

Hereford BRAND

99th Year, Vol. Number 11, Deaf Smith County, Texas

WEDNESDAY, December 8, 1999

12 Pages, 50 Cents

HUSTLIN' HEREFORD
HOME OF
CRAIG YENZER

'99 Herd revives memories



Mauri
Montgomery

Hello, Hereford.

I played football with a guy who I've always regarded as the "King of Superstition."

I never believed in all the Abracadabra, but old memories washed over me Monday as I listened to Hereford football parents elaborate about similar, if not more extreme, fixations held by this year's sterling edition of the Hustlin' Herd.

I've since found out that the king didn't really hold a candle to some members of the 1999 Hereford Whitefaces.

And, lest I tempt the good fortune that has smiled so often on Hereford thus far — knock on wood — I'll save our future state champion's peculiar habits for another column.

Franklin Higgins, the field general for the 1973 Hereford Whitefaces, did just about everything imaginable to ward off any evil spirits lying in wait before our ball games.

I don't know if he is still superstitious, but his ears are probably beginning to burn about now.

Our ridicule of his weekly rituals was ceaseless, but his attention to game-day routine and ceremonial obsession was never de-toured. His demons were as real as Aladdin's genie.

He felt the weight of the entire world (even those unseen forces from another dimension) upon his broad shoulders. There was no greater sacrifice performed for our team, he would remind us, as he waged his solitary war against fate and bad luck.

Actually, Higgins wasn't the only Whiteface who wasn't leaving anything to chance. If memory serves, I believe our big defensive tackle, David Crume, was helping in his own way by wearing the same set of game socks every week. He was a tenacious football player, but I often wondered if his fermenting socks gave him an advantage in personal wars fought at the line of scrimmage.

Unlike either of those two, I was usually preoccupied with more important matters — trying to get a date for the after-game dance.

But Crume wasn't as obsessed as Higgins was.

We didn't encourage Higgins, but most of us, at various times, became unwitting accomplices to his neurosis.

His locker was a shrine to our cheerleaders' artistic talents. Every little glittered locker decoration from every game was given its proper station within the confines of his milkshake brown school locker (Hereford High still has the same interior decorator).

Higgins' obsession co-existed with the rest of the world in quiet harmony until one dreaded Friday afternoon, when in horror he discovered a missing green felt four-leaf clover locker icon.

His frantic search in the wee hours of the school day was hilarious for those of us who were non-believers. Each time we changed class periods, Higgins rushed to his locker to search its contents again — all to no avail.

When by day's end, Higgins search for the clover was still fruitless, we too became alarmed because this normally rational athlete was unraveling at the seams. We all agreed we should join the search before our quarterback had a nervous breakdown.

We helped him re-trace his every step at school that day: the parking lots, the pep-rally gym,

Please see MEMORIES, Page A2

Board approves contract

■ Hospital district agrees to let Austin firm assume management of HRMC

By Donald M. Cooper

Hereford Brand Managing Editor

A few i's remain to be dotted and a few t's remain to be crossed, but the Deaf Smith County Hospital District voted unanimously Monday night to turn over the day-to-day operations of Hereford Regional Medical Center to an Austin-based hospital management company.

The directors approved a two-year contract, which contained some revisions recommended by board attorney Alan T. Rhodes of the Amarillo law firm Underwood, Wilson, Berry, Stein & Johnson, following a 45-

minute executive session in which Rhodes reviewed the contract with TORCH Management Services Inc., a subsidiary of the Texas Organization of Rural and Community Hospitals.

When the directors took up the management contract, board president Dean Crofford asked if the matter should be taken up in executive session. Rhodes said it was the board's decision, but he advised staying in open session because the matter is of such importance to the community.

However, Director Mark Collier was adamant about the matter being discussed behind closed doors.

When the board went back into open session, the directors voted to approve the contract with TMSI. The board also directed the Crofford and board secretary Karen Solomon to

complete negotiations with TMSI to iron a few minor points. When the negotiations are completed, Crofford and Solomon were authorized to sign the contract.

Rhodes said later he anticipates the contract will be signed within one or two days.

Larry D. Krupala, TMSI president/chief executive office, said he anticipates the contract will go into effect Jan. 1, 2000, although he doesn't expect to have a permanent hospital administrator in place until sometime during January. J.O. Lewis, who has been serving as HRMC administrator since shortly after the resignation of John Studrud in late spring, will continue to oversee operations of the hospital until a permanent administrator is selected.

"We will not get into another interim, interim situation," Krupala

said.

TMSI will not only have to find a permanent administrator for the hospital, the management company also will be bringing in a new chief financial officer to succeed Rodney Bailey, who resigned last month to accept a position in College Station. James Taylor, a former CFO at Northwest Texas Healthcare System, is serving as interim finance director.

Rhodes said his review of the contract focused on four points: cost, exit strategy, risk management and TMSI's responsibility.

He said the revised contract had satisfied the goals of both the board and TMSI.

Under the terms of the agreement, the hospital district will pay a

Please see CONTRACT, Page A11

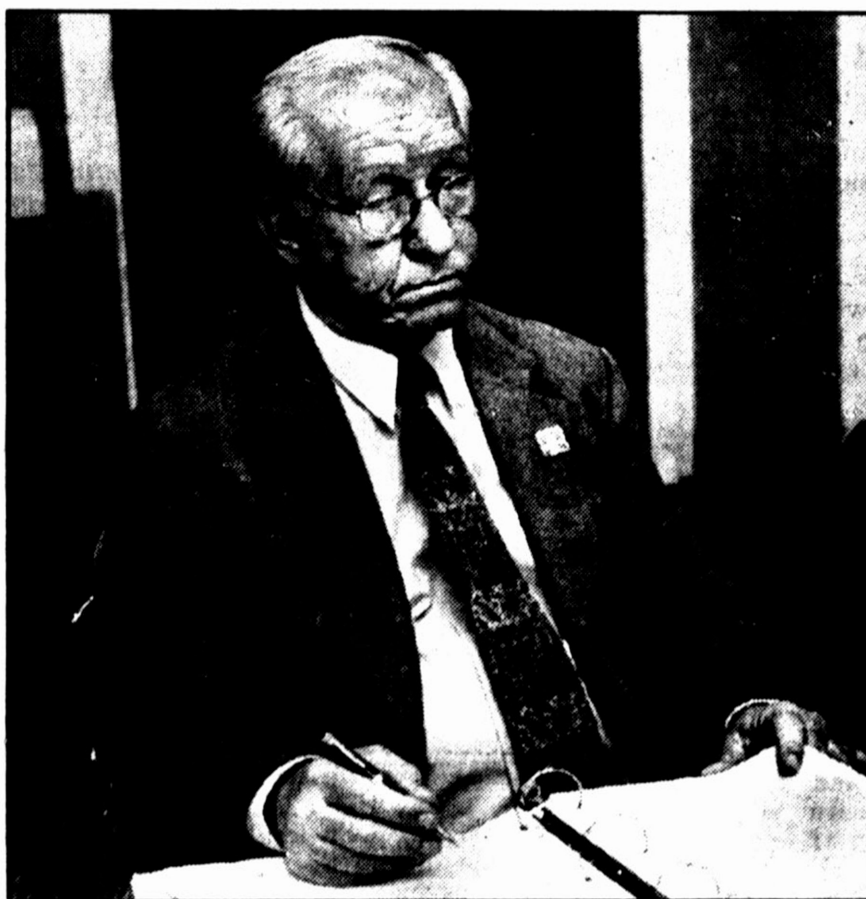
Computer problems continued

Problems associated with a computer system conversion continue to plague Hereford Regional Medical Center as the October financial reports for the Hereford Health Clinic were not available Tuesday night for the Deaf Smith County Hospital District directors.

The hospital's computer system was replaced in August and there were problems in transferring data from the old system into the new. As a result, finance office personnel have had to make numerous line for line conversions, all of which have delayed compilation of the monthly reports.

However, interim finance director James Taylor said the billing for Medicare/Medicaid is current for the hospital and its clinics, and the problems are being corrected.

Please see HRMC, Page A11



BRAND/Don Cooper

Larry D. Krupala, president/chief executive officer of TMSI, is expected to sign a formal agreement with the Deaf Smith County Hospital District that will give his company the responsibility for the management of Hereford Regional Medical Center.

What will TMSI do?

What will an Austin-based hospital management company do when it takes over the day-to-day operations of Hereford Regional Medical Center?

The Deaf Smith County Hospital District board on Tuesday approved a two-year management contract with TMSI (Torch Management Services Inc.), a subsidiary of the Texas Organization of Rural and Community Hospitals (TORCH).

TMSI president/chief executive officer Larry D. Krupala has said the company will emphasize three major elements:

- Leadership and management expertise;
- Commitment to improvement of finances; and
- Communication.

TMSI also can be expected to provide the hospital district with access to management expertise in all areas of hospital operations, Krupala has said.

The company also will work with the local board to boost financial strength and productivity by improving systems and services, and by entering into strategic alliances.

The company will stress improved communication among the board, physicians and employees in an effort to redefine the hospital's vision. This will involve clarification of the board's role, addressing the shortage of some medical professionals, development of a plan for the changing demographics in population, developing a consistent strategy for capital expenditures, working to improve the community's perception of the hospital, and developing a health care network that will link HRMC through an integrated delivery system.

TMSI also agrees the hospital district board will

Please see TMSI, Page A11

'Net surfers can follow Herd game

'Net surfers will be able to keep tabs on the KPAN Radio broadcast of the Hereford-Texas City state championship game, thanks to an arrangement with WT Services.

The Internet service provider will have streaming audio that will give access to the radio broadcast of the game, which begins at 7 p.m. Saturday.

Computer-users who access the World Wide Web and log on to the WT Services home page (www.wtrt.net) will see the "Herd" icon. Click on the icon and the audio will begin.

Tickets on sale

Tickets for the Class 4A Division I state championship game at Texas Stadium in Irving are on sale at Troy's Sweet Shop, 1003 E. Park Ave.

Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for students. Admission at the game

is \$10.

The tickets include a tripleheader of the following games: Midland Lee vs. A l d i n e Eisenhower, Class 5A Division I championship; South Grand Prairie vs. Garland, Class 5A Division II semifinals; and Hereford vs. Texas City, 7 p.m. Tickets for the tripleheader are good for only one admittance.

Bus tickets available

Whiteface fans who want to leave

the driving to someone else can reserve seats on a chartered bus that will make the trip to Irving for the Class 4A state championship football game.

The Hereford Whitefaces will meet Texas City at 7 p.m. Saturday at Texas Stadium for the state crown.

The Whiteface Booster Club is chartering a bus to take fans to the game. The bus will leave at 9 a.m. Saturday from the north side of Whiteface Stadium.

There will be a break for lunch in Wichita Falls and the bus will return to Hereford after the football game.

The cost is \$50 per person and

does not include the meal. The maximum seating is 46 and the booster club needs to sell 38 seats.

Deadline is 9 a.m. Thursday.

For reservations, call the Deaf Smith County Chamber of Commerce at 364-3333.

Pep rally set

A pep rally for the Hereford Whitefaces will begin — barring unforeseen weather conditions — at 7 p.m. Thursday at Whiteface Stadium.

The rally will send the Herd off to the Class 4A state championship game at Texas Stadium in Irving.

Spirit groups also will be selling Whiteface banners and noise-makers at the rally.

Fans are encouraged to dress warmly and bring their pocketbooks.

Please see GAME, Page A11

Priority given to young, elderly

Determining needs to be addressed is a difficult assignment for the committee of anonymous volunteers who administer the Christmas Stocking Fund, but the committee gives a priority to the needs of the young and the elderly.

One case that cries out for attention in the 1999 campaign is that of a 16-year-old girl who is confined to a wheelchair. She lives in a home with her mother and two brothers. Because this girl requires constant care, her mother isn't able to hold down an outside job. The girl receives a small check from Social Security each month that the family counts on to get by.

This girl's mother is asking for help with expensive personal care items that her daughter needs daily.

The anonymous committee of volunteers administering CSF give the needs of the young and the elderly a high priority in their decisions on assistance. With the caring and sharing help of the local community, CSF will address as many needs as possible during the 1999 campaign.

CSF extends assistance in numerous forms including food, utilities, medical and pharmacy bills, and clothing. All assistance, with the exception of food, is via vouchers payable to the merchants, util-

ities, or medical facilities cooperating with CSF. Food assistance is in the form of staple goods that are boxed and delivered.

This year's primary assistance delivery date is Dec. 22.

Donations to CSF may be made in-person at the Hereford Brand, 313 N. Lee, or mailed to CSF in care of The Brand, P.O. Box 673, Hereford 79045. Those contributors who wish to remain anonymous should so designate their gifts.

The Brand, official collection point for CSF, periodically publishes a listing of contributors and keeps a running tally of the sum collected by CSF.

1999 Christmas Stocking Fund



Albright says Israel, Syria make progress

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel and Syria have made good progress toward resuming peace talks suspended in 1996, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said today after holding separate talks with the leaders of both countries.

Albright said she sensed that Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and Syrian President Hafez Assad had a "desire to seize the moment," but would not elaborate.

In a joint news conference with Barak, Albright also welcomed Assad's decision not to demand new construction permits for Jewish settlements during talks with the Palestinians.

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HEREFORD BRAND

Local roundup

Special school board meeting

Hereford Independent School district board of trustees have called a special meeting for 6 p.m. Thursday in the board room of the administrative building, 601 N. 25 Mile Avenue. The meeting is for Level II school board training and will then adjourn.

TBSWCD tree sale

Tierra Blanca Soil and Water Conservation District continues to offer wind break seedlings for sale, now through mid March. More than 30 varieties are being offered, but some are in limited quantities. TBSWCD staff encourage early orders to guarantee first choice selection. To place an order call the office at 364-6995, ext. 3.

Junior High Open House

An informal open house offering parents the opportunity to meet with teachers and tour the new classroom wing has been scheduled for 7-9 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 14, at Hereford Junior High. Principal Lynn Luther said the main purpose of the open house is to give the public a chance to look at the new classroom wing. Refreshments will be served in the cafeteria throughout the open house event. The junior high choir will also perform several musical numbers during the event.

Booster club urges signs of support

The Whiteface Booster Club is encouraging Hereford businesses to decorate as a sign of support for the football team, which will meet Texas City in Saturday's Class 4A state championship game. The business demonstrating the most spirit will receive a prize of \$100 in Hereford Bucks. Judging will begin at 4 p.m. Thursday.

Juvenile Board meeting scheduled

The Deaf Smith County Juvenile Board will meet 10:30 a.m. Thursday in the County Courthouse. Agenda items include the minutes from the previous meeting; office reports; approval of IV-E Contract for FY 2000; discussion and response to the TJPC Review of the IV-E Program.

West Central D.A.R.E. graduation

Sixth grade students at West Central Intermediate School will participate in the D.A.R.E. graduation Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. in the school gymnasium. Parents and community members are invited to attend.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News digest

A&M students honor victims

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — Many stood for an hour or longer in the brisk night air, hands shoved deep into coat pockets, clasping the hands of loved ones, eyes distant as they strained to pierce the darkness. By 10:15 p.m. Tuesday more than a thousand people had gathered along the edges of the rectangular plaza in the heart of the Texas A&M campus, but none spoke. Only the sound of distant traffic, an occasional cough or beep of a digital watch broke the silence.

Then hymns pealed from nearby Albritton tower, signaling the start of Silver Taps, a century-old Aggie tradition held each month when a student has died. Tuesday's ceremony was a solemn final tribute to 11 students killed in the school's worst on-campus disaster — the Nov. 18 collapse of the annual bonfire stack.

At last came the slow rhythm of marching boots and the gleam of white dress uniforms moving through the sea of shadowy figures. The leader of the Ross Volunteer Firing Squad gave his orders softly, and the cadets' maneuvers were punctuated by the thud of rifle butts against pavement.

Gunfire shattered the stillness as the squad delivered its 21-gun salute, startling birds from the trees and making the crowd flinch after each of three volleys.

Collector auctions oddities

FREDERICKSBURG, Texas (AP) — A 19th century vampire killing kit, a meteorite found in Arizona and a pirate's flag are among \$10 million in unusual items a Hill Country artist is offering at auction.

Charles Trois, a painter and musician, is selling a number of his possessions in person and online Friday through Sunday to raise money for an art museum he intends to build on his 57-acre estate north of Fredericksburg near Enchanted Rock.

Trois was a recording artist in the 1960s and involved with some hits, including "Expressway to Your Heart" recorded by the Soul Survivors. He gave up music in the 1970s and began pursuing the fine arts.

His collecting has never stopped. "I've been horse trading all my life," he told the Kerrville Daily Times, standing in a 5,000-square-foot storeroom he helped build. Trois also built his home on Hill Country property.

Elsewhere:

PAKISTAN SLAYINGS: Union Texas Petroleum tossed four Texas accountants into the midst of seething anti-American sentiment when they were shot to death in Pakistan two years ago. That's what lawyers for the families of the men, who are suing the oil company, told a jury at Houston. ... ENDANGERED SPECIES: Landowners who help protect endangered species could get financial and technical assistance from a private group that pushes for economical solutions to environmental problems. That's according to officials from the Environmental Defense Fund, who have announced two initiatives in Texas. ... BORDER RESEARCH: The University of Texas at Brownsville-Texas Southmost University will officially open its first research institute today. It will combine the efforts of institutions on both sides of the Texas-Mexico border.

HerefordBrand

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Managing Editor: Donald M. Cooper
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Oh! It's snowing time, again



Christmas of white -- Last weekend definitely looked a lot like Christmas when eight inches of snow piled up on trees and rooftops. Just as residents are beginning to see it melt off, weathermen are warning of another arctic cold front descending on the area. The front is expected to bring more snow, high winds and cold temperatures. Residents can expect the first chilling blasts sometime this evening.

Programs help find homes, jobs

Homeless seek jobs, permanent dwellings

WASHINGTON (AP) — Most homeless people have suffered severe hardships such as abuse, disability or disease, but are able to escape homelessness when they get help, according to a government report.

The report released today by Andrew Cuomo, secretary of housing and urban development, found that the top priority of homeless people surveyed was to get a job and that 44 percent of them had worked at least part time during the previous month.

HEREFORD BRAND
Emergency services

Activities reported by emergency services personnel for Dec. 7, 1999, include the following:

POLICE DEPARTMENT Arrests

- A woman was arrested for an outstanding Deaf Smith County felony warrants in the 200 block of East third.

- A 27-year-old man and a 43-year-old man were arrested in the 1100 block of West Park and charged with possession or delivery of a controlled substance under two ounces. One was also charged with outstanding Department of public Safety warrants.

Incidents

- A Runaway was reported in the 900 block of Irving.

- Forgery was reported in the 600 block of McKinley.

- A class C assault was reported in the 1000 block of Plains.

- Some movies were reported stolen in the 700 block of Irving. The movies are valued at more than \$50 and less than \$500.

- A criminal trespass and an assault were reported in the 200 block of Avenue H. A woman suspect was named.

- A female juvenile was reported as a runaway in the 400 block of Avenue G.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

- 12:37 p.m. Firefighters responded to an accident at the ADM construction site, 6 miles west on Highway 60. One man was taken to the hospital. His condition was not known.

"Homeless people are locked out of America's prosperity, but we have the key that can let them in," Cuomo said in a statement accompanying the report. "Assistance programs can replace the nightmare of homelessness with the American dream of a better future."

The study, financed by 12 federal agencies, was described by Cuomo as the most comprehensive study ever of homelessness in America. It was based on interviews completed in 1996 with 4,207 people, most of them homeless. The others were clients of assistance programs such as soup kitchens.

The data, which also included information from representatives of 11,909 programs that serve the homeless, were collected by the Census Bureau and the report was prepared by the Urban Institute. It found that 60 percent of the homeless living alone and 76 percent of those living in families were able to leave shelters for permanent housing when they received needed services, including housing subsidies, health care, substance-

abuse treatment, education and job training.

The study concludes that two-thirds of the homeless suffered from chronic or infectious diseases, not counting AIDS, 55 percent lacked health insurance and 39 percent had signs of mental illness.

Cuomo, interviewed today on CBS' "The Early Show" after spending the night in a Washington homeless shelter, criticized New York City's policy of jailing some homeless people who refuse to leave the streets.

"If they have a mental health problem, arresting that person and putting them in jail is going to accomplish nothing," Cuomo said. "It's also more expensive, believe it or not, to put a person in a jail cell than it is to put a person in a mental health bed — almost three times as expensive."

Among other findings:

-25 percent reported childhood physical or sexual abuse, 33 percent reported running away from home and 27 percent reported a childhood history of foster care or institutional placement.

Earache vulnerability seems an inherited trait

Research suggests heredity accounts for 73 percent of susceptibility

CHICAGO (AP) — Babies' vulnerability to ear infections appears largely inherited, according to a study released today that suggests doctors might want to closely watch siblings of children prone to such ailments.

Researchers tracked 168 sets of newborn twins and seven sets of newborn triplets for two years. They compared episodes of middle ear disease in identical siblings with those in siblings who were not identical — that is, those who shared some but not all the same genes.

Identical siblings were found to suffer far more similar rates of recurrent middle ear effusion — a buildup of fluid that can impede hearing and speech development — than were nonidentical siblings.

The researchers calculated

that heredity accounts for 73 percent of susceptibility to middle ear effusion in children under 2.

The study, led by Dr. Margartha Casselbrant of the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, was published in today's Journal of the American Medical Association.

Middle ear infections are the most common illness in children next to the common cold. Previous research has shown that environmental factors can increase a child's vulnerability, including cigarette smoke and bottle feeding rather than breast-feeding.

An editorial by experts not involved in the study said the findings indicate that siblings of children prone to ear infections should be monitored more closely. That could include more frequent hearing tests and perhaps more aggressive treatment to head off problems with hearing and development of speech and thinking ability, wrote Garth D. Ehrlich and Dr. J. Christopher Post of Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh.

-40 percent went without food one or more days in the previous month because they couldn't afford food; single homeless people reported a mean income of \$348 a month, families a mean income of \$475 a month.

-38 percent had less than a high school diploma.

-33 percent of homeless men were military veterans.

-27 percent said they had been physically assaulted after becoming homeless.

Memories

From Page A1

the halls, his Chevy Impala. We flipped through every page of every textbook, every page of every love note, and we came up empty-handed. Except for the love notes, of course.

But no good-luck charm. At 5 p.m., one short hour before we were to begin preparing for that night's war, a miracle happened. The thread's of fate had been cut.

News swept through the halls, across the school grounds that Higgins had found his clover leaf — our team was saved from certain oblivion when this icon of good fortune had been raised from the depths of a pocket on his maroon Hereford Whiteface game blazer.

Even though he was mystified by having missed the clover's presence on his previous 15 searches, Higgins was elated. Calm had been restored to the tea leaves. The vortex of his obsession, clung to so desperately all season long, was righted in its proper order and balance in his locker.

And thanks to David Crume's game socks, and the ingenuity of a team who knew how to skirt real or imagined demons — a fortuitous find of green felt and a pair of scissors — Franklin Higgins had all the luck he needed that night.

And then some. E-mail Mauri Montgomery at ahbnews@hotmail.com

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Texas lottery

Cash Five
The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery:
5-16-24-27-39

Pick 3
The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery, in order:
3-0-4

Texas Press Association member

LIFESTYLES

HEREFORD BRAND • Wednesday, December 8, 1999 • A3

Creators Syndicate

Ann Landers



Ann Landers

Dear Ann Landers: Your advice to "A Split Opinion in the Midwest" left a lot to be desired. The woman who wrote wanted to keep her maiden name after marriage. Her husband, however, insisted that she take HIS name. You suggested she compromise by using her maiden name professionally, and her husband's name socially.

I compromised by hyphenating our names when we married. It's made my husband happy, but I feel a tinge of resentment every time I sign my name. Of course, it is too late to change back to my maiden name, because people will assume we are getting a divorce, so I am stuck with my hyphenated name.

There are few things in life as personal as one's name. "Split's" fiancé should not ask her to do something he would not be willing to do himself. After all, SHE is the one who has to live with her choice, not him. A fiancé should make only those decisions regarding HIS name, and give his future wife the same privilege. — Mrs. Been There-Don't That

Dear Mrs. BT-DT: You are not the only one who thought my "compromise" was less than ideal. Here are some additional letters on the subject:

From West Hartford, Conn.: Your "compromise" was a cop-out, Ann. Maintaining two names will not last, and "Split's" name will be the one that falls by the wayside. I not only kept my own name, but with my husband's encouragement, our two daughters also have my last name. I admit it can be confusing on occasion, but in 16 years, I have never regretted my decision.

Kansas City, Kan.: I changed my name because I believed it was silly to hold out when my fiancé and I loved each other so much. Ten years and one divorce later, I see it differently. His insistence on my name change was the first in a long list of things he did

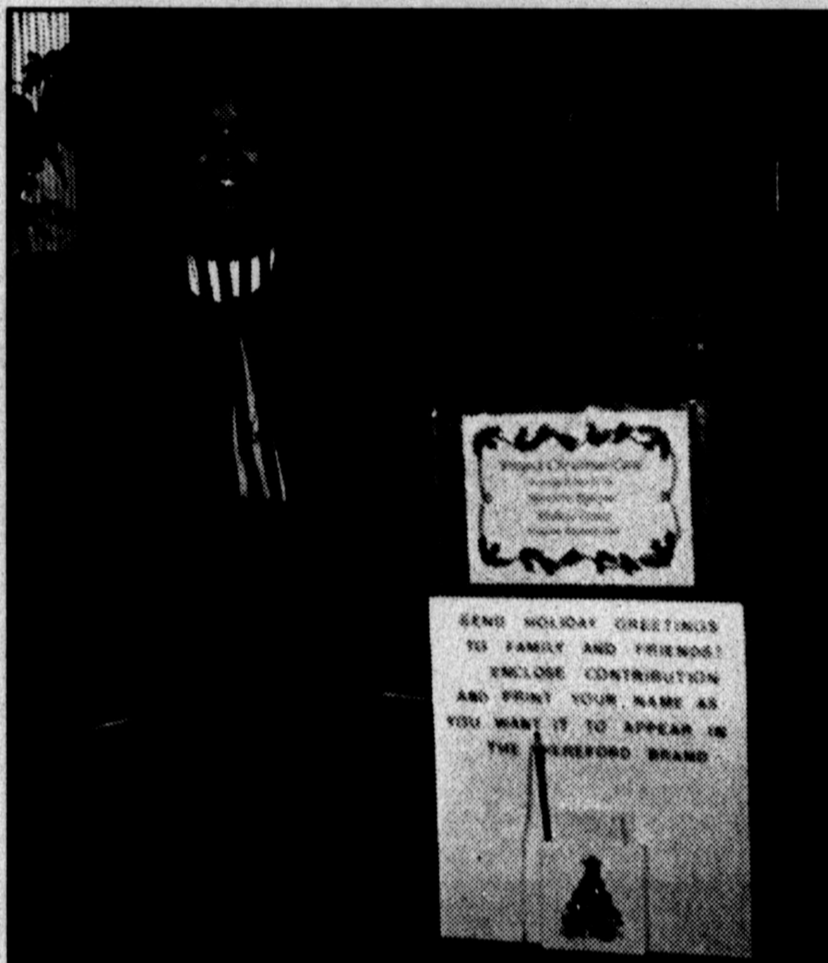
to control me. He told me how to wear my hair, what clothes to buy, what couples to spend time with, where to take our vacations, what time I was to wake up on the weekends, and how long I could talk on the phone to family members and friends. If her fiancé threatens not to marry her if she doesn't change her name, she should run as fast as she can in the opposite direction. The man is a control freak.

San Diego: In 1964, I was madly in love. When I told my fiancé I wanted to keep my maiden name, he said, with tears in his eyes, "You don't love me." His mother said, "What if you have children? People will think they are illegitimate." Hyphenating Di Napoli-Poffenberger was ludicrous, so I caved in. I cannot describe the feelings I had about disappearing as an individual. I did not receive class-reunion invitations, and my friends could not find my name in the phone book. Twenty-five years later, I told my husband I was going back to my maiden name and that he should know I loved him by now. It was a pain in the neck to change everything, and some of our friends asked if we were splitting up, but it was worth the hassle. Please tell that bride who wrote to stick to her guns.

Buffalo, N.Y.: I just read this in the Buffalo News. I hope you will print it.

When a 29-year-old man took his wife's last name, he was accused of trying to ingratiate himself to his new father-in-law, a powerful attorney. The man said, "My maiden name was a big hassle. I had to get a court order, and my credit-card companies still don't believe me." Surprisingly, the easiest thing to change was his Social Security card. After all, to the government, he's only a number.

Gem of the Day for all those who wrote (Credit William Shakespeare): "What's in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet." This is now Ann talking. If Shakespeare were around today, I would say, "Get with the program, Bill. Times have changed."



Contributions to Project Christmas Card can be made at canisters like this one at Hereford State Bank, shown by Vonnie Elliott. Canisters have been placed at numerous locations in Hereford by L'Allegra Study Club, who sponsors the project each year. Residents are asked to contribute the amount they would normally spend sending individual Christmas cards and their greeting to the entire community will be published in the Christmas Eve edition of the Hereford Brand. Proceeds from the project will benefit Hereford Regional Medical Center.

Teddy bear sales benefit healthcare foundation

Employees in the business office of Hereford Regional Medical Center are choosing to make a difference in our community by hosting a teddy bear sale to benefit the Deaf Smith Healthcare Foundation.

Teddy bears make a special Christmas, birthday or anytime gift for a child or an adult. Teddy bears will be on sale in the front lobby of Hereford Regional Medical Center from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. this Friday and again on Dec. 17.

"It seems that teddy bears appeal to everyone and since the business office employees liked teddy bears themselves, they decided they would be a good item to offer for sale," Sylvia Khuri, executive director of the Deaf Smith Healthcare Foundation said.

A large assortment of teddy bears will be available during the sale, not just those that are appropriate for Christmas, according to Khuri.

All proceeds from the sale will benefit the Deaf Smith Healthcare Foundation, a non-profit corporation which maintains an endowment fund for Hereford Regional Medical

Center and health care in general.

The goal of the Deaf Smith Healthcare Foundation is to ensure financial security and to improve, enhance and strengthen health care services in the area.

"Anyone can make a difference, show their gratitude to the community for their success, offer a lasting tribute to a departed loved one, present a unique gift to honor a special newborn, or support excellence in our community's health care by purchasing a teddy bear or by making a contribution to the foundation," Khuri said.

All gifts and memorials to the Deaf Smith Healthcare Foundation are tax deductible.

CASKETS AND MONUMENTS

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Plus:
Check out our NEW Christmas Stationary

LITHOGRAPHICS

At the Center

Senior Citizens

MENUS

THURSDAY-Stuffed bell peppers, macaroni and cheese, buttered broccoli, vegetables, tossed green salad, peach cobbler, or beef brisket, cauliflower, peaches.

FRIDAY-Salmon patties with dill sauce, hashed brown potatoes, buttered yellow and zucchini squash, coleslaw, lemon cheese cake; or smothered chicken, D'zerta gelatin, D'zerta cheese cake.

MONDAY-Chicken breast, sweet sour sauce, rice pilaf, Oriental vegetables, pound cake with pineapple topping; or Polish sausage.

TUESDAY-Baked ham with raisin sauce, mashed sweet potatoes, buttered green beans, raspberry gelatin with applesauce, chocolate meringue pie; or hamburger steak with gravy, D'zerta salad.

WEDNESDAY-Swiss steak, corn O'Brien, fried okra, garden salad, mixed fruit cobbler; or chicken and noodles, fruit cup.

ACTIVITIES

THURSDAY-Quilting 9 a.m.-

3 p.m., exercise class 10-10:45 a.m., oil painting 9-11 a.m., DSHHS BP/BS 9 a.m.-noon, Thrift Store open 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
FRIDAY-Quilting 9 a.m.-3 p.m., line dance 10-11 a.m., HSCA Board meeting 9 a.m., Thrift Store open 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
SATURDAY-Holiday dinner 6 p.m.

MONDAY-Pool classes, quilting 9 a.m.-3 p.m., line dance 10-11 a.m., doll class 1-4 p.m., Retired School Employees 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Nutrition Council 1 p.m.

TUESDAY-Pool classes, quilting 9 a.m.-3 p.m., exercise class 10-10:45 a.m., Beltone 10 a.m.-noon, Golden K Kiwanis noon, NARFE 1 p.m.

WEDNESDAY-Pool classes, quilting 9 a.m.-3 p.m., ceramics noon-4 p.m., Thrift Store 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

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AMBUCS, represented by president Pat Michael, left, contributed to the Christmas Stocking Fund recently. Accepting on behalf of CSF was Hereford Brand Lifestyles Editor Becky Thom. The Brand is the official collection point for donations to the holiday charity.

Happy 6th Birthday Edward!

Love,
Jesse, Melissa, Jessica,
Jesse Dylan Moya

Festive recipes for Christmas gift giving

If your Christmas shopping list includes the names of friends, neighbors, co-workers, party hosts and hostesses, teachers and coaches - and whose doesn't - here's a great gift idea.

Simply fill glass jars with a pretty layered "arrangement" of ingredients for a pan of delicious, chewy bars. Add a colorful cloth and ribbon, a card with the simple instructions for baking the bars, and perhaps a Christmas ornament, and you're set.

Best of all, you can buy all of the ingredients you'll need during your regular grocery shopping trip. Then make any number of jars assembly line-fashion. No additional wrapping is necessary - so in one evening, you may have all your Christmas preparations for your friends completed.

If you like, prepare the jars up to a month before Christmas. (Make some extras for those times when you need a gift at the last minute.) The ingredients will stay fresh tightly sealed in these decorative jars.

Wendy Hagerman, research and development specialist for Pioneer Flour Mills, says that you can customize these "bars in a jar" to your own liking.

"Simply alternate layers of biscuit and baking mix with darker colored ingredients such as brown sugar and chocolate chips," she said. "Just be sure to include 2 cups of biscuit and baking mix (divided, for the prettiest effect), 1 cup of brown sugar (divided), and 1 cup of oats, nuts, candy, chocolate chips, or whatever, in each quart jar."

The recipient of this tasty gift adds butter, an egg, and the flavoring. Friends and acquaintances with little spare time for scratch baking will really appreciate the homemade goodness of these super-chewy bars.

Once you've tasted how delicious these bars are, you'll want to share them with everyone. Instead of having a cookie exchange in your neighborhood this year, you may want to get together to make "bars in a jar." Be sure to have some already baked bars to sample and provide additional inspiration for your friends as they create their own gift jars.

White Christmas Bars in a Jar

1/2 cup white chocolate or vanilla milk chips
1/2 cup sliced almonds, toasted* and cooled completely
1/2 cup packed light brown sugar**

1 cup buttermilk biscuit and baking mix
1/2 cup packed dark brown sugar**

1 cup buttermilk biscuit and baking mix

In 1-quart wide-mouth glass jar, gently layer and pack ingredients in the order listed, beginning with white chocolate chips. If there is any space left after adding the last ingredient, add more white chocolate chips or almonds to fill the jar. Place lid on top. Cut an 8-inch circle of fabric to cover lid. Place fabric over lid; secure in place with ribbon or raffia. Decorate as desired.

*To toast almonds, place in a microwave-safe dish and microwave on High for 4 to 5 minutes, stirring every minute.

**After measuring the brown sugar, crumble it between your fingers for uniform texture. Be sure to pack the brown sugar firmly in the jar to prevent the baking mix from sifting down through it.

Make a gift card to attach as follows:

To make White Christmas Bars: Empty contents of jar into medium bowl. Stir in 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter or margarine, melted; 1 large egg; and 1 teaspoon almond extract. Press into an 8x8x2-inch baking pan coated with cooking spray. Bake at 350 degrees for 18 to 22 minutes or until bars are light golden brown and center is almost set. Makes 16 bars.

M&M Oatmeal Bars in a Jar

1/2 cup old-fashioned oats
1/2 cup mini M&M's candies
1/2 cup packed light brown



Bars in a Jar make ideal gifts for those on your Christmas list.

sugar*
1 cup buttermilk biscuit and baking mix
1/2 cup packed dark brown sugar

1 cup buttermilk biscuit and baking mix

In 1-quart wide-mouth glass jar, gently layer and pack ingredients in the order listed, beginning with oats. If there is any space left after adding the last ingredient, add more candies to fill the jar. Place lid on top. Cut an 8-inch circle of fabric to cover lid. Place fabric over lid; secure in place with ribbon or raffia. Decorate as desired.

*After measuring the brown sugar, crumble it between your fingers for uniform texture. Be sure to pack the brown sugar firmly in the jar to prevent the baking mix from sifting down through it.

Make a gift card to attach as follows:

To make M&M Oatmeal Bars: Empty contents of jar into medium bowl. Stir in 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter or margarine, melted; 1 large egg; and 1 teaspoon vanilla. Press into an 8x8x2-inch baking pan coated with cooking spray. Bake at 350 degrees for 18 to 22 minutes or until bars are light golden brown and center is almost set. Makes 16 bars.

Chewy Chocolate Chip Bars in a Jar

1/4 cup milk chocolate chips
1/4 cup white chocolate or vanilla milk chips
1/4 cup semisweet chocolate chips

1/2 cup chopped walnuts, toasted* and completely cooled
1/2 cup packed dark brown sugar**

1 cup buttermilk biscuit and baking mix
1/2 cup packed light brown sugar**

1 cup buttermilk biscuit and baking mix

In 1-quart wide-mouth glass

jar, gently layer and pack ingredients in the order listed, beginning with the milk chocolate chips. If there is any space left after adding the last ingredient, add more semisweet chocolate chips to fill the jar. Place lid on top. Cut an 8-inch circle of fabric to cover lid. Place fabric over lid;

secure in place with ribbon or raffia. Decorate as desired.

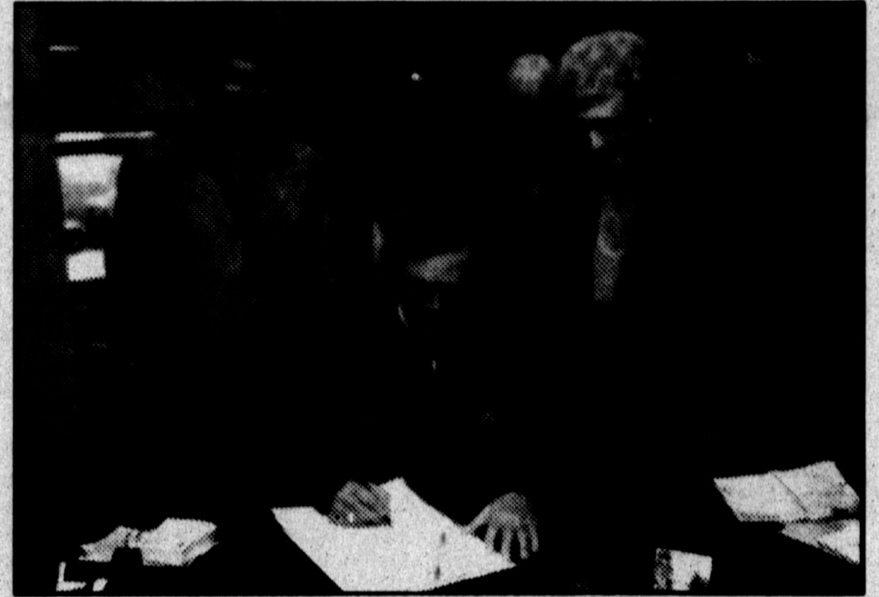
*To toast walnuts, place in a microwave-safe dish and microwave on High for 4 to 5 minutes, stirring every minute.

**After measuring the brown sugar, crumble it between your fingers for uniform texture. Be sure to pack the brown sugar firmly in the jar to prevent the baking mix from sifting down through it.

Make a gift card to attach as follows:

To make Chewy Chocolate Chip Bars: Empty contents of jar into medium bowl. Stir in 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter or margarine, melted; 1 large egg; and 1 teaspoon vanilla. Press into an 8x8x2-inch baking pan coated with cooking spray. Bake at 350 degrees for 18 to 22 minutes or until bars are light golden brown and center is almost set. Makes 16 bars.

Helpful Tip: When measuring biscuit and baking mix, gently spoon mix into nested (dry) measuring cup/s. Using a metal spatula or straight-edged knife, level off the top.



County-wide proclamation - County Judge Tom Simone recently signed a proclamation declaring Dec. 14 as George Washington Day in Deaf Smith County as local residents are asked to take part in the nationwide commemoration of the 200th anniversary of George Washington's death. Los Ciboleros Chapter NSDAR, represented by Pat Robinson, left, and Jean Beene, has led several community events which have resulted in the home towns of the Los Ciboleros Chapter members being recognized as George Washington Bicentennial Communities.

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We have a lot to be thankful for during the holidays because of you - our friends and neighbors here in Hereford. It is a pleasure to be part of this community. Enjoy the holiday season.

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SPORTS

HEREFORD BRAND • Wednesday, December 8, 1999 • A5

Lady Herd blast WT High

Valerie Guzman's 19 points helps Hereford to 77-23 victory, improves record to 7-2 on the season

From Staff Reports
WEST TEXAS — The Hereford Lady Whitefaces continued to show good play and skill as they pounded West Texas 77-23 on Tuesday night.

Valerie Guzman spearheaded the Hereford attack as she scored 10 points, giving the Lady Whitefaces a 16-2 lead after one period.

Guzman added nine of her game-high 19 points in the second period as Hereford led 39-10 by the end of the first half.

Hereford continued its domination as they outscored their opponents 38-13 in the second

Hereford 77, West Texas High 23

H — 16 23 11 27-77
 W — 2 8 8 5-23

Hereford (7-3): Sarah Griffin 4 1-2 11; Brionne Yosten 5 0-2 11; Valerie Guzman 9 0-0 19; Toni Eicke 2 3-3 8; Nicole Bailey 0 1-2 1; Shyla Martin 0 3-4 8; Tiffany Mercer 3 0-0 8; Janel Schalts 1 0-0 2; Toni Walker 4 6-7 14. Totals: 28 14-20 77.

West Texas (??): Whitney Locke 7; Kristen Brown 6; Farron Little 9; Fallon Kelley 1. Totals: 23.

Halftime — Hereford 39, West Texas 10. Three-Pointers — Hereford: 7 (Griffin 2, Yosten 1, Guzman 1, Eicke 1, Mercer 2); West Texas: None. Fouls — Hereford: 12; West Texas: 13.

half to win the laughter.

Guzman led Hereford with 19 points. Sarah Griffin and Brionne Yosten contributed with 11 points each. Toni Walker poured in 14 and Toni Eicke and Tiffany Mercer each added 8 points.

West Texas was led by Farron Little, who scored 9 points. Whitney Locke added 7 points to contribute to West Texas' scoring.

The Lady Whitefaces improve to 7-2 on the season. They will participate in the Farwell Tournament starting Thursday.

Whitefaces lose to West Texas, 53-52 on last-second shot

West Texas 53, Hereford 52

H — 15 13 15 15-52
 W — 13 9 19 13-53

Hereford (2-6): Cesar Soto 1 0-0 3; Justin Carroll 3 0-0 8; Jerry Harmon 7 1-2 15; Eric McNutt 4 1-2 11; Stewart Carr 1 0-0 2; Jacob Power 1 0-1 2; Landon Noland 2 2-4 6; James Stow 2 3-5 7. Totals: 21 7-14 52.

West Texas (5-2): Justin Amaro 2 2-4 6; Bret Chisum 1 0-0 2; Clayton Curry 7 1-1 8; Brandon Snyder 2 1-2 5; Nick Rives 5 0-3 11; Matt Montgomery 1 0-1 2; Adam Scott 1 0-0 3; Tap Giblin 2 0-2 4. Totals: 22 4-13 53.

Halftime — Hereford 25, West Texas 22. Three-Pointers — Hereford: 3 (McNutt 2, Soto 1); West Texas: 5 (Curry 3, Rives 1, Scott 1). Fouls — Hereford: 18; West Texas: 22. Fouled Out — Hereford: None; West Texas: Giblin, Curry.

From Staff Reports

WEST TEXAS — The Hereford boys basketball team kept struggling through the early season as they fell to West Texas High 53-52 on Tuesday.

West Texas Clayton Curry hit a three-point shot with 11 seconds left. Hereford led through most of the game, holding on to a 52-50 lead before Curry's winning basket.

Hereford led a 25-22 lead at halftime before West Texas High exploded with 19 points as they took a 41-40 lead

after three periods.

West Texas was led by Curry, who scored 18 points. Nick Rives added 11 points and Justin Amaro contributed with 6.

Hereford was led by Jerry Harmon, who poured in 15 points. Eric McNutt added 11 and James Stow poured in 7. Justin Carroll and Landon Noland each added 6 points.

The Whitefaces drop to 2-6 on the season as they prepare to participate in the Canyon Tournament on Thursday through Saturday.

Hereford Wrestling loses to Amarillo High

From Staff Reports

AMARILLO — The effects of the football team's run for a state title has also affected the Hereford wrestling team.

The Sandies topped the Whitefaces, 75-12, in the team scoring, but Hereford had some kids win some very important matches.

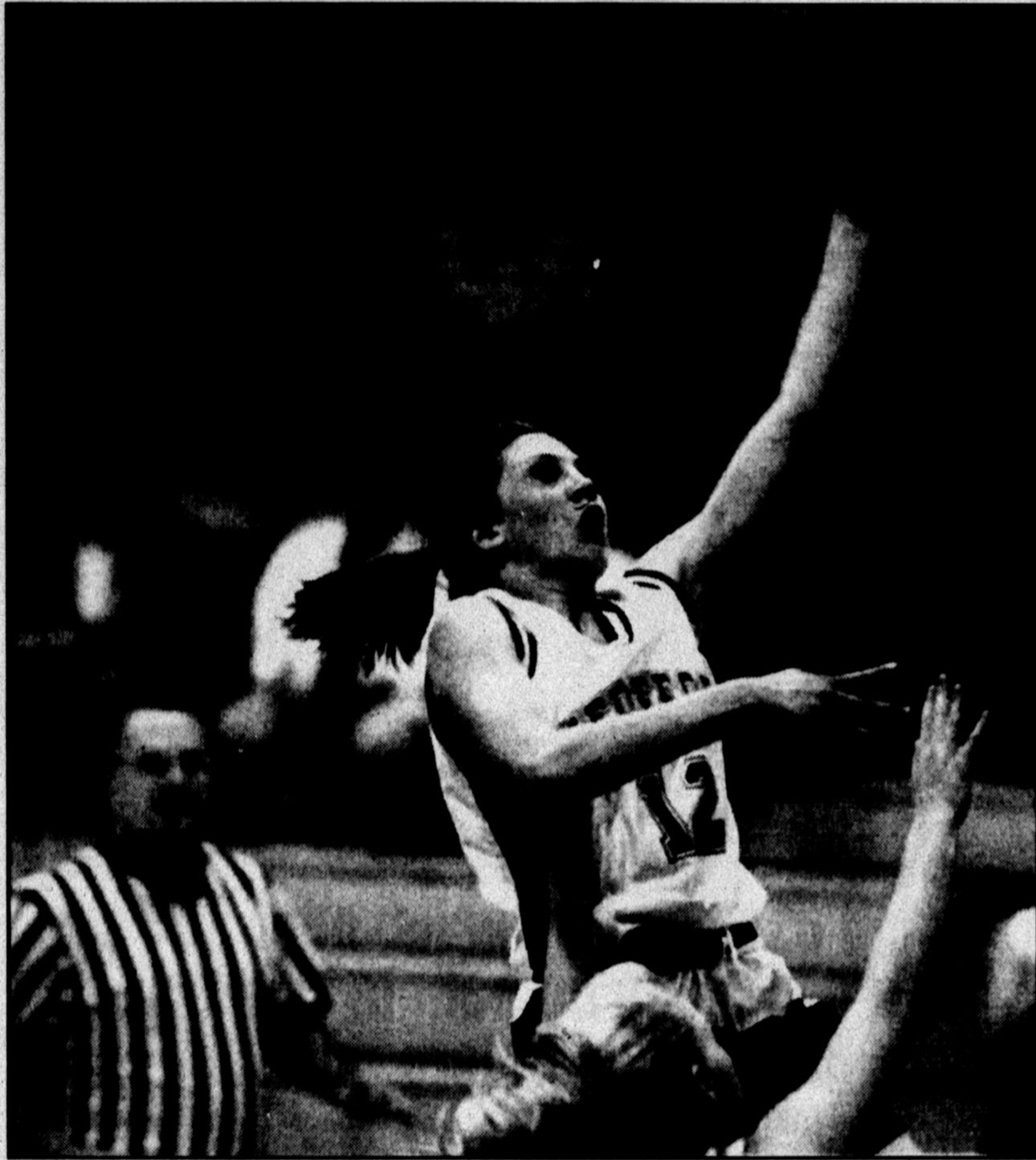
Hereford's Tyler Yenser defeated Amarillo's Daniel Shelton by pinning him in 1:27 in the

160-pound class.

The other winner for Hereford was Randall Burrows, who needed only 1:15 to pin Amarillo's Blain Thompson.

Hereford's junior varsity team lost 15 matches to none on Monday.

The Whitefaces will participate in the El Paso Tournament on Dec. 9 through 11 at Bowie High School.



Brionne Yosten shoots a basket in an early-season game vs. Lubbock Monterey. She scored 11 points against West Texas High in a 77-23 victory on Tuesday.

Tech to interview Oklahoma assistant

By Pam Leach

The Associated Press

LUBBOCK (AP) — Oklahoma offensive coordinator Mike Leach, the front-running candidate for the vacant football coach job at Texas Tech University, toured the school's facilities after being interviewed by Chancellor John Montford.

After meeting Tuesday with Montford in Dallas, Leach was flown to Lubbock for meetings, dinner and a tour of the facilities.

Also present during the interview in Dallas were Tech athletics director Gerald Myers, Tech regent Alan White and Tech regents chairman James Sowell.

Montford said Tuesday night that the meeting went well, but there are still a lot of "details that need to be worked out."

The Lubbock Avalanche-Journal reported Tuesday that Leach is the leading candidate after Clemson offensive coordinator Rich Rodriguez an-

nounced Monday he would no longer pursue the job. Montford said there are many "applicants" when asked whether Leach is the only remaining candidate.

Texas Tech is looking to replace Spike Dykes, the 13-year head coach who announced his retirement Nov. 20.

Officials at the University of Oklahoma were unaware of Leach's plans, said Mike Prusinski, director of athletic media relations.

"He is expected back tomorrow and that is the only thing I know," Prusinski said Tuesday. "All of our coaches are on the road recruiting and they don't share with me who is where. As far as I know, he could be on the road looking at another quarterback."

Prusinski said Oklahoma officials are aware that Tech officials have talked with Leach, who is in his first year with the Sooners.

"While we were playing at Tech, I know that he stayed

over on a Sunday and spoke with some people there," he said.

Leach, 38, is expected back on campus Wednesday, when the Sooners will begin preparations for the 7-4 team's New Year's Eve Independence Bowl appearance against Mississippi.

Leach started his coaching career as a graduate assistant at Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo. He then moved the following year to a full-time job coaching linebackers at College of the Desert in Palm Desert, Calif.

A year later, Leach was offered a chance to coach a team in Finland in the European Football League. In spring 1989, Leach took an assistant coaching job at Iowa Wesleyan, where he spent three years working on the team's passing game and setting school records. He then went on to Valdosta State in Georgia, where he spent five years.

From there, Leach headed to Kentucky, where after two years, six NCAA records and

116 school records, Oklahoma head coach Bob Stoops swept him up.

On Monday, Leach was in Shreveport, La., for an appearance related to Oklahoma's bowl appearance. Sources told the newspaper that Texas Tech arranged for Leach to fly from Shreveport to Dallas for an interview. Late Monday, Leach would not confirm plans to fly to Dallas.

Leach says he has had "off-and-on" contact with Tech officials. "I've got a great job right now at Oklahoma," he said. "I'm not in any hurry to go anywhere, but when the phone rings, I'll answer it."

Last week, Texas Tech Athletic Director Gerald Myers said the frontrunners for the job were Rodriguez, Leach and New Mexico State head coach Tony Samuel, who withdrew from consideration on Friday.

The state-required 10-day posting period for the head coaching job expired Tuesday.

'Boys not pointing fingers

By Jaime Aron

The Associated Press

IRVING (AP) — Of all the problems the Dallas Cowboys are having this season, a divided locker room is not one of them.

While it would be easy for the defense to blame the offense for Dallas being 6-6 considering they've played at better than a .500 level, no fingers are being pointed.

Instead, defensive leaders are talking about trying to score more themselves. Cornerback Deion Sanders may go so far as to join the offense this week as a part-time receiver.

"We've got to fire up the offense," said linebacker Randall Godfrey, the team's leading tackler. "We know the offense is going to pick it up. We've got too many valuable players on offense. We know we can get it done."

The Cowboys have lost four games in which the defense

has held opponents to 13 points. They've allowed one touchdown or less in eight of 12 games.

The offense has scored one touchdown in the last 11 quarters. They failed to reach the end zone for the first time in 16 games this past Sunday against New England.



Deion Sanders

"I don't think there's anything worse than losing a football game, then walking in here and feeling like you're part of the team that didn't get their job done," quarterback Troy Aikman said.

In the six games Dallas has won, the defense has scored a touchdown in four of them and Sanders returned a punt for a touchdown in an-

other. That means only one victory — the opener, way back on Sept. 12 — featured points strictly from the offense.

"They are frustrated themselves, they are not happy," safety George Teague said. "We are all trying to get the job done."

The team-first attitude is one of the earliest lessons in sports. Yet internal bickering has become such a fact of life that it's newsworthy when peace reigns among teams with reason to squabble.

Coach Chan Gailey has been so impressed by his team's harmony that he's gone out of his way to thank specific players for their supportive statements.

"I think they deserve to be complimented for the way they have handled the situation," Gailey said. "They realize we will get through this and get to where we want to be to-

gether."

Despite their mediocrity, the Cowboys are only a game out of first place in the NFC East. Dallas is tied with Arizona and the New York Giants, all trailing Washington.

The Cowboys could be tied with St. Louis for the best record in the NFC had they mustered just 14 points in four games: consecutive 13-10 losses to the Eagles and Giants in October, a 13-9 loss to Arizona three weeks ago and a 13-6 loss to New England this past Sunday.

Defensive players are talking about the need to do even more.

"I think some of the offensive players would say, 'Thanks, but we've got to get ourselves going and play to the level of our defense,'" Gailey said. "That's when we'll have a team that has got a chance to take it all the way."

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SPORTS

Pacers dunk Spurs, 83-77

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Reggie Miller saved his best for last.

Miller hit three 3-pointers in the fourth quarter and scored 12 of his 23 points in the period to lead the Pacers to an 83-77 victory over San Antonio on Tuesday night.

"I missed some easy shots, had a lot in and out. That still encourages me, because I'm shooting," said Miller, who was 3-for-12 from the field in the first three quarters. "If I'm not aggressive, and I'm not shooting, that's what hurts the team. I need to shoot the ball and give confidence to my teammates."

The victory was the fourth straight for Indiana, and Miller has had 105 points in the run.

Miller was 5-for-9 from 3-point range. He had two 3-pointers in an 11-1 run that put the Pacers ahead to stay 72-64 in the fourth quarter. And he hit a final 3-pointer with 1:26 left to give the Pacers an 81-77 lead.

Tim Duncan, who led the Spurs with 30 points, then missed a jumper, and Indiana got the rebound. Miller drove for the bucket and passed to Rik Smits for an open jumper to end the scoring with 47 seconds to play.

"Reggie had a great drive and dish," Indiana coach Larry Bird said. "That sort of broke the ice for us. ... He kept being aggressive. He just kept getting the ball and trying to make something happen."

"He really got going in the second half. That had to be very frustrating for them. When he made that (last) 3, it was like a dagger in their hearts," said Smits, who finished with 18 points.

"The way they play defense, I'm going to get shots. They

drop off so much to help their guards, so I'm going to get some shots," Smits said.

The loss was the third straight for the defending NBA champions, all on the road.

Indiana shot only 36 percent from the field, but made up for it with a strong defensive effort. San Antonio went into the game fifth in the league in field-goal percentage at 46 percent, but was held to 41 percent. David Robinson scored just six points and was 3-of-12 from the field after shooting 50 percent in his team's first 19 games.

"I go into games thinking my job is to rebound, play defense and put the ball in the hole every once in a while. I've got to play better. No one has to tell me that," Robinson said. "As a team, we are not finding our shooters in rhythm."

"They made the shots down the stretch and we didn't," San Antonio coach Greg Popovich said. "Our execution was good down the stretch and we got the shots we needed, but they didn't go in."

Indiana outrebounded the Spurs 49-47, with Dale Davis grabbing a season-high 16. Robinson led the Spurs with 17 rebounds.

Davis had been bothered by a stomach virus and didn't start the second half.

"I wasn't sure what it was. I just felt weak and dizzy," Davis said. "We didn't let them run, and that was big."

The Pacers led 42-39 at the half despite going more than three minutes without a field goal in each of the opening two quarters.

Grizzlies claw Mavericks, 104-95

DALLAS (AP) — The Vancouver Grizzlies don't have to talk about their 30-game road losing streak anymore.

"The bear was getting pretty heavy on my back," coach Brian Hill said following Tuesday night's 104-95 victory over the Dallas Mavericks. "It was time to get him off."

Shareef Abdur-Rahim had 26 points and 15 rebounds and Brent Price hit two key 3-pointers as Vancouver ended an 11-game overall losing streak.

The Grizzlies had a close call Monday night in Houston before losing to the Rockets 102-99. One night later, the streak was over as Vancouver won for the first time on the road since Feb. 16, 1999, a 93-89 victory at the Los Angeles Clippers in double overtime.

"After a tough loss, it would have been easy to come in, lay down and say we've done it to ourselves again," Price said. "We finally held on to get the monkey off our back. Maybe this is a turning point."

Michael Dickerson added 21 points and Othella Harrington had 16 to help Vancouver get its first road win of the season after opening with seven straight defeats away from home.

Hill said the streak went on so long that his players didn't even celebrate the victory in the locker room. Vancouver is 4-14 overall.

"The feeling was not one of euphoria," Hill said. "These guys expected to win more games than this. It's not a sense of relief. It's almost a sense of anger, like we should have won one last night, we should have won one last week."

After several near-misses at home and on the road, Vancouver finally closed out

a game down the stretch. During the 11-game losing streak, the Grizzlies lost five games either in overtime or by margins of four points or less. In six of the 11 defeats, Vancouver wasted late-game leads.

"It kind of relaxes your mind," Harrington said. "You're not worried about losing another one."

Dallas' Dirk Nowitzki matched his career-high with 31 points, but went scoreless in the fourth quarter and fouled out with 39.6 seconds left.

Cedric Ceballos added 23 points for the Mavericks, who had won three of their previous four at Reunion Arena, but Ceballos scored only two points in the fourth quarter. Michael Finley had 17 points for Dallas.

The Grizzlies took advantage of porous Mavericks defense for 40 points inside. Shawn Bradley had six blocked shots for Dallas, but otherwise the Mavericks played with little defensive intensity.

"I am very disappointed losing this game," Mavericks coach Don Nelson said. "It was a setback for us. I will take as much responsibility as anybody, but we need to step up to the plate."

Price's 3-pointer with 7:24 left gave the Grizzlies an 87-84 lead, and Vancouver never trailed the rest of the way. Price also hit a 3-pointer on Vancouver's previous possession to give the Grizzlies an 84-82 lead before Hubert Davis' 20-footer tied it for the Mavericks.

Vancouver led 91-89 with five minutes left, but the Grizzlies pulled away with a 6-0 run. Dennis Scott hit a 3-pointer and Abdur-Rahim had a free throw and a tip-in as the Grizzlies built a 97-89 lead.

Dayne wins AP College Player of the Year

NEW YORK (AP) — Ron Dayne made the most of his senior season at Wisconsin — on and off the field.

When he passed on leaving early for the NFL, Dayne explained that he wanted to spend another year with his 2-year-old daughter, Jada, and his girlfriend, Alia Lester; that he wanted to get closer to a degree in Afro-American studies; and that he wanted to win games, have fun and maybe break the NCAA major college career rushing record.

Dayne did it all: He broke Ricky Williams' mark, ran for 1,834 yards and 19 touchdowns and led the fourth-ranked Badgers (9-2) to the Big Ten title and a spot in the Rose Bowl on Jan. 1.

On Tuesday, he won The Associated Press' College Player of the Year Award in balloting by AP member newspapers, TV and radio stations.

Dayne received 43 of the


82 votes in the AP balloting. Virginia Tech redshirt freshman quarterback Michael Vick was second with 14 votes, and Purdue quarterback Drew Brees was third with six votes.

Dayne has also won player of the year awards from the Walter Camp Foundation and The Sporting News, and is the favorite to win the Heisman Trophy on Saturday night.

Dayne broke Williams' year-old Division I rushing record in his final game at Camp Randall Stadium. The Badgers' 5-foot-10, 254-pound tailback ran for 216 yards in a 41-3 rout of Iowa last month to boost his career total to 6,397 yards; Williams had 6,279 yards.

This season, Dayne ranked second nationally in rushing at 166.7 yards a game, was fourth in scoring (10.4 points) and ninth in all-purpose yardage (167.6). He also ran for 200 or more yards four times.

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INSIDE

Bush defends qualifications

PHOENIX (AP) — George W. Bush has participated in two debates without a major mistake, but his sometimes scripted and vague answers continue to raise questions about his readiness to be president.

On Tuesday, the Texas governor insisted he is the most qualified of the Republican presidential contenders because he's been an entrepreneur and runs the nation's second-largest state.

"That's what people have to decide in this campaign. Who's been in the position to make decisions?" Bush told reporters the morning after his second presidential debate.

"The other two elected officials have spent a lot of time in Washington," he said, referring to two of his rivals, Sens. John McCain of Arizona and Orrin Hatch of Utah. "If you listened very carefully, everybody was attacking Washington last night."

While Bush has failed to silence questions about his political heft, his rivals have been equally unable to dislodge him from the front of the pack despite subtle and not-so-subtle attacks.

That has been the dynamic of the GOP contest in recent weeks, and may spur fresh attacks when the group debates

again in Des Moines, Iowa, on Monday, their final meeting before a fresh round of debates in January.

Hatch raised the issue of Bush's experience in Monday's debate here, saying Bush should consider being his running mate because nearly five years as governor don't qualify him to be president.

"You should have eight years with me and boy, you'll make a heck of a president after eight years," Hatch said, only half in jest.

McCain pounced after Bush failed to answer directly a question about the foreign policy of Dean Acheson, President Truman's secretary of state and the subject of a biography that Bush previously said he is reading.

After answering a question on another subject, McCain returned to Acheson and spoke about the secretary briefing Truman on North Korea invading South Korea.

A jocular McCain poked at Bush again Tuesday from New Hampshire where he was campaigning, telling reporters: "I thought (Hatch's) line about vice president was one that we all wanted to use, but he's used it first."



GEORGE W. BUSH
Insists he's most qualified of the GOP candidates



JOHN MCCAIN
Says political agenda controls Pentagon's budget

McCain seeks reform of Pentagon's budget

CONCORD, N.H. (AP) — A military veteran on a mission of reform, Republican presidential contender John McCain says at least \$20 billion in the Pentagon budget should be redirected away from "political priorities ... to vital defense needs."

In campaign speeches Tuesday designed to flesh out a national security policy, McCain listed cancellation of the B2 bomber and other defense systems; a new round of base closings; elimination of certain "Buy America" restrictions; and a greater role for private industry as ways to achieve savings.

The money — and perhaps more — would be spent on deployment of a missile defense system to protect against attacks; better pay for the troops and other changes McCain said are needed to make sure that American remains "the greatest force for good on earth."

McCain has risen sharply in the polls in New Hampshire, where the first primary of 2000 will be held on Feb. 1, and aides said the speech would be

followed in the next few weeks by addresses on Medicare, Social Security and the environment.

On Tuesday, the 58th anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, McCain first outlined his defense program in a speech a few blocks from the state Capitol.

A former Navy aviator who was a prisoner of war in Vietnam, McCain is aiming his presidential campaign at independent voters as well as Republicans. In his remarks during the day, he criticized political leaders "on both sides of the aisle and at both ends of Pennsylvania Avenue who ask the military to do too much with too little, and who misdirect scarce defense dollars to their political priorities, rather than to vital defense needs."

He criticized an "ill-considered reduction in the carrier fleet", and another patrolled the Persian Gulf, there were no carrier battle groups in East Asia's waters where events in the Straits of Taiwan and on the Korean Peninsula could have become world-threatening crises," he said.

FOR OUR SEASONS

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Ecclesiastes 3:1

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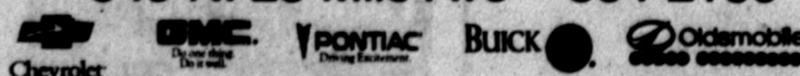
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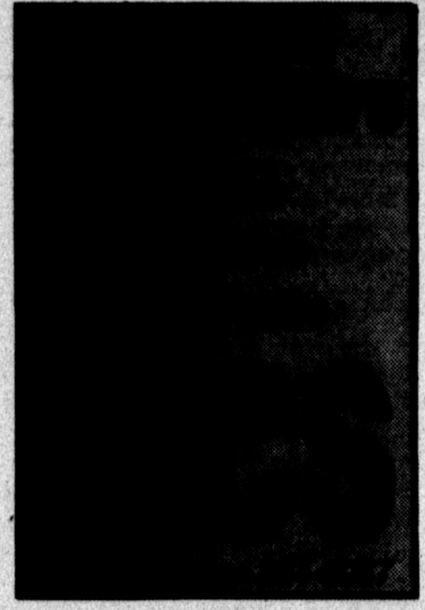
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LEGAL NOTICES

The High Plains Epilepsy Association of Amarillo, which is funded in part by the Hereford United Way, will have a licensed social worker in Hereford.

The Social worker will be at 601 N. 25 Mile Avenue and will be there the 2nd Monday afternoon of each month, from 1:30-3:30 p.m.

The purpose of this program is to assist people with epilepsy and their families in understanding the nature of the disorder, assist in locating resources for services, literature and education, medical guidance and management of the condition. The agency serves the 26 counties of the Texas Panhandle.

Call the Amarillo office for an appointment at 806-352-5426. This appointment is not necessary but helpful.

CLASSIFIEDS WORK!!

Contract

From Page A1

\$5,000 monthly management fee. The district also will pay the salary of the new HRMC administrator, as well as \$3,000 in relocation expenses.

After one year, the hospital district could cancel the contract without cause. During the first year, the district would have to show a breach of contract to sever ties with TMSI.

The hospital district also will include TMSI on its insurance policies.

Also, Rhodes said his review made sure TMSI's contractual obligations were consistent with what Krupala had stated the company would do.

Krupala said last month he believed the company needed a two-year agreement.

"We feel like in a situation like this it makes the most sense. If you go with a one-year contract, you don't have enough time to get all of the things accomplished," he said.

He said it should take about 18 months to get "people in there doing some of the things necessary to get this hospital more successful."

At the end of the two years, Krupala said he expects the TMSI team would turn day-to-day responsibilities back to the local board. He said the company's responsibility is to "turn things around."

After the contract is signed, he said there will be a period of "intense planning, involving the medical staff and the board, and the community."

"We can come in here with our own ideas, but if they're not compatible with the community, they won't work," Krupala said.

"We will do a lot of planning, with community involvement, to determine what is needed in installing a direction for the hospital."

Krupala said the company intends to inform the area residents about what will be done at the hospital.

"The community needs to know what we're doing and approve of what we're doing," he said.

TMSI

From Page A1

retain full authority, even after the management contract is signed.

Krupala has said TMSI expects the board to establish policies, with his company recommending means to implement the policies.

The major benefit of the management agreement to the hospital district is the access to management expertise in a variety of areas, training and support for hospital staff, Krupala contended.

The company also would provide analyses of the hospital's financial, staffing and organizational operations, identifying problem areas and developing plans to correct the problems.

On a monthly basis, TMSI will conduct an analysis of the hospital balance sheet, provide a statement of operations with variances to budget for the month and year to date, and make cash-flow projects.

On an annual basis, TMSI will prepare operations budgets and capital budgets for the hospital, prepare and review an annual cash-flow projection; review the annual audit prepared by an outside certified public accounting firm; conduct operational reviews of accounting procedures, and review financial documents.

The district board will retain the final authority for business, policies, expenditures, operation and assets of the hospital.

HRMC

From Page A1

The financial report for October, the first month of Fiscal 2000, for the hospital was available, and it showed improvement over last year.

The hospital reported a net gain of \$85,385, a significant improvement over October 1998 when an \$18,297 gain was recorded.

The total operating revenue for the month was \$829,147, with operating expenses of \$829,773, leaving an operations loss of \$626. The total non-operating revenue was \$86,012, easily absorbing the operations loss.

The total admissions for October were 174, up nine from last year. The average daily census of about 18 also represented a gain of four from last October.

The board also took no action on an order establishing four-year, staggered terms for directors. Under the hospital district's enabling legislation, the board has the option of remaining with two-year terms or going to four-year terms.

Previous hospital administrators have recommended the longer terms; however, the directors did not support the four-year plan.

In order to change to three-year terms, the district's enabling legislation will have to be amended. Board attorney Alan T. Rhodes said the board will have to ask either state Rep. John Smithee, R-Amarillo, or state Sen. Teel Bivins, R-Amarillo, to sponsor the amendment in the next session of the Legislature, which convenes in January 2001.

Larry D. Krupala, president/chief executive officer of TMSI, the management company that will take over the day-to-day operations of the hospital, said that will give the hospital district a chance to determine if other amendments in the enabling legislation would be in the best interest of the hospital.

In other business, the board approved the payout of the 1996 budget incentive program. The payments had not been allocated and the program was terminated last month.

Under the allocation, \$57,265 will go to the program's 1996 participants still employed by the hospital; \$2,184 to 1996 participants now retired; and \$2,254 to 1996 participants terminated but returned to service. An additional \$44,580 will be retained by the hospital on terminated/ineligible employees.

Game

From Page A1

Accommodations

The Whiteface Booster Club has reserved a block of rooms at both the AmeriSuites, 972-910-0302, and Staybridge Suites, 972-465-9400, in Irving.

Block reservations at AmeriSuites are under HHS; those at Staybridge Suites are under Hereford High.

Costs range from \$49 to \$59, depending on room accommodations.

Postal Service shows profit

WASHINGTON (AP) — Postage rates won't go up until at least 2001, thanks to continuing profits at the Postal Service.

The post office brought in a \$363 million profit in fiscal 1999, the fifth straight year the agency has been in the black, Richard Porras, the chief postal financial officer, said Tuesday.

The price of stamps went up in January, but because the increase was small — from

32 cents to 33 cents for first class mail — some industry observers thought another increase would be needed in 2000. Speculation flared this fall that the lengthy process of raising rates was about to begin.

But Porras indicated a combination of saving through automation and cost-cutting at the agency had helped the bottom line enough that a new rate case will not begin before next year.

DAILY CRYPTOQUOTES

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

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

12-8 CRYPTOQUOTE

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Clinton's taking aim at gun makers

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Clinton administration hopes the threat of a new, national lawsuit will persuade gun makers to negotiate with cities that accuse them of negligently allowing guns to fall into the hands of criminals.

The White House is helping prepare a class-action suit against gun makers, alleging that guns and how they are marketed have contributed to violence in public housing projects, administration officials said Tuesday.

The lawsuit by some or all of the nation's 3,100 local housing authorities would be patterned on suits filed against the industry by 29

cities and counties, the officials said.

Those suits claim that gun manufacturers have sold defective products or marketed them in ways that increase the likelihood that they will be used to commit crimes.

"When only 1 percent of the dealers are selling over 50 percent of the guns used in crimes ... obviously something is wrong and we should be taking action against that 1 percent," Andrew Cuomo, secretary of housing and urban development, said today on ABC's "Good Morning America."

"There are many safety features ... that could be manufactured with guns and could

make a significant difference, could save lives. We have safety caps on a battle of aspirin; it makes no sense not to have safety devices on guns," Cuomo said.

"The administration intends to work aggressively to ... try to work to reach a settlement with the industry," White House domestic policy adviser Bruce Reed said. "If settlement is not possible, then the public housing authorities are prepared to go forward with their suit."

A negotiated agreement would allow the administration and gun control advocates to claim a victory at a time when Congress has rejected writing into law new

firearms restrictions sought by President Clinton.

Administration officials said the White House and the Department of Housing and Urban Development were helping prepare the suit even though the actual plaintiff would be independent local authorities that run federal housing programs.

The White House and HUD want gun makers to agree to a code of conduct that includes cracking down on disreputable gun dealers and making safer guns. The administration also wants gun makers to agree to end practices such as marketing guns that are impervious to fingerprints.

HUD officials would not de-

tail any previous outreach to gun makers but said new talks were planned.

The gun makers have acknowledged the talks, but objected to the characterization of the meetings as "negotiations."

The New York attorney general is already holding discussions with gun makers aimed at curbing the sale and distribution of handguns.

The White House informed New York Attorney General Eliot Spitzer that Clinton will announce, possibly as early as today, that he wants to enter the New York talks, Spitzer spokesman Darren Dopp said Tuesday night.

Among the companies reportedly involved in the discussions with Spitzer have been Smith & Wesson, Sturm, Ruger, Colt's Manufacturing, Mossberg & Sons, Taurus, Glock and Beretta.

Messages left at Colt's offices in East Hartford, Conn., were not immediately returned Tuesday night.

New York officials have threatened to sue the manufacturers unless they agree to a similar code of conduct governing the sale and distribution of their products.

Some gun makers have declared bankruptcy in the wake of the suits by local governments.

Keeping an eye on Texas

Texas Tomorrow Fund matures

Now in its fifth year, the Texas Tomorrow Fund has allowed nearly 100,000 families across Texas to lock in the cost of tomorrow's college tuition and fees at today's prices. Enrollment is open now through June 5, 2000.

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For more information, call 1-800-448-GRAD (4723), or on the Internet at www.texas-tomorrowfund.com

SOURCE: Carole Henton Pyburn, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (www.state.tx.us)

Elderly pinched by health costs

WASHINGTON (AP) — Despite the help Medicare coverage provides, older Americans will spend, on average, more than \$2,400 in out-of-pocket expenses for health care this year, an advocacy group said today.

"Although Medicare provides critically important health insurance for older Americans, its coverage is not comprehensive," said David Gross, lead author of a new report from AARP, the nation's largest organization of older adults.

Americans age 65 and older are eligible for Medicare, the nation's health insurance program for the elderly and disabled. It provides wide-ranging coverage and averages payments in benefits of more than \$5,000 per year per person.

This year, Medicare participants still will spend an average of \$2,430 out of pocket for health care, AARP said. That's about 19 percent of average income among the elderly.

Prescription drugs, which are not covered by Medicare, will account for the biggest chunk of the expenses, about 17 percent or \$413.

AARP was releasing the report today at a news conference in Des Moines, Iowa.

The group, which supports adding drug coverage to Medicare, is peddling the issue in Iowa because it attracts early campaigning by presidential candidates who face the country's third oldest population there.

The out-of-pocket costs a Medicare beneficiary must pay include a \$45.50-a-month Medicare premium, as well as deductibles and co-payments.

Also, Medicare does not cover many expensive services and products in addition to prescription drugs, including routine physicals, eyeglasses and most dental care.

Many beneficiaries purchase private supplemental insurance policies, known as Medigap, to cover some of the expenses. But those too can be costly.

Medicare beneficiaries who enrolled in HMOs, which often offer extra benefits at no charge AARP based its figures on the most recent Department of Health and Human Services survey of Medicare beneficiaries, done in 1995. The AARP study excluded spending on home health care and long-term nursing-home care, but included costs of short nursing-home stays for rehabilitation after illness or injury and private insurance premiums.

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Para un recién nacido un contrato de cuatro años para cualquier universidad pública cuesta \$12,448; sin el Texas Tomorrow Fund, cuando ese recién nacido entre a la universidad, se espera que el costo rebase \$52,000.

Para mayor información llame al 1-800-448-GRAD (4723) o visite la página web <http://www.texas-tomorrowfund.com>

FUENTE: Carole Henton Pyburn, Comptroller de Texas para Cuentas Públicas, (Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, www.state.tx.us) y <http://www.texas-tomorrowfund.com>

Environmentalists seek ban on ATVs

WASHINGTON (AP) — With the use of off-road vehicles growing swiftly, environmental groups are seeking a ban on the recreational use of ATVs, motorcycles and snowmobiles in national parks and in one-third of the national forests.

The off-road vehicles crush plants, harm wildlife, pollute the air and disrupt the calm and quiet of nature, environmentalists said Tuesday.

"Our public lands have essentially become sacrifice zones for motorized cowboys to get their kicks," Russell Long, executive director of Bluewater Network, said in a telephone interview from the network's San Francisco headquarters.

Bluewater and 66 other groups asked the National Park Service to prohibit recreational use of the off-road

vehicles in 23 national parks where they currently are allowed. They also asked for tougher enforcement in about 40 large national parks where bans already are in force.

In a separate effort, The Wilderness Society joined 100 other groups in asking the Forest Service to ban the vehicles in roughly 64 million acres of roadless areas in the 192-million-acre forest system.

A recreation industry spokesman said environmentalists exaggerate damage caused by off-road vehicles and minimize efforts by the vehicles' users to improve trails and help the environment.

"Their main problem is that the motorized recreation community has become a big obstacle to their wilderness designation plans," said Clark Collins, executive director of the BlueRibbon Coalition.

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