

Hereford BRAND

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FRIDAY, August 11, 2000

10 Pages 50 Cents

HUSTLIN' HEREFORD HOME OF Angle Alonzo

Today's weather **OUTLOOK**

Partly cloudy skies

Tonight: Partly cloudy with a less than 20 percent chance of thunderstorms, lows around 67, south to southeast winds 5 to 15 mph.

Saturday: Mostly sunny with highs around 97, south to southwest winds 10 to 20 mph.

Saturday night: Partly cloudy with a less than 20 percent chance of thunderstorms, lows around 68.

Extended forecast

Sunday and Monday: Mostly clear, highs 90 to 95, lows in the upper 60s.

Tuesday: Mostly clear, lows in the upper 60s, highs in the mid- to upper 90s.

Hereford weather

Thursday's high, 91; low, 65; no precipitation, according to KPAN Radio.

Triple-digit readings likely across Texas

More temperatures above the century mark were expected to start the weekend, with afternoon heating under mostly clear skies.

A chance of isolated, mainly afternoon showers and thunderstorms was still in the Texas forecast, however.

Early-morning readings today ranged from the 70s to mid-80s.

It was 72 degrees at New Braunfels and 84 at Laughlin Air Force Base near Del Rio.

Winds were mostly variable at 5 to 15 mph, with southerly and southwesterly conditions in the west.

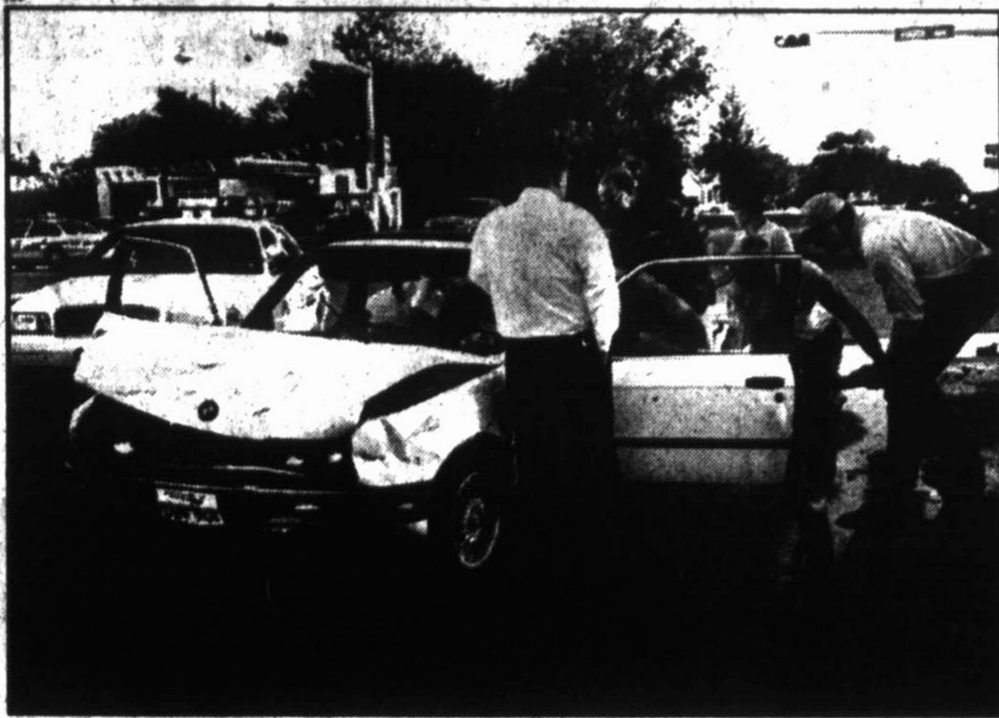
In South Texas, early morning clouds will give way to sunny to partly cloudy skies. Some midlevel clouds covered the northern Panhandle and far West Texas.

Daytime highs should range from the upper 90s to more than 100 degrees by late afternoon. Along the Rio Grande, highs will reach 105.

Lows overnight were expected in the 60s to 70s, with a few 50s in the mountains.

A chance of isolated showers and thunderstorms will develop mostly in the afternoons for Southeast and West Texas, with storms continuing over northern sections after nightfall.

Highs on Thursday were mostly in the 90s, ranging from 101 at Lajitas, Candelaria and Red Bluff Dam to 87 at the Guadalupe Pass.



BRAND/Dianna F. Dandridge

A morning collision - An early morning accident at the intersection of Park Avenue and Avenue F slowed traffic briefly this morning. Officers believe the driver of the late model BMW was traveling east on Park Avenue, directly into the sun, and may not have seen the light change. The BMW struck a Buick Century, which was traveling north on Avenue F, and had only entered the intersection after he received a green light. The driver of the BMW was transported to Hereford Regional Medical Center and the driver of the Buick later went to have a possible pinched nerve checked out. Neither driver was seriously injured.

Board says 3 new prisons are needed

By Donald Cooper

Hereford Brand Managing Editor

What a difference a month or so can make.

In June, a Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) official said the state is not about to embark on another prison construction project, while an aide to a powerful state senator agrees no prison construction proposals are on the table when the 77th Legislature convenes in January 2001, but things could change.

And, things changed.

The Texas Board of Criminal Justice approved a recommendation for its Fiscal 2003 budget, requesting a bond program to build three maximum-security prisons for \$544 million. The board also wants an additional \$86 million to pay for improvements at existing facilities.

The officials estimate the state will need nearly 15,000 more prison beds. The three new units would provide 8,550 beds. Another 1,500 beds could be provided if lawmakers approve spending \$17.4 million for 1,000 new beds in other facilities, such as halfway houses and expands its electronic monitoring program.

Don Cumpton, executive director of the Hereford Economic Development Corp., said any decision to make an effort to promote the Here-

ford area as a potential site for a prison would be up to the directors.

"The board will have to visit on that," Cumpton said, adding there have been no discussions about prisons.

The state spent nearly \$2 billion over the last decade to ease prison overcrowding, and according to reports, state Rep. Pat Haggerty, R-El Paso, chairman of the House Corrections Committee, said in May he expects the issue to be a major item during the next legislative session.

After that article was published, TDCJ public information director Glenn Castlebury said there are no plans for new prison construction.

"There are some policy decisions that need to be made, not just building prisons but about what to do with criminals from Deaf Smith County and other places," Castlebury said.

Chet Dombrowski, financial assistant in the Austin office of Sen. Teel Bivins, R-Amarillo, said in June that there were no plans for new prison construction, but officials at the TDCJ had indicated that wasn't firm.

"Officially, there are no plans, but I was told things could change. So, any community that wants to bid on a prison (site) needs to watch closely and be ready to move quickly."

OOPS!

Legal technicalities force City Commission to pick a new date for tax hearing

By Donald M. Cooper

Hereford Brand Managing Editor

Legal technicalities are forcing the Hereford City Commission to reschedule its public hearing on the proposed ad valorem tax rate.

The commission will meet at noon Monday to reschedule the public hearing.

At the Aug. 7 meeting, the commissioners approved a tax rate of 41 cents per \$100 assessed valuation, unchanged from this year. The commissioners also called a public hearing for Aug. 21, the same night, as the next commission meeting. Following the hearing, the commissioners were to formally adopt a tax rate.

However, legal technicalities have forced the commissioners to rearrange their schedule.

State statutes require the city to adopt the tax rate within 3-14 days after the public hearing. If the commission were to proceed with the Aug. 21 hearing, it would have to adopt the tax rate no later than Sept. 4, which is Labor Day — and the commission on that date will be canceled because of the holiday.

"Then we have the situation where the budget must be adopted prior to adopting the tax rate and the budget will not be ready for adoption until later in September because of readvertising for health insurance bids."

City Secretary Terri Johnson stated.

"The public hearing for the tax rate will probably be set for Monday, Sept. 11, with adoption of both the budget ... and the tax rate to be scheduled for Monday, Sept. 18."

The commissioners voted Aug. 7 to reject the only employee health insurance proposal received and directed City Manager Chester Nolen to readvertise for bids.

The commissioners rejected the bid of Blue Cross Blue Shield, the current carrier, because it showed a 50-percent increase over this year's rate. The company cited claims filed on behalf of two employees, one of whom is receiving dialysis while the other is a transplant candidate, and several other large claims.

Since the bid was received, the dialysis patient was approved for Medicare and the city insurance becomes secondary, while one of the other claimants retired. The other large claims were isolated incidents that didn't have residual treatment requirements.

Because of those changes, the commissioners believe a new round of bids will draw proposals that are considerably less expensive. However, the decision to readvertise for bids will delay completion of work on the Fiscal 2001 budget.

Even with the commission proposing to keep the 41-cent rate, many taxpayers will see an increase on their tax bills because the value of their properties rose during the past 12 months.

The effective tax rate for the year ending Sept. 30 is 39.52 cents per \$100 assessed valuation.

The effective tax rate is the rate required to generate the same amount of revenue in the next budget year as it did in the current fiscal year.

The 41-cent rate this year generated \$1,119,456 in property tax revenue for the city. The effective tax rate of 39.52 cents, which would represent a decrease of 1.48 cents, would generate \$1,117,358.

The city's tax base for the year 2000 was put at \$282,710,576, an increase of \$9,672,527 from the previous year.

The rollback rate for the city is 42.68 cents per \$100 assessed valuation.

The 41-cent rate represents a 3.6 percent increase over the effective tax rate, which required the city to call a hearing.

"Then we have the situation where the budget must be adopted prior to adopting the tax rate and the budget will not be ready for adoption until later in September because of readvertising for health insurance bids."

— **TERRI JOHNSON**,
Hereford city secretary explaining why the public hearing on the tax rate had to be rescheduled.

Spending cut, wages are raised

Juvenile probation board passes budget

By Dianna F. Dandridge

Hereford Brand Staff Writer

A balanced budget is a good thing for any business or organization. A balanced budget which calls for \$23,000 less spending than a previous year and which still provides employees a raise is even better.

And, this is exactly what the budget the Deaf Smith County Juvenile Board approved Thursday does.

The budgets for the Deaf Smith County Youth Home and the juvenile probation office call for salary increases of \$2,000 per year for director Ron King; \$14,440 in part-time salaries; \$1,412.50 for chief juvenile probation officer Lou Serrano; \$2,625 for assistant chief Estafana Arteaga; \$2,000 for assistant juvenile probation officer, Andrea Walker; and \$600 for board secretary Diana Holquin.

Serrano justified the salary increases by pointing out state law requires the salary scale for juvenile probation officers to be equal to the salary scale for adult probation officers. Serrano added Randall and Potter counties start juvenile probation staff at \$27,000.

County Judge Tom Simons agreed this county must stay competitive with other area counties; however, he said the "salary raises will cause some really hard feelings."

Board member Nena Veasey, stressing the need to retain key personnel, said it often costs more to hire and train new personnel.

As a final item, Serrano reported the final contract on the feasibility study for a secure juvenile facility has been forwarded to Public Facilities Investment Corp.



TOM SIMONS
Deaf Smith County judge agrees probation office salaries need to be competitive with area counties.

Feds delay shiner ruling

Staff and wire reports

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service gave in to demands from farmers and others and extended the comment period on whether landowners will have to face restrictions to protect the tiny Arkansas River shiner.

About 70 people attended a public hearing Wednesday in Oklahoma City on proposals to designate portions of rivers in Arkansas, Kansas, Texas and New Mexico as critical habitat for the shiner. About 200 attended a meeting earlier in the week in Amarillo.

Among those attending the Amarillo hearing was Hereford City Commissioner Michael Kitten, who had indicated after the session that he believed the FWS would proceed with the critical habitat designation, regardless of opposition expressed.

The FWS has said there are probably only several thousand of the fish in the Canadian River and fewer than 100 on the Beaver and Cimarron rivers.

Most of those attending the Oklahoma City meeting spoke against the proposal. Many said the critical habitat proposal would impose unwarranted government intervention.

"I think it's the biggest land grab in recent times," said Lewis Mayer, a landowner in the Panhandle. "I

don't think they're going to increase the number of Arkansas River shiners. How are they going to do that? It's just a big boondoggle."

The critical habitat designation applies to cases where federal funding, authorization or permits are involved in the areas. The designation covers the portions of the rivers and land 300 feet on either side of the rivers.

Kitten questioned the critical habitat designation that would set up a 300-foot easement on either side of a river.

"The Fish & Wildlife Service will have complete control of 300 feet on each side of a river. But they're not really clear from where. Is it 300 feet from the trickle that runs through some parts of the Canadian River, or is from each bank?"

"But the main thing to me is it's become an infringement on private property rights. Most of the land they're going to designate is privately owned," Kitten said. "Water usage can be affected, both above and below the surface. ... The bottom line is it's a property rights issue. It's big brother coming in and telling people who've owned land for years and years that they can't decide what they're going to do with their own land."

Many farmers fear they would have to wait months for federal agen-

cies to figure out what landowners would be permitted to do.

"I'm here to let people know I don't want to be stepped on," said Frank Moore, a representative of the Ellis County Farm Bureau.

Several spoke up for the 2-inch fish.

"I think we have a lot of people representing the interests of the people with a money stake," said Sylvia Pratt of Newkirk. "I want to make sure we have someone representing the interest of the (shiner)."

The FWS designated the shiner in 1998 as needing protection.

After the meeting, FWS biologist Ken Collins said the service would extend the period for public comment from by mail from Aug. 29 until Oct. 8.

The FWS also told the crowd that an economic impact study on the shiner should be available next week.

The critical habitat includes the Beaver River in Oklahoma from the Lake Optima dam 128 river miles to the upstream side of the Canton Reservoir; along the Cimarron River from U.S. 54 in Kansas to near Waynoka, Okla.; from the South Canadian River at the Oklahoma-Texas line to the Indian Nation Turnpike near Eufaula, Okla.; along the Canadian River from Logan, N.M., to the upper end of Lake Meredith near Amarillo, Texas; along the Canadian River from Canadian, Texas, to the Texas-Oklahoma border; and on the Arkansas River from the Kansas 27 bridge in Hamilton to the Kansas-Oklahoma border.

AUGUST 11, 2000

HEREFORD BRAND

Local roundup

Bike registration scheduled

Boy Scout Troop 155 will hold a bicycle registration Saturday at Sugarland Mall. Bicycle information will be collected and turned over to the police department to help identify lost and stolen bicycles.

The troop will also present bicycle safety information and hold a safety course. Swimming passes will be given to 15 participants.

Elementary schools set open house

Elementary open house:
 - Tierra Blanca, 5:30-7 p.m. today. Cokes and hotdogs will be served afterward.
 - Shirley, 5:30 to 7 p.m. today;
 - West Central, 5 p.m. today;
 - Aikman and Bluebonnet, 2-4 p.m. Sunday;
 - Stanton will host pre-kindergarten open house from 2-3 p.m. Sunday
 Classes will begin at 8 a.m. Aug. 14.

High School yearbooks are in

High School yearbooks have arrived and are ready to be picked up in room 201. Students who did not order a yearbook last year can still purchase one for \$40. Yearbooks should be available Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, or early next week.

HBA meeting

Hereford Beautification Alliance will be having a new membership drive meeting and cookout at 7 p.m. Sept. 9 at the Community Center.

Band booster meeting

The Mighty Maroon Band Booster Club will have its annual back to school parent meeting at 6 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 15, in the HHS band hall.
 Agenda items include meet directors; election of officers; band activities and the annual Parent/Student "March-Off". Refreshments and door prizes will be available.
 All band student parents and other interested individuals are invited to attend.

Ministerial Alliance kickoff

Hereford Ministerial Alliance will have its 2000 Kickoff meeting, at 11:30 a.m., Tuesday, Aug. 15, at Juanita's Restaurant.
 The alliance seeks input on coming changes and plans to recognize special friends of the HMA.

Senior Class Parent meeting

Senior class parents will have their first meeting of the year at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 15, in the High School Library.
 Participants will discuss the class supper, which will be held Sept. 15, at the Hereford junior high cafeteria; the homecoming float, banquet and prom.
 The menu for the class supper will include brisket, baked potato, pinto beans, fresh vegetable sticks, onion, pickles, bread, dessert and drinks.
 Donations may be made prior to the meeting by contacting Sharon Hodges at 363-7680 or 364-8002.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News digest

Lost class walks the stage

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Thirty years after killer tornadoes delayed graduation, the long-lost members of the Texas Tech class of 1970 will get to walk across the stage Saturday in Lubbock.

The twisters killed 26 people, injured more than 500 and left thousands homeless, huddled in the municipal coliseum where the graduation was to have occurred.

For some graduates, the ceremony didn't matter — until now. About 250 graduates have been found for the school's 44th commencement from Saturday, May 16, 1970.

Linda Knox Wilson of Arlington was driving out of Lubbock toward her former Amarillo home when she heard the tornado sirens. She had planned to return for graduation a few days later — but never returned.

It was a time of anti-war protests and a general dislike of "the establishment" led many students to forgo graduation ceremonies.

"The main reason I was going to do it was for my parents," she told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram in Friday's editions. "I know they wanted to see me walk across the stage, but they are both gone."

Wilson, who now has two daughters and three grandchildren, says it's now an occasion to meet old friends.

She and others who were supposed to graduate in 1970 will don red robes, joining the black-robed summer graduates from Tech.

Tech's assistant provost, James Brink, said attempts were made to contact all 3,790 graduates from 1969-70.

ELSEWHERE

CONTINENTAL FUMES: A Tokyo-bound Continental Airlines flight returned to Houston on Thursday after 17 crewmembers were exposed to fumes in the aircraft's rear galley. The 14 flight attendants and three first officers were taken to two northeast Houston hospitals for precautionary reasons, an airline spokeswoman said.

Hereford Brand

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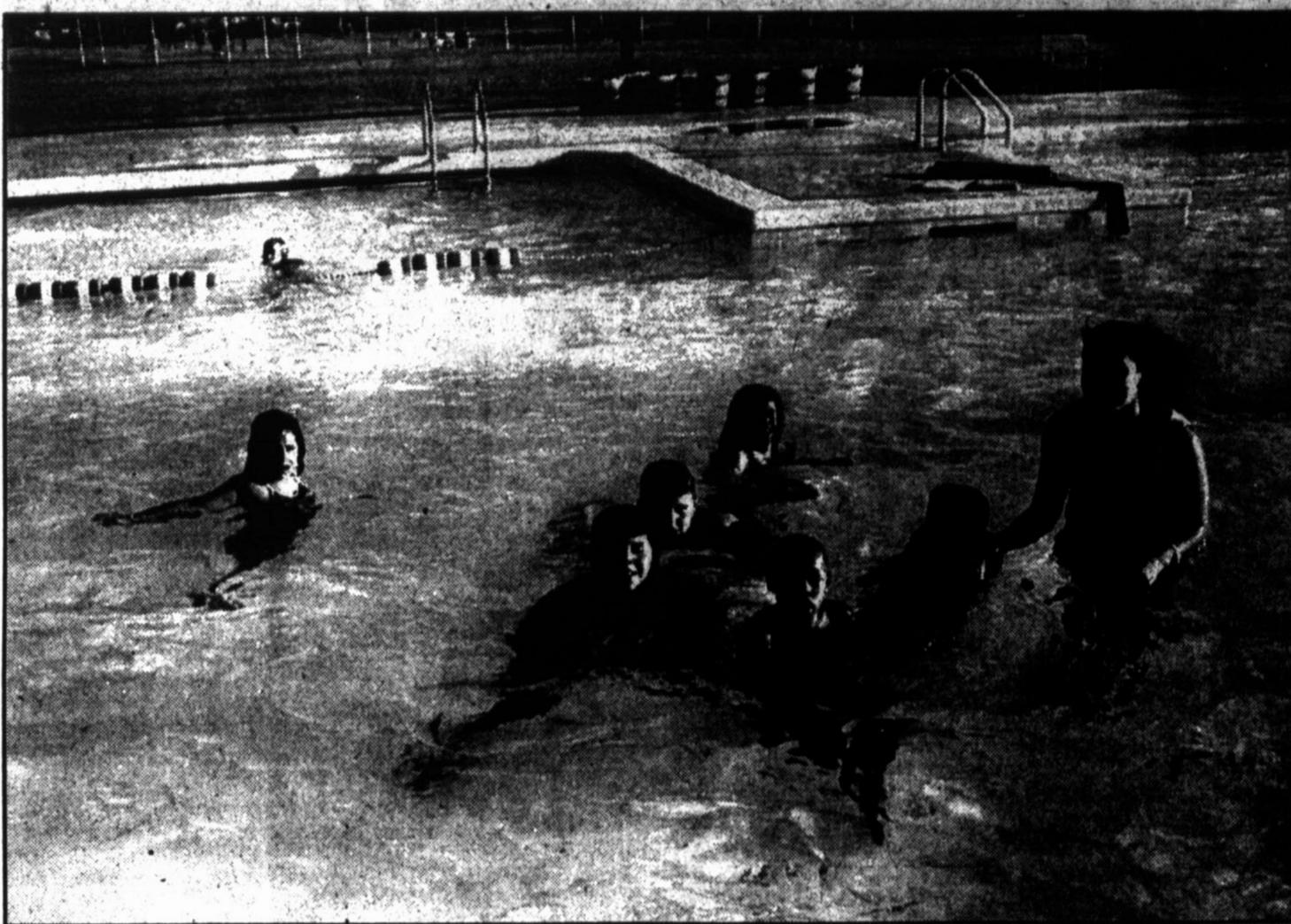
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O.G. Nieman
 Mauri Montgomery
 Donald M. Cooper
 Jay Guerrero

Publisher (1972-98)
 Publisher
 Managing Editor
 Circulation Manager

We need bigs



An evening dip — Members of the Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Hereford, got together Thursday evening at the Hereford Aquatic Center for an end of summer swimming party. Lori Coronado, assistant director, got wet with some of the "Little's" in need of a "Big." About 30 kids showed up for the swim party.

Helicopter wreckage located

Human remains wash ashore

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas (AP) — A helicopter blade, human organs and chunks of insulation washed to shore Friday as Navy crews continued to look for two airmen still missing from a crash.

Two crew members were killed and two others were missing after a Navy helicopter plummeted into the Gulf of Mexico Thursday morning during a training mission. Two more were recovering from injuries.

Early Friday morning, salvage crews in thick gloves and coveralls hauled splintered insulation away from the waterline. A thick smell of diesel gas hung in the air — the fuel tank shattered upon impact, spreading a slick of oil into the Gulf waters, a Coast Guard spokesman said. Fiberglass and seaweed mixed in the waves.

In the pre-dawn darkness, a television crew noticed a pair of lungs washed up on the wet sands. Navy salvagers stored the organs in a cooler.

"Definite human organ," said a somber Navy man, who did not give his name.

The six-person crew was 17

miles offshore when they reported mechanical problems. The pilot steered the MH-53E helicopter, also known as a Sea Dragon, back toward shore. They never made it: some 17 miles offshore, the craft plunged into 50-foot waters.

The survivors, floating in a life raft, were rescued from the water more than 30 minutes after the helicopter went down.
 Jeremy J. Yaklin, 19, of Lapeer, Mich. and Adan Shawn R. Palyo, 20, of Stratford, Conn., were listed in stable condition at Christus Spohn Memorial Hospital in Corpus Christi, said Lt. j.g. Chuck Bell with Naval Air Station Corpus Christi.

Cdr. Bob Riehl, commanding officer of the HM-15 mine countermeasures squadron based at NAS Corpus Christi, identified one of those killed as Jeffrey S. Paschal, 40, from Phoenix. The identity of the second victim was being withheld until family members could be notified.

A search over a 28-square-mile area continued through the night. Crews used sonar and night vision glasses to search for signs of life.

"I always have hope," Riehl said. "It's a big area. It's a big ocean."

All the crew members were equipped with survival equip-

ment, such as strobes, radios and oxygen cylinders.

"The survivability rate is very good down here," said David McBride, a Coast Guard spokesman. The water temperature is about 80 degrees.

Several Coast Guard and Navy craft, including three helicopters, a jet and a patrol boat and the USS Gladiator minesweeper, searched for the missing crew members Thursday afternoon.

"We've pretty much been blackening the sky with anything that can fly all day," McBride said.

For safety reasons, all but one aircraft was recalled for the overnight search.

"This is a difficult situation for everybody," Riehl said. "It's a very hard thing we're dealing with."

"We're trying to handle everything as expeditiously and impersonally as we can. We understand the business we're in. It's something that's happened to us in the past. It happened today."

Six members of the HM-15 squadron were killed in the Persian Gulf in Sept. 14, 1991, when their Sea Dragon helicopter crashed minutes after taking off from an amphibious assault ship 40 miles north of Bahrain.

The helicopter was practicing mine-sweeping when it re-

ported the mechanical malfunction Thursday, Riehl said.

Another helicopter taking part in the training mission spotted wreckage about 15 minutes after the distress call.

The MH-53E is manufactured by Sikorsky Aircraft Corp. in Stratford, Conn.

In May 1996, a similar model, the CH-53E Super Stallion, crashed, killing four Sikorsky employees in Stratford. The Navy temporarily halted flights of all "E" models, including the Super Stallion and the Sea Dragon. A faulty bearing was blamed for the 1996 crash.

Besides mine-countermeasures, the MH-53E can be used to tow vessels, transport cargo and transport equipment. The helicopter can carry 55 passengers, or a 16-ton payload.

"It's a very successful mine countermeasures helicopter," said company spokesman Bill Tuttle. The Navy has a fleet of more than 40 MH-53Es, he estimated.

Information on the HM-15 squadron's Web site said it was established in 1987 and originally based in Alameda, Calif. The unit provided airlift support for disaster relief efforts after the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake, and served in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm in 1991-1992.

HEREFORD BRAND
Emergency services

Activities reported by emergency services personnel for Aug. 10, 2000, include the following:

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Arrests
 - A 20-year-old man and a 23-year-old man were arrested in the 100 block of Lake and charged with possession of drug paraphernalia. Two 16-year-old girls were cited for curfew violations.

Incidents
 - A damaged mail box was reported in the 700 block of Irving.

- A burglary of a business was reported in the 100 block of North Main. Approximately \$2,700 worth of items were stolen.

- A criminal trespass was reported in the 800 block of North Lee.

FIRE DEPARTMENT
 - 8:00 a.m. Firefighters responded to a wreck rescue at Park and Avenue F.

Residents violate water restrictions
 Authorities threaten civil suits

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — More than 100 residents of drought-stricken Central Texas are watering their lawns in violation of conservation rules.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Texas lottery

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

7-10-12-14-39

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

4-6-8

The Edwards Aquifer Authority is threatening legal action for residents and businesses found using sprinklers.

Also facing aquifer authority sanctions are more than five dozen municipal and industrial pumpers who failed to give the authority their required monthly water use reports for May or June. An additional 34 are facing sanctions for exceeding their pumping allotment in June.

"We are extremely serious about enforcing these rules," Greg Ellis, the authority's general manager, said in Friday's editions of the San Antonio Express-News. "We're about to send notices to those who haven't filed their reports, which is the highest priority. But nobody's going to get to slide by for exceeding their

quota, either."

The authority's notices this week threaten civil lawsuits against 180 residents and businesses who have been found to be using sprinklers outside allotted hours.

Notices of violation warn the offenders — who reside outside of cities in Bexar, Comal and Hays counties — that further violations could result in the authority filing civil lawsuits in state district court.

The complaints could result in fines of \$100 to \$10,000 for each violation.

On July 11 the authority hired two private security officers to investigate complaints and look for violations of its Stage I drought rules, which allow landscape sprinkling only 14 hours a week.

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LIFESTYLES

HEREFORD BRAND • Friday, August 11, 2000 • A3

Very wise woman knew to keep fork

Ann Landers

CREATORS SYNDICATE



Ann Landers

A woman was diagnosed with a terminal illness and given three months to live. She asked her pastor to come to her home to discuss her final wishes. She told him which songs she wanted sung at her funeral, and what scriptures to read, and which outfit she wanted to be buried in.

Then she said, "One more thing. I want to be buried with a fork in my hand."

The pastor was surprised. The woman explained, "In all my years of attending church socials and potluck dinners, I always remember that when the dishes of the main course were being cleared, someone would inevitably lean over and say, 'Keep your fork.' It was my favorite time, because I knew something better was coming, like velvety chocolate cake or deep-dish apple pie — something wonderful. So, I want people to see me there in that casket with a fork in my hand and wonder, 'What's with the fork?' Then, I want you to tell them, 'Keep your fork, because the best is yet to come.'"

The pastor's eyes welled up with tears of joy as he bid the woman goodbye. He realized that she had a better grasp of heaven than he did, and knew something better was coming.

At the funeral, when people asked him why she was holding a fork, the pastor told them of the conversation he'd had with the woman before she died. He said he could not stop thinking about the fork, and knew they probably would not be able to stop thinking about it, either. He was right.

Keep your fork. The best is yet to come.

Dear Ann Landers: You have said that divorced people can remove their wedding

rings when ever they choose and widows can continue to wear their rings or put them on a chain around their neck. What about couples who are separated, but not divorced?

I have been separated for three years, and have no plans to divorce my husband at this time. Legally, I am married. However, I receive no alimony or child support from my husband. When people ask if I'm married, I don't know what to say. Should I continue to wear my wedding ring? Please advise me. — Ringless Out East

Dear Out East: When people inquire about your marital status, no details need be given to casual questioners. Your close friends, of course, know the score.

Whether or not to wear your wedding ring is strictly up to you. Be aware, however, that a wedding ring would most certainly be a red light to any male who might be interested.

Dear Ann Landers: My wife and I would like to know what your opinion is of home-schooling. We have three children, 6, 8 and 10 years of age, and my wife, who once taught fifth grade, is considering home-schooling our children. Please give me your thoughts. — Nashville, Tenn., Reader

Dear Nashville: In recent years, an increasing number of children participating in the National Spelling "Bee" have been home-schooled. Draw your own conclusions.

That first kiss, that first embrace... Remember all those things that brought you and your loved one together? Ann Landers' new booklet, "How We Met," is now available. This collection of sentimental love stories will make a terrific gift for that special someone. For a copy, please send a self-addressed, long, business-size envelope and a check or money order for \$5.50 (this includes postage and handling) to: How We Met, c/o Ann Landers, P.O. Box 11562, Chicago, IL 60611-0562 (in Canada, \$6.50).

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.

Low-cost mammograms offered at local health clinic

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 clinic at South Plains Health Care Providers, Inc., 110 N. 25 Mile Ave., Suite A, on Sept. 8.

Participants will receive a low-cost screening mammogram. Each woman screened will receive a breast health

risk appraisal and individual instruction by a registered nurse in breast self-examination.

Funding is available through the Texas Department of Health for Texas residents who qualify for assistance. All exams are done by appointment only.

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



Genesis Church will hold a "Celebratin' and Dedicatin'" event this Sunday. Pictured above are pastors Jesse and Brenda Rincones.

Wire-cutting ceremony included in celebration

Special to the Brand
A "wire-cutting" ceremony is among several activities to be held this Sunday morning at Genesis Church in celebration of its newly acquired land. Genesis obtained eight acres of land adjacent to the church to provide needed space for the growing church.

This Sunday's "Celebratin' and Dedicatin'" event will include a free chuck wagon meal and pony rides for the kids following the morning service. Bible study begins at 10 a.m. followed by a bilingual worship service at 11. Everyone who attends the celebration is encouraged to dress in west-

ern wear. Jesse Rincones, senior pastor of Genesis Church, said building will be in phases. Phase one will include an educational and family life center, phase two will include a new sanctuary and phase three will include outdoor recreational sites and other building facilities.

"I am excited about the opportunities Genesis has to serve and minister in Hereford. We believe that this land and future facilities will allow us to help meet the needs of our community," Rincones said. Groundbreaking is scheduled for 2001.

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH

School Menus

HEREFORD I.S.D. Breakfast

MONDAY-Waffle sticks with syrup; or cereal, buttered toast, grape juice, milk choice.

TUESDAY-Breakfast pizza; or cereal, buttered toast, mixed fruit, milk choice.

WEDNESDAY-Scrambled eggs, blueberry muffin; or cereal, buttered toast, orange juice, milk choice.

THURSDAY-Sausage patty, biscuit and jelly; or cereal, buttered toast, orange smiles, milk choice.

FRIDAY-Hash browns, Texas toast; or cereal, buttered toast, orange pineapple juice, milk choice.

Lunch
MONDAY-Cheese pizza with Canadian bacon, vegetable sticks with dip, Mexicali corn, "candied" apple half, milk choice.

TUESDAY-Steak fingers with gravy, mashed potatoes, green peas, whole wheat roll, hot apple cobbler, milk choice.

WEDNESDAY-Rib-a-que on bun with barbecue sauce, border beans, tater tots with cat-

sup, orange cream bar, milk choice.

THURSDAY-Nacho grande with picante sauce, lettuce and tomatoes, Spanish rice, refried beans, pineapple tidbits, cinnamon roll, milk choice.

FRIDAY-Hamburger, burger salad, steak fries with catsup, fresh fruit choice, no bake cookies, milk choice.

ST. ANTHONY'S SCHOOL
MONDAY-Cheese pizza, tossed salad, corn, apple crisp, milk.

TUESDAY-Ham and cheese melts, potato wedges, pinto beans, applesauce, milk.

WEDNESDAY-Spaghetti with meat sauce, tossed salad, green beans, toast, peach cobbler, milk.

THURSDAY-Hot dogs, potato chips, pork and beans, mixed fruit, milk.

FRIDAY-Beef enchiladas, lettuce/tomato, rice, pears, milk.

Parliamentary procedure will be topic of special Toastmaster session

Hereford Toastmasters will hold a special session on parliamentary procedure at 6:30 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 17 at the Ranch House Restaurant.

This session will be conducted by Jigger Rowland and will be open to the public. Anyone who is going to be in a leadership position is encouraged to participate to build their skills in conducting a meeting.

During the regular meeting on Aug. 10, Tronica Owens served as the speaker. Her topic was "The Other side of the World in 20 Minutes." Wayne Winget was evaluator.

Rowland presided at the meeting and Margaret Del

Toro was toastmaster.

Paula Edwards was timer and Clark Andrews was AH counter and grammarian.

Mary Gamboa served as wordmaster and introduced the word "ambiguous," which means having more than one meaning.

Topicmaster Ryan Norsworthy selected table topics for topic speakers. They were Dan Hall-Aliens destroying Hereford; Edwards-Hobbies; and Clark Andrews-Dirty Politics.

The vote for best topic speaker was won by Andrews.

One guest, Adolfo Del Toro, also attended the meeting.

Evangelist Martin to be featured at Bible Baptist

Evangelist Monty Martin will preach and sing at Bible Baptist Church on Aug. 13-16.

Sunday morning worship will be at 11 and the Sunday night service will be at 6. The Monday through Wednesday services will be at 7 each night.

Monty Martin Evangelistic Ministries offers a service of Bible-based, fundamental, lo-

Alzheimer's support group will hold monthly meeting

In affiliation with the Alzheimer's Association, Panhandle Chapter, the Hereford support group for family caregivers of persons with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, will meet at 10 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 17 in Fellowship of Believers Church, 245 N. Kingwood, next door to August Care Center.

A support group is a gathering of people with common problems, needs and interests to share their feelings, thoughts, questions, experiences and concerns in a combined effort to better cope with and survive the chal-

cal church oriented, preaching and singing. Martin is a soul-winning, fundamental Baptist preacher, who believes that God has called him to be an evangelist. He has built a church from scratch and knows the needs and problems of the pastorate. He loves people, pastors, and God's word.

Martin is a dynamic exciting preacher and his solos magnify and bring honor to the Lord. He has held revivals in churches all across the southwest and has seen scores of people saved during his meetings.

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SPORTS

A5 • HEREFORD BRAND • Friday, August 11, 2000

FOCUSED

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By Jeff Blackmon
Hereford Brand Sports Editor

After three state titles, ten consecutive seasons of regional berths and five state volleyball appearances head coach Brenda Kitten is keeping the pressure on her team to continue to succeed.

"It is very easy to become complacent and satisfied from what we did last year," Kitten said. "I would be very tempting to sit



Team game—The Lady Whitefaces practiced on Wednesday to get ready for the upcoming volleyball season.

back and look at that success instead of trying to focus on the future."

Kitten said the 2000 Lady Whitefaces volleyball team will return eight starters, only two of which are seniors, from last year's championship team. She said she hopes her team can continue its winning form, but coach Kitten knows they are the new target for every 4A team in the state of Texas.

"We will be the target for every 4A team in the state this year," Kitten said. "We honestly are just going to focus on getting to the play-

offs."

Getting to the playoffs is just the first step Kitten said she wants to achieve with her team. Kitten said if they can get that far, then they can look at maybe another chance to be the best at San Marcus, the new sight for the state volleyball championships.

"If we are fortunate enough to get to the playoffs we will then focus on ways to win each play-off match," Kitten said. As the season begins for the team coach Kitten does not want last year to become a stumbling block. Coach Kitten said that often it is easier for a team to come back from a season ending loss than a championship win. Kitten said she believes the differences is the hunger to be the best.

"It's sometimes more difficult to go in as a defending champion than it is as a team who lost their last match," Kitten said. "It can be tough to find ways to motivate."

Kitten said some ways she

will try to motivate her team this season is to put them through rigorous drills, and challenges. She said she will even put the team in practice situations where it will be extremely difficult to succeed. She hopes it will make them stronger in mind and cause their team bonding to increase.

"We will constantly be throwing things out to them," Kitten said. "That will keep a focus every day in practice."

"If I can keep a focus every day then our chances are going to be better."

Seniors Pam Klein and Ashley Fangman are the only seniors returning from last year's squad. With only two seniors on the varsity team this year means a good core of athletes will be in place the next several years. Kitten said she likes the idea of having a good group to build around for the next several seasons.

"We're going to have a good group," Kitten said.

As far as replacing last year's seniors Kitten knows she has her work cut out. Graduates Audra Witkowski and Tori Walker were 1999 All-State players while defensive specialist Valarie Guzman and outside hitter Toni Eicke were key pieces of a championship puzzle.

"Kali Hall will more than likely move up to fill Tori's position as middle blocker," Kitten said. "Our setter position is still up for grabs and that position is like the quarterback of a football team."

Overall, Kitten said she wants her team to be competi-

EYE ON THE BALL



Eye on the ball—Sophomore Tiffany Mercer watches the ball above to decide on her shot. The Lady Whitefaces began practice this week and face Lubbock Coronado and Monterey in scrimmages today in Lubbock. The team will be at home on Tuesday to take on Coronado.

And remember that no one is going to let it be an easy year.

"I always remind them that

they are the ones everybody wants," Kitten said. "I want them to keep focused."

The team competes in their

first match today in a couple of scrimmages against Lubbock Coronado and Lubbock Monterey in Lubbock.

Cowboys glad to have Lett back in camp

■ Pro Bowl defensive tackle attempts to regain old form ★

WICHITA FALLS, Texas (AP) — In his last two full seasons, Leon Lett has been a Pro Bowl defensive tackle for the Dallas Cowboys. Problem is, those seasons were 1998 and 1994.

Drug-related suspensions have done a better job of stopping Lett than offensive linemen. Three punishments have cost him 28 games in the 1995, '96, '97 and '99 seasons.

Lett goes into this season knowing he has a lot to prove.

The main thing is remaining drug-free. A close second, though, is showing he still has the quick first step that earned him the nickname "Big Cat" and the ferociousness to ter-

rorize backfields.

"I tell Leon all the time. This is your year. You're going to make it through everything," coach Dave Campo said. "And, to be honest with you, I feel good about him right now."

Lett is coming off a mediocre season. He played the final eight games and averaged just three tackles a game. Yet there were flashes of his old self, such as the Philadelphia game when he tied his career high with nine tackles.

The optimism surrounding this season is based on Lett being in better shape. He's 290 pounds, about 20 more than last season, and most of the new bulk is muscle. He's upped his bench press to 500 pounds. He's also getting to go through training camp this season, which he was forced to miss in 1999.

"Leon has that explosive first step back," said defensive tackles coach Andre Patterson. "He makes a big play every day in practice."

Lett is in a rotation behind starters Alonzo Spellman and Chad Hennings. Patterson believes fewer snaps will make Lett more effective.

Lett, though, is hungry for more.

"We can't keep him out of drills," Patterson said. "We wanted to give him some practices off and he won't do it. He's enjoying being out there, he's enjoying learning and he's getting better all the time."

Although Lett doesn't give interviews, he appears happy. He smiles often and jokes with teammates. He walked off the practice field Thursday talking to a young fan and spent some time signing autographs while still wearing his helmet and

pads.

That's the kind of person Patterson expected, even though he barely knew Lett.

Their paths first crossed at the 1998 Pro Bowl when Patterson was an assistant. Lett impressed Patterson by staying late after practice and showing an eagerness to learn when he could've run off to enjoy a Hawaii vacation.

Patterson was a fan of Lett's long before then. He had even built a collection of Lett highlights to use as a teaching tool while at New England and Minnesota.

"It's very unique for a 6-7 guy to have that kind of quickness and explosiveness," Patterson said. "I wanted to show my tall guys that a big guy can do that."

The question now is whether he can still do it. And for how long.

He'll be 32 midway through this season. If he gets suspended again, it would cost him at least another full season.

"He's definitely still got Pro

Bowl potential," Patterson said. "If he stays healthy and continues to progress the way he's been doing, there's no question."

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Mets take three of four, win 10-3

■ Piazza showing no signs of knee problems going 4-4 with 4 RBIs

HOUSTON (AP) — Mike Piazza is back, and Bobby Jones is still winning, meaning the New York Mets are feeling pretty good about themselves. Piazza, showing no signs of a knee injury that sidelined him for three days, went 4-for-4 and drove in four runs, while Jones won for the fourth time in five starts in a 10-3 victory over the Houston Astros on Thursday.

"The first part of the season was a struggle for me, but now it's a lot more fun to come to the park," Jones said. "I want to show my teammates that I'm here to contribute and to have them have a good feeling when I'm on the mound."

Jones (7-5) won his third straight start, allowing two runs and 10 hits in eight innings.

"I just made some good pitches," Jones said. "I stayed away from any big innings. I gave up a lot of hits, but I made some good pitches when I had to, and we got some double-play balls."

The Mets left town with

three victories in four games against the Astros and completed a 5-2 road trip.

"We are playing pretty good right now," manager Bobby Valentine said. "When you have a rested bullpen and have players healthy, you usually play good. And then you get Bobby Jones pitching a handful of good starts, he's been about as good a pitcher as we've had."

Piazza, who mildly sprained his left knee Saturday, homered and went 2-for-5 Wednesday in the Mets' 12-5 win. Thursday, he came back with RBI singles in the first and fifth innings, a double in the third and a two-run single in the eighth.

"I felt good," Piazza said. "I had to make sure when I came back I was ready to go full throttle. I stayed relaxed, and it didn't strain when I ran. I was only nervous on the slide to home (seventh inning) because the catcher can put a good tag on you."

Robin Ventura went 2-for-5, including a two-run double in the three-run seventh. Jay Payton homered and had an RBI single.

"When you hit behind Mike, you've got to be ready to make some things happen," Ventura said. "It's not added pressure, it's just a job. I'm seeing the ball better. Sometimes you go

through a stretch where you see the ball better at the plate."

Jeff Bagwell homered twice, giving him 31 homers this year. He is the first Houston player to hit 30 homers in five consecutive seasons.

"I guess that means I've been consistent, and that's the goal of any player, but the loss is the main thing," Bagwell said. "It hurts, it still hurts. You can't get used to the losses. You're not supposed to."

Tony McKnight, a 23-year-old right-hander, lost in his major league debut, allowing four runs — three earned — six hits and three walks in six innings.

"He did pretty well," Astros manager Larry Dierker said. "The defense made a couple of mistakes in the field that cost him a couple of runs. Otherwise, his line would have looked better. It was a good experience, something he can take back down and work on."

Piazza's RBI single put the Mets ahead in the first, but Bagwell's homer tied it in the bottom half. Ventura's grounder scored Piazza in the third, but Bagwell homered again in the fourth, his 31st of the season.

Piazza's fifth-inning single, which followed Benny

Agbayan's walk and Edgardo Alfonzo's single, put the Mets ahead for good, and Payton's homer made it 4-2 in the sixth.

New York, which out-hit Houston 14-12, broke open the game in the seventh against Joe Slusarski on Hamilton's leadoff triple, an intentional walk to Piazza, Ventura's two-run double and Payton's RBI

single. Ventura added an RBI double in the eighth off Jay Powell.

Raul Chavez doubled home a Houston's final run in the ninth off Pat Mahomes.

Notes: Bagwell and Cincinnati's Ken Griffey Jr. are the only active players with current streaks of five straight 30-homer, 100-run seasons.

Bagwell's other multihomer game was July 1 against St. Louis. ... Astros 2B Craig Biggio had surgery on his left knee on Thursday to repair the anterior cruciate ligament. Biggio also injured his medial collateral ligament, but it is expected to heal without surgery.

Enron outfielders having problems

HOUSTON (AP) — Maybe outfielders should warm up for games at Enron Field by visiting the nearby arcades for some pinball.

That's how the ball often plays at the quirky new home of the Houston Astros, where everything hit into the outfield can be an adventure, especially if it meets one of the odd-angled spots on the fences or the hand-operated scoreboard.

Players complain about the uncertain bounces but New York Mets manager Bobby Valentine, after observing Enron for the first time, gave it a stamp of approval despite its twists and turns.

"How long has Fenway been around?" he asked of the storied park in Boston. "They've got that jagged fence that could be considered a home field advantage. I don't think of it (Enron) as quirky."

But Enron does have its spots, such as the left-field scoreboard, made of wood and framed in steel. The ball can come off soft, hard or drop dead on the warning track.

Even third basemen and shortstops must be aware of line drives hit into left field, which has stands jutting to within three feet of the left field foul line. Balls sometimes hit fair and curve foul

into the wall, then back into the field closer to infielders than the left fielder.

Valentine won't hear of that as criticism either.

"Yeah, just like Fenway," he said. "The first thing the coach does when they go into Fenway is tell the shortstop, 'If the ball goes into left field, you get out there.'"

Astros outfielder Darryl Ward has spent much of the season trying to devise a plan for left field. He's still working on it.

"It's still an adventure for me," Ward said. "There are so many angles. It might go off to center field or it might go straight up. You just have to give yourself enough room to play the ball regardless of where it goes."

Batters also must be aware of the playing conditions.

"Sometimes you can hold them to a single if the ball comes right to you," Ward said. "Sometimes it comes back hard and helps you out."

Mets outfielder Darryl Hamilton played three innings in left field in Wednesday night's 12-5 victory and disagrees with his manager about some portions of the stadium.

Hamilton is especially critical of the hill in deep center field that rises 30 degrees to

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Moving Camp?

■ Dallas considers move from Wichita Falls to Rio Grande Valley

WICHITA FALLS, Texas (AP) — This time next week, the Dallas Cowboys will pack their bags and close their third training camp at Midwestern State University.

They're not likely to return for a fourth.

Cowboys owner Jerry Jones has been in serious negotiations to hold the month long preseason practices in a new development outside McAllen starting in 2001.

While South Texas appears to be the frontrunner, Jones insists the race isn't over.

"There are several issues that have to be resolved before you really get down to the wire," Jones said Thursday. "They're doing a great job and could easily, perspective be where we might end up. But last year, as it turned out, the best place for us was here. That could happen again."

Representatives from the

Rio Grande Valley Regional Sports Authority and Hidalgo County toured the Midwestern setup Wednesday and Thursday, taking notes on how things are done and getting ideas for their new facilities.

"At the moment, what we can say is we are pleased with the progress being made," said Jim Oberwetter, a vice president for Hunt Valley Development, which owns the potential training camp site. "But not all the agreements that need to be signed have been completed. Until they are, we really don't have anything further to say."

Another candidate appeared to join the mix Thursday. A representative for several California sites was part of the Midwestern tour, which Jones said proves the competition is ongoing.

"I really like what the people in McAllen are doing,

but the facts are that there is no deal as we stand here today," he said. "We certainly have within our management thoughts and an inclination about which way we might go, but that's just on our side of it. That doesn't include what the areas that we're looking at might be willing to do."

McAllen and nearby Mission, the hometown of former Cowboys coach Tom Landry, voted this week to split a \$350,000 tab for each of the next three years to cover virtually all of the team's costs for room, board and other basics. Jones has spent about \$400,000 each summer in Wichita Falls.

"You do it right and you can make training camp pay for itself," said Jones, who moved camp from Thousand Oaks, Calif., to Austin after his first summer there — which was the team's 27th — cost him nearly \$1 million.

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INSIDE

Fiji rebel leader charged

News digest

SUVA, Fiji — Coup leader George Speight was charged Friday with treason for leading the raid on Parliament that plunged Fiji into crisis.

Flight 990 crash is likely to fan the international dispute over what caused the tragedy last fall off the New England coast.

crash on Kebnekaise, Sweden's highest mountain, police said in Gaellivare, the closest town, about 720 miles north of the capital, Stockholm.

Man indicted in hockey fight case

WOBURN, Mass. — A man whose fatal fight with another parent at their sons' youth hockey game has been indicted on a manslaughter charge.

Helicopter crashes on Swede mountain

STOCKHOLM, Sweden — A helicopter with three people on board crashed into a mountainside early Friday while trying to rescue two climbers in arctic Sweden, police said.

EgyptAir crash report released by NTSB

WASHINGTON — Public release of reports compiling the facts in the EgyptAir

HHS band sets performance

The Mighty Maroon Band will be performing in concert at 8 p.m. Tuesday on the practice field.

elect officers, and discuss the high school and junior high school bands activities for the year.

The band will begin practice at 7 p.m. before the concert.

Comics

Blondie comic strip by Dean Young & Stan Drake. Panels show Blondie talking to a man about her collection of watches, flashlights, clocks, and wallets.

Barney Google & Snuffy Smith comic strip by Fred Lasswell. Panels show Barney and Snuffy talking about prizes and a report card.

Beetle Bailey comic strip by Mort Walker. Panels show Beetle Bailey talking about wearing a party dress and a meeting coming to order.

The Wizard of Id comic strip by Brant Parker & Johnny Hart. Panels show a king announcing a look-alike contest and a winner being announced.

Marvin comic strip by Tom Armstrong. Panels show Marvin talking to Leo about fighting to the death and trading cards.

FRIDAY AUGUST 11

TV schedule for Friday, August 11, 2000. Columns show time slots from 6 PM to 11 PM. Rows list various programs including News, Sports, and Entertainment.

SATURDAY AUGUST 12

TV schedule for Saturday, August 12, 2000. Columns show time slots from 7 AM to 12 PM. Rows list various programs including Sports, News, and Entertainment.

TV schedule for Saturday, August 12, 2000 (continued). Columns show time slots from 12:30 to 5:30. Rows list various programs including Sports, News, and Entertainment.

TV schedule for Saturday, August 12, 2000 (continued). Columns show time slots from 6 PM to 11 PM. Rows list various programs including Sports, News, and Entertainment.

SUNDAY AUGUST 13

TV schedule for Sunday, August 13, 2000. Columns show time slots from 7 AM to 12 PM. Rows list various programs including Sports, News, and Entertainment.

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Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

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