

The Hereford Brand

95th Year Vol. No. 25 Deaf Smith County, Texas WEDNESDAY December 27, 1995 10 Pages 50 Cents

Congress revives talks on budget, shutdown

WASHINGTON (AP)—Their brief holiday break over, congressional leaders and the Clinton administration are slowly reviving talks to end a partial government shutdown and the nation's worst budget crisis.

Congressional and White House aides were meeting today without their bosses, a gradual start for negotiations that should involve top lawmakers and President Clinton on Friday.

The lower-level talks today will do little to alleviate the anxiety of federal workers, whose paychecks will be smaller this week; of tourists, whose plans were changed with the closure of national parks and monuments; and of travelers who desperately need passports.

Rep. Bill Archer, R-Texas, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, also tried to turn up the pressure. He said Tuesday the Clinton administration may be violating the Constitution by juggling the books to permit federal borrowing without congressional approval.

When the Senate on Friday left for a holiday recess that in other years would have lasted through much of December, the chamber passed legislation to return 280,000 furloughed workers to their jobs by declaring them essential.

Sponsored by Majority Leader Bob Dole, the measure, if approved by the House and signed by President Clinton, would last through Feb. 1. However, workers would be paid only after money was approved for their salaries.

The measure's fate was uncertain in the House, where GOP freshmen have promised to continue the partial closure until the White House accepts a seven-year balanced budget plan to their liking.

The House was scheduled to convene early this evening for what was expected to be only a brief session.

Despite the budget impasse, there were a few bright spots. Jim Holley,

spokesman for the Department of Veterans Affairs, said 3.3 million benefit checks went out Friday night, just hours after legislation was passed to authorize the payments. "They should arrive on time," he said.

And a once-in-a-lifetime exhibit of Johannes Vermeer paintings at the National Gallery of Art reopens today, using money from a private fund. The Smithsonian's Museum of American History also found enough money to operate this week.

The openings provided little solace to some 760,000 employees of unfunded federal agencies, who will face holiday bills with truncated paychecks.

The Office of Management and Budget said checks to be issued on Friday or next week—covering Dec. 10-23—will cover pay only for days worked prior to the Dec. 16 shutdown.

That will affect all workers in the unfunded agencies—the 280,000 on furlough and the 480,000 "excepted"

employees who are on the job. Another 1.2 million federal employees, whose agencies received their full appropriations, will receive full pay.

While the 760,000 workers are expected to be paid when the dispute is resolved, Veterans Affairs Secretary Jesse Brown wrote his employees telling them to "keep the faith" in the meantime.

With full benefits still to be deducted from paychecks, leaving some workers with almost no net pay, Brown said in his letter: "I know this is bad news, coming just after Christmas, when you are already working in a stressful emergency situation, with many of your co-workers furloughed."

The VA has 202,000 workers on duty, the largest force among unfunded agencies, most of them in its 172 medical facilities. Another 34,000 are on furlough.

Good progress seen in Bosnia peace pact

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP)—Government and Serb forces were making good progress toward meeting the first deadline in the Bosnian peace agreement—the pullback from the Sarajevo region, NATO officials said today.

By midnight—exactly one week after NATO formally took over peacekeeping duties in Bosnia from the United Nations—the two sides are to remove troops and weapons from 38 designated areas of the Sarajevo region, and mark or remove mines.

French soldiers are being stationed along the front lines to keep the two sides apart.

In the once-hotly contested suburb of Dobrinja, a French armored

personnel carrier patrolled the former front line, accompanied by five foot soldiers and a dog. The French had placed barbed wire along sides of the street where the front line once was. They also searched the area for mines.

Soldiers stopped and crouched down every 50 yards to watch and listen.

"This mission would have been impossible three weeks ago," said one of the soldiers, who added that soldiers from both sides had left in the past three days.

NATO spokesmen said things were going well, but gave conflicting signals whether there would be 100 percent compliance by the deadline.

"The compliance has been most satisfactory," said Capt. Frederic Solano, a French spokesman. "The midnight deadline should see most elements completed, although there might well be a small over spill with a few tasks to be completed tomorrow."

But another NATO spokesman, Lt. Col. Mark Rayner, later told reporters that "everything should be completed by tonight."

The midnight deadline was the first in a series embedded into the peace agreement for Bosnia signed Dec. 14 in Paris.

A separate series of deadlines is built into the agreement for placing Serb-held districts of Sarajevo under Bosnian government control, beginning Jan. 19 and concluding two months later.

Reluctant to watch their former enemies take control of the capital, the Serbs want more time to turn over the Sarajevo districts they hold. Today, the Bosnian army reported that fleeing Serbs had set fire to several houses rather than watch their homes fall under government control.

But Bosnian army officials cautioned that if NATO compromises with the Serbs on the timetable for turning over their areas of Sarajevo, the alliance's peacekeeping mission would be weakened.

The surrender of Serb-held sections of Sarajevo is widely opposed by Bosnian Serbs, who did not negotiate the peace accord directly but were represented by the president of Serbia, Slobodan Milosevic.

On Tuesday, Bosnian Serb leaders met with the NATO commander in Bosnia, U.S. Adm. Leighton Smith, and demanded that the handover be delayed. They cautioned that the success of NATO's peace mission might hinge on such an extension.

Smith said he made no promises, but that he would consider their demand. He has the authority to extend the deadline for reuniting Sarajevo until the end of the NATO mandate next December.

Momcilo Krajisnik, a senior Bosnian Serb official who met with Smith, indicated that many of the tens of thousands of people living in Serb-held districts of Sarajevo may leave rather than submit to rule by the Muslim-led government.



Cowboys of the future

It looked like a Dallas Cowboys practice broke out in the 200 block of Juniper Tuesday afternoon. The West boys received Cowboys jerseys for Christmas, and they took advantage of fair weather to try the jerseys in game conditions. Dressed as Troy Aikman, Braden West, 8, aims for twin brother Hayden (right, in Emmitt Smith jersey), as Brice, 11, moves in like Deion Sanders for the interception. All three are the sons of Bret and Tiffi West.

Boy, 13, tries to waylay toy truck, shoots pickup driver

FORT HANCOCK, Texas (AP)—As seen by friends and neighbors, Ricardo Soto couldn't be nicer. They describe the 13-year-old as a reserved, well-mannered boy who had never run into trouble.

So residents of this tiny West Texas community were shocked to find the teen-ager charged with the Christmas Day shooting of a motorist on Interstate 10, allegedly while trying to get a toy truck to spill its cargo.

"He's a pretty good kid. I never thought something like this was going to happen," said neighbor Julia Sanchez, whose 12-year-old son Robert is one of Ricardo's playmates. Authorities say they aren't completely certain what motivated Ricardo to open fire on two vehicles with a .22-caliber rifle.

But they appear to be lending at least some credence to remarks by Ricardo's 9-year-old brother, David Soto, who told authorities that Ricardo had been trying to waylay a toy truck.

David said during an interview Tuesday with The Associated Press that Ricardo told him he wanted to

"shoot a trailer and get Nintendos out of it."

Yet Ricardo's sister, Erika, 15, said she believes the shooting was accidental. "I don't think he really meant to. He likes to shoot stuff, like practice," she said.

She admitted to being confused, however, and she's not the only one. Several versions of the shooting have been circulating around Fort Hancock, some 60 miles east of El Paso in Hudspeth County, since the news broke Monday.

Hudspeth County Sheriff Arcadio Ramirez said the boy had hidden in the brush by the side of the road about a mile outside of Fort Hancock and opened fire around 5 p.m. MST Monday.

"They're a real poor family and maybe he thought about Christmas" presents, said Ramirez, who noted the boy's mother cares for the family by herself. Her seriously ill husband is in an El Paso nursing home.

Alberto Tarango of Van Horn, who was driving in a pickup truck with his wife, was hit once in the back of the head. He was in guarded condition Tuesday night at Thomason General

Hospital in El Paso. His wife was unharmed.

A tractor-trailer rig driving in front of Tarango was struck twice, but no one was injured in that vehicle.

Border Patrol agents following Ricardo's footprints found the boy more than two hours later hiding in a station wagon outside his home. Ramirez said the boy surrendered without any trouble.

He has since been charged with deadly conduct, a third-degree felony, and been transferred to a juvenile detention facility in Pecos. The crime is punishable by up to 10 years in custody.

The sheriff said the boy was carrying a .22-caliber bullet, but authorities had been unable to find the rifle as of Tuesday afternoon. The weapon came from the Soto household.

Many in the community of some 500 residents were stunned by what they said was an unusual act of violence.

"It's a shame that things like that happen," said Arturo Hernandez, who works in a grocery store. "But right now the world is pretty crooked."

Day after Christmas sales attract shoppers seeking bargain buys

By The Associated Press
It was the day after Christmas and all through the store, shoppers stood in line early for half-priced items galore.

That was the story across Texas on Tuesday as merchants marked down their prices, particularly on Christmas-related items, in hopes of recouping what for many was the worst Yule season in five years.

Sales clerks at several malls and stores across Texas said there were more shoppers out for the after-Christmas sales than were there on Saturday and on Christmas Eve Sunday.

The 31-day holiday shopping season ended with retail sales paid by personal checks down 3.8 percent compared with last year, according to TeleCheck Services Inc., a Houston-based check clearing service used by retailers nationwide.

Checks account for more than one-third of retail spending. "Consumers ended the holiday season with a surge in spending, but it wasn't enough to make the season bright for most retailers," said William Ford, TeleCheck's senior economic adviser.

He blamed this year's weaker

economic growth, high consumer debt, severe winter storms in some parts of the country and consumers' resolve to hold down spending.

But that same resolve drew consumers to Tuesday's after-Christmas bargains across the state. While it's painful for merchants to sell so much at such a deep discount, shoppers are eager to cash in on the bonanza of merchandise that awaits.

Merchants in Corpus Christi said heavily discounted seasonal items such as Christmas wrapping and decorations appeared to be a magnet for many shoppers, but discounted clothing, jewelry and toys also are selling well.

"We're having a fantastic day, much better than last year," said Andy Moreno, a customer service team leader at Target at Moore Plaza in Corpus Christi.

"It's been a really, really solid retail day," added Rick Geiter, marketing director at Padre Staples Mall in Corpus Christi. "No question it is a better-than-average after-Christmas Day, ahead of last year."

At 7 a.m. Tuesday, Carroll Andrews and his wife, Willa Andrews, of Shreveport, La., stood with about 100 shoppers in the cold

outside a Target store in Houston waiting for the doors to open.

They were in Houston visiting family over Christmas, but they wanted to be the first to pick through the aisles of half-priced, after-Christmas, trim-the-tree merchandise.

"People moved pretty fast," said Andrews, 70. Not that he was so slow himself. Within minutes, he had loaded up with 29 boxes of outdoor lights.

Sandi Huddleston, with help from her mother and daughter, was loading up on Christmas wrapping paper Tuesday morning at Foley's in Willowbrook Mall in Houston.

The three women had their arms full with half-priced rolls of festively decorated paper.

"We pick out ones as fast as we can that we like," Ms. Huddleston said.

Minutes later, with daughter Cassi standing guard over wrapping paper, Ms. Huddleston rushed off to join another throng to pick out half-priced card gift tags.

Many of the day-after-Christmas shoppers were after any merchandise that's green or red, with tinsel or

(See SHOPPERS, Page 2)

Hereford Bull



By Speedy Nieman

That feller on Tierra Blanca Creek says most of us will never do great things, but we can do small things in a great way.

oo

"No one who has had a unique experience with prayer has a right to withhold it from others."—Soong Mei-Ling

oo

One of the longest continuous advertisers in this newspaper is no longer in business. Dr. Milton Adams, the dean of optometrists in this area, established his office here almost 50 years ago, and his business card was a fixture in The Brand ever since.

His ad ran in every issue, even when the paper went daily. He changed it to twice a week about six months ago, then last month notified his patients he would be closing.

Ill health has forced him to retire, and we wish him the best. He has earned it.

oo

Sen. Bob Dole recently took a lot of heat over his stance against racy movies and raunchy tv shows. He is among millions of Americans, however, who would like to see more wholesome entertainment come out of Hollywood.

The progression of racy topics in the movies and on the boob tube is interesting. A reporter recently listed the dates of "firsts" allowed in movies or on television:

Network programming began in 1939, but it wasn't until 1950 that Arthur Godfrey shocked Americans by uttering "damn" and "hell" during a live broadcast. That same year, the first bare breasts appeared—unintentionally—when talk show host Faye Emerson fell out of her low-cut dress.

In 1951, tv's first pregnant character appeared in prime time. The following year, Ozzie and Harriet

became the first tv couple shown sleeping in the same bed.

Also in 1952, Lucille Ball's pregnancy was featured in seven episodes of her show without the "P" word ever being uttered. Before the 1950s ended, Leave It To Beaver producers edited out a bathroom scene of Beaver brushing his teeth because there was an offensive toilet in the background.

In 1961, an actress wore a scanty bikini in Dr. Kildare. It was 10 years before another bare navel was shown. Even Barbara Eden hid her navel under waist-high harem pants. Cher ended the no-navel taboo in the late 1970s.

In 1962, on The Defenders, a doctor spoke out in favor of abortion. Some tv stations refused to air the show and some regular sponsors canceled. Today, abortion is legal in all 50 states.

Star Trek, in 1968, featured the first inter-racial kiss. In 1970, The Odd Couple featured the first leading characters with divorces. Mary Tyler Moore was originally to have been about a divorced woman, but producers deemed the subject too controversial.

The first homosexual character in prime time was shown on All in the Family. It was okay since Archie Bunker scolded him appropriately. Rape came to tv in the same show, when daughter Gloria was the victim. That was in 1973.

In 1980, a man was beheaded in the miniseries Shogun. In 1982, The Bay City Blues showed a minor-league baseball team nude in the dressing room. In 1991, L.A. Law showed the first scene of two women kissing.

Today, there isn't much that hasn't been shown. Erma Bombeck may have said it best: "Don't confuse fame with success. Madonna is one; Helen Keller is the other."

DECEMBER 27 1995

Local Roundup

Forecast: Cloudy and cool

Hereford recorded a high of 55 degrees Tuesday and a low of 22 this morning, according to KPAN Weather Station. Tonight, partly cloudy and cold with a low of 15 to 20. Variable winds becoming south at 5 to 10 mph toward morning. Thursday, mostly cloudy and cool with a high in the mid 40s. South to southwest winds 10-20 mph.

News Digest

State

FORT HANCOCK--As seen by friends and neighbors, Ricardo Soto couldn't be nicer. They describe the 13-year-old as a reserved, well-mannered boy who had never run into trouble. So residents of this tiny West Texas community were shocked to find the teen-ager charged with the Christmas Day shooting of a motorist on Interstate 10, allegedly while trying to get a toy truck to spill its cargo.

DALLAS--It was the day after Christmas and all through the store, shoppers stood in line early to pluck off half-priced items galore. That was the story across Texas on Tuesday, as merchants marked down their prices, particularly on Christmas-related items, in hopes of recouping what for many was the worst yule season in five years. Sales clerks at several malls and stores across Texas said there were more shoppers out for the after-Christmas sales than were there on Saturday and on Christmas Eve Sunday.

AUSTIN--A chunk of Texas wound up in Argentina after a supercontinent that included Antarctica, North America and South America broke apart more than 400-million years ago, according to a University of Texas geophysicist.

NAHA, Okinawa--A U.S. Navy sailor accused of raping a 12-year-old schoolgirl told a Japanese court today that two U.S. Marines were willing accomplices in the attack. Under questioning, Navy Seaman Marcus Gill, 22, of Woodville, Texas, painted so harrowing a picture of the rape that the translator broke down and wept.

HOUSTON--Authorities say a motorist who struck and killed an off-duty police officer directing Christmas Eve traffic was not intoxicated at the time.

HOUSTON--Federal regulators have filed charges against Maxxam Inc., a Houston-based aluminum, forest products and real estate company, in connection with the failure in 1988 of United Savings of Texas.

World/Nation

WASHINGTON--Their brief holiday break over, congressional leaders and the Clinton administration are slowly reviving talks to end a partial government shutdown and the nation's worst budget crisis.

LOS ANGELES--A record box-office take. Nearly 1.3 billion North American admissions. Blockbusters such as "Batman Forever" and "Apollo 13." Doesn't sound like a bad year in Hollywood... but it was.

WASHINGTON--Flat, flatter, flattest. Those are the kinds of taxes that Republican presidential candidates are proposing for the nation.

Police, Emergency Reports

Emergency services reports for the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. Wednesday contained the following information.

HEREFORD POLICE
A citation was given for shoplifting.

A 23-year-old male was arrested on a city traffic warrant.

Burglary of a building was reported in the 800 block of South Main.

Criminal mischief was reported at 4th and Park Avenue. Beer thrown at a vehicle.

Theft was reported in the 600 block of West 3rd Street.

Criminal non-support was reported in the 600 block of Stanton.

Harassment was reported in the 300 block of East 4th.

Harassment was reported in the 300 block of West 2nd.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 400 block of Bradley.

DEAF SMITH COUNTY SHERIFF
A 23-year-old male was arrested on a charge of theft by check over \$20 and violation of probation.

EMS
The emergency medical service was called to one medical transport, one no-transport and one transfer to Amarillo.

FIRE DEPARTMENT
Hereford firefighters were called to a residence fire at 505 Avenue H. A storage shed had been accidentally set on fire.

PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL
Infant boy Almaguer, Nancy Almaguer, Gladys Craig, Donald R. Foerster, Infant girl Garza, Elisa Garza, Howard E. Hershey, Janice Holmes, Mary Ramirez, Grace K. Sanders, Johnnie L. Sanders, Jim Scott, Emmett J. Ziehr.

Obituaries

EARL G. CARR
Dec. 24, 1995

Earl G. Carr, 65, of Shallowater, father of Jerry Carr of Hereford, died Sunday in Midway Park Medical Center in Lancaster.

Services were held at 11 a.m. Wednesday in Resthaven Funeral Home in Lubbock with burial in City of Lubbock Cemetery.

Mr. Carr was born March 20, 1930 in Mount Vernon. He married Lavada Ponder in Hereford on Oct. 28, 1961. He moved to Lubbock in 1984 from Friona. He was a farmer and member of Cornerstone Assembly of God Church.

Survivors are his wife; three sons, Billy Carr of Dallas, Jerry Carr of Hereford and William Carr of Shallowater; two sisters, Margaret Marie Wilson of Lufkin and Margaret Evelyn Newman of Pittsburg; three brothers, J.W. Carr of Springlake, Floyd Carr of Shallowater and Willie L. Carr of Lubbock; and four grandchildren.

ALMA MAE STEWART
Dec. 27, 1995

Alma Mae Stewart, 85, died this morning in Hereford Care Center, where she had been a resident since the center opened. She is the mother of Lavon Nieman of Hereford.

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Friday in the chapel at Foster-Adams Funeral Home in Hamlin. Burial will follow in Hamlin Cemetery.

Mrs. Stewart was born Dec. 4, 1910 in Stonewall County and was a Baptist. She moved to Hereford from Hamlin after the death of her husband, Vernon Stewart. They had also lived in Lamesa.

Survivors include two daughters, Lavon Nieman of Hereford and Verlene Frisby of Denton; two sisters, Belle Sherrod of Aspermont and Gladys Miller of Amarillo; a brother, Jake Hall of Aspermont; four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Selena's shooting leaves mark on '95

By KATIE FAIRBANK
Associated Press Writer

Moments after Selena was shot last spring, it was clear she would die. The bullet fired by her former fan club president entered her back, severing an artery that left the vivacious singer covered with blood.

The grief that gushed from millions of fans and the grinding wheels of the justice system have taken months, dominating headlines and newscasts during 1995.

This year was supposed to be the year when the undisputed queen of Tejano music crossed the cultural barrier into mainstream pop music. And it was. Her album "Dreaming of You" debuted in July at number one on Billboard magazine's album chart.

But Selena Quintanilla Perez wasn't able to enjoy her success. She was gunned down March 31 at a budget hotel where she had gone to fire the manager of her boutiques.

Selena's meeting with Yolanda Saldivar began over \$30,000 in missing money. It ended with screams and shots.

Employees of the hotel in Selena's hometown of Corpus Christi found the grammy-award winner laying in the lobby, a ring she had been given by Ms. Saldivar grasped in her bloody right fist.

Ms. Saldivar spent the next 9 1/2 hours in a red pickup in the parking lot with the murder weapon pointed at her own head. When she finally surrendered, she confessed to killing her "best friend."

During Saldivar's October trial, defense attorneys asserted that the shooting was an accident. A Texas Ranger testified he believed Ms.

Saldivar had protested that information was missing from the confession before she signed it.

The jury didn't care. In less than three hours, Ms. Saldivar was convicted. In only nine hours, she was sentenced to life in prison. The crowds surrounding the Harris County Courthouse cheered.

Like the biggest newsmakers, the story won't end in 1995. Ms. Saldivar, who is currently serving her sentence in Gatesville requested a new trial on Nov. 28, claiming at least one juror was biased and key financial documents were kept from her original trial.

Since her death, Selena has taken on an Elvis-like quality with religious alter offerings, barrio mural tributes, a sold-out People magazine cover and more than 600 Texas babies and a lost manatee named in her memory.

Sharing newspaper space with Selena's life and her death, was the debate and decision that Texans will be able to legally carry concealed handguns.

The concealed-handgun legislation, intended as a citizen self-protection measure, was signed into law in May and takes effect Jan. 1 when, for the first time since the 1870s, permit-carrying Texas residents may begin carrying weapons.

Roughly 24,000 Texans have applied to pack heat, have taken the required safety courses and undergone the background checks, according to the Department of Public Safety. That means fewer than 25,000 of some 18 million Texas residents will likely be licensed after Jan. 1.

Where the guns will be allowed is the new debate.

Under the right-to-carry law, handguns are prohibited in places where public meetings are being held, as well as in many other places, including hospitals and schools. But proponents of concealed guns say the bans limit the new law and will not stand in court.

In 1995 it was decided that more ordinary citizens will be carrying weapons, but decisions were also made that fewer soldiers will be doing so in Texas.

A federal panel voted June 22 to close Reese Air Force Base in Lubbock, Kelly AFB in San Antonio, a portion of Red River Army Depot in Texarkana and the reserve fighter wing at Bergstrom AFB in Austin.

When the windows are shuttered, Texas will have lost about 36,000 direct and indirect jobs by 1996 and 125,000 jobs by 1997, according to the Texas Department of Commerce.

Although several Texas bases didn't evade the chopping block, a few were able to escape. The near-future of Brooks AFB in San Antonio and Laughlin AFB in Del Rio were assured when they were left of the closure list.

Also getting good news, two mine warfare helicopter squadrons will be transferred to Corpus Christi Naval Air Station. The squadrons will be deployed in support of nearby Naval Station Ingleside, the Navy's mine warfare center of excellence.

The year saw the passing of one of baseball's greats, Mickey Mantle, who had lived and played hard, was diagnosed with liver cancer and underwent a transplant. As the world watched, a gaunt Mantle struggled to regain his health.

The 63-year-old ballplayer professed that if he was a role model, "Don't be like me." One of his final acts before dying on Aug. 13 was to encourage people to give organs and his popularity turned attention to donations.

At the same time, Mantle was disappointed that people thought he got preferential treatment in receiving his new liver because he was a celebrity.

Mantle, who lived in Dallas, replaced Joe DiMaggio as the Yankee's center fielder in 1951. He retired in 1968 with 536 home runs.

Another headline that was revisited in 1995 was the botched raid on the Branch Davidian's compound near Waco. When a federal building in Oklahoma was bombed April 19 and the cause was attributed to the deadly government raid at Waco, the world's eyes refocused on the standoff between the religious group and the federal government.

Sect leader David Koresh and 80 followers died on that April 19, 1993, as their compound burned after FBI agents used a tank to punch holes and insert tear gas.

In Oklahoma City, 169 people died and more than 500 were injured when the Alfred P. Murrah building was bombed on the second anniversary of the Waco fire.

Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols both face the death penalty if they are convicted of federal murder and conspiracy charges resulting from the explosion.

More than 250 people are now dead from the two incidents, hearings revisited the propriety of the Waco raids and militia groups have girded to halt alleged tyranny in the government and protect the Constitution.

Selena shooting tops year's news stories in Texas

By The Associated Press
The top 10 Texas news stories for 1995 as selected by state newspaper editors and broadcasters:

1. **SELENA SHOOTING.** Tejano singer Selena is fatally shot in a Corpus Christi motel by the woman who once headed her fan club. Thousands of Selena fans mourn her death by traveling to south Texas and by painting messages of love on their car windshields.

2. **CONCEALED HANDGUNS.** Texans asked for it and they got it when lawmakers passed a law making it legal for citizens to carry concealed handguns.

3. **BASE CLOSINGS.** A federal panel voted June 22 to close Reese Air Force Base in Lubbock, Kelly AFB in San Antonio, a portion of Red River Army Depot in Texarkana and the reserve fighter wing at Bergstrom AFB in Austin.

4. **SELENA'S KILLER.** The woman who once headed Selena's fan club is convicted of her murder and sentenced to life in prison. Yolanda Saldivar's trial was marked by anxious fans of Selena who gather outside the Harris County Courthouse almost daily and cheered loudly when her convicted was announced.

5. **GOP TAKEOVER.** Texans ascend to top leadership positions in Washington: Dick Army is House GOP's No. 2; Tom DeLay is House GOP's No. 3; Bill Archer is chairman of influential House Ways and Means Committee; Phil Gramm becomes chair of appropriations subcommittee and later shifts to Finance Committee.

6. **EDUCATION REFORM.** Gov.

George W. Bush challenged Texans to take control of their local schools and signed into a law a bill allowing communities to design their own education programs and escape many state regulations.

7. **MICKY MANTLE.** The former baseball great is diagnosed with cancer, receives a liver transplant but later dies at a Dallas hospital. His struggle stirs major interest and controversy over whether his celebrity status helped him receive an organ donation sooner than others on the list.

8. **BOMBING/WACO.** A deadly government raid on the Branch Davidian sect two years ago has incited militia groups and others who say their mission is to protect the Constitution and halt federal tyranny. But militia leaders, anti-government activists and Davidians themselves condemned the bombing in Oklahoma alleged to have been committed by a former Army soldier infuriated over the Waco assault.

9. **TURBULENT PESO.** The devaluation of the Mexican peso stirs pessimism among domestic and foreign investors wishing for, but not expecting, a quick economic turnaround. Rising interest rates and unemployment contribute mightily to declining sales.

10. **CORPUS CHRISTI MASSACRE.** Refinery worker goes on shooting rampage that leaves six people dead at his former employer's office. Those killed included the husband and wife owners, the second-in-command, a secretary and a salesman. The man then killed himself.

SHOPPERS

glitter, Target manager Keith Hext said.

In their pursuit of half-priced ornaments, towels and wrapping paper, shoppers charged down the aisles looking for the half-priced nightgowns with Santas emblazoned on the front and socks adorned with Christmas bells.

Most department stores and major discount chains continued with holiday hours Tuesday, opening at 7 a.m. or 8 a.m.

The Lord & Taylor store at NorthPark Center in Dallas opened 10 minutes early, at 7:50 a.m., when a large crowd of shoppers had gathered. Most headed for the holiday gift wrap and home trimmings department which by noon was almost cleared of merchandise.

At the Dillard's in Valley View Mall in north Dallas, every register on the second floor was 10 people deep waiting with armloads of holiday cards and trimmings within an hour of opening.

The professional day-after-Christmas trim-a-tree shoppers could be spotted with their own baskets and shopping bags carrying dozens of ornaments and other holiday knickknacks at

half-price to the register.

Amarillo store managers said their Christmas sales were healthy this year, but said after-Christmas sales are something they always have.

"We find that with the returns (of Christmas gifts), you have extra traffic in the store. We've been open for 15 minutes, and I'd say that the traffic is comparable to some of the days before Christmas," Kris Gass, manager of a Dunlap's department store in Amarillo, said Tuesday.

Shoppers know a real sale when they see one, says Daniel J. Howard, marketing professor at Southern Methodist University's Edwin L. Cox School of Business. In today's market, when everything seems as if it's always on sale, shoppers have become leery of when a sale is really a markdown, said Howard, who specializes in consumer behavior.

So are after-Christmas sales real? "You better believe it," Howard said. "After-Christmas sales are the real thing, and shoppers know it."

Advise and counsel him; if he does not listen, let adversity teach him.

—Japanese Proverb

Keeping an eye on Texas

Another Texas gem

Pearls and shells formed by freshwater mussels, growing in streams and rivers across the state, were first discovered by early Indians in the San Angelo area. The estimated value of the 1991 harvest was \$1.1 to \$2.5 million. Most shells are sold to the Japanese for use in the cultured pearl industry.

Where freshwater mussels are found

- 1 San Angelo
- 2 Concho River
- 3 Rio Grande
- 4 Nueces River
- 5 Frio River
- 6 Guadalupe River
- 7 San Antonio River
- 8 Brazos River
- 9 Sulphur River
- 10 Sabine River
- 11 Cedar Creek Reservoir
- 12 Livingston Reservoir
- 13 Caddo Lake
- 14 Buffalo Bayou

SOURCES: John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts and Texas Parks and Wildlife.

Anchorwoman remains missing after 6 months

MASON CITY, Iowa (AP)--Doug Merbach still uses the calendar that the anchorwoman gave him, a daily reminder that she remains missing six months after she vanished.

He wants Jodi Sue Huisenruit back before the new year.

"You know, 1995 is almost over. I've got this calendar sitting on my desk at home that's almost run out," said Merbach, the anchorwoman's boss at KIMT-TV in Mason City. "I want to keep it because she gave it to me, but ..."

Huisenruit (pronounced who'-zen-trook) disappeared June 27. She was scheduled to work before dawn that day. When a co-worker called about 4 a.m., she said she'd be there in a few minutes.

She never arrived. Police found her car in the parking lot of her apartment complex. Some of her belongings--red shoes, a blow-dryer, a bottle of hair spray, car keys and earrings--were scattered nearby.

An investigation followed, eventually involving the FBI and officials in several states. Hundreds of people were interviewed, but no "solid suspects" were ever discovered, police Chief Jack Schlieper said.

The family has hired private investigators and asked psychics for help. But no trace of her has been found, and the case remains open.

"It's unbearable at times," said JoAnn Nathe, Huisenruit's oldest sister.

"I can't picture the terror that she must have experienced. And then I get just sick," Nathe said. "I picture her coming down the steps and I think, 'Oh, stop it, JoAnn, don't picture her when she goes out the door.' Because she's so little and sweet and, oh, she must have been just so scared."

The youngest of three girls, Huisenruit, 27, was the "sunshine" of her family, said Nathe, of Sauk Centre, Minn.

Merbach, news director at the CBS station, said each interview about Huisenruit brings back the pain.

"It's given our whole news staff, I think, sensitivity to issues like victims' rights and what victims go through when the media tries to ask them questions," he said.

Huisenruit's family cleaned out her apartment in late September. Her belongings are being stored by family and friends, who hope to help her find a new place to live one day.

"I do believe in miracles," Nathe said.

This city of 30,000 residents in north-central Iowa is full of reminders of Huisenruit.

Yellow ribbons that went up just after her disappearance hang on trees and light posts. Posters asking for information are in storefronts across the city. A reward fund has topped \$34,000.

Nathe, who admits she is skeptical of psychics, recently appeared on a psychics TV show in California. She didn't like the results: The psychics said Huisenruit was abducted by a Mason City man who was obsessed with her and came "unglued" when she became angry and fought him.

THE HEREFORD BRAND

The Hereford Brand (ISSN 0891-440) is published daily except Mondays, Tuesdays, July 4, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day by The Hereford Brand, Inc., 257 N. Lee, Hereford, TX 79045. Second class postage paid at the post office in Hereford, Texas.

POSTMASTER: Send address change to The Hereford Brand, P.O. Box 473, Hereford, TX 79045. SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$12.00 annually by mail in Texas; \$15.00 annually by mail in other Texas counties; \$17.50 a year; outside Texas, \$20 a year.

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The Brand was established as a weekly in February, 1961, converted to a semi-weekly in 1962, to five times weekly on July 4, 1976.

O.G. Nieman
 Mast Management
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 Chris Nieman

Publisher
 Ad. Mgr.
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TA
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION
 MEMBER 1995

Lifestyles

Elderly need to be wary of those who help manage their finances

DALLAS (AP)--Police are warning the elderly that criminals who try to cheat them out of their life savings don't always operate as telephone solicitors or door-to-door salespeople.

Take the case of Samuel and Lillie Mae Schmidts, a south Dallas couple, who police say needed only to regularly check their bank statements for unexplained debits to find out they were being swindled.

The Schmidts, married 72 years, no longer are enjoying a quiet and secure retirement. Police say they lost their savings because of the work of a former bank manager the couple entrusted to manage their money.

Debra Lynn Hood, 42, was arrested Wednesday and charged with stealing more than \$62,000 from the couple. Ms. Hood, a Red Oak

resident, denies the charge and is free on a \$2,500 bond.

Mr. Schmidt, 96, worked into his 70s as a carpenter. The 92-year-old Mrs. Schmidt demonstrated goods at grocery stores on weekends. Together they built their healthy nest egg.

"People like my husband and me, we never did drink or take vacations or anything," said Mrs. Schmidt, 92, who can't hear very well anymore. "We just went to West Texas to where my daddy lived. Now all we get is less than \$1,000 a month from Social Security."

Ms. Hood said the case is all a misunderstanding.

"It's totally ludicrous is all I can say," she said.

According to police, Ms. Hood systematically stole money from the Schmidts between July 1993 and

January 1995. She met the couple in the late 1980s while she was managing a north Oak Cliff bank where the couple kept their money.

Even after Ms. Hood left the bank, she continued to help the couple handle their money, Mrs. Schmidt said.

"She'd come out to help me pay my bills, and I'd sign the checks and put it in my envelope and lick the stamp," she said. "But I don't know how she got away with big amounts like that."

Detective Steve Zuczek of the police department's Financial Crimes Squad said a paper trail made Ms. Hood's actions clear. He said she opened a joint money market account in her name and Mrs. Schmidt's name and took \$62,600.95 without telling the couple.

The scam collapsed early this year when the Schmidts' only son checked on his parents' finances and discovered that the nest egg was gone, the detective said.

Wallace Schmidt said that Ms. Hood preyed on his parents' trust.

"They've been dealt a tremendous blow to their egos," said Mr. Schmidt, who lives in northern California. "They're wondering: 'What's going on in America? We trusted this person in every way.'"

Sgt. John Zihlman also of the Financial Crimes Squad said elderly people and relatives who help manage their finances need to be wary of anyone who has access to their money.

"You ought to be checking statements," he said. "And don't go checking just once a year and be surprised."

WTAMU student from Hereford in Who's Who

The 1996 edition of Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges will include the names of 49 West Texas A&M University students who were selected as outstanding campus leaders.

The 49 WTAMU students, including Veronica Gallegos, a junior education major from Hereford, were selected from more than 1,800 institutions of higher education in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and several foreign nations.

For consideration, nominees had

to be full-time students with at least 60 hours of college credit (junior standing) and a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale. Additional criteria included demonstrated record of participation and leadership on academic and extracurricular activities, service to the University and potential for future achievement.

Recipients will be honored at a reception and will be presented certificates at the All-University Honors Banquet in the spring.



WTAMU student honored

Eric Valdez, a junior computer information systems major from Hereford, was honored as the first recipient of the Business Planners Inc. Scholarship. In attendance for the presentation were, from left, Dr. Russell C. Long, president of West Texas A&M University; Sid Walker, WTAMU director of development, Jerry Stinson, president of Business Tax Planners, Inc. of Amarillo; and Dr. Jerry Miller, dean of the T. Boone Pickens College of Business.

Ann Landers

DEAR ANN LANDERS: Our 44-year-old son went through a divorce five years ago. Since then, his life has deteriorated. He has made a number of bad decisions and experienced some self-inflicted setbacks. We have lived in different areas of the country for several years but experienced a normal relationship through periodic visits and phone calls.

Two teen-age children were involved in the divorce. They live with their mother and are doing well. We maintain close ties with the children through visits.

Our son phoned recently and informed us that he has relocated to an undisclosed state, taken a new

identity, has a job and is starting a new life. He would not tell us his location but promised to keep in touch by phone. We agreed to respect his decision and hope for the best.

Periodically, relatives and friends inquire about our son: "How is he? Where is he? What is he doing? Will he attend the next family reunion?"

How do we respond? -- Un-named in Santa Barbara

DEAR SANTA BARBARA: Tell well-meaning family members and friends who inquire about your son that you do hear from him, that he is well and happy, and that he has a job he enjoys but hasn't decided yet where he wants to settle.

People who push for more information than that are prying. Change the subject.

DEAR ANN LANDERS: Justice takes another hit in the judicial wars. The hot-coffee episode is one more example in the long line of bewildering verdicts.

Here's my personal forehead slapper to add to your growing list of litigious oddities: I swear that I am not making this up.

My neighbor called to complain that elm bugs were flying from my elm trees into his home and defecating on his curtains and upholstered furniture. I laughed out loud and didn't take him seriously.

Then he threatened to sue if I didn't cut down the trees at once. I decided he was crazy and told him so. A few weeks later, I was hit with a lawsuit.

In court, I argued that I couldn't

control roaming insects and asked, "Why couldn't he just screen his windows?" You'd think this suit would have been laughed out of court. Think again. I lost and had to buy that loon a new couch and window coverings. P.S. I cut down the trees to ensure no further buggy episodes. -- Park City, Utah

DEAR PARK CITY: The biblical admonition to love thy neighbor can be difficult to honor with neighbors like that. When are you moving?

DEAR ANN LANDERS: I read the letter from the teen-ager who received tons of gifts from parents, grandparents and great-grandparents but has never written a thank-you note and doesn't plan to. Tell that brat I have a grandson with the same attitude.

I have long since written him out of my will, which means that a great deal of property and other assets will go to the Salvation Army. They always say thank you. -- Portland, Ore.

DEAR PORTLAND: Way to go, Granny! I like your style. I hope your letter will encourage other un-thanked relatives to do the same.

Gem of the Day: A conservative is a liberal who has been arrested.

Planning a wedding? What's right? What's wrong? "The Ann Landers Guide for Brides" will relieve your anxiety. Send a self-addressed, long, business-size envelope and a check or money order for \$3.75 (this includes postage and handling) to: Brides, c/o Ann Landers, P.O. Box 11562, Chicago, Ill. 60611-0562.

Forensic team places third

The West Texas A&M University forensic team, which includes Sara Zinck and Lance Ortiz of Hereford, placed third in a forensics tournament Dec. 2 at Otterbein College.

Zinck, a sophomore theatre major, placed second in dramatic duo with Kerry Burley, a sophomore theatre major from Sundown. Zinck also placed second in single dramatic interpretation.

Ortiz, a freshman history major, placed fourth in dramatic duo with Sarah Robertson, a freshman speech major from Amarillo.

The next tournament for the WTAMU forensic squad is Jan. 16 at Rice University.

Senior Citizens

MENUS

THURSDAY-Italian spaghetti, seasoned green beans, buttered corn, tossed salad, fruited pudding, garlic toast; or chicken and dumplings.

FRIDAY-Cream of broccoli soup, baked ham, sweet potatoes, English peas, chilled pineapple; or baked fish, cauliflower with cheese.

ACTIVITIES

THURSDAY-Pool classes, exercise classes 10-10:45 a.m., oil painting 9-11 a.m.

FRIDAY-Pool classes, line dance 10-11 a.m.

SATURDAY-Games 12 noon-4 p.m.

Punctuality is the thief of time. --Oscar Wilde

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Nominations set to close Friday for Woman of Year

The Women's Division of the Deaf Smith County Chamber of Commerce will be accepting nominations for Woman of the Year until Friday.

Nominations may be mailed to the Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 192, Hereford, or they will be accepted at the office, 701 N. Main St.

The award, presented by the Women's Division, will be given to a division member who has been active during the past year. The winner will be announced at the Women's Division's first quarterly

meeting of 1996.

Persons submitting a nominee need not be a member of the Women's Division. Nominations should be in writing, giving qualifications and reasons why the person named should be considered. The letter does not have to be signed.

Nominees will be judged on accomplishments done for and on behalf of the Women's Division and/or the Deaf Smith County Chamber of Commerce. Other outside activities will then be considered such as community work, charitable work, church activities, youth work, etc.

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Elmwood
Monday thru Saturday
9:30 am to 6:00 pm

ANTHONY'S

Sports

Herd girls open Littlefield tournament vs. Petersburg

The Hereford girls' basketball team, with a win in the Wichita Falls tourney and a third place in the I-27 tourney, will try for another big trophy in a tournament in Littlefield Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

The Lady Whitefaces (12-2) open play against Petersburg at 9:30 a.m. Friday; if they win, they play the winner between Idalou and Hart at 9:30 a.m. Friday; if they lose, they play the loser of that game at 3:30 p.m. Friday.

Hereford's junior varsity also will play in the tournament, filling a spot in place of a late cancellation. The other seven teams in the field all are varsity squads. The Herd JV will play Tulia at 3:30 p.m. Thursday. If they win, they play the winner between Littlefield and Lubbock Roosevelt at 6:30 p.m. Friday; if they lose, they play the loser of that game at 12:30 Friday.

The eight-team tournament will conclude with a championship game at 6:30 p.m. Saturday.

The Hereford boys' basketball team starts the Canyon Rotary Classic with two pool games today at Canyon High School. Hereford (8-7) meets Tulia at 3 p.m. and Palo Duro at 5. Tulia and PD play at 7. Pool play games include four-minute quarters.

The other pool in the six-team tournament includes Canyon, Dumas and Clarendon.

Hereford will open bracket play on Thursday - at 3:30 or 7:30 p.m. or possibly at both times, depending on the team's performance in pool play.

The championship game will be played at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

Cowboys celebrate week off

By DENNE H. FREEMAN
AP Sports Writer

IRVING, Texas (AP) - The Dallas Cowboys reached their training camp goal. Now they have a higher mountain in mind.

Cowboys during the regular season. The Cowboys lost to the 49ers, twice to Washington and to Philadelphia during a regular season that quarterback Troy Aikman said had "no joy. It wasn't a lot of fun."

"We set a high standard and haven't played up to our capability," Aikman said. "We still aren't consistent, but we can be happy about this. I'm very pleased with this season. It's been what we've been wanting since last January. We had to fight through 16 games. But we got there."

Coach Barry Switzer, starting his sophomore season in the NFL, said the team had a goal of winning the NFC East title and getting the homefield advantage in the playoffs.

They did that, giving them a week of rest to prepare their playoff plans and possibly another showdown with the San Francisco 49ers.

"We have a new attitude, a new feeling," said wide receiver Kevin Williams, who caught two touchdown passes in a 37-13 victory over the Arizona Cardinals on Monday night. "This was a win we could celebrate."

The clutch triumph gave Dallas a 12-4 record and took the homefield advantage away from the defending world champion 49ers, who beat the

Cowboys during the regular season. The Cowboys lost to the 49ers, twice to Washington and to Philadelphia during a regular season that quarterback Troy Aikman said had "no joy. It wasn't a lot of fun."

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Switzer said some critics of the Cowboys forgot it was a 16-game season.

"I guess what you do is wait until the season is over and add it up, and we're 12-4," Switzer said. "Stuff does happen, and so it's not over until it's over. I think the hard part is definitely over."

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The Cowboys lost 38-28 to San Francisco in the NFC championship game last January. They were defeated 38-20 by the 49ers in November.

There was good news for the Cowboys, as far as injuries are concerned. Trainer Kevin O'Neill said tight end Jay Novacek is progressing so well from his knee surgery last week that he could be ready for the divisional playoffs the weekend of Jan. 6-7.

"I think it's about 60-40 in favor of him having a chance to play," O'Neill said.

Switzer said middle linebacker

Robert Jones and defensive tackle Russell Maryland, who missed the last part of the season with injuries, should be ready to play.

"I think they'll both be back," Switzer said. "The rest will really help us."

The only controversy with the Cowboys right now is where the football from Emmitt Smith's NFL record-smashing 25th touchdown of the season will go. Equipment manager Mike McCord has it labeled and put in a box for right now.

Smith has the ball from each of the 100 touchdowns he has scored in the NFL, but this one, breaking John Riggins' record for most TDs in a season, will be special.

"Will I keep that ball? You bet I will," Smith said. "I have plans for it."

And if the Pro Football Hall of Fame wants it?

"They'll have to fight me for it," he responded.

Cards fire Ryan after 4-12 year

By MEL REISNER
AP Sports Writer

TEMPE, Ariz. (AP) - What ruined Buddy Ryan wasn't the bluster, the nepotism, the falling attendance and the thoughtless way he spoke about players who didn't meet his expectations.

It was something he didn't believe could happen - embarrassing, mediocre play by one of his teams.

Arizona owner Bill Bidwill fired Ryan, 61, on Tuesday after watching the Dallas Cowboys manhandle the Cardinals 37-13 the night before, a loss that left Ryan 55-55-1 in seven years as a head coach.

Bidwill made the move knowing he would have to pay Ryan \$1.7 million for the two years left on his contract. He said he had no replacements in mind, but would not exclude any category of coaching.

"I think college coaches could be in the mix, I think a professional head coach or assistant could be in the mix," said Bidwill, who was undecided about giving the next hire the joint titles of general manager and coach that Ryan demanded when he came here in February 1994.

The Cardinals (4-12) were lucky to win four games.

Their biggest victory was 20-14 over Seattle in overtime, and they finished with four straight losses, tying expansion Jacksonville for 28th

in the NFL in scoring and Tampa Bay for 29th in touchdowns.

Even those numbers were deceiving, because the defense scored six of Arizona's 26 TDs, along with posting an NFL-best 23 fumble recoveries and 42 takeaways.

This time, the unit, third overall the year before, finished 26th after giving up 15 plays of 40 yards or more.

Bidwill told reporters he wasn't influenced by the dive from an average of 62,166 fans last year to 47,539 - or by the fact the coach's unpopularity might hurt his chances to get some public funding for a proposed domed stadium.

"It was just the record; 4-12 is unacceptable," Bidwill said. "I like Buddy, and I think my relationship with Buddy has been friendly and above-board, and I truly regretted having to do this."

Ryan, a Korean War veteran who brought a military ethic to his coaching, was 12-20 with the Cardinals. His style - marked by his claiming "You've got a winner in town," when he arrived - alienated some people but endeared him to most of his players.

Reached at home, Ryan declined to comment on his ouster, a move that prompted fullback Larry Centers to say he would leave if he could and

would like to be traded.

"I'm a Buddy man, and I didn't want to see him go," said Centers, whose 12 receptions against the Cowboys gave him an NFL season record for catches by a running back (101). "He's an honest guy, a guy who treats players fair, a guy who tells it to you like it is and not somebody who's going to sugar-coat things."

Despite Bidwill's denial, middle linebacker Eric Hill thought the dismissal was tied to the stadium issue.

"I don't think he was getting much support for the spending because of the way people have been riding Buddy lately," Hill said.

Discussion between the offense and defense, characteristic of Ryan's teams, may have contributed, too.

Hill has been open about his feeling that certain players weren't trying, and, before Monday night's game, he scuffled with Chad Brown, a backup defensive lineman, and offensive tackle Larry Tharpe.

Quarterback Dave Krieg, who threw a league-high 21 interceptions this season, faced the prospect of riding the bench if Ryan brought in Randall Cunningham next season. He didn't express any sorrow at Ryan's departure.

"When you're 4-12, something has to be done," Krieg said. "When

I came here, this was a much better team. How can you be 8-8 and turn around and go 4-12? The players have to take some responsibility as well, but it's very disappointing."

Fans and players alike had high expectations for Ryan, who fueled them with his braggadocio when he arrived in February 1994 after serving as defensive coordinator for the Houston Oilers.

When Ryan replaced Joe Bugel, season-ticket sales doubled. Fans wanted to see what the mastermind of the 1985 Chicago Bears defense could do for the Cardinals.

Ryan left the Bears after that Super Bowl year for his first head-coaching job and led the Eagles to a 43-35-1 record and three straight playoff berths.

(See RYAN, Page 5)

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No one drives Wishbone like Air Force quarterback Morgan

By MEL REISNER
AP Sports Writer

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) - Air Force runs a Wishbone attack that evokes memories of an earlier era - except that the Falcons run it with such efficiency and success that it seems as up-to-date as Windows 95.

Beau Morgan ran for 1,265 yards and passed for 1,165 this season, becoming the eighth player in NCAA history to surpass 1,000 yards on the ground and in the air the same season.

Two of the others - Bart Weiss in 1985 and Dee Dowis in 1989 - went to Air Force.

"When I started getting closer, I figured if I stayed healthy, it might happen," Morgan said. "To tell you the truth, you kind of expect those things to happen when you work hard and prepare like we have."

"I really didn't care about the personal statistic, but it's a good reflection of our team and our offense."

Morgan does care about his 2-0 record against Brigham Young. When he led the Falcons over BYU as a sophomore, he became the second Air Force quarterback to beat the Cougars, a quarterback factory with few rivals.

This year, Morgan followed up by rushing for 66 yards and passing for 117 in a 38-12 victory that started the Falcons on their way to an 8-4 season.

The Falcons will face a tough defense tonight, when they play Texas Tech (8-3) in the Copper Bowl.

But Air Force has seen a few of those. The Falcons were outmanned in a 30-6 loss to Northwestern and a 38-20 loss to Notre Dame. But their two Western Athletic Conference defeats were by a total of eight points to Colorado State and Utah.

Each team will get a \$750,000 payout from the 7-year-old bowl, which is sponsored by Weiser Lock.

Morgan accounted for 31 touchdowns this season, carrying for 19 and throwing for 12, and he finished with a flourish when he piled

up 309 yards in total offense and scored four TDs in a 43-28 win over Hawaii.

It was a finish that had coach Fisher DeBerry talking Heisman Trophy.

"Beau's got the credentials," DeBerry said. "This year, he's put up better numbers than Tommie Frazier."

Frazier, the quarterback of No. 1 Nebraska, was the runner-up to Ohio

State's Eddie George in this year's Heisman voting. He piled up 1,966 yards in total offense and - like Morgan - accounted for 31 TDs.

DeBerry diplomatically mentioned the Red Raiders' Byron Hanspard, who was the Southwest Conference's last rushing (1,374 yards) and scoring (18 TDs) champion, as another candidate.

"They'll have a chance to be on everyone's checklist," he said.

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Eagles' rookie Rhodes named Coach of Year

By WAYNE WOOLLEY
Associated Press Writer
PHILADELPHIA (AP) - Throughout his coaching career, Ray Rhodes has done whatever it takes to make sure his players understand what he expects of them.

As a San Francisco 49ers defensive backfield coach, he once told a player after a poor performance: "If I get caught in a foxhole and I ain't got but two bullets left, believe me, you're going to get both of them."

Few players familiar with the coach's no-nonsense attitude were surprised when Rhodes took over an Eagles team that lost its final seven games in 1994, and turned it into a 10-6 playoff team in his first year as an NFL head coach. They were not surprised Tuesday when they learned Rhodes had been named the 1995 Coach of the Year.

things that attracted Eagles owner Jeffrey Lurie to Rhodes when he was shopping for a head coach to replace Rich Kotite.

Lurie said Rhodes reminded him of former Dallas Cowboys coach Jimmy Johnson for his "ability to relate on a real carthy basis with (his) players and yet have their respect."

Johnson was Lurie's first choice. Former Eagles coach Dick Vermeil was his second. Lurie turned to Rhodes when both turned him down.

He hasn't regretted the decision. "Rhodes had all the ingredients I was looking for ... very intelligent, obsessed with winning championships, an excellent talent evaluator, a man's man, a leader," Lurie said.

Fuller said Rhodes' communicates his commitment to winning. "You can see it in his eyes," Fuller said. "It's more than a bunch of talk. You can look at the man and see the dedication - he really wants to win."

Capers was the other rookie head coach who finished high in the balloting. He moved from defensive coordinator with Pittsburgh to become the first coach of the Panthers. They finished 7-9, the most successful expansion team in NFL history.

Schottenheimer led the Chiefs to a 13-3 mark in a season when they were expected to stumble after the retirement of Joe Montana. Schottenheimer has been an NFL head coach since 1984, when he was with Cleveland.

Also receiving votes were Bill Cowher of Pittsburgh, the 1992 winner, who got seven; George Seifert of San Francisco and Marv Levy of Buffalo, with six apiece; and Mike Holmgren of Green Bay, with three.

Last year's winner was Bill Parcells of New England.

Pacers hand Bulls their 3rd loss

By The Associated Press
After a month, the Chicago Bulls finally lost their third game of the season.

The Indiana Pacers' 103-97 victory at home Tuesday night over the Bulls - their first defeat since Nov. 26 at Seattle - set up the last dramatic game of 1995 - Pacers at Bulls on Friday night at the United Center, where Chicago is undefeated this season.

"We can start another (winning streak). We've got a couple of days to practice and get back on track for Friday," said Michael Jordan, who matched his scoring average of 30 points, but missed 17 of 28 shots.

In other NBA games, Sacramento beat San Antonio 115-98, Denver beat Dallas 114-102, Utah defeated Portland 114-104, Houston got past Vancouver 100-84, Miami edged New Jersey 96-93, the Los Angeles Lakers downed Boston 102-91, Detroit beat Golden State 100-90, Atlanta topped the Los Angeles Clippers 94-88 and Toronto defeated Milwaukee 93-87.

Rockets 100, Grizzlies 84
At Houston, the defending champions had a hard time shaking free of the worst team in the league.

Byron Scott's layup with seven minutes remaining made it 72-69 before consecutive baskets by Sam Cassell and Mark Bryant and Eldridge Recasner's 3-pointer snuffed out the Grizzlies' final threat.

"We were close," said Eric Murdock, who led the Grizzlies with 16 points. "We tried to hang tough with the world champions. We want to hang in there each night, and anything can happen. That's our goal."

Ripken streak voted top story

Just when baseball needed some help, a way to erase all the memories of the strike and the canceled World Series and the replacement-player spring training, along came Cal Ripken.

From his point of view, the Baltimore shortstop didn't do anything out of the ordinary. He just showed up for work every day, the same way he had ever since May 30, 1982.

It added up to 2,009 straight games at the start of the season, and by Sept. 5, the streak was 2,129 consecutive games. That night, in Baltimore's Camden Yards, Ripken played one more game, tying Lou Gehrig's record at 2,130 and hitting a home run.

The next night, he punctuated the record with another exclamation-point homer, and was the centerpiece of a 22-minute standing ovation, an emotional tribute to one man's work ethic and dedication to his job.

Ripken's relentless pursuit of Gehrig's record was voted Associated Press Story of the Year on Tuesday, receiving 155 of 252 first-place votes cast by sports editors, broadcasters and writers. The Ripken story finished with 2,221 points, almost a full thousand points ahead of the death of Mickey Mantle, which was second with 1,280.

Third place went to Michael Jordan's return to pro basketball after his baseball adventure (1,213), followed by Northwestern's sudden football success and Rose Bowl bid (1,024). NFL franchise moves, including the midseason announcement that the Cleveland Browns would relocate in Baltimore next season, finished fifth (1,019).

And Carr would especially like winning in the Lone Star State. "I'm glad about the team's success this year," he said. "I just hope we win in the Alamodome and cap that off."

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to hang around until the fourth quarter."

Kings 115, Spurs 98
At Sacramento, the second-longest winning streak in the league also came to an end.

Walt Williams scored 20 of his 25 points in the second half, helping Sacramento snap San Antonio's six-game winning streak. Mitch Richmond led all scorers with 31 points as the Kings broke an eight-game losing streak against San Antonio dating back to Nov. 12, 1993.

Nuggets 114, Mavericks 102
At Denver, the Nuggets extended Dallas' losing streak to six games as Dale Ellis scored a season-high 30 points.

"When I hit the first one, I knew I was in for a good night. I wanted to take every shot that was available to me. I put up some that even I was surprised went in. Once you get in a groove, it's hard to miss," Ellis said.

The Mavericks have lost 17 of 19 games and have the third-worst record in the league (7-18).

Mahmoud Abdul-Rauf added 21 points, Bryant Stith 17, Jalen Rose 16 and Antonio McDyess 15 for Denver. Dikembe Mutombo had 11 points, 18 rebounds and five of the Nuggets' 11 blocked shots.

Jazz 114, Trail Blazers 104
At Salt Lake City, the Jazz also extended Portland's losing streak to six games, the Blazers' longest skid in six years.

The Blazers opted to use single coverage on Karl Malone, and he responded with 47 points on 21-for-31 shooting. He also had eight rebounds, five assists and three steals. Jeff Hornacek scored 19 points and Antoine Carr 14, including 10 in the second quarter when the Jazz turned a 29-20 deficit into a 53-42 halftime lead.

Lakers 102, Celtics 91
Eddie Jones scored six of his 19 points in a game-ending 13-6 run that secured the victory for Los Angeles over Boston.

It was the Lakers' third consecutive victory overall and their seventh straight at the Forum, which put them three games over .500 for the first time this season.

Heat 96, Nets 93
At Miami, Pat Riley's team avoided falling to .500 for the first

time this season by getting just its second win in nine games - both against New Jersey.

Billy Owens returned from a 10-game absence (bruised shoulder) and scored a career-high 31 points. Armon Gilliam scored a season-high 29 to lead New Jersey, which lost for the sixth time in seven outings.

Pistons 100, Warriors 90
At Auburn Hills, Otis Thorpe had 26 points and 11 rebounds to lead Detroit to its fourth victory in five games.

Golden State rookie Joe Smith left the game with 3:58 left in the third after losing his balance on a rebound and

landing hard on his right hip. Smith did not return, but the team said he should be ready to play tonight at Washington.

Hawks 94, Clippers 88
At Atlanta, Steve Smith scored 22 points, Mookie Blaylock had 13 points, eight assists and four steals and Ken Norman added 20 points for the Hawks, who have won three of four games.

Raptors 93, Bucks 87
At Hamilton, Ontario, rookie Damon Stoudamire had 21 points and 11 assists for Toronto, which matched Milwaukee's victory total. The game, played at Copps Coliseum, drew a sellout crowd of 17,242.

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Michigan squad includes eight players from Texas

By KELLEY SHANNON
Associated Press Writer
SAN ANTONIO (AP) - The Michigan Wolverines have traveled 1,200 miles to play in the Alamo Bowl, but for some Texans on the team it's like coming home for the holidays.

"In my wildest dreams I never imagined I was going to come home and play a game in Texas," said Michigan nose tackle William Carr, who played high school football at Dallas Carter.

"To know you have a chance to come back home and play in front of your family and friends, that's always something that you want to do," he said. "I'm just happy to be here."

The 14th-ranked Wolverines face No. 19 Texas A&M on Thursday in the third annual Alamo Bowl.

Among the Michigan players are eight from Texas, where Michigan has made recruiting inroads. Wolverines coach Lloyd Carr hopes the Alamo Bowl adds to his program's presence in the state.

"Our players and coaches will get exposure they normally don't get. Every day the players and coaches in this state will read about us. Texas high school football is probably the best in the country," he said.

Other Wolverines from Texas are Mercury Hayes, Josh Williams and Kenneth Jackson, all of Houston; Steve Frazier of Kingwood; George Howell of Irving; Jarrett Irons of The Woodlands; and Daydrion Taylor of Longview.

"I'm from Texas, so I'm excited to be back home to play in my last

career college football game," said Hayes, a senior wide receiver who played for Washington High School in Houston.

William Carr said he was recruited by Texas A&M but is glad he chose Michigan, with its highly regarded Big Ten program and lots of television coverage. Carr said he didn't worry much about missing his home state.

"Yeah, you're going to get homesick," he said. "But every school you go to (you might)."

On Thursday, facing one of the teams that recruited him, Carr and his teammates will have to work to stop the Texas A&M running game, he said.

Standout running back Leeland McElroy is suffering from a sprained left ankle and is doubtful for the game. But the Aggies have said if McElroy can't play they will rely on freshmen D'Andre Hardeman, Sirr Parker and Eric Bernard.

"They can hurt you in any number of ways, but we most definitely have to stop the run," Carr said. "In any game, I believe the team that establishes the run has a good chance of winning."

And Carr would especially like winning in the Lone Star State. "I'm glad about the team's success this year," he said. "I just hope we win in the Alamodome and cap that off."

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But they never got past the first game, and that got him fired in January 1991, putting Ryan out of football for two years before he joined the Oilers.

Ryan brought in many of his former players who were familiar with his "46" defense. He was criticized for giving \$14.5 million, five-year contracts to linebacker Seth Joyner and defensive end Clyde Simmons, two Philadelphia standouts who were less than impressive with the Cardinals.

Ryan also hired his twin sons Rex and Rob as coaches and surrounded himself with underlings who never crossed his decisions.

Bidwell said he had notified the NFL office that all of Ryan's assistants were available, with the exception of strength coach Bob Rogucki, a Bugel holdover, and defensive line coach Jim Stanley, who has a year left on his contract and was offered a scouting position.

Ryan's NFL coaching career began in 1968, when he was hired as a defensive assistant for the New York Jets. He also coached with the Minnesota Vikings before joining the Bears in 1978.

Hollywood disappointed by movie cost increase

By JOHN HORN
AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A record box-office take. Nearly 1.3 billion North American admissions. Blockbusters such as "Batman Forever" and "Apollo 13." Doesn't sound like a bad year in Hollywood—but it was. Despite a projected \$5.2 billion gate, the 1995 film season was

actually very disappointing, studio executives say. A few studios—Warner Bros. and Disney—enjoyed good returns, but profits were scarce and margins slim elsewhere.

This year's movies cost much more to make and distribute than in 1994, and higher ticket prices didn't offset flat admissions. "We're sort of in a tailspin right now, and it's getting worse," said Tom Sherak, senior vice president of

20th Century Fox. "The profit margins at the studios have become unbearable."

Following the Christmas weekend, domestic theaters had sold about \$5.15 billion in tickets, Daily Variety reported. In 1994 at the same point, moviegoers had spent \$5.11 billion.

The weekend's top-grossing film was the newly released "Waiting to Exhale," which earned \$14.1 million. Following it were: "Toy Story,"

\$12.1 million; "Jumanji," \$10.6 million; "Grumpier Old Men," \$7.8 million; and "Heat," \$7.3 million.

Even though 1995 will probably be Hollywood's biggest ever—topping the 1994 mark of \$5.2 billion as calculated by Variety—it did not come cheaply.

The 1995 increase—a measly 0.8 percent—hardly covered higher production costs.

Thanks mostly to skyrocketing star salaries (top actors now earn \$20 million per movie) and fancier special effects, Hollywood spent an estimated 15 percent more this year bringing movies to the screen. The average studio film cost more than \$50

million to produce and distribute.

Just to break even, the films now have to make \$100 million, since the studios typically receive half of all sales. Ten 1994 releases reached that mark; only seven soared that high in 1995.

Even the 1995 blockbusters were weak when compared with last year.

This year's top two movies were "Batman Forever" (\$184 million) and "Apollo 13" (\$172 million). The top two of 1994—"Forrest Gump" and "The Lion King"—each made more than \$300 million.

On the independent film scene, there were few breakout hits in 1995. The top-grossing 1995 indepen-

dent film was New Line's "My Family," which earned \$11.1 million. "The Brothers McMullen," released by Fox's boutique film unit, was the only other 1995 independent film to bring in more than \$10 million.

The average movie ticket cost \$4.18 in 1994, according to the National Association of Theater Owners. The 1995 average cost will not be calculated until later next year.

Still, with some 1.29 billion tickets sold, 1995 was not a complete loss. "Having flat admissions in this world is not a bad place to be," Sherak said. "There are so many other places where people could spend their money."

Streetcars are simply another jewel in San Francisco's crown

By JAMES O. CLIFFORD
Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Just because it's the mid-1990s and you're in San Francisco, it doesn't mean you can't step into Philadelphia in the 1940s. Or Cincinnati in the 1930s.

All you need do is climb aboard a streetcar.

Once, these vintage trolleys—known as Presidents Conference Committee cars—dominated public transportation in major cities across the country. Now, they ramble up and down Market Street, another tourist attraction for a city already renowned for its cable cars.

"This is an additional enticement for people to come to San Francisco," said Phil Adams, general manager of the city's Municipal Railway, known as the Muni. It's "simply another jewel in the city's crown."

The cars were designed in the 1930s at the request of presidents of electric car companies in the United States and Canada who wanted standardized, improved, streamlined streetcars. That's what they got—cars that were among the sturdiest and most reliable transit vehicles ever made.

Most cities gradually dropped the trolley cars, though they still operate

in Boston, Newark and Toronto.

The San Francisco fleet's 17 cars can each haul 93 riders. They are painted the livery of cities where PCCs once operated—the green and cream of Philadelphia, the bright yellow and green of Cincinnati, the yellow and silver of Los Angeles. There's also the distinctive orange and silver of Pacific Electric, a Southern California line whose demise inspired the movie "Who Framed Roger Rabbit?"

San Francisco has a long history with the PCCs. The last of about 5,000 cars built for use in North America was the city's car No. 1040, constructed by the St. Louis Car Co. It went into service in 1952.

The cars, which run above a modern subway, form the F-Market run, a 3.5-mile route that is San Francisco's first new line since 1928.

The F line goes from the Transbay Terminal and up Market Street to the Castro District. Along the way, it passes near several tourist sites, including the new Museum of Modern Art, U.N. Plaza, Moscone Center and the turnaround at Powell and Market where tourists stand in line to board the cable car to Fisherman's Wharf.

In addition to the famed cable cars and the new contingent, San

Francisco has the largest operating fleet of historic streetcars in the nation. The 29 vintage trams include a 1928 streetcar from Milan, Italy, one a year older from Japan and a 1922 contribution from Russia. To top that, San Francisco came up with one built in 1895. The crowd pleaser, however, is a 1934 open "boat car" from Blackpool, England.

The Muni knew it was onto something when it held festivals for the old streetcars in the 1980s and people elbowed each other to get aboard. The old cars are frequently taken out and added to the F-line fleet.

"We get standing loads, even at midday," said Chip Palmer, who operates one of the PCCs. "At first, we were kind of overwhelmed."

"The ride takes longer than the subway, but I don't mind," said passenger Penny Starns.

"They should bring back all the old cars," said Honora Jackson, 28, a San Francisco native showing off the city to her brother, Andrew, 17, from a car painted in the colors of Philadelphia circa 1947.

So far, the city has invested \$50 million and seven years in putting down the tracks, locating the conference cars and overhauling them.

Television

WEDNESDAY

DECEMBER 27

6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM
Tell Tales and Legends	Movie: The Fox and the Hound *** G	Toy Story	Legends of Comedy	Sph-Mar	Zorro	Mickey				
News	Ent. Tonight	Seasquest 2002	Dateline	Law & Order	News	(-35) Tonight Show				
NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	Metropolitan Opera Presents									
Video	Video	NBA Basketball Golden State Warriors at Washington Bullets	Movie: Rio Bravo (1959) John Wayne, Dean Martin. ***							
News	Wh. Fortune	Ellen	Drew Carey	Grace Under	Hated Truth	PrimeTime Live	News	Seinfeld	Nightline	
Fam. Mat.	Newhart	Sister, St.	Parent	Wayans	Unhappily	News	Night Court	Simon & Simon		
News	Home Imp.	Bless This	Dev's	Kennedy Center Honors			News	(-35) Late Show		
Roseanne	Simpsons	Space: Above and Beyond					Hercules-Jrns.	M*A*S*H	Cops	Wanted
Bowl Kickoff	College Football Copper Bowl - At Force vs. Texas Tech									Sportcenter
Waltons	Highway to Heaven	Rescue 911					700 Club	Movie: Madame X (1966) ***		
Movie: On the Set	Movie: Stargate (1994) Kurt Russell, James Spader.	(-05) Movie: Tombstone (1993) Kurt Russell, Val Kilmer.								
(5:00) Movie: Starman PG	Movie: The Client Susan Sarandon. *** PG-13	Dream On	Sanders	Crypt Tales	Movie: Love Affair (1994)					
Movie: Garonino-Leg	Movie: Sunday's Children Tommy Berggren. *** NR	Movie: Blood Run David Bradley, Y								
Movie: Public Enemy (1931) ***	Movie: Nothing Sacred (1937) *** 1/2	Movie: Battleground (1949) Van Johnson. ***								
Club Dance	News	Merle Haggard	Music City Tonight				Club Dance	News	Haggard	
Bay, 2000	Next Step	Wild Discovery	Invention	Next Step	Yugoslavias - Nation	Next Step	Bay, 2000	Wild Disc.		
Ancient Mysteries	Biography	American Justice	20th Century	Law & Order						Biography
Comish	Unsolved Mysteries	Movie: Guilty by Suspicion (1991) Robert De Niro. ***	Unsolved Mysteries	Mysteries						
College Basketball ECAC Holiday Festival - Kentucky vs. Rider	College Basketball: ECAC Festival - Iowa vs. St. John's	Press Box	Press Box							
In the Heat of the Night	Movie: Gettysburg (1993) Tom Berenger, Martin Sheen. ****	Movie: Ironclad (1991) *** 1/2								
Doug	Clarissa	Nicktoons	Classics TV Countdown							
Wings	Wings	Murder, She Wrote	Movie: Breach of Conduct (1994) Peter Coyote. * 1/2							
Lazos de Amor	Acapulco Cuerpo y Alma	El Premio Mayor								
Jonny O.	Scoby Doo	Garfield	Scoby Where Are You	SpGhost	Explosion	Globetrot	C.B. Bears	Casper	Huddles?	
NBA Today	NHL Hockey New York Islanders at New Jersey Devils									

THURSDAY

DECEMBER 28

7 AM	7:30	8 AM	8:30	9 AM	9:30	10 AM	10:30	11 AM	11:30	12 PM
Pooh	Care Bears	Gummi B.	Pooh Cmr.	Dumbo	Umbrella	Fraggle	Ductalates	Chip 'n Dale	Tale Spin	Movie: D2
Today				Geraldo		Leesa	Gordon Elliott	Our Lives		
We the People	Sesame Street			Lamb Chop	Storyline	Mr Rogers	Kidsongs	Barny	Puzzle Place	Painting
Gilligan	Bewitched	Bos?	Griffith	Little House on the Prairie	(-05) Matlock		(-05) Perry Mason			Movie:
Good Morning America				Live - Regis & Kathie Lee	Montel Williams		Little House on the Prairie			News
News	Menace	Menace	Griffith	Court TV	Perry Mason		Geraldo			News
(5:00) This Morning	George & Alana			Carnie	Price is Right		Young and the Restless			News
Bobby	Aladdin	Mighty Max	Cubhouse	700 Club		K. Copeland	Christian	Gabrielle	Denny!	
Sportcenter	Bodyshape	Getting Fit	Sportcenter							Golf
Xuzs	Heathcliff	Make a Deal	Name-Tune	700 Club						FIT TV
Movie: I'll Take Sweden Bob Hope. *** 1/2	(-45) Movie: The Endless Summer Mike Hynson. ***	Movie: Quix Show (1994) John Turturro, Rob Morrow.								
Smoggest!	White Fang	Movie: Baby's Day Out Joe Mantegna.	(-45) Movie: Lightning Jack Paul Hogan. ***	Movie: Explorers (1985)						
Movie: In the Line of Duty: Cop	(-45) Movie: The Pagemaster ** G	Movie: Trapped in Paradise Nicolas Cage. *** 1/2 PG-13								
Movie: Man About Town	Parade	Movie: Green Dolphin Street (1947) Lana Turner, Van Heflin. ***								Movie: Nowhere to Go (1959) **
(Off Air)	Ralph Emery	VideoForum								
Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Great Books	Rediscover	Home	Start	Housemarti		Graham K.	Culaine	Great Chefs
Lou Grant	McMillan and Wife					Remington Steele		Police Story		Ancient
Baby Knows Your Baby	Sisters			Our Home		Biggers and Summers		Living	Our Home	Handmad
Press Box	Body	Paid Prog.	Fildstones	Australian Rules Football Grand Finale - Carlton Blues vs. Geelong Cats	Equestrian					
Scoby Doo	Doo	Flintstones	Bugs Bunny, Bugs Bunny	Knots Landing	Starsky and Hutch	Angela				
Looney Tunes	Rugrats	Busy World	Muppets	Muppets	Allegro	Gullah	Rupert	Busy World	Eureka	
Fighter	Dragon	Movie: Zapped Again! (1989) Todd Eric Andrews. * 1/2	Movie: Can't Buy Me Love (1987) ** 1/2							People Ct.
Pizza Sea	El Chevo	Chepirlito	Papa Solt.	Dr Perez	Entre la Vida y la Muerte					Imperio de Cristal
Tom-Jerry	Scoby Doo	Richie Rich	Fant. Max	Carrot Top's A.M. Mayhem						George Of
Flex Appeal	Crunch	NHL 2night	NHL 2night	Bodybuild.	Crunch	Gotta Sweet	Fitness	Flex Appeal	Bodyshape	Sports Babe

12:30	1 PM	1:30	2 PM	2:30	3 PM	3:30	4 PM	4:30	5 PM	5:30
(12:00) Movie: * 1/2 D2: The Mighty Ducks	C. Brown	Quack	Kids Incomp.	Mickey	Darwin	Tale Spin	Ductalates	Chip 'n Dale		
Our Lives	Another World	Jenny Jones		Maury Povich		Oprah Winfrey		News	HBC News	
Body Elec.	Waiting For God Xmas	Pizza	TaiChi	Painting	Reading	C. Sandiego	Science Guy	Wishbone	Newton	
Movie: ** Nevada Smith	B. Hillbillies	(-05) Cartoon Planet	Garfield	Brady	Seved-Bell	Saved-Bell	Fam. Mat.	Fam. Mat.		
Rush L.	One Life to Live	All My Children	General Hospital	Video	Jeopardy!		News	ABC News		
News	Quincy	Charles Perez	Warner	Animaniacs	Fam. Mat.	Dreams	Saved-Bell	Saved-Bell		
Bold & B.	As the World Turns	Guiding Light	Cur. Affair	Hard Copy	Rick Lake		News	CBS News		
Danny!	Matlock	In the Heat of the Night	Tax-Mania	X-Men	Batman	Rangers	Full House	Fresh P.		
(12:00) Golf	Golf	Golf	Golf: World Champ. - U.S. Championship	Golf	U.S. Championship		Golf	U.S. Championship		Sportstr.
Waltons	Highway to Heaven	Punky B.	I'm Telling	Wild Animal	Masters	Family Challenge	Newhart	Shade		
Extras: Quiz	Movie: Stargate (1994) Kurt Russell, James Spader.	(-15) Movie: Dances in December Jean Simmons. ** 1/2								Movie: Great White
(11:30) Movie: Explorers	Movie: Joe Versus the Volcano Tom Hanks. *** 1/2 PG	Movie: Class Act Christopher Reik. **	Movie: Baby's Day Out **							Movie: Batman (1989)
Movie: Leonard Part 6 PG	Movie: The Next Karate Kid ** PG	(-15) Movie: My Girl 2 Dan Aykroyd. *** 1/2 PG	Movie: Batman (1989)							
Movie: Travels With My Aunt (1972) *** 1/2	Inside the Dream Factory									Movie: The Valley of Decision (1945) ***
Ralph E.	VideoPM					VideoPM	Wildhorse Saloon	Club Dance		
Home	Start	Easy Does It	Home	Graham K.	Culaine	Great Chefs	Popular Mechanics	Wings		
Ancient	Columbo			Remington Steele		Lou Grant		Police Story		
Designing	Movie: Mafia Princess (1986) Tony Curtis. **	Spenser: For Hire		Cagney & Lacey		Supernat.	Designing			
(12:00) Equestrian	du Maurier International			Equestrian		Kid Club	Planet X			
Angels	CHiPs	Wild, Wild West		Movie: Along the Great Divide (1951) ** 1/2						In the Heat of the Night
Papa Beaver	Gumby	Tinlin	Looney	Batjetjuce	Muppets	Chipmunks	Tiny Toon	Tiny Toon	Rugrats	
(-45) People's Court	Love Con.	(-15) Love Connection		MacOyver		Highlander: The Series	Renegade	Renegade		
Cristal	Como Tu, Ninguna			Cristina		Primer Impacto	Dr Perez	NoticUnl.		
Ed Grimley	Toons	Top Cat	Tom-Jerry	Tom-Jerry	Ghosts	Bond Jr.	Planet	SWAT Kate	Cartoon Planet	
Sports Babe	Sportstrif	Scholastics	NHL 2night	NHL Hockey New York Islanders at New Jersey Devils						Flex Appeal

6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM
Fish	MRC	Movie: D2: The Mighty Ducks Emilio Estevez. * 1/2 PG				Movie: A Raisin in the Sun (1981) Sissy Spacek, Cicely McNeil.				
News	Ent. Tonight	Friends	Single Guy	Seinfeld	Caroline	ER	News	(-35) Tonight Show		
NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	Fat Man	Garden	Mystery!							
Video	Video	(-05) Movie: Heartburn (1986) Jack Nicholson. * 1/2								
News	Wh. Fortune	Movie: How the West Was Fun (1994) Ashley Olsen. **								
Fam. Mat.	Newhart	Movie: Nuns on the Run (1990) Eric Idle. **								
News	Home Imp.	Murder, She Wrote	To Be Announced							
Roseanne	Simpsons	Single	Crew	NCLR Bravo Awards	Star Trek: Deep Space 6	M*A*S*H	Cops	Wanted		
Sportstrif.	Kickoff	College Football Alamo Bowl - Michigan vs. Texas A&M								
Waltons	Highway to Heaven	Rescue 911								
Movie: Great White	Movie: The Shawshank Redemption Tim Robbins. **** 1/2 R	Movie: Quix Show (1994) John Turturro, Rob Morrow.								
Movie: ** Baby's Day Out	Real Sports	Movie: Conflict of Interest * 1/2 R	Comedy	Inside the NFL						
(5:00) Movie: *** Batman	Movie: And Justice for All Al Pacino. *** R	Movie: Scanners: The Showdown R								
Movie: Manhattan Melodrama (1934) Clark Gable. ***	Movie: Bully on the Bounty (1935) Clark Gable. ****	Movie: Kid's Delight ***								
Club Dance	News	Merle Haggard	Music City Tonight							
Bay, 2000	Next Step	Wild Discovery	Movie: Magic	Know Zone	Yugoslavias - Nation	Next Step	Bay, 2000	Wild Disc.		
Ancient Mysteries	Biography									

Names in the News

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)--The Rev. Billy Graham says he won't see the new movie about his friends Richard and Pat Nixon. He wants to remember them "as they really were."

"I was with the Nixons in both the peaks and valleys of their lives. The Richard and Pat Nixon that I knew served their country with dedication and distinction for over half a century," Graham said in a statement released Tuesday by the Minneapolis-based Billy Graham Evangelistic Association.

Graham used to visit the Nixons at the White House and he spoke at their funerals. He did not directly criticize Oliver Stone's "Nixon," which opened last week.

But, he said, "I deeply regret the tendency today to distort the facts and demean the character of outstanding persons from the past, all in the name of entertainment."

Nixon daughters Tricia Nixon Cox and Julie Nixon Eisenhower have called the movie's portrait of their father "character assassination."

Planning, realistic expectations help make resolutions successful

DENTON -- The new year is a traditional time to make a new beginning. However, the success of following through on New Year's resolutions depends on planning and realistic expectations, according to Dr. Donald Rosen, director of the Texas Woman's University Counseling Center, and Dr. Frank Vitro, chairman of the TWU department of psychology and philosophy.

Most people make resolutions because they want to change something about themselves that they don't like, says Rosen. "Any time is a good time for a person to make changes in his or her life. The new year often is convenient and makes a good starting point," he says.

Making resolutions and keeping them is one of the most difficult tasks for anyone to manage at the beginning of the new year, says Vitro. "People usually don't think out resolutions very well. They tend to make impulsive and rash goals. It has been estimated that more than 60 percent of all resolutions are abandoned in the first quarter of the year,"

he adds. Resolutions are difficult to keep because they are unrealistic. "People often expect instantaneous results. Change does not happen in a week, but in small increments and over a period of time. Many don't recognize this," says Rosen.

"Making resolutions is often about changing behavior, and changing behavior is very difficult, but it can be done," says Vitro.

Keeping resolutions is also difficult because people fail to plan steps to achieve their goals successfully. "Planning a process to achieve the resolution is critical," says Rosen.

Both Vitro and Rosen suggest that resolution makers follow these steps:

*Assess yourself. Look at your skills and use them to establish steps toward setting goals.

*Select resolutions based on small increments of achievements -- have subgoals within goals.

*Keep a daily or weekly ledger of your progress to help monitor behavior.

*Make a written contract with

yourself, specifying the details of the steps.

*Reward yourself, but not necessarily with material items. Graciously accept and enjoy complements and positive feedback from peers.

*Be patient with yourself. Often, people are their own worst critics. If you revert to your old habits or fail to reach a goal, you should:

*Admit and analyze your mistakes and continue with the steps. Don't be overwhelmed by small setbacks.

*Seek help from others or those who are trying to accomplish the same thing.

*Join a support group or enlist the help of friends.

*Realize that the resolution may not have been appropriate and abandon the goal. You should accept and try to feel comfortable with yourself despite that weakness.

"There is always merit in trying to change. All of us are and should always try to better ourselves to reach a more desirable level despite failures and frustrations," says Vitro.



Progressive party fun for all on New Year's

Put on the glitz this New Year's Eve with a celebration that includes your kids, friends and families. Let everyone join the planning of a progressive New Year's Eve party.

Begin activities early in the evening at one house or apartment and culminate with "Auld Lang Syne" at another. Here are some ideas for fun family entertainment your kids will never forget.

PARTY STOP NO.1: Begin the evening with outside activities, such as ice skating, sledding and making snow sculptures, or play group games, such as flag football, hide-and-seek and capture the flag. The families hosting this part of the evening might serve hot chocolate, cider or root beer floats.

PARTY STOP NO.2: Move along to another home for a fun indoor project of making hats and noisemakers. Everyone will have a ball decorating their creations using recycled holiday items such as ribbons, wrap, bright cellophane, tinsel, feathers, buttons, beads and bells. Have on hand lots of scissors, bottles of white glue, tape, staplers, watercolors and poster paints.

To make noisemakers, glue colorful paper around a bathroom tissue

tube or use tubes from giftwrapping cut to size. Decorate the outside with any of the festive craft items. Punch a hole near one end of the tube, then cover that end with a piece of wax paper. Hold the wax paper in place with a rubber band. To play, hum party songs into the open end.

To make hats, cut a large piece of heavy paper or lightweight cardboard in a circle 20 inches in diameter. Cut the circle in half. Each half can be used for a hat. Decorate one side, then roll each half into a cone shape to fit your head. Staple to hold hat together. Punch a hole on each side of the hat and attach ribbons or elastic to tie under your chin, if you wish. When complete, gather the hats and noisemakers and move on to the finale of the evening.

PARTY STOP NO.3: Serve soup, stew or chili, salad and bread. After the meal, enjoy homespun entertainment such as a talent show, storytelling, singing and charades before the memorable countdown to midnight!

Tip: If the children are young and you know they won't make it until midnight, set the clocks ahead an hour or two for the evening -- they'll never know the difference!

Women's Health

Now that the holidays are over, many of us are feeling guilty about the quantity of calories we consumed, or worrying whether we can keep those New Year's resolutions. But here are a few women's health resolutions that are worth keeping, and will help you feel better in the years ahead.

1. Walk. Don't feel that you have to be running hours each week to improve your fitness and shape. Studies show that lesser amounts of moderate exercise, such as 30 minutes of walking each day -- even if done in ten-minute spurts -- can help prevent conditions like heart disease and osteoporosis.

2. Eat more fruits and vegetables. Eating more of these foods provides you with essential vitamins and nutrients and makes it easier to keep within dietary goals. Since they help fill you up, you'll crave less of the high-fat or high-sugar foods. They also help protect against conditions like heart disease and colon cancer.

3. Schedule your annual doctor's visit. If you are 18 or over (or younger if you are already sexually active), schedule your annual doctor's exam. Be sure to have your Pap smear, pelvic exam and breast exam. Talk about whether you should be tested for sexually transmitted diseases. Some other tests you may need:

Mammogram -- If you are over 50, have one each year. If you are in your 40s, talk to your doctor about what is right for you. The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists recommends taking this test every one to two years during your 40s.

Blood pressure -- Should be checked every one to two years. Cholesterol levels are checked every five years after age 18.

Rectal exams -- Have one each year after age 50, and even earlier if you have a first-degree relative with colon cancer.

4. Check your immunizations. Make sure your shots are up to date. Some important shots include: the annual influenza vaccine for women 55 or older; the pneumococcal vaccine, needed each year if you are 65 or older; and the tetanus-diphtheria booster, taken once between the ages of 14 and 16, then every ten years after that. All non-pregnant women of childbearing ages should have the rubella/measles vaccine, unless they are already immune. Have the shot at least three months prior to trying to conceive a baby.

5. Make this the year you stop smoking. If you are a smoker, ask your doctor about new treatments that can help you quit. Make that appointment today.

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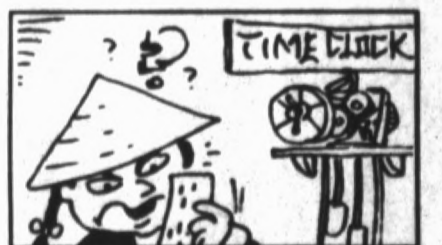
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To become mature is to recover that sense of seriousness which one had as a child at play.
 —Friedrich Nietzsche

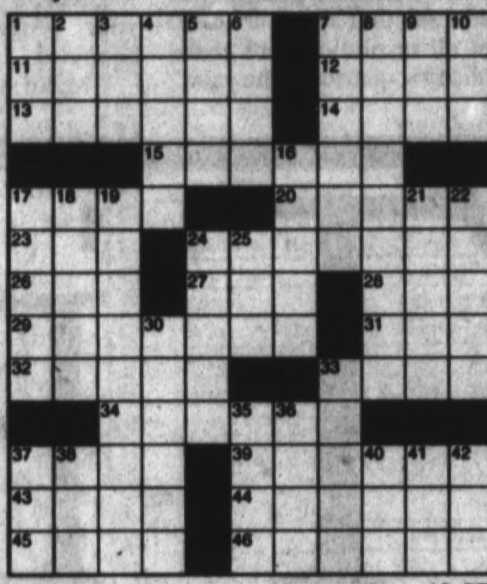
CROSSWORD

by THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS
 1 Bread features
 7 Frenzied
 11 Rap's kin
 12 Actor Paul
 13 Bonkers
 14 Like tea in summer
 15 Medium for debts
 17 Cowardly one
 20 Reef material
 23 Bother
 24 In fair shares
 26 Carnival city
 27 Darling of baseball
 28 Keystone officer
 29 Zoo favorites
 31 Print units
 32 Wander off
 33 On the house
 34 —Lupin of mysteries
 37 Actor Perry
 39 Name associated with bare-back riding
 43 Hymn close
 44 Entertains
 45 The Red

Planet
DOWN
 1 Greek X
 2 — Tin Tin
 3 Good times
 4 Musical symbol
 5 Phone sound
 6 Went over the limit
 7 Musical key
 8 Upton Sinclair, e.g.
 9 Low bill
 10 Young goat
 16 Computer screen symbols
 17 Prepares leftovers
 18 Moron
 19 James Bond movie
 21 Make amends
 22 Slip
 24 Victims
 25 Dale's hubby
 30 Allen and Black

Yesterday's Answer
 33 Thoroughly disgusted
 35 Old oath
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 37 Flee
 38 Actress Thurman
 40 Equal: Prefix
 41 Dog doc
 42 Nincom-poop



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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.

12-27 CRYPTOQUOTES
TXO YOHMN RXIBMQUI BI MTC
CT IQQ FVHC ZBQI NBLZS BM
CVQ NBICHMWO, RXC CT NT
FVHC ZBQI WZQHOZS HC
VHMN.—CVTLHI WHOZSZQ
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: WHEN CHRISTMAS IS OVER, FATHER USUALLY HAS MORE TIES THAN BONDS.—ANON

To let friendship die away by negligence and silence, is certainly not wise. It is voluntarily to throw away one of the greatest comforts of this weary pilgrimage.

—Samuel Johnson

Washington Today Republicans want flat tax concept

By TOM RAUM
Associated Press Writer
WASHINGTON (AP)—Flat, flatter, flattest.

Those are the kinds of taxes that Republican presidential candidates are proposing for the nation.

Former California Gov. Jerry Brown was generally ridiculed by other candidates when he proposed a "flat tax" during the 1992 Democratic primaries.

But this year, Republicans have latched onto the old concept and are making it their own. Under a flat tax, all households would be taxed at the same fixed rate beyond a minimum income level. There would be no or few deductions.

Steve Forbes, the wealthy publishing executive, has even made the flat tax his campaign centerpiece.

"You can literally fill it out on a post card," Forbes says. "It will improve the quality of life."

Not to be outdone, other candidates have come forward with their own versions. Some form of a flat tax might even make it into the GOP's 1996 platform.

Early next month, the National Commission on Economic Growth, a GOP task force headed by Jack Kemp, will release its tax-overhaul plan.

While expected to stop short of advocating a pure flat tax, it will call for a "flatter, fairer" tax, according

to Kemp, a former New York congressman who was housing secretary in the Bush administration.

Participants said the panel was likely to propose no more than two tax rates—down from the current five brackets—and to propose doing away with many deductions and credits, although not those for home mortgages and charitable contributions.

Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole, the GOP front-runner, probably will endorse the recommendations of the commission, which he and House Speaker Newt Gingrich created, Dole aides said.

Until now, Dole has avoided backing any particular tax-overhaul scheme.

Forbes said halfway measures won't do the job. He makes fun of what he calls "the E.R. candidates who talk about simpler, flatter, fairer—which is code, you know, for putting us in the emergency room. The only way you can do it is by scrapping it (the existing tax code)."

Here's where other members of the GOP Flat Tax Society stand:

--Pat Buchanan supports a 15 percent flat tax on individuals, a 17 percent rate on corporations and repeal of inheritance taxes on small businesses and family farms. Tariffs on Japanese and Chinese imports would help make up lost revenues.

--Sen. Phil Gramm endorses a

flat-tax system and wants a cut in capital gains taxes and a repeal of inheritance taxes.

--Lamar Alexander would cut and simplify taxes. "I believe in a flatter tax," he says. Any move to a flat tax should retain mortgage interest and charitable deductions.

--Sen. Dick Lugar supports a 17 percent, flat, national sales tax, rather than one on income.

--Rep. Robert Dornan says he's supported a flat income tax for 27 years and that it's "an idea whose time has come and passed."

Forbes, whose plan is similar to one pushed by House Majority Leader Dick Armey, would offer no exemptions or deductions. He claims that under it, a family of four with an

annual income of \$36,000—his plan's threshold—would pay no taxes, compared with roughly \$3,000 now.

Many economists like the notion of a flat tax for its simplicity, but suggest many plans offered by candidates are not well thought out.

"The public sort of likes the idea. But the public doesn't understand arithmetic very well," said David Wyss, research director of DRI-McGraw Hill in Lexington, Mass. He claims a flat tax rate would have to be in the vicinity of 24 percent to 25 percent in order to work.

EDITOR'S NOTE Tom Raum covers the White House and national politics for The Associated Press.

Names in the news

NEW YORK (AP)—The Boss is repacking his guitar and harmonica.

Bruce Springsteen announced plans Tuesday to resume his first solo acoustic tour with January dates in Canada and the United States before a two-month swing through Europe.

The rocker will again play small theaters by himself, as he did in the December shows that followed the release of his new album, "The Ghost of Tom Joad."

The tour resumes Jan. 7 in Montreal, followed by dates in Toronto, Detroit, Youngstown, Ohio, Cleveland, St. Louis, New Orleans, Houston, Austin, Texas, and Atlanta. Additional U.S. dates are planned.

Don't do for others what you wouldn't think of asking them to do for you.

—Josh Billings

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Month	Price	Change
Jan	43.00	+0.00
Mar	41.75	+0.00
Apr	41.00	+0.00
May	40.25	+0.00
Jun	39.50	+0.00
Jul	38.75	+0.00
Aug	38.00	+0.00
Sep	37.25	+0.00
Oct	36.50	+0.00
Nov	35.75	+0.00
Dec	35.00	+0.00

GRAIN FUTURES

Month	Price	Change
Mar	2.50	+0.00
Apr	2.45	+0.00
May	2.40	+0.00
Jun	2.35	+0.00
Jul	2.30	+0.00
Aug	2.25	+0.00
Sep	2.20	+0.00
Oct	2.15	+0.00
Nov	2.10	+0.00
Dec	2.05	+0.00

METAL FUTURES

Month	Price	Change
Jan	1.00	+0.00
Mar	0.95	+0.00
Apr	0.90	+0.00
May	0.85	+0.00
Jun	0.80	+0.00
Jul	0.75	+0.00
Aug	0.70	+0.00
Sep	0.65	+0.00
Oct	0.60	+0.00
Nov	0.55	+0.00
Dec	0.50	+0.00

FUTURES OPTIONS

Month	Price	Change
Jan	1.00	+0.00
Mar	0.95	+0.00
Apr	0.90	+0.00
May	0.85	+0.00
Jun	0.80	+0.00
Jul	0.75	+0.00
Aug	0.70	+0.00
Sep	0.65	+0.00
Oct	0.60	+0.00
Nov	0.55	+0.00
Dec	0.50	+0.00

Father charged after son fatally shoots cousin

By PAULINE ARRILLAGA
Associated Press Writer
LA BLANCA, Texas (AP) - It could be any teen-age boy's bedroom: A shiny, black drum set in the corner. A fishing pole propped carelessly against a wall dotted with Miller Lite posters of buxom blondes in cowboy hats and skintight tops.

A .22-caliber revolver stashed invitingly on the top shelf of a clothes closet next to a wall covered with an oversized STOP sign.

This is 14-year-old Ruben Avila's bedroom. With one shot to the forehead of his 11-year-old cousin, it turned into a grave site.

Although police say the shooting was accidental, Ruben has been charged with manslaughter. But it is his father whom the law holds responsible.

Jesus Avila is one of the first Texans to be charged under a new state law that allows adults to be imprisoned if minors get hold of their guns and kill or injure another.

"Police say that I'm responsible for it. I don't blame them, it's the law," Avila said, adding, "There's got to be more opinions."

Texas and Rhode Island passed child-access prevention laws this year. Thirteen other states have similar laws, with Florida the first to take action in 1989, according to Handgun Control Inc., the Washington-based anti-gun group formed by Sarah Brady.

Proponents say the laws are meant to prevent tragedies such as the one in the Avila family, but critics contend they create more suffering.

"To take a family who have already suffered a tragedy and then

to throw the parent in jail, that's a double punishment for the family," said John Velleco, spokesman for Gun Owners of America, a 150,000-member organization based in Springfield, Va.

"If there's an accident with a firearm and a child gets killed or a friend of a child gets killed, that is a tragedy enough. To break up the family would just exacerbate that problem," Velleco said.

The Texas law, which took effect Sept. 1, passed without much debate, overshadowed by the brouhaha over the new concealed-handgun law.

But in other states, child-access laws sparked controversy over parental responsibility and whether the government should punish parents for the actions of their children.

State Rep. Sherri Greenberg, a chief proponent of the law, said changing times have made it necessary for law enforcement to step in.

"It certainly is a different situation than when the state was mostly rural

and we were on the farms," said Ms. Greenberg, D-Austin. "People had their hunting rifles, but they knew how to store and take care of them - and so did their children. Now they leave them loaded on the coffee table for the 2-year-old."

"The parent or the responsible adult needs to be responsible," she said.

Joe Sudbay, director of state legislation for Handgun Control Inc., said the purpose of child-access laws is prevention, not punishment.

"If these laws are successful, no one will ever be prosecuted. Unfortunately, sometimes the only way to get people to respond is to provide a punishment," he said.

The Texas law is less stringent than others. An adult can be charged with a Class C misdemeanor, punishable with a fine of up to \$500, if a child 16 or younger gains access to an unsecured gun.

If the minor injures or kills another, the adult faces a Class A misdemeanor, punishable by up to a year in jail and/or a fine of up to

\$4,000.

The law also requires firearms dealers to post signs warning gun owners of their responsibilities.

In Florida, gun owners whose weapons are used to injure or kill another by a minor face up to five years in prison and a \$5,000 fine.

Ott Cefkin, a spokesman for the Broward County Sheriff's Department in Hollywood, Fla., said it's difficult to determine whether the law has impacted the number of child-related shootings.

"We'll never know. We only know after the child gets the gun and he shoots somebody," Cefkin said.

Still, the shootings occur. Several months ago in Broward County a 9-year-old girl fatally shot her 3-year-old brother with her father's gun, which was hidden under a dresser. The father was charged, Cefkin said.

In that case, the shooting was deliberate, he said.

Velleco said the case illustrates a problem with child-access laws: Children who want a gun will find one - no matter what precautions adults take.

In those cases, holding a parent criminally liable is ludicrous, he said. "We don't hold them to that standard in anything else, so why should we with firearms?" he said.

"There are probably 200 million guns in this country and relatively few accidents," Velleco said. "If you separate out the true accidents from the 'accidents,' it goes down even further."

In 1992, 501 children and teen-agers died in unintentional shootings nationwide, according to the National Center for Health Statistics. That's compared with 3,336 who were murdered with guns and 1,429 who

committed suicide with guns.

That year in Texas, 63 of the 538 shooting deaths among children and teens were accidental, according to the state Health Department.

Jaime Martinez now is one of those statistics.

Jaime and Ruben Avila were more like brothers than cousins, said Ruben's mother, Maria de la Luz Avila. Jaime often spent the night with Ruben and borrowed his clothes for school.

"They were good friends," Mrs. Avila said.

On the night of Sept. 25, Jaime again was sleeping over. The cousins played in Ruben's bedroom while Jesus Avila watched television and Mrs. Avila showered.

At 9:22 p.m. a loud boom exploded behind Ruben's closed door. The teen-ager ran out of his room, his hands and body trembling, and called 911. He had accidentally shot his cousin while playing with his father's gun.

Jesus Avila said Jaime's mother, his sister, did not want to press charges against either Jesus or Ruben. "They said they didn't want any charges, but the law's still charging us," he said.

Mrs. Martinez was visiting relatives in Florida and unavailable

for comment.

Both Jesus and Ruben are free pending further action by the Hidalgo County district attorney's office. But their lives are anything but normal.

Ruben, a ninth-grader who liked woodworking and had never been in trouble with the law, now sleeps with his parents and is seeing a counselor, his parents said.

Jesus juggles his grief with guilt, and Mrs. Avila lives with the fear that both her husband and child will be taken away.

"What happened was an accident. It's not fair, but that's the way it is," Mrs. Avila, her eyes swollen with tears, said recently. "They're going to use us as an example, but it was an accident."

Dianne Clements, president of a Houston-based group that lobbied for the child-access law, said the Avilas probably will be used to illustrate the need for gun safety.

"I wish that we could knock on every door in the state and say if you have a child and if you have a gun, know where the two are at all times and never let the two come together," she said. "Unfortunately, this is how we learn. We learn through the tragedies."

Unintentional shooting stats

By The Associated Press

Some facts and figures related to unintentional shootings involving children and teen-agers, according to the Center to Prevent Handgun Violence:

- 91 percent of the handguns involved in unintentional shootings come from the home where the shootings occur.
- 50 percent of the shootings take place in the home of the victim.
- 38 percent take place in the home of a friend or relative.
- 45 percent of the handguns are found in bedrooms.
- 80 percent of the victims are boys.
- 90 percent of the shooters are boys.
- Unintentional shootings occur mostly when children are out of school and unsupervised, particularly during vacations and holidays.

Voters disenchanted by American values

By PAUL TOLME
Associated Press Writer
WARNER, N.H. (AP)--Derek Pershouse is the portrait of an increasingly disenchanted voter.

Like many Americans looking to next year's elections, he senses the nation is at a crossroads and a mere election won't cure its problems.

"We've got to change the wind, not the sails," said Pershouse, 60, who is struggling to rejuvenate his career after losing his job as a regional planner.

A study for the Pew Center for Civic Journalism shows that anxiety pervades America and is growing.

Voters are disenchanted with what they see as America's eroding values and economy, and they fear the American Dream is becoming unattainable and political leaders aren't listening or don't understand, the study found.

In essence, Americans perceive a major shift in society, said Richard Harwood, a Maryland-based opinion researcher who conducted the study. They feel the economy is unraveling, values have disappeared and corporations lay off workers to please stockholders and fatten executives' salaries.

"The fabric of our society now is far less stable," said Pershouse, who did not participate in the study. He feels America's biggest challenge is rebuilding a sense of community in the computer age.

A close community protects its weakest members and leads people to act responsibly, said Pershouse, who was in his 50s when his employer was bought out and he lost his job.

Harwood held 15 three-hour, intensive discussions, called focus groups, with voters in California, Florida, Iowa and New Hampshire - crucial states in presidential politics. The meetings were held in communities large and small, from Los Angeles and Miami to Claremont, N.H., and Davenport, Iowa. Participants were promised anonymi-

ty to encourage them to speak freely.

The voters said politicians were speaking a different language.

Politicians "don't have a clue as to what we're up against as working people," a Jacksonville, Fla., man said in the study.

Talk about taxes, welfare changes and family values by the Republican presidential candidates and President Clinton illustrate the disconnection, Harwood said. The candidates believe they are touching a chord. But in fact, they are deepening the "cynicism and frustration and alienation that people feel about politics," he said.

"Tax reform, family values, welfare reform--(all) merely skate across the surface of people's concerns, and when people hear those kinds of labels, they say, 'These politicians don't get it. They don't get how deeply I feel these problems and how much they affect me on a day-to-day basis,'" Harwood said in a telephone interview.

A Mason City, Iowa, man said he would like to hear a candidate say: "If you don't agree with me, don't vote for me. But if you vote for me, I'm going to try to do exactly this."

Voters are exasperated because they vote for change, but believe they don't get it. They feel high-powered politicians and corporate and media executives control their lives.

"We're becoming more like a lot of foreign countries--where there is an extreme upper class, and a lower class, and no middle class," another Iowa man said.

Voters want leaders to give realistic expectations and to propose solutions that are attainable even if they will take time, according to the study.

Holding "town meetings" and group discussions with voters has become fashionable for politicians. But citizens who take part question whether they are being heard.

"Are they listening to us because they really care about what we think, or because they want our vote?" a New Hampshire woman asked.

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