

Hereford BRAND

100th Year, Vol. Number 70 • Deaf Smith County, Texas

TUESDAY, October 10, 2000

12 Pages, 50 Cents

HUSTLIN' HEREFORD
HOME OF
Linda Palacios

Today's weather OUTLOOK

• Partly cloudy skies •

Tonight: Partly cloudy, lows 40 to 45, south winds 15 to 25 mph.

Wednesday: Partly sunny and windy, highs 65 to 70, south winds 20 to 30 mph and gusty.

Wednesday night: Mostly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, lows 45 to 50.

• Extended forecast •

Thursday: Cloudy with a chance of showers and thunderstorms, highs around 65.

Friday: Cloudy with a chance of showers and thunderstorms, lows around 40, highs 60 to 65.

Saturday: A slight chance of showers early, other decreasing clouds, lows in upper 30s and highs in the lower 60s.

• Hereford weather •

Monday's high, 49; low, 36; no precipitation.



• Drizzle, cloudy skies • hang over the state

A surface high pressure ridge expected to sweep over Texas should bring partly cloudy skies with light rain in some areas, and milder weather in 60s.

The higher temperatures are expected after a cold snap set record low maximum temperatures in North Texas this past weekend, and temperatures in parts of normally warmer South Texas dropped into the 50s.

In North Texas, temperatures were mainly in the 50s Monday under partly cloudy skies.

The forecast for North Texas calls for highs in the 60s and lower 70s under mostly cloudy skies with a slight chance of showers.

For West Texas and the Panhandle, highs Monday ranged from 55 to 65. Forecasters predict a slight chance of showers with highs in the 60s to lower 70s. Highs should range in the mid-60s to lower 70s for the rest of the week.

In South Texas, cloudy skies with light rain and drizzle were expected for Tuesday.

Highs today should be in low to mid-50s with a chance of rain. Temperatures should rise into the 60s later in the week, forecasters said.

Combs slates meet

Special to The Brand

Texas Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs will conduct a series of town hall meetings throughout the state. The hearings are intended to give farmers, ranchers, and rural community leaders an opportunity to discuss issues affecting the agriculture industry and rural Texas.

The Deaf Smith County town hall meeting will begin at 4 p.m. Oct. 26 at the Hereford Community Center, 100 Ave. C.

"I want to hear first hand what's on the minds of the farmers, ranchers and citizens of our rural communities," Combs said. "I want to know what issues are affecting them, their families and their community and to hear their ideas and solutions for the future."

"Agriculture is one of the most dynamic industries in Texas. By working with our producers and agribusiness leaders, we can keep our industry on the forefront of change in the 21st century," Combs said.

The Texas Department of Agriculture is working with the Texas Farm Bureau, Texas Agricultural Extension Service, Texas Rural Development Council and various commodity groups to organize these town hall meetings across Texas. The meeting is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact John McFerrin, TDA producer relations specialist at (512) 463-7593.



Susan Combs



RICK PERRY

"We want the technology sector to stay in Texas, create more jobs here, create more wealth here."

TEXAS HIGH-TECH

■ Perry proposes scholarships, boosting state's number of engineering graduates

AUSTIN (AP) — Saying Texas has to stay ahead in the technology sector to keep the state's economy strong, Lt. Gov. Rick Perry on Monday unveiled technology proposals that call for establishing high-tech scholarships at two-year colleges and increasing the number of engineering graduates.

Perry announced the recommendations, drafted by the state's Advisory Council on the Digital Economy, at the Texas Technology Summit hosted by the American Electronics Association.

The digital divide advisory council is made up of 21 technology leaders and four state senators who were appointed in the fall of 1999 to advise state leaders on technology issues.

Other recommendations by the council include placing more focus on training teachers to use technology tools, providing more incentives to attract math and science teachers and

getting the high-tech community more involved in classrooms.

"We have to make sure that this industry which can literally pick up and move to where the workforce is, does not do that," Perry said at a news conference after addressing the summit. "We want the technology sector to stay in Texas, create more jobs here, create more wealth here."

Perry could not say how much the recommendations would cost because the council did not consider cost when drafting the recommendations. He said the recommendations will be passed on to the Legislature.

The council's report recommended that the state match private dollars to create a fund to pay for tuition for disadvantaged high school graduates to pursue a technical

Please see PROPOSALS, Page A11



New directors — Herschel Black (left) and Bill Townsend (center) are sworn in as new directors of the Hereford Economic Development Corp. Administering the oath of office this morning is Hereford Mayor Bob Josseland. Black and Townsend succeed Jerry Stevens and Cliff Skiles, whose terms expired. Under the HEDC bylaws, Stevens and Skiles, who had served two consecutive three-year terms, could not be reappointed to the board.

POTTER'S MESSAGE

Mourglia turns ancient craft into a way to spread God's message

By Dianna F. Dandridge

Hereford Brand Staff Writer

Clay and water, mixed in just the right proportions, make for one of the oldest and most useful art forms ever known to human civilization — pottery.

As in all art forms, master potters have to start somewhere. For Jon Mourglia, his love for pottery began as a freshman in high school, when his art class received an experimental grant which provided potter's wheels and kilns.

Through an accident of volunteer work, Mourglia found himself doing not only the work he loved, but also turning his art into a Christian ministry. At length, Mourglia brought his ministry to the Here-

ford Church of the Nazarene, where he demonstrated the similarities between a potter shaping a clay pot and the way God shapes his people.

"At first, I was just doing some volunteer work and talking to the audience," Mourglia said. "Then when that session was over, the sponsor asked if I would do the same thing with the next group. I said, 'No way. That was just an accident. I can't speak in front of people.'"

Mourglia said the sponsor said just enough to get the audience asking questions and he wound up doing nearly the same thing — again and again.

Please see POTTER, Page A11

Parties' views of farm policy differ widely

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — To farmers and agricultural groups watching the 2000 presidential and congressional races, Republicans and Democrats seem a world apart. The groups say a lot is at stake — the next Congress likely will work on a new farm bill, and the fate of the "freedom to farm" policy, enacted four years ago, will depend upon who gets elected both to Congress and the White House this November.

Current Republican and Democratic leaders offer dramatically different views on the policy — the national Republican Party platform defends freedom to farm, while Democrats, including President Clinton, consider it a failure.

"It's crucial," said Jamie Clover Adams, the Kansas agriculture secretary, said of the Nov. 7 election. "The bulk of the policy is hashed out in Congress, but it's going to take the cooperation of the USDA."

The freedom to farm law was designed to ease farmers' long-term dependence on the government by ending a Depression-era system of production controls and lowering federal price supports.

In turn, farmers were guaranteed payments that would decline through 2002, but allowed to plant whatever they liked, without the threat of losing government subsidies.

The measure has come under increasing criticism since 1998, when commodity prices collapsed. Since then, Congress has approved billions of dollars in emergency aid to help the nation's troubled farm economy.

Republicans have a long list of reasons the law hasn't worked: Export policies that aren't aggressive enough, Clinton vetoes of favored tax relief legislation and the late-1990s' dip in foreign economies known as "the Asian flu."

Most Republicans, including House Agriculture Committee Chairman Larry Combest of Lubbock, view the underlying policy of freedom to farm — phasing out both government control and government support — as sound.

"The big question is: Should freedom to farm be fixed or replaced?" said Kansas Sen. Pat Roberts, a Republican who helped write the policy in 1996 as then-chairman of the U.S. House Agriculture Committee.

President Clinton labeled the law the "Failure to Farm Act" during recent remarks at a

Please see FARM POLICY, Page A11



Al Gore (left) and George W. Bush aren't expected to return to civility in their close race for the White House.

INSIDE

■ Sniping between the Gore and Bush camps intensifying as the two candidates return to the campaign trail.

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FACTS & FLUBS

By Tom Raum

Associated Press Writer

Forget any return to civility in the excruciatingly close presidential race. To Al Gore's camp, George W. Bush is a bumbler and babbler. Bush advocates call Gore "a serial exaggerator," a guy who just can't tell the truth.

Gore's embellishments and Bush's botches could pose serious political problems for each in the final month of the campaign, analysts and politicians suggest. And both camps are intensifying their criticism.

The Bush campaign has issued e-mail press releases it calls "The Gore Detector: A Regular Report on Al Gore's Adventures with the Truth." And Gore officials say a portion of his Web site will be devoted to Bush's flubs.

Gore advisers say his campaign is

feeling the sting of the GOP efforts: Polls suggest Bush has picked up support since last week's first debate. The Gore people hope voters will decide Bush is being too negative and will reverse the trend one more time.

Gore's occasional trouble with the facts and Bush's problems with language are long-recognized traits that are getting added attention with the race so close in the final weeks of the campaign.

"Both problems are equally serious and disturbing," said Larry Sabato, a political scientist at the University of Virginia. He said Bush's gaffes reinforce suggestions of intellectual shortcomings while Gore's embellishments fuel concerns about his honesty.

"Americans want someone as their president who is smart enough for the job. But they also want someone who

isn't always lying to them," Sabato said.

Eight of 10 people think Gore is intelligent and well informed compared with seven of 10 for Bush, according to Time-CNN and Newsweek polls. But people think Bush is more likely than Gore to say what he believes and not just what voters want to hear, the polls say.

Gore foes point to two statements in particular from last week's debate: He said he inspected flood and fire damage in Texas in 1998 with James Lee Witt, the director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and he said a 15-year-old Sarasota, Fla., girl was having to stand in an overcrowded science class.

Gore has since acknowledged that

Please see SNIPING, Page A11

OCT 10 2000

LIFESTYLES

HEREFORD BRAND • Tuesday, October 10, 2000 • A3



Baby shower - Gabriel Christian Guerrero was honored with a baby shower Saturday in the home of Linda Gonzalez. Family members present were (from right) Jimmy Guerrero, uncle; Gabriel and Samantha Guerrero, parents; Bobby Compton, aunt; and Virginia Bordayo, grandmother.

Shower fetes Guerrero infant

Gabriel Christian Guerrero, infant son of Samantha and Gabriel Guerrero, was honored with a baby shower Saturday in the home of Linda Gonzalez. Christian was born Sept. 5. Welcoming guests with the proud parents were Virginia

Bordayo, maternal grandmother; Bobby Compton, maternal aunt; and Jimmy Guerrero, paternal uncle. An Angelcare Sound Monitor and Movement Reassurance System and a gift certificate for a Graco Accel/SE New-

born/Toddler car seat were gifts from hostesses Lori Betzen, Sheri Blankenship, Delme Bullard, Annabelle Cepeda, Ann Davis, Linda Gonzalez, Sandra Maldonado, Edna Medrano, Kelli Moulton and Rosario Nava.

La Madre Mia program is 'Tribute to Veterans'

"A Tribute to Veterans" was presented by Jean Beene as the program for the Thursday meeting of La Madre Mia Study Club in the home of Merle Clark with Susan Robbins as co-hostess.

Beene is a member of Los Ciboleros Chapter NSDAR. She gave a history of the "forgotten war," the Korean War, and information regarding the Department of Defense who will honor the veterans nationwide from June 1, 2000, through Veterans Day of 2003.

A local "50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee" has been formed and Los Ciboleros Chapter will administer the program on a local level through various services and programs.

The DAR is compiling information and currently has more than 100 stories from residents of Hereford and the surrounding area. Anyone with a story or in need of information can contact Beene at 364-6117.

Following the program, members of La Madre Mia joined Beene in a memorial service which was followed by a question and answer period.

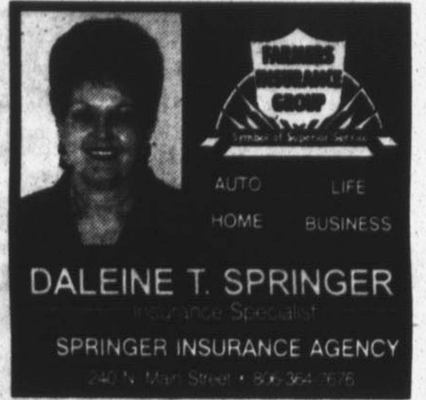
Roll call was answered by a wartime memory.

Tommie Stevens, vice president, presided at the business meeting which included an update on the Tour of Homes scheduled for Dec. 3.

Past president Marlene Watson was presented with a footed crystal rose bowl as an appreciation gift.

Members present included Carolyn Baxter, Ruth Black, Linda Cumpton, Kay Hall, Mary Herring, Betty Lady, Gladys Merritt, Jan Metcalf, Bettye Owen, Georgia Sparks, Judy Williams, Clark, Robbins, Stevens and Watson.

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CREATORS SYNDICATE

Ann Landers



Ann Landers has this disease. Most folks don't have a clue. You would not believe the ignorance I have encountered.

DON'T assume because I look well that I feel well. Looks can be very deceiving. Many days I look great, but I feel terrible.

DON'T tell me you know how I feel. No one knows how anyone else feels. Two people with the same disease may feel totally different. We all have varying thresholds of pain, and pain cannot be measured.

DON'T tell me about your great-aunt Gertrude and her arthritis, and how well she managed in spite of it. I am not Aunt Gertrude, and I am doing my best.

DON'T tell me, "It could be worse." Yes, it could be, but I don't need to be reminded.

DON'T decide what I am capable of doing. Arthritis doesn't affect the brain. Allow me to decide what activities I can participate in. There may be times I might make the wrong decision, and if I do, I'll know it soon enough.

DON'T be upset that you cannot ease my pain. It won't do any good for both of us to be miserable.

DON'T ask me how I feel unless you really want to know. You may hear a lot more than you are prepared to listen to.

DON'T assume because I did a certain activity yesterday that I can do it today. Arthritis is ever-changing.

DON'T tell me about the latest fad "cure." I want to be cured more than anything, and if there is a legitimate cure out there, my doctor will let me know.

DO learn everything you can about the disease. The more you know, the better equipped you will be to know what to expect.

DO realize I am angry and frustrated with the disease, not with you.

DO let me know you are available to help me when I ask. I'll be grateful.

DO offer me lots of hugs and encouragement.

DO understand why I cancel plans at the last minute. I never know from one day to the next how I will feel. Arthritis is like that.

DO continue to invite me to all the activities. Just because I am not able to bike ride along with the gang does not mean I can't meet you for the picnic at the end of the trail. Please let me decide. — Joy in Texas

Dear Joy: Thank you on behalf of the millions of people for whom you spoke today. For more information, call the Arthritis Foundation and ask for their free brochure, "Arthritis Answers," and their article on how to get moral support from your family and friends. The number is 1-800-283-7800. Or write: Arthritis Foundation, P.O. Box 7669, Atlanta, GA 30357-0669 (www.arthritis.org).

Dear Ann Landers: I've had two bypass surgeries, a hip replacement, new knees, fought breast cancer and diabetes. I'm half-blind and can't hear anything quieter than a jet engine. I take 10 different medications that make me dizzy, winded and subject to blackouts. I have had bouts of dementia, have poor circulation, and can hardly feel my hands and feet anymore. I can't remember whether I am 85 or 87, and there's nobody I can ask. All my friends are dead. But thank God, I still have my Florida driver's license. — N.S., Bloomfield, Mich.

Dear Bloomfield: Very funny. I've received letters about you from readers who have encountered you in Miami, Ft. Lauderdale and Boca Raton. They will be pleased to know that you are in Michigan, and they hope you will stay there.

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By being the early bird, you also beat us out of a \$17 yearly increase that went into effect earlier this month. And even better, you won't miss a single issue of the best in local news, commentary, business, entertainment, sports and more.

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* Football Toss *
* Go Fish * Sucker Pull *

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Garden Beautiful Club studies landscaping talents of Ward

Garden Beautiful Club members toured the yard of the Forrest Ward home following a breakfast Oct. 6 in the home of Marcella McLain.

Ward, who does the landscaping at the E.B. Black House and the Deaf Smith County Museum, has also been doing

landscaping in his own front and back yards.

Prior to the tour, president Doris Bryant conducted the business meeting. Members answered roll call with garden tips.

There was discussion of how

to prepare yards and gardens for winter.

Members present were Vada Axe, Marguerite Cole, Audine Dettmann, Dorothy Noland, Helen Spinks, Louise Streun, McLain and Bryant.

The next meeting will be in the home of Dorothy Noland.

Warrior Band Council



Executive Band Council for Community Christian School Warrior Band was elected recently. Those serving on the Council are (front from left) Lark Duncan, eighth grade representative; Lissandra Ramos, Concert Band representative; Celeste Louder, freshman representative; Abigail Wilks, president; (middle) April Carrasco, vice president/librarian; Brenda Brookhart, secretary; Christie Bustamante, senior representative; Angela Rudd, sophomore representative; and (back) Steven Wilson and Nathan Louder, equipment managers. The Warrior Band has begun its annual Poinsettia Sale that supports its spring District Concert Contest trip and its solo and ensemble contest fees. Poinsettias may be ordered for \$10 by calling 364-8867 or contacting any Warrior Band member.

Wyche Extension Education Club observes 'how to' demonstration

Wyche Extension Education Club met Thursday with guest speaker, Ann Nickols in charge of the program. She gave a demonstration on how to make a Peace Lily arrangement with a plant, a clear vase, mosaic

marbles and a Chinese fighting fish.

Jo Lee gave a report of the Council activities for October.

For the next meeting, the club decided to make a Peace Lily arrangement and to have a

drawing for it at the close of the meeting.

Those members present were Roxie Cosper, Dorma Kirby, Marie Maxwell, Coreen Odom, Audrey Rusher, Carol Sertain and Lee.

LIFESTYLES news: thom@herefordbrand.com

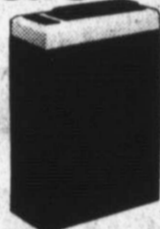
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SPORTS

HEREFORD BRAND • Tuesday, October 10, 2000 • A5

AP top 10

Hereford keeps grip on 4th place in Class 4A rankings

Here is The Associated Press Schoolboy Football Poll with records, first place votes in parentheses and points based on 10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1, through games of Oct. 7:

Team	Rec	Pts	Fvs
Class 5A			
1. Austin Westlake(13)	5-0	186	2
2. Katy(5)	5-0	180	3
3. Aldine-Clearwater(1)	5-0	158	4
4. Midland Lee(1)	4-1	110	5
5. Converse-Judson	5-0	104	5
6. Lewisville	5-0	91	7
7. Garland	4-1	87	1
8. Tyler-John Tyler	3-1	85	8
9. Abilene	5-0	55	9
10. San Antonio-Marshall	5-0	32	10
Also receiving votes: Duncanville 8, The Woodlands 6, North Mesquite 5, Allen 4, Harlingen 3, Donna 2, Austin High 1, Spring 1.			
Class 4A			
1. Wichita Falls(16)	5-0	193	1
2. Stephenville(4)	4-1	177	2
3. San Marcos	5-0	151	3
4. Hereford	4-1	136	4
5. Wolfforth-Frenship	4-1	104	6
6. Nederland	5-0	94	8
7. Highland Park	5-0	82	7
8. Port Arthur-Lincoln	5-0	64	9
9. Brownwood	3-2	34	5
10. Houston-Forest Brook	5-0	29	x
DROPPED OUT: Ennis.			
Also receiving votes: West Orange-Stark 13, Mesquite Point 11, Ennis 5, Bay City 4, Smithson Valley 3, Boerne 2, La Marque 2, Pharr-San Juan-Alamo 2, Gregory-Portland 1, Hewitt Midway 1, Kerrville Tivy 1, Lockhart 1, SA Roosevelt 1.			
Class 3A			
1. Alamo(13)	6-0	187	1
2. Lamesa(3)	5-1	170	2
3. Diboll(1)	5-0	141	3
4. Crockett	4-1	119	4
5. Gatesville(1)	5-0	113	6
6. Abilene-Wylie(1)	5-0	102	5
7. Dargenfield(1)	5-0	68	7
8. Cuero	4-1	45	8
9. La Grange	3-2	25	9
10. (tie) Commerce	5-0	19	x
10. Madisonville	5-0	19	x
DROPPED OUT: China Spring.			
Also receiving votes: China Spring 12, Barber's Hill 12, Elgin 10, Gonzales 10, Mulshoe 10, Crandall 6, Everman 6, Lindale 6, Yockum 5, Mansfield-Panola 4, Tawakana Liberty-Eylau 4, Rice Consolidated 3, Marlin 2, Center 1, Hardin-Jefferson 1.			
Class 2A			
1. Mart(17)	5-0	197	1
2. Collins(2)	5-0	180	2
3. Refugio	5-0	152	3
4. Sonora	5-0	134	4
5. Olney(1)	5-0	124	5
6. Pilot Point	5-0	78	6
7. Rogers	5-0	76	7

8. Lone Oak	5-0	63	8
9. Alto	4-1	27	9
10. Arp	5-0	26	10
Also receiving votes: Jarrell 10, Comfort 6, Thomdale 6, Leon 4, Friona 3, Hemphill 2, New Waverly 2, Stanton 2, Sundown 2, Corrigan-Camden 1.			
Class A			
1. Shiner(13)	5-0	185	1
2. Stratford(4)	5-0	164	2
3. Beckville(2)	5-0	150	3
4. Paducah(1)	5-0	138	4
5. Iraan	4-1	129	5
6. Celeste	5-0	104	6
7. Rankin	5-0	94	7
8. Roscoe	5-0	44	8
9. Windthorst	5-0	33	9
10. Charlotte	5-0	15	10
DROPPED OUT: Bremond.			
Also receiving votes: Mildred 11, Nazareth 10, Bremond 8, Burton 8, Menard 4, High Island 1, Munday 1, Rotan 1.			

Week 5 contest winners

This week's Hereford Brand Football Contest winners for Week 5 are George Loerwald, Gayle Cotten and Bernadette Kalka.

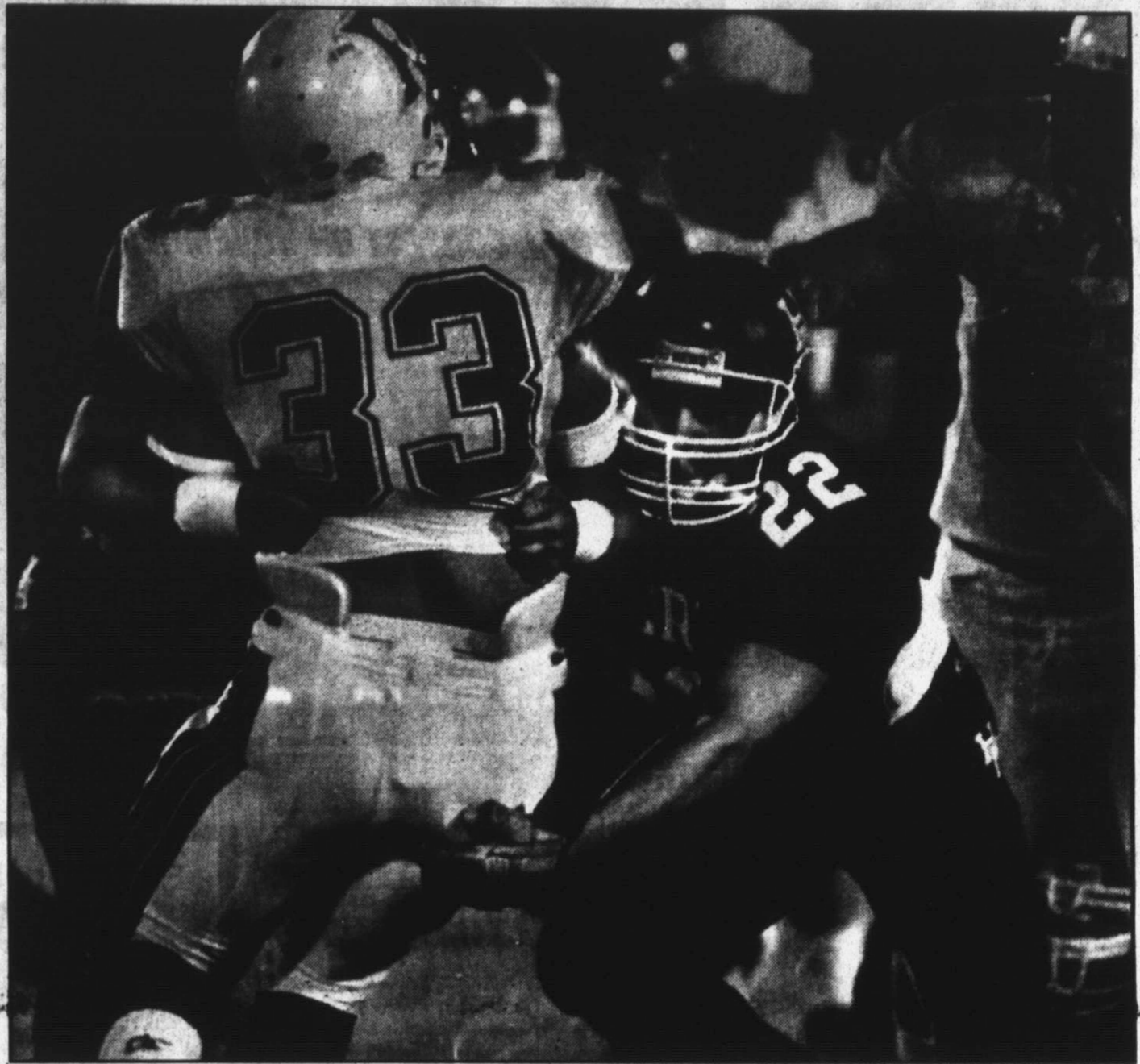
Loerwald took top honors winning first place, missing only five games out of 25 for the week.

Cotten finished second, missing only six games out of 25 and picked the winner of the tie-breaker game.

Kalka placed third, also missing six but choosing the wrong tie-breaker winner.

Each person who placed in the top three is eligible for the \$1,000 prize to be given out after the football season is over. Check Pages A6-7 for this week's contest.

BIG HITTER



No gain — Hereford senior defensive end Gilbert Hernandez stops Pampa's senior fullback Thomas Long during the Whitefaces' 28-7 victory. The Herd will be at home again on Friday to tackle Caprock.

BRAND/Mauri Montgomery

MOURNING SIDELINE

All-Star center has kidney disorder

BOCA RATON, Fla. (AP) — At first the workout sounds like any other Miami Heat practice, with Pat Riley's voice and the squeal of sneakers reverberating in the gym.

This is more than just basketball, though. The Heat are playing a tense waiting game.

They broke training camp Monday without All-Star center Alonzo Mourning, and they don't know if or when he'll return. He has been in Miami undergoing further tests so doctors can determine the best course of treatment for an apparent kidney disorder.

Mourning told his best friend in the NBA, Seattle center Patrick Ewing, that he'll play this season. At Mourning's request, the Heat have declined to discuss his condition or prognosis.

"Zo left me a message Sunday and told us to keep working hard, and he'll take care

of his end of it," Riley said. "He's in great spirits. He just wants to find out what's available out there and what the definitive answer is, and then we'll go from there."

Mourning's ailment was discovered during a routine physical examination before training camp began Wednesday.

"We're more concerned about Alonzo as a person than as a player," forward Brian Grant said. "We're not even thinking about when he's going to come back, but just is he going to be all right. We should know that pretty soon."

Mourning discussed his condition last week with Ewing, The Miami Herald reported.

"Our conversation went fine, and he was in good spirits," Ewing said. "In fact, he cursed me out because I sounded depressed on the phone when he told me what he had. ..."

"He's going to play again this season. He just said he is going to play again at some point. I don't know when that is."

The Heat will play their first preseason game Wednesday at New Jersey. The regular season opens Nov. 1.

Mourning, 30, hasn't been with the team or appeared in public since media day last Tuesday. At that time he enthusiastically discussed his offseason, which included the birth of his second child, a charity fund-raiser he organized and his role in the U.S. Olympic team's gold-medal effort.

"I couldn't have written out my summer any better," he said.

Riley had a good summer, too. With a series of deals, he positioned Miami as the Eastern Conference favorite. He brought in Grant, All-Star guard Eddie Jones and rugged forward Anthony Mason.

But the moves left the Heat thin on the bench. In the past they had Clarence Weatherspoon or Ike Austin to fill in for Mourning, but there's no comforting option this season. His backup is seldom-used Duane Causwell.

The best alternative may be to play Grant or the 6-foot-7 Mason out of position at center and hope that their aggressiveness compensates for a lack of size.



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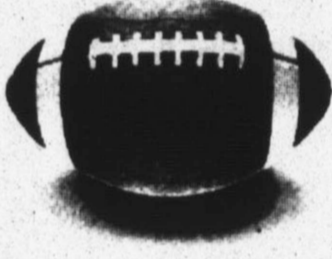
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10 OCT 2000

INSIDE

Backstage flaps usually bad sign

A new fall television season is a lot like opening day in baseball. Each team theoretically begins the season evenly, with the same chance of making the World Series.

In reality, one team's pitcher has a sore arm. The cleanup hitter's been striking out an awful lot. And that kid in right field? Overmatched. You know better than to make October plans for this club.

Similarly, some new television series seem to start their runs with two strikes against them.

The original producer leaves the series, miffed at the network's meddling. Half the cast is fired. The show changes its setting, or its title. Writers doctor the script.

Every year one or more of the above seems to envelop a show in dread. Before they've even gone on the air, it feels like Dead Show Walking.

This year, the red flags are flying over four shows in particular:

NBC's "The Michael Richards Show" has received a complete makeover. After NBC discovered that the former Kramer on "Seinfeld" had trouble carrying a series on his own, it beefed up the cast with the addition of actors William Devane, Amy Farrington and Tim Meadows. Now, like "Seinfeld," it's more of an ensemble.

The executive producer of Fox's "Freakylinks" left, citing creative differences, after he was ordered to inject more levity into the dark drama.

NBC recruited a former "Friends" producer to take over on "Cursed" after its co-creators left with bad feelings. New writers were brought on, the show changed its name from "The Steven Weber Show" and a handful of episodes already filmed were thrown out.

"Normal, Ohio" features John Goodman as a middle-aged divorced man who comes out of the closet as gay. It was originally set in Los Angeles co-starring Anthony LaPaglia. But LaPaglia was axed, the show changed settings to middle America and now it is more of a family comedy than originally envisioned. Oh, and the title was changed from "Don't Ask."

Can a series work its way through the bad vibes and survive?

It's possible. The pilot for the current critical and commercial favorite "Buffy, the Vampire Slayer" was thrown out and some of the actors recast before the show got on the air, said Gail Berman, Fox's entertainment chief, who was in charge of "Buffy" when she ran Regency Television.

Every one of the shows she's been involved with has been revamped to some extent in the early days, she said.

"These are situations that have gone on always," she said. "It's just that we hear more about it because every-



David Bauder
Associated Press

body is looking for a story."

There are few things more frustrating — and panic-inducing — to a network executive than the realization that a concept that looked good on paper isn't working on tape.

"The Michael Richards Show" is "300 percent better" because of the extra work put in, said Garth Ancier, NBC entertainment president. "I think it's going to be a decent show," Ancier said. "Decent to good."

"The most important thing is to put the best show on the air for the public to see," he said. "The last thing you want to do is go on the air and say, 'Only kidding. We're going to go away for four weeks and do it differently.'"

The original "Don't Ask" felt "like a forced situation," Berman said. Now she feels the comedy is better able to use Goodman's talents.

That's their opinion, of course. The graveyard of failed television series is littered with headstones that have too many names, shows ultimately pulled apart because too many people had too many opinions. The former producers of "Cursed" and "Freakylinks" may feel differently about how things have turned out, but so far are keeping it to themselves.

Berman laughed when asked when legitimate network concern crosses the line to meddling.

"I'm sure (producers) felt like I've meddled," she said. "I'd like to think that now I'm here I become part of the process from the get-go instead of inserting myself at a later date."

The consequences of failure — or success — seem greater now that networks are increasingly taking financial stakes in shows with production companies.

"If I was spending millions of dollars on a show, I'd want to have control over what comes out," said Roy Rothstein, vice president and director of national broadcast research for Zenith Media Services Inc.

As someone who must advise advertisers on where to spend money, Rothstein said he's more concerned about shows that keep getting put off — planned for the fall season, they suddenly appear in January or June. That's often a signal the network believes they're not quite good enough, he said.

The proliferation of choices for viewers means that a series has to be special to work, Ancier said. "They can't just be good," he said. "We're way beyond the period when 'Hello, Larry' was good enough to be on the air."

David Bauder can be reached at dbauder@ap.org



Personal attacks between Al Gore (left) and George W. Bush are growing more heated.

SARASOTA, Fla. (AP) — The sniping between Al Gore and George W. Bush intensified as they headed back to the campaign trail Tuesday on the eve of their second debate.

Bush was tweaking his rival at a rally in Gore's home state of Tennessee, where polls suggest a close race. Gore was touting his college aid proposals in Florida, another competitive state.

After taking Monday off to prepare for Wednesday's 90-minute debate in North Carolina, both men hoped to frame the issues for the face-off at their campaign events.

"We need middle-class tax cuts to make college more affordable," Gore said in remarks prepared for delivery Tuesday at Manatee Community College.

His daughter and adviser, Karena Gore Schiff, said Gore also planned to use the debates to discuss his proposals for smaller classes, universal preschool, children's health insurance and prescription drug coverage for Medicare.

Asked on CBS' "Early Show" whether her father would change his style because of criticism of his debate performance last week, including his disapproving noises when Bush was speaking, Schiff predicted viewers would see "the same Al Gore, probably just a few less sighs."

FBI subpoenas campaign records related to Bush's media consultant

WASHINGTON (AP) — Corporate and campaign records related to George W. Bush's media consultant and his staff have been subpoenaed by federal agents investigating the anonymous mailing of Bush debate materials to an aide to his Democratic presidential rival.

FBI agents have focused primarily on these staffers and are trying to determine whether their explanations hold up, a senior federal law enforcement official said Monday, requesting anonymity.

The case began when former Rep. Tom Downey, who was helping Democrat Al Gore prepare for debates with GOP opponent Bush, received a

package Sept. 13 containing documents and a videotape that appeared to show Bush's debate preparations. Downey turned the material over to the FBI, which has since begun a criminal investigation.

The material was mailed Sept. 11 from Austin, Texas, where Bush's campaign is headquartered. The FBI obtained a videotape from a surveillance camera at the post office where the package was mailed.

The tape showed Yvette Lozano, a low level employee of Bush's media firm, Maverick Media, mailing a package at a time that corresponded to when the debate package was mailed, law enforcement offi-

Locke in a close race, Gore's camp took to branding Bush as a bumbler who can't defend his proposals coherently. Bush's team continued the theme that Gore can't be believed.

"Governor Bush seems incapable of talking about the important issues in this campaign in a coherent way," said Gore deputy campaign manager Mark Fabiani.

Bush spokesman Dan Bartlett responded: "This strategy is one of a campaign that is running out of options and is grasping at straws."

At a Florida press conference, Democratic National Committee chairman Joe Andrew announced an intensified campaign of television commercials, a "Bush Lite" Web site and "truth squad" to hammer at Bush. Gore running mate Joseph Lieberman also was being sent to Texas after the debate for a "failed leadership tour" bashing Bush's record there as governor.

Andrew and Gore campaign officials insist the assault is "fair game" because it's on Bush policy proposals and misstatements, though the language harshly refers to Bush as a "bumbler."

The assault also comes as the latest CNN-USA Today-Gallup tracking poll showed

Bush 8 points ahead of Gore, 50 percent to 42 percent, with an error margin of 4 percentage points.

"We're not talking about personal attacks on individual character," said Andrew. "We're going to continue to talk about his record and talk about it loud and clear."

Bartlett turned that around, saying the announcement raises additional questions about Gore's credibility because he only last week pledged not to launch personal attacks.

"He's violated that pledge today by unleashing his top aides to attack Governor Bush in a very personal way," Bartlett said.

Bush running mate Dick Cheney said Lieberman's tour would be a waste of time.

"The fact is, of course, the people of Texas re-elected Governor Bush overwhelmingly. He's been one of the most successful governors that we've ever had in Texas."

■ DICK CHENEY, GOP vice presidential nominee

people of Texas re-elected Governor Bush overwhelmingly. He's been one of the most successful governors that we've ever had in Texas," he said Monday on CNN.

He added that Texans "will probably not take kindly to Joe Lieberman coming down to mess with Texas, so to speak."

The Bush camp labeled Gore "a serial exaggerator ... a man who has difficulty telling the truth," noting statements Gore made in last week's debate.

Gore described a Florida schoolgirl he said was forced to stand in class because the room was overcrowded, and a tour of Texas he took with disaster director James Lee Witt.

Republicans said both statements were exaggerations and have taken to issuing "Gore Detector" press releases reporting on "Al Gore's Adventures with the Truth."

Gore has said classroom overcrowding is a real problem, but conceded he did not take the disaster trip with Witt.

Gore appeared in public briefly Monday to buy books at a Sarasota bookstore. Bush made no public appearances.

At his news conference, Andrew played three TV commercials criticizing Bush's record as Texas governor and said Democrats would hold him to "presidential standards."

ELECTION 2000

Sniping between Bush, Gore intensifies as they return to campaigning

Mighty Maroon Band sets performances

The Hereford High School "Mighty Maroon Band" will perform "An Olympic Montage" at 7:12 p.m. Oct. 21 in Dick Bivins Stadium in Amarillo.

The performance will be part of the annual University Interscholastic League competition.

The band will give a preview of its UIL performance this weekend at the Pioneer Marching Festival.

The HHS band will perform at 8:30 p.m. Saturday in Bulldog Stadium in Plainview.

Admission for the festival is \$2 per person. The awards presentation will be about 9:30 p.m.

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Israeli leader OK's deadline extension

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
News digest

JERUSALEM — Feeling international pressure, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak gave his Palestinian counterpart more time to quell raging violence that left 88 people dead over 12 days. The change in position, including a willingness to attend a U.S.-hosted peace summit if one is arranged, came after two phone calls from President Clinton, Israel's army radio reported. Much of the violence overnight into Tuesday was centered in Israel itself. In the seaside community of Bat Yam, just south of Tel Aviv, two Israeli Arabs were stabbed, according to Israel TV. In nearby Jaffa, three Arab-owned apartments were burned while some Jews, chanting "Death to the Arabs," descended into the streets to smash car windows and throw stones at police. There were Jewish-Arab clashes from the Sea of Galilee in the north to the Negev Desert in the south.

Clinton meeting with North Korean defense chairman
WASHINGTON — He is virtually unknown to the outside world, but Clinton administration officials have been eagerly awaiting his arrival, hoping his visit will contribute to an ongoing easing of tensions on the Korean Peninsula. President Clinton was meeting Tuesday with



Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat walks with Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov (left) on their way to Arafat's office in Gaza City. Under international pressure, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak gave Arafat more time to quell the violence that has lasted for 12 days.

Cho Myong Nok, the first vice chairman of North Korea's National Defense Commission and perhaps the closest adviser to Pyongyang's supreme leader, Kim Jong Il. Later, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright will be host of a dinner at the State Department for Cho after he meets with congressional leaders — all this for a representative of a country with which the United States does not maintain diplomatic relations. He

is the highest ranking North Korean official to visit Washington. **New Yugoslav government reaching out to West**
BELGRADE, Yugoslavia — After shunning America during the election campaign, President Vojislav Kostunica's allies are reaching out to the West as they seek to rid the government of the last remnants of Slobodan Milosevic's regime. Kostunica shunned contacts with the United

States during the campaign for the Sept. 24 election because of Serb anger over last year's NATO bombing campaign. Many Yugoslavs want an end to the international isolation imposed on their

country after the Balkan wars of the Milosevic era. Kostunica planned to meet Tuesday with French Foreign Minister Hubert Vedrine, who will be the first Cabinet minister of a NATO country which bombed Yugoslavia to visit Belgrade after last week's uprising against Milosevic. Vedrine's visit comes one day after the European Union lifted economic sanctions against Yugoslavia and offered \$2 billion in aid to help rebuild the country.

Salvadoran death toll from poisoned alcohol rises

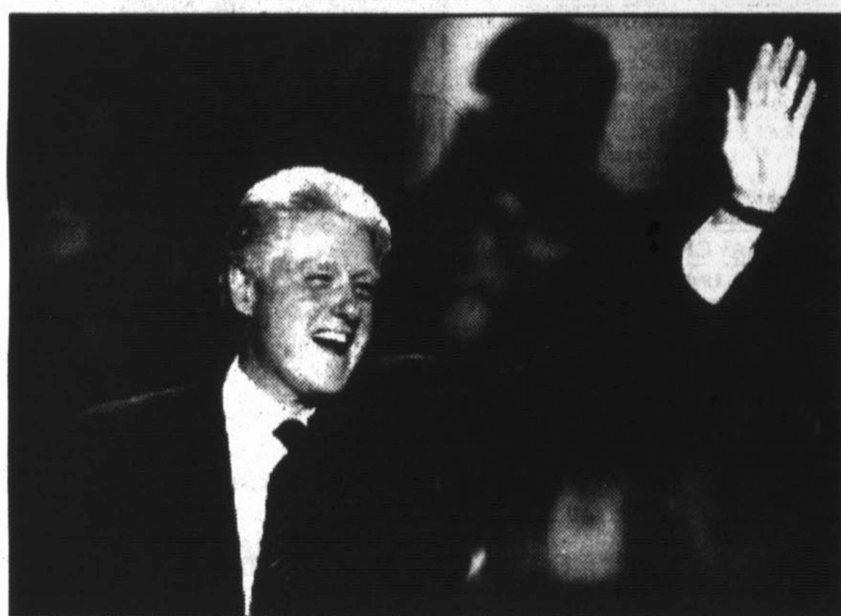
SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador — What started as a local tragedy appears to be growing into a national crisis as deaths from across the country are reported from people drinking a deadly methyl alcohol, authorities said. So far, 59 deaths were reported from five of the country's 14 regions, officials said Monday. Police said the deadly alcohol was sold openly to poor farmworkers at liquor stores under the brand name Thunderbolt. Thunderbolt is a well-known cheap sugarcane liquor; police suspect black-marketers refilled discarded bottles with a mixture of methanol, which is normally used as an antifreeze in cars.

Dick Gregory honored at Kennedy Center

WASHINGTON — Civil rights activist and comedian Dick Gregory was honored at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Gregory in the 1960s was an overweight, chain-smoking standup act who helped open doors for black entertainers. He also took part in civil rights marches and demonstrations, went on hunger strikes for various humanitarian causes and became an advocate for good health and nutrition. Gregory, 67, was diagnosed last year with lymphoma. His friends decided to honor him with Monday night's gala. The guest list for "An Evening of Reflections with Dick Gregory" included Bill Cosby as master of ceremonies, Stevie Wonder, Issac Hayes, Ossie Davis, Ruby Dee, Cicely Tyson and Coretta Scott King.

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PRESIDENT CLINTON

"I don't think the new president, whoever it is, will have problems with me acting like I wished I were still president."

Clinton reflects on presidency

By Deb Riechmann

Associated Press Writer

Reflecting on nearly eight years in office, President Clinton says his tenure began with grand ideas, such as health care reform, that fell victim to political naivete. It will end with a graceful step to the sidelines in January, he says.

"I don't think the new president, whoever it is, will have problems with me acting like I wished I were still president," Clinton said in a *New Yorker* magazine article.

The lesson he has learned after almost two terms in office: There's a learning curve to running the country.

Clinton also agreed with his questioner that his style of being president may change the way America views the office after he leaves the White House.

"I'm not sure that's such a bad thing," Clinton said. "We need to demystify the job. It is a job. There's a lot to be said for showing up every day and trying to push the rock up the hill. ... If you're willing to win in inches as well as feet, a phenomenal amount of positive things can happen."

If given a second chance, Clinton told political writer Joe Klein, he would do some things differently, from health care reform and U.S. involvement in Somalia to his personal life and Whitewater.

Of the health care effort led by Hillary Rodham Clinton

in 1993, Clinton's first year in office, the president said his administration's agenda was too crowded — a common theme early on — with other priorities such as a free trade deal with Canada and Mexico and an economic package for the United States.

Another early challenge was Somalia. Clinton said his decision to try to capture warlord Mohamed Farah Aidid was based on the advice of Gen. Colin Powell, who retired as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff soon after the operation began. Hundreds of Somalis and 18 U.S. soldiers were killed.

"I'm not blaming him. I'm just saying he was gone," Clinton said.

Clinton said he regretted his 1994 decision to ask Attorney General Janet Reno to appoint an independent counsel to investigate his Whitewater real estate dealings in Arkansas.

He said his greatest achievements were dealing with impeachment and the government shutdowns in 1995 and 1996.

Clinton described 1998, the year of his impeachment and the Monica Lewinsky scandal, as both painful and pleasant.

"I had made a terrible personal mistake, which I didn't try to correct until almost a year later ... it caused an enormous amount of pain to my family, to my administration, to the country," he said.

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