). Length of the league will be 6 weeks plus double elimination tournament. The team captain or manager will be responsible for the collection of the entry fee and to have all players listed on the roster in accordance with league guidelines by the start of the third game of the league. Out of town residents may participate in the league. Players must play at least 1/3 of the regular season games to be eligible for the tournament. Games will have 2 referees paid and scheduled by the YMCA.

STARTING DATE: Sunday, January 9, 2000
GAME DAY: Sundays, starting at 1:00 pm
SIGN-UP DEADLINE: Tuesday, January 4th, 2000 - 3:00 pm
ENTRY FEE: \$320.00 per team
LENGTH OF LEAGUE: Six (6) weeks plus double elimination tournament

Rosters will be available at game site. Individual players must have name on roster and be properly registered with their team before playing. As soon as a player participates in a league game they shall be deemed as starting the season. There will be no grace period. Team may start with 3 player, if they are not present then it will be called as a forfeit. Anytime players on the court or on the bench join an altercation that team/teams shall forfeit.

Teams arriving without enough players to field a team may enlist temporary substitutes in order to field a team. The game will be a forfeit but this will allow those present the enjoyment of playing. If there is an odd number of teams, one team will play twice on game day. Intentional foul will be 2 free shots and ball out of bounds.

If you have questions please call the YMCA at... **364-6990**

SPORTS

Stars dethrone L.A. Kings, 4-1

DALLAS (AP) — With Ed Belfour in goal for the entire game, the Dallas Stars once again showed their dominance over the Los Angeles Kings.

Belfour made 26 saves and the Stars stretched their unbeaten streak against the Kings to 20 games with a 4-1 victory on Monday night.

Stars coach Ken Hitchcock made a goalie change on New Year's Eve after Belfour gave up two early goals to the Anaheim Mighty Ducks. The Stars rallied for a 5-4 victory with backup Manny Fernandez, and Belfour was unhappy with the decision.

That's what made Monday night's result so satisfying. "No goalie is ever happy when he gets pulled, justified or not," said Belfour, whose record improved to 16-12-4. "You want to come back the next game, play better and shake it off."

Mike Keane had a short-handed goal and Mike Modano scored during a third-period power play for the Stars. Rookie Brenden Morrow added a first-period goal for the Stars, playing their 500th regular-season game since moving from Minnesota in 1993.

Keane, like a lot of his teammates, was puzzled over Belfour's removal.

"I didn't think he was playing bad when he got taken out," Keane said. "He played very well tonight."

The Stars are 14-0-6 against the Kings since losing to Los Angeles on April 6, 1995.

"I like playing them," Modano said. "Their style is different

than what we see a lot, it's more wide-open. It's a relief from the clutch-and-grab you see from a lot of teams."

Los Angeles coach Andy Murray pointed out that few current players were on the team for most of the 20-game series. The Kings have lost both meetings with the Stars this season.

"Most of us haven't been here for it," Murray said. "The only thing that wears on us are the two games this season. You don't win many games when you score one goal."

Sergei Zubov scored an empty-net goal with 41.6 seconds left and had two assists for the Stars.

Dallas is 11-4-2 in its last 17 games, while Los Angeles is 1-7-0 in eight contests.

Trailing 2-0, the Kings finally beat Belfour at 1:58 of the third on Vladimir Tarplakov's 30-foot wrist shot.

But Modano's 15th goal 2:38 later restored the two-goal lead for Dallas, which is 15-0-0 when it scores at least three times.

Morrow notched his fourth goal on a deflection at 5:41 of the first.

Keane made it 2-0, with his fifth goal, 1:06 later while teammate Kevin Dean was in the penalty box.

The Kings held an 11-2 shots advantage in the second period, but Belfour kept Los Angeles scoreless with strong play in front of the net.

Dallas' Brian Skrudland (chest contusion) and Los Angeles' Josef Stumpel (left knee contusion) were forced out of the game in the second period.

Dallas

From Page A5

The Cowboys have lost seven straight on the road, including a 27-17 loss to Vikings in October. They haven't beaten a non-NFC East team on the road since the 1997 opener.

Dallas has lost two in a row to Minnesota and has lost its last two playoff games. Three previous teams have made the playoffs at 8-8 and none won a game.

The Cowboys also haven't won consecutive games since starting this season 3-0, and they're coming off a 26-18 victory over the New York Giants.

"I know a lot of AFC teams are probably upset that we're in at 8-8," Woodson said.

"That's how it is. A lot of teams in the NFC didn't play that well this year, and we're one of them. But we're in and a lot of other teams are going home."

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Falcons defeat 49ers, 34-29

ATLANTA (AP) — Tim Dwight provided a glimmer of hope for the Atlanta Falcons as they completed their dismal run as NFC champions.

Dwight caught seven passes for 162 yards, including two touchdowns, and returned a punt 70 yards for another score as the Falcons closed the NFL's regular season with a 34-29 victory over the San Francisco 49ers on Monday night.

The 49ers (4-12) fell behind 31-7 but showed a bit of pride in their worst season since 1979, scoring three second-half touchdowns to make it close. But the Falcons recovered an onside kick with 2:45 remaining but had to bat down a desperation pass in the end zone to preserve the victory.

Chris Chandler took advantage of the league's worst-rated pass defense to throw for 306 yards and three touchdowns, helping Atlanta (5-11) snap a 10-game losing streak on Monday night.

Jerry Rice, in what may have been his final game with the 49ers, added another highlight to his brilliant career with a 62-yard reception, setting up a San Francisco touchdown and drawing applause

from Falcons defensive back Ray Buchanan. Rice finished with six receptions for 143 yards.

Atlanta won its final two games — the team's only winning streak of the season — but still equaled the 1990 Denver Broncos for the worst record in a post-Super Bowl year. Both teams were coached by Dan Reeves.

San Francisco a perennial powerhouse gone shockingly bad since the loss of quarterback Steve Young, dropped 11 of its last 12 for the team's worst finish since a 2-14 mark in 1979.

One consolation for San Francisco: the No. 3 pick in the draft. The Falcons didn't have to worry about draft ramifications, having traded their top pick in 2000 to Baltimore for a second-rounder in 1999.

Atlanta wound up with a reserve tight end, Reggie Kelly, who had only eight catches for 146 yards this season. The Ravens, meanwhile, will gladly take a prime No. 5 choice in the upcoming draft.

Dwight, a speedy, 5-foot-8 receiver, broke the game open in the final minute of the first half with his dazzling

skills as a returner.

Atlanta was leading just 10-7 when Dwight took a punt at his own 30, broke free in front of the San Francisco bench, cut back toward the middle of the field and outraced Randy Krik without being touched, reaching the end zone with just 12 seconds remaining.

The Falcons increased the lead to 24-7 on their first possession of the second half, as Terance Mathis hauled in the 50th touchdown reception of his career on a 19-yard pass from Chandler. Mathis also assured his second straight 1,000-yard season with a 9-yard catch in the fourth quarter.

Atlanta blew it open when Dwight struck again, this time with a 60-yard touchdown reception. Cornerback Darnell Walker grabbed the receiver at the line, drawing a flag but failing to slow Dwight, who hauled in the pass between two defenders at the San Francisco 35 and stiff-armed Lee Woodall on the way to the end zone.

Dwight scored Atlanta's first touchdown on a 5-yard reception. Chandler hooked up with the speedy receiver on passes

of 25 and 20 yards before going to him again on third-and-goal at the 5.

Morten Andersen added field goals of 49 and 38 yards.

The 49ers, showing an astonishing lack of discipline for a team that won at least 10 games every year from 1983-98, were penalized 17 times for 148 yards.

But they got within striking distance on Travis Jervy's 1-yard touchdown run late in the third period and quarterback Jeff Garcia's 5-yarder with 9 1/2 minutes remaining. Then, Garcia hooked up with J.J. Stokes for a 43-yard touchdown with 2:46 left. Stokes caught five passes for 130 yards overall.

Garcia completed 26 of 34 for 373 yards, hoping to show he is a worthy successor if Young doesn't return next season. The CFL refugee also threw a 4-yard touchdown pass to Terrell Owens in the second quarter.

After Stokes' touchdown, Atlanta's O.J. Santiago recovered the onside kick and the Falcons ran out most of the clock to win on Monday night for the first time since 1981 and only the sixth time in 23 games.

Boselli out of action for Jaguars with torn ACL

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) — Pro Bowl tackle Tony Boselli of Jacksonville was diagnosed with a torn anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee today and will miss the playoffs.

Boselli, considered one of

the NFL's top offensive linemen, went down without contact on a running play Sunday in the third quarter of Jacksonville's 24-7 victory over the Cincinnati Bengals.

An MRI revealed that he had torn the ligament. The

normal recovery period is about seven months.

The Jaguars made Boselli the cornerstone of their franchise when they used the first draft pick in team history to select him out of Southern Cal in 1995. He didn't disap-

point. He's the only All-Pro in team history and was selected to his fourth Pro Bowl this season.

With Boselli out of the lineup, Ben Coleman will likely move from guard to left tackle for the playoffs.

Title

From Page A5

Bowden never won a national championship.

If Virginia Tech wins?

"I ain't cutting my throat, I'm not slicing my wrists," Bowden said. "I'll come back and we'll try to do it the next year."

The second-ranked Hokies, meanwhile, are in the title game for the first time in the school's 106-year history. Thirteen seasons after Beamer returned to his alma mater and said he'd win a national title, Virginia Tech is on the verge of making his wild prediction a reality.

"I don't think our world is going to start or end with us winning this football game," Beamer said. "It would be great if we won, it would be a new day at Virginia Tech. But if we lose, it's not the end of it. I would expect to come back next year and be in it again."

Led by the pinpoint passing and flashy footwork of quarterback Michael Vick, the 11-0 Hokies have turned into one of the nation's most exciting teams.

Virginia Tech was already known for a relentless defense, led by 17-sack man Moore and fellow defensive end John Engelberger, and the nation's best special teams —

63 blocked kicks in the '90s. The 19-year-old Vick has taken the Hokies to new heights.

He threw for 1,840 yards and 12 TDs, ran for 585 yards and eight TDs and finished third in the Heisman Trophy voting, equalling the best showing by a freshman. Tech led the nation in scoring defense at 10.5 points a game and in scoring, 41.4 points a game.

So far, Vick hasn't flinched

under pressure, and he doesn't expect to in the biggest game of his life.

"Being calm is just the type of person I am," he said. "I go out there and try to execute the game plan. It's kind of tough to get to me."

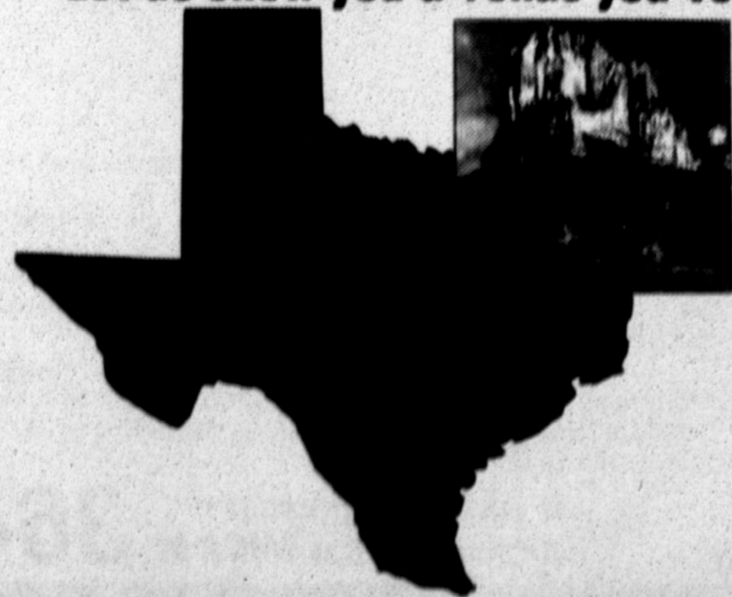
Chris Weinke, the Seminoles' 27-year-old quarterback, is especially thankful for a chance to play in the title

game. He missed the '99 Fiesta Bowl with a neck injury that almost ended his career. His replacement, Marcus Outzen, was overmatched against Tennessee.

"Having Weinke is a big factor," offensive coordinator Mark Richt said. "He is a great leader. We feed off Weinke. Every day at practice, he tells people what to do."

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City to participate in sealcoat project

By Donald M. Cooper Hereford Brand Managing Editor

In its first session of the 21st century, the Hereford City Commission agreed to continue its participation in a program carrying over from the 20th century.

The commissioners voted unanimously to participate in the annual sealcoat project.

For the past four years, the city has joined with several other Panhandle cities and counties, including Deaf Smith County, in a joint sealcoat project

that has resulted in savings for the smaller municipalities and counties in the maintenance of streets and roads. Oller Engineering has coordinated the project in which the needs of the smaller cities and counties is combined.

The average savings to the city by its participation in the project has been about 15 cents per square yard of material.

The commission also received the audit for the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30, 1999. The audit, which was conducted by the

Hereford accounting firm of McGinty & Associates, concluded there were no significant problems in the city's financial operations.

In other business, the commissioners approved the request of Wally Castillo to extend city water service to his property at 208 Windsor.

The Castillo property, which is just outside the city limits, also is adjacent to property that was granted water service last month. Castillo agreed to pay for the installation costs.

Santana is comeback favorite for Grammy Award selections

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — Carlos Santana could be following in Bonnie Raitt's footsteps as a comeback favorite for this year's Grammy Awards.

Like Raitt's resurgence with "Nick of Time" in 1990, the 52-year-old Santana is shaping up as the veteran rocker most likely to grab handfuls of nominations when the Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences announces its picks today.

Overlooked by the Grammys for his albums in the 1960s and 1970s, Santana could be a frontrunner this year for his album "Supernatural," which includes col-

laborations with Dave Matthews, Lauryn Hill and Eric Clapton. The No. 1 single "Smooth," featuring Matchbox 20 singer Rob Thomas, is a likely best-record nominee.

Santana won the rock-instrumental Grammy in 1988 with "Blues for Salvador."

The best album and record fields look to be a mostly youthful bunch other than Santana, with teen sensations potentially dominating. Possibilities include Ricky Martin, Britney Spears, the Backstreet Boys and Christina Aguilera.

Martin, whose performance on last year's Grammys helped put his career in orbit,

is likely to score with his hit single "Livin' La Vida Loca." Other best-record prospects include Enrique Iglesias' "Bailamos," TLC's "No Scrubs" and Cher's top-selling single "Believe."

The nominations were to be announced at the Beverly Hilton Hotel by music celebrities including Aguilera, Mary J. Blige and Sarah McLachlan.

The 42nd annual Grammys will air live on CBS Feb. 23 from the Staples Center in Los Angeles.

Awards will be presented in 98 categories. A new category this year is best soundtrack album.

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.

1-4 CRYPTOQUOTE

S T K O W X R B O M I L J M L C C O X T C S L S B X W O X N L Z T M T W I S B I S T

O X P L I X L — FEKUOEX

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: AS WE START THE NEW YEAR, LET'S GET DOWN ON OUR KNEES TO THANK GOD WE'RE ON OUR FEET. — AN IRISH TOAST

Primary

From Page A1

The Texas primary is March 14. Runoffs, if needed, will be April 11.

Races for the Legislature are crucial for both parties, since the state House and Senate will redraw legislative and congressional district lines after the new Census. Fifteen of the 31 Senate seats are up for election this year as well as all 150 House seats.

Republicans won control of the Senate in 1996 for the first time since Reconstruction and cling to a one-vote majority now, 16-15. Democrats still control the House but by a slim margin, 78-72.

Ms. Weddington said the GOP is "going to do everything we can" to capture the House while holding the Senate. "We believe it's critically important that we do that," she said.

Her Democratic counterpart, Molly Beth Malcolm, said, "We're confident of achieving our goals for this year, entering 2001 in a strong position for redistricting and going back to work on the issues Texans care about most."

In the GOP presidential primary, Texas Gov. George W. Bush will appear on the ballot with a full field — Sens. John McCain and Orrin Hatch, publisher Steve Forbes, Gary Bauer and Alan Keyes.

Vice President Al Gore and former New Jersey Sen. Bill Bradley are on the Democratic ballot, along with perennial candidate Lyndon LaRouche.

Republican U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison is unopposed in her primary. She seeks re-election to the seat she first won in a 1993 special election and claimed again in 1994.

Armed with a \$6 million war chest, Mrs. Hutchison poses a formidable challenge. While five hopefuls seek the Democratic Senate nomination, none has a statewide record.

Democratic hopefuls include Gene Kelly, a 73-year-old retired Air Force attorney from Universal City who's lost six statewide races; former state Rep. Charles Gandy, now of Austin; H. Gerald Bintliff of Leonard; Don Clark of Mesquite; and Bobby Wightman-Cervantes of Dallas.

Both Kelly and Gandy noted how much money Mrs. Hutchison has raised.

"That's an awful lot of money. I'm just banking on the fact that the people of Texas know my qualifications and they know hers, and they knew what the Democratic candidates like myself stand for, for them," Kelly said.

"I think people are sick of money in politics. I think that \$6 million works against her. I can raise a little money and match her with messages" that include affordable health care and campaign finance reform, Gandy said.

The \$6 million in contributions shows the depth of Mrs. Hutchison's support, said David Beckwith, the senator's campaign spokesman.

"She's a leader, both on national issues and on issues that affect Texans directly. Everyone knows this and that's why she's in such good shape," Beckwith said.

Bintliff, 57, is a retired American Airlines employee who filed after growing frustrated with responses to letters he wrote to Mrs. Hutchison. He says his platform includes what he believes is a solution to overpopulation — repaving the surface of Mercury.

"We might be able to make the planet habitable. I call it the Morning Star Project," Bintliff said. "Eventually we know we're going to have to move out of this solar system anyway."

Clark, 41, is a former Bank of America executive. He says he will get attention in the campaign by introducing controversial ideas such as his "Clark-Jefferson Amendment."

Two seats are up on the Railroad Commission, which regulates the oil and gas industry. Chairman Charles Matthews and Bush appointee Michael Williams each filed in the GOP primary. No Democrats entered.

Three seats each also are up for grabs on both the Texas Supreme Court and the Court of Criminal Appeals. Republicans filed for all six; Democrats only filed for two of the criminal appeals court slots.

Also being elected this year are the state's 30 congressmen, eight of the 15 members of the State Board of Education, plus various district judges and county officials.

4-H

From Page A1

tain odors and methods that can be used to decrease the causes.

Other issues discussed at the Forum were youth involvement in the community and prevention of youth crime and pregnancies.

Business attraction and retention in Deaf Smith County was also one of the topics presented at the Forum in hopes to enable a stable economy as well as high employment rates.

Regular reports updating the actions taken for each concern will be given to the County Commissioners Court and other program area committees.

Also reported at the Dec. 13 county commissioners' meeting were updates from the 4-H Youth and Development program. A total of 863 youth were involved in 4-H programs during 1999. Programs and activities of 1999 provided for youth who participate in 4-H are: the El Hormiguero Project, also called Genesis 4-H; 4-H Project Show; Major Stock Shows, such as Fort Worth, Houston, El Paso, San Antonio, and San Angelo; State Roundup; State Trap Shoot; Livestock Judging Team; Horse Judging Team; Range Evaluation Team; 4-H Electric Camp; and Bucket Calf Project.

The Deaf Smith Youth 4-H program currently generates \$10,000 annually in scholarship funds for graduating seniors.

In 2000 the 4-H program will expand their abilities and touch the community in ways the community needs it most — education on water, air pollution, agricultural marketing and youth involvement.

Clinton is expected to keep Greenspan

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton today will nominate Alan Greenspan for another four-year term as chairman of the Federal Reserve System, administration officials said.

Officials said the president planned an Oval Office announcement of the widely anticipated appointment.

Greenspan has steered a careful course on monetary policy while often voicing concern about a high level of "exuberance" in the financial markets.

His challenge has been to prevent inflation from killing off the longest post-recession recovery in modern times without choking the economy by being too aggressive in raising interest rates.

The Fed pushed up short-term interest rates three times in 1999, although it declined to do so at its most recent meeting in December. But many analysts have said they expect more braking action by the Fed early this year.

The stock markets, which regard Greenspan highly, appeared today to be anticipat-

ing another interest rate increase. The Dow Jones industrial average, which lost almost 140 points Monday, was down another 140 today.

Greenspan was a staunch backer of legislation that Congress passed last year eliminating barriers that separated banks, investment firms and insurance companies for more than 60 years.

He said he thought passage of the law would be a boon for consumers, offering them greater choices. But Greenspan also warned that financial regulators at the federal and state level will have to cooperate more closely and be especially alert to deal with "tensions" created by overlapping jurisdictions.

Greenspan was originally chosen as the Federal Reserve chairman by President Reagan. His handling of monetary policy has won praise from Clinton administration officials, and analysts credit his handling of interest rates with helping continue the nation's unprecedented economic growth.

This would be Greenspan's fourth term as Fed chairman.

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Table with columns for month, price, and change for Cattle Futures.

GRAIN FUTURES

Table with columns for month, price, and change for Grain Futures.

METAL FUTURES

Table with columns for month, price, and change for Metal Futures.

Table with columns for month, price, and change for Metal Futures.

FUTURES OPTIONS

Table with columns for month, price, and change for Futures Options.

Table with columns for month, price, and change for Futures Options.

Former foe backs Bush

■ Dole claims Texan would restore trust in the White House

BEDFORD, N.H. (AP) — Elizabeth Dole endorsed George W. Bush today for the Republican presidential nomination, invoking Ronald Reagan and asserting that the Texas governor would restore trust in the White House.

Dole, whose own campaign floundered in October due to lack of money, told a cheering crowd of about 350 people at a restaurant that the GOP should rally to "another Western governor" in Bush, just as the party did in 1980 for Reagan, the former California chief executive.

Bush, she said, would be "just as bold at challenging the status quo. Just as resolved to restore pride in our institutions. Just as determined to be himself."

"In a word, he would innovate, not regulate," Dole added. "That's my kind of conservative."

Although she did not mention President Clinton's impeachment drama of last year, Dole said that "trust is the coin of the realm" in a democracy and added: "Lately, that trust has been tarnished."

Bush, who is frequently asked if he might choose Dole as a running mate, called her an "articulate and capable woman" and again referred to Reagan, whom she served as transportation secretary.

"Elizabeth, you have always said that you have been a lieutenant in Ronald Reagan's army. I am proud to have you as a general in mine," Bush said.

Asked directly about the possibility of choosing her as the GOP vice presidential candidate, Bush said, "First things first. It's important to have a strong woman like Elizabeth Dole standing by my side to help me win the primaries and the caucuses."

Dole declined to be drawn into vice presidential speculation: "The governor has got to win the nomination and when he does the party is very fortunate to have a large number of very talented leaders with great experience from which he can choose."



Republican front-runner George W. Bush, who is frequently asked if he might choose Elizabeth Dole as a running mate, called her an "articulate and capable woman."

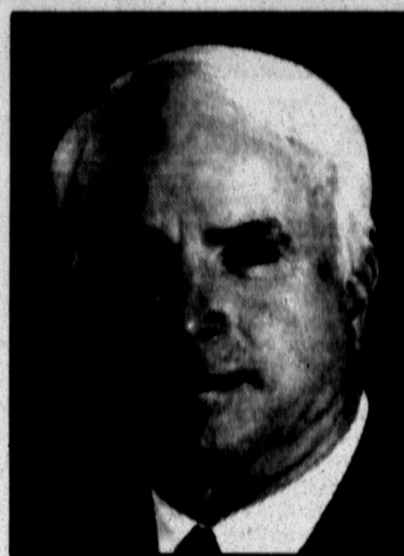
After picking up Dole's endorsement four weeks before the New Hampshire primary, Bush headed to Iowa to stump for votes in advance of the Jan. 24 presidential caucuses there.

Bush's chief rival for the 2000 GOP nomination, Sen. John McCain of Arizona, maintained his focus on New Hampshire with a non-stop schedule of town hall meetings. Today he was visiting Concord, Salem and Franklin.

Recent polls have shown McCain leading Bush in the state, although Bush maintains a sizable lead in national surveys.

"I'm excited to be here," Bush said Monday as he arrived at Manchester Airport. "I thought I'd rather be fishing, but now that I'm on the ground, I'd rather be campaigning."

The governor pledged to focus on two issues: tax cuts and education reform.



Sen. John McCain of Arizona, a Republican presidential candidate, says U.S. should urge Russian leader to end conflict with Chechen rebels.

McCain: Cut funds to Russia

AMHERST, N.H. (AP) — Republican presidential hopeful Sen. John McCain says that acting Russian president Vladimir Putin should be urged to end the conflict with Chechen militants under threat of sanctions, an issue the Arizona senator would talk about "every day" as president.

"I'd state unequivocally that there would be no more (U.S.) Export-Import (bank) loans, that the United States would not support any further IMF funding until this thing is brought to some kind of reasonable conclusion," McCain said aboard his campaign bus Monday night.

His return to the campaign trail following a tropical family vacation is expected this week to feature McCain's appeal for better citizenship among Americans and especially presidential candidates in an effort to reinstate pride toward government and its officials — a not-subtle jab at President Clinton and the scandals that have plagued his administration.

McCain suggested that the president should be aggressive condemning Chechnya, especially with the elevation of Putin after the surprise resignation of Russian President Boris Yeltsin on New Year's Eve.

Putin enjoys widespread public approval because of his no-nonsense style and his tough handling of the Russian offensive in separatist Chechnya.

Bradley would cut corporate tax breaks worth \$125 billion

MANCHESTER, N.H. (AP) — Democrat Bill Bradley wants to end corporate tax breaks worth an estimated \$125 billion over 10 years, his presidential campaign says.

Bradley, scheduled to detail the proposal today in a noon-time speech to New Hampshire business leaders, was known for his Senate work on tax reform but before now has had little to say about tax policy in the race against Vice President Al Gore for the 2000 Democratic presidential nomination.

By going after big-business tax breaks, Bradley hoped to strike a popular chord among average voters, especially in New Hampshire, where anti-tax sentiment is institutionalized: There is no state income tax.

Gore also was campaigning today in the Granite State, which holds the nation's first presidential primary on Feb. 1.

Bradley began before sun-

rise, appearing on CBS' "Early Show" and MSNBC's "Imus in the Morning" and commenting on the day's foreign-affairs headlines.

Asked about Russia's new acting President Vladimir Putin, Bradley tipped his hat to Putin for apparently being "committed to economic reform," but, echoed Republican presidential rivals who have condemned Putin for his promotion of Moscow's offensive in Chechnya.

Bradley said the United States should cut off Export-Import bank financing for Russia as long as the brutality continues in Chechnya. "We have to do something here to demonstrate our opposition to it," Bradley told talk-show host Don Imus.

"After that, you have to work with whoever is the leader of Russia. I mean, you're clearly not going to intervene in Russia."

On this week's renewed peace talks between Syria and

Israel, Bradley said chances of success are better than ever. Syrian President Hafez Assad "is older, he knows he's not going to be around a lot longer and he'd like to kind of settle things before he leaves... that means having an agreement with Israel," Bradley said.

Bradley's campaign was vague Monday night about which corporate tax shelters, special subsidies and "handful" of loopholes Bradley would eliminate, but likely suspects included special tax-code treatment for the oil, gas and mining industries.

"We'll specify a series of steps to effectively close corporate tax shelters, which are ways corporations use existing tax code to avoid their obligations, and to close a handful of tax loopholes that provide unfair advantage to corporate interests, distort the tax code and require the American taxpayer to pay more," campaign spokesman Eric Hauser said.

Y2K problems didn't go away

By Frank Bajak

NEW YORK — The Y2K bug's biggest risk was never to power grids, missile systems or telephone exchanges but rather to the complicated backroom systems on which the world's corporations and governments run.

And that's why the vast majority of Year 2000 computer problems won't turn up for days, weeks or even months, information technology experts say.

So forget the somehow widely disseminated misconception that if planet Earth got past Jan. 1 without any info-disasters we'd be home free.

Think not of Y2K as an information age earthquake avoided but rather as a steady stream of gradually more damaging tremors to come.

For early examples, consider a few of the failures from Monday, the first U.S. business day of the new millennium:

- Driver's licenses could not be issued in nearly half of New Mexico's motor vehicle offices.
- A vital payroll computer died at an Alabama company.
- Doppler weather systems shut down for a few minutes in Chicago.
- A small part of a Danish bank's payment system was erased.

Millions of small- and medium-sized businesses worldwide have done little or nothing about Y2K and will fix on failure.

"Now is the tough time. The next few months are going to be the toughest Y2K time," said Dale W. Way, bug point man at the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers.

At greatest risk in the private sector are the accounting, inventory, invoicing, billing and other systems integral to survival — a crazy quilt of interconnected programs often cobbled together over decades.

Such "custom applications," also common in government agencies, are nothing like the control systems at power and water plants, which are typically spare, easy to maintain and fortified by built-in redundancy.

Instead, they tend to be a mishmash of different software languages riddled with updates and patches applied over decades like digital duct tape that experts say make them especially susceptible to Y2K errors.

That's why tampering with such code to try to purge it of Y2K bugs can often introduce new unrelated errors. Programming is an art, not a science, and not all programmers are Picasso.

The more complex a system, the more difficult to repair it safely without introducing new errors.

In administrative and accounting software, errors can show up in many ways. Systems can simply crash computers; fail to process certain data and lose it; make an incorrect assumption and corrupt data; or destroy data completely.

Errors also may not occur until triggered by a particular event.

"A program whose job is to track the pressure in a chemical plant's boiler ... may not activate until a certain temperature is reached," said Norman Dean, director of the Center for Y2K and Society, a Washington public interest group. "And that may not happen until next week and it may not happen until next year."

Bug-infected systems are apt not to blow up but rather degrade over time — linked in many cases to monthly report generation or billing cycles — and often not even be easily identifiable as Y2K-induced.

Robert X. Cringely, a Silicon Valley commentator, predicts "Y2K effects will linger far past January as a patina of rust" on information systems.

The Y2K computer problem will not simply go away. Frank Bajak has covered international technology issues for The Associated Press since 1993.

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1995 Chevrolet Ext. Cab 4x4 #7371GB	\$11,900	1992 Chevrolet Conversion Van #7475BB	\$6,995
1998 Chevrolet Ext. Cab Z71 4x4 #7667TA	\$23,900	1995 Ford Club Wagon 15-pass #7694BB	\$16,900
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