

# Hereford BRAND

100th Year, Vol. Number 119 • Deaf Smith County, Texas

TUESDAY, December 19, 2000

10 Pages, 50 Cents

HUSTLIN' HEREFORD,  
HOME OF  
Angela Blackmon

## City OK's engineering pact

By Donald Cooper

Hereford Brand Managing Editor

After a delay, the Hereford City Commission approved a contract with the engineering firm that is designing a new \$4 million wastewater treatment plant.

Last month, the commissioners tabled an engineering agreement on the design of a new wastewater treatment facility.

The proposed contract with Oller Engineering Inc. was for \$328,000, which is about 8 percent of the estimated construction cost of the \$4.1 million facility.

The city's wastewater treatment plant does not meet state standards, and the commissioners voted May 15 to build an aerated lagoon system to treat wastewater. At the same time, the commissioners directed Oller Engineering Inc. to begin designing the facility, which will be built at the city farm.

The aerated lagoon method will require about 34 acres of land. There would be three aerators in each lagoon that would treat the effluent.

The city administration indicated it felt the OEI proposal was too expensive and the company agreed to submit another proposal.

Rich Oller agreed to review the proposal and resubmit it. The new proposal calls for the payment to be \$120,000 in \$12,000 monthly installments.

Also, it calls for payment of 8 percent of the cost of construction as determined by bids or by the cost of work at similar facilities when the city performs certain tasks. The \$120,000 is to be deducted from the 8 percent factor as work proceeds. The total cost of the agreement is expected to be about \$300,000, depending on actual construction cost.

The commissioners also heard a proposal from the Humane Society

of Deaf Smith County. The humane society has expressed concerns about the city animal shelter, specifically addressing what it says is an antiquated and inhumane form of euthanasia.

The humane society's recommendation is that the carbon monoxide gassing method of euthanasia be replaced with injections.

"There is a considerable cost differential in the euthanasia methods with injections costing as much as \$10 per animal and requiring at least two persons to administer the drug," City Manager Chester Nolen wrote the commissioners. "We are still researching for possible alternatives to our current method."

Jim Holmes, the humane society's acting president, was accompanied to the meeting by Gary Quarles, director of the Lubbock animal control program. Quarles said the Lubbock program uses lethal injection in de-

stroying animals. He said it is more humane and effective than carbon monoxide. He also said the cost is not prohibitive.

In other business, the commissioner:

- Approved an agreement with Alamosa PCS. Under the agreement, Alamosa PCS would lease space on the water tower at 13th Street and Avenue F to install telecommunications antennas. The lease agreement is for 10 years with an annual payment of \$8,400. The company also will pay a security deposit of \$8,400.

- Approved payment of \$49,599 as the city's share of the operation of a juvenile detention center. Hereford Mayor Bob Josseland said "it is ridiculous that the government entities in Deaf Smith County are having to pay for parents' failure to

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Today's weather

### OUTLOOK

• Clear skies tonight •

Tonight: Mostly clear, lows around 27, southwest to west winds 10 to 20 mph.

Wednesday: Partly cloudy and windy, highs around 42, north winds 20 to 30 mph with higher gusts.

Wednesday night: Mostly cloudy with lows 11 to 16.

• Extended forecast •

Thursday: Partly cloudy, highs 24 to 29.

Friday: Partly cloudy, lows 6 to 11, highs near 45.

Saturday: Partly cloudy, lows 14 to 19, highs around 40.

Sunday: Partly cloudy, lows around 18, highs around 40.

Christmas Day: Mostly cloudy, lows in the lower 20s, highs in the mid-30s.

• Hereford weather •

Monday's high, 45; low, 14; no precipitation, according to KPAN Radio.

## HIGHER and HIGHER

■ Customers to feel pinch as colder weather fuels rise in natural gas prices

LUBBOCK — Natural gas prices are continuing to rise, according to Energas Co. Wholesale natural gas prices nationwide are escalating, as are the wholesale costs of heating oil, propane and other energy sources. This increase, combined with colder-than-normal weather, means customers' heating bills will be significantly higher than in 1999.

Based on current gas price projections, the average residential customer's peak winter bill may increase 50-100 percent or more over last winter, based on the same units of consumption.

According to Energas Co., gas prices have increased for a variety of reasons, including:

- Greater demand for natural gas. Summer demand for natural gas increased because of its use in gas-fired electric generating plants. Industrial growth also has increased the demand for natural gas;
- The weather has been colder than normal;
- Energy prices generally are

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## ALL SMILES



BRAND/Dianna F. Dandridge

Graduates and recipients of certificates of completion recently received their certificates. Those receiving certificates of completion for one or more tests were (rear, second from left) Maria Sanchez, Irene Mondragon, Mary Lou Trevino, and Evelyn Rodriguez. Receiving their completed GEDs were (front) Ysidora Jimenez, Lise London, Tina Ramirez and Dee Satterfield. Paula Wood, Region XVI GED director (rear, left) and teacher Valerie Artho (front, right) presented the certificates. Other graduates were not able to attend due to jobs or other commitments.

Hereford Independent School District provides the teachers and has helped set up the computer lab; the county allows the GED participants to use the basement of the Deaf Smith County Library; Region XVI provides funding and approval and TWC directs students to the program to help them get a job.

"Most of the graduates have worked really hard to overcome the obstacles in their way. Some had to work around young children, families or other jobs. Some have had very little encouragement to go to school and that just makes it harder for them."

■ VALERIE ARTHO,  
GED teacher

## These grads lack pomp, circumstance

By Dianna F. Dandridge

Hereford Brand Staff Writer

There's no pomp and circumstance for these graduates. Few receive graduation gifts. Most have little or no support for their efforts.

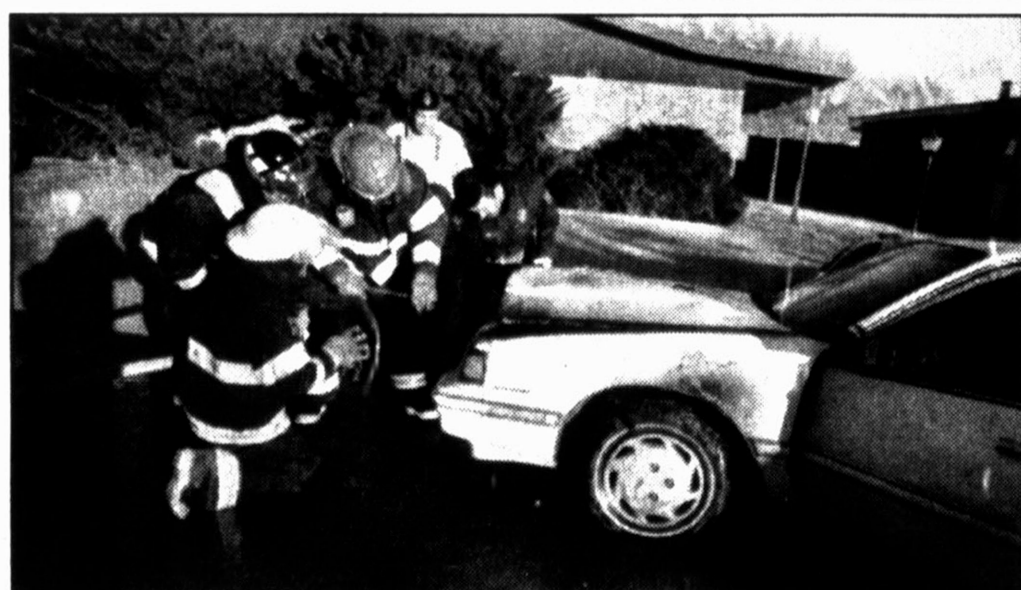
What they lack in support, they make up in determination. And, for the 16 individuals who received their General Equivalency Diploma (GED) recently, the determination can be seen in their eyes and the smiles of those who helped them along the way.

Valerie Artho, the daytime teacher of the Hereford GED program, said, "Most of the graduates have worked really hard to overcome the obstacles in their way. Some had to work around young children, families or other jobs. Some have had very little encouragement to go to school and that just makes it harder for them."

The recent GED graduates impressed more than just the teachers, Artho and Mary Jo Hammons, who teaches night classes, but also drew the attention of the Region XVI personnel who came to their graduation.

Region XVI GED director Paula Wood encouraged the graduates to not let this be an end to their learning goals, but to continue to reach for better things for themselves and those who know

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BRAND/Mauri Montgomery

Where there's smoke — Members of the Hereford Volunteer Fire Department responded Monday to a vehicle fire at 436 Ave. B and had to use a pry bar to open the hood of the smoldering vehicle.

## Fed prepares to shift gears, cut rates to spur economy

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Reserve, in the face of slowing economic growth, is prepared to shift its main focus away from fighting inflation to guarding against a sluggish economy.

Worried that the red-hot economy was growing too fast and could spark an upward spiral in prices, the Federal Reserve boosted short-term interest rates six times between June 1999 and May of this year.

Economists said the rate increases have worked to slow the

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## Best work behind the scenes

■ Christmas Stocking Fund committee is making tough calls on who will receive help

The anonymous committee administering the Christmas Stocking Fund is hard at work on the tough calls concerning who will receive assistance.

Much of the best work that goes into Hereford's holiday charity, the Christmas Stocking Fund, occurs behind the scenes, and is aimed at ensuring that the maximum amount of help is delivered for the funds donated by local residents.

3 DAYS UNTIL

CSF PRIMARY ASSISTANCE Delivery Day

Every one of the nearly 400 applications for assistance from the 2000 edition of CSF is being thoroughly screened by volunteer members of the anonymous CSF committee.

CSF committee volunteers five priority to assistance for the elderly, and for children.

A CSF spokesperson explains that for help to be extended to any applicant, up to five members of the CSF

committee must approve the application. Committee members reviewing the applications represent a broad cross-section of the community.

Any assistance from CSF comes in the forms of items or services. Cash is never paid directly to a recipient.

Vouchers are issued for any clothing, medical, and utility help. These vouchers are redeemed with co-operating local merchants, utilities, pharmacies, and medical facilities. The co-operators are in-turn paid by CSF.

CSF vouchers may be redeemed only for the items specified on the voucher, and only with participating Hereford merchants, as listed on the voucher forms.

Vouchers from CSF may not be redeemed for cash. Merchants are notified that they are not to issue change on purchases totaling less than the face amount.

You can help the Christmas Stocking Fund to extend help to the community's less-fortunate this holiday season through your generous

donation. Gifts to CSF may be left in person at the Hereford Brand, 313 N. Lee, or mailed to CSF in care of P.O. Box 673, Hereford 79045.

### 2000 Christmas Stocking Fund CURRENT BALANCE

12/16/2000	
BALANCE FORWARD	9,985.00
In memory of Ella Ray Carter by Tommie & Ciela Weemes	75.00
Ulys & Wilma Pierce	50.00
Anonymous	50.00
Mr. & Mrs. C.E. Jones	50.00
Merry Christmas from the staff of Gilliland Insurance Associates	250.00
Lucille Posey	50.00
Anonymous	500.00
Frank & Margaret Zinser	100.00
In honor of our parents, grand-parents by the Mike Carr Family	100.00
Edgar & Loteta Vinson	25.00
Opal Blakely	50.00
Nola & Vida Grady	50.00
Dr. & Mrs. M.W. Nobles	100.00
Mrs. W.H. Goettch	25.00
A.R. & Melba Dillard	100.00
Hereford Bi-Products	1000.00
Anonymous	25.00
Art & Karen Allemann	25.00
G. Peggy Clark	25.00
Anonymous	25.00
Carolyn & Dean Hacker	25.00
Anonymous	100.00
Anonymous	50.00
Anonymous	50.00
In memory of Glen Nelson by the Helen Nelson Family	25.00
In memory of Harold Kriegshauser & Larry Summers from the John Kriegshauser Family	50.00
Anonymous	2.00
Anonymous	50.00
In memory of Grace Tinnin by Chris & Kristi Cabbiness	100.00
WTRT & WTSI employees	150.00
TOTAL	13,262.00

DECEMBER 19 2000

HEREFORD BRAND

# Local roundup

• Special train days •

The Nolon Henson train display at the Hereford Senior Citizens Center will be open from 2-5 p.m. Saturday and from 2-5 p.m. every Saturday in January. The special hours are to allow as many visitors as possible to view the display in its final year.

• West Central retires the flag •

West Central Elementary School will hold a special flag retirement ceremony at 1:30 p.m. Thursday. Boy Scouts will perform the ceremony and new flags, which have been flown over the state and federal capitals, will be raised.

• Holiday dismissal •

All Hereford Independent School District campuses will dismiss between noon and 1 p.m. Friday for Christmas. Stanton will dismiss at noon; primaries at 12:10; intermediates at 12:30; junior high at 12:40 and High School at 12:50. Buses will run on these schedules. Parents are asked to make arrangements for non-bus students for these times. Classes will resume Jan. 8, 2001.

HEREFORD BRAND

# Emergency services

Activities reported by emergency services personnel for Dec. 15-18, 2000, include the following:

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**Arrests**

Three men were arrested in the 400 block of 16<sup>th</sup> Street and charged with evading arrest or detention.

A 15-year-old girl and a 14-year-old girl were arrested in the 700 block of Thunderbird and charged with class A assault.

A 47-year-old man was arrested in the 1300 block of East First and charged with public intoxication.

A 17-year-old man was arrested in the 100 block of Avenue C and charged with class A assault.

A 35-year-old man was arrested in the 100 block of Union and charged with outstanding Department of Public Safety warrants.

A 40-year-old man was arrested in the 500 block of Park Avenue and charged with interference with child custody.

A 40-year-old man was arrested in the 200 block of Avenue H and charged with assault.

A 31-year-old man was arrested in the 700 block of East 15<sup>th</sup> and charged with Department of Public Safety warrants.

A 22-year-old man was arrested in the 500 block of Avenue G and charged with outstanding Department of Public Safety warrants.

**Incidents**

An 18-year-old man reported being assaulted in the 600 block of Irving.

A resident reported two windows in the 400 block of Mable were shot with BB guns. Damage is estimated at \$100.

A burglary of a habitation was reported in the 600 block of Irving. A suspect was named.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 100 block of North Sampson where several tires were flattened.

A theft was reported in the 1100 block of West Park Avenue.

A burglary was reported in the 100 block of North Main.

An assault was reported in the 500 block of Myrtle.

An attempted burglary of a habitation was reported in the 400 block of Paloma Lane.

A pit bull, valued at \$100, was reported stolen in the 200 block of Hereford Calle.

A burglary was reported in the 400 block of Barrett. A power tool was taken.

**SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

**Arrests**

A 40-year-old man was arrested and charged with violation of probation on a burglary of a building conviction.

A 49-year-old man was arrested and charged with violation of probation on a driving while intoxicated conviction.

A 42-year-old woman was arrested and charged with theft over \$750 and under \$20,000.

**Incidents**

A runaway was reported.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**Dec. 15**

6:15 p.m. Firefighters responded to a structure fire at 326 Ave. B. Officials are investigating the fire of the empty building.

**Dec. 16**

5:12 p.m. Firefighters responded to a multiple cotton module fire at the Farmers Gin.

**Dec. 17**

9:39 a.m. Firefighters responded to a module fire at the Farmers Gin involving two of the same modules as on previous day.

**Dec. 18**

4:35 p.m. Firefighters responded to a vehicle fire at 436 Ave. B.

# Honoring their own



**Making a difference** -- Hereford Volunteer Firefighters got together Monday evening to celebrate not only the holidays, but to also honor Lt. Zane Watts, Firefighter of the Year, second from the left. As a tribute to his nine years of service fire marshal Dean Turney, left, city manager Chester Noland, and fire captain Robert Murray, right, presented Watts with his Firefighter of the Year plaque. Watts is employed by Energas when he is not busy making a difference putting out the fires that endanger the lives and property of city and county residents.



**Seasonal entertainment** -- The Nazarene Christian Academy third grade class visited local businesses Monday to deliver their gift of holiday music to employees and patrons.

## Legislation adds college funding

AUSTIN (AP) — A joint legislative committee on Monday approved a recommendation that would add \$211 million to fund the TEXAS Grant program, which offers free college tuition and fees to students from low-income families.

The \$211 million would come on top of the \$100 million that is appropriated to the program every two years.

If approved by the Legislature, the extra money would be used to permit students who come from households that earn \$50,000 or less a year to be eligible for free college tuition and fees, said Rodney Ellis, D-Houston, a member of the TEXAS Grant Oversight Committee.

Currently, the Toward Excellence Access and Success grant program is open to students who come from households earning \$25,000 a year or less.

"Increasing the funding and making improvements in promoting the program are vital in our efforts to offer qualified students the opportunity to achieve a college education," Ellis said.

The program, which was approved by the Legislature in 1999, has provided nearly 11,000 new grants each year to Texas students seeking to continue their education, Ellis said.

## THE ASSOCIATED PRESS Texas lottery

**Lotto**

No tickets correctly matched all six numbers drawn Saturday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

The numbers drawn Saturday night from a field of 54 were:

5-12-29-31-36-49

Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated \$13 million.

**Cash Five**

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

3-8-11-13-34

**Pick 3**

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

6-7-2



**Delivering the goods** -- More than 50 senior citizens around town were visited Monday by members of the Hereford Rotary Club who delivered Christmas goodies. Suzanne Gibbs brought a bit of cheer to James Ponder, who was thrilled with the goodies and the visit.

**Hereford Brand**

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O.G. Nieman Publisher (1972-98)  
Mauri Montgomery Publisher  
Donald M. Cooper Managing Editor  
Jay Guerrero Circulation Manager

HEREFORD BRAND

# Obituaries

**ELOISA R. GARCIA**  
Dec. 15, 2000

Services for Eloisa R. Garcia, 54, of Hereford were Monday at St. Anthony's Catholic Church with Msgr. Orville Blum officiating.

Burial was in West Park Cemetery under the direction of Rix Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Garcia died Friday at Baptist St. Anthony's Hospice in Amarillo.

She was born July 11, 1946, in San Antonio to Ascension and Elvira Reyna. She attended schools in Arizona and moved to Hereford in 1965. She was a member of St. Anthony's Catholic Church.

Survivors include two daughters, Debbie Zuniga, Christina Garcia, both of Hereford; one brother, Juan Reyna of Austin; six sisters, Julia Reyna and Ludlia Sanchez, both of Hereford, Consuelo Medellin of San Antonio, Angelina Torres of Lubbock, Olga Mason of Mathis and Isidra Garza of Roswell, N.M.; four grandchildren.

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**LOIS DUGGAN**  
Dec. 17, 2000

Services for Lois Duggan, 91, of Hereford were today at the Rose Chapel of

Gililland-Watson Funeral Home. Burial was in West Park Cemetery, under the direction of Gililland-Watson Funeral Home.

Mrs. Duggan died Sunday at Westgate Nursing Home.

She was born July 24, 1909, in Alba to Elijah White and Ollie Mae Perry. She married Quayle Duggan on April 2, 1927, in Abernathy. She came to Deaf Smith County in 1944. She was a homemaker and a member of the First Baptist Church of Friona.

Survivors include three daughters, Frances Suttle of Hereford, Orene Smith of Arlington, Velma Brown of Walters, Okla.; one son, Willis Duggan of Hereford; 20 grandchildren; 51 great-grandchildren; 14 great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband in 1981.

The family suggests memorials be made to Crown of Texas Hospice or King's Manor/Westgate.

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**STELLA LEE FORTENBERRY SEVIER**  
Dec. 17, 2000

Services for Stella Lee Fortenberry Sevier, 82, of El Paso, will be 2:30 p.m. Friday in Rose Chapel of Gililland-

Watson Funeral Home with Tom Bailey, pastor of Central Church of Christ officiating. Burial will be in West Park Cemetery under the direction of Gililland-Watson Funeral Home.

Mrs. Sevier died Sunday at Providence Memorial Hospital in El Paso.

She was born Dec. 28, 1917, in Floyd County to Jack Fortenberry and Robbie Conner. She married Raymond Sevier. She graduated from West Texas State College and received her masters degree from Texas Western College of Mines. She moved to El Paso in 1939 and taught school for 52 years before she retired. She was a member of the Montwood Church of Christ in El Paso.

Survivors include one son, Lonnie Sevier of Clifton; one daughter Carolyn Sevier Smith; four sisters, Mary Morris of Clovis, N.M., Alta Mae Higgins of Hereford, Kate Bradley of Adrian, Chloe Dowd of Laurel, Ind.; nine grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, one son, two brothers and one sister.

The family suggests memorials to a favorite charity.

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# LIFESTYLES

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## Christmas Eve will be observed in services

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH** - The candlelight Christmas Eve Communion service will be at 6 p.m. on Dec. 24.

**ST. ANTHONY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH** - Christmas Liturgies are Sunday, Dec. 24 at 9 a.m. (the only morning liturgy), 6 and 8 p.m. Christmas Day Liturgy is at 10 a.m.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH** - The Christmas Eve service will begin at 6 p.m. There will be singing of traditional Christmas carols, scripture reading, candle lighting and Holy Communion.



**Live Nativity** - Wesley United Methodist Church, 410 Irving St., will have a live Nativity scene from 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday. Hot chocolate and cookies will be served to the children who come to view the scene with local people and live animals portraying the "reason for the Season."

## Bell gives program for Los Ciboleros

Margaret Bell gave a Christmas program at the meeting of Los Ciboleros Chapter NSDAR Thursday in the Blue Room of the Senior Citizens Center.

Following her presentation, members related special Christmas memories of their childhood, special Santa stories and special gifts during their childhood.

Regent Patricia Robinson presided during the opening ritual and Chaplain Ruth Knox gave the opening prayer.

Bell led the Pledge of

Allegiance; Helen Rose, the American's Creed; and Juanita Brown, the Preamble to the Constitution.

Vice regent Jean Beene gave the President General's message. Rose gave the National Defense report and Brown gave Constitutional Highlights.

Refreshments were served by hostesses Robinson and Beene to Charlotte Clark, Linda Knowles, Donna Smith, Lois Gilliland, Mary Williamson, Pat Smart, Rose, Knox, Bell and Brown.

## La Afflatus Estudio Club has Christmas luncheon

La Afflatus Estudio Club held its annual Christmas luncheon in the dining room of Hereford Regional Medical Center.

Following the meal, a short business meeting was held with Emily Suggs, president, presiding. A collection was taken to send to the Women and Children's Crisis Center.

Deborah Buck brought the program, reading from four Christmas stories, then she passed out angel gifts and musical ornaments from Della Stagner and herself.

Guests present were Janis Gordon of Panama City, Fla., daughter of Alberta Higgins, and Sue Hadens of El Campo, daughter of Emily Suggs.

Members present were Margaret Baxter, Louise Streun, Virginia Beasley, Leola Cook, Virginia Curtsinger, Mary Williamson, Roxie Phipps, Aileen Montgomery, Buck, Stagner, Suggs and Higgins.

## CREATORS SYNDICATE

# Ann Landers



**Ann Landers**

**Dear Ann Landers:** We have seven women in our office, and we get along well. There's an on-going problem, however, and we can't seem to put an end to it. Please help. The holidays are just around the corner.

One of the older women (I'll call her Alma) likes to buy birthday and Christmas presents for everyone in the office. That's OK, except Alma buys expensive gifts — sometimes she spends as much as \$50, and the rest of us feel obligated to reciprocate. We know how much Alma spends, because she often leaves the price tags on. We don't know why she does this. Meanwhile, her generosity makes us feel uncomfortable.

I have told Alma she works too hard to spend her money on presents for us, but she won't stop. I once tried to return a gift to her, saying, "I cannot accept such an expensive present," but she refused to take it back. Then she acted hurt, and pouted for a week.

Ann, Christmas is coming up soon, and I dread what Alma will purchase this year. We don't know how to handle her behavior, and we feel like — Emotional Hostages in St. Louis

**Dear St. Louis:** There is nothing you can do to make Alma stop buying expensive, inappropriate gifts. She is desperate for attention and approval. You are under no obligation to go into debt in order to reciprocate.

The next time Alma gives you a present, say, "Thank you so much," and then put it aside. If exchanging gifts is a

tradition in your office, buy Alma the same type of gift you would purchase for any other co-worker. If she sees that her extravagance is not impressing you, perhaps she will stop trying so hard. I feel sorry for her.

**Dear Ann Landers:** I read your response about "Diane," who kept bringing food to her new sister-in-law's dinners. Instead of putting her food in the freezer, I have a more subtle suggestion that will spare her feelings.

I believe Diane wants to contribute and feel a part of the dinner planning. Her inappropriate offerings are the result of being kept in the dark. When arranging a dinner, Mom ought to phone Diane and say, "I am fixing such-and-such for dinner. Would you mind bringing the dessert?" This way, Diane can be a participant, and will no longer feel the need to overcompensate. What do you say, Ann? — Annie in Oahu, Hawaii

**Dear Oahu:** I say you are much more diplomatic than I am. Thanks for trumping my ace.

**Dear Ann Landers:** I read the letter from the engineer who said an obese person would not cause damage to the floors of an apartment building. My experience is that obese people regularly damage property. The most common damage is to staircases, railings, towel rods, handles, door-knobs and sometimes toilets. Less common is damage to vanities, sinks and countertops.

The cost of repairing these fixtures can be exorbitant, especially if there is water involved. I would never discriminate against obese people by not renting to them, but I expect them to pay for the damage they cause and not make excuses about shoddy construction. The buildings I manage are well-constructed. As you well know, there are two sides to every story, Ann.

— Renting in the Northeast  
**Dear Property Manager:**

Any tenant who damages property, whether it is an obese person who leans too heavily on a towel rod, a child who slides down railings or a teenager who jumps on the countertops, should have to pay to repair it. Property damage can be caused by anyone of any size, and the landlord has the right to expect compensation.

Looking for an uplifting, quick read? "A Collection of My Favorite Gems of the Day" contains hand-picked jokes and witticisms from the world over. Send a self-addressed, long, business-size envelope and a check or money order for \$5.25 (this includes postage and handling) to: Collection, c/o Ann Landers, P.O. Box 11562, Chicago, Ill. 60611-0562 (in Canada, \$6.25).

To find out more about Ann Landers and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

**DALEINE T. SPRINGER**  
Insurance Specialist  
SPRINGER INSURANCE AGENCY  
241 N. Main Street • 361-941-9111

**Kade Anthony Kalka**  
6 lbs. 15 oz. 20 1/2 in. long • Dec. 5, 2000  
**Keith & Gina Kalka**  
Keith Jr. & Grace  
Grandparents:  
Melvin & Betty Kalka Eugene & Jeanette Heinrich

**Teresa Casarez**  
has moved to  
**The Hair Gallery**  
New & Old Clients are Welcome!!  
323 N. 25 Mile Ave. 364-1991

**Picture Perfect**  
131 West 3rd St. 364-0249

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

We wish to thank all of you who helped make this a great year

We are the best place in Hereford for last minute shopping

Our gift to you special selection framed prints  
**1/2 PRICE**

**Need some last minute gift ideas?**

**Come shop with us at First National Bank!**

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301 W. 3rd  
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Hereford, Texas 79045  
Member FDIC

**PREMIERE CINEMA GROUP MOVIES 6**

Regular Show 6:00 N. 25 Mile Ave., Hereford, TX  
BUSINESS OFFICE CALL: 364-0101  
MOVIE HOTLINE CALL: 364-8000

Fri., Dec. 15th - Thurs., Dec. 21st

<b>WANT WOMEN WANT</b>	1:45 & 4:05	7:30
<b>EMPERORS NEW GROOVE</b>	1:45 & 4:05	7:30
<b>102 DALMATIANS</b>	1:45 & 4:05	7:30
<b>DUDE WHERE'S MY CAR</b>	2:05 & 4:15	7:15
<b>THE CHICKEN STORE</b>	1:45 & 4:05	7:30
<b>DUNCANS AND DRAGONS</b>	1:45 & 4:05	7:30
<b>PROOF OF LIFE</b>	1:45 & 4:05	7:30

Adults \$5.00 • Kids & Seniors \$3.00  
Regular Matinees Sat. & Sun.

# TOYS FOR CHILDREN



**Hereford Junior High** students collected cash and toys for the local Christmas Toys for Children campaign at a dance held Dec. 15. The dance netted \$438 and 60 toys to benefit local children. Carley Lassiter is shown contributing a toy to the collection as Kelli Moulton, junior high principal, looks on.

## Women's Division announces Lighting Contest 2000 winners

Winners in the Christmas Lighting Contest for 2000 have been announced by the Women's Division of the Deaf Smith County Chamber of Commerce.

"The lighting contest committee has stated this was a very difficult year. Hereford has done a wonderful job of lighting up the season," Shannon Redwine, Women's Division president, said. "We apologize if we missed someone, but would appreciate if they nominated themselves so we do not miss seeing their hard work."

Following is a complete list of this year's winners. Pictures of

winning homes and businesses will be featured in the Dec. 23 edition of the *Hereford Brand*.

### Business

**Window:** 1<sup>st</sup>, Kid's Alley, 417 N. Main; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Hereford Moosage, 124 W. 4<sup>th</sup>; 3<sup>rd</sup>, Secret Garden, 411 N. Main.

**Total Business:** 1<sup>st</sup>, Gililand Watson Funeral Home, 411 E. 6<sup>th</sup>; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Pickup Corner, Main and Hwy. 60; 3<sup>rd</sup>, NAPA Auto Parts, 124 N. 25 Mile Ave.

### Residential

**Total Block:** 1<sup>st</sup>, Rio Vista Drive; 2<sup>nd</sup>, 200 N. Texas; 3<sup>rd</sup>, 300

N. Texas.

**Window/Door:** 1<sup>st</sup>, Ted Taylor, 116 Nueces; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Ken Walser, 141 Redwood.

**Religious:** 1<sup>st</sup>, G.R. Smith, 205 Northwest Dr.; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Fellowship of Believers, 245 N. Kingwood; 3<sup>rd</sup>, Scott Hall, 1900 Plains.

**Total Home:** 1<sup>st</sup>, Freddy Barrera, 200 Lake; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Vi McDonald and Mike Bell, 800 Union Dr.; 3<sup>rd</sup>, Brooks Robins, 303 Westhaven.

**Must See:** 1<sup>st</sup>, Charles Cosper, 208 Kingwood; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Bill Lyles, 127 Liveoak; 3<sup>rd</sup>, Kenneth Christie, 123 Liveoak.

## College Report

Kris Daniel, a senior speech and language pathology major at Oklahoma State University,



**Kris Daniel**

was recently inducted into the Golden Key National Honor Society. Golden Key is the leading collegiate honor society, providing service, leadership and networking opportunities.

The honor society is comprised of the top 15 percent of juniors and seniors at more than 300 leading universities.

Golden Key was established in 1977 by Georgia State University and has 12,000 honorary members in the United States and worldwide.

Along with many college activities, Daniel is a member of Alpha Epsilon Delta, a National Pre-Medical Honor Society.

She is a 1997 graduate of Hereford High School and the 21-year-old daughter of Ronnie and Mary Helen Daniel.

## Survey reveals time-saving baking secrets

ARDEN HILLS, MINN. — During the holiday season, thousands of kitchens across the country will be bustling with holiday bakers who will be using time-saving secrets according to a recently released survey by Land O'Lakes Holiday Bakeline.

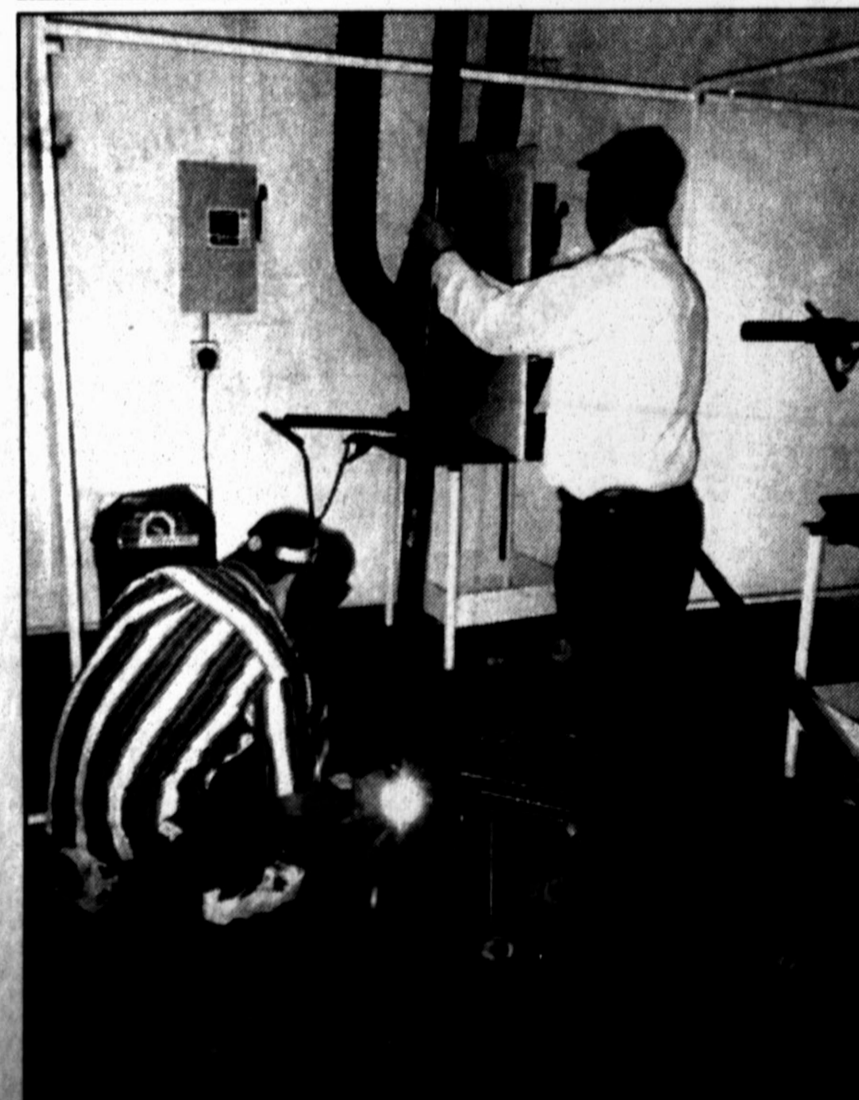
Nearly three fourths (72 percent) said that they have a time-saving secret when it comes to holiday baking. The most popular technique, used by more than 30 percent of the respondents, is having their families help with the baking, which increases to 41 percent during the holidays.

Additionally, of those surveyed more than one third (33 percent) will be giving baked goods as a gift during this season.

Here are some other secrets the survey revealed:

### Other Time Saving Techniques

- Baking in mass quantities (23.6 percent)
  - Preparing ingredients in advance (23.6 percent)
  - Looking for recipes to make that involve less time (22.6 percent)
  - Preparing food in advance and freezing it (21.1 percent)
- When America's Baking**
- Survey respondents revealed that they bake most often:
    - In the evening or at night (29 percent)
    - In the early morning (12 percent)
    - Take day off work to do it (12 percent)
    - Marathon style, all night (11 percent)
    - Overnight, midnight to 5 a.m. (3 percent)



**It's a swing** — A member of the Hereford Employment Readiness Development (HERD) welding class works on his project - a porch swing. First semester classes were completed last week and Certificates of Completion were awarded.

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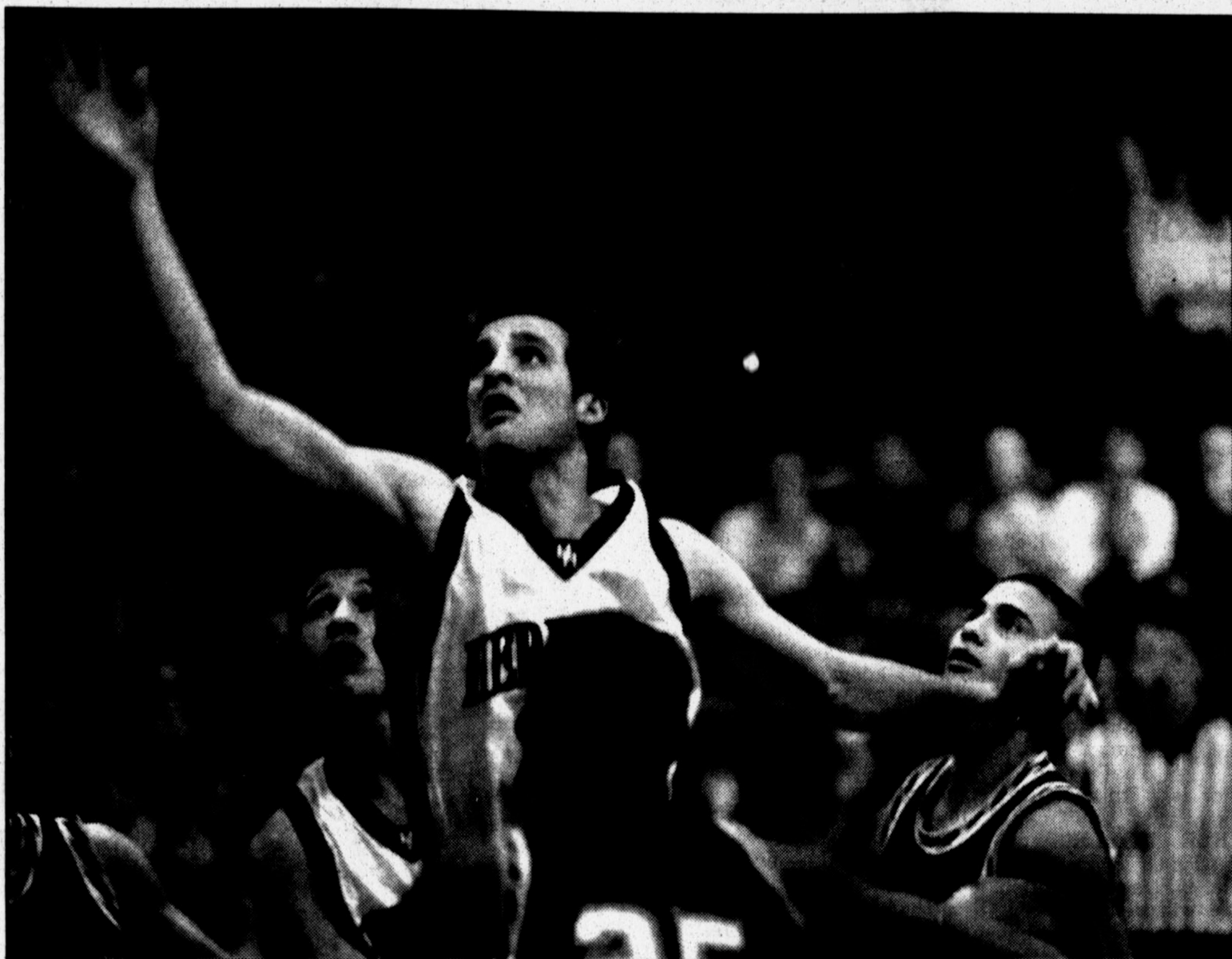
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# SPORTS

HEREFORD BRAND • Tuesday, December 19, 2000 • A5

## Making The Shots



BRAND/Julius Bodner

**Pushing their weight around** — Cody Hodges drives in a for a layup earlier this season while Cody Marsh (background) waits for the result. Both teammates, along with help from Slade Hodges, combined for a total of 57 points Monday in Lubbock to lead Hereford to a 79-63 win over the Monterey Plainsmen.

## Herd wallops Monterey

■ Win boosts Whitefaces to 10-2 season mark going into first round of 3-4A play

**From staff reports**

The Hereford Whitefaces, buoyed Monday night by a three-echelon attack from Cody Marsh, and Cody and Slade Hodges, unraveled the Monterey Plainsmen 79-63 at Lubbock Monterey.

The Hereford trio combined 57 points to stifle a Monterey defense

that held its own with HHS early, but later crumbled under the relentless attack.

The win pushed Hereford to 10-2 on the year while Lubbock fell to 7-8.

The two teams fought to a 22-18 finish by the close of the first quarter, but Slade Hodges sank two three-pointers to give HHS a 10-point advantage with 3:57 remaining in the period.

Monterey sliced-up a 12-point Whiteface lead just before halftime, scoring on four straight possessions to leave the score 42-35.

But Hereford's defensive strategy

changed in the second half.

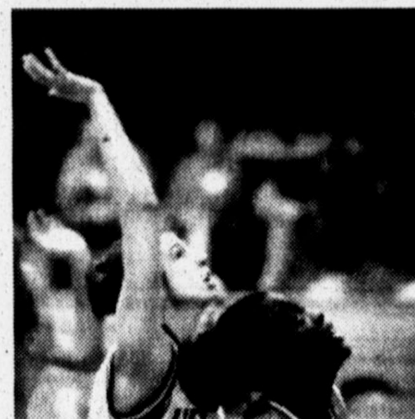
Moving from a man-to-man alignment and into a zone made all the difference in the world for the Whitefaces.

Trailing 52-44 midway through the third quarter, Lubbock went empty-handed on seven possessions while the Herd seized a 52-44 lead.

Adjusting to the zone set was nearly as difficult for the Plainsmen in the final frame, too. Hereford held the MHS offense to 19 points and added another 21 points for its own war chest.

## Lady Whitefaces fall 68-51 against Lubbock Monterey

■ HHS squad still trying to find its feet, drops to 5-8 on the year



**Lady Herd is looking for more paydirt**

**From staff reports**

Hereford's Sarah Griffin slammed in 20 points, 15 on 3-point goals, and Michelle Bernhardt added another 11 to lead the Lady Whitefaces in scoring against the Lubbock Lady Plainsmen Monday night in Lubbock, but their shooting efforts couldn't carry a Hereford win.

Lubbock, despite being held to an even scoring match 14-14 after the first quarter, and 16-16 heading into the half, rallied from the deadlock and outscored the Lady Herd by 17 points in the final two frames to win 68-51.

The Lady Plainsmen advanced to 11-3 for the season with the win while Hereford fell to an 5-8.

Kari Jo Simmons topped Lubbock's scoring performance after she netted 21 points, an effort that helped allow Lubbock to break the constraints of a 30-30 tie following intermission.

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# Tampa Bay clinches playoff berth

■ Buccaneers (10-5) outlast test of wills against St. Louis to win 38-35 rematch and push Rams to brink of elimination

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Shaun King, while answering his own critics, might have kept the St. Louis Rams from making the NFL playoffs.

The Tampa Bay Buccaneers won a rematch of last season's NFC championship game 38-35 Monday night, clinching a playoff berth and pushing the defending Super Bowl champions to the brink of elimination.

The win also clinched the NFC West for New Orleans.

The Bucs (10-5) can still win the NFC Central with a victory at Green Bay on Sunday and a Minnesota loss at Indianapolis, but the Rams (9-6) need help to get back into the playoffs.

"We came in with a purpose and a mind set that we had to get it done," Bucs defensive tackle Warren Sapp said. "We

kept punching them and we finally got a knockout. They got loose, but we hung together as a team and we got it done. It's 'Bucsball,' baby. Whatever it takes."

As the triggerman of Tampa Bay's much-maligned offense, King hadn't thrown a touchdown pass in nearly five games before he broke the drought with a pair of TD throws to Keyshawn Johnson.

But it's what he did in the closing minutes that the Bucs will remember.

Their answer to what St. Louis dubbed the "The Catch" — Ricky Proehl's game-winning reception from Kurt Warner to give the Rams an

11-6 victory in the NFC title game — will be "The Lateral".

The Bucs marched 80 yards for the winning score, with 30 of them coming on one of the craziest plays of the season.

Trailing 35-31 and seemingly headed nowhere against the Rams defense, King threw a swing lateral to Warrick Dunn. He was trapped far behind the line and, as he was being dragged down, suddenly pitched the ball back to King to avoid a 14-yard loss.

King shook loose and streaked down the sideline for a 15-yard gain, and 15 more yards were tacked on for a late hit by linebacker Mike Jones. Four plays later, King

scrambled for 6 yards on fourth-and-4, then threw 22 yards to Reidel Anthony at the 2.

Dunn, who rushed for 145 yards on 22 carries, scored his third touchdown from the 1 with 48 seconds remaining.

"It was the kind of thing that Joe Montana used to do," Anthony said of the drive. "It was our first real opportunity to get a drive like this. When you do something like that, it's something you can build off of."

King completed 18 of 38 passes for 256 yards, including TD throws of 8 and 17 yards to Johnson, who had seven catches for 116 yards. Dunn also scored on runs of 2 and 52 yards, finishing the day with 1,093 on the season.

"Our offense has taken a lot of criticism, but I think this game proved what we are made of," Bucs coach Tony Dungy said. "It feels good to be in the playoffs. I have a lot of confidence in our team. When we are playing good ball, we can do what it takes to win."

Marshall Faulk scored four touchdowns for the Rams. Faulk scored four touchdowns for the second straight week and third time this season,

breaking the NFL record he shared with Jim Brown, who did it a record six times in his career.

To reach the playoffs, the Rams (9-6) need to beat New Orleans next Sunday and hope Chicago (4-11) pulls an upset at Detroit.

"We controlled our own destiny up to this point. We didn't get it done," Warner said. "We can't look to anybody else and say it was their fault. It was our fault. We didn't finish this thing. Now we need help."

Faulk, who rushed for 79 yards on 22 carries and had four receptions for 53 yards, scored on first-half runs of 2 and 16 yards for the Rams. He caught a 27-yard touchdown pass in the third quarter.

Warner completed 20 of 32 passes for 316 yards and two TDs, including a 72-yarder to Torry Holt that put the Rams ahead 35-31 with 5:33 to go. His third interception, two plays after Dunn's third TD, ended the Rams' hopes for a comeback.

"It's deflating," Rams safety Keith Lyle said. "To lose by three points hurts because we had it wrapped up until that last drive."

## WHO WANTED PARITY IN NFL?

By Dave Goldberg  
AP Football Writer

Is the 2000 NFL season as crazy as it's been described? Not really.

Yes, it's possible there will be new champions in each of the league's six divisions. But that's not crazy. It also happened in 1998, and, even more telling, no division will have had fewer than three different winners since 1997.

"It's the norm now," says Ernie Accorsi, general manager of the New York Giants, who clinched the NFC East title Sunday night and are in position to be the conference's No. 1 seed after going 7-9 a year ago. "It's the way it is. Everything about the old system is gone. Parity will be with us as long as there's a cap."

The NFL enters its final week in a jumble. And the defending champion Rams are on the verge of elimination — they have to beat New Orleans next week and hope that Detroit loses or ties at home to 4-11 Chicago.

Accorsi's Giants, who can clinch home-field advantage in the NFC by beating Jacksonville at home on Saturday, were the only team to have clinched a division after Sunday's games, then New Orleans clinched the NFC West when Tampa Bay beat St. Louis 38-35 Monday night. Not since 1980 had no division been clinched until the next-to-last week.

Moreover, unlike past seasons, there's no clear favorite to win the Super Bowl. The closest to that status, perhaps, would be Tennessee (12-3), which leads the AFC Central but can still finish second if it loses at home next week to Dallas and Baltimore (11-4) beats the Jets. The Ravens have the tiebreaker — they've played one more

## Salary caps are making a jumble of Super Bowl hopefuls as NFL enters final week

conference game than the Titans and would finish 10-3 in the AFC to 9-3 for Tennessee.

But nothing is really certain.

Even if the Giants, who have added some offense to a strong defense, do get home field advantage in the NFC, that might not mean much — they are 7-1 on the road, 4-3 at home.

The Rams and Vikings are impressive on offense, particularly in domes (although St. Louis has three home losses). But their defenses are suspect as St. Louis proved in surrendering 38 points Monday night to the Bucs.

Tampa Bay and Baltimore have great defenses but shaky offenses.

In any case, things will change next season.

Here's a log of the division winners over the past four seasons, including the current one:

- **AFC East:** Miami leads the Colts and Jets by a game. The Colts won in 1999, the Jets in 1998 and New England in 1997.
- **AFC Central:** Tennessee leads Baltimore. Jacksonville won in 1999 and 1998, Pittsburgh in 1997.
- **AFC West:** Oakland leads Denver by a game. Seattle won in 1999, Denver in 1998 and Kansas City in 1997, when Denver won the Super Bowl as a wild card.
- **NFC East:** The Giants have clinched the division. They also won in 1997, Dallas won in 1998, and Washington in 1999.
- **NFC Central:** Minnesota leads. Tampa Bay won last year, Minnesota in 1998, and Green Bay in 1997. The Bucs could repeat if they win and the Vikings lose next week.
- **NFC West:** New Orleans takes the division from St. Louis, which won last season.

Atlanta won in 1998, and San Francisco in 1997. And the division's fifth team, Carolina, won in 1996.

That's a perfect example of how things have changed.

From 1981 through 1997, the 49ers won 13 of the 16 division titles — there was none in 1982, when the playoffs were determined by conference standings because a players' strike limited the season to nine games.

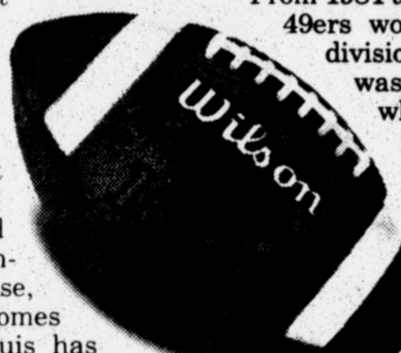
That sort of dominance is a thing of the past.

**FUMBLE FOLLIES:** Al Davis and Jon Gruden need not fear. The NFL's competition committee will definitely consider changing the rule that cost the Raiders a safety Saturday when Marquez Pope recovered a Ricky Watters fumble on the 1-yard line, slid into the end zone and was touched down.

There's already precedent for change.

On Oct. 6, 1985, Cincinnati's Lewis Breeden intercepted a pass against the Jets on his own 6-yard line and kept going into the end zone, where he was tackled by Wesley Walker. It was ruled a safety because the rules then specified that if a player's momentum carried him in the end zone, he had to make the catch at the 5-yard-line or closer to have it called a touchback.

The next March, the league amended the rules to leave the momentum question to the judgment of the officials. In typical rulebook jargon, it protects "a defender from having a safety scored on his team by deleting the provision for a specific 5-yard area in determining when the player's interception momentum carries him into the end zone."



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- **NFC West:** New Orleans takes the division from St. Louis, which won last season.

## Salt Lake City officials can't explain IOC file absence

SALT LAKE CITY — From A to Z, Salt Lake bid deputy Dave Johnson kept exhaustive files on IOC members when bidding for the 2002 Winter Games.

But the biggest surprise in the release of 10,000 pages of Johnson's files may be what's missing.

There's no trace of a file for South Korean IOC executive Un-yong Kim even though the censured delegate and his indicted son figured large in Olympic and criminal investigations.

Officials at the Salt Lake Organizing Committee say they have no explanation and didn't hold back a Kim file.

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# 106th CONGRESS

## Session had major battles, modest achievements

**By Jim Abrams**

*Associated Press Writer*

WASHINGTON — It was a Congress that began with an attempt to unseat the president, was dominated by both parties thwarting the goals of the other and ended with many major issues unaddressed.

While President-elect Bush promises to bring a new attitude of bipartisanship, the reality of the departing Congress is that it was one of the most partisan in recent history, starting with the impeachment trial.

The 106th Congress also was one of the longest, finally concluding Friday, 10 weeks behind schedule because of tenacious battles over spending levels and issues, from immigration reform to workplace safety rules.

Assessment of the two-year session, like everything else, differs along party lines.

House Majority Leader Dick Armey, R-Texas, in a year-end memo to fellow Republicans, said that with a thin majority, they had "produced historic achievements that were unthinkable during 40 years of Democratic rule."

Senate Democratic leader Tom Daschle of South Dakota, at a Halloween news conference decorated with grave-stones marking failed legislative efforts, said it had become "the Congress of the living dead."

### ANALYSIS

There were a few major accomplishments: modernizing the nation's banking system, normalizing trade relations with China, boosting investment in the nation's aviation system and initiating a cleanup of Florida's Everglades.

On the technology front, Congress successfully passed legislation to validate electronic signatures and make satellite television accessible to more Americans.

Lawmakers increased defense spending, gave service members a healthy pay raise and committed the nation to building missile defense systems.

Entering the new age of budget surpluses, the national debt was reduced \$354 billion over the past three years. Meanwhile, the final budget deal completed Friday contained significant new spending for health and education programs that enjoy broad support from both parties.

But more often, the pattern was the House passing legislation that died in the Senate, or the House and Senate failing to agree, or President Clinton vetoing GOP bills.

Patients' rights legislation stalled in a House-Senate conference over to what extent patients and their families should be allowed to sue insurers and HMOs. A similar fate met gun safety measures attached to a juvenile crime bill after the shootings at Colorado's Columbine High School more than a year ago.

The two parties, while agreeing on general goals, failed to bridge their philosophical differences on how best to provide prescription drug benefits to seniors, or extend the lives of the Social Security and Medicare programs.

Clinton never sent a hostile Senate an international agreement on global warming, and the Senate rejected the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty.

Other Democratic priorities such as campaign finance reform, a minimum wage increase and expanding federal hate crimes protection to homosexuals made little headway.

"This Congress wasted its energy," said Rep. Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif. "It was a tragedy of missed opportunities."

But Armey said it was a victory for Congress that "we didn't do all kinds of bad things." He mentioned patients' rights

measures that would enrich trial lawyers, in addition to affirmative action, limits on gun owners' rights and the hate crimes measure.

Republicans scored some major defeats and modest victories on their top agenda item, cutting taxes. Last year President Clinton vetoed a massive plan to reduce taxes by \$792 billion over 10 years.

This year Republicans shifted strategy, passing smaller, more targeted tax packages. But Clinton again vetoed a measure to eliminate estate taxes and another aimed at easing the "marriage penalty" paid by millions of two-income couples. Other plans to end a telephone tax, and expand contribution limits on 401(k) and IRA investments never reached him.

Clinton did sign a measure scrapping a law that reduced Social Security benefits for working seniors and is expected to sign another that gives tax relief for community renewal projects.

"It was a housekeeping session," said Larry Sabato, a professor at the University of Virginia who studies Congress. "There were lots of small things passed, but nothing that will dramatically change American lives."



Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle described it as the "Congress of the living dead."

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hbnews@hotmail.com

## U.S. trade deficit stays near record

WASHINGTON (AP) — America's trade deficit stayed close to an all-time high in October at \$33.2 billion as imports of crude oil climbed to the highest level on record. The deficits with China and Japan also set records, propelled higher by a flood of Christmas toys and autos.

The Commerce Department reported Tuesday that the October deficit was down a slight 1.6 percent from September's \$33.7 billion, the biggest imbalance in history.

So far this year, the trade deficit is running at an annual rate of \$363 billion, far above last year's record of \$265 billion. Trade has continued to be the major blot on America's economic performance as the appetite for imports far outstrips U.S. export sales.

Critics of President Clinton's trade policies argue that the administration's insistence of pursuing open-market agreements with other countries has left U.S. workers vulnerable to unfair competition from low-wage foreign factories.

In recent years this argument has been overshadowed by the economy's remarkable domestic performance, which pushed the unemployment rate to a three-decade low.

However, the unemployment rate is expected to slowly rise over the next year under the impact of previous interest rate increases by the Federal Reserve. Some analysts believe this will spawn greater demands for Congress to erect protectionist barriers to keep foreign goods out of the country.

The Clinton administration argues that in an era of increasing globalization, America has no choice but to push for trade liberalization, which benefits U.S. consumers and opens foreign markets for American exporters.

For October, U.S. exports of goods and services slipped 1.5 percent to \$91.2 billion, the second consecutive monthly decline.

Imports, which had set a record the previous month, slipped a slight 1.6 percent in October to \$124.4 billion, the second highest level on record.

The high level of imports reflected a continued surge in America's foreign oil bill. Imports of crude petroleum hit an all-time high of \$8.5 billion in October as the volume of barrels shipped climbed 8.7 percent.

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12-19 CRYPTOQUOTE

**T V A O S C V H S I O V M V M T Q Q J**  
**A B H E B K H S O I V V C I I O B R**  
**H K V B H E T B L P H M B I T O B V**

— **T B L Y H B C V** — **T B H B J P H M V**  
Saturday's Cryptoquote: IT IS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO REMEMBER HOW TRAGIC A PLACE THE WORLD IS WHEN ONE IS PLAYING GOLF. — ROBERT LYND

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#### CATTLE FUTURES

Cattle-Feeder (CME) 60,000 lbs, cents per lb.	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Dec	79.90	77.40	76.90	76.30	75.70	75.10	74.50	73.90	73.30	72.70	72.10	71.50
Jan	79.10	81.10	83.10	85.10	87.10	89.10	91.10	93.10	95.10	97.10	99.10	101.10

#### GRAIN FUTURES

Corn (CBT) 5,000 bu, cents per bu.	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Dec	2.09	2.11	2.09	2.07	2.05	2.03	2.01	1.99	1.97	1.95	1.93	1.91
Jan	2.14	2.22	2.29	2.37	2.44	2.51	2.58	2.65	2.72	2.79	2.86	2.93

#### METAL FUTURES

Gold (COMEX) 100 Troy oz.	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Dec	358.00	358.00	358.00	358.00	358.00	358.00	358.00	358.00	358.00	358.00	358.00	358.00
Jan	371.00	371.00	371.00	371.00	371.00	371.00	371.00	371.00	371.00	371.00	371.00	371.00

#### FUTURES OPTIONS

Cattle-Feeder (CME) 60,000 lbs, cents per lb.	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Dec	79.90	77.40	76.90	76.30	75.70	75.10	74.50	73.90	73.30	72.70	72.10	71.50
Jan	79.10	81.10	83.10	85.10	87.10	89.10	91.10	93.10	95.10	97.10	99.10	101.10

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# BRRR! Snowfall, cold move deep into the South

## The Associated Press

Snowfall and freezing temperatures spread deep into the South on Tuesday, keeping kids home from school and icing up the morning commute.

Temperatures fell to freezing levels as far south as Mobile, Ala., and snow fell along the Appalachians from Canada into Georgia.

Atlanta got 3 inches of snow overnight and Delta Air Lines canceled 50 to 75 percent of its morning flights out of Hartsfield Atlanta International Airport. The snow quickly melted to slush but a blast of colder air was expected to turn it to ice later in the day.

Schools were closed because of slippery roads in parts of Alabama, Georgia, the Carolinas and Tennessee. South Carolina Gov. Jim Hodges closed state offices in some counties and told others to open late.

Snow isn't unheard of in Georgia but it was a revela-

tion to Lannette Birtwistle's 10- and 12-year-old sons, because the family just moved to the Atlanta suburbs from South Florida. The boys were ready to go out and play as soon as the sun was up.

"You should see them. They're all bundled up with everything in the house," said Birtwistle. "It's very new to them."

Not so Mona Jones of Hamilton, in central Georgia, who was content to look at the snow from inside, by her fire. "The yard is just white; it's just a covering," she said.

Up to 5 inches of snow accumulated overnight in the mountains of western North Carolina.

"We're having wrecks like crazy," Macon County, N.C., emergency dispatcher Mike Lequire said Tuesday morning.

Meteorologists warned that temperatures in northern Georgia would stay in the 20s



all day Tuesday before falling into the teens or lower during the night. And there was another chance of snow in Atlanta late Thursday and early Friday, with flurries possible on Christmas Eve.

"Right now we're in a wintry pattern," said Frank Taylor of the National Weather Service in Peachtree City.

Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee declared disaster areas in 41 counties nearly a week after what state officials said was the worst ice storm in state history. Tens of thousands of customers are without power.

"I've just been quilting by the light of the window during the day and go to bed when it gets dark," said Kitty Watson, 73, whose home has been without electricity since last week. "And my goodness, I must've

gained 10 pounds in the past week cause you know, you bake when you're bored."

Much of the Midwest was getting a breather after its fourth snowstorm in a week, but more was on the way.

"It will be a brief reprieve," said meteorologist Tom Zajdel in Wisconsin. "Very brief."

Close to a foot of snow fell Monday in parts of Wisconsin, closing schools and roads, and temperatures rose only into the teens.

Milwaukee had 10.5 inches of snow by Tuesday morning, bringing its total for the month so far to a record 32.7. The city's old December record was 30.7 inches, set in 1951.

"I can run faster than the buses are running, and I'm 59 years old," Fred Trestle said as he waited for a bus in Milwaukee.

## Gas

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higher. Gasoline, home heating oil and crude oil prices are about 50 percent higher this year; and

There has been less exploration and production. Natural gas exploration and production declined in 1998 and 1999 because of mild winter weather and low prices at the wellhead. While current levels of exploration and production are high, forecasters have factored this into current and future gas prices.

Energas President Tom Hawkins said the company wants its customers "to be aware of the higher gas prices so that they can plan for higher gas bills, especially with the weather colder than 1999 and adjust their budgets accordingly."

Hawkins added the sale of natural gas "is not a source of

income for our company. Changes in natural gas prices ... are passed through to customers on their monthly gas bill." The company's revenue is generated by the cost of providing services and state regulators set the rates, he said.

"We also share our customers' hope that natural gas prices will soon return to lower levels," Hawkins said.

Customers are advised to conserve energy and take steps to lower their heating bills. Thermostat settings and energy efficiency of homes and heating equipment can affect gas consumption and the impact of higher gas prices. Setting a natural gas water heater temperature to 120 degrees, or "medium," can lower a customer's gas bill without sacrificing comfort.

## Amarillo may sell Panhandle water

AMARILLO (AP) — Amarillo is considering selling or trading its water rights in Hartley and Dallam counties to a Canadian company.

In the deal, SAA Properties would find water rights near the city's other wells and offer them in exchange for the Hartley and Dallam water rights.

The undeveloped fields in the two counties encompass about 113,000 acres. They were purchased by the city in the 1950s, but are considered inferior because of their remote location from Amarillo.

"I just see the opportunity to do some trading and every-one end up in a better situation," SAA owner Salem Abraham said.

Abraham said the Hartley and Dallam county water rights would be more valuable to those near the water rights than it would be to Amarillo.

Studies show it would cost the city \$116.2 million to build a water pipeline from the city to Hartley and Dallam counties. The water pumped from the sites would last approximately 47 years.

## Fed

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economy, which grew at an annual rate of 2.4 percent in the third quarter, the weakest pace in four years. The slowdown is helping to keep inflation under control, but some economists question whether things are slowing too quickly.

Consumer prices rose at an annual rate of 3.5 percent in the first 11 months of the year, compared with a 2.7 percent increase for all of 1999. The pickup comes from surging energy prices, which most economists believe will

ease in coming months.

Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan, telegraphing a major shift in Fed thinking in a speech two weeks ago, said he believed the economy had slowed "appreciably" and signaled that he stood ready to cut interest rates should the economy show signs of slipping into a recession.

Against this backdrop, many private economists believe the Fed's chief policy setting group, the Federal Open Market Committee, will change the wording of its policy statement as

a precursor to outright rate cuts starting possibly as soon as January. The last time the Fed cut rates was in 1998 in response to the global economic slowdown triggered by Asia's financial crisis.

The committee, composed of Fed board members and regional bank presidents, was meeting privately Tuesday to discuss interest rate policy. An afternoon announcement was expected.

Analysts predicted the Fed will change its current stance that is tilted toward higher

interest rates because inflation poses the greatest risk to the economy.

Some analysts believe policymakers will shift to a neutral position, which would assume the risks of inflation are no greater than the risks of the economy's stalling. Others thought the Fed could move to a stance weighted toward the threat of a recession.

Either shift, economists said, puts the Fed in a position to lower the federal funds rate if the economy shows serious signs of weakness. The funds rate, the interest banks charge each other, now stands at a nine-year high of 6.5 percent.

The prime rate, the benchmark for millions of loans, is also at a nine-year high of 9.5 percent. The Fed has opted to keep the funds rate unchanged at its last four meetings.

## GED

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them. "We have a truly unique program here in Hereford," Artho said. "We have the school district, the county, Texas Workforce Commission and Region XVI working to make our program work. It's one of the best in the region, along with Amarillo and Borger. Our learning facility and lab is far better than Amarillo's."

Hereford Independent School District provides the teachers and has helped set up the computer lab; the county allows the GED participants to use the basement of the Deaf Smith County Library; Region XVI provides funding and approval and TWC directs students to the program to help them get a job.

"We couldn't graduate as many as we do without all the help we get," Artho said.

GED students aren't limited to dry textbooks, they also have access to modern technology and computers. They work at their own pace and are ready to go into col-

lege or further training program, Artho said.

Students range in age from 17 to 72, and have many reasons for not completing their high school education. They all come knowing they need their GED and prepared to work to get it.

"Some may think this is the easy way out of high school, but it's not," Artho said. "These people are having to cram 12 years of learning into just a few months. It's not always easy."

There are about 135-140 students enrolled in the program, with many only needing to complete a few tests to be eligible to graduate, Artho said.

GED classes meet 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday and 6-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday. All classes meet in the library basement.

"It doesn't matter why the students decide to come back and get their GED," Artho said. "I'm just glad we have the facilities and the manpower to make it possible."

## City

### From Page A1

control their children. Because our parents will not be responsible, we will have to pay the county." The cost of operating the juvenile program is shared by the county, Hereford Independent School district and the city;

• Accepted the annual city audit, which was conducted by McGinty & Associates, a Hereford certified public accounting firm. According to the audit, the city revenue was \$47,544 under budget in the General Fund and \$79,146 in the Water & Sewer. The city's cash reserves, both restricted and unrestricted, are \$1,103,682; and

• Heard a report from the Hereford Economic Development Corp. HEDC executive director Don Cumpton said he has been very active over the past three weeks in contacts with prospects. He said he feels good about that two dairies, for which the agency has approved financial incentive packages, will move to the county.

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