HerefordBRAVII

HUSTLIN＇HEREFORD HOME OF Tori Walker Audra Witkowski

## Today＇s weather

 －M1100K Mosty aloor akios a low In the mid－20s，wight noth wind．in Fiviay：Sunny with a high in the lower 60s，south to
southwest wind 10 to 20 mph．Fiday night：Mostly clear with a low 30 to 35 ．


Extenclod foreeast New Year＇s Day：Partly
cloudy and breezy，high 60 to 65 ．
Sunday：Mostly cloudy and cooler，low in the upper
208 to around 30 ．high 50 205 ． 5 ．
Monday：Partiy cloudy， Iow in the upper 20s，high 50 ． Wernerd weather low，37：no precipitation； year－to－date rainfall， 29.12 inches，according to KPAN
Radio．
Uneeasemably warm woather continues A warming trend the day
betore New Year＇s Eve is producing high temperatures more like October than De－ Associated Press．
It was 75 degrees at Dal－ as－Fort Worth International Alrport on Wednesday－a normal high temperature for
late October．Other nighs were 76 degrees at Abilene，
75 at Mineral Wells and 74 75 at Mineral Wells and 74 Early－morning readings today ranged from the 308
to 50 s and some 60 s in the bouth．It was 46 degrees at aris， 53 at Corsicana， 38 at Hondo， 58 at Galveston，
37 at Hondo and 56 at Dryden．surface low－pressure area was centered from noar Winds were mostly south－ erly and southeasterly at 5
to 15 mph ．Behind the low， co 15 mph ．Behind the low，
winds were out of the north and northwest over the Pan－ handie．
Temperatures will not be
quite as warm through Fri－ guite as warm through Fri－ areas．Other readings will range from the mid－508 in the north and west to 708 along the Rio Grande，with
lows in the 208 and 30 ．


Sportewriters honor 2 Lady Whitefaces Audra Witkowski（left）and Tori Walker were named to the Class 4A All－State volleyball team by the Texas Sportswriters Association． Witkowski and Walker were both named to the first team． －Page AS

## GIN FIRE



Hereford firefighters check damage to the Hereford Farmers Co－op gin following a fire Fire Marshal lay Spain said this morning the fire apparently was ignited by a bolt that had worked loose and caused a spark．Spain said damange to the gin was minimal．
TMSI＇s fee： What does HRMC get？
－Medical staff had questions about pact with Austin company

## By Donald M．Cooper

Hereford Brand Managing Editior
Dr．Duffy McBrayer ke asking Tuesday night what Hospital District get for the $\$ 5,000$ monthly fee it will pay TMSI under the provisions of a two－year management agree
ment． The hospital district and
TMSI，a subsidiary of the Texas Organization of Rural and Community Hospitals
（TORCH），entered into a man－ agement service agreement on Dec． 17 that will see the Aus－ tin－based firm take over the
day－to－day operations of Here－ ford Regional Medical Center． Although McBrayer may not have received the specific de－ tails he was seeking at Tues－
day night＇s meeting of the hos－ day night＇s meeting of the hos－
pital board，the Hereford phy－ sician and other members of the HRMC medical staff might have had more questions an－
swered during Wednesday＇s lunch meeting with Larry D． Krupala，president／chief execu－ tive officer of TMSI．
According to the manage－ board desires to have an ad－ ministrator to perform and oversee the administrative and
management duties ．．．in keep－ management duties ．．．in keep－
ing with the goals and objec－ ing with the goals and objec－
tives established by the ．．．di－ rectors．＂ TMSI stated it would＂pro－ vide management $\ldots$ and be－
lieves that it is possible to develop and implement a turn－ around plan that will stabilize the hospital and allow the hos－
pital to be turned back to the pital to be turned back to the
board ．．．at the end of the two－year term of this agree－ ment．＂
Under the provisions of the Under the provisions of the
contract，TMSI is reponsible for providing a hospital ad－
ministrator with at least three
years of experience in day－to－
day hospital operations The administrator，who will be selected by TMSI subject to
approval by the hospital board， approval by the hospital board，
will recommend operational policies and implement poli－
cies adopted by the board di － cies adopted by the board；di－ rect the daily management／ad－
ministration of HRMC；see the timely payment of
hospital＇s liabilities／obligations； oversee the maintenance of the physical plant；＇perform analy－
ses of the HRMC ses of the HRMC financial， staffing and organizational
functions，as well as identify problem areas and recommend plans to deal with the prob－ lems；ensure compliance with federal，state and local regula－ communication among depart－ ments；and serve as a liaison among the board，medical staff
and hospital employees and hospital employees．
TMSI also agreed to supe vise financial affairs to ensure the appropriate billing and col－ lections，as well as maintain a
system of fiscal controls for system of fiscal controls for
the hospital On a monthly basis，the
company will analyze the bal－ company will analyze the bal－
ance sheet；statement of ance sheet；statement of op－
erations with variances to the budget for the month／year－to－ date；cash flow projection；com－ parative operating statistics；
and significant management and significant management On an annual basis，TMSI
agreed to prepare and review agreed to prepare and review cash flow；prepare annual op－
erations and capital budgets erations and capital budgets
for presentation to the board； recommend cash reserve lev－ els；review the independent audit；conduct operational re－
views of accounting proce－ views of accounting proce－
dures；review financial docu－ ments and advise on reporting requirements；and prepare rev－
enue／expense filings required enue／expense filings required by regulatory bodies
TMSI also agree
vide training of the hospital personnel，and assist in the maintenance or improvement
of the HRMC accounting sys． Please see TMSI，Page AO

## County incumbents draw opponents

From Staff Reports Trom Say）is the last day this year
candidates can file for positions candidates can file for positions
on the March 14 primary election ballots．
The The deadline for filing in the maries is Jan．3，2000，but the Deaf Smith County Courthouse will be closed
The last day to register to vote in the primary is Feb．14， 2000 ． Early voting in the primary 10．Deaf Smith county offices on the ballot are commissioners in

## U．S．emergency officials prepare for Y2K troubles

WASHINGTON（AP）－ Hundreds of federal emer－
gency officials have fanned gency officials have fanned
out across the country and will await the stroke of mid－ night in each U．S．time zone
Friday with an eye toward Y2K disaster．
The Federal Emergency Management Agency has es－
tablished 10 regional centers to monitor potential catastro－ phes in the United States and its territories．
Beginning to
have its emergy，FEMA will have its emergency support
team man full gear around the clock through Sunday．

More than 800 personnel will
be working through the week－ be working through the week－
end． The agency can draw on resources from as many as 26
federal agencies and the Red Cross if Y 2 K emergencies
arise． arise．${ }^{\text {FFEMA＂is confident that }}$ nothing serious will happen， but we are prepared to re－ spond just like we would for
any other natural any other natural disaster or any other emergency situa－
tion，＂said Robert Adamcik，as－ sociate director for FEMA re－ sponse and recovery．
Preparing for Preparing for 18 months，the
agency＇s officials have re－
hearsed a multitude of sce－ hearsed a multitude of sce－
narios，including explosions narios，including explosions，
power outages and nuclear di－ saster．
FEMA officials said they will constantly gather infor－ mation from state and local governments throughout the
weekend，monitoring them with an automated system that assigns a green light to
communities that are $\mathbf{O K}$ ，a communities that are OK，a
yellow light to those where an emergency is suspected but in－ formation is incomplete，and a red light for a confirmed di－ Please see Y2K，Page AO


Jeannine Zimmerman
The major statewide race on the ballot will be for U．S． Senate，where incumbent Kay
Bailey Hutchison，a Republi－ can，is the overwhelming fa－ vorite to earn another term． Other statewide races on the ballot include spots on the peals and other judicial posi－ peals．
tions．
Ali of the congressional seats will be up for grabs．In
the $19{ }^{\text {in }}$ Congressional District， Please see BALLOT，Page A0

## （4）He＝

It might be the last holiday of the $20^{\text {th }}$ century，or it
might be the first holiday of the $21^{\text {ch }}$ century，but no might be the first holiday of the $21^{\text {mit }}$ century，but no
matter how you look at $i$ it，the arrival of the new year will affect government and business schedules． Hereford City Hall will be closed Friday so city
employees can enjoy the holiday．Deaf Smith County employees can enjoy the holiday．Deaf Smith County
employees will be off Friday；the public library will be closed Friday and Saturday．On Friday，FirstBank Southwest will be open 9 a．m．$-4: 30$ p．m．（lobby）and 8
a．m． 6 p．m．（motor bank）．First National Bank also will a．m． 6 p．m．（motor bank）．First National Bank also will
maintain its regular business hours Friday from 8：30 a．m．－6 p．m．，as will Hereford State Bank，which will have regular business hours，from 8 a．m． 6 p．m．，win－
dow and 9 a．m． $4: 30$ p．m．，inside．Hereford Texas dow，and 9 a．m．－4：30 p．m．，inside．Hereford Texas Federal Credit Union will close at noon Friday and First
American Bank will remain open Friday from 8：30 a．m．－ 4：30 p．m．，inside，and 8：30 a．m．－5：30 p．m．，window． The U．S．Post Office will close at 2 p．m．Friday for the holiday．The post office is normally closed on Saturday． Please see CLOSINGS，Page AO

## HEREFORD BRAND <br> Local roundup

Heroism award entrees accepted Entries for the Texas Farm and Ranch Safety Council's 1999
Rural Heroism Award are now being accepted. Rural Heroism Awarda are now being accepted. To qualify, a candidate must have performed a heroic act of
human lifesaving within Texas during 1999. The heroic deed human lifesaving within Texas during 1999. The heroic deed announced April 3, 2000, at the Texas Safety Association's $61{ }^{\circ}$
annual Texas/Southwestern Conference and Exposition, to be annual Texas/Southwestern Conference and
held at the Fort Worth Convention Center.
han Feb. 1, 2000. Send all nominations to the Texas Farm and Ranch Safety Council, P.O. Box 5539 , Waco, Texas, 76708. The letter of nomination should include, a written account of
the incident and names, addresses and telephone numbers of the incident and names, addresses and telephone numbers
all the involved parties. .ewspaper clippings and photos should all the involved parties. Newspaper clippings
also accompany nominations when available.

## HPD beefs up patrol

Hereford Police Department will have extra officers patrol-
ing the streets from 7 p.m. Friday until they are no longer Ceded. Pat Michael said all officers will be watching for all
Ct.
. Pic raffic violations as well as being on the lookout for parties
hat may get too loud or out of hand.

## THE ASSOCIATED PRESS <br> News digest

## Financial advisers get new test

AUSTIN (AP) - For the first time, new investment advisers
in Texas will have to pass a test showing their knowledge of thics and strategies starting Jan.
"We test barbers and hairdressers to make sure they know
how'to cut and color hair," said Denise Voigt Crawford, Texas Securities Commissione "We should make sure that investment advisers know the
difference between stocks and bonds - the investment public deserves no less,", she said.
The 130 -question test replaces a 75 -question exam that the ers to pass before getting a license to pospective financial advis ers to pass before getting a license to do business in Texas.
The old test focused on securities law, but ignored question about basic investment strategies and co
tools, like mutual funds and bonds, she said.

The expanded test is necessary, she said; because the investing public has become less sophisticated in recent years
and depends more heavily on the advice of professional advis.
Other questions on the test were prompted by frequen types of complaints received by the state securities commission
Ms. Crawford said. s. Crawford said She said more than 40 other states will require financial
advisers to take similar tests beginning in January.

## State abortion licensing law on hold

 HOUSTON (AP) - A federal judge Wednesday blocked the tate from enforcing a new law that expands licensing require ments for abortion octors, saying the e ew is unconstitutional.U.S. District Judge John Rainey said the 1999 amendments U.S. District Judge John Rainey said the 1999 amendments
oo the Abortion Facility Reporting and Licening Act violate the
equal protection clause of the U.S. Constitution and are uncon.

Rainey granted a temporary injunction after a two-day Rainey granted a temporary injunction aft
hearing on the new law's background and effects.
hearing on the new law's background and effects.
The law which took effect Sept. 1, requires doctors' offices to be licensed if the physician performs more than 300 abortions
a year. It also increases the criminal liability of doctors who perate abortion clinics without a license If Texas Attorney Gene
rial likely will take place
A spokeswoman for Texas Department of Health Commis sioner William Archer III deccined comment on Rainey's order.
But an attorney for the group of physicians who filed the lawu uit told the Houston Crropicle that the judge's decisio
removes a roadblock for women seeking abortions in Texas.

## Waco fiasco continues

DALLAS (AP) - Negotiators in the deadly standoff with rmed Branch Davidians were derailed by tactical mistakes
during the siege's first weeks near Waco, FBI agents and behavior experts have told the Justice Department.
Agency memos obtained by The Dallas Morning News in a
copyright story for today's editions blamed the FBT's reliance opyright story for today's editions blamed the FBT's reliance on punitive paramilitary actions for failing to entice more sec
members out of their Mount Carmel compound. "The negotiators' approach was working until they had the
rug pulled out from under them" by aggressive tactical actions, rug pulled out from under them th aggressive etactical actione
a justice Department investigator was told in August
1993 by a Justice Department investigator was tord in August 1993 by
Agent Gary Noesner, FBI negotiation coordinator for the sieges
After the standoff ended in a fiery blaze that destroyed the compound and killed dozens of people, a top negotiator said
that a tear gas attack was favored against Branch Davidians that a tear gas attack was fav
because its use was inevitable. Internal documents obtained by the newspaper show that
negotiators feared tactical agents more favored by FBi
mam. manders would otherwise be allowed to throw it in in. The
agents had begul lobbying for ues of to
1993, sending a formal plan to the White House.

## Elsewhere:

GETTING READY TO PARTY: In Dallas, workers are completing the finishing touches on a $\$ 600,000$ red fying horse
that will light the citys sky at the stroke of midnight on New Year's. In Lubbock, chesfy are chopping and balking as they
prepare the first breakfast of 2000 for 1,000 partygoers. The srreets in Austin, usual filled with business commuters and visitors, were closed
stages in front of the Capitol fork the lithes of Lyle Lovett.


## No trucks, plain and simple



## Abandoned babies catch public eye

HOUSTON (AP) - The have organized the Harris newborn babies were found on doorsteps, in streets, at schools
and in trash bins. With each new dis
more and more and more increduubous.
Abandoned children are sad reality in the nation's fourth-largest city, but by the
time the rash ended in Sep time the rash ended in Sep carded babies in 10 months stunned child-protection officials. ${ }^{\text {If }} \mathbf{w}$
If we get one or two a
year, that wouldn't be unusual," said George Ford, executive director of Harris
County Child Protective Ser vices. "But to have 13 within this time period is certainly extraordinary."
The reasons
The reasons for the increase aren't clear. But officials hop
ing to prevent a tragic trend

## Beer industry not ready <br> \section*{for bio-tech components}

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) - "The majority of (research) Charles Ottern would love to see the barley in his fields be
immune to disease, but brewing companies worry that beer drinkers might be turned off genetic
that possible
hove downething, we can We all have poople's throats. communicating and compro-
mising," said Rick Ward, wheat 'breeder at Michigan sumer is king, and they will In North Dakota, which duction nation in barley production, this year's crop was
the smallest in more than a scab has cost Northern Plains an estimated $\$ 2.6$ billion in lost crops fro
1991 through 1997 alone. 1991 through 1997 alone.
"Scab, for all practical poses, has devastated the pu poses, has devastated the bar
ley industry in this state," said
Ottem, a North Don Ontem, a North Dakota farmer and chairman of the state's only way we're going to find
the solution to all of our disease problems - manipulat Barley is used to make beer,
but scab-infested bariey can affect the taste and cause the
beer to gush out of the bottle. beer to gush out of the bottle.
Genetic engineering involves mant. With the plan. Wisy over biotech food
trove overseas brewers alread some overseas brewers already
are refusing to buy grain ge-
netically designed to kill peetic netically designed to kill pest
ease. the United States, th brewing industry is still pi
ning its hopes on a more ning its hopes on a more
ventional solution to scab.

funds being expended are fo said Mike Davis, president of Association Malting Barley major malting and brewing companies. "Our general search should be pursued as a
possible avenue to solve the possible avenu
scab problem."

## HEREFORD BRAND <br> Obtuaries

DORIS M. WILSON Dec. 28,1
Memorial services for Do M. Wilson, 71, of Hereford will be announced later. The fam yangements are under the d rangements are under the di-
rection of Gililland-Watson Fu neral Home.
Mrs. Wilson died Tuesday the Hereford Care Center.
Mrs. Wilson was bern Mrs. Wilson was born Feb
19, 1928, in Crosbyton to Cec Perry Roberts and Lila Cec
McDonald. She married Ro McDonald. She married Roy 1946, in Summerfield. She 1943. She was a Methodist and had worked as a retail
sales clerk. Survivors include her hus
Sual band; three sons, Mike Wiliso
of Hereford, Roy Rodney Wi of Hereford, Roy Rodney Wilson of Chickasha, Okla. brother, C.P. Roberts, or., of
Odessa; one sister, Dorothy
Pringle of Lubbock; seven grandchildren; four step-grand children; and two great-grand D , n
ch

## 

 died of blows to said the bead baby teen-ager will stand trial asan adult on mud an adult on murder charges.
Identifying the chich Identifying the mothers and
gathering information on their medical histories are crucial to providing care
While the federal govern-
ment tracks statistics on so-
called "boarder babies"
dren left in hospital maternity
dren left in hospital maternity
HEREFORD BRAND

## Emergency services

Activities reported by emer- Highway 60 and Progressive Activities reported by emer
gency services personnel fo
Dec. 29, 1999, include the fol POLICE DEPARTMENT - An 18-year-old wo arrested in the 100 block of Avenue D and charged with disorderly conduct.

- A 24 -year-old man was arrested in the 100 block of
Squth 25 Mile Avenue and charged with public intoxica-- A 21 -year-old woman was arrested in the 600 block of
Irving and charged with crimiIrving and charged with crimi-
Incidents
- A juvenile was reported as
a runaway in the 400 block of Avenue $B$.
- $\mathbf{A}$ burglary of a habitation - A burglary of a habitation was reported
of Avenue $K$.
SHERIFFPS DEPARTMENT
Arresta
34-yan was
in Colorado and charged with forgery.
- Deputies responded to a
civil stand-by
FIRPARTMIENT
Dec. 29
- 12:07 p.m. Firefighters re-
- 12:07 p.m. Firefighters re-
$-6: 01$ p.m. Firefighters re-
sponded to a structure fire sponded to a structure fire, one mile south on Main Street
at the Hereford Farmers Co. op Gin.
wards by drug-addicted or
HIV-infected mothers IIV-infected mothers - it carded newborns. Most major cities, such as the problem either. Houston only began tracking discardon babies this year when the dis
turbing pattern became appar ent. don't think we know enough to say why this happokesman for the federal Adpokesman for the federal Ad Families. "This must be the most extreme act a person can umpster or a public in It's hard to fathom public park he act of somebody methodi-
al enough to say, Tve seen cal enough to say, 'Tve seen something I can do as well., will push for legislation to ini tiate national record-keepin n the problem.
e don't keep to learn that congresswoman this data," the oing to look said. If we'n these things - Is it a nanational answers? - we've go o know how many babies ar
being dumped." being dumped."


## - 3:14 a.m. Firefighters re sponded to a grassire on South Progressive Road behind Cardinal's. <br> THE ASSOCIATED PRESS Texas lotiery <br> <br> Lotto

 <br> <br> Lotto}No ticket correctly matched day night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game,
tery officials said.
The numbers drawn oednesday night from a
of were:
Set-14-1e-21-2e-4

## Saturday night's drawin will be worth an estimate

 $\$ 10$ million.The winning Piek 3 num-
bers drawn Wednesday by the bers drawn Wednesday
Tezas Lottery, in order:

# LIFESTYLES 

## Bring good taste to New Year

## 

Ann Landers A - I column may be one of the Too many read. Pay attention! parent s that essay by Rose Mula I read have no the old lady in the house, and
idea what had to share with you my goes on all grandfather's favorite poem.
day in anders day in Pops wrote poetry for all ocyet, this is is casions, and as a result, was
known as the poet laureate of a large part of their child's
Ocean View, Del. I hope you
life. I have heard endless com- will print Pops' poem. He plaints about teachers, home- would have loved to have seen work and administrative prob- it in your column. - A Denot take the time to get involved and find out how they Dear Grandsons Your can help. I have a child in grandfather was very talented. grade school, and I would like 0 offer these suggestions to parents who want to help their 1. Voluntell in school: 1. Volunteer whenever you can. You'll get a good feel for
the place and for the teachers and the support staff. 2. Go to orientations, open houses and conferences. Meet the teachers. Learn their ule for midterms and final exams. Find out how your child is doing.
3. Join the PTA, and keep current with what is happening in your school and with the students. your child uses, end textbooks he or she brings home. 5. Get to know your child's ents. 6. Ask about your school's academic test records. Ask the answer and administration to have. Parents have the right 7. Volunteer for advisory committees and board memberships so you can have a
say in the policy of your chidd say in the polly your child's Please print this letter, Ann, so other parents can help their children. - LouisDear Loulsvillo Mome You have made some excellent suggestions, and I am sure they are workable. The bottom line is GET INVOLVED - VOL UNTEER. Do it for your chil-
dren. Do it for yourself. This is a win-win situation. Today's

## Cancer screenings offered at local clinic

The Women's Center of the come to area towns. All exams Don and Sybil Harrington are done by appointment only. Cancer Center and Baptist/St. This clinic is available only to
Anthony's Health System will women who need financial conduct a breast cancer screening at South Plains Health Care Providers, Inc., 603 East Park, on Jan. 14.
Participants will receive a low-cost screening that includes a mammogram and instruction in self-examination by a registered nurse.
A minimum of 15 women mobile mammography clinic to
women who need financial
assistance. Funding is available through the Texas Department of Health for Texas residents
whoqualify for assistance. who qualify for assistance.
Call $806-356-1905$ or $1-800$ 377-4673 for more information.

Call the Hereford Brand with local news. 364-2030

New Year's Eve

2000
will be one of the most important moments in the history of the lives of all of us who are on earth to celebrate it - it is the beginning of a JUBILEE - a HOLY YEAR! Let's begin with prayer and celebration.


You are invited by St. Anthony's Parish Families to join in our "Celebration of Liturgy" 11:00 p.m. Bring you BELLS to ring at midnight, a New Year, a New Century.

We will continue our celebrating in the school gym/cafeteria with Food, Fun, Games, and Music by Bill Sava.

May His love fill your heart with Joy and Peace this "Jubilee Year" 2000


## Library will be site of county spelling bee

The Deaf Smith County Spelling Bee for 2000 will be conducted March 8-9 at the Deaf Smith County Library, it was
announced by The Hereford Brand.
The county bee has been held in conjunction with the regional and national bees or many years,
and The Brand has been the local


CASKETS AND MONUMENTS
 miles of Heretord.
337 N.MILES
HEREFRDD. TX 303-2700
sponsor since 1985. Brand campus.
publisher Mauri Montgomery The two levels of competition
will serve as county bee director. in the 2000 Spelling Bee are will serve as county bee director. in the 2000 Spelling Bee are annual Regional Spelling Bee, and below) and senior (for grades with The Amarillo and West Texas A\&M University eight and below). as sponsors once again. It will be local winners in be presented to as sponsors once again. It will be local winners in the Junior and
held April 15 on the WTAMU Senior Bees, and the country champ
Bee. The contest is open to students in public, private, parchial in pubic, private, parochial, contestant cannot be higher than the eighth grade or older than 16 by the date of th
May 31, 2000 .


## SPC plans celebration of innovative program

Special to The Brand Special to The Brand
LEVELLAND - South Plains College will celebrate the $25^{\text {th }}$
anniversary of one of the most innovative music programs in merican education live televiso mance, reunion concert perrorsalute to the man whose vision began it all a quarter century ago.
Nathan Tubb, who served SPC 23 years as a college administrator before retiring in 1981, will be honored during a special ecognition ceremony March ${ }^{3}$ SPC's pioneering program in ommercial music. program in The festivities begin March 2
with a performance at $7: 30 \mathrm{pm}$ ith a performance at 7:30 p.m. City Limits style live television show which features the talents of students in the program. The show will also be broadcas Littlefield, Brownfield and Morton. Tubb is one of the show's nost ardent supporters and can Thursday night of each month for he monthly show.
Anevening celebrating Tubb's riday, March 3, in tor 7 riday, March 3, in the same
ocation, the Tom T. Hall Studio In the college's Creative Arts Building.
The three-day slateoffestivities

## What's Happening

## Area Events

Leveriand
South Plains College has 2000 for all campus locations Registration schedule is as
Red all -SPC espC Reese campus, 9730 (eese Blva., 5:30-7:30 p.m., Jan -SPC Lubbock, 1302 Main, Jan. 12 for returning students K ), 1:30-3:30 p.m. (L-Z) and $3: 30$ 5:30 p.m. (A-Z); Jan. 13 for new students (not enrolled in fall 1999)9 a.m.-noon (A-K), 3-6 p.m. 2.2) and 6-7 p.m. open registration. SPC Levelland, 1401 S
College Ave., Jan. 13, 9-11:30 College Ave., Jan. 13, 9-11:30 permit required) and $4-6: 30 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$ noregistration permit required) Classes at all locations begin Jan. 18.
For more information, check out the college's website a pc.cc.tx.us or contact SPC Always Helpful
Hints from Heloise
beginning Jan. 3at 8066-894-9611,
ext. $2374,747-0576$, ext. 4606 or ext. 2374,747-0576, ext. 4606 or the Reese campus at 885-3048, amarillo

## amarillo

Amarillo Little Theatre invites you on a guided tour of rexas
third smallest community as it presents its $11^{\text {th }}$ annual ALT Touring Project, the hillarious One Star treat, "Greater Tuna.
Originally published in the Originally published in the
early 1980s, this homage to the fictitious town of Tuna, Texas, enjoyed a Tony-winning offBroadway run and has become a
regional classic.
"Greater Tuna" is a send-upo Gmall town mores as two actors. n a tour de force of quick-change artistry (both in costuming and entire population of this tiny Texas town.
The heart of The heart of Tuna is local radio tation OKKK and the many personalities who grace its
airwaves, including its anchors,

Thurston Wheelis and Arles of local and national news with their own brand of colloquial humor. There are more than 20 denizens of Tuna in all, each with ccentricities. To bring this slate of insane personillities to life, ALT has personalities of its own in the orm of cast members Raymond Girard and David D. McKnight
"Greater Tuna" will open on "Greater Tuna" will open on its tour of several Panhandle stages. There will be a special Preview Night at 8 p.m. on Jan.
20 , offering two-admissions-for the-price-of-one tickets. Official opening is at $8 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$ Jan. 21 with performances continuing Jan. 22,27, 28 and 29 t 8 p.m. Matinees are schedule ALT box office will begin taking reservations from season members on Jan. 3 and from the
general public on Jan. 10 general public on Jan. 10 .
Reservations may be secured by Reservations may
calling $355-9991$.


## Caring.

A mother's quien devotion to her child
 A seffe place for your feelings.
Corlage ith mhe



Dear Heloise I I always Recerve POINSETTIAS over the holidays, and ing them alive and well throughout the
year.
Do you have any advice on this? -
C.M.. Rosedale. Ind. Sure do! They are pretty during the leaves and turn yellow eventually. There are some steps you can take to
keep them alive for the next holiday. and at the minimum you 'll have a pretty Treen plant all year long. and be sure that it gets good light but no direct sun. Avoid sudden tempera ture changes. also. Moisture is a must in the plant saucer. To help keep the imosphere moist. set the pot on a dish ith pebbles in water.

Leaves turning yellow and dropping
off? This is a jign that the lant is ff? This is a sisg that the plant is
leaving its blooming period and isready to be pruned back and kept in a cool place until next spring. It is sometimes difficult to have the plants bloom and
turn red again. $I$ 've never had any luck, but do enjoy them as lovely green Sometimes poinsettias might be too dry when they are purchased or rekeep the soil moist, but not soaked. Also. spend the extra money to pur-
chase a good-quality plant. - Heloise
 Heloise.P.O. Box 795000. San Antonio, X78279-5000or faxitto210-HELOISE:
can't answer your letter personally I can't answer your letter personally
but will use the best hints received in ny column.

## Wles to livilid Your Life On

 You are invited this Sundayin the program. "We want to The facility also boasts four professional-caliber recording studios, a television studio, five rehearsal halls, and courses ranging from bluegrass bass to The programs have attracted tudents from all over athe world, including some of today's country
music stars, Natalie Maines with music stars, Natalie Maines with
the Dixie Chicks, Lee Ann the Dixie Chicks, Lee Ann
Womack and Heath Wright with Ricochet.
The idea for the program started with a short course.
Tubb had persuaded the lollege to offer a short course in guitar, and when more than 75 people signed up for class, he new he college was onto a good That cemented it," recalled Tubb. Shortly thereatter, he encouraged the college to begin offering a degree in country music and hire its first instructor,
John Hartin, an astute musician ohn Hartin, an astute musician Neb.
Under Hartin's leadership, the program has since evolved into an entire department covering all aspects of commercial
music, sound technology and performing arts technology. It has gained international recognition and become the nation's most inclusive training
center in commercial music.

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## SPORTS <br> A5. HEREFORD BRAND - Thursday, December 30, 1999

# Back on winning tracks 

Lady Whitefaces advance to semifinals at Caprock Tourney

| Whitefaces to |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Lady Whitefaces |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Mereford 6 |  |  |
| ning ways going |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Lubbock 30 |  |  |
| the | $16 \quad 20{ }^{16}$ |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wer | Lubbock High (m) Williams 23.4 |  |  |
|  | 0.02; Nash 20-2 4; Cass $12-2$ 4; Kidder 1 0-2 2. Totals: 10 o. 1430 . |  |  |
| hitefaces ad- | Hereford (13.4, Sarah Grifin 10.02 , |  |  |
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|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Walker $43-412$. Totate 289.1168. |  |  |
| bbock | Haltime - Hereford 36, Lubbock High 16. Three-Pointers-Lubbock High1(Williams inHereford 3 (Guzman 1 , Eicke 1, Walker 15 Fouls-Lubbock HighEi; Hereford 15. |  |  |
| es |  |  |  |
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| nated through |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| they took a 36-16 | Mereford 62, . rest of the way |  |  |
| lead after one | - |  |  |
|  | 6 11 13-55 |  |  |
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|  | 2: Ja. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Jones20.0 4; Heller 51.25 14 ; Blenden 03.43 : Murphy 1 3-5 5. Totals: $1423-3355$. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | Brionne Yosten 12.54: Valerie Gumanan 6 3-5 15: Toni Eicke 13-4 5: Shyla Martin 6 |  |  |
| nated |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Halinime - Hereford 34, Crawford 31. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| y Westerners | Three-Pointers - Crawford 41 Heller 3,Tidwell 1: Hereford 0. Fouls - Crawford |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| ond half to run |  |  |  |
| away with the vict Toni Eicke led H |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 17 points. Tori Walker and |  |  |  |
| Shyla Martin each added 12 points. |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| points. <br> That victory propelled the |  |  |  |

## Hereford pounds Silver Foxes, 69-53

From Staff Reports
LUBBOCK - The Hereford leriod. Hereford, though, still
led by 10 points at haltime. boys basketball team recov- Hereford kept dominating ered from a loss to EI Paso as they scored 30 points in Montwood to
get a victory in
the consolation Mereford 69, EP bracket of the
Caprock Holi- Jefferson 58 Caprock Holi-
day Tournaday Tourna
ment on

Heareford de-
Hes feated EI Paso Jefferson 69-53
in the first round of the round of the bracket.
Hereford dominated
most of the most of the 21 -point outburst in th
The Silver Foxes came back available by pults were not not to keep things close in the ner of that grame would play game with a 19-point second a consolation game today.

## Walker, Witkowski chosen All-State

From Staff Reports
Audra Witkowski and Tori
and a 433 attack percentage. Walker got what they and Tori She was named the Player.o when they won a state champi-



H5s mine - Cody Hodges, shown above grabbing a rebound against Canyon, scored 17 points against El Paso Jefferson in a $69-53$ victory in the consolation bracket of the Caprock Holiday Tournament in Lubbock. The Whitefaces played Lamesa in another consolation bracket game but results were not available at press time. The Caprock Tournament concludes today.

## Rangers sign Rogers for $\$ 22.5$ million

- Rogers replaces departed pitchers Sele, Burkett
ARLINGTON (AP) - After our years away, Kenny Roger ers on Wednesday, signing a
$\$ 22.5$ million, three-year con tract.' not a secret that wanted to come back," said Rogers, who had his greatest success with the Rangers and
played his first seven years with the team. "I want to try to go out and do the same thing I did the first time, and hope it will last longer than
the three years." the three years.
left-hander after tures of pitchers Aaron Sele and John Burkett, who be came free agents. Sele has salary arbitration and th team has pulled a four-year offer off the table.
Sele (33 starts) can negoti8, but Burkett ( 25 starts) is ineligible to sign with the
Rangers until May 1 Rangers until May 1.
taff the last few pitching staff the last few years has
been all right-handed. Kenny was on that list, someone o quality we would like to pursue," Rangers general
ager Doug Melvin said. Melvin said the deal with Rogers was finalized after no progress was being made in
the negotiations with Sele. the negotiations win sele. I had about not having any body," Melvin said. "My fear was going about this and endng up with no startin Texas hasn't had a lef handed starter since trading Darren Oiver in July 1998, but now possiby has the addition of Rogers and 26 -year-old Justin Thompson, ac quired in the deal that sent Juan Gonzalez to Detroit. Rogers has a career record
of $114-78$, the .594 winning percentage the second-highes among available free agent starting pitchers. He was a
39th-round draft pick of the Rangers in 1982, and broke into the majors seven year On July 28, 1994, Roger
pitched one of only 14 perfect games in modern major league
history, beating the Angels 4 0 . "That's the way it goes Rogers was 5-1 with a 4.03 sometimes. People tend to forERA for the New York Mets won 10 of them," 12 starts we in the final two months of last Since Rogers left Texas season after going $5-3$ with a letics. However, he ended the Mets' season by walking
Andruw Jones with the bases loaded in the 11th inning of Game 6 of the National League Championship Series, giving the past two seasons.


The YMCA Men's Basketball league is designed for men (no age limit) to show their athletic ability in b-bal games and to try their hand in winning a trophy. (Ist place, and place, 3rd place). Length of the league will be 6 weeks plus doubie ceimination toumanceit. The team caplain or manager will be responsibie ior leagie. Players must play at least $1 / 3$ of the reovier season games to be eligible for the toumament. Games will have 2 referees paid and scheduled by the YMCA.
STARTING DATE: Sunday, January 9,2000
GAME DAY: Sundays, starting at 1:00 pm
SIGN-UP DEADLNE: Tuesday, January 4th, 2000-3:00 pm
ENTRY FEE: $\$ 320.00$ per team
LENCTH OF LSACUE: Six (6) weeks plus double elimination tournament
Rosters will be syainble of oame site. Individua players must have name on roster and be properly registered with their team before playing As soon ss a player participates in a league game they shalil be deemed as starting the seraon There will be no grace period. Team may start with 3 player, if they are not present then it will be cailod as

Teams arniving without enough playes to field a team may enlist temporary substiatues in order to field a team. The game will bea forfeithit his will allow those present the enjoyment of playing. If there is
an odd number of teams, one team will phay twice on emme dayy. Intentional foul will be 2 free shots and ball out of bounds.


## Stars beat Rangers, 4-3

DALLAS (AP) - Last sea-
son, the Dallas Stars were
dominant at home, compiling dominant at home, compiling Arena en route to the Arena en route to the But things aren't as easy this season. The Stars are
scuffling to score goals, and scuffling to score goals, and
the fans are booing their underachieving team. Dallas needed an overtime
goal from goal from on Wamie
Langenbrunner on Wednesday night to beat the New York Rangers 4-3. "It's been a frustrating place for us to play," Stars
center Mike Modano said after his team improved to 9 8 -1 at home. "The fans let their feelings be known, but we've got to stick to our
game. When we put too much game. we get into trouble."
Langenbrunner admitted
his goal with $1: 43$ left in his goal with 1:43 left in
overtime was a lucky one. He overtime was a lucky one. He
took possession along the left took possession along the left
boards, faked a slap shot and moved to the top of the left
circle, where puck at the net. Kirk Muller screened goalie Kirk McLean, and Langenbrunner had his seventh goal.
went in," no idea it even went in, Langenbrunner said.
"I was just throwing it at the net to see what happens, trynet to gee what happens, try-
ing to for Muler). It was a lucky goal, (Muller). It was a lucky goal,
but the puck hasn't been
bouncing for me lately, so IIl
take it."
It was the Rangers' third
straight overtime game, after gaining ties against New Jersey and Phoenix. New York has been forced to play overand seven of of seven games
period period, the Rangers were dragging.
"tris been a pretty grueling stretch," said Rety grueling
Rangers defenseman Kevin Hatcher, who scored a first-period goal
to give his team a $2-0$ lead. "We were sluggish in the second. But we fought a hard
game. We got a point out of game. We got a point out of
it, but it would have been nice to win this one." been Dallas had three goals in its previous three games, then
broke out against the Rangbroke out against the Rangers. The Stars are $13-0-0$
when they score three or more goals.
"It was a run-and-gun kind
of game, but we stuck to our of game, but we stuck to our
game plan," Modano said. There was a lot of open ice and we got a few lucky goals and capitalized on their mis-
takes. This will help our contakes. This will help our con-
fidence." Juha Lind gave the Stars a 3-2 lead with 12:13 remaining in regulation with his second goal of the season
after Modano notched the tyant goal on a power play at 4:38. Brett Hull, who remains
one goal short of becoming one goal short of becoming
the 12th player in history to
reach 600 goals, got an assist
on Modano's 14th goal of the season.
With With $7: 58$ left in regulaat 3 for the Rangers with his 10th goal, nudging the puck under Stars goalie puck Ed
Belfour. New York's regular goalie Mike Richter got the night straight games.
The Rangers, playing for the second straight night, grabbed a 2-0 first-period
lead.
lead.
John MacLean scored his fourth, converting Tim Taylor's centering pass at 9:40, and Hatcher added his third - second in two games - on a power-play wrist shot
was a lore down, but there was a lot of game left to
played," Modano said.

The Stars had an apparent goal disallowed by referee
Paul Stewart with 10:27 left in the second. Stewart called in the second. Stewart called ference on Henatcher, and when Modano scored from close range, the goal was canceled

Dallas was missing three of its best players with injuries: defenseman Derian
Hatcher and forwards Hatcher and forwards Jere
Lehtinen and Joe Lehtinen
Nieuwendyk.

## No decision on QB time split

IRVING (AP) - No deci- fensive player of the year tion may be next season. sion has been made on how after throwing for 3,357 yards 'I can't answer that. I
Major Applewhite and Chris and 21 touchdowns, has don't know, I'm not the Major Appewhite and Chris and 21 touchdowns, has don't know, I'm not the
Simms will split time at quar- started 12 of 13 games this coach," Applewhite said. "It terback for No. 14 Texas in season. the Cotton Bowl, but what When Applewhite had a predict the future when you
happens could be a precur- stomach virus before the have an Arkansas ball club happens could be precur- stomach virus before the have an Arkansas ball club
sor to next season. Applewhite, a sophomore, Teguas A\&eason finale against Simms got his and ready to whip you. Why will remain the starter on only start and played the are we thinking about AuNew Year's Day against Ar- first three quarters in the gust? It's time to play foot-
kansas. But Simms, the $20-16$ loss. Applewhite fin- ball Jan. 1 not August 2000 . kansas. But Simms, the $20-16$ loss. Applewhite fin- ball Jan. 1, not August 2000."
highly-fouted freshman and ished the game and then
son of former NFL quarter- played in the entire Big 12 experience and weighs the back Phil Simms quartersome significant action. get "We've not made any kind of decision other than wind told both quarterbacks that we are going to play both of them and that Chris is going
to play in both halves," Texas to play in both halves," Texas
offensive coordinator Greg Davis said Wednesday Gres Davis denied that the bowl preparations were providing
any kind of head start for any kind of head start for
spring practice, saying that the most important issue for the Longhorns (9-4) is beat-
ing Arkansas $(7-4)$ in Saturing Arkansas (7-4) on Satur-
day Winning is most important. We can sell all of those other things in spring train-
ing," Davis said. "(Coach Mack Brown) and I have played We quarterbacks in the past. We are about winning the
game, that's all we're about game, that's all we're about
so we are not opposed to so we are not opposed
If can wo have two guys. who can go in and win, well cer-
tainly do that."
Applewhite, the Big 12 of
experience and weighs the same as Simms at 210 pounds, the freshman has a four-inch height advantage. Applewhite is right-handed and Simms is a lefty. But both have a more important
common characteristic. "The similarities is that they both have that competitive fire that you can't teach" said Texas receiving
leader Kwane Cavil.
GILILIAND Lije-Heallh-Disability
rement Planning - Estate Planning Retirement Planning - Estate Plamning
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## TERRY'SAUTOTOIVE


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## TSWA 1999 All-State Volleyball Team

AUSTIN (AP) - Here is the
1999 Texas Sports Writers 1999 Texas Sports Writers
Association all-state volleyball



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## Hereford

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WHY?
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## First installment of Grisham's new novel due mid-January

## THE ASSOCIATED PRESS <br> People

OXFORD, Miss. (AP) John Grisham is adding a new chapter to his dossier:
The first installment of his first serialized novel is due out in mid-January. excited about it,", said Mark Smirnoff, editor of The Oxford American, the Southern iterary magazine that
Grisham helps publish, and Grisham helps publish, and
where his latest fiction will ${ }^{\text {appear }}$ A Painted House" covers 32 pages of the upcon 1144 page edition. The story is a semi-auto-
biographical tale of a 7 -yearold boy growing up in the mpoverished cotton farms of Thld from the perspective of
the child, whose farm-laboring youth mirrors Grisham's own, the story follows the
ives of poor migrant work${ }^{\text {ers. }}$ Smirnoff said that to expeience the novel as readers vill, he and Grisham set the before picking it tup again
It worked," he said. ${ }^{\text {N }}$. we just have to make it work ve more times."

## Prince

NEW YORK - The swan song of "1999" has arrived-
take it from the artist himtake
self.

Prince (or the artist for-
known as such) said he ' 80 s megahit will be par of a pay-per-view concert
scheduled to ain on New Year's
Eve - and that's it Eve - and that's it. This is going to be the last Wednesday on CBS's ${ }^{\text {The }}$ Early Show" "We're going to won't be no need to play it in
the 00s." the OOS.
Prince 17 years ago. He wrote "lease" a new album, "Rave Un2 the
Dy Fantatic. Joy Fantastic,' his first in three
years.
© Syme
ORLANDO, Fla. - N Sync and its former promoter have the multiplatinum singing group to keep its name while changing record companies.
Most details of Wednesday, Most details of Wednesiday's out-ot-court settlement be
tween in Syn and Lou Pearlman were not tisclosed. But N Sync will be able to leave a record deal Pearlman
necotiated for them with BMG Entertainment and go to another record company, Zomba Group's Jive Records, home to fellow teen pop acts The
Backstreet Boys and Britney Spears.
Pearlman's company, Trans Continental Group, will receive future compensation from on
Sync. Zomba also will continue a distribution agreement with BMG, the No. 2-ranked
music company in the U.S. music company in the U.S.
market.
und tremely pleased,. ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{N}$ Sync said

## in a joint statement with

 Pearlman had been seeking 150 million in his breach-ofcontract suit filed in U.S. Dis. rrict Court. N Sync claimed that Peariman and Trans Continental cheated them out of earnings and royalties and
failed to sign them to a U.S. record company.
Pearlman signed
N Sync to recora deal in 1996.
Lucinda Williams
CAMDEN, N.J. - An arts the management company of Lucinda Williams, claiming it broke a deal for the singersongwriter to appear at ${ }^{1}$ its
1999 festival. In its
Arts \& Music Center said had to scramble to get Arlo Guthrie as a replacement hea tour with Tom Petty in-
ontead. This was the last thing Appel Farm wanted to do, said William
or the center. Messages left Wednesday for representatives of Williams and her management company Nashville, Tenn., were not returned.
Williams won Grammys in 1999 for best contemporar Gravel Road," and in 1993 a songwriter for best country song, "Passionate Kisses," per ormed by Mary Chapin Car penter. lawsuit seeks unspeci-
fied damages.

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## FRIDAY

DECEMBER 31

## 

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## Comics



## Barney Google and Snuffy Smith ${ }^{\oplus}$



Beetle Bailey ${ }^{\circ}$
By Mort Walker


## Blondie ${ }^{\circ}$

By Doan Young \& Stan Drake


## Marvin




By Tom Armetrong


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## From Peas A

The Hereford Brand office will be closed Monday, Jan. 3, for
the New Years Day holiday. It will reopen for normal businoss the New tears Day holiday. It will reopen for normal business
 Thankegiving and Christtras, obaevired bluaithe rourth of July Monday to allow Brand employees to onjoy the holideny The deadline for dieploy end claseifiod adversting and

The Brand will publish a weekond odition on Friday. Also, cull the circulation dopartrecent by 6 p.m. call the crrculation department by 6 p.m. a fow more days off before resuming the daily grind of claseses.an at
Classes
will
resume $J$ Jan. 4 for students at Christian school. For students in Hereford Ind opendent Schonty District, Nazarene Christian Academy and St. Anthony's School,
clatee will not resume until Jan. 5. DAILY CRYPTOQUOTES

DAIIY CRYPTOQUOTES - Here's how to work it: AXYDLBAAXR
isLONGFELLOW
Oone leter stunds for another. In this smmple, A is used apostrophes, Lhe ienength nond formation, ier the words are ali
hints. Ehch day the code leters are ifferen. 12-30 CRYPTOQUOTE

## GKXHNLGBAHKDLA

BM WTY CTHTYLA EL
BMCBMBHLABGKQ IWGOKYLR
HW HNWL BM WTY
OKAHA. - LB QLLM GKAWM $^{\text {LB }}$ PROVES SOMEBODY STOPPED TALKING LONG ENOUGH TO DO SOMETHING. - ANON

## Schlabs Hysinger <br> St





El bienestar de Texas
realudl a los vince de Toxas



## Ballot

## From Page at

which includes Deaf Smith Prayer will be mixed with
County, incumbent Combest, a Lubbock Republican, is expected to win re-
election handily Incumbent John Smithee, an Amarillo Republican, is seeking another term as the
Texas House District resentative. Smithee, who was resentative Smithee, who was
unopposed in the 1998 general electiton, is not expected to
have an opponent in either have an opponent in either
the GOP primary or the No-
vember general
The primary ballots also will include the presidential
primaries. Candidates who have primaries. Candidates who have are: DEMOCRATIC Bill Bradley
A Gore;
Lymdon Larouche.
REMPUBLLCAN Gary Bauer; Stove Forbes;
John McCain. mary ballot.
State pa
voted to parace officials have vofederendum on the GOP nop bing that asks votere GOP ballot dent-initiated prayer be all stuTheol sporting events? The referendum responds to
recent court rulings banning student led-prayer before footbail games and gives Texans a chance to express their "out-
rage," said Susan Weddington, Republican state chair. litial partiestion to laws allow poing guestions on their primary
ballots. Voters also will notice someVoters also will notice some-
thing new this election year
ther $\overline{S t a t e}_{\text {their registration cards. The }}$ color of the cards from baby blue to yellow. The cards are
changed every two years and are mailed automatically to registered voters.
(i) - incumbent

## TMSI

## From Page 41

tem.
he administrator and TSMI will be responsible for provid ing the board with specific plans for physician recruitment analyze contracts and negotiate contracts subject to board
approval; develop a strategic plan for improving hospita approva;; develop a strategic plan for improving hospital
performance in billing collection; assist in the preparation of a market analysis for the hospital; and assist with the rural health clinic, physician practice evaluation, strategic partner-
ships, community health assesment plans, assisted living programs, and psychiatric programs.
The hospital district will be resp
monthly management fee, pay the salary/benefing of of the monthiy management fee, pay the salary/benefits of the
administrator, and name TMSI and the administrator as admitional insureds under the hospitil's comprehensive general
adnd hospital professional liability adaitional insureds under the enspiats
and hospital profegsional liability policies.

## Soldiers encircle hijacked jet

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan Taliban soldiers with rocket launchers encircled a hijacked
Indian Airlines plane today as Indian Airrines plane today as
negotiators reportedly haggled with the hijackers over the tants.
The Taliban said they were not peranning an asidtack ag waine
the hijackers, who have held not phanning an attack against
the hijecres, who have held
the Airbus A300 on the tarmac the Airbus A300 on the tarmac
at the southern Afghan town at the southern Afghan town
of Kandahar since Saturday of Rendahar since Saturday
with 160 people on board. The hijackers have killed at least
one passenger one passenger.
Diplomats
Kiplomats at the airport in Kandahar said the Indian ne
gotiators. who resumed talks
with the wije with the hijackers via radio from the control tower this
morning, have indicated they morinilling to release some
are will are wiling to res resmiri militants.
But so far the hijackers have refused to budge on their de-
mand for the release of 35 Kashmiri fighters and a Paki-stani-born Kashmiri activist, the diplomats and Taliban officieile said. All are being held
in Indian jails The first b The first big breakthrough
since the jet was hijacked Friday came Wedinesday when the Taiban perrauaded the hijack
ere to drop their demands for ers to drop their demands for
anzoo million rantom and the body of a Kashmiri militant. Thendahar to a aseats were in Kandahar to assess the condi-
tions of their nationals
held hosetage on boord the aircraf.
They epoke on condition of anonymity, saying they are concerned about.
We Trilibanhmed Murtawakil, confirmed that the negotiations between Indian officials and
the hijackers were focusing on the hijackers were focusing on
the numbers of militants who could be freed to end the hi-

## U.S. cees leas need

 for forces in Panama WASHINGGON - The turn-means more than the end of
American control of the 50 mile waterway. It marks the
loss of a U.S. militiary foothold
in Central A. in Central America. For some, the transfer raiges
questions abut whether U.S.
national secourity will be weaknational security will be weak-
ened.
The answer in the view of The answer, in the view of
many, is no. Panama no longer many, is no. Panama no longer
is the strategic prize it was
during during much of the 20th cen-
tury, and the U.S. armed forces tury, and the U.S. armed forces
have made alternative arrangehave made alternative arrange-
ments to ceep a credible presence in the region.
Some people,
Some people, most notably
those who have argued against those who have argued against
the canal handover since PresiChen Carter signed the Panama
dennal Canal Treaties in 1977 , dis-
agree. They believe agree. They believe the loss of
the canal is $a$ blow to U.S. influence in the region and could create a asecurity vacuum
that Colombia's drug lords will try to exploit.
Retired
Adm. Thomas Mootrired a formerm. Thairman of
the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told Congoins Chiefs of Staff, told
that ehe ealier this month that he believes China will
use its commercial links to use its commercial links to
the canal to sneak nuclear the canal to sissies into the area.
.
Souch fears are dismissed by
Joseph W. Cornelison, deputy
administrator of the Panama administrator of the Panama operator whose duties will
cease on Friday. He told the cease on Friday. He told the
Senate Armed Service Com. mittoe in October, " It hink 1
could detect a threat if it were in the making right in front of my cyes.", U.S. and Panamanian officials also dismiss any
notion that China wants to notion that China wants to
control the canal. Richard H . Shultz, a national security ex
pert at Tufts Univeraity, said pert at Tuffs Univerity, said
he sees little reason for worry
ebout the departure of U.S. about the departure of U.S.
forces for that or any other

## Another milectone

## hilt by Nasdag

NEW YORK - The Nasdaq has come a long, long way
from the days when it was viewed as a second-rate home for small companies.
ogy stoccinst thon with technol
year from Wall Street to M Min
Street has pushed the Naediog
composite ind composite index over the 4,000
milisestone. The Nasdaq cloeed It is now up more than 84
percent for the year, a record
pace for a major U.S. market index. The previous record for
an annual gain was set back in 1915, when the Dow Jones
industrial average rose 82 percent. In contrast, the Dow is up 25 percent this year wind the Poor's 500 ostock index is up
19 percent ${ }^{19}$ percent.
The Nasdaq crossed its latest milestone less than two montins arter
3,000
for the first orime. It took the Dow nearly four
years years to ro fise from ${ }^{3,000}$ to
ruan, from April 1991 to ruary 1995 .
Even in a raging bull mar-
ket, the Nasdagis velocity has ket, the Nasdaq's velocity has
astounded Wall Street profesastounded Wail street profesThe Nasdaq has not only investors' wildest dreams,",
said
Alan said Alan Ackerman, senior
vice president at Fahnestock vice president at
$\& \quad$ Co. in New York.

## Mases transit to halt

as millennium arives As freworks explore, revel-
ers exult and the crystal ball descends in Times Square, the Boston mass transit sysiem
will mark the arrival of the will mark the arrival of the new millennium
ing to a halt.
It won't be alone.
At the plants of U.S. Steel Group, the year 2000 will ar-
rive without any steel-makrive At Boston's Copley Square
ing Hotel, the elevators will sit
silenty on the ground floor. The Louisiana casinos fioating On tiver will dock Mississippi Fears of Y2K problems ac-
companying the arrival of the millennium have persuaded a variety of people from coast
to coant toontert the new
year not with a bang - not year not with a bang-not
with a boom -but with a paruee. boom - but with a
Some paueses will last a few minutes; other will wast a fever couple of days. All are linked to concorns thant potential Y2K olitches are beyond the con-
troo of companies that have spent years and millions of
dollars trying to work out the
dita inks.
Across the country, 50 Amtrak trains will stop around of the commuter line saying
the trains will include a spe-
cial millennial party favor: a commemorative train whistle inseribed, "I rode Amtrak into "We believe we are Y2K compliant," said Amtrak spokesman John Wolf in a
statement typical of most worries.
Millennlum bud chted in credt cerd tailure LONDON - Thusiands British bargain hunters were stranded at the cash register after their credit cards were improperly rejected by store
swipe machines infected with the millennium bug - one of the millennium bug - one of
the most serious $\mathbf{Y} 2 \mathrm{~K}$ glitches to date.
some Some 20,000 credit card ma-
chines malfunctioned Wednesday, causing delays and disorder across Britain during the
post-Christmas crush. Retail-post-Christmas crush. Retail-
ers claimed they have lost $\$ 5$ ers claimed they have lost $\$ 5$
million in sales and were remillion in sales and were reporleass action lawsuit against
a clag
HSC, one of Britain's largest HSBC, one of Britain's largest four banks and the largest
supplier of the machines. supplier of the machines. It wasn't the first time Britons experienced Y2K problems. In August, thousands of London residents lost power for
days after the city's main utility distributed faulty smart cards designed to be year-2000 ready. The microchip-embed-
ded cards caused customers ded cards caused customers
electric meters to shut down until they could be manually ${ }^{\text {repaired. }}$ The so-ca
The so-called Y2K bug stems pressed programming that exLeft uncorrected, the bug causes computers and microcircuits to mistake the year
2000 for 1900 . Faulty fixes are also a problem and can cause system failures or corrupt data.
On Wednesday, the credit card machines, manufactured approve the credit cards because of a software problem, a The bank's new swipe card The bank's new swipe card
terminals were programmed to look ahead four working days in processing merchant
transactions to ensure they are registered within that they When the machines com-
pared Dec. 28, 1999, with Jan. 1, 2000, they failed to function Jan. 1, 1500 .


Former Beatle George Harrison (second from right) was Former Beatie George Harrison (second from right) was home. Harrison is shown with the other two surviving Beatles, Ringo Starr (left) and Paul McCartney, and producer George Martin (right) during recording of the Beatles Anthology.

## Ex-Beatle Harrison injured in an attack

LONDON (AP) - An intruder broke into George
Harrison's mansion, stabbing Harrison's mansion, staboing and attacking his wife today, according to his spokesman. The star was hospitalized in Harrison, 56, and his wife, Olivia, were attacked when an intruder broke into their on Thames, 25 miles west of London, said the spokesman, Geoff Baker.
"From wha
George was stabbed in the George was stabbed in the
chest several times and Olivi was hit over the head," Baker
said.
said. Harrison was hospitalized in nearby Reading, accordin to the hospital's chief executive, Mark Gitten. Olivia the hospital but was at her husband's side.
Gitten said Harrison had not undergone surgery, but drain. "Since he's been in a hospi tal bed, hes been getting much Getter and is comfortable, are very happy and concerned to let the world know they
are recovering well. Thames Valley police said they were questioning a man
in connection with the attack at the palatial Harrison es tate, called Friar Park. Press Association, the Brit-
ish news agency, said Harrison and his wife grappled with the intruder, believed to be a 33 year-old Liverpool man, and that they apparently were able
to detain him until police ar rived.
The man was treated at a
nearby hospital for undisclosed injuries, but was then dis authorities said. as far as
Baker said, Baker said, as far as he
knew knew, the man was not pre
ously known to the family. The Harrisons have lived nery close to the center of 20 years. Security at the
walled estate is tight, and was unclear how the intruder managed to enter the house. George Martin, the Beatles
longtime producer, speculated longtime producer, speculated to SKY-TV that the attack
was as burglary that went wrong." house is a very sort of grand place, with a lot of
grounds," Martin said. "I know there's always people trying
to get in and that kind of to get in and that kind of
thing, but George always leads a very quiet ouge anyone picking on George. I think they must
have just picked on the house have just picked on the house."
In 1998 Harrison disclosed In 1998, Harrison disclosed that he had been battling
throat cancer for more than a year and had surgery to re move a lump in his neck. He later had radiation therapy,
adding to an experience he adding to an experience
said made him think about the fragility of life.
"It reminds you that anything can happen," he told the
tabloid News of the World. Earlier that year, the three surviving Beatles - Harrison, Ringo Starr and Pau
McCartney - were reunited for the first time in years at a London memorial service for McCartney's wife, Linda, who
died of breast cancer died of breast cancer.
John Lennon, the fourth John Lennon, the fourth
Beatle, was shot to death in

Ventura will not

## back Buchanan

## ARLINGTON, Va. (AP) Minnesota Gov. Jesse Ventura,

 Minnesota Gov. Jesse Ventura,highest elected official from highest elected official from
the Reform Party, says he
will not endorse Pat Buchanan even if he wins the party presidential nomination nex
year. No, no, I don't think I can
support him" Ventura told USA Today in an interview appearing in today's editions.
"I find him very shallow. He says he is a grassroots guy,
but I find that fraudulent." col coo the in the interview - conducted in the interview - conducted in
his office in St. Paul, Minn. - apparently

The governor said the Reform Party needs a centrist candidate and that although Buchanan has "softened his rhetoric," he remains a right-
wing candidate determined to bring his conservative cadre into the party. Ventura said that would
harm the partys attempt to The On
Jerry Shipman, CWl $\Rightarrow \mathrm{fl}$

Horciord limane Phone: 384203 E-mail: hbnewe@wt.net
grow into a
alternative.
He told the paper that if
the Reform Party race comes
down to a contest between
Buchanan and New York ty-
coon Donald Trump, he would
support Trump.
USA Today said Buchanan's
campaign did not return tele-
phone calls Wednesday seek--
ing comment on Ventura's re-

## Conficts on rise as century ends


#### Abstract

increase in military coups and an erosion in democratic ad vances have helped push the number of nations in conflict to 65 , nearly twice the level near the end of the Cold War a new survey finds. predicts even more turmoil


 "It's going to be a verytough next 20 years," tough next 20 years," ${ }^{\text {ret }}$ said
retired Army Maj. Andy Mese ing Jr., executive director o the National Defense Council Foundation. He said the prodestruction and tension caused by an increasing world
population add to population add to the danger.
In its annual report on In its annual report on battle zones, released Wednes
day, the foundation said the number of countries in conflict was up by five from year ago - meaning that the
century is coming to a close century is coming to a close
with one third of the world' 193 nations afflicted by war, civil strife or other forms of
violence.
Although the number was violence.
Although the number was

## McCain backs plan for foreign workers

## PHOENIX (AP) - Republi- eign workers and fail.

 can presidential candidate John McCain also told the group that would allow more for- tion and job opportunities foreigners to work legally in the minorities eigners to work legally in the United States.
During a

campaign stop in
his home state his home state
of Arizona on
Wednesday, Macain tod dibe
panic bubines panic business favors creation of a temporary
workers workers pro-
gran that would
allow allow people
from othe Uch U.S. jobs. "There are jobs that Amerijobs that cans will not
Americans do," McCain told Americans do, MoCain told just will not about 30 people
do."
attending the
Hispanic Roundtable. A temporary worker program could help American discourage illegal jhose and McCain said. Josie Ippolito, who runs La
Canasta Mexican Food Products Inc., said her company is struggling to find enough workthe chance to hire non-citi zens. "Maybe that's a solu tion," she said. "We're open." Ray Arvizu, chairman of the Commerce, said he can't unCommerce, said he can't un-
derstand why Mexico and the United States can't find some
way to resolve the intertwined way to resolve the intertwined pror shortage and illegal immigration. "If they're willing to pay to get in, they're w
Arvizu said. McCain said any temporary worker program will need support from the Hispanic com-
munity or it will be branded as an attempt to exploit for-
 cluding two with au-
thoritarian governments, Cuba and Libya.

Russia made it becauce of eparatist wars in Chechnye and its neighbor to the east, nized crime. China was included based on the Beijing government's crackdown on religious dissidents and ten-
sions over Taiwan and the sions over Taiwan and the
Spratly Islands in tle South China Sea.
The foundation, aligned with
political conservatives who adpolitical conservatives who advocate increased spending on
defense, lists countries where turmoil has disrupted economies, politics or security.
Its count differs from more modest one maintained by the Central Intelligence Agency. CIA
Mansfield sakesman Mark the CIA list Mansfield said the CIA list,
which is classified, currently counts 31 conflicts, up from 28 three years ago.

## CROFFORD

up from a year ago, it was the report said. nization counted in 1995, By contrast, the average in the late 1980 s , near the end of
the Cold Wr, was about 35 . tem has disintegrated into system of 'Warm Wars,' with randomized conflicts popping
up in all corners of an interdepend
said.
It no
It nominated Afghanistan as the world's most unstable state Sor 2000 - followed closely by breakaway Chechnya region of breakaw
Russia. Russia.
Seventeen countries were
added to the list this year, tion and job
minorities.
"We cannot have people left
behind," McCain said. Of all the issues facing America to day, the more important issue is to provide the education and training necessary to give people an
succeed."
McCain
McCain said all schools should have the same quality teachers. He backed programs such as Head Start and saic more English training should
be made available for non be made availa
native speakers.
Mative speakers.
McCain was in Arizona to place his was in Arizona to 22 Republican the state's Feb. mary.
He vowed to win his home state, where he's facing a strong challenge from national McCain holds slight lead over the Texas governor in the early voting states of Arizona and New Hampshire, according to recent polls,
Bush leads elsewhere. Bush has worked hard to gain key Republican support for his campaign, including
from Gov. Jane Hull, in hopes of handing McCain an embar rassing defeat at home. McCain, acknow.edging
Bush's strength, said, "We still Bush's strength, said, "We still
are a decided underdog, but are a decided underdog, but
we're confident we're going to make this a competitive race.n
In recent In recent weeks, McCain
has been campaigning extenhas been campaigning exten
sively in New Hampshire, site of the nation's first primary
on Feb. 1. He hopes to parla on Feb. 1. He hopes to parlay success in the early primary
states of New Hampshire South Carolina and Arizon into a showdown March when California and 11 othe states vote in balloting that
could, in effect, decide the Republican nomination.

