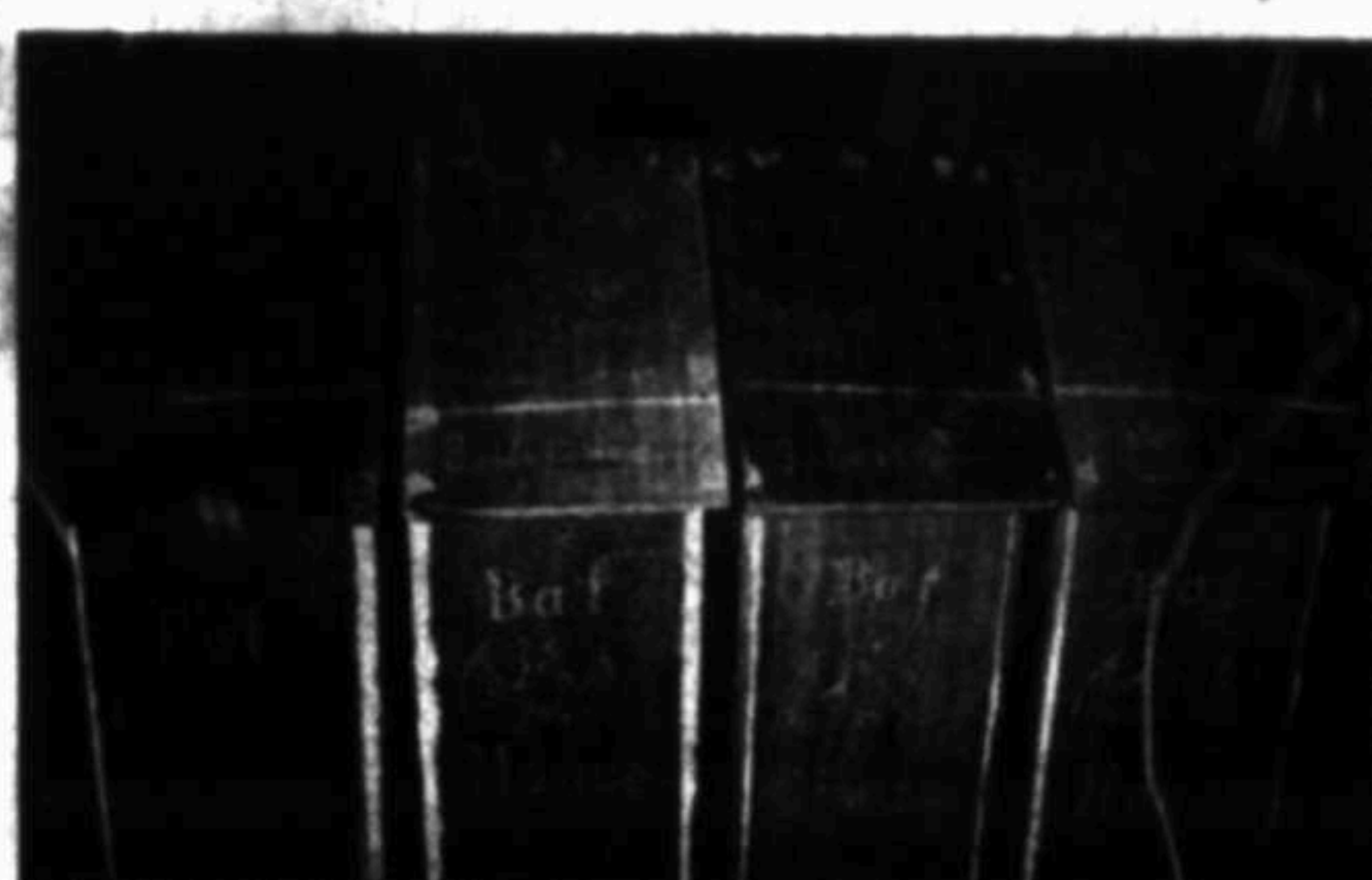




SPORTS

Cowboys win

Rookie kicker Tim Seder scores 17 of the Cowboys' points in Dallas' 23-6 victory over the Cincinnati Bengals./1C



LISTEN UP!

Bat-houses

Boy Scouts of Troop 131 build four bat houses for the grounds of Sibley Nature Center and city of Midland property./4B

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Midland Reporter-Telegram

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2000

Vol. 73, No. 249

Bush, Gore aides review legal strategies

■ Hearing set for today on governor's request to block manual recounts.

By Ron Fournier
AP Political Writer

The legal skirmishing quickened in the overtime race for the White House as Al Gore's lawyers argued Sunday night that painstaking election recounts have been allowed "since our nation's founding." Republicans said the practice exposes decisive Florida to political "mischief" and human error in Democratic-controlled coun-

■ Related stories/3,4A

ties. Updated voting figures in Florida gave Republican George W. Bush a 288-vote margin out of some 6 million votes cast with recounts under way in four counties. The vice president leads in the nationwide popular vote but the Electoral College tally is so close that whoever takes Florida almost certainly will win the White House.

Both parties previewed their legal strategies for a federal court hearing today on Bush's request to block man-

ual recounts. Top Bush adviser James A. Baker III, who described the five-day Florida standoff as "a black mark on our democracy and on our process," said the GOP legal team will argue that manual recounts in only four of Florida's 67 counties would constitute unequal treatment under the 14th Amendment.

Baker said Florida has no uniform standard for reviewing the ballots, and suggested that Democrats who control the contested counties would play favorites. "It's all subjective, and therefore it presents terrible problems



Al Gore supporter Anthony Delmetto, right, argues with George W. Bush supporter Jose Sotillo during a small rally in West Palm Beach, Fla., on Sunday, a day after the canvassing board voted in favor of doing a county-wide recount. AP Photo

Please see BUSH/2A



Melinda Guevarra, a registered nurse, examines second-grader Julio Locoya Friday at DeZavala Elementary School. Julio's mother, Maria, and 7-month-old brother, Brian, watch. MISD elementary schools that don't have full-time nurses should have one by December, according to Health Services supervisor, Catherine Harris.

U. Frank Williams
Reporter-Telegram

Elementary schools will have full-time nurses

By Danielle Belton
Staff Writer

Local elementary schools are finally getting full-time nursing coverage for their students.

That hasn't always been the case.

For as long as officials at the Midland Independent School District can remember, most elementary schools have had only one school nurse on duty for half a day.

That situation often left common nursing duties to school administrators. Secretaries and other administrative staff sometimes had to administer medicine to students and handle medical emergencies them-

selves.

According to MISD Health Services supervisor Catherine Harris, lack of funding has been the reason for the years of inactivity on the issue. While all the secondary schools in the district have a full-time school nurse on duty, a majority of the elementary schools share registered nurses. The nurses often split their days between two elementary schools. Because of that, for at least half of every school day thousands of students are going without some kind of medical professional on campus.

School board vice president Dale Strauss said that it would cost the district approximately an additional \$170,000 per year to fund full-day nursing for ele-

mentary schools. Currently, the nine elementary schools that do have comprehensive nursing coverage — either a full-time registered nurse or a RN and a licensed vocational nurse — have been supplementing the cost through money left over from Title I funds. Ms. Harris has been applying for money through school-oriented government health programs that may help supplement the cost.

According to Strauss, parents had filed petitions for full-time nurses on staff at the elementary schools. He visited several of the elementary schools himself so he could see the need for full-time nurses first hand.

Please see NURSE/2A

MISD attorney, insurance increase for employees is on Tuesday's agenda

■ Meetings are also planned on new superintendent, 2001-02 calendar.

By Danielle Belton
Staff Writer

Have a problem? Prepare to visit at least three important Midland Independent School District meetings this week where the question that looms

is what "isn't" on the agenda.

Trustees will examine everything from the failed bond issue to the new insurance rates for MISD employees. The week will start with a community forum this evening to discuss the school calendar. Tuesday is the regularly scheduled school board meeting and on Thursday the board will meet again with managing consultant Bob Thompson to discuss the superintendent search.

Many different issues are scheduled for Tuesday's board meeting, including the selection of a new in-house attorney for the district. MISD has decided to retain an attorney because of mounting legal costs paid to outside lawyers.

"The district was spending an extraordinary amount of money in legal fees," said board of trustees president George Lara. "We also had a written reprimand by the state's attorney general on the

open meetings act."

Lara, who proposed the initial idea of obtaining a school attorney, said that by having one on staff, the district will be able to save money and be more proactive in situations where legal matters are involved.

"We definitely want to be more proactive with the district rather than reactive," Lara said. "As a

Please see AGENDA/2A

Midland cab drivers try to combat 'run-offs'

By Brian Rogers
Staff Writer

Machilla Rogers, Mickie to her friends, has been driving a cab for Midessa Transportation for the past two years.

Ms. Rogers, who has two children and five grandchildren, said she enjoys her work, but her demeanor changes measurably when the subject changes to theft of service.

Theft of service is the official charge when a person doesn't pay their cab fare, or is a "run-off."

In a way, she has been luckier than other drivers. In her two years driving a cab, Ms. Rogers has had only one incident of a run-off. She said two others have tried, but she stopped them before they got away.

"They (run-offs) happen all the time, but cab drivers seldom call the police," Ms. Rogers said.

After the one run-off she did have, she said the police got there too late to find the offender.

Sgt. Rick Gilley of the Midland Police Department said the typical scenario surrounding a run-off involves someone using a pay phone to call for a cab.

The offender takes the cab to the neighborhood near their final destination and then jumps out at a stop.

The offender runs away, and the police have to try to find them. Then the cab driver has to identify the person.

"The majority of the time, they are Class C misdemeanors. The complaint goes before the municipal court, where it's the cab driver's responsibility to sign the complaint," Gilley said.

He said because offenders generally don't get in or out at a residence, it's a hard crime to solve.

Gilley said the Midland Police Department receives about one complaint a month. However, they are concerned about these crimes



U. Frank Williams Jr./Reporter-Telegram
Machilla "Mickie" Rogers talks on the radio in her taxi cab. In the two years she has been a cabbie, only one person has left her cab without paying, she said.

because they can escalate to a physical confrontation, making it a robbery offense.

Please see CAB/2A

A look inside

TODAY
Partly cloudy with high in low 50s. Weather on 2A.

Person to Person

OC associate professor Brent McAfee combines geology, biology, natural history with wildlife and scenery./1B

Off the wire

■ OPEC won't raise production before January, Kuwait minister says./7A
■ Leah Rabin, widow of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, dies of cancer./8A

Bridge4C
Classified7C
Comics5C
Crossword4C
Dear Abby2B
Deaths3B
Listen Up!4B
Movies2B
Opinion6A
Sports1C
TV Schedule4C
Weather2A
Web Zone6C

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WEATHER

Midland forecast

3-day forecast



Today
Partly cloudy
High low 50s
Low upper 20s

Tuesday
Partly cloudy
High near 60
Low near 30

Wednesday
Partly cloudy
High 61
Low 27

Today's forecast calls for mostly sunny skies with a high in the lower 50s with easterly winds blowing at 5-15 mph.

Tonight's forecast calls for mostly clear skies with a low in the upper 20s.

Tuesday's forecast calls for partly cloudy skies with a high near 60.

Tuesday night's forecast calls for partly cloudy skies with a low near 30.

After a low of 41, Sunday's high was 53, compared to the record high of 84 in 1989. The record low of 15 was set in 1976.

Yesterday's precipitation
Rainfall Sunday0.00 in.
Rainfall Saturday0.00 in.
Total for month0.70 in.
Total for year9.14 in.
Normal total
(year to date)14.02 in.

Yesterday's temperatures
High53
Low41
Normal high67
Normal low41

Sunrise ... 7:16 a.m.
Sunset ... 5:50 p.m.

National forecast

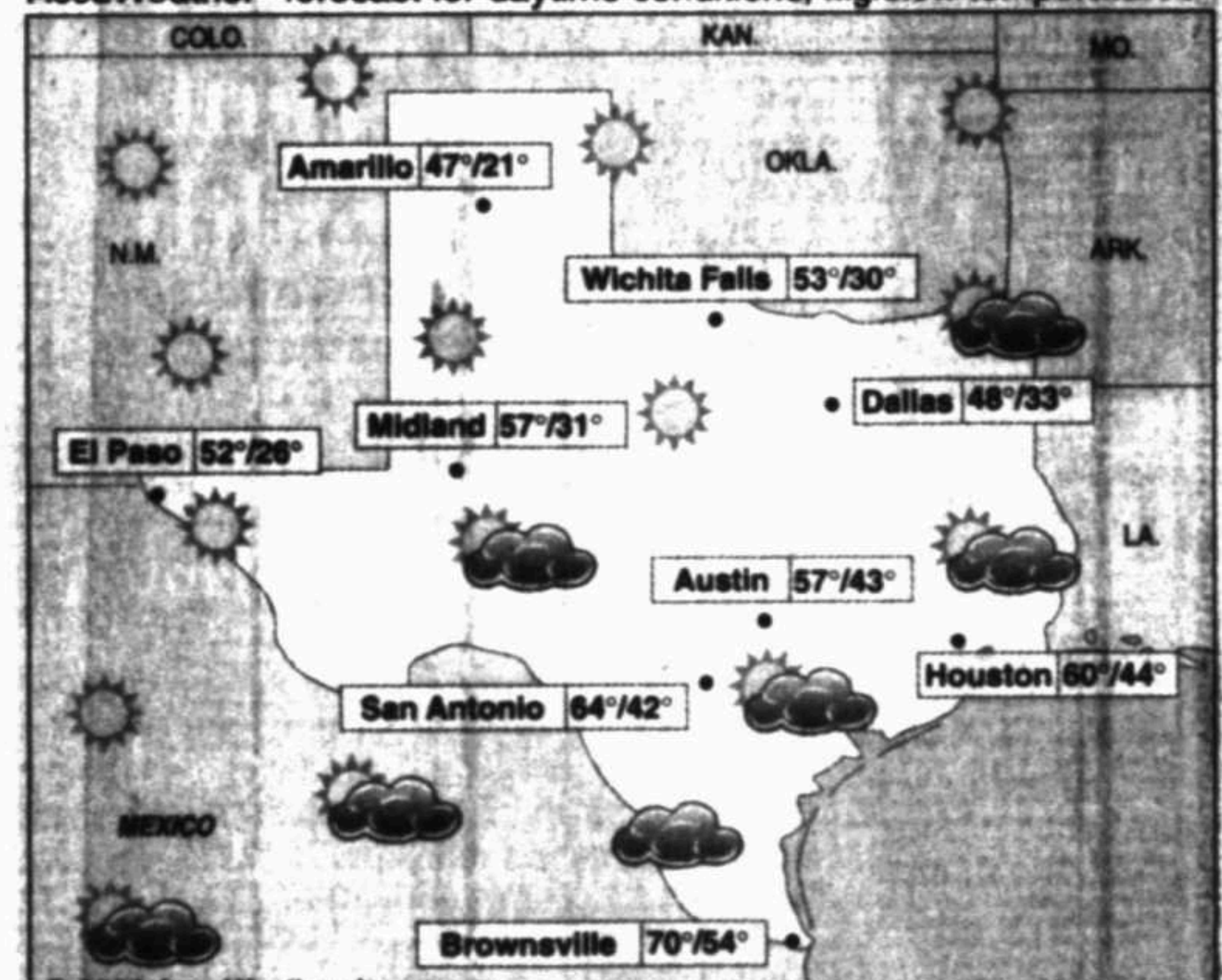
United States temperatures

	Hi	Lo	Pre	Off		Hi	Lo	Pre	Off
Albuquerque	42	28	cr		Little Rock	52	37	20	cr
Albany, N.Y.	37	23	cr		Los Angeles	65	44	cr	
Amarillo	37	24	cr		Louisville	57	35	m	
Anchorage	33	28	01	cr	Milwaukee	46	41	cr	
Ashville	51	28	cr		Mobile	38	34	44	sno
Atlanta	65	38	cr		Montgomery	68	38	m	
Atlanta City	55	43	cr		Nashville	62	32	m	
Boston	56	46	cr		New Orleans	67	45	cr	
Bridgeport	53	47	cr		New York City	52	47	cr	
Buffalo	43	39	cr		Newark	54	47	cr	
Casper	16	-6	cr		Norfolk, Va.	54	51	cr	
Charleston, S.C.	69	37	cr		North Platte	18	3	01	cr
Charleston, W. Va.	57	29	cr		Oklahoma City	38	21	cr	
Charlotte, N.C.	65	38	cr		Philadelphia	54	44	cr	
Chattanooga	63	34	m		Pittsburgh	46	38	cr	
Cheyenne	41	-3	cr		Pocahontas	28	21	cr	
Chicago	48	41	cr		Portland, Me.	57	41	cr	
Cincinnati	48	42	m		Portland, Ore.	45	27	cr	
Cleveland	47	42	m		Providence	57	48	cr	
Colorado Springs	68	13	06	cr	Pueblo	29	4	06	cr
Columbia, S.C.	66	31	cr		Raleigh-Durham	62	39	cr	
Columbia, Mo.	69	41	cr		Rapid City	19	4	cr	
Columbus, Ohio	49	35	m		Reno	43	18	cr	
Denver	21	1	cr		Richmond	58	40	cr	
Des Moines	37	32	07	cr	Roanoke	59	32	cr	
Detroit	45	40	m		Rochester	41	38	cr	
Fairbanks	28	20	01	cr	Rockford	45	40	cr	
Fargo	34	27	29	sno	Sacramento	57	32	cr	
Flagstaff	34	12	17	cr	St. Louis	52	37	cr	
Flint	49	38	m		Salem, Ore.	47	25	cr	
Fort Smith	46	42	36	cr	Salt Lake City	29	20	12	cr
Fort Wayne	46	34	m		San Diego	62	48	cr	
Fresno	55	35	cr		San Francisco	58	40	cr	
Goodland	22	9	cr		San Jose	59	37	cr	
Grand Junction	32	23	cr		Santa Fe	37	26	cr	
Honolulu	82	71	02	cr	Savannah	69	34	cr	
Indianapolis	52	33	m		Seattle	59	32	cr	
Jackson, Miss.	57	38	m		Spokane	29	20	cr	
Jacksonville	72	41	cr		Springfield, Ill.	50	38	sno	cr
Jacksonville	44	42	87	cr	Springfield, Mo.	47	38	cr	
Janeau City	40	35	01	cr	Syracuse	40	37	cr	
Las Vegas	51	36	cr		Tallahassee	74	37	cr	
Lexington	54	33	m		Tampa-St. Petersburg	77	55	cr	
Lincoln	29	24	14	cr					

State forecast

Monday, Nov. 13

AccuWeather® forecast for daytime conditions, high/low temperatures



Texas temperatures

	High	Low	Pcp.	Hartgen	89	73
Abilene	54	35	0.05	Hondo	81	81
Albany	44	27		Houston Interim	78	54
Amarillo	37	23		Huntsville	74	49
Arlington	53	40	0.86	Junction	63	43
Austin	64	47	0.31	Kingsville	71	41
Beaumont	72	51		Laredo	84	72
Brownsville	67	45		Longview	56	44
Burnet	57	43	0.04	Lubbock	49	31
Chandler	40	31		Lufkin	76	47
College Station	77	55	0.07	Marfa	81	37
Corpus Christi	75	51	0.19	McAllen	89	72
Copper Center	64	41		McKinney	50	41
Concho	56	46	0.74	Mineral Wells	54	37
Dalhart	35	17		New Braunfels	77	58
Del Rio	74	58	0.01	Palacios	81	69
Denton	59	39	0.56	Paris	46	43
DFW Airport	52	39	0.96	Rockport	81	69
Dryden	67	56		San Angelo	52	43
El Paso	55	41		San Antonio	80	57
Fort Stockton	64	45		San Marcos	75	49
Fort Worth	53	39	0.62	Terrill	51	42
Galveston	78	68		Tyler	60	46
Georgetown	66	45	0.19	Victoria	82	64
Guadalupe Pass	49	37		Waco	59	43

CAB: There are at least 15 'run-offs' every month, says dispatcher-driver

(From 1A)

"We don't want to see anybody get hurt over this kind of thing," Gilley said.

David Sinclair, a cab driver and dispatcher for Midessa Transportation, said the run-offs happen about once every two days, or about 15 times a month. Sinclair's wife also drives a cab.

"These offenders get the cab to take them all over town, and then jump out," Sinclair said. "So even though our average fare is only \$7, these people are jumping out on significantly higher fares."

Sinclair said the pick-up address and the jump-out address are both kept as a record. When that address comes up again, the

cab company picks up the alleged offender and requests the previous fare before beginning a new fare.

Theft of fares cut directly into the pay of the cab drivers. Drivers at Midessa Transportation pay the company around 50 cents a mile to drive. Ms. Rogers said she generally works 12 hours a day, six days a week, and makes between \$450 and \$500 dollars a week, before taxes.

That translates to less than \$7 an hour, before taxes. Although Ms. Rogers has only had one run-off, she works during the day.

Other drivers, especially at night, have more run-offs, according to Sinclair.

BUSH: Both camps seek to raise funds

(From 1A)

of human error and potential for mischief," Baker said. A state-wide machine-operated recount has already narrowed Bush's lead.

Baker's rival, Gore consigliere Warren Christopher, portrayed vote recounts as a routine necessity of democracy. "If at the end of the day, George Bush has more votes in Florida than we do, certainly the vice president will concede," Christopher said, even while leaving open the prospect of court action if recounting ends with Bush still ahead.

Democrats filed court papers Sunday night on behalf of Gore arguing that Florida's manual ballot law is constitutional. Led by Harvard University law professor Laurence Tribe, party lawyers also said Bush's complaints threaten Florida's right to run its own elections.

Bush is arguing against a system that "reflects an electoral practice — the handcounting of ballots — in effect throughout the country since the nation's founding, yet here alleged to be unconstitutional and indeed to be vulnerable to a form of judicial intervention extraordinary in our fed-

eralism," the Gore reply says. The marshaling of legal forces sets the stage for one of the most dramatic periods in American political history. A climax could come at the end of this week when final overseas mail-in ballots will be counted and the trailing candidate would be forced to concede or push deeper into uncharted waters.

"By next Friday," said Sen. Robert Torricelli, D-N.J., "the pressure on someone is going to be enormous to accept whatever results Florida has reached."

Their public financing drying up, both camps are raising money to pay for lawyers and political operatives sent to every corner of Florida to examine county voting records and wage a campaign-style, poll-tested public relations battle.

The Bush team dispatched an "urgent message" by e-mail Sunday asking supporters for up to \$5,000 to help finance the recount campaign. Democrats are hoping to raise \$3 million, with top Gore aides moving from his headquarters in Tennessee to Democratic offices in Washington.

A Gore-requested manual recount in Broward County, Fla.,

another Democratic bastion with Fort Lauderdale as its hub, was to begin today. A hearing is scheduled for Tuesday in Miami-Dade County, site of what Gore hopes will be a fourth manual recount.

If Bush fails to win an injunction against the manual counts, a prospect that even GOP officials say is likely, his next step would be to sue. Senior strategists say Bush is likely to seek recounts in some GOP-dominated Florida counties if the Gore-backed recounts and overseas balloting put him in danger of losing the lead.

Baker threatened to demand recounts in close-voting states won by Gore, such as Iowa, Wisconsin, Oregon — or too-close-to-call New Mexico.

"If the Gore campaign is going to continue to call for recount after recount after recount until they are satisfied with the result, we may be forced to suggest there may be recounts in all these states," Baker said.

That may be a lawyer's bluff, however, because Bush would have to win Oregon, Iowa, New Mexico and Wisconsin to claim the White House without Florida — a long shot given that Gore

is leading by 5,000 or more votes in all these states but New Mexico.

Overseas ballots are due at Florida election offices by midnight Friday. State officials plan to count them quickly, but have not announced a schedule.

If Gore still trails when those totals are published, he might be inclined to concede. Already, aides and allies are telling Gore that he would be positioned well for the 2004 campaign if he concedes with grace — a move that might help shift the perception among many voters that he would do anything to become president.

Still, Christopher left open the possibility of legal action if Gore trails after the overseas ballots are counted.

Baker offered this deal: "We would dismiss this lawsuit promptly if they would agree with us to respect the results of the statewide recount, subject only to tabulating the votes of the overseas ballots, and whoever wins then, wins."

"We're not talking about a long delay here," Christopher said. "I think it's a matter of days — not weeks, not months — but days before we reach a result."

MLK: Supporters want major street named for King

(From 1A)

grounds Road lies on the eastern edge of a city that is developing to the northwest. Businesses on Fairgrounds are scarce and the surrounding area is hardly developed.

At an August 1999 council meeting, Brooks' motion for a road-name change died for the lack of a second. Opposition to the name change, much of it from the Anglo community, convinced council members not to support the measure.

Opponents to the name change presented two arguments. First, Fairgrounds Road could not be renamed because of its supposed historical value. Second, it would be unfair to change a road's name and force businesses to incur the costs of changing the addresses on their stationary.

Although there has been no official polling to determine what Bradford's constituents believe to be the best way to honor King, council members have said that renaming any road after King is the least popular option. They

have instead hinted at naming after King one of the new roads that will lead into the future Beal Park or Scharbauer Sports Complex. Both locations are on the west side of town, whereas a majority of Midland's African-American community lives on the eastern side of the city. The park would open in early 2001; the sports complex, 2002.

Sue Brannon, chairman of the Midland County Republican Party, was one of those Midlanders who, for historical reasons, opposed the renaming of Fairgrounds Road. She said she would support the naming of a new road, but not the renaming of an old one.

"I think everybody has said 'fine for a new road,'" she said.

But Ms. Brannon's opinion may not be shared by the majority in the African-American community.

Ronnie Brown, who has lived in Midland for two years, said that the council again should consider renaming a major thoroughfare after King.

"Most towns you go to, you

run all the way out on a Martin Luther King road," Brown said. "Fairgrounds wouldn't have been a bad road. But Lamesa and Big Spring, they would be good because they run through town."

Margie Titus, president of the Midland chapter of the NAACP, agreed with Brown.

"We do not need one of these side streets and we do not want one of those streets going to the new sports complex, but a major street," Ms. Titus said. "I would prefer one where you're on I-20 you can exit to it. That would be preferable. The issue is still important in the community. The sooner we have a solution or compromise, it would be helpful."

It was a divisive issue last year, but it didn't have to be. The way the City Council handled it was not good. Every major city has a Martin Luther King street that is a major street, a major artery of the city."

But Roy Smith, a local minister, believes Midland's African-American community has more important things to worry about. "We live in a community that

is so full problems," Smith said.

"We've got too many other things to worry about than a street name. We've got single mothers who can't feed their kids and deadbeat dads. I don't like the idea of (naming a road after) an icon if you're not going to model what he believed in. If we're going to name a street after a man, let's walk and talk his character. As far as I'm concerned, the community feels it's just an issue and not one that has any moral value tied to it."

"King talked about a dream and vision but our teen-agers have forgotten how to dream. They don't have enough mentors to teach them how to dream again. The future lies in the hands of young people. If older people can't decide to live together, they don't have a chance."

Robbyne Hocker Fuller, president of the Black Chamber of Entrepreneurs, said a meeting to discuss the King issue and other issues relevant to the African-American community will be scheduled in the near future.

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MAIN NUMBER:

915-682-5311

Out-of-town: 800-542-3952

e-mail address:

letters@mrt.com

classified e-mail address:

mrtclassified@mrt.com

Web site:

mywesttexas.com

Texas Online Connection:

498-2323

Texas Online Information:

620-0839

Charles A. Spence, Publisher

Publisher's office 687-8675

Meta Minton, Editor

Gary Wamsley, Circulation director

office 687-8602

Chuck Evers, Advertising Director

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Eyes in the storm, Gore and Bush pick words, actions with care

WASHINGTON (AP) — A week ago, all was furious motion.

Now George W. Bush and Al Gore are frozen in place while their lawyers scurry. From the two men, there is only body language, and a few cautious words, about the prize they so badly want.

Bush is acting ever-so-lightly presidential, letting the photographers catch him here and there, planning a transition around the edges, all the while trying to seem not too presumptuous. He spent the weekend at his Texas ranch thinking about a "potential administration."

Laying even lower in these days of high uncertainty, Gore attended church Sunday, which he hasn't been doing routinely. "He does put great faith in the rock of ages," spokesman Chris Lehane said.

"No," Gore said flatly when asked to talk about the election deadlock.

Bush briefly met the press Sat-

urday at his ranch, showing up in worn jeans and a soiled barn jacket with running mate Dick Cheney, a steady presence still in a suit, in tow.

"We're all in limbo," Bush said, speaking for himself but summing things up for Gore, Florida and the country, too.

His English springer spaniel Spot (middle name Fetcher) went to fetch a tennis ball thrown by an aide. Everyone looked. See Spot run.

This followed two days of meetings in which Bush brought together for the cameras some of his potential Cabinet members and top aides: foreign policy adviser Condoleezza Rice and former transportation secretary Andrew Card among them.

Modern America has rarely heard so little from Gore over the space of a week. What little he's said and done in the public eye has carried a double meaning, at least for those with their noses buried in tea leaves.

Thursday: "We're having a great run here," he said while



AP Photo
Vice President Al Gore and his wife Tipper leave Mount Vernon Baptist Church after attending services Sunday, in Arlington, Va. With them are daughters Karenna Gore Schiff, left, and Kristin.

jogging in Nashville, Tenn.

Friday: Gore spoke confidently of winning. Then he added mischievously, "I'm talking about the touch football game." He, wife Tipper and their children ran among the late-

autumn leaves at the vice president's compound playing touch football, suggestively the sport of the Kennedys.

Saturday: While pundits and some politicians intensified their calls for Bush and Gore to do the

right thing — never settling on what thing is right — the Gores went to a movie with his running mate, Joseph Lieberman and his wife Hadassah in Washington.

They saw "Men of Honor," about a black sailor who overcomes daunting challenges to become a master Navy diver. Compelling, one critic said, but the end was unbelievably melodramatic. Gore made no comparison to the melodramatic election. "We're just on a double date," he said.

Sunday: The Gores filed into Mount Vernon Baptist Church across the Potomac River in Virginia. The sermon was entitled Kingdom Economics; it was about generosity and how that is measured by what you give, not what you have. The church was one-third full.

A week ago, Gore was barnstorming the country, passing up sleep, his voice loud, urgent and hoarse.

Bush was on the move, too,

trying to slice and dice the electoral vote, zeroing in on the Gore and Bill Clinton home states of Tennessee and Arkansas — successfully, as it turned out.

Now, there is quiet from two potential presidents-elect, confusion all around them and yet touches of normalcy and the mundane, too.

There was Gore, rushing back to Washington, not to cast a tie-breaking Senate vote but to attend his son's high school football banquet.

There was Bush, tending to a bit of Texas business as if that could possibly be uppermost on the governor's mind. Cheney, Bush's transition planning chief if there is a presidency for Bush to transition to, said he was doing some "preliminary planning."

Bush was looking after, of all things, an infected boil covered by a bandage above his right cheek. "Not a pleasing sight," said his spokeswoman, Karen Hughes.

Presidential uncertainty adds confusion to lame-duck session

WASHINGTON (AP) — Lame-duck sessions of Congress are always unpredictable, but the one starting this week could prove even more muddled because of the unsettled presidential election.

Neither party's congressional leaders know whether it makes sense to resolve budget fights quickly or try delaying a deal until the next administration — with either Republican George W. Bush or Democrat Al Gore in the White House on Jan. 20, inauguration day.

Top Democrats seem ready to settle and leave town quickly. With their ally, President Clinton, still in office, they appear eager to shake hands on a huge education, health and labor bill that was nearly completed before Congress left town on Nov. 3 for the elections.

"There's an array of issues that have to be addressed. I don't think we can leave without having addressed them," Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., said Sunday on CBS' "Face the Nation." Earlier, he said, "It will take give on both sides, but I think we can do that."

Five of the 13 annual spending bills for fiscal 2001, which began Oct. 1, are hanging. They cover seven Cabinet departments, dozens of smaller agencies, congressional operations, and the District of Columbia's budget.

Also unresolved are a \$240 billion, 10-year tax bill; an increase in the minimum wage; higher Medicare reimbursements for health care providers; disputes over immigration and workplace injuries; and an intelligence agencies' bill that Clinton vetoed because it would have criminalized the leaking of some government secrets.

The Senate's top Republican, Trent Lott of Mississippi, raised the possibility on "Fox News Sunday" that lawmakers would "set aside those issues where we're not going to come to agreement and pass what we can."

Last Tuesday, voters elected a new Congress that will give Republicans even narrower majorities in the House and Senate than they held this year. After many months without even speaking to House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., House Minority Leader Dick Gephardt, D-Mo., called Hastert after Election Day and tentatively arranged a meeting for this week.

"I think we can get a lot of work done," Gephardt said Sunday on ABC's "This Week," adding that he hoped the four leaders could all sit down.

Republicans, however, seem undecided about how quickly to proceed and are unlikely to make decisions until they meet among themselves. The House returns on Monday, the Senate on Tuesday.

Some top GOP aides, speaking on condition of anonymity, said it made little sense to agree to spending increases that would shrink the budget surplus that Bush, if he takes office, would

have available for future tax cuts and other purposes.

But others said that Bush, if elected, might urge them to quickly settle their differences with Clinton. That would let lawmakers go home, rest, and return in January for the new Congress and a White House that will be far easier for them to work with.

Other Republicans say partisan battling already has gotten so bad in Congress that the uncertainty over the Bush-Gore election will make little difference.

"The undercurrent of misunderstanding and the unwillingness to bend has been so bad that I don't think it can be any worse," said Rep. Amo Houghton, R-N.Y.

Whatever their strategies, leaders of both parties will have to cope with weary rank-and-file lawmakers who mostly seem ready to finish their last business and adjourn.

"There are things that just have to be left to the incoming president, no matter who that is," said

Rep. Judy Biggert, R-Ill., adding, "People would like to have a little time to recover."

The lame-duck session will be Congress' ninth in the past half-century. The last was in 1998, when the House met for a day to vote the impeachment of Clinton.

GOP leaders and the White House have agreed to enact a bill this week that will keep open until

the following week those agencies whose spending bills remain unfinished. That would give Clinton time to complete a trip to Asia. Clinton has mostly insisted on daily bills keeping agencies functioning for 24 hours.

"We would be willing to sign" the longer spending extension, White House spokesman Elliot Diringer said Friday. "We do that with the understanding that they stay in town and work."

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A handful of Florida counties struggle on with presidential counts

DELAND, Fla. (AP) — In Volusia County, several dozen election workers began counting 184,019 ballots by hand Sunday in a weary-eyed task that will require 14-hour shifts over three days.

"We don't need to remind you of the importance of what's going on here," organizer Roy Schleicher told the election workers before they began. "The eyes of the country are on Volusia County today."

They also are fixed firmly on Palm Beach and Broward counties, two Democratic strongholds that plan hand counts this week, unless a federal judge today grants a Republican request to block the manual recounts.

The two counties, along with Miami-Dade, account for about 1.5 million votes cast in the presidential election.

With the presidential election hanging on Florida's 25 electoral votes, Republicans and Democrats battled county by county over where there should be further recounts and how they should be conducted. Among developments:

■ Democrats added Osceola County to their list of hand recount requests. The Osceola canvassing board, comprised of two Republicans and one Democrat, meets today to weigh it. Al Gore had a small lead over George W. Bush in the 54,000-plus votes cast. Hispanic voters alleged they were required to produce two forms of identi-

cation when only one was required. The central Florida county has a large Puerto Rican community.

■ Palm Beach County early Sunday awarded 36 more votes to Gore and took three away from Bush following a machine count of all 531 precincts. The county, on a 2-1 vote, ordered a manual recount of all 425,000 ballots cast. Election officials meet today to decide how to proceed.

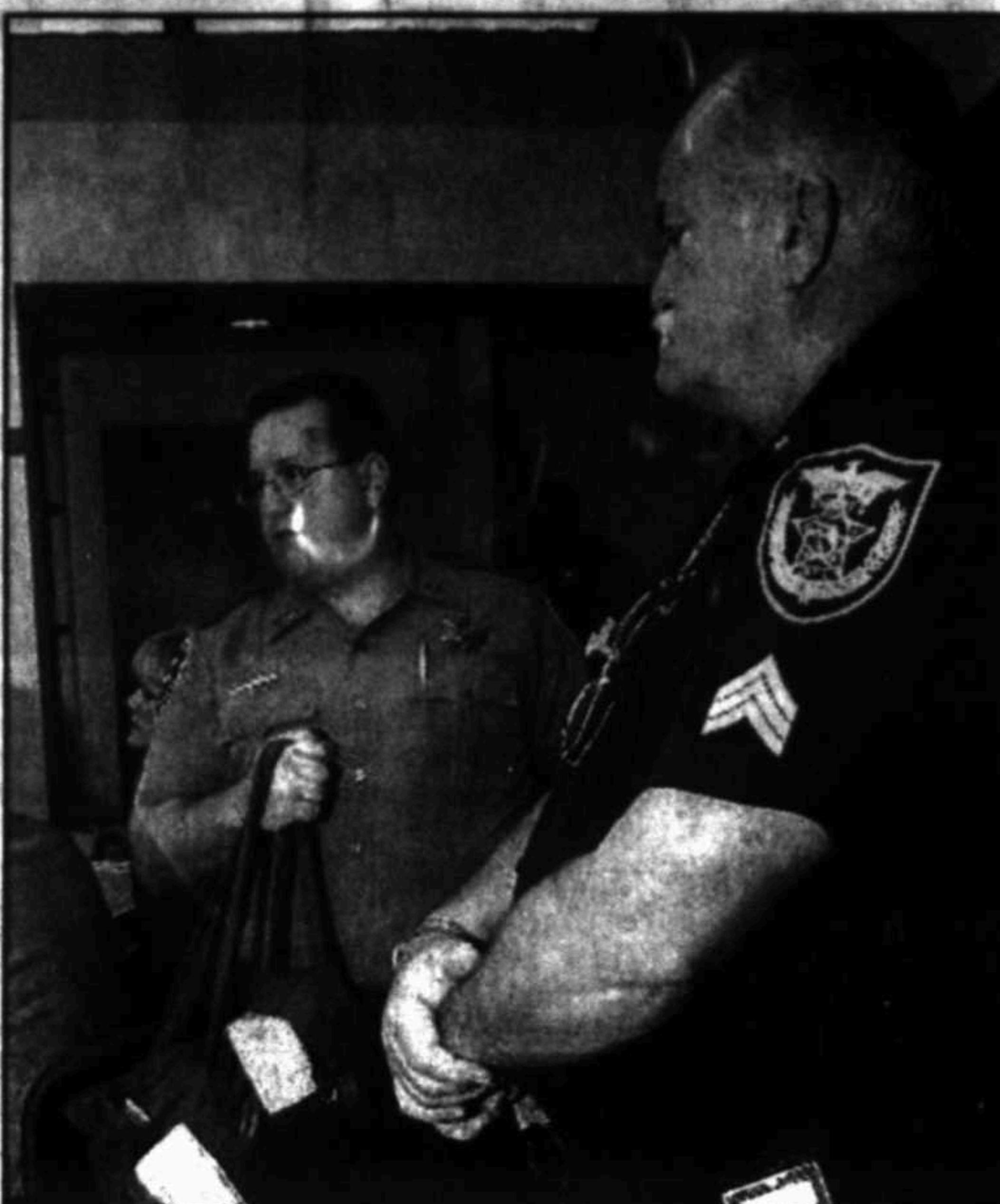
■ Polk County election officials on today plan to certify new vote totals that would give Bush an additional 104 votes and seven to Gore. The votes turned up in a machine rescanning of ballots in dozens of precincts.

■ Broward County plans to begin a hand recount of about 6,000 ballots in three precincts on today. If major problems are found, authorities will consider a full hand count of all precincts.

■ Miami-Dade authorities plan to meet Tuesday to decide whether to order a hand recount.

■ A state circuit judge scheduled a hearing for Tuesday to hear arguments on Palm Beach County's so-called "butterfly" ballot. Some voters complained the ballot was so confusing they mistakenly cast ballots for Pat Buchanan instead of Gore.

An unofficial Associated Press canvass of the presidential vote in Florida showed Bush now has a 288-vote lead. The totals from the AP canvass



AP Photo
Under the watchful eye of a Volusia County Sheriff's deputy, a Volusia County corrections officer carries a bag of election ballots to a table to be manually recounted Sunday, in DeLand, Fla. Volusia County began Sunday a full hand recount of its 184,019 ballots, with employees expected to work 14-hour days for three days.

were Bush 2,910,195, Gore 2,909,907. Those numbers reflect the latest figures from Palm Beach County.

On Friday, Secretary of State Katherine Harris said Bush had 2,910,074 votes to Gore's 2,909,114, a difference of 960.

with one county still to be recounted — Palm Beach County where the AP showed a big gain for Gore.

The state has been unable to include updated Palm Beach County figures in its tally because a state judge issued an injunction Thursday in response to lawsuits by voters claiming they were confused over the ballot design.

A deadline was looming over the hand counts in Palm Beach and other Florida counties. Certified vote totals from each county need to be received by the secretary of state's office by 5 p.m. Tuesday for them to be counted.

To avoid having its votes not counted, Volusia County's canvassing board planned to seek a court order to extend the deadline, a move that Republicans opposed.

"When will it end? This will go on forever," said Mel Martinez, co-chair of Bush's Florida campaign.

It looked that way in Volusia County.

Sitting at rows of wooden tables Sunday, 44 county election workers at a time plowed ahead with the hand count. Sheriff's deputies and correction officers carried in large blue canvas bags and dropped them at each table where two election workers sat on either side. Democratic observers wearing blue ribbons to mark their par-

ty affiliation and Republican observers with red ribbons sat on either side of the election workers at the table.

At each of the 22 tables, an election worker held up a ballot as a second election worker read aloud the candidate's name. After party observers confirmed the name, the ballot was placed in piles designated for Bush, Gore, other candidates or ballots in dispute.

The ballots were then counted by both election workers at each table.

In a process with so much at stake, the smallest details were magnified.

Democrats and Republicans debated over what color pens observers should be able to carry into the room (red for Republicans and green for Democrats). The election supervisor pondered for five minutes what election workers should do with their purses (place them at the side of the room under guard of a sheriff's deputy). Even the color of the ribbons Republican and Democratic observers wore required a 15-minute discussion.

No food or drink was allowed in the room and election workers had to check out with a security guard before leaving.

"It's kind of an exciting process even though it's a little tedious," said Dave Byron, Volusia County's communications director.

In pulpits, pews, Americans ponder the situation of solution to election problem

By Ted Anthony
Associated Press

From the pulpit to the pews, ministers and parishioners pondered America's odd presidential quandary Sunday and expressed hope that something — be it prayer, politics or public pressure — would point the way for the nation.

"Prayer for this situation is certainly needed," said the Rev. Marty Bolter, pastor of the Father's House Vineyard Christian Fellowship in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

In a country where the government and religion have an uneasy but sometimes unbreakable relationship, Sunday offered a moment for churchgoers to consider the meaning of both — and, in some cases, reiterate the motto on the coins: In God We Trust.

"In this case, God doesn't play favorites," said the Rev. Randy Kasch of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Cedar Rapids. He described good government as a gift from heaven.

Some ministers, like the Rev. Leonard Jackson of First African Methodist Episcopal Church, the oldest black congregation in Los Angeles, asked people to pray. Others alluded to the brouhaha indirectly. But it was certainly on people's minds: In North Dakota, the Rev. Don Burnett of the Bismarck Baptist Church said some in his congregation "felt quite undone."

"Several ladies were just in tears in the lobby and concerned for the vulnerability of our country," he said. "We prayed as the Scriptures have commanded us: Pray for those in authority over us."

A Newsweek poll suggests Americans favor a fair and accu-

rate outcome to simply a speedy one. The poll, conducted Thursday and Friday, showed 72 percent of those interviewed felt it was more important to make certain "all reasonable doubt" has been removed; 25 percent wanted it resolved as soon as possible.

The poll said 69 percent of Americans consider the uncertainty a sign of the American political system's strength, while 24 percent said it was a sign of weakness. The poll had a 4 percentage-point margin of error.

At the Discovery United Methodist Church in the largely Republican western suburbs of Richmond, Va., the Rev. Jim Lavender called in his prayer "for someone bigger than politics — for you, Lord, to bring a peace across America."

And from one of his parishioners came this assessment: "If we can't even decide who we're going to put in for president, we're showing ourselves to be not deserving of the position we have in this world," said Doug Brandmahl, a carpenter.

The Rev. Chuck Smith, founder of the evangelical Calvary chapels, said at his flagship church in Costa Mesa, Calif., that the tight election is a symptom of a moral "free-fall" in the United States.

"It used to be that we had moral absolutes. We knew what was right, we knew what was wrong," he said between services Sunday. Smith said he was annoyed by the limbo but would accept the outcome because "it is God who sets upon the thrones those whom he would ... he has a purpose for doing so."

The Rev. John Gibson Jr. told parishioners at Church of the Holy Cross, in downtown

Raleigh, N.C., that God knows when to deploy the faithful.

"Usually, we believe that little voice of insignificant people like you and me can't make any difference. We may believe the movers and shakers and the powerful can make a difference," Gibson said, "but I would say that He can use us best when we realize how small we are."

On the south side of Chicago, the Rev. Michael Pfleger of St. Sabina's Roman Catholic Church said he was "tired of this garbage talk that it's expedient that we do this quickly."

"We've been doing things quickly for too long," Pfleger said to wild cheers. "Is speed more important than truth? Is speed

more important than justice? Is speed more important than democracy? An entire Democratic process right at this moment is on trial."

Said one of his parishioners, Dolores Johnson, 70, a retired teacher: "This is the worst situation I've ever heard of in our history of elections."

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Electoral College has served nation steadfastly

Senator-elect, Hillary Rodham Clinton, is one of the voices calling for the elimination of the Electoral College in the wake of Tuesday's presidential election. Preliminary accounts seem to indicate that Democrat Al Gore won the popular vote across the nation while Republican George W. Bush will have won the Electoral College contest if the Florida recount holds up and he is awarded the 25 electoral votes in the Sunshine State.

Mrs. Clinton, perhaps, ought to think twice before she boards the anti-Electoral College bandwagon.

Her husband's White House victory in 1992 in great part was due to his successful wooing of the 54 electoral votes that come with California, top prize of the Electoral College.

The controversy over our Electoral College is not new.

As recently as 1997, Congress debated a constitutional amendment to replace the Electoral College with a system of direct popular election. Cooler heads prevailed and the debate died on the floor.

We are being reminded more and more these days, our forefathers were thoughtful and deliberate when they developed the system of government which has served us so well.

This is not a time for careless, knee-jerk political reactions. This is not a time to capitalize on our momentary, unfortunate state of confusion.

Rather than voting in a direct popular election, voters in each state technically choose between slates of electors representing each party. Taken together, the winning electors form the Electoral College. The number of electors per state is awarded in accordance with population. The electors meet after the November popular election to cast votes and officially elect the president.

The framers of the Constitution concocted this electoral system because they feared regional candidates would divide the country. There was the potential of pitting sections of the nation directly against one another.

Requiring a candidate to win a majority in the Electoral College is a way of obtaining a national consensus. Today, candidates work hard to broaden their base and include many viewpoints.

The system originally established in Article II, Section I, of the U.S. Constitution was modified by the 12th Amendment because of problems which arose in the election of 1800, when Thomas Jefferson and Aaron Burr, nominees of the same party each received a majority, with exactly the same electoral vote. Jefferson was clearly designated as the party's presidential candidate, but it was not until the 36th ballot in the House that Federalist party opposition was overcome and Jefferson was chosen over Burr.

Our forefathers weren't perfect and as a result of the Jefferson-Burr fiasco, the Electoral College was modified.

But the Electoral College shouldn't be abandoned in the heat of the moment.

While the American people are easily swept up in polls, fads and the latest talk, we don't want the same for our government. We want our government structure to remain a rock solid foundation.

JACK ANDERSON

Illegal stimulant use increases, moves into Midwest

WASHINGTON — Methamphetamine, a stimulant drug that has been used since the 1960s, is also known as ice, crank and speed. In fact, there are actually more than 10 street names for the product. The drug is cheaper and easier to produce than cocaine.

The Office of National Drug Control Policy reports that methamphetamine is "a highly addictive central nervous system stimulant that can be injected, snorted, smoked or ingested orally," and that users experience "a short yet intense 'rush' ... increased activity, decreased appetite and a sense of well being that can last 6 to 8 hours." Further, use of the drug can result in "addiction, psychotic behavior and brain damage."

The drug causes brain damage similar to that of Alzheimer's. Chronic use can lead to "violent behavior, anxiety, confusion and insomnia." Users can also experience hallucinations, mood swings, delusions and paranoia. The drug destroys brain cells and damage can persist months after use. Methamphetamine enables its users to stay awake for 10 days straight without food.



Anderson

According to Dr. Alan Leshner, the director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse, methamphetamine "has gone from being concentrated in the Southwest up the West Coast to the Midwest." The use of this drug has grown so much in the Midwest that Leshner calls it "nothing short of a methamphetamine crisis."

The Methamphetamine Interagency Task Force also reported that the drug has historically been "concentrated primarily in the West and Southwest. However, since the early 1990s, methamphetamine gradually has been moving into the Midwest and South," and is now "used throughout most major metropolitan areas, less in the Northeast."

In fact, the Office of National Drug Control Policy found that in 1999, "4.3 percent (9.4 million people) of the U.S. population reported trying methamphetamine at least once in their lifetime," with the highest numbers of use occurring among people between the ages of 18 and 25. Approximately 1.4 percent of those between the ages of 12 and 17 reported one-time use.

Methamphetamine use has increased alarmingly in the rural areas of the country as well. A National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, recently released a study that found eighth-graders in rural areas are 104 percent more likely to use amphetamines than their urban counterparts.

Part of the reason that the use of speed has increased is because of the ease of manufacture. Materials can be obtained from local stores such as Wal-Mart or Target. The Methamphetamine Interagency Task Force reported that basic materials include "over-the-counter drugs, household products and other readily available chemicals," such as lye, iodine, rock salt, lighter fluid, propane, match sticks or drain cleaner.

Moreover, speed recipes can easily be found on the Internet. One of the favorites is referred to as the Nazi method, which utilizes common chemicals and equipment and is less dangerous than other methods, which involve using heat that can lead to explosions. A person buying \$100 of supplies can sell the end product for \$1,000.

The ease with which people can produce the drug has led to the increase of clandestine labs all over the nation. In 1999, the DEA seized 2,205 such labs, which is a significant increase from the 1,627 seized in 1998. Traditional sources for the drug have been traffickers from Mexico and motorcycle gangs, but now there has been a surge in the number of people making and distributing the drug from their own homes. It's not just the consumers' new drug of choice, it's the producers' as well.

Jack Anderson's and Douglas Cohn's column is distributed by United Feature Syndicate.



DAVE MCNEELY

Greens exploit Democratic void in Texas

If Texas Gov. George W. Bush wins the presidential race, he'd be well-advised to invite Ralph Nader to the inauguration. Because if Bush becomes president, it will have been because Nader was the Green Party's presidential candidate. While Nader received just 3 percent of the national vote, and only 2 percent in Florida, most of the 96,000-plus votes Nader got in Florida would have gone to Democrat Al Gore. Whichever candidate wins Florida wins the presidency.

Former Texas Agriculture Commissioner Jim Hightower, who backed Nader, disagrees that Nader was the difference.

"Those voters that voted for Ralph are Ralph voters," Hightower said — people who otherwise would've stayed home.

Nader was unabashed about the possibility his candidacy could cost Gore the White House. Even though the Democrats' stances on issues are closer to the Greens' than Republicans', Nader and Hightower don't think they're close enough.

They hope to embarrass or coerce the Democrats into moving toward the Greens on issues such as the environment, health care and others.

Hightower said he remains a Democrat and campaigns for progressive Democrats. But he warned the Democrats against leaving behind those at the bottom of the economic ladder.

"I think we're facing a 'little-d' democratic crisis in our country, where the little people are knocked down economically and kicked out politi-

cally," Hightower said. "We have one corporate party, the Republicans. Why do we need another one?"

True, Nader got just 2.15 percent in Texas, and the party's U.S. Senate candidate, Douglas Sandage, got just 1.46 percent, in races where the Democrats had candidates.

But the Green Party also achieved its goal in Texas of getting on the ballot for 2002 — a result of the noncompetition by Democrats for statewide races.

Green candidates' percentage in three races that the Democrats failed to contest assure the Greens' presence on the 2002 ballot without having to collect tens of thousands of petition signatures as they did this year.

For the Railroad Commission, Green candidate Gary Dugger got 7.3 percent against Republican Charles R. Matthews, and Green Charles L. Mauch got 7.2 percent against Michael L. Williams. Ben Levy got 9.7 percent for the Texas Supreme Court against Republican Nathan Hecht.

To be sure, they got trounced and were outpolled by Libertarian candidates. But their goal was ballot access, and getting more than 5 percent in just one statewide race accomplished that.

Thus the Greens could be a real problem in 2002 for Texas Democrats as they try to recapture the governorship and other statewide offices.

"I think it means we will be running a full slate in 2002, particularly in races where the Democrats aren't running truly progressive people," said Dugger, an Austin United Parcel Service driver and son of former Texas Observer editor Ronnie Dugger.

Dave McNeely's column is distributed by the Austin American-Statesman.

GEORGE WILL

Gore team behaves recklessly

WASHINGTON — So the Clinton-Gore era culminates with an election as stained as the blue dress, a Democratic chorus complaining that the Constitution should not be the controlling legal authority, and Clinton's understudy dispatching lawyers to litigate this: "It depends on what the meaning of 'vote' is."

The mendacity of Al Gore's pre-election campaign is pertinent to the post-election chaos. He ran with gale-force economic winds at his back, and with a powerful media bias pulling him along. Yet Gore probably lost. Why? Consider his political ethics, which flow from his corrupting hunger for power.



Will

When Gore made a false claim about traveling to Texas to inspect disaster damage with the head of federal emergency services, his heap of fabrications had reached critical mass, triggering ridicule and draining credibility. He is, strictly speaking, unbelievable.

Election Day saw Democrats briefly succeed in changing the rules during the game in Missouri: Their lawyers found a friendly court to order St. Louis polls to stay open three hours past the lawful 7 p.m. closing time. Fortunately, a higher court soon reimposed legality on the Democrats and ordered the polls closed at 7:45. Now in Florida, Democrats want to change the rules after the game.

The Democratic Party dotes on victims, but what, exactly, victimized those 19,000 Palm Beach County voters who, as almost 15,000 in the county did in 1996, botched marking their ballots by punching two candidates for president? It is absurd to say it is "unfair" to do what the law requires — disallow improperly marked ballots. And it is sinister when Democratic voters, after leaving polling places where they could have asked poll workers for guidance or fresh ballots, suddenly "remember" that they might have misread their "butterfly" ballots.

Gore campaign chairman William Daley, of the famously fastidious Cook County Daleys, says such ballots are indefensible — at least he said that, until chief Bush strategist Karl Rove displayed a Cook County butterfly ballot. The Palm Beach ballots were designed by a Democrat and approved by a process that included Democrats, and sample ballots were published in newspapers and mailed to voters — all without eliciting pre-election complaints.

The leading Florida case on confusing ballots holds: Confusion about a ballot will not void an election if the voter, taking "the degree of care commensurate with the solemnity of the occasion," can find the right name. The vast majority of Palm Beach voters could. Unless Florida's Supreme Court, which has approvingly cited this case in other rulings, overturns it, the "confused voter" claims are baseless.

By Friday, Florida's absentee ballots — with a large military, hence Republican, component — will have been counted, probably sealing Bush's win there. By then, millions of as yet uncounted absentee ballots in California and elsewhere may have made Bush the popular vote winner nationally. Even so, Gore operatives probably will still toil to delegitimize the election. Their actions demolish the presidential pretensions of the dangerous man for whom they do their reckless work.

George Will's column is distributed by Washington Post Writers Group.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Monday, Nov. 13, the 318th day of 2000. There are 48 days left in the year.

Today's highlight in history:

On Nov. 13, 1789, Benjamin Franklin wrote a letter to a friend in which he said, "In this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes."

On this date:

In 1775, during the American Revolution, U.S. forces captured Montreal.

In 1927, the Holland Tunnel opened to the public, providing access between New York City and New Jersey beneath the Hudson River.

In 1940, the Walt Disney animated movie "Fantasia" had its world premiere in New York.

In 1942, the minimum draft age was lowered from 21 to 18.

In 1956, the Supreme Court struck down laws calling for racial segregation on public buses.

In 1969, speaking in Des Moines, Iowa, Vice President Spiro T. Agnew accused network television news departments of bias and distortion, and urged viewers to lodge complaints.

In 1974, Karen Silkwood, a technician and union activist at the Kerr-McGee Cimarron plutonium plant near Crescent, Okla., died in a car crash.

In 1977, the comic strip "Li'l Abner" by Al Capp appeared in newspapers for the last time.

Doonesbury



BY GARRY TRUDEAU

Leah Rabin, widow of Israeli prime minister, dead at 72

JERUSALEM (AP) — Leah Rabin, who became an outspoken campaigner for peace after her husband, the late Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, was struck down by an assassin's bullet, died Sunday of cancer. She was 72.

Mrs. Rabin had never hesitated to criticize friend or foe in the five years since her husband was shot by an ultranationalist Jew. Though she was viewed by some of her countrymen as a divisive figure, she was feted abroad as a promoter of Israeli-Arab coexistence.

She counted political leaders, including President Clinton and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, among her close friends, and after her husband was killed she crisscrossed the globe to carry the torch for his peace policies.

"We have lost a dear friend, and the Middle East has lost a friend of peace," Clinton said.

Former Prime Minister Shimon Peres, a Labor party ally of Mrs. Rabin's husband, said she was "like a lioness."

"When she learned of her illness she did not surrender," Peres said, "and went out to the great battle for her life, as she had fought, with the same courage, to eternalize the memory of her husband."

Mrs. Rabin had been suffering from cancer at least since the spring. The gravity of her illness became clear when she was unable to appear at a rally last Saturday marking the fifth anniversary of her husband's killing.

She is to be buried Wednesday in a plot next to her late husband's in Jerusalem's Mount Herzl cemetery. First her coffin will lie in state at Rabin Square in Tel Aviv, where Yitzhak Rabin was

assassinated on Nov. 4, 1995. Israel television's second channel reported.

Mrs. Rabin spared no one her sometimes acid-tongued opinions, even denouncing some peace moves of the man who emulated her husband, Prime Minister Ehud Barak. "Yitzhak is spinning in his grave," she said when Barak offered Palestinians some control over parts of east Jerusalem.

Barak, in a statement released while he flew to Washington for talks with Clinton, called Mrs. Rabin "a courageous and devoted woman who worked together with her husband for two generations to bring Israel into a secure situation and, in recent years, to bring peace."

In Israel, Mrs. Rabin's detractors saw her as an arrogant standard-bearer of Israel's European-born elite. They blamed her for her husband's resignation from his first term as prime minister in 1977 over an illegal U.S. bank account she held.

Her harshest critics were supporters of hard-line leader Benjamin Netanyahu, whom she accused of fanning the hatred that led to her husband's killing at a Tel Aviv peace rally. Netanyahu opposed land-for-security agreements that Yitzhak Rabin signed with the Palestinians.

In 1997, Mrs. Rabin was booed by vendors and shoppers as she walked through Jerusalem's outdoor Mahane Yehuda market, a stronghold of hawkish Israelis.

She was born Leah Schlossberg on April 8, 1928 to well-to-do parents in Koenigsberg, a town in what was then Germany, later part of Russia.

When Hitler came to power in 1933, her father sold his dry



AP Photo
Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and his wife Leah sit aboard their aircraft shortly before departing for Washington from Ben Gurion airport in Lod, near Tel Aviv, on Sept. 12, 1993. Mrs. Rabin died Sunday, of cancer at the age of 72, hospital officials said.

goods business and took the family to what was then British-ruled Palestine. In September 1940, the 12-year-old Leah narrowly escaped death when Italian planes bombed Tel Aviv, killing over 100 civilians and injuring many more.

As a high school student in Tel Aviv, she met Yitzhak Rabin, an officer in the Palmach, the elite force of the pre-state militia. She entered a teacher's training college but broke off her studies to join the Palmach. She and Rabin married during the 1948 Arab-Israeli war.

He commanded the forces that

broke through the Arab encirclement of Jerusalem, lifting the siege. She worked in Tel Aviv on the Palmach's newspaper.

Yitzhak Rabin rose through the ranks of the army and served as its chief in 1967, when Israel won a crushing victory over the combined armies of Egypt, Syria and Jordan.

After the war, he was appointed ambassador to the United States and in 1974 was elected prime minister. Three years later, however, he was forced to resign when a journalist revealed that his wife had retained a dollar account in the United States.

a violation of Israeli law at the time.

The prime minister stood by his wife and temporarily withdrew from public life.

In 1994, during her husband's second term as prime minister, Mrs. Rabin drew criticism when an entire battalion of soldiers was ordered to search the sand for a brooch that had fallen from her dress during the desert signing ceremony of the Israeli-Jordanian peace treaty.

And eyebrows were raised after Rabin's assassination when she demanded — and received — an office, secretary, chauffeur and all the services normally provided to former prime ministers, though not to their widows. Three prime ministers, including Netanyahu, approved the arrangement rather than antagonize her.

When it was rumored that she might be appointed Israel's ambassador to the United Nations, she dismissed reporters' comments that she lacked qualifications. "I've just returned from the United States and everybody, everybody, everybody says: you're suitable," she said.

Israelis of many political back-

grounds were uncomfortable when she warmly hugged Arafat at a public ceremony. Yitzhak Rabin shook Arafat's hand at the 1993 signing of the Oslo agreement at the White House, but his reluctance was obvious.

"Leah always had the courage to speak her mind on issues of importance, and to fight on behalf of the nation, people, and values she cherished," Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said Sunday. "She loved her country and devoted herself to the well-being of Israel throughout her life."

Leah Rabin is survived by two children: Dalia Rabin-Pelossof, a lawyer and member of parliament who went into politics in the wake of the assassination, and Yuval Rabin, who, after a career in the army, represented an Israeli software firm in the United States. After the assassination he founded a peace movement among young Israelis.

Mrs. Rabin also leaves behind three grandchildren, including Noa, a freckled redhead whose moving, personal eulogy of her grandfather moved world leaders and dignitaries to tears at his funeral.

Families grieve as Austrian cable car recovery effort is delayed

KAPRUN, Austria (AP) — Relatives and friends who had waited through the night in this Alpine village began to get word Sunday on whether their loved ones were among the dead in a cable car fire that killed about 170 people in a mountain tunnel.

With the village hall draped in black and candles burning on shop steps, shattered townsfolk gathered in the Kaprun church for Sunday Mass. As they mourned, emergency crews tried to reach the spot, where scores of people, many children and teen-agers, were killed Saturday by smoke and flames.

"We understand Christ's wail on the cross: 'My God, why have you forsaken me?'" the Rev. Peter Hofer said in his sermon.

Others gave thanks after realizing their loved ones were safe.

"My son is, thank God, all right," said Gottfried Nindl. His boy had planned to go on the cable car with his friends, but didn't because they had slept too late, he said.

The car, pulled on rails underground for most of the 3,200 yards up the Kitzsteinhorn mountain to a glacier region, stopped, blazing, about 600 yards inside a mountain tunnel Saturday morning. The cause of the fire has not been determined.

Rescuers could not reach the victims as the fire raged on. Passengers tried to flee through the deep tunnel, but most were felled by the thick smoke and flames. Eighteen people survived, mainly by fleeing downwards in the

tunnel where the smoke was thinner, authorities said.

It was still unclear how many people were in the cable car, but it was believed that it had a capacity of 180 people and was full.

The retrieval of the bodies was delayed by toxic fumes inside the tunnel and the need to secure the charred car. Chief firefighter Anton Brandauer said the tunnel was now almost smoke-free and that the retrieval of the bodies could begin.

But as night rolled in, other officials said the accident site remained too dangerous, suggesting recovery efforts could be delayed until today.

Once the remains of the victims are brought into town, authorities plan to set up a large tent in the town center where relatives and friends can say final farewells.

Authorities said Sunday they had identified 155 of the victims with near certainty. Among them were 52 Austrians, 42 Germans, 10 Japanese, eight Americans, two Slovenes and a Croat. Authorities had not yet established the nationalities of the remaining 40 people.

The victims were identified by eliminating those who had returned alive from a list of 2,500 people who had taken the cable car up the slope before the fire.

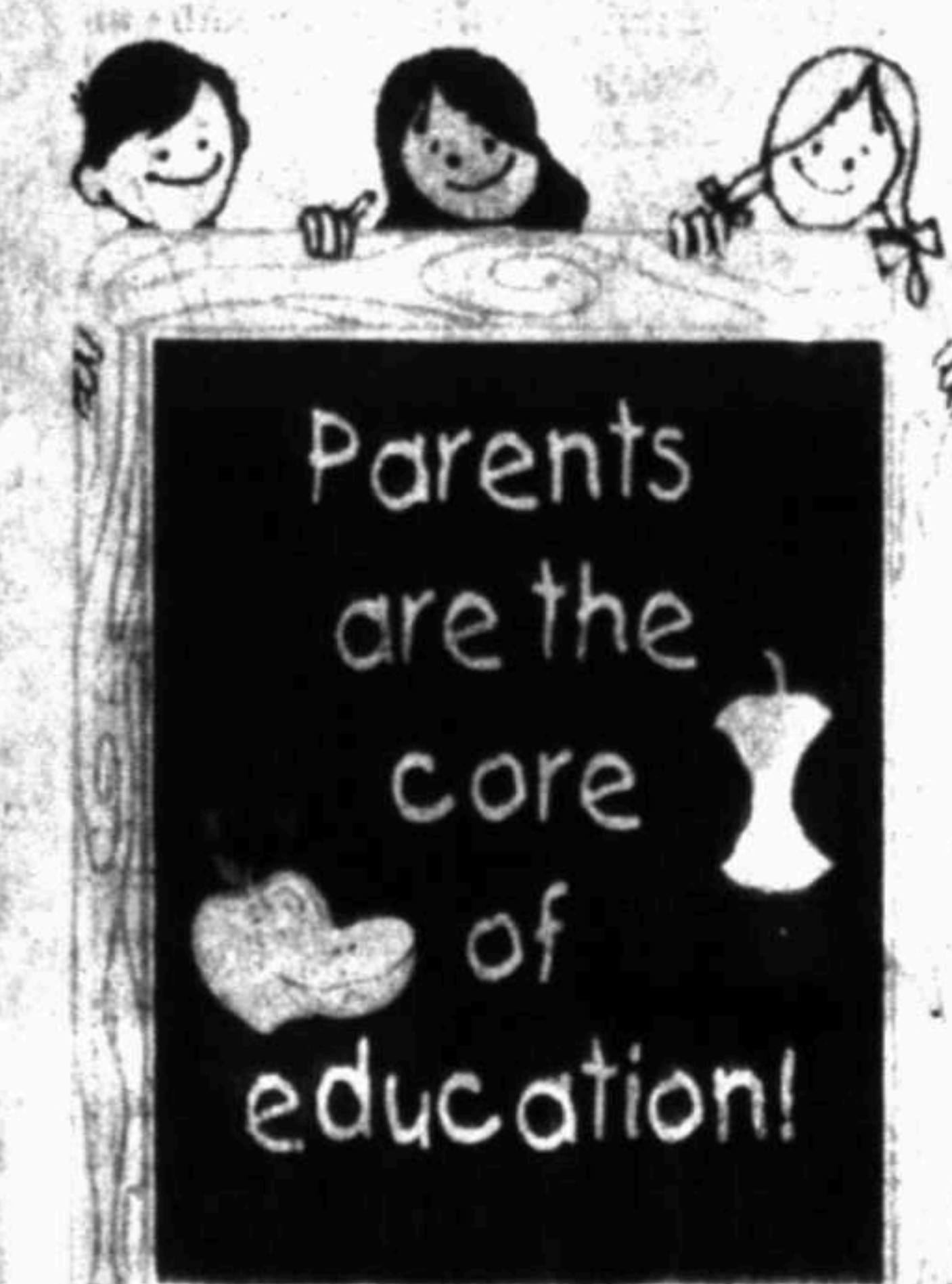
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Kuwait says OPEC won't raise oil production before January

VIENNA, Austria (AP) — OPEC will hold oil production steady until cartel members meet again in January to assess crude prices, Kuwait's oil minister said Sunday, offering little hope of relief for consumers buffeted by soaring oil prices.

Sheik Saud Nasser al-Sabah of Kuwait made the announcement after an informal meeting of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, whose every word and action is scrutinized over how it will affect the price of crude, which is hovering near 10-year highs.

OPEC ministers said they will meet again Jan. 17 to examine oil prices and possibly talk about a production cut. Sunday's decisions still need to be approved by member countries at an official

meeting Monday morning.

Also on Sunday, members of the oil cartel seemed to back away from a March agreement whereby production increases and decreases would be triggered automatically using a price-sensitive formula.

While OPEC still seeks to keep prices for its basket of crudes between \$22 and \$28 a barrel, Saudi Oil Minister Ali Naimi said production increases would be decided by ministers, not necessarily by the formula — the so-called price-band mechanism. That formula requires OPEC to add 500,000 barrels to its daily production if the average price for OPEC crude exceeds \$28 for 20 consecutive trading days.

"The price band mechanism is

still in place but it doesn't replace good judgment," Naimi said after delegates broke up the informal policy meeting Sunday afternoon.

OPEC has already boosted output four times this year, bringing an extra 3.7 million barrels a day into the market. The cartel worries that another boost right now could swamp the market and cause prices to suddenly plummet if demand subsidies as expected in the spring.

"We have said that we want to assess the impact of these increments on the market — it takes time to determine the effects," Naimi said.

At Sunday's informal session, OPEC ministers also said they would name Venezuelan Oil Minister Ali Rodriguez the

cartel's next secretary-general. Rodriguez will replace Nigerian Rilwanu Lukman starting Jan. 1. Lukman's term ended in September 1999, but he has continued to serve because OPEC's 11 member countries could not agree on a successor.

OPEC is concerned about an expected price collapse brought on as winter demand for heating oil evaporates with warm spring weather. The cartel got burned by a dramatic plunge in demand after boosting output in December 1997 — right before the financial crisis in Asia and an abnormally warm winter caused demand to shrivel.

One year later, prices dropped to about \$10 a barrel, battering oil-dependent OPEC members, who produce almost 40 percent of

the world's crude.

Analysts say prices are expected to decline gradually through the winter. But to keep them from bottoming out below \$22 a barrel, a production cut of 1 million barrels a day will be needed by April, predicted Leonidas P. Drollas, chief economist at the Centre for Global Energy Studies.

Most recently, high prices triggered an automatic increase on Nov. 1 of half a million barrels a day in OPEC output under the cartel's automatic output arrangement.

Because prices are all but certain to remain above \$28 for another 20 day stretch — prices for the basket of seven crudes OPEC considers have been hovering around \$30 for the past eight days — OPEC should, in theory,

decide to hike production once again in the near future.

But that's where the members are balking.

OPEC members say bottlenecks at refineries and steep fuel taxes are to blame for high energy prices in many countries. They also say OPEC is already pumping at near-full capacity.

Iran and Venezuela — OPEC's second- and third-biggest producers after Saudi Arabia — are having trouble meeting their targets, as are Indonesia and Nigeria. And as a whole, the group produced about 29.5 million barrels a day in October, according to the Paris-based International Energy Agency. That's substantially higher than the group's official target output of 26.7 million barrels a day.

Global warming conference to set rules for reducing greenhouse gases

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — As some 10,000 people open a major U.N. conference to draft rules on slowing global warming, differences remain vast on greenhouse gas emissions and there are concerns that everything the parties have agreed to so far could unravel.

The road to The Hague began at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992 when world leaders, alarmed by predictions of a climatic apocalypse, pledged to combat global warming.

Five years later, negotiators met in Kyoto, Japan, and agreed the total amount of greenhouse gases released each year into the atmosphere should fall to 5.2 percent less than it was in 1990. The target date

was set for 2012.

To meet that goal, though, the Kyoto Protocol needs to come into force by 2002. The agreement is yet to be ratified by any industrial nation.

At Kyoto, negotiators agreed the European Union would slash greenhouse gas emissions by 8 percent of 1990 levels, the United States by 7 percent and Japan by 6 percent. In all, 38 countries accepted binding commitments, but developing countries like India and China, with huge economies, did not.

The Kyoto delegates failed to agree on how to go about meeting those reductions.

The Kyoto negotiators agreed that countries falling short of their

own targets can strike deals with nations that are able to reduce more than required, trading in "credits" from the excess. Countries with large "emission deficits" could sell their shortfall for cash.

Some companies have already begun to trade, anticipating that the emissions credits they buy now will count for them once their governments enforce emissions reductions.

Countries also can earn "credits" by helping other countries control emissions. That means if the United

States helps India to develop clean energy or to plant forests that soak up carbon dioxide from the air, it will get credit against its own emissions reductions.

Trading in credits is one of the hottest issues at The Hague conference.

The European Union, fearing the United States will use the credit "loophole" to avoid or delay real reductions, wants to put a 50 percent ceiling on the tonnage any country can purchase rather than reduce itself.

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DAVE BARRY

Men need fitness centers where all they do is sleep

Today we present: Masculine Medical News For Men. Our first item concerns what could be the most significant medical discovery for men since the invention of the electric nose-hair trimmer. According to an Associated Press article sent in by alert reader Shirley Damiano, researchers at the University of Chicago have discovered that *men need sleep*.

The reason for this is hormones, which are chemicals that our bodies produce so they can take control away from our brains. For example, men produce a hormone that compels them to watch instant replays on TV. If a man is watching a football game, a moose could walk into the room wearing a tutu, and the man will not notice, because his hormones are forcing him to watch, possibly for the sixth time, a football player fall down in slow motion. Women do not produce this hormone but they do produce one that compels them to rearrange furniture, and another one that causes them to believe they can improve their appearance by using a tiny pencil to draw dark lines around their eyeballs.

So anyway, according to the University of Chicago researchers, men produce a hormone that causes them to develop muscle mass, which they need to perform masculine tasks that are biologically necessary for human survival, such as operating the remote control. The thing is, men produce this particular hormone *only during deep sleep*. If they don't get enough sleep, they become flabby.

In other words, men, the reason that you do not have the chiseled physique of a male underwear model is *not* that you have the same exercise habits as a cheese log: It's that you're not getting enough deep sleep! For your medical health, you must change your lifestyle immediately. I'm sure your spouse will be supportive.

YOUR SPOUSE: Dear, could you take out the garbage, mow the lawn and help me move a 350-pound sofa around the living room until I finally decide that I like it best in its original location?

YOU: Gosh, honey, I sure wish I could! But I need to get some deep sleep so I can build muscle mass.

YOUR SPOUSE: Gee, I guess that *is* medically more important!

YOU: Thanks, honey! And by the way, those eyeball lines are very attractive!

I think there should be a TV exercise show called "Muscle Mass for Men." It would be similar to other exercise shows, except that instead of annoyingly perky women prancing around to annoying music, "Muscle Mass for Men" would consist of eight to 10 uninterrupted hours of a man sleeping in a recliner. I can envision a nationwide chain of Men's Muscle Mass Fitness Centers, equipped with state-of-the-art beds. Fitness-conscious men could spend entire week-ends at these centers, watching golf on TV and secreting vital hormones. (Anybody who thinks you can't watch golf and sleep at the same time has never watched golf.)

OK, men! We've got you on a medically sound masculine fitness program, scientifically based on an actual newspaper clipping. Before you know it, your muscles are going to be so massive that you may have to move up to a larger potato-chip-bag size ("Small Village") to provide your new physique with adequate nutrition. But even the manliest man can become sick or injured. The question is: What should you do if you need medical treatment? The masculine answer is: Try to fix the problem yourself. Real men know that many so-called "serious" health problems, such as a sucking chest wound, that the so-called "medical profession" will charge you an arm and a leg to correct, can be easily treated via simple home remedies such as duct tape.

For a good example of a man treating himself in a manly medical manner, let us consider a newspaper clipping sent in by alert reader Joel Prange from the Redding (Calif.) Record Searchlight, concerning a man in Tehama County who had a painful corn on his toe. Now if this man had gone to see a doctor, who knows what he would have been charged? So, according to the article, which I am not making up, the man "decided to shoot it with his .22-caliber rifle."

And guess what? It worked out *fine*, except that he injured his foot and had to be taken to the hospital for treatment and may face legal charges. This is why the American Medical Association states: "For foot problems, it's a lot easier to aim a pistol." Although of course nobody is suggesting that you should attempt this without *any* preparation. First, you should sleep.

Dave Barry's column is distributed by Tribune Media Services.

Person to Person

With Johnnye Montgomery



Brent McAfee, associate professor of geology at Odessa College, combines geology, biology and natural history, with rocks, wildlife and scenery during student trips to Mexico or the border area.

Trip to Mexico produces sense of awe

By Johnnye Montgomery

Poza Azul is a travertine-lined pool small enough to throw a rock across, bordered on one side by tall reeds, and on the other by a grassy bank. Its depths are striated by light rays that penetrate deep and turn the water turquoise, sapphire, cerulean and cobalt. The handful of fish swimming there are indigo, so dark that at first glance they look like shadows, and they range from minnow-size to a little longer than your hand.

They are unique on the planet and they are endemic to this area. They are, ostensibly, the reason a group of Brent McAfee's continuing education students recently traveled more than 500 miles to this place. The sight of them alone is more than worth the journey, which I also made. We look into the water, and we fall silent.

Here we are. Like the fabled Magi of the Christmas story, we have seen it. We can go home now.

But we don't, because, in truth, we have just begun to explore what could very well take a lifetime to discover. Besides, after all, we have traveled more than 500 miles, and there's a great warm spring a few kilometers from here where we can swim and snorkel or just sit in the shallows and let the water buoy our limbs and relax our travel-stiffened joints. After an hour or so we will head back into town, where we'll eat and drink at El Doc, the town's best restaurant, and later walk the streets of the town, or head across the street to the Plaza Principia, where a band is playing and there's dancing and kids playing, and people promenading the walkway, stopping to buy drinks and snacks from the vendors or sitting on the benches just to watch the world go by.

The day before, traveling in two Odessa College 10-passenger vans — each pulling a trailer to hold luggage and sleeping bags — we headed for Cuatro Ciénegas in the state of Coahuila, about 240

miles south of Del Rio.

There is no straight and easy way to get to Del Rio these days, because there's major highway construction going on between Sonora and Del Rio. We opted to go through Ozona and south through Pandale, where the road twists and winds through Edwards Plateau limestone and mesquite, sotol, mountain laurel and catclaw acacia, through lush valleys and crossing creek beds, to Comstock, where we stopped on a whim to visit a flintnapper who lives there.

We took turns entering the tiny workroom — where light filtered through a plain glass window — to view his arrowheads and artwork that he was preparing for a show. Standing outside on a wooden porch, we watched migrating monarch butterflies settling into the trees, preparing to spend the night before heading, as we were, toward Mexico.

We ate and spent the night in Acuna, in a fairly nice motel that sat adjacent to two bars that featured live music. Those in our party who took advantage of the proximity of the bars said the bongo drummers were fabulous. I can personally attest to the accuracy of that statement, although I didn't walk over there. I could hear them clearly from my room, and they were great. They put me right to sleep.

The next morning a cacophony of roosters greeted the pre-dawn, crowing antiphonally on one side of town and then on the other. As I walked out of my room, across the parking lot I saw the glow of an open flame just outside the door of another motel room. One of our members, seeing that the restaurant wouldn't be open for another hour, had fired up his camp stove to make coffee.

The smell of bacon drifted from the vicinity of the restaurant. I, being vegetarian, decided to find a bak-

Odessa College
geology
professor

Brent McAfee

ODESSA — They call themselves McAfee's groupies, that little band of students, ex-students, would-be, and never-has-been, never-will-be students who follow Brent McAfee wherever he goes. And when they're not following him, they're often talking about him. They tell of the accidents and near-accidents, the roads that narrow and finally peter out in places too narrow to turn around in, the times they've been cold and hot and hungry, and of all the places they've discovered accidentally when the place they were headed for turned out not to be what they really wanted.

Brent McAfee, associate professor and head of the Geology, Physics and Chemistry departments at Odessa College, has for the past 33 years been teacher, mentor, driver, captain and jefe on treks over mountains, through canyons, around, through and over rivers and plains, deserts and forests, managing in the process to sample the food and drink and culture of at least a half dozen ecologic systems throughout the Southwest and Mexico, including Baja California. He takes three to four trips every year, some the requisite geology treks, while others are made through OC's continuing education program.

The latest one was to Cuatro Ciénegas in Coahuila, Mexico, about 240 miles into the interior of Mexico south of Del Rio, an exploratory trip to investigate a small marshy valley at the eastern edge of the Chihuahuan desert, bordered by the eastern Sierra Madres. The valley has been compared to the Galapagos Islands because of the existence there of a large number of ancient aquatic plants and animals that exist nowhere else in the world.

Brent had been to the site once before, having gone down three weeks previously to scout out places for a group to spend the night and eat, and to gain the town's acceptance of a group of 20 or more that would require 10 or more rooms, descend on the small eating establishments to order 20 breakfasts, 20 lunches and 20 dinners, probably in English or at best in poor Spanish.

A week before the trip he gathered the group together, gave them a brief rundown of what they could expect to do on the trip and told them not to buy anything, but if they had access to snorkeling equipment they would have a chance to see some of the marine and aquatic species in a natural spring area. He also requested that they bring sleeping bags.

"There's a couple of motels there, and I think we'll have plenty of room, but we'd better take our sleeping bags just in case," he warned.

This is Brent's modus operandi. Nothing grand or fancy. Nothing cast in concrete. It works every time.

In a way, these serendipitous trips are a metaphor for Brent's life and his philosophy.

He started college at Sul Ross University intending to be a petroleum engineer, because, he explained, he grew up in the oil field.

"My dad worked for Gulf, and we moved to Crane to a company camp when I was 7, then when I was in eighth grade, we moved to Goldsmith and lived in the camp there."

He went to high school in Odessa, and when he went to college, part of the curriculum for petroleum engineering was geology. After getting a taste of geology, Brent was hooked. But he also liked biology a lot. He ended up with a double major.

After getting his bachelor's degree, he worked in the oil industry checking mud for a couple of years on the Gulf Coast, but his heart wasn't in it. He went back to school for his graduate degree and also got a teaching certificate for public school. He taught biology and coached tennis for 1 1/2 years, and said he would have kept at it longer, but a friend in Odessa told

Please see AWE/2B

Please see PROFESSOR/2B

Residents buy store in effort to save town

WASHBURN, Ill. (AP) — When the owner of this village's only grocery decided to close up shop, some residents feared it would be the first step toward increasingly deserted streets and the slow death of yet another small town.

Determined not to let that happen, a group of residents formed a co-op and bought the store that anchors their block-long business district. Last week, they reopened under the banner "Washburn Community Foods, Your Friendly Hometown Owned Store."

Investors say the move was as much an effort to preserve the community of 1,100 people as it was to save residents the trouble of a 20-mile round trip to the nearest

food store, in Metamora.

"I think it speaks very highly for the commitment of our people," said Dave Canaday, president of the Washburn Grocery Association. "If you close the grocery, the rest of the town is going to die."

State Route 89 runs through downtown, passing by the grocery, a pizza parlor, a cafe, a curio shop, an insurance office and the post office. Most people either farm or commute to jobs in the Peoria area, about 30 miles southwest.

Canaday said the idea of buying the grocery was first mentioned in March and the

Please see SAVE/2B

Ha Ha Ha
Humor to start
your week ...

A middle-aged woman had a heart attack and was taken to the hospital. While on the operating table, she had a near-death experience.

Seeing God, she asked if this was it. God said, "No, you have another 43 years, two months and eight days to live."

Because she had so much more time to live, the woman figured she might as well make the most of it. So after recovering from her surgery the woman stayed in the hospital and had a facelift, liposuction, breast augmentation, tummy tuck, etc. She even

had someone come in and change her hair color.

Leaving the hospital after her last surgery, she was struck down and killed by an ambulance speeding to the hospital.

Arriving in front of God, she demanded, "I thought you said I had another 40-plus years?"

"I didn't recognize you," God answered.

— Contributed by
Midlander Kim O'Connor

TALKIN' TEXAS

All things Texan can be found on Driftwood woman's Web site

By Tumbleweed Smith

Shug Mauldin of Driftwood has people all over the world working on her Internet site (texaschannel.com). It started Sept. 1 and features all sorts of Texas things.

"Don't ever underestimate a Texas cowgirl," she announced at the beginning of my interview with her. "I am a Texas cowgirl with a software company."



Smith

She says Texans are great idea people and always find a way to make things happen. "On the Texas Channel you can watch and hear some great Texas programs, play a game of dominoes in the Texas Domino Parlor, explore and travel the state and cruise the Texas Channel Mall and get all sorts of Texas merchandise," she said.

She has gone around the state and gathered some of the most talented people and put them on her channel.

"My channel will promote Texas goods and services, tourism, and the wonderful diverse cultures all over the state. We're never going to run out of content because there are so many unique stories in Texas. We want to cover anything that happens within the state of Texas, or to a Texan who might be in another country (and who) has an unusual experience."

She has already had response from several foreign countries. "You mention Texas anywhere on earth and it brings some kind of picture to mind, like oil wells pumping in everybody's

back yard, or every Texan is rich and smokes big cigars."

Shug is a singer-songwriter with some hefty credentials in that area.

She has spent some time in Nashville and New York. She had a manager in Dallas who took her to a private party in New York City.

"Andy Warhol was there, Halston was there, and there were all sorts of famous people at this party. I wanted to call home, so I went to the phone and Halston was using it. I told him to get off the phone, that I had to call home and tell my family I was all right. And he said, 'Honey, I am Halston.' I said 'I am Shug and hang up that darn phone.'"

"Anyway, I sang my six best songs at that party. We served them Texas Tea Punch which has tequila and beer in it. I had a dance contest at the end and those fellows with the three-piece suits and diamond pinkie rings had their vests open, their ties off, their sleeves rolled up and they were stompin' around to 'Faded Love.' Andy Warhol was wearing leopard skin pants and was dancing with two girls at the same time."

The man who was in the process of opening the Lone Star Cafe was at that party and he asked Shug to come open it up. She did and was sold out for six weeks. She returned to New York City three times the first year the Lone Star Cafe was open and played to full houses every night. Once Willie Nelson opened for her.

She would create hats for customers by twirling her six shooter and banging it on the crown of the hat. "They looked like the hats Tom Mix wore."

Tumbleweed Smith is a Big Spring storyteller and folklorist.

SAVE: Residents band together, buy and renovate grocery

(From 1B)

association quickly organized, selling shares for \$50. There are currently 344 investors; the rest of the more than \$100,000 came in the form of loans.

The association bought the store and equipment for \$90,000 on Nov. 1.

"We got the keys and went to work that night," said investor Charlie Kennell, a farmer.

Volunteers cleaned and painted the store, and rearranged it to maximize floor space. They turned out again when a grocery supply truck arrived on Nov. 4.

"The community totally stocked my

store," said manager Leeann Welsh, who is seven months pregnant. "They priced things and put things on the shelf and unloaded the truck for me."

One day last week, Sybil DeTrempe, an association board member and owner of a feed supply store, was inside training new employees when she wasn't running price checks on pineapples and tackling other tasks.

Mrs. DeTrempe said the store buys most of its stock from the same supplier that supplies the Metamora grocery and is able to offer exactly the same prices. She and others believe the only thing the store has lacked was the will to succeed.

"The business was here. All you had to do is put groceries and services on the shelf for people to buy," she said.

Although former owner Ronald Rumbold said the store was no longer economically viable, Canaday, who has 27 years of experience in the grocery supply business, is confident it will support itself.

Among the happy customers after the change was school bus driver Montic Shoemaker.

"I hate to run elsewhere and get groceries. I can come in here and go on home," she said. "I'm glad we've got our store back."

DEAR ABBY

Infidelity doesn't have to mean end of a marriage

DEAR ABBY: To those who wonder, "Can people fall back in love after having an affair?" the answer is yes. Here's what happened to me:

Six years ago, my wife found out that I had been having an affair with a woman at work for more than three years. Her husband called my wife and told her all the details. It happened five days before Christmas, and I had to call both our families to explain why we would not be attending the holiday gatherings. I also had to explain to our teen-age daughter why I was moving out of our home.

We are a very close family, and when I faced the ugliness of what I had done and the hurt I caused, I realized what a fool I'd been.

After convincing my wife that I would do absolutely anything to stay married to her, she allowed me to move back home and seemed willing to give it a try.

We worked with a wonderful counselor



Van Buren

who helped us to rediscover each other, and we fell in love all over again — 25 years after we'd done it the first time. We also became best friends, and truly have a dream marriage now.

Abby, I will always feel guilt and sadness about what I did. However, love and forgiveness gave us a way to begin again.

— BLESSED IN ALABAMA

DEAR BLESSED: That must have been one chilly Christmas. I'm pleased your story has a happy ending.

Many people will be reassured by your testimonial that a marriage can survive after infidelity has been uncovered. The most important ingredient for a successful marriage is two people who really need each other. That understood, with counseling and both parties willing to work at rebuilding their relationship, there's no reason for a reconciliation to fail.

DEAR ABBY: Operation Dear Abby, your annual call for letters to service personnel stationed on foreign soil during the holidays, should be extended to include veterans in hospitals and nursing homes.

Although many of these veterans have family and friends to visit and write to

them, others are alone. I volunteer a couple of days a week at a veterans home in Oregon. I drive their recreational bus for field trips and help with the needs of the veterans while we're on trips. However, there are many other needs volunteers could fill: reading to veterans, writing letters for them, or just spending a little time visiting with them.

If some of your readers would like to help and there are no nearby veteran facilities, the American Legion, the VFW or the library can provide an address to which they can send cards and letters. Veterans hospitals are located all over the United States.

Thank you for considering an extension to your Operation Dear Abby. — BONNIE L. KENDALL, DALLASPORT, WASH.

DEAR BONNIE: That's a terrific idea. We owe our freedom to our veterans. But why stop with volunteering during the holidays? Volunteering 12 months a year — if possible — would be a meaningful gift to those who sacrificed so much for us.

Abigail Van Buren's column is distributed by Universal Press Syndicate.

AWE: Many people in Mexican towns were friendly and helpful

(From 1B)

ery, where I could buy *bolillos* and *pan dulces* for my breakfast. I hadn't gone more than five or six blocks when a car pulled up behind me and the driver asked if I was in trouble or if I needed help. When I told her I was looking for a bakery, she invited me to get in, saying that we'd have to drive around a bit to find one that was open that early in the morning.

Her name was Raquel. She had moved to Acuna from Chicago with her family when she was 5. She said she liked to practice her English whenever she could.

I didn't ask her what she was doing driving the streets that time of morning, although she asked me what I was doing in Acuna

and we both politely lied to each other about how well we spoke each other's language. When we found an open bakery and I had bought bread, she took me back to the motel. I invited her to come in and have breakfast with me, but she declined. If you're ever in Acuna and meet Raquel from Chicago, tell her I said *buenas dias*.

We were back in the vans and heading south by 8 a.m. The highway signs announced distances and speed limits in kilometers, and we quickly became proficient at multiplying by .62. Before each of the 10,000 railroad crossings we came to, we were given a polite warning that a *ferrocarril* (railroad) was approaching, and that we should diminish our speed. Then would

come the *alto* sign, and we'd slow down, bump over the rails, and resume speed.

For lunch, we stopped just outside Monclova, where roadside vendors had created a community of open-air cafes, competing with each other side by side with their offerings of *helotes* (corn on the cob), *caldo de cabrito* (goat soup), *chiles rellenos* (stuffed peppers) and *gorditas*, literally translated as "fat girls," which were delectable miniature corn or flour tortillas stuffed with asadero cheese, refried beans, chicken or beef, or just about anything else you asked for.

We arrived in Cuatro Ciénegas in mid-afternoon, where we found that there were too many of us to fit into one motel. There

were seven rooms in the Hotel Plaza — located around the corner from El Doc and from the town plaza — where the rooms are designers' delights, with rounded corners and arched alcoves, exquisite tilework and hot water.

The rest of us would stay at the Santa Fe, four or five blocks away, where its most memorable feature was a lack of hot water.

The sleeping accommodations, however, were not what we were there for. Our trips through the countryside to the *pozos* left us with a sense of awe and satisfaction, and while we were in town, the people invariably met us with dignity and grace, as hosts welcoming invited guests.

All about Cuatro Cienegas

With a population of about 10,000, Cuatro Cienegas sits at the northern edge of a small valley within the Chihuahuan desert, where plentiful underground springs provide water for pools, small lakes and rivers that have created a desert wetland that has given rise to the evolution of a unique model of biodiversity, both plant and animal. In addition to the flora and fauna endemic to the area, there are also huge numbers of migrant species that use it either for the winter or a stopping-off place en route farther south.

The Mexican government declared the valley a Natural Protected Area in 1994.

An excellent source of information is a thesis by Valerie Callagari, an alumnus of the University of Texas, which can be found on the Internet at www.utexas.edu/depts/tnc/www/fish/dtc/cuatro/cuatro.htm.

At breakfast the next morning, when it was obvious that the waiter was having trouble understanding some of our orders, one of the regular patrons — a lovely woman of about 60 or so — came forward to translate. She

had come from Chicago 40 years before, she said, and she was glad to be of help.

As we left, the people walking along the streets waved to us, and we waved back. Hasta pronto.

PROFESSOR: Not all of McAfee's teaching is done in a classroom

(From 1B)

him Odessa College had an opening in the biology department. Brent got the job.

He taught biology for 1 1/2 years, then began to teach geology and biology, and slowly shifted over to geology. Many of his students have gone on to distinguish themselves at colleges throughout the state. Others who went different ways still speak of how well he teaches.

He said that he's been taking the continuing-education trips for about 20 years. Several members of the core group have been with him since the beginning.

"We make a lot of trips to Big Bend, the Guadalupe Mountains, Ruidoso, N.M., and down to Mexico a lot," he said. "Sometimes we go to Chihuahua and to Copper Canyon."

Twice a year for the past 26 or 27 years, Brent has also led a field trip for a credit course in marine biology to Puerto Penasco, on the Gulf of California.

"I've been down there approaching 50 trips," he said. "They know me so well that I could probably run for mayor."

After making the Copper Canyon trip for several years, Brent added a little extra.

"A lot of people are familiar with Copper Canyon, which goes deeper than Grand Canyon," he said. "You go down into the Sierra Madres of western Mexico

about 250 miles southwest of Chihuahua City, south of Los Mochis. But we figured out after a few trips that we could go south of Creel 30 or 40 miles, then branch off and go all the way to the bottom of the canyon to a little town named Batopilas, on the Batopilas River."

For many of Brent's continuing-ed students, this is as good as it can possibly get.

"We combine a little geology, biology and natural history, with rocks, wildlife and scenery, and whatever else we want to talk about and look at," he said. "We usually do that trip on spring break, and take eight or nine days."

"On other trips, we go to a 1,000-foot waterfall, which is west and north of Chihuahua City, or a lot of times we just go to Chihuahua City and spend three or four days."

As with any well-seasoned traveler, Brent has seen his share of mishaps.

"Once we were down on the river road in Big Bend and one of my regulars, who is about 70, and is normally very agile, was following me out onto a little point, when he slipped and fell eight to 10 feet, and probably would have fallen farther, but a big prickly pear broke his fall. He had a gash in his leg and one in

his arm, and he was full of thorns," said Brent.

The nearest town was Presidio, which didn't have a doctor.

"But I knew there were some clinics across the river in Ojinaga, so I asked some people in Presidio where the best one was, while the other driver took the rest of the group on to Rio Conchas Canyon, about 20 miles into Mexico."

"I took (the student) to the clinic, and a couple of pretty nurses met us there, and although he'd been in mild shock, he immediately began to get better," said Brent. "Then the doctor came in and told us he'd be ready to go in a couple of hours."

By the time the group got back from Rio Conchas Canyon, the injured man was ready to go. He had 15 to 20 stitches in his arm and leg and all the thorns were removed. Brent said he insisted on rejoining the group for the rest of the trip.

Another time, walking through Boquillas Canyon, a geology student slipped and turned her ankle, breaking it in about four places. Members of the party made their way back to the national park station and borrowed an aluminum ladder and a piece of plywood to fashion a West Texas version of a sedan

chair, which the injured student rode in splendor, carried on the shoulders of her fellow travelers. "like Cleopatra," Brent said.

Other incidents, although probably not as dramatic, have been equally traumatic for the group as a whole. When you've made as many trips as Brent and his followers have, equipment failures are inevitable.

When their luck runs out, they do the best they can. Once while on a trip with a large bus and two small vans, the bus broke down at Terlingua. Brent said they crowded 30 to 40 people in each of the eight-passenger vans and drove to Alpine where they made arrangements for other transportation.

On another trip, they were forced to leave one of their homemade trailers on the road in Mexico. A week later, Brent got a call from the Mexicans wanting to know when he was coming back to pick up his trailer.

Brent insists that despite his many trips to Mexico over the years, he doesn't speak much Spanish. "I can speak enough to get by," he explains. "I usually can find somebody to translate

for me if I get in trouble."

His philosophy isn't flowery, but it's eloquent.

"It's really not that hard to communicate if you want to get along."



COME CELEBRATE MIDLAND YOUNG LIFE'S 25th ANNIVERSARY

Ground Breaking for
Johnny Warren Young Life Building
925 W. Wadley

Sunday, November 12, 2000
3:00 pm

Reception immediately following at
Junior League Headquarters, 902 W. Donger

Annual Bar-B-Que Fundraiser
Monday, November 13, 2000
6:30 - 8:30 pm
Midland Center, 105 N. Main

Helping Hands of Midland Thrift Store
Reaching out to others
1301 Brinson Lane (Between Rogers Ford & The Kettle)
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday 10:00-2:00
915-520-8900 • Call for pickup of donated items

CHOOSE

Wallywood Theaters
TALL CITY 10 4915 W. LOOP 250
MIDLAND, TEXAS 79705
ALL STADIUM SEATING
RED PLANET PG-13 (1:20) (2:20) 7:20 9:50
THE LION KING PG (1:30) (2:30) 7:30 9:45
CHARLIE'S ANGELS PG-13 (1:15) (2:15) 7:15 9:25
CHARLIE'S ANGELS PG-13 (1:45) (2:45) 7:45 9:55
LITTLE HEARTY PG-13 (1:30) (2:30) 7:15 9:30
MAN OF HOON PG-13 (1:10) (2:10) 7:10 9:20
REMAZED PG-13 (1:30) (2:30) 7:30 9:45
MEET THE PARENTS PG-13 (1:25) (2:25) 7:25 9:35
REMEMBER THE TITANS PG (1:15) (2:15) 7:15 9:25
PAY IT FORWARD PG-13 (1:25) (2:25) 7:25 9:35
CINE 4 3207 Culbert
\$2.00 ALL SEATS ALL SHOWS - \$4.00 TUESDAYS
DAY 8 6:30 7:30
THE WATCHER R (1:30) 7:15
URBAN LEGEND 2 R 4:40 7:10
HOUSE BETTY R 4:45 7:15
NO VIP'S, NO PASSES, NO DISCOUNTS
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POLICE REPORTS

Fatality accident

BIG SPRING — A 16-year-old woman died Friday when she was hit by a vehicle driven by a Midland man on Interstate 20 outside of Big Spring.

Department of Public Safety Officials identified the girl as Jessica Sharp, 16. They said she is a runaway from Tucson, Ariz.

The accident happened at

9:50 p.m. six miles east of Big Spring.

According to DPS reports, Bobby Clathem, driver of the vehicle, saw a vehicle in front of him pull off to the side of the road. When he looked up he saw Ms. Sharp standing in the road. Although Clathem tried to avoid Ms. Sharp, the vehicle he was driving hit the girl, the reports stated.

No charges have been filed in connection with the accident.

DEATH NOTICES

Patsy Johnson

TOW — Former Midlander Patsy J. Johnson, 75, died Wednesday, Nov. 8, at her home.

Funeral services will be 2 p.m. today, Nov. 13, at the Clements-Wilcox Funeral Home in Burnet with Clayton Arnold officiating. Burial follows at the Tow Cemetery.

She was born Jan. 4, 1925 in Midland.

She was a Midland resident most of her life, lived in Andrews a few years, and then moved to Tow around 1976. She was a member of the Tow Church of Christ, and volunteered for various community affairs and func-

tions.

She was preceded in death by her husbands, T.C. Miles and Charles Johnson.

Survivors include her son, Bob Miles of Midland; a sister, Lavonne Murchinson of Odessa; two grandsons, and two nieces.

Memorials may be made to the Tow Church of Christ or a favorite charity or organization.

Dwight Andres

Services for Dr. Dwight Andres are pending with Ellis Funeral Home.

Andres died Sunday, Nov. 12, at his Midland residence.

OBITUARIES



John Healy

John Cornelius Healy went to be with our Lord on Saturday, November 11, 2000, after a courageous battle with cancer. John will be greatly missed by all who have known him. We thank God for John's life.

He was born on September 26, 1921 in Fairbury, Illinois, to James Patrick and Rose Healy. John graduated from Chatsworth High School in Chatsworth, Illinois, and obtained a BA degree from the University of Houston in Houston, Texas.

Retired from Roger's Exploration, John spent 34 years as a Petroleum Geophysicist. He served in World War II in the United States Air Force, achieving the rank of Staff Sergeant. During the war, John served in the South Pacific.

John was a very active member of St. Ann's Catholic Church. He was a member of the National Rifle Association, the Texas State Rifle Association, St. Vincent de Paul, and Helping Hands.

He was predeceased by his father, James Patrick Healy; his mother, Rose R. Healy; and his sister, Rose Kathleen Bergan. John is survived by his sister, Francis Franklin of Forrest, Illinois; a nephew, James F. Bergan of Silvis, Illinois; a nephew, Thomas Bergan of Naperville, Illinois; and a niece, Ann Vershuis of Rock Island, Illinois. He is also survived by several great-nieces and nephews. John is also survived by his best friend that he called "Brother," Max A. Schumann, Jr. of Midland, Texas.

A wake service and Rosary will be held on Monday, November 13, at 7:00 p.m. at St. Ann's Catholic Church. A Mass celebrating the life of John C. Healy will be held on Tuesday, November 14, at 10:00 a.m. at St. Ann's

Catholic Church with Monsignor Timothy J. Murphy presiding. Burial will follow at Resthaven Memorial Park, under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

Pallbearers will be Jody Schumann, Andy Schumann, Albert Traweck, Ray Barron, Johnny Banks, and E.M. (Lalo) Camarillo. Honorary pallbearers will be Eddie Klatt, Richard Minzenmayer, Jim Brezina, members of St. Vincent de Paul, members of Helping Hands, and St. Ann's ushers.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Midland, Midland Memorial Hospital Fund, or a charity of one's choice.



Beth Roberts

Beth Bills Adcock Roberts, age 71, of Austin, passed away on Friday, November 10, 2000. She was born November 21, 1928, to Albert and Rhoda Merritt Bills, prominent Scurry County farmers and ranchers.

Beth was the manager of the Midland Women's Club for several years prior to 1992.

Beth is survived by her husband, Wayne Roberts of Austin; daughter, Darla Adcock Nelson and husband, Joe, of San Antonio; daughter, Dena Adcock Buttenhoff and husband, Alan, of Rocky Face, Ga.; stepdaughter, Dixie Roberts Stewart of Lubbock; stepdaughter, Rita Roberts VanZant of Big Spring; stepson, Wayne Powell Roberts and wife, Jaye Jay, of Midland; stepdaughter, Connie Roberts McBride and husband, Jim, of Andrews; sister, Lenora Bills Winkler and husband, Billy, of Odessa; sister, Donna Bills Sulenger and husband, Paul, of Odessa; brother, Larry Tom Bills and wife, Barbara, of Snyder; sis-

Obituary & Death Notice policy

There is no charge for death notices of residents or former residents of Midland or for those who have Midland relatives. We also publish death notices for residents of the surrounding West Texas area.

Free death notices include date and place of death, service and burial information, funeral home handling arrangements, date and place of birth, brief biography, survivors and memorials. A longer, more detailed obituary is available for a charge. It may include tributes, expanded biography, organizational associations, notes of appreciation, pallbearers, honorary pallbearers and a photo.

Deadline for both free death notices and paid obituaries is 3:30 p.m. and information must be either received from or verified by a funeral home.

ter, Joy Bills Watley of Carlsbad, N.M.; grandchildren, Rachelle Nelson, Robert Nelson, Gavin Buttenhoff, Joshua Buttenhoff, Adrian Buttenhoff, Heather Stewart Ramirez, Erick Stewart, Douglas Wayne VanZant, Christi VanZant, Brittany Roberts, Hillary Roberts, Chrystal Ham Pearson, Casey McBride, and Emily McBride; nine great-grandchildren; aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins; and a host of friends.

Beth was preceded in death by her brother, Gene Harold Bills.

The pallbearers will be David Winkler, Rowdy Winkler, Gary Sullenger, Larry Whiteside, Jason Winkler, Davy Winkler, Erick Stewart, and Doug VanZant. The honorary pallbearers are Jack King, Billy Morrison, Red Roberts, A.L. "Bud" Lindsey, John Clint Hurt, and Patrick Hurt.

The visitation was held from 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 12, 2000, at Cook-Walden Forest Oaks Funeral Home in Austin. Another visitation will be held at 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. on Monday, November 13, 2000, at Pipkin Funeral Home in Midland. A funeral service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 14, 2000, at St. Luke's Methodist Church in Midland. The interment will follow in the Snyder City Cemetery.

W.B. McMillan

Services for Woodrow Buchanan "W.B." McMillan, age 86, of Sonora are scheduled for 11:00 a.m. Monday, November 13, 2000, at St. John's Episcopal Church in Sonora with the Rev. Ted Harris and the Rev. Monte Jones officiating. Burial will follow at the Sonora Cemetery under the direction of Kerbow

Funeral Home. Mr. McMillan died Friday, November 10, 2000.

He was born November 15, 1913 near Fredonia, Texas to Richard Marvin and Annis Leach McMillan. He graduated from Mason, Texas High School and attended Texas A&M. He married Lucille Taylor in Junction, Texas on February 8, 1938; and he and Lucille moved to the family ranch near Sonora.

Mr. McMillan was a rancher. He was involved in numerous civic activities, including 14 years of service on the Sonora City Council, as well as over 20 years serving as a Director of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association, the Sutton County Soil Conservation District, and the Kimble County Electric Cooperative. He was active in church affairs at St. John's Episcopal Church.

Survivors include his wife of 62 years, Lucille Taylor McMillan of Sonora; one son, Richard T. McMillan of Midland; four grandchildren, Kirstin McMillan of Denver, Colorado, Lindsay McMillan of Oxford, Mississippi, and Richard McMillan, II and Emily McMillan, both of Midland; one brother, Norris McMillan of Mason; and several nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers will be Bill McMillan, Hal McMillan, Lee McMillan, L.H. McMillan, Doyle Morgan, Glen Richardson, James Murr, and Tom O'Brien. Honorary pallbearers are Vestal Askew, A.W. Bishop, George Brockman, Gay Copeland, Lee Roy Eckert, Walter Pope, and Bill Stewart.

The family requests that memorials be directed to the Concho Valley Home for Girls, P.O. Box 3772, San Angelo, Texas 76902, or a favorite charity.

Texas officials say state shorted again in funding for free trade highways

FORT WORTH (AP) — Texas officials say they're getting much less federal money than they should for maintaining roadways like Interstate 35, where free-trade-related truck traffic is blamed for burgeoning accident rates and severe crowding.

Officials differ on whom to blame for Texas' unequal share of the highway funding: ineffective county and state officials or political favoritism benefiting Arkansas, California and New York.

Three years ago, Congress acted to distribute federal highway dollars more fairly to states. But in the latest round of funding for the National Corridor Planning and Development and the Coordinated Border Infrastructure programs announced Nov. 3, Texas received 6.5 percent of the funds announced by the Federal Highway Administration last week.

Almost half of the money was earmarked for studies on proposed Interstate 69, which is to run from the U.S.-Canadian border to Laredo and the Rio Grande Valley.

Texas' 6.5 percent share of the money comes despite the fact that Texas bears 79 percent of the trade traffic from Mexico.

With federal money going elsewhere, state legislators say they are considering dipping into the state's surplus, using money earmarked for toll roads, returning appropriated money to the state's highway funds and issuing bonds to pay for future roads.

"We will reinvent the way we fund highway projects," state Sen. Florence Shapiro, R-Plano, told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram for Sunday's editions. "It is unacceptable that I-35 between Dallas and Austin is the most dangerous interstate in the nation."

The lack of highway funds in the face of increased traffic from Mexico has been blamed for accelerated wear and tear on state highways, especially along I-35 which runs from Laredo, along the Texas-Mexico border, through Dallas and Fort Worth and then up to Duluth, Minn.

Figures from 1997 show that \$37 billion worth of cargo came and went through Laredo on I-35, with 1,227,464 trucks crossing the border.

North Texas officials say free trade and the lack of money to improve I-35 show up every rush hour.

I-35W in Fort Worth has more serious accidents than anywhere else in Tarrant County and I-35E in Dallas County averages one lane-closing acci-

dent every two days, transportation official said.

"I've been driving into the area for seven years and it was bad then, but nothing like the gridlock now in Fort Worth and south of Fort Worth," said David Perry, a trucker who hauls produce from Missouri to Texas for Indiana Western Express.

Officials in North Texas are particularly miffed over three rejected grants for improvements to I-35 in Dallas and Fort Worth.

"Based on technical merits, Texas expected about 80 percent of the funds from Washington," said Michael Morris, transportation director for the North Texas Council of Governments. "To date, the region has submitted three applications and we haven't received a penny yet."

Morris said the council of governments had applications for a \$10.6 million federal grant to fix highway bottlenecks and a \$5.4 million grant for an early warning system for truckers turned down.

One North Texas transportation consultant said Texas has lagged behind other states for NAFTA highway funding because state leaders did not have a clear target for the money.

"When money comes into a state, it's no longer in control of the counties," said John Polster, a consultant for Denton County. "The Texas Department of Transportation submits what they want to the feds, and the fed pick the projects. It's just the way it works."

Some say presidential politics played a part in the funding especially the \$5 million that went to Arkansas, the \$9.3 million received by California and \$3.3 million to New York.

"A lot of money went to California — it's politics — and obviously that's where the current administration had a lot of friends," said Dallas County commissioner Jim Jackson.

Officials in California defended their share of the grant money, which is a third more than Texas.

"We worked hard for it," said Bill Ferguson, chief executive director of the Ferguson Group, a Washington, D.C.-based lobby.

Ferguson said cities between Los Angeles and Orange counties formed a consortium that quickly focused on a priority and adjusted plans to increase their chances of getting federal funds.

On the Net:
Federal Highway Administration:
www.fhwa.dot.gov

Texas Democrats say they'll support Bush if he wins

AUSTIN (AP) — State Sen. Mario Gallegos says he was elated when he learned that Gov. George W. Bush had not officially won the presidency. State Rep. Garnet Coleman admits he is happy that Vice President Al Gore is still in the running.

But both Democrats say that if Bush ultimately prevails in the seemingly never-ending presidential election, they will support him just as they would any other president.

"My father taught me that you respect the office and that you respect the person who serves in the office," Coleman said. "If Gov. George W. Bush becomes President George W. Bush, I will respect him as our president and will work with him to make sure that Texas and people in the United States get what they need."

Bush, meanwhile, retreated to the governor's mansion for most of the weekend amid legal wran-

gling and hand-counting of votes in Florida, whose 25 electoral votes could determine the next president. Bush has started planning his transition to the White House.

An unofficial tally by The Associated Press of the recount in Florida's 67 counties showed the Texas governor with a 327-vote lead over the vice president in Florida. Ballots from overseas Floridian voters have not yet been tabulated and election officials in some counties started recounting votes by hand over the weekend.

Gallegos and Coleman, both of Houston, were among some of the state Democratic lawmakers who spoke out against Bush during the campaign, while other Democrats broke ranks to rally for him.

Last summer, the two state senators criticized Bush when it was learned that because of budget overruns, the state's budget surplus would not be as large as

had been predicted.

Gallegos accused state officials of "cooking the books" when they assured state residents that the state was paying its bills and had plenty of money to spare, after the news broke that the surplus would be smaller.

Now, the two are critical of the Bush camp for moving forward with transition plans even though not all the votes have been counted.

"The Republicans are acting like the Democrats don't believe in the Constitution," Coleman said. "It's almost insulting for a group of people to act like the Democrats don't support the Constitution."

Bush's campaign has accused Gore of mounting "endless challenges" to a disputed vote count and said the vice president should concede the race for the White House if he loses there. Gore's camp has not conceded and now

Bush's camp has gone to the courts itself, asking for a court order blocking the manual recount.

State Sen. Gonzalo Barrientos of Austin criticized the Bush campaign for moving too fast, lashing out at Bush campaign chairman Don Evans, who last week criticized the Democrats by saying that the democratic process does not allow voting "until someone likes the outcome."

"That was nothing but infuriating and 'come on, let's get it on' talk," Barrientos said.

Still, Barrientos, who calls himself a "yellow dog Democrat," says he will support Bush, should he ultimately win.

"The American people will have spoken. I am a Tejano-American. I support our system. That doesn't mean I will be happy about it though," Barrientos said.

Hundreds of bills expected on the first day of filing

AUSTIN (AP) — Lines of legislative aides are expected to snake into the Texas Capitol on Monday to turn in hundreds of documents on the first day to file bills for the upcoming legislative session.

"There's a message that is sent by filing something on the first day," said Steve Collins, general counsel for the Texas Legislative Council. "It signifies that the matter addressed by the bill is important to the member."

The 77th Legislative Session begins Jan. 9. Lawmakers have until the 60th day of the session to submit most bills, but those filed

early have a small lead in the race to be heard, Collins said.

State Sen. Eddie Lucio, Jr., D-Brownsville, will keep his tradition of filing special bills on the first day.

Lucio plans to file a measure Monday that would establish a uniform starting date for Texas public schools.

Bills filed Monday will be assigned numbers and made accessible to the public. After the session starts, each will be read in the House or Senate and assigned to a committee, which will assign a public hearing date.

Secretary of the Senate Betty King has a good idea what will occur Monday.

In past years, aides have lined up outside the Texas House of Representatives chief clerk's office before it opened at 8 a.m.

"You got people lined up, just eager to get one of those low numbers," said Sharon Carter, chief clerk of the House.

In a sea of bills with only numbers for names, lower, simpler numerals are coveted.

"A lot of members think a low-numbered bill might have more priority than other numbered bills,"

Carter said.

The Senate has set aside numbers up to 10 for major bills — such as the number 1 for an appropriation bill — so first-day filers will be assigned numbers starting with 11, according to Lt. Gov. Rick Perry's office.

Before the 76th Legislature, 130 bills were filed on the first filing day, Carter said.

After the initial rush, the filing flood slows, with 400 to 500 more expected to creep in before the session starts, Carter said.

Democrats allege Bush aides threatened jobs

DALLAS (AP) — State Democratic party leaders allege that Gov. George W. Bush's aides threatened to end the political and personal careers of Democratic lawmakers who campaigned across the country against the Republican presidential nominee.

About a dozen Democratic state senators and representatives traveled to numerous battleground states during the campaign, criticizing Bush's record in Texas.

"Livelihood and political threats. And they were definitely made," Texas Democratic Party chair-

woman Molly Beth Malcolm told The Dallas Morning News for Sunday's editions. "I'm not going to put any specific names on it, but that came out of George Bush's camp. And that is dirty politics."

The Bush campaign denied the allegation.

"It's a ridiculous and untruthful charge," Bush spokesman Dan Bartlett told The Associated Press on Sunday. "It appears the Democrats in Texas who support Al Gore don't realize the campaign is over. Gov. Bush has a history of work-

ing with both Republicans and Democrats and setting aside politics after the election. It appears they are not doing the same."

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Listen Up!



INSET: Members of Boy Scout Troop No. 131 have constructed bat houses for the grounds of the Sibley Learning Center and for city property.

LEFT: Clayton Powers, right, organized the activity as his Eagle Scout project. He is being helped by Dale Lookabaugh.

ABOVE: Powers, right, Dick Hill, center, and Michael Owen work on the houses.

Scouts construct four bat houses

■ Scout Clayton Powers organized activity for his Eagle Scout project.

From Staff Reports

The Midland Soil and Water Conservation District would like to thank Clayton Powers and his fellow members of Boy Scout Troop 131 for constructing four bat houses.

Two of the houses were placed on the grounds of the Sibley Nature Center, while two more will be placed at another location on city of Midland property.

Powers is an Eagle Scout candidate. He was helped by fellow scouts Austin and Alex Hill, Ian Page, Michael Zant, Brice and Stuart McDonald, Andy Jackson, Michael Owen and Dale Lookabaugh.

Most people think bats are nasty and

creepy, creating tales of horror and evil. They are, however, insect predators. As many as a dozen species may migrate through Midland County, but as far as is known, only one species — the Mexican Free-tailed Bat — is the only one to raise young here.

Several years ago the top floor of the county courthouse had to be evacuated because of the ammonia smell given off by the guano that accumulated when bats moved in to the courthouse rafters.

There are times when a bat can be seen circling a streetlight or security light. One species that visits Midland County

(the Pallid Bat — meaning it is whitish) lands on the ground to run down scorpions and centipedes. If any other bat is ever seen on the ground, Animal Control should be notified immediately because it might be rabid. Bat bites can be painful.

Young Life

Group marks 25 years

■ Fund-raising barbecue dinner is planned for tonight; on Sunday ground was broken for new building.

By Emily Baker

Midland Young Life will be celebrating its 25th anniversary with a barbecue fund-raiser dinner 6:30 p.m. today at Midland Center.

The featured speakers are to be comedian Michael "Ash" Ashburn and past area directors, committee members and kids.

Ashburn is "a national Young Life speaker who shares his life and what's happening in the ministry of Young Life in a broader scope," said Travis Reaves, Young Life area director.

The local Young Life will soon have its own building. The groundbreaking ceremony was Sunday at 925 W. Wadley. The 4,000-square-foot building will house office space for the Young Life committee members, will give the clubs a place to meet and will provide recreational facilities, Reaves said.

The Johnny Warren Building is named for the late Johnny Warren, who served on the Young Life committee throughout the 1970s and '80s.

Reaves said the group is close to raising the \$350,000 needed for the project.

Young Life is an "outreach ministry for high school teen-agers," Reaves said.

The ministry includes club meetings with skits, songs, games and activities and "ends with a message about the gospel," he said. "It shares Christ with kids through relationships."

There are different Young Life groups for different age groups. One group is for Midland High and Lee High students, one is for Coleman High students, one is for junior high students and one is for Coleman junior high-aged students. The groups meet weekly.

Until the new building is finished, the clubs will continue meeting at their current locations. Students from Midland High and Lee High meet each 7:30 p.m. Mondays at the Midland College Student Center; Coleman High students meet 7:30 Mondays at Street University Church, 711 S. Main St.; and the junior high students meet 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Street University Church.

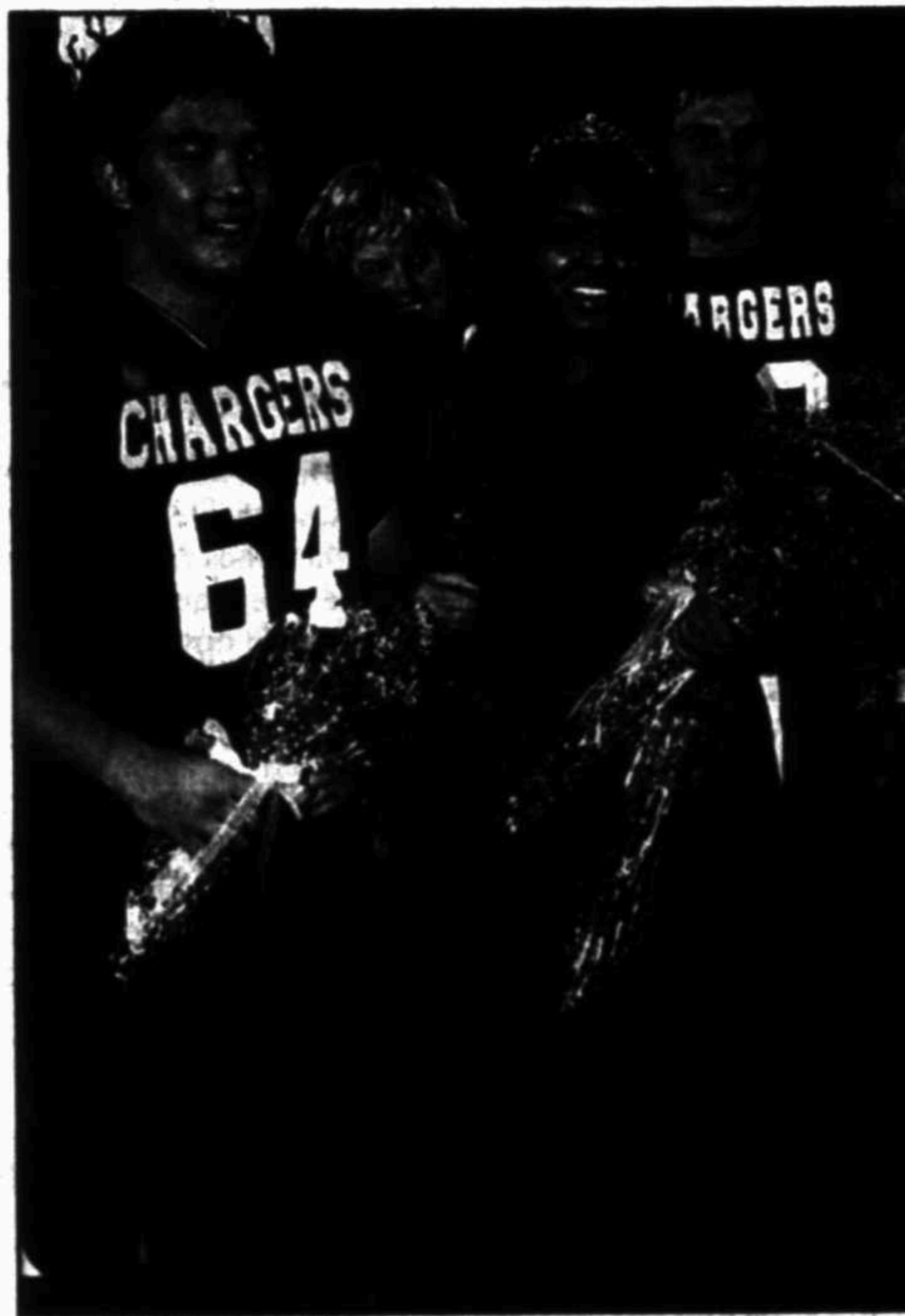


Skits, games and fellowship are what Young Life is all about.

Trinity's king and queen

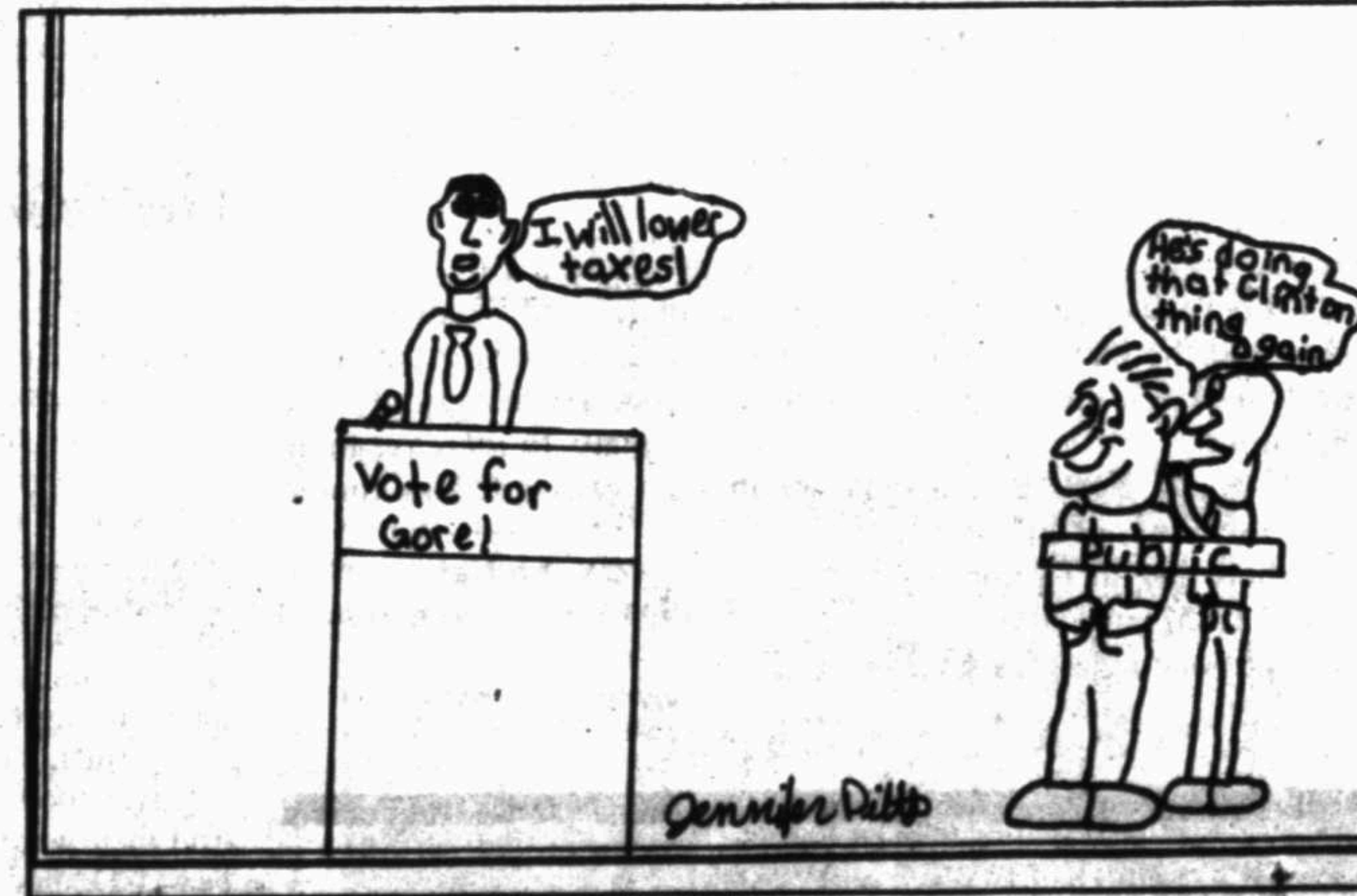
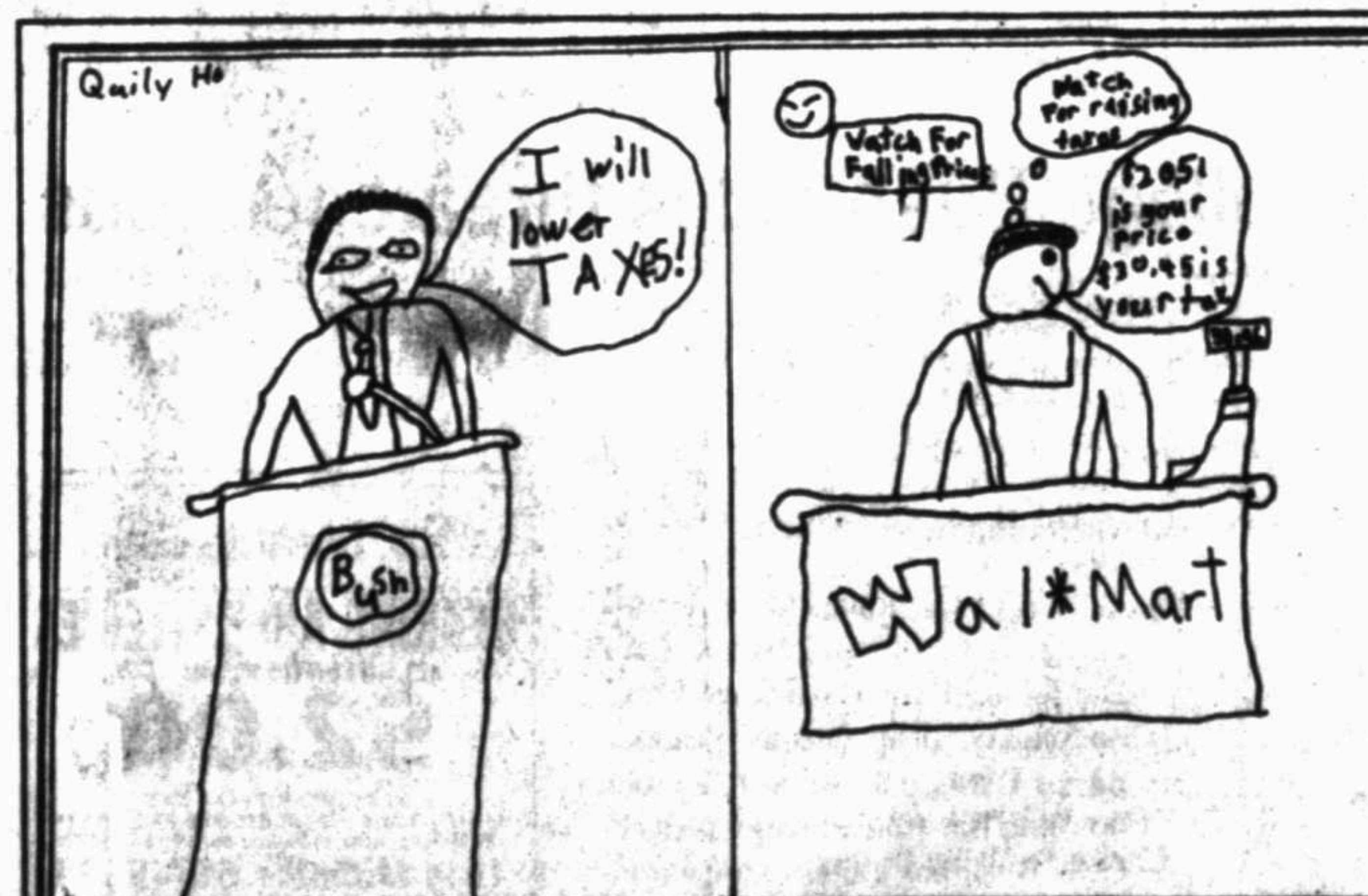
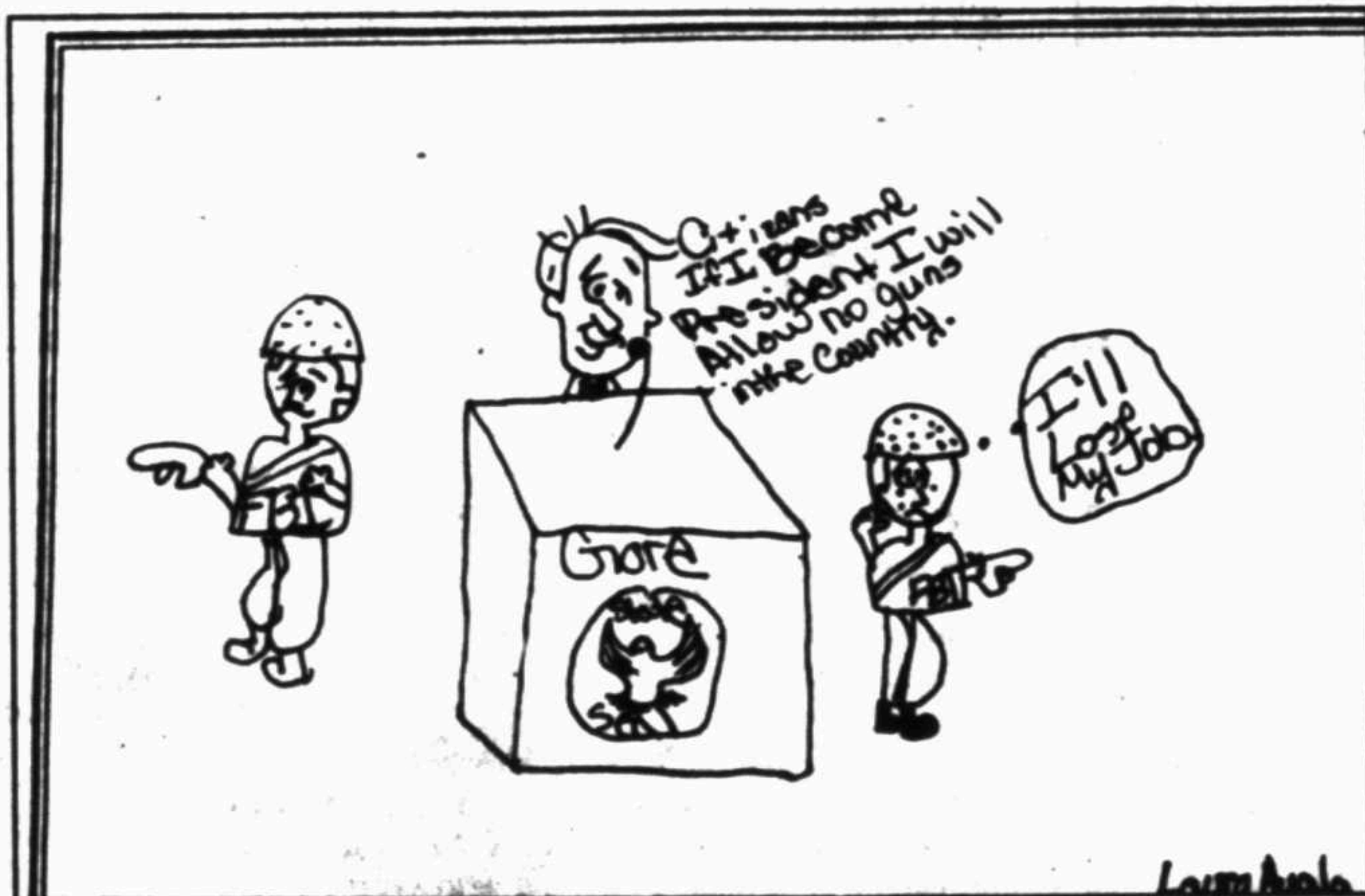
At halftime festivities during Trinity School's recent Homecoming game, Melissa Singh was crowned queen and Jeesoung Yi was crowned king. Members of the court were Ryan Latham, Chris Pietila, Matt Midkiff, Lauren Morris, Mary Jane Philipy, Kristen Stoltz and Dustin Truitt. All of the students are seniors.

Courtesy of Don Clawson



Political cartoonists

The following political cartoons were drawn by members of Kim Bolla's sixth-grade journalism class in the GEM program (Gifted Education of Midland). This is part of a series of cartoons drawn by these students.



Rebels face roller coaster 'Cats in bi-district

By Terry Williamson
Sports Editor

If there is one team hardest to figure out in all of West Texas, San Angelo Central owns the title hands down.

The 6-4 Bobcats, who will host 8-2 Midland Lee in the first round of the Class 5A Big School Division at 7:30 p.m. Friday at San Angelo Stadium, have had writers and fans alike scratching their heads over what they do on the field of play.

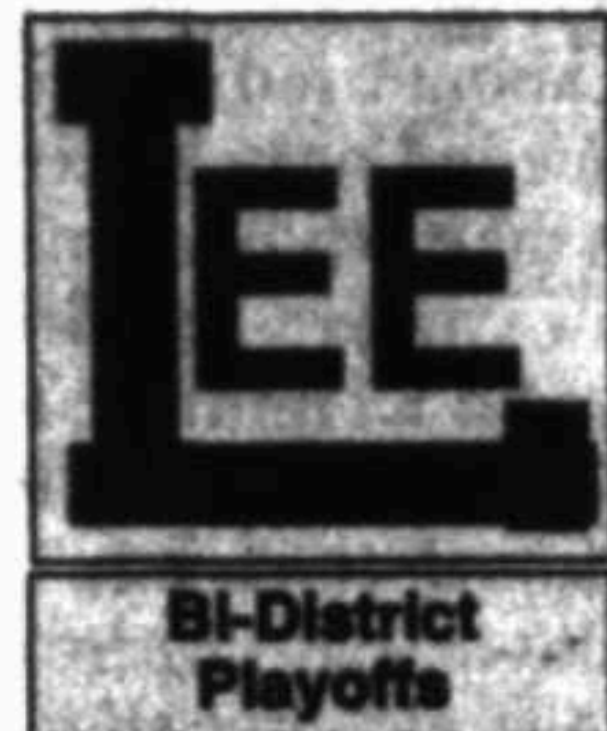
"We've had a hard time figuring ourselves out at certain points of the season," said Bobcats coach Kyle Gandy.

For instance, Central, the runnerup of District 3-4A with a 4-1 record, owns a 2-2 record against teams from 4-5A this season. At the time, all of those results raised an eyebrow or two for totally different reasons.

The Bobcats defeated Odessa High, 31-7, a sound victory over a team that made a playoff push this season in 4-5A. Then they got run off the field against Midland High, 35-7, a team that was last in

4-5A. OHS defeated Midland High.

But it doesn't stop there. Central lost to playoff bound Abilene High, 26-23. And the roller coaster continued to another hill when San Angelo defeated Abilene Cooper, 32-25. Cooper shared the 4-5A crown with Midland Lee, both compiling a 4-1 loop record.



From the Cooper game, the Bobcats rolled off five consecutive victories, going 4-0 in District 3-5A until they were beaten last Friday night by Lubbock Monterey in a 41-33 donnybrook, a game that was played with the 3-5A championship on the line.

Against Monterey, the Bobcats got 214 yards rushing from tailback Roy Bishop and 159 yards passing from quarterbacks Sol Southall and Matt Stanley. Stanley came off the bench to pass for 104 yards, completing six of 11 passes. Bishop also caught four passes for an additional 60 yards, giving him 274 all-purpose

yards in the game.

Southall, Central's regular quarterback this season, came down sick on Thursday last week, tried to play, but finally gave it up. He is expected to play this week against the Rebels.

These two teams also met at this time a year ago in the Big School bi-district round with Lee taking a record setting 55-19 victory over the Bobcats at Memorial Stadium in Midland on the way to a second consecutive state championship run.

Against Central a year ago, Lee tailback Cedric Benson had 325 yards rushing and four touchdowns. But Lee had even more in the tank that night, rolling out a school record 661 total yards of offense on a school record 34 first downs.

Actually, Lee had to come from behind twice early in that game before ending with double-nickel points.

Lee will enter the game with a four-game winning streak and a share of the 4-5A crown. Lee has won or shared the 4-5A title in

Please see REBELS/2C

GIRLS BASKETBALL PREVIEWS

Tall City girls ready to tip off

More experienced Lady Dawgs aim high

By Lee Passmore
Sports Writer

For the second straight season, the Midland High girls basketball team is in a position of starting all over again, but this year it's not such a bad thing.

Under first year coach Terry Gray last season, things started out promisingly for the Lady Dawgs, who despite a young roster, looked like contenders prior to Christmas. But an off-court incident in December resulted in the suspension of four players from an already inexperienced and thin roster, and by the time the meat of the District 4-5A schedule arrived, Midland High was suiting up only seven players.

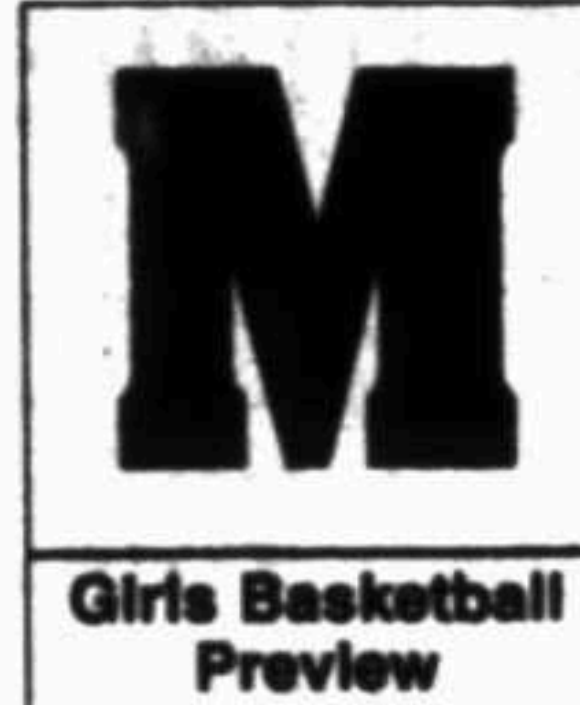
To their credit, though, Gray and the Lady Dawgs didn't fold their tent, and were in a position to make the playoffs heading into their final regular season game against Abilene High. MHS couldn't hold an eight-point fourth quarter lead and ended up losing 55-53 and missing out on the playoffs despite a respectable 19-10 overall mark.

If there was any hand-wringing over that setback, though, the Lady Dawgs probably got over it quickly. All seven of the players who finished last season are back this year, and the opportunity is theirs for the taking.

"Their expectations are all a lot higher than they were last year," said Gray

of his team. "We were 19-10 with seven kids and they're all back. We have really seven returning starters."

All told, Midland High brings back nine players who had some varsity experience last season, so while this is a new season, it's pretty much the same team but with more experience. Most of the players will also have the benefit of having been through Gray's system last season, making it easier for everyone.



"We're in the second year of the program so the kids are more comfortable with it," said Gray. "I know what to expect from them and they know what to expect from me."

It also helps that the Lady Dawgs are returning quality as well as quantity. They bring back a pair of all-district first team selections and a second team selection, giving them as much returning talent as anybody in the district.

Such prodigious numbers could mean a return to where Midland High was two years ago in the final season under former coach Jim Raughton, when the Lady Dawgs went unbeaten in district and reached the Region 1-5A tournament at Chaparral Center.

"I think the bar has been raised," said

Gray. "There will definitely be competition for starting positions and playing time. We're exactly in the opposite position of where we were a year ago. We have a lot of players who have had varsity time."

None of those players have had more time than senior forwards Edrea Rogers and Laura Koch, a pair of three-year letterwinners. Rogers, in fact, can go one better than that, as she is now in her fourth varsity season.

Rogers, a two-time first team all-district pick, averaged 17.3 points a game last year and could be the top returning player in the district. She's also been named a team captain this season.

"We're going to expect leadership from her but she won't have to carry as much," said Gray of Rogers. "With Valerie (Wootan) she'll be able to focus a lot more on her own strengths."

Those strengths include perimeter shooting, as Rogers led the Lady Dawgs last season with 28 3-pointers. Koch, who like Rogers was a 5-foot-9 inside player, developed a 10-12 foot jumper as well, and averaged 12.1 points

Please see MHS/7C

(From left) Midland High's Edrea Rogers, LaQuori Harris and Laura Koch hope to build on last year's experience to make the playoffs.

Brian Adamcik/Reporter-Telegram



Midland Lee's Shandi Neatherlin and Shamera Bryson, both seniors, are looking to lead the Lady Rebels back to the postseason this year. Both Neatherlin and Bryson decided to concentrate full-time on basketball this season instead of playing volleyball.

U. Frank Williams Jr./Reporter-Telegram

Lady Rebels look for young players to step up this year

By Lee Passmore
Sports Writer

Having made the playoffs last season, the Midland Lee girls basketball team enters this season facing the downside of that success.



The numbers don't seem to add up for the Lady Rebels, who return only two players who lettered last season and have to contend with the loss not only of three three-year letterwinners, but their leading scorer as well. To say the least, Lee lost both quality and quantity since last February.

While there might be potential for the Lady

Rebels to approach what they accomplished last season, when they finished 18-11 and tied for second in District 4-5A with an 8-4 mark, they'll probably have to work even harder than they did last year. And that progress might not happen immediately.

"Our biggest weakness this year is going to be inexperience," said Lee coach Elise Kail. "We're trying to find a way to gel. We're still in a teaching phase."

That's a marked contrast from the last two years for the Lady Rebels, when they returned several experienced players who either knew their roles or adapted to them. On the other hand, though, Lee won't have to wait for key players to come out from volleyball.

The best news is that seniors Shamera Bryson

Please see LEE/7C

Cowboys take care of Bengals, 23-6

By Jaime Aron
AP Sports Writer

IRVING — The Dallas Cowboys put the ball in the hands of someone who can make a big play: 5-foot-9, 180-pound Tim Seder, their rookie kicker who spent the last two years as a high school teacher and coach.

Seder scored 17 of Dallas' points in a 23-6 victory Sunday over Cincinnati, kicking three field goals and two extra points — including the one after his own 1-yard touchdown run.

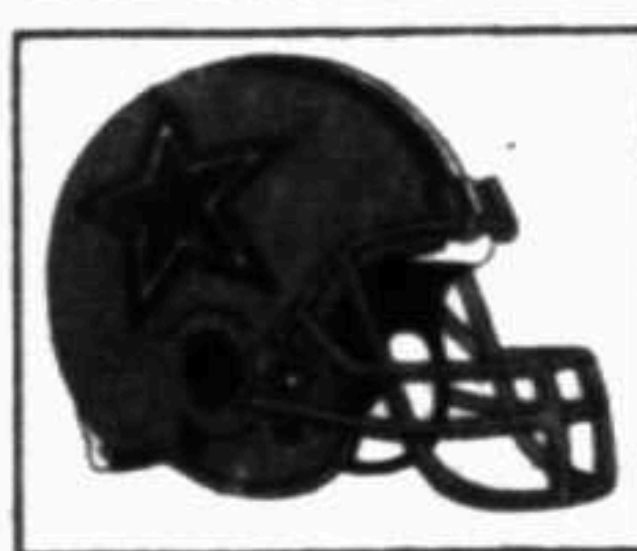
Seder took a pitch from holder Micah Knorr on a fake field goal and scooted into the end zone without being touched. His burst is believed to be the first by a Cowboys kicker and among a select few by kickers in NFL history.

"Really it was pretty easy because the linemen did all the work," said Seder, who remembered the moves from his days as a high school running back nearly a decade ago. "They made it easy for me, blowing people out of the way. There was just a huge hole."

Move over Emmitt Smith, who failed to pick up that same yard on the previous play and lost a fumble at the Cincinnati 1 in the first quarter. Smith had 16 yards on 17 car-

ries, his worst production without being hurt since 1998.

"I thought it was going to work because of Tim's background," said Joe Avezzano, Dallas' special teams coach. "He was a running back, has been in contact and has a little different mindset."



Seder's big day overshadowed the most yards passing since the 1999 opener for Cowboys quarterback Troy Aikman, who didn't play last week because of a bad back.

On a cold, wet afternoon, Aikman was 24-of-37 for 308 yards, including a nice 35-yard touchdown to James McKnight, as Dallas (4-6) ended a two-game losing streak. McKnight caught eight passes for a 164 yards, both career bests.

"I think I only took one hit," said Aikman, who received pain-relieving injections this week. "That's the kind of protection I need."

Dallas' league-worst run defense limited Corey Dillon to 94 yards and its league-worst pass rush had three sacks after getting 10 in the previous nine games.

The Bengals (2-8) ensured themselves of 10th straight season without a winning

record. Second-year quarterback Akili Smith looked as lost as ever, completing 10 of 25 passes for 68 yards and an interception and losing a fumble. This was the fifth straight game without 100 yards passing and his sixth straight without a TD pass.

"We felt that if we could just get a little bit of help from the passing game we could win," offensive lineman Willie Anderson said. "The passing game really hurt us today, but we can't point the finger at one person."

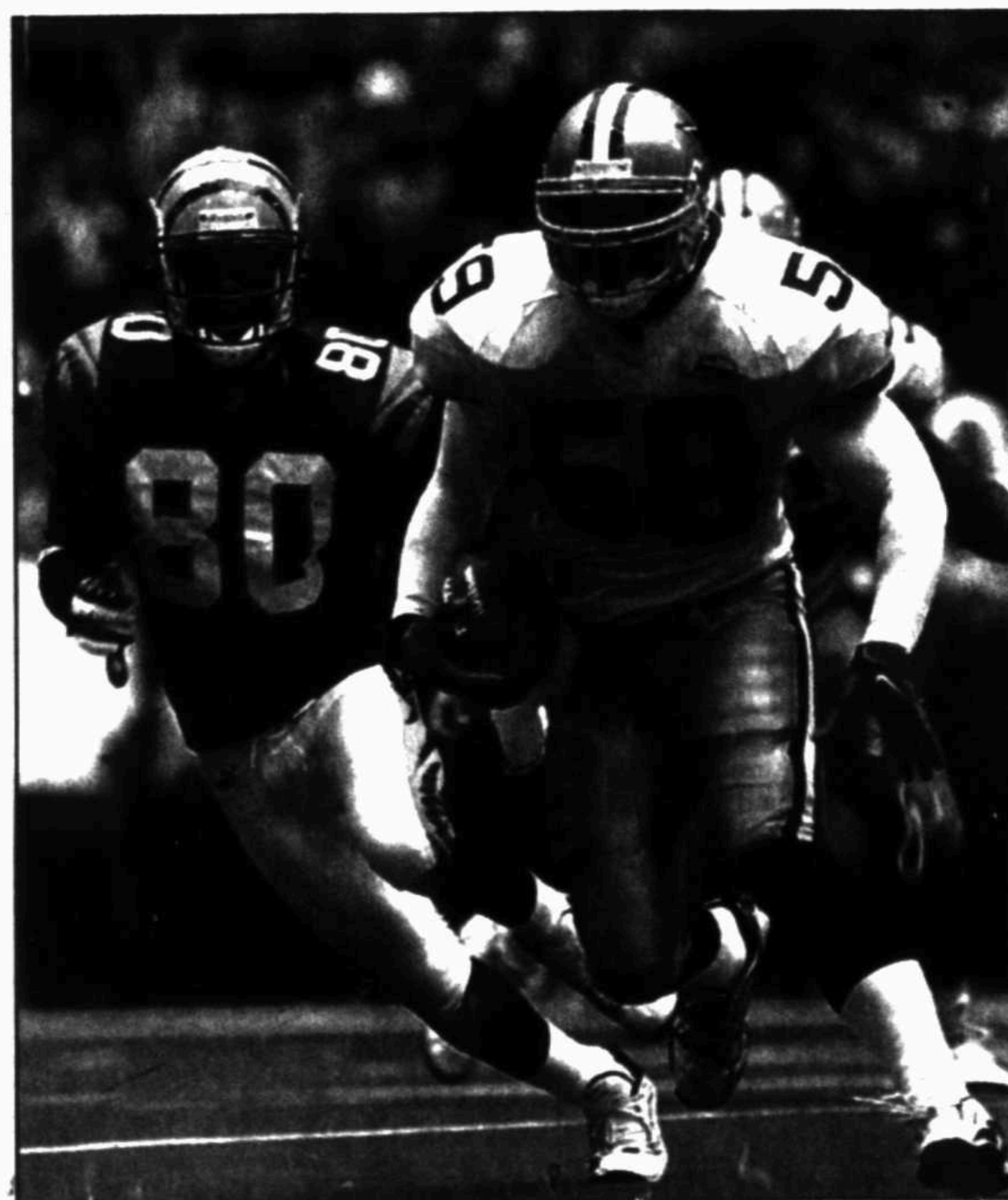
The only good news for Cincinnati was scoring its first points this season outside the state of Ohio — although it was only two field goals. The Bengals were shut out in three of four previous road games, scoring only in a 12-3 victory in Cleveland.

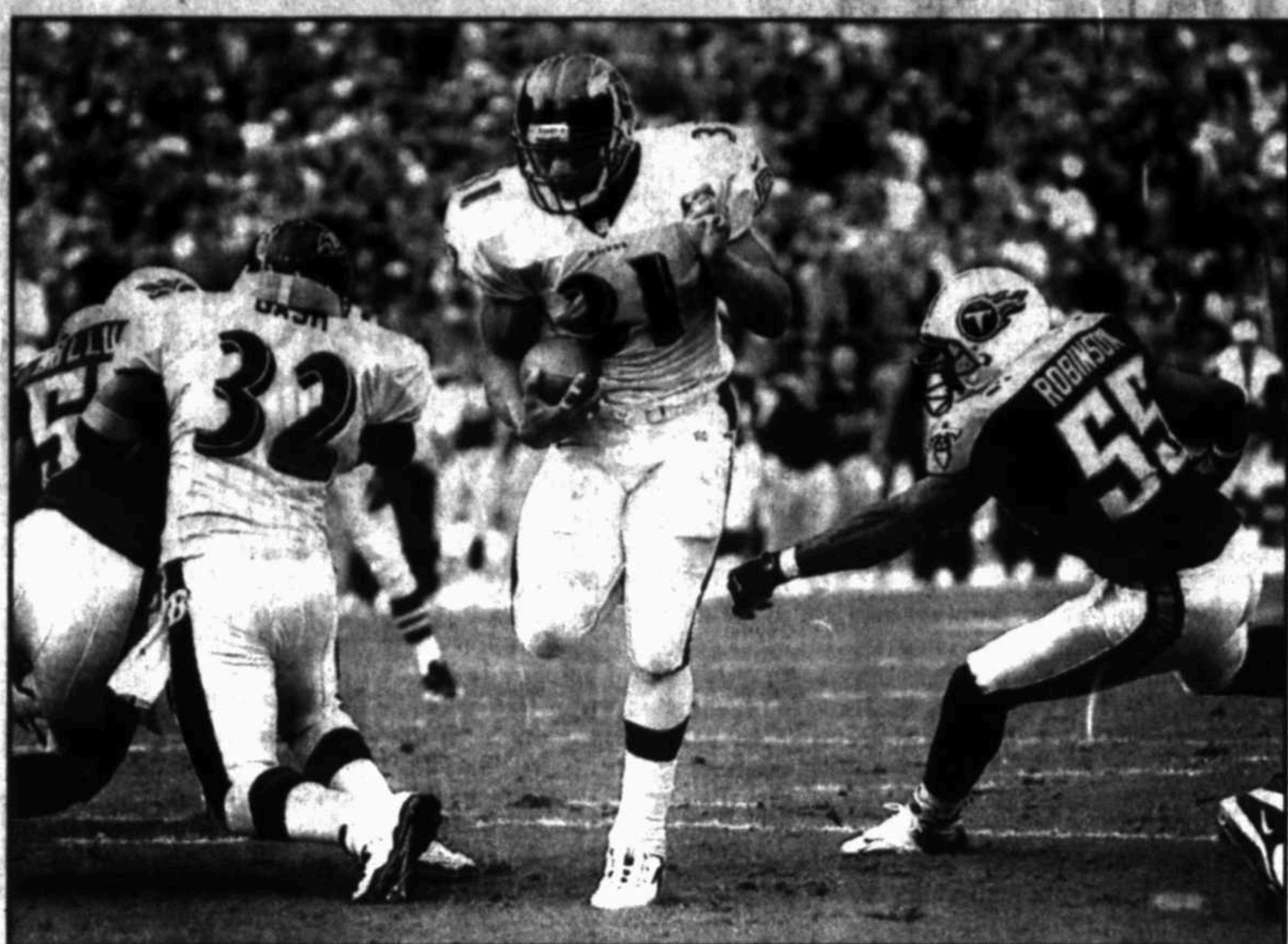
Dallas led 10-6 in the third quarter when Ebenezer Ekuban forced Smith to fumble and recovered it at the 29. The Cowboys drove to the 1, and when Emmitt Smith was

Please see DALLAS/2C

Dallas Cowboys linebacker Dat Nguyen (59) returns the ball after a fourth quarter interception against the Cincinnati Bengals as Bengals wide receiver Peter Warrick (80) gives chase Sunday in Irving.

AP Photo





Baltimore Ravens running back Jamal Lewis (31) leaves Tennessee Titans linebacker Eddie Robinson (55) behind as he scores on a 2-yard touchdown run in the second quarter Sunday in Nashville, Tenn. The Ravens won the game 24-23.

Ravens are first visitors to win at Titans' home stadium

Associated Press

It took two rare gaffes by Al Del Greco for someone other than the Tennessee Titans to win at Adelphi Coliseum.

It took one early turnover forced by the Rams' maligned defense to send St. Louis — without Kurt Warner and Marshall Faulk — on the way to a 38-24 win over the New York Giants to end their mild midseason slide.

In the end, the teams that contested last season's Super Bowl had identical records, 8-2.

Trent Dilfer passed to Patrick Johnson for a 2-yard touchdown, and Matt Stover's extra point gave the Baltimore Ravens a 24-23 win over Tennessee, ending the Titans' NFL record of 12 games without a loss at a new stadium.

The Titans also had an eight-game winning streak broken. They pulled ahead 23-17 on an 87-yard interception return for a touchdown by Perry Fenix with 2:30 left, but Del Greco missed his first extra point in 229 tries, a streak that started in 1993. Del Greco also sent his 43-yard field-goal attempt wide right on the game's final play.

Baltimore (7-4), which until last week had gone five games without a touchdown, pulled within 1 1/2 games of the Titans in the AFC Central.

The key play in the Rams-Giants showdown came on host New York's first possession, a third-down completion by New York's Kerry Collins to Amani Toomer that was pried loose and returned by Dexter McCleon to the Giants 2.

Trent Green, subbing for Warner, threw a TD pass to Roland Williams on the next play and the Rams, who had lost two of its last three, were on their way. They led 28-7 at halftime and the Giants (7-3) never got closer than 11 points — 28-17 after a quick burst at the start of the second half.

But Green led the Rams to 10 straight points and New York's run-oriented offense wasn't able to answer.

Green finished 27 of 45 for 272 yards, threw four TD passes and ran for another score. And the Rams defense got three turnovers to the Giants' one.

Saints 20, Panthers 10
Ricky Williams hit the 1,000-yard rushing mark for the Saints (7-3), but broke his left ankle on the play and will be out 6-8 weeks. The defense held Carolina (4-6) to 53 yards on the ground.

"He is a good player, a good back, I mean he got 1,000 yards today," Saints coach Jim Haslett said. "But he is out and we will have to move on."

Keith Mitchell returned a fumble 90 yards for a touchdown and the Saints forced five turnovers and had eight sacks to win their sixth straight.

DALLAS: Cowboys break 2-game slide

(From 1C)

stopped on third down, Seder and Knorr came on for what would have been an 18-yard attempt.

Knorr, the punter, was hurt in the second quarter and was practically immobile, making a fake unlikely. At least, it was to the Bengals — even though they were tricked on a similar play last season by Cleveland.

"We loaded up on one side and they found the weak spot on the other," said Cincinnati's Tom Carter, who was on the field-goal defense.

Knorr took the snap and lobbed it up. Seder caught it in stride around the 8, cut left and ran to the back of the end zone, where he celebrated with a little fist pump. After all, he still had

Vikings 31, Cardinals 14

Daunte Culpepper threw touchdown passes to Robert Smith, Randy Moss and Cris Carter, and ran for a fourth TD as the Vikings (8-2) remained unbeaten in the Metrodome after two road losses. Smith gained 117 yards on 20 carries to give him 1,025 yards rushing for the season.

MarTay Jenkins had a 98-yard kickoff return for Arizona (3-7), the first for the Cardinals since 1979.

Dolphins 17, Chargers 7
On an afternoon when the Chargers honored their past, Smith and the Dolphins added to the franchise's current misery, winning 17-7 to send the punless Chargers to 0-10.

Lamar Smith scored on runs of 2 and 6 yards, the first coming on the game's third play, and Jay Fiedler completed his first nine passes for the AFC East-leading Dolphins (8-2). Smith has four touchdowns in the last two games and seven in four games.

Bucs 20, Packers 15
The Bucs knocked Brett Favre out of the game and Martin Gramatica extended his streak of consecutive field goals to 12 with fourth-quarter kicks of 54 and 51 yards.

The victory was the third straight for Tampa Bay (6-4), which has sandwiched a pair of three-game winning streaks around a four-game skid. That left the team with an uphill battle to successfully defend its NFC Central title.

Favre sprained his left foot when sacked by Warren Sapp midway through the third quarter and could miss his next game. Ryan Longwell kicked field goals of 52, 42 and 45 yards for the Packers, who took a 15-14 lead when Favre's backup, Matt Hasselbeck, tossed a 27-yard touchdown pass to Bubba Franks on a fake field goal. But Gramatica answered with his two long kicks.

Eagles 26, Steelers 23, OT
Two 42-yard field goals by David Akers and a recovered onside kick gave the Eagles one of their more improbable victories in years.

Akers kicked a game-winning field goal 4:16 into overtime after tying it with a hurried 42-yarder on the final play of regulation for the Eagles (7-4).

The Steelers (5-5), losing their second straight after winning five in a row, never got the ball in overtime.

Bills 20, Bears 3
After being pulled for Rob Johnson on the Bills' final series of the first half, Doug Flutie returned in the second half to help the Bills win. Flutie has now gone 3-1 as a starter Buffalo (6-4) after replacing Johnson when he separated his shoulder. But coach Wade Phillips plans to go back to Johnson as his starter.

Eric Moulds caught five passes for 89 yards, tying a franchise record by going 43 straight games with a catch. Keion Carpenter had two interceptions. The Bears (2-8), lost quarterback Jim Miller, who tore his left Achilles' tendon 10 minutes into the second quarter.

Lions 13, Falcons 10

Seder kicked the extra point, then got to really enjoy his touchdown. Several teammates came off the sidelines to shake his hand, including Randall Cunningham, who was still smiling and laughing about it.

Notes: Dallas offensive coordinator Jack Reilly made a brash choice by making the game-opening play a handoff to fullback Robert Thomas. Thomas' fumble of a handoff in an overtime loss last Sunday drew much criticism.

Cowboys 23, Bengals 6
Cincinnati 0 0 0 0 0 0
Dallas 7 7 13 3 23

Second Quarter
Cin—FG Rogers 22, 11:55.
Dal—McKnight 35 pass from Akman (Seder kick), 6:40.

Cin—FG Rogers 37, 4:14.
Dal—FG Seder 43, 9:46.

Third Quarter
Dal—FG Seder 43, 9:46.

Fourth Quarter
Dal—FG Seder 42, 8:49.
A—62, 170.

First downs
Rushes-Yards 32-149
Passing 56 308
Comp-Att-Int 10-25-1 24-37-0
Sacked-Yards Lost 3-12 0-0
Punts 3-36.7 0-0-0
Fumbles-Lost 2-1 2-1
Penalties-Yards 7-94 13-100
Time of Possession 24:35 35:25

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
RUSHING—Cincinnati, Dillon 20-94, A. Smith 5-25, Bennett 5-24; Pope 1-0, Warrick 1 (minus 4); Dallas, Warren 9-59, E. Smith 17-16, McKnight 2-15, Thomas 2-9, E. Smith 1-19, Tucker 1-14, LaFleur 1-13.

PASSING—Cincinnati, A. Smith 10-25-1-68.
Dallas, Akman 24-37-0-308.
RECEIVING—Cincinnati, Warrick 4-36, McGee 2-14, Yeast 2-8, Battaglia 1-7, N. Williams 1-3; Dallas, McKnight 9-59, McGarity 4-51, Warren 4-23, Harris 3-15, Thomas 2-9, E. Smith 1-19, Tucker 1-14, LaFleur 1-13.

MISSED FIELD GOALS—Dallas, Seder 39 (WP), 48 (WL), 51 (WP).

Gary Moeller won his first game as Detroit's coach in place of Bobby Ross, who resigned, as the Lions (6-4) kept their playoff hopes alive against Atlanta (3-8).

Moeller was booed when he went for the tie when the Lions had the ball inches from the goal line on a fourth down with five minutes left in the game. Jason Hanson's 18-yard field goal tied it at 10.

But Danny Kanell's pass was intercepted by Corwin Brown, who returned the ball 10 yards to the Falcons 29 with 2:13 left. Four plays later, Hanson kicked a winning 44-yarder.

Browns 19, Patriots 11
Phil Dawson kicked a career-high four field goals, and Doug Pederson efficiently moved the ball as the Browns snapped a seven-game losing streak. They improved to 3-8, one more win than in their initial season. New England dropped to 0-8.

Cleveland's defense recovered three fumbles and intercepted a pass from New England quarterback Drew Bledsoe, who was questionable until gametime after jamming his right thumb last week. Bledsoe finished 21-of-35 for 212 yards and one TD.

Seahawks 28, Jaguars 21
Seattle (4-7) stopped Jacksonville at the 1-yard line with no time remaining to hang on. Jon Kitna threw a 4-yard pass to Ricky Waters with 2:01 left for the winning touchdown.

Seattle's Reggie Tongue was called for pass interference in the end zone with no time left. That brought the ball to the 1 and extended the game by one play. Mark Brunell looked for Alvis Whitted, but the two got their signals crossed and the ball fell harmlessly in the corner of the end zone to drop the Jaguars to 3-7.

49ers, 21, Chiefs 7
Charlie Garner ran for 102 yards and a touchdown, and Lance Schulters led an inspired defensive effort as San Francisco (3-8) snapped its five-game losing streak.

The 49ers defense, the league's worst in six statistical categories, dominated Kansas City's offense, which had scored 109 points in its last three games. The Chiefs (5-5) gained just 107 yards in the first half and needed Donnell Bennett's 1-yard TD run with 6:27 left to avoid being shut out for the first time in 101 games.

Jeff Garcia completed 20 of 25 passes for 244 yards and capped two second-quarter drives with short TD runs.

Colts 23, Jets 15
Another big deficit, another loss for the Jets (6-4), who have dropped three in a row. New York won four games with fourth-quarter rallies, but has failed to finish off the comebacks last three weeks.

Host Indianapolis (7-3) opened a 17-0 lead and held on as Edgerrin James went over 1,000 yards rushing. He finished with 31 rushes for 130 yards and a touchdown. Mike Vanderjagt kicked three field goals.

Colts 23, Jets 15

Colts 23, Jets 15

Colts 23, Jets 15

Colts 23, Jets 15

Colts 23, Jets 15

Colts 23, Jets 15

Colts 23, Jets 15

Colts 23, Jets 15

Colts 23, Jets 15

Colts 23, Jets 15

Colts 23, Jets 15

Labonte wins 1st Winston Cup

By Steven Wine
AP Sports Writer

HOMESTEAD, Fla. (AP) — Fourth place on Sunday assured Bobby Labonte of first place in 2000.

Labonte clinched his first Winston Cup Series championship to overshadow a dominating performance by teammate Tony Stewart, who won the Pennzoil 400 for the second straight year.

Because Labonte led at least one lap, he needed only a sixth-place finish in the next-to-last race of the year to capture the title, which was worth \$3 million. He started third and spent most of the day running fourth to eighth.

For the second year in a row, Stewart won the race but shared the applause. Dale Jarrett finished fifth at Homestead last year to clinch the Winston Cup Series title.

Labonte, who drives a Pontiac for Joe Gibbs Racing, finished second in last year's points standings.

He and Terry Labonte became the first brothers to win Winston Cup titles. Terry was the champion in 1984 and 1996.

Bobby Labonte's closest pursuer in the points standings, Dale Earnhardt, started 37th in the 43-car field Sunday and finished 20th.

Jeremy Mayfield finished second, 4.5 seconds behind Stewart, and Mark Martin was third. Pole-sitter Steve Park kept the lead for only nine laps and finished eighth.

Three-time NASCAR champion Darrell Waltrip struggled with handling problems, completed only 94 laps and finished 36th in the next-to-last race of his career.

Labonte led the 93rd lap after leader Stewart pitted for gas. But by the 100th lap, Stewart was back in front and Labonte had slipped to eighth place, a half lap behind the leader.

Pit stops by other drivers also put Labonte ahead on the 152nd lap. He then fell back to seventh but avoided heavy traffic most of

the rest of the way.

Ricky Rudd, seeking his first victory in two years, twice took the lead coming out of the pits. Each time Stewart overtook Rudd, moving into first for the final time on the 219th lap.

Homestead's 1 1/2-mile, nearly flat oval makes passing difficult, and drivers spent most of the race strung out around the track, with little side-by-side racing.

There were two wrecks, the most serious occurring when Earnhardt tapped Ward Burton's Pontiac in the rear bumper to start a crash that involved four other cars.

The initial collision sent Burton into the wall on the back straightaway, and he was then hit by Geoffrey Bodine. Cars driven by Stacy Compton, Mike Bliss and Robert Pressley were also damaged, while Earnhardt kept running.

"Some of it was my fault," Burton said. "And probably some of it was Dale's fault."

LOCAL SPORTS

Mills, Thurston win MTC titles

Bill Mills and Fern Thurston won the Midland Tennis Club's Mixed Doubles tournament on Saturday. Here are the results.

Open Bracket: Finals: Bill Mills-Fern Thurston def. Randy Shannon-Donna Rose, 6-3, 6-7, 6-3, 6-3.
A-1 Bracket: Finals: Jeanne Larance-David Day def. Bonnie Husband-Andy Mehl, 6-4, 6-3.
Consolation: Pe Woody-Ken Woody def. Greg Julie Golden, 6-0, 6-3.
B-1 Bracket: Finals: Hans Hoffman-Warissa Mahakian def. Dutch Hoffman-Lail Satswada, 6-2, 6-3. Consolation: T.J. Tidwell-Surena

Weir def. Nick Moschetti-Jamie McGowan, 4-6, 6-4, 6-4.

UTEP-Rice featured locals

EL PASO — Three players from the Midland area showed what they could do at the college level Saturday in Texas-El Paso's 38-21 victory over Rice which clinched a share of the Western Athletic Conference football title.

Rice quarterback Kyle Herm,

a Stanton graduate who holds the Texas Class 2A record for career touchdown passes, threw a 30-yard scoring pass to Gavin Boothe to give the Owls a 7-0 lead. That was Herm's only completion of the game, but he gained 92 yards on 11 carries.

A pair of Midland High grads made big defensive plays in the fourth quarter for UTEP. Camar Jackson had a quarterback sack, and Weldon Cooks deflected a deep Rice pass which could have gone for a long completion.

Injured Permian player in good spirits

By April Castro

Associated Press Writer

DALLAS — Less than a week ago, 17-year-old linebacker Joe Beene's biggest concern was beating his high school's cross-town rival.

After seven hours of surgery to fuse together the Odessa Permian football player's second vertebra — broken during football practice last week — Beene probably will never play football again and is uncertain if he'll even walk again.

But that storied rivalry between his teammates and Odessa was still in the forefront of his mind when he awoke from surgery Saturday.

"He had a big smile. You could tell he was very happy about it," his mother, Dianne, said Sunday of her son's reaction to Permian's 28-0 shutout of Odessa.

Joe, who will be 18 on Dec. 30th, was in critical condition Sunday in the intensive care unit at Zale Lipshy University Hospital in Dallas. He remains paralyzed from the neck down.

"He's in very good spirits," his mother said. "At this point we're still waiting for the swelling to go down. It could take 6-8 months to be able to tell (if he'll regain the use of his lower body). But he does have a good attitude. He's holding his own. He's in critical shape, but he's holding his own."

Joe's uncle, Terry Swann, said

Beene next will go to a rehabilitation center in Houston, although it's unknown when he will be discharged from Zale Lipshy.

The accident happened when Beene, who was playing outside linebacker at practice on Wednesday, tackled teammate receiver James Johnson. That snapped one of the upper vertebrae in his neck.

Although Odessa Permian coach T.J. Mills considered canceling the game Friday, his teammates decided they would play it for Joe.

Permian co-captain and linebacker Brian Williams wore Beene's No. 11 jersey in tribute.

REBELS: Lee comes off win vs. MHS

(From 1C)

five of the last six seasons under head coach John Parchman.

Lee is coming off a 24-0 win over cross-town rival Midland High, a game in which the Bulldogs held Lee to a 0-0 tie and El Ced to 26 yards rushing in the first half. Lee scored on every second half possession, however, and Benson had 189 yards rushing and three TDs in the second half.

"You really would like to have a little easier game to end regular season play, but we probably needed a game like we had with Midland High," Lee coach John Parchman said. "That game with Midland High should prepare us for the playoffs."

Ticket Notes: Tickets for this game will go on sale to season ticket holders 8 a.m. on Tuesday at the Memorial Stadium ticket office and to the general public at 8 a.m. on Wednesday. Tickets are general admission and Midland has half of the stadium's tickets, so there will be plenty. Tickets will be sold until noon Friday in Midland. Cost is \$6 for

adults and \$3 for students. All tickets purchased at the gate will be \$7.

Rebel Yells: Lee is making its 17th playoff appearance in the last 18 years and 19th playoff appearance overall... El Ced needs 20 yards rushing to have his third consecutive 2,000-yard season... Lee is 37-15-3 (.700) in playoff games and the Rebels have won 11 consecutive state playoff outings...

Midland Lee Playoff Results
1974: Wichita Falls Roster 35, Midland Lee 6 (Bi-district), 0-1
1976: Midland Lee 17, Eulea Trinity 0 (Bi-district), Arlington Sam Houston 38, Midland Lee 13 (Region), 1-1
1982: Midland Lee 30, Amarillo High 3 (Bi-district), Midland Lee 48, El Paso Irving 14 (Area), Midland Lee 23, Fort Worth Trimble Tech 6 (Region), Midland Lee 20, Odessa Permian 0 (Quarterfinals), Midland Lee 35, Plano 14 (Semifinals), Converse Judson 25, Midland Lee 21 (Finals), 5-1 (13-3 overall).

1984: Midland Lee 42, Plainview 7 (Bi-district), Midland Lee 41, El Paso Andrews 6 (Area), Midland Lee 45, Fort Worth Richland 14 (Region), Midland Lee 15, Midland Lee 14 (Quarterfinals), 3-1 (11-1 overall).

1985: Midland Lee 13, Amarillo High 7 (Bi-district), Midland Lee 45, El Paso Andrews 7 (Area), Midland Lee 24, Midland Lee 21 (Region), 2-1 (10-3 overall).

1986: Amarillo High 14, Midland Lee 0 (Bi-district), 0-1 (8-2 overall).

1987: Midland Lee 35, Amarillo High 7 (Bi-district), Midland Lee 49, El Paso Eastwood 14 (Area), Arlington High 27, Midland Lee 7 (Region), 2-1 (11-1 overall).

1988: Amarillo Palo Duro 29, Midland Lee 8 (Bi-district), 0-1 (7-3 overall).

1989: Midland Lee 27, Amarillo Palo Duro 9 (Bi-district), Midland Lee 48, El Paso Andrews 16 (Area), Arlington Lamar 17, Midland Lee 3 (Region), 2-1 (9-3 overall).

1990: Midland Lee 30, Plainview 8 (Bi-district), Midland Lee 35, El Paso Andrews 21, Midland Lee 21, Andrews advances on penalties, 5-3 (Region), 1-0-1 (8-2-1 overall).

1991: Midland Lee 35, Amarillo Palo Duro 0 (Bi-district), Midland Lee 28, El Paso Andrews 7 (Area), Midland Lee 28, Sherman 7 (Region), Odessa Permian, 35, Midland Lee 7 (Quarterfinals), 3-1 (12-2 overall).

1992: Midland Lee 53, Amarillo High 25 (Bi-district), Midland Lee 78, El Paso Bowie 14 (Area), Lewisville 44, Midland Lee 30 (Region), 2-1 (11-2 overall).

1993: Midland Lee 21, Amarillo High 21, Lee advances on penalties, 4-3 (Bi-district), Midland Lee 14 (Region), 3-1 (11-1 overall).

1994: Midland Lee 35, El Paso Riverside 13 (Area), Midland Lee 29, Arlington Lamar 29, Lee advances on penalties, 5-4; Arlington High 28, Midland Lee 16 (Quarterfinals), 1-1-2 (7-4-2 overall).

1995: Midland Lee 38, Amarillo High 3 (Bi-district), Midland Lee 28, El Paso Socorro 28 (Area), Arlington Lamar 28, Midland Lee 8 (Region), 2-1 (10-1 overall).

1996: Midland Lee 36, Lubbock Monterey 21 (Bi-district), Midland Lee 42, El Paso Socorro 10 (Area), Flower Mound Marquis 20, Midland Lee 14 (Region), 3-1 (11-1 overall).

1997: Amarillo High 24, Midland Lee 7 (Bi-district), Midland Lee 0-1 (5-5).

1998: Midland Lee 34, Lubbock Coronado 7 (Bi-district), Midland Lee 28, El Paso Socorro 10 (Area), Midland Lee 40, Marquette 13 (Quarterfinals), Midland Lee 40, Marquette 13 (Semifinals), Midland Lee 42, Aldine Eisenhower 21, 5-0 (15-0).

2000: Midland Lee at San Angelo Central (Bi-district), Midland Lee 7, 3-0 (11-1 overall).

Overall Playoff Record: 37-15-3 (.700).

Weir bounces back to take Championship

Associated Press

SOTOGRADE, Spain — Mike Weir had every reason to believe he had shot himself out of the American Express Championship after the second round, when he hit two balls into the water on No. 17 and was eight strokes behind.

All he wanted on the weekend was some momentum. He wound up with a lot more.

By missing only three greens over the final 36 holes, the left-handed Canadian closed with rounds of 65-69 to win the final World Golf Championships event and finally get the best of Tiger Woods.

"It feels fantastic," Weir said. "There were so many players with a chance to win. My plan was to just try to keep hitting the ball solid. That's how I was kind of able to keep my composure today."

More importantly, Weir kept his composure on Friday.

What he thought was a perfect 4-iron into the par 5 17th came up an inch short, the difference between a birdie and a double bogey. Weir tried to work out his problems on the range, but he was more successful studying in his hotel room.

"I keep notes of certain tournaments that I play well, when my swing is feeling a certain way," he said. "I hit on a key that this is my sixth tournament in a row, and I think my posture was getting a little sloppy."

He decided to stand a little more upright and started to see some immediate results.

"Then I just carried it into the rest of the week-

end," he said.

While Weir started the final round just one stroke behind Hidemichi Tanaka, most of the focus was on Woods, who was trying to become the first player in 50 years to win 10 times on the PGA Tour in one season.

Weir took the lead alone with a birdie on No. 8 and extended it to three strokes by nearly holing a 40-yard pitch shot for eagle on No. 11.

As usual, however, any tournament at Valderrama is usually decided on the 17th, a par 5 with a green that slopes severely to the front, with tightly shaved grass sending everything into a small pond.

NBA Results

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	5	2	.714	2
New York	5	2	.714	2
Orlando	4	4	.500	3 1/2
Atlanta	3	5	.375	4 1/2
New Jersey	3	5	.375	4 1/2
Boston	2	6	.250	5 1/2
Washington	2	6	.250	5 1/2

Central Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	5	1	.833	0
Indiana	4	2	.667	1 1/2
Charlotte	3	3	.500	2 1/2
Toronto	4	3	.571	1 1/2
Detroit	3	5	.375	3
Chicago	1	5	.167	4 1/2
Memphis	1	5	.167	4 1/2
Atlanta	0	7	.000	5 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	5	1	.833	0
San Antonio	5	2	.714	1/2
Dallas	4	3	.571	1 1/2
Vancouver	3	4	.429	2 1/2
Denver	3	4	.429	2 1/2
Minnesota	3	4	.429	2 1/2
Houston	1	5	.167	4 1/2

Pacific Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	6	1	.857	0
Sacramento	6	2	.750	1/2
L.A. Lakers	5	3	.619	1 1/2
Portland	4	3	.571	2 1/2
L.A. Clippers	2	5	.286	4 1/2
Seattle	2	5	.286	4 1/2
Golden State	1	5	.167	4 1/2

Sunday's Games

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	101	92	.521	0
Sacramento	108	84	.564	0
Denver	95	84	.526	0
Orlando	105	89	.541	0
L.A. Lakers	105	89	.541	0

Monday's Games

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Portland at New Jersey	6:30 p.m.			
Dallas at L.A. Clippers	9:30 p.m.			

Kings 105, Mavericks 84

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
LA Clippers	5	3	.619	1 1/2
LA Lakers	5	3	.619	1 1/2

Lakers 105, Lakers 99

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Lakers	105	89	.541	0
Golden State	105	89	.541	0

Lakers 105, Lakers 99

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Lakers	105	89	.541	0
Golden State	105	89	.541	0

Lakers 105, Lakers 99

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Lakers	105	89	.541	0
Golden State	105	89	.541	0

Lakers 105, Lakers 99

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Lakers	105	89	.541	0
Golden State	105	89	.541	0

Lakers 105, Lakers 99

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Lakers	105	89	.541	0
Golden State	105	89	.541	0

Lakers 105, Lakers 99

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Lakers	105	89	.541	0
Golden State	105	89	.541	0

Lakers 105, Lakers 99

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Lakers	105	89	.541	0
Golden State	105	89	.541	0

Lakers 105, Lakers 99

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Lakers	105	89	.541	0
Golden State	105	89	.541	0

Lakers 105, Lakers 99

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Lakers	105	89	.541	0
Golden State	105	89	.541	0

Lakers 105, Lakers 99

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Lakers	105	89	.541	0
Golden State	105	89	.541	0

Lakers 105, Lakers 99

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Lakers	105	89	.541	0
Golden State	105	89	.541	0

Lakers 105, Lakers 99

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Lakers	105	89	.541	0
Golden State	105	89	.541	0

Lakers 105, Lakers 99

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Lakers	105	89	.541	0
Golden State	105	89	.541	0

Lakers 105, Lakers 99

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Lakers	105	89	.541	0
Golden State	105	89	.541	0

Lakers 105, Lakers 99

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Lakers	105	89	.541	0
Golden State	105	89	.541	0

Lakers 105, Lakers 99

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Lakers	105	89	.541	0
Golden State	105	89	.541	0

Lakers 105, Lakers 99

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Lakers	105	89	.541	0
Golden State	105	89	.541	0

Lakers 105, Lakers 99

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Lakers	105	89	.541	0
Golden State	105	89	.541	0

Lakers 105, Lakers 99

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Lakers	105	89	.541	0
Golden State	105	89	.541	0

Lakers 105, Lakers 99

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Lakers	105	89	.541	0
Golden State	105	89	.541	0

WPHL

Eastern Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Austin	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0

Western Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0

Sunday's Game

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0

Golf Results

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0

SOTOGRADE, Spain (AP)

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0

Sunday's Game

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0

Golf Results

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0

SOTOGRADE, Spain (AP)

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0

Sunday's Game

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0

Golf Results

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0

SOTOGRADE, Spain (AP)

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0

Sunday's Game

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0

Golf Results

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0

SOTOGRADE, Spain (AP)

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0

Sunday's Game

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0

Golf Results

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0

SOTOGRADE, Spain (AP)

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0

Sunday's Game

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0

Golf Results

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0

SOTOGRADE, Spain (AP)

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0

Sunday's Game

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0

Golf Results

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0

SOTOGRADE, Spain (AP)

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0

Sunday's Game

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0

Golf Results

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0

SOTOGRADE, Spain (AP)

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0
San Antonio	3	1	.750	0

FOR BETTER OR WORSE



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



FUNKY WINKERBEAN



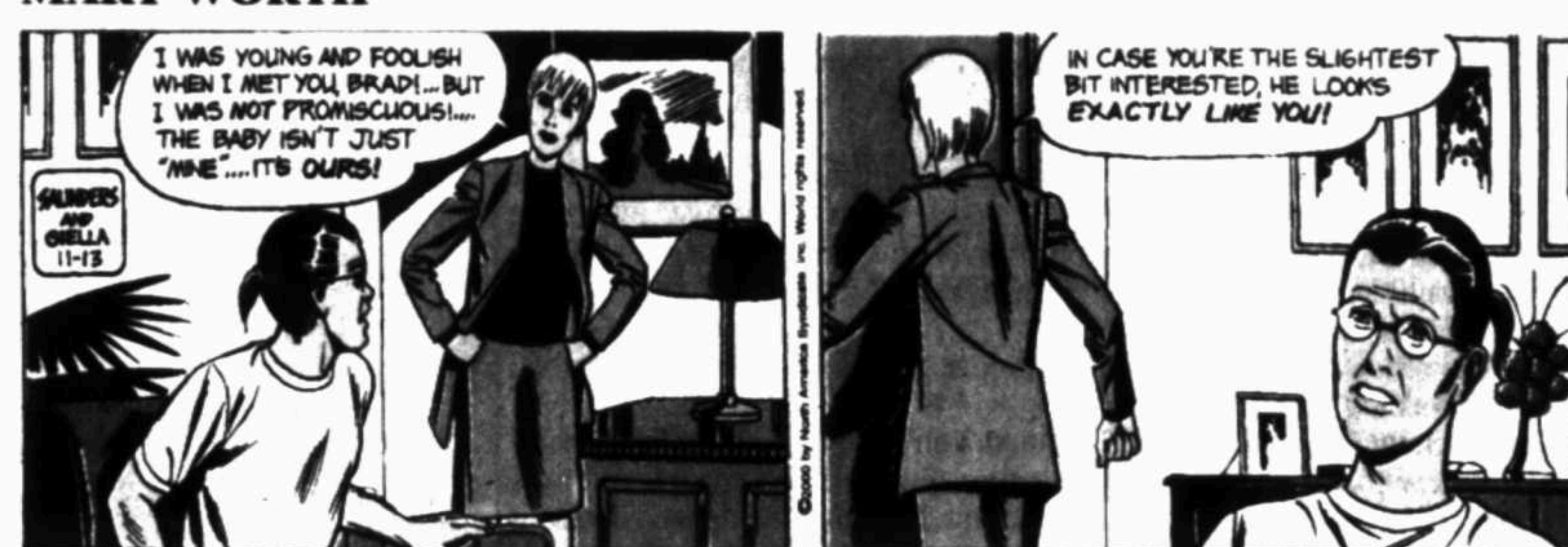
LUANN



BLONDIE



MARY WORTH



BEETLE BAILEY



ZITS



CLASSIC PEANUTS



BABY BLUES



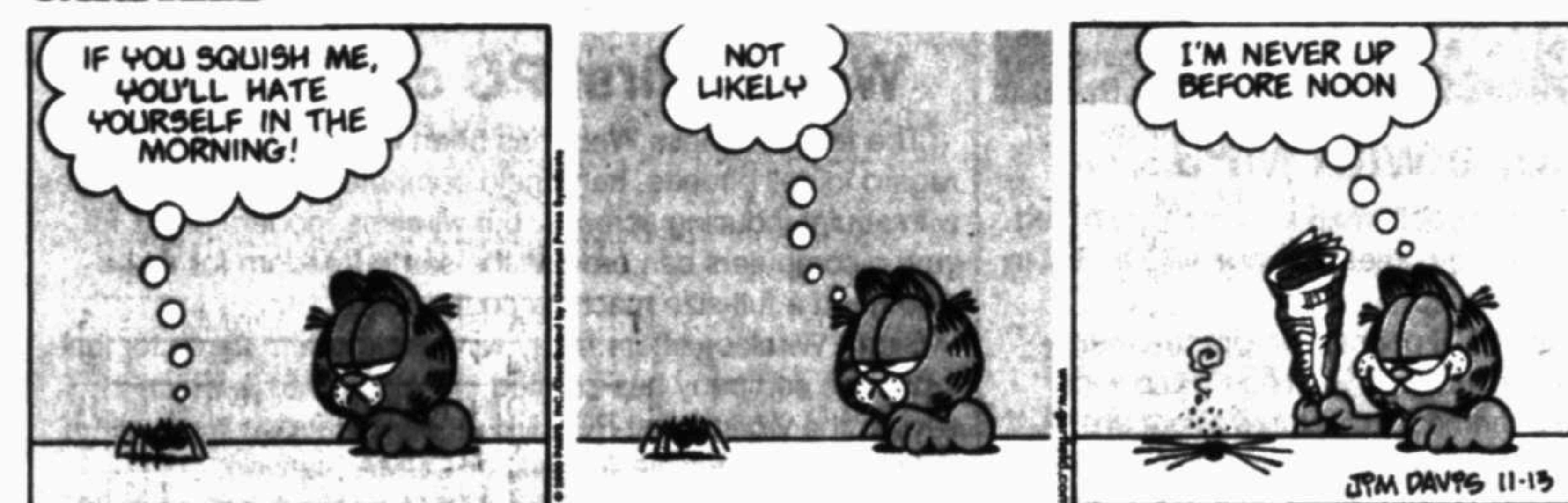
JEFF MACNELLY'S SHOE



MUTTS



GARFIELD



CLOSE TO HOME



DENNIS THE MENACE



CATHY



WIZARD OF ID



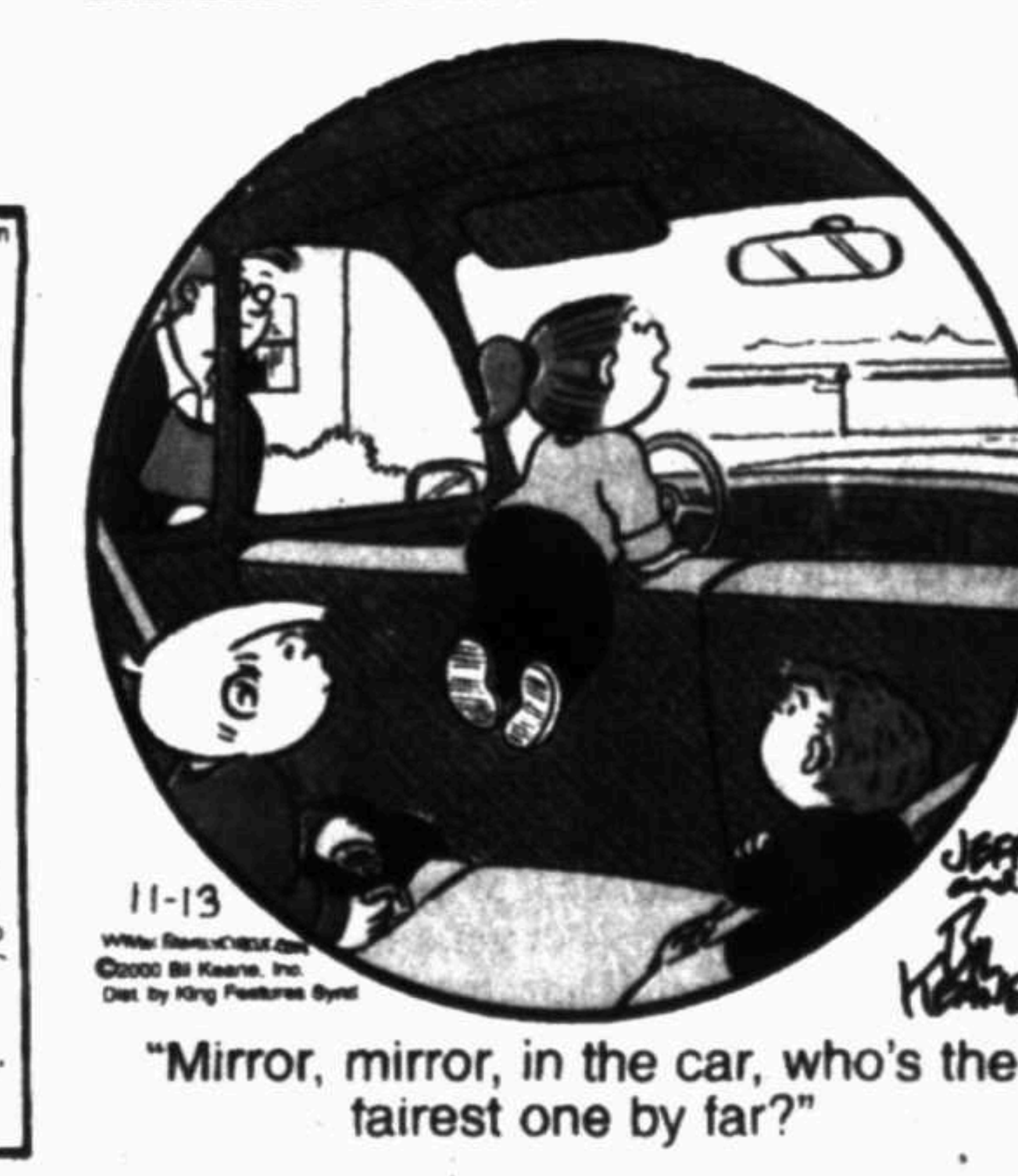
DILBERT



LOCKHORNS



FAMILY CIRCUS



WEBZONE

Buying online? Your tax is due

By Matt Josefy
MRT Correspondent

Even with the advent of the Internet, there are still two things that are certain in life. Web cams have yet to wield evidence of the Internet subduing death, and though the Internet has created a few kinks, taxes from online shoppers are still flowing regularly into state pocketbooks.

As e-commerce continues to decimate old ways of doing businesses, a number of taxing entities are eyeing the nest egg of retail sales that seems to be slipping from their grasp. U.S. consumers and businesses alike seem to have found a loophole around the sales taxes enforced in all but three states: the catalog statute.

"One of the biggest advantages for me, one of the reasons buy online at all, is that there is no tax," said Texas A&M graduate student Gia Chevis. "It's just flat out cheaper to buy stuff online."

In order to protect state rights, national law states that if a customer orders products from a company in another state, the supplier could not be required to collect state sales taxes, unless the company has a nexus, or position, in the state. But as producers and marketers await further legislation, what most consumers do not realize is their individual burden to report sales tax.

"Technically you are not going to get out of the tax. When you have purchased something that is clearly taxable for your own use, even over the Internet, it is your responsibility to accrue the tax," said Kay Karr, a senior manager at Ernst and Young, who deals frequently with the open use tax.

The office of Carole Keeton Rylander, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, backs her revelation.

"Technically, the tax is due," said Al Van Allen, tax specialist of nearly 30 years. "But it is absolutely unenforceable unless the people of Texas want to make us into a police force. There are some people who do remit the tax, but the average Texan doesn't."

"Don't look for the state to start auditing all of the homeowners," Ms. Karr said. "The law of the land says you should go down and file a use tax, but it would be too costly for the state of Texas to go after each one of us as citizens."

"Some things are just not do-able, and one of them is going to every Texan and saying 'Give us that \$2.12,'" Van Allen admits.

While it would seem that a sacred cash cow is running free, Van Allen ensures "The sky isn't actually falling at the moment."

Though billions of dollars of transactions are done online, the figure representing lost taxes is several degrees smaller. A recent examination, the Report of the Texas Internet Tax Policy Working Group (January 1999), is the root of his synopsis: "Because most electronic commerce is business-to-business, the substantial majority of Internet transactions will be audited and policed in the ordinary course of use tax audits under existing law."

"When a business makes purchases, they may not pay sales tax. But upon audit, for any assets that are taxable, they are going to have to have paid the correct Texas use tax on the return," Ms. Karr explained.

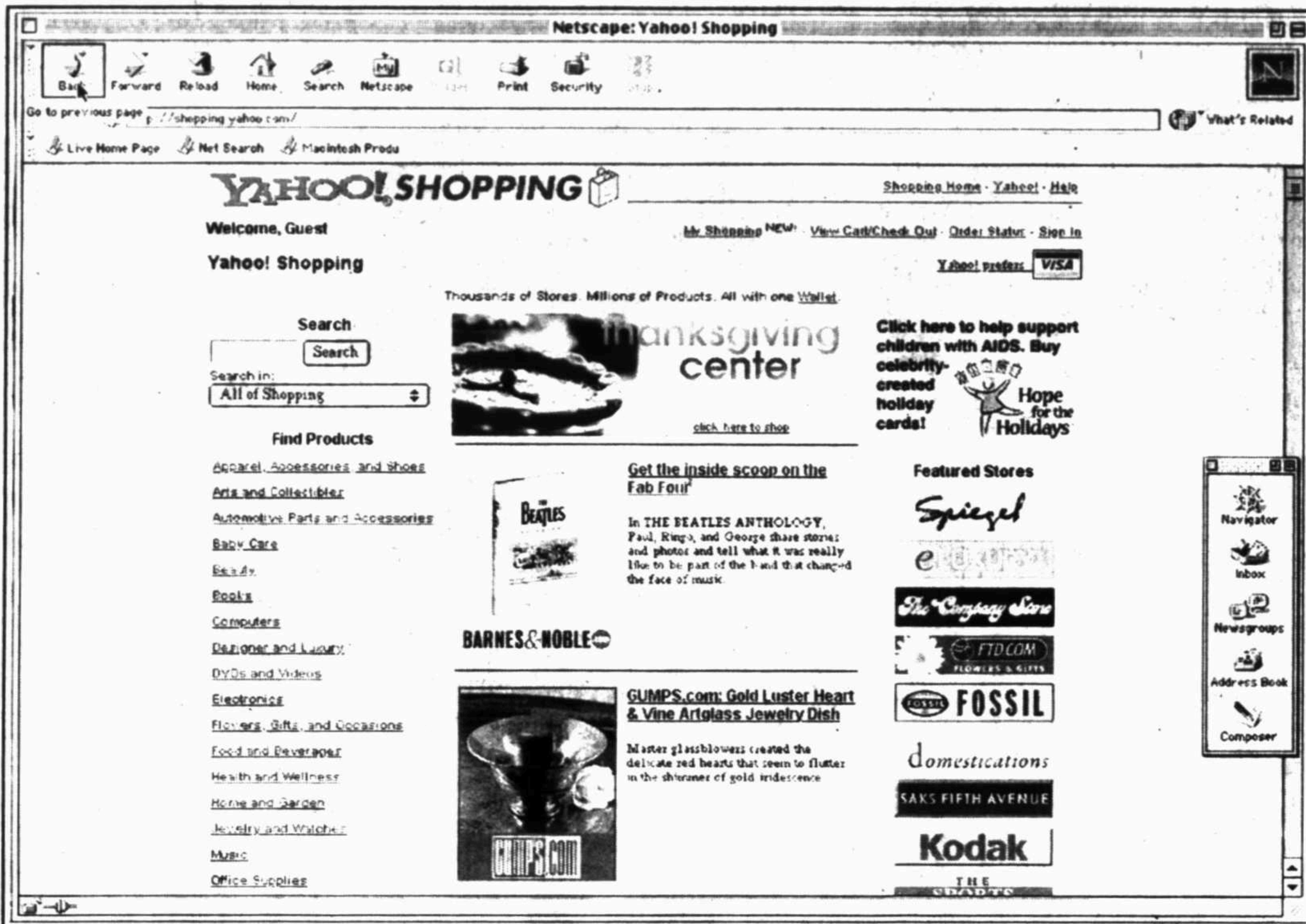
"From the numbers that I've seen at this point in time, I don't think we're seeing a significant drop (in revenue). I don't know if we will in the future, but the bottom line is this: we all need fire trucks and somehow they're going to get paid for. If it's not sales tax, it'll be another tax," Ms. Karr said.

With that perspective, and the continuing growth of sales tax rebates to Texas communities, why is a possible Internet sales tax even an issue?

"To me the big problem is that businesses have to lose sales because consumers perceive them to be more expensive," Ms. Karr said. "If you go to buy the same exact item from one vendor and see that you they don't have to pay that 8.25 percent, then Vendor B is at a competitive disadvantage."

Van Allen agreed, "I guess a real question is finding a way for the Texas retailers, mom and pop's who sweated and worked their tails off to create a business and feed their families, not to be at a competitive disadvantage."

"I'm a big fan of this whole technological boom, but the other side is we have to be equitable," said Claire Nixon, assistant dean of the Lowry Mays School of Business at Texas A&M University. "If you're living in College Station you should pay taxes on what you buy online, the same as if you go down to the store."



"The reason they put the use tax in the language to begin with, was so that phone solicitors and mail orders didn't have advantage over the brick and mortar guys," Van Allen said, dismissing the notion that this is a new problem. "Before the Internet was a twinkle in anybody's eye, people were buying stuff from phone solicitors."

So while the surface issue is one of taxation, the focus of future action and legislation may be that of ensuring an equitable and efficient market place.

"It is very expensive for businesses to comply with sales tax collection duties. If a company is out of state and selling remotely throughout Texas, they could file a thousand tax returns," she said. "Even as a sales tax professional, I have difficulty keeping up with the local rates."

Simplicity may be the key to effective legislation, especially in this case.

"What are we going to do to help these businesses out with their compliance?" Ms. Karr asks.

"You probably put the responsibility on the supplier. Regardless of what you purchase, whether it's a book or an image, there will be a tax on that," Nixon said. The problem lies in differing taxation laws. "Different states have different rules. Some tax services, some don't."

Nixon and Ms. Karr both suggest the possibility of requiring businesses to collect tax, but giving the state the responsibility of allocating the funds to remove the burden of complying with differing city, county, school, hospital, or dozens of other local taxes.

Sen. Byron Dorgan is currently sponsoring Senate bill S2775, which would "develop a uniform streamlined sales and use tax system that addresses remote sales" across a number of states.

As the Advisory Commission on Electronic Commerce prepares a recommendation for Congress, businesses are left vying for position within the bounds of the law.

"Part of the strategy that you use is to work within the bounds of the

law, but you should take advantage of the opportunities that exist until they shut those down," Nixon said.

Europe, more so than the United States, is finding companies locating based on the ability to avoid taxes.

"We always make fun of tax research studies," said Ms. Chevis. "What they find is businesses avoid taxes. I don't think it's ethical to be fraudulent about it, but if that's the way the law is written, it's perfectly ethical."

"I think you're going to see some big litigation, a lot of audits and hoopla over dot coms that have retail outlets doing exchanges and refunds. To me, they have created a nexus. I think a lot of this is going to be resolved through court cases rather than legislation," said Ms. Karr.

Ultimately, though, a reluctant Congress will be forced to address the issue that currently resides primarily in the courts.

"They obviously some kinks to work out on this deal, but I think within the next three years there will have to be some major legislation," Nixon said. "It'll be interesting to see how big this thing gets."

"I don't think it's terribly feasible to do try to tax Internet sales," Ms. Chevis said. "Starting to tax the Internet is akin to a whole new untaxed frontier."

Nixon disagrees, "It should be very easy to do from the standpoint that a small program can assess the tax."

If a solution is not quickly formulated, local taxing entities may be faced with a catch-22 situation of raising rates to generate revenue, in the process further pushing sales towards the Internet or to other cities.

Other substantial decisions may lie nested in the future of Internet taxation, including the taxation of software sold over the Internet.

"One of the biggest sellers online is software. You can download it and get it immediately," Van Allen said. "A lot of people may not realize this, but when you license software, you have a physical presence in that state."

WHAT'S

Like being on hold FM radio for USB

As computer makers keep adding more ports to personal computers, other manufacturers keep dreaming up more gizmos to plug into those ports. Now comes the D-Link DSB-R100 USB FM Radio, and yes, it is exactly what its name suggests: an FM radio that plugs into a computer's USB port.

Don't confuse it with Internet radio. This device has more in common with an old-fashioned transistor radio than a hand-held computer, so it can't pick up stations outside its listening area.

Right out of the box, this \$39 device, which looks like an old iMac mouse stabbed with a radio antenna, is almost ready to go. The D-Link radio has an integrated cord with a regular stereo plug that goes into the in-line port on the computer's sound card; the other plug goes into a USB port. An included CD-ROM packs the necessary driver software and installation program for an easy setup. No batteries or external power sources are required.

Within five minutes, the device can be piping surprisingly clear FM radio signals through a computer's sound system. The radio is controlled by an on-screen display that is easy to follow but is oddly dated in its flat graphic design. A mouse click can lock in up to 200 presets for favorite stations. The software also has sleep and wake functions so the radio will turn itself on and off at specified times, letting your PC double as a very expensive alarm clock-radio.

Perhaps most interesting is that the radio has a built-in WAV recorder that can record anything the radio plays and then compress the recording into much smaller MP3 files to

be saved or shared.

Big clock-radio Cell phone with MP3

Just when it seems as if the youth market is growing bored with plain old cell phones, along comes a phone with a built-in MP3 player.

It's a Web-enabled Sprint PCS phone, the Uproar, manufactured by Samsung and priced at \$399. The MP3 player has 64 megabytes of flash memory and stores about an hour's worth of music. Uproar users can download music into the phone from a PC and will eventually be able to stream music from the Sprint PCS My Music site (www.sprintpcs.com/mymusic) to the phone. The service is free for the first year if you sign by Jan. 14. Sprint has not yet set a price for the service.

The phone is aimed at consumers as young as 13, but not much older than 24. "It's going to be the hot Christmas present," said Mark Tucker, chief executive of HitHive, the company supplying the My Music service.

That is one expensive stocking stuffer. But Tucker defended the price, pointing out that the latest high-end MP3 players sold for as much as \$250. "So for just over \$100 more you can have a phone as well," he said.

The Uproar phone is already being sold at Sprint PCS retail stores and will be available through other distributors in the coming weeks.

Laptops spread wings World's first PC card modem

The term "wireless Web" has been used often lately in regard to cell phones, hand-held computers and other devices with squint-inducing screens, but wireless modem cards for laptop computers can provide the same freedom for those who need a full-size machine on the road.

Sierra Wireless offers many wireless modem cards for laptops. The company has created the AirCard 510, which it says is the world's first PC card modem that can work with a Code Division Multiple Access, or CDMA, network.

AirCard 510 operates on the CDMA network belonging to Sprint PCS, which offers nationwide access. Earlier AirCard versions had nationwide access, but they worked on CDPD and analog wireless networks.

The card will be available next month and can be purchased at www.sprintpcs.com for \$399. SprintPCS will also have a service plan for monthly service charges.

Sprint customers who already pay for a minutes-per-month plan for a wireless phone can add the Sprint PCS Wireless Web services for about \$10 per month. Customers signing a one-year contract with Sprint can get the Wireless Web functions for free.

AirCard 510, which fits into the Type II slot on a laptop running Windows 95, 98, 2000 or NT, can connect the user directly to the Internet for e-mail, Web browsing and other online functions.

Q&A

Installing a scanner with Windows 98 is a fairly painless procedure

By J.D. Biersdorfer

Q. How difficult would it be for a mere novice to add a photo scanner to a Windows 98 computer?

A. All things considered, it is probably not as hard to add a scanner to a Windows 98 system as it is with earlier versions of Windows. Windows 98 can even detect and install the needed driver software for several scanner models, including ones made by UMAX, Hewlett-Packard and Logitech. That is not to say that only scanners by these manufacturers will work with Windows 98; it just means that you may have to do a manual installation for the drivers from the floppy disks or CD-ROM that come with a new scanner.

After you have followed the manufacturer's instructions for attaching the scanner to your computer, restart it and see if Windows detects the new hardware. If you do not get a message saying that Windows has found new hardware, go to the Start menu, then to Settings and Control Panel, and double-click on Add New Hardware. Follow the

instructions of the New Hardware Wizard as it takes you through the process.

After you are finished with the wizard, you will probably need to install additional software for the scanner itself, following the manufacturer's instructions. Once you have completed the installation process described in your scanner's instructions, you may want to test the new hardware. Go back to the Start menu, then Settings and Control Panel, and double-click on the Scanners and Cameras icon. Pick the name of your new scanner from the list and click on Properties. Click on Test Scanner or Camera, and Windows will check whether your scanner is hooked up and working properly. If you encounter difficulties, you may want to take advantage of the scanner's technical support contact information.

Q. I've heard of something that is referred to as WAP, and believe that it is related to the wireless world, but I'm not really sure. Can you explain?

A. WAP stands for Wireless Application Protocol, and it is indeed related to the world of wireless

devices. Just as there are standards for regulating how data is sent around the Internet, WAP sets a standard for how data is sent between wireless devices like handheld computers, Web-enabled cell phones and pagers.

Since the monochrome screens on these types of mobile devices are quite small and are not generally navigated with a mouse or full-size keyboard, the pages displayed on them are created differently. The WAP system uses something called Wireless Markup Language — a sort of optimized version of the Hypertext Markup Language, or HTML, used for regular Web pages — to display the content on the wireless units. For more details on WAP, visit www.wap.com or www.wapforum.org.

Q. I am thinking about adding more RAM to my computer, and I would like to know how I can find out how much it can take. Where can I look for that information?

A. The manual that came with your computer, if you still have it, is one of the best places to find out how much and what kind of RAM you can add to

your system. If you no longer have the manual, you might try looking up your model on the manufacturer's Web site.

There are many kinds of RAM, and some computers need to have the chips installed in a specific manner or quantity. An excellent place to look for information is on the Web sites of the memory makers, like Kingston Technology (www.kingston.com) and Viking Components (www.vikingcomponents.com). Both sites have interactive configuration worksheets that will let you select your computer maker and model, then will tell you how much RAM your system can hold and what kind to buy. You can usually buy RAM right there on the site.

Circuits invites questions about computer-based technology, by e-mail to QandA@nytimes.com or mail to Questions, Circuits, The New York Times, 229 W. 43rd St., New York, NY 10036-3959. This column will answer questions of general interest, but letters cannot be answered individually.

Bryant scores 37 to defeat Rockets

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Kobe Bryant scored a season-high 37 points and lifted the Los Angeles Lakers out of a mini-slump with a 105-99 victory over the Houston Rockets on Sunday night.

The Lakers had lost two straight, including an 84-74 defeat at Houston on Tuesday in which they tied a franchise low in points scored. Their offense recovered this time behind Bryant, who dominated the third quarter when Shaquille O'Neal was scoreless in nine minutes.

Los Angeles led most of the way, but saw a 16-point lead shrink to three points early in the fourth quarter. O'Neal came off the bench with 7 1/2 minutes remaining to score three quick points before fouling out with 4:34 remaining. He finished with 14 points and five rebounds.

Reserve Moochie Norris led the Rockets with 15 points. Houston's bench produced 52 points on a night when the starters struggled.

Hakeem Olajuwon had 13 points and seven rebounds, leaving him two boards short of 13,000 for his 16-year NBA career.

Bryant, whose 30-point performance came one game after a 32-point effort in a loss at San Antonio on Wednesday, contributed to a 14-8 spurt at the start of the third quarter that put the Lakers ahead by 16.

Even with O'Neal quiet in the third, Los Angeles built a 10-point lead going into the fourth quarter. With O'Neal on the bench, the Rockets cut their deficit to 84-81 by scoring nine of the first 11 points of the fourth.

Houston got within three on a basket by Kenny Thomas with 8:56 remaining.

A 3-pointer by Robert Horry kept the Lakers ahead 89-81. A three-point play by Isaiah Rider gave the Lakers their first double-digit lead of the quarter with 4:55 left. The Rockets never got closer than four in the final 3:27.

Kings 109, Mavericks 84
SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Peja Stojakovic scored 28 points and Chris Webber added 23

points and 13 rebounds Sunday night as the Sacramento Kings defeated the Dallas Mavericks 109-84.

It was the fourth straight victory for the Kings, who have defeated Dallas seven consecutive times at Arco Arena. Sacramento, which plays six of its next seven games at Arco, is 3-0 at home this season.

Webber had a strong game despite missing the entire fourth quarter. He sprained his left ankle in the final seconds of the third period.

Stojakovic connected on four 3-pointers and made 10-of-18 shots for the Kings, who never trailed after scoring 11 straight points early in the first quarter.

Dirk Nowitzki scored 16 points for Dallas, which played the first of six straight road games over a nine-day stretch. Michael Finley and Christian Laettner both finished 12 points.

Lawrence Funderburke scored 14 points, Doug Christie added 13, and Jason Williams finished with 12 points and seven assists.

LEE: Lady Rebels make do without Ross

(From 1C)

and Shandi Neatherlin, both of whom arrived late last season from the volleyball team, decided to forego volleyball and headed straight for the basketball court this season.

"Those two young ladies are the leaders of this team," said Kail of Bryson and Neatherlin. "They've been out here pushing everybody since the first week of school."

Even with that, though, the return of one of the players has hardly been painless. Bryson ended last season on a rough note, tearing her ACL in the bi-district playoff loss to Amarillo High in February, and she wasn't cleared medically to return to action until after school started.

A return to full strength from Bryson would do nothing to bolster the Lady Rebels. Last season Bryson, a 5-foot-7 guard, was the team's second leading scorer with 9.7 points a game and was a first team all-district selection.

"Shamara can handle anything I can throw at her," said Kail. "As far as scoring, she might not have to do so much. She was our fourth leading rebounder and I'm more concerned about taking her out of our rebounding rotation."

A lot of the rebounding should be done by Neatherlin, a 5-9 post. Despite averaging only 3.5 points a game, Neatherlin established herself as a force on the boards.

Kail thinks that Neatherlin's aggressiveness up front might have to set the tone for her team's potentially strong inside play. Bryson is the only returning player from last year who hit a varsity 3-point shot, and she only made eight.

"It could take us awhile to get our offense unbalanced," said Kail. "We don't have a lot of 3-point shooters right now but we have some who are going to emerge. We've got to have people who can find their spots."

With so much unproven talent, Kail isn't going to declare for sure who her starters will be other than Bryson and Neatherlin. The Lady Rebels may have their most intriguing look up front, where they figure to have more size than in recent years.

Junior LaRhonda McKee, a 5-10 post, should see a lot of action up front, while the most size will come from 6-1 freshman Gregnesha Webster, only the second freshman to ever play for the Lee varsity. Webster's development in particular will be monitored closely.

"She's getting thrown into the fire," said Kail of Webster. "She's big-bodied and that's exactly what we need right now."

"They've got to adjust and learn the game. It's a gamble." The lone sophomore on Lee's roster starting this season will be 5-7 wing Lauren Hinsley, who Kail says is a potentially outstanding outside shooter, but needs to improve her defense.

Another new player who should make an immediate impact is 5-7 senior forward Nicole Ramon, a move-in from McCamey where she was a three-year letterwinner. The Lady Rebels will also carry three other seniors, although they have no varsity experience in wings Misty Chapman, Heather Hendricks and Kim Strambler.

Two juniors, Wykia Wallace and Ashley Riggs, should also see time at the wing and post spots. "The five who are playing the best are going to be in the rotation," said Kail. "It's going to be who has the most intensity on defense."

One name which would seem like a natural to be on the floor for the Lady Rebels this season is Adrienne Ross, who as the first freshman letterwinner in Lee girls basketball history, redefined what a first-year player should be able to do. Ross averaged 18.5 points a game to lead the Lady Rebels, and was named the 4-5A newcomer of the year.

In the 83-50 bi-district loss to Amarillo High, Ross carried the Rebels with an astonishing 40 points. Having Ross back would be an obvious plus, but she moved back to Hobbs, N.M., after one year in Midland, taking a lot of talent with her.

"It's not really anything we discuss anymore," said Kail of not having Ross this season. "We talked about it in the summer. She's not here anymore and

Lady Rebels

Roster

Name	Ht.	Cl.
Shamara Bryson	5-7	Sr.
Shandi Neatherlin	5-9	Sr.
Nicole Ramon	5-7	Sr.
Gregnesha Webster	6-1	Fr.
Heather Hendricks	5-4	Sr.
Misty Chapman	5-3	Sr.
Kim Strambler	5-3	Sr.
Wykia Wallace	5-8	Jr.
LaRhonda McKee	5-9	Jr.
Lauren Hinsley	5-7	Soph.
Ashley Riggs	5-7	Jr.

Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Nov. 14	at Snyder	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 16-18	x-Crossroads Tourney	TBA
Nov. 21	at Lubbock Monterey	6 p.m.
Nov. 23-25	y-Northeast ISD Tournament	TBA
Dec. 1	Lubbock Coronado	6:30 p.m.
Dec. 2	Midland Christian	5 p.m.
Dec. 5	at Frenship	6:30 p.m.
Dec. 8	Levelland	6 p.m.
Dec. 12	*Odessa Permian	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 15	*at Abilene Cooper	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 21	*Midland High	6 p.m.
Dec. 28-29	Abilene Tournament	TBA
Jan. 2	*at Odessa High	6 p.m.
Jan. 5	*San Angelo Central	6 p.m.
Jan. 9	*at Abilene High	6 p.m.
Jan. 16	*at Odessa Permian	6 p.m.
Jan. 19	*Abilene Cooper	6 p.m.
Jan. 23	*Midland High	6 p.m.
Jan. 26	*Odessa High	6 p.m.
Jan. 30	*at San Angelo Central	6 p.m.
Feb. 2	*Abilene High	6 p.m.

All home games are played at Chaparral Center

x-at Big Spring

y-at San Antonio

*denotes District 4-5A games

there's nothing we can do about it."

The return of Ross might have made the Lady Rebels a favorite in 4-5A, but Kail thinks that Abilene High and Midland High look like obvious frontrunners. Abilene Cooper should contend for the third playoff spot, while Kail thinks her team can eventually challenge.

It might appear that the Lady Rebels have to lower their expectations a bit from the past couple

of seasons, but if they don't match last season's playoff success, Kail doesn't think it will be for lack of trying.

"They think they have a shot right now," Kail said of her players. "That's the biggest hurdle a coach can overcome because if the kids believe that the possibilities are open."

"In the preseason they're going to have to be patient. At the same time, we can't be so patient that we can't push them."

MHS: Lady Dawgs have seven returning

(From 1C)

a game which earned her all-district honors.

Mathematically, Rogers and Koch can bring the Lady Dawgs about 30 points a game, giving them perhaps the best returning 1-2 punch in the district.

"We have two go-to players and that's unusual," said Gray.

Midland High might have more than two. While Wootan's name might not be immediately familiar to Lady Dawg followers, it should be soon. Wootan is a 6-1 senior transfer from Borden County who will play the post and take the pressure off Rogers and Koch to grab rebounds.

"We've just got ability to attack from a lot of different angles offensively," said Gray. "(Wootan) will allow Edrea and Laura to not have to defend the other team's post player."

The Lady Dawgs should have the ability to get the ball to their trio up front thanks to returning junior point guard LaQuori Harris, a second team all-district selection last season.

At the other guard spot, there will likely be competition between two seniors. Page Price, who averaged 5.3 points a game last year as a 5-7 starting forward, has been moved to the backcourt. The other contender to start there is Jenny Jones, who could be the team's wild card.

In the first 14 games of last season, Jones was the team's second leading scorer with 10.8 points a game and led the team with 19.3 pointers. However, Jones didn't play in the final 15 games since

she was one of the four players who were suspended for disciplinary violations. Jones is the only one of the four returning this season, and her presence serves the rest of the Lady Dawgs as a reminder and an example.

"We've spent a lot of time talking about staying focused on individual and team goals for every one on the basketball team," said Gray. "We're in great shape right now because a lot of these kids were forced into action."

Among those forced into action are three returning underclassmen. Junior Tracie Jones, a 5-9 post, might be the most improved player on the team according to Gray. Also back are a pair of 5-7 sophomores, Lauren Lucas and Amy Schantz.

MHS will carry three freshmen including 5-9 Tovah Olmos and 5-8 Jessica Harkins, both posts, and 5-7 guard Lindsey Moore.

With so much returning talent, the Lady Dawgs look like a logical choice to make the playoffs, but there's not a lot of time to get ready for 4-5A. Midland High will play 10 games in the next 12 days to prepare for the district opener Dec. 12.

"We're not worried about November as much as December and January, but if we can hit Dec. 1 healthy we can make our run," said Gray.

Lady Bulldogs

Roster

Name	Ht.	Cl.
Jessica Harkins	5-8	Fr.
Page Price	5-7	Sr.
LaQuori Harris	5-3	Jr.
Jenny Jones	5-5	Sr.
Lindsey Moore	5-7	Fr.
Laura Koch	5-9	Sr.
Edrea Rogers	5-9	Sr.
Lauren Lucas	5-7	Soph.
Amy Schantz	5-7	Soph.
Tracie Jones	5-9	Jr.
Tovah Olmos	5-9	Fr.
Valerie Wootan	6-1	Sr.

Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Nov. 14	Lubbock Monterey	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 16-18	Crossroads Tourney (Big Spring)	TBA
Nov. 20	Fort Stockton	6 p.m.
Nov. 22-25	Lovelady Thanksgiving Classic	TBA
Dec. 1	Midland Christian	5 p.m.
Dec. 2	Andrews	6:30 p.m.
Dec. 7	at Las Vegas Foot Hills	6:30 p.m.
Dec. 8	at Las Vegas Basic High	7 p.m.
Dec. 12	*at Odessa High	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 15	*Abilene High	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 21	*Midland Lee	6 p.m.
Dec. 28-30	Byron Johnston Tournament	TBA
Jan. 2	*Odessa Permian	6 p.m.
Jan. 6	at Midland Christian	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 9	*Abilene Cooper	6 p.m.
Jan. 12	*at San Angelo Central	6 p.m.
Jan. 16	*Odessa High	6 p.m.
Jan. 19	*at Abilene High	6 p.m.
Jan. 23	*Midland Lee	6 p.m.
Jan. 26	*at Odessa Permian	6 p.m.
Feb. 2	*at Abilene Cooper	6 p.m.
Feb. 6	*San Angelo Central	6 p.m.

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- 115 Announcements
- 130 Personal
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- 100 Lost and Found
- 100 Lottery Info
- 100 Loans Wanted
- 102 Moving Wanted
- 103 Money To Loan
- 105 Invest. Opps.
- 170 Schools/Instruct.

TRANSPORTATION 200

- 200 Auto/Domestic
- 205 Classic Cars
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- 215 Sport/Utility Vehicle
- 220 Trucks & Vans
- 230 Commercial Vehicles
- 235 Vehicles Under \$3,000
- 240 Motorcycles
- 245 Trailers
- 250 Rec. Vehicles
- 260 Boats & Motors
- 270 Airplanes
- 280 Auto Services
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EMPLOYMENT 300

- 305 Job Services
- 310 General Help
- 311 Medical Help
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- 314 Clerical Help
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- 319 Oil Industry Help
- 320 Skilled Trade
- 330 Employment Wanted
- 335 Adult Care Needed
- 340 Child Care Needed
- 341 Child Care Prov.
- 350 Bus. Opps.
- 400 Auctions

MERCHANDISE 400

- 402 Garage Sale Svcs.
- 404 Garage Sales (78708)
- 405 Garage Sales (78701)
- 406 Garage Sales (78703)
- 407 Garage Sales (78705)
- 408 Garage Sales (78707)
- 409 Area Sales
- 410 Misc. Sales
- 413 Jewelry
- 415 Misc. Wanted
- 420 Things to Eat
- 425 Trade Group
- 430 Household Goods
- 432 Household Furniture
- 435 Household Appliances
- 440 Firewood

NOTICES 100

- 450 Sporting Goods
- 455 Antiques & Art
- 470 Musical Instr.
- 475 Crafts & Supplies
- 480 Camera & Supplies
- 485 Electronics
- 490 Computers/Access.
- 495 FOR FREE

MERCHANDISE 500

- 500 Pets & Supplies
- 505 Livestock/Poultry
- 510 Office Supplies
- 520 Stereo/Cable Equip.
- 525 Misc./Staple Equip.
- 530 A/C - Heating
- 540 Misc. Materials
- 550 Portable Equip.
- 555 Machinery/Tools
- 570 Medical Supplies
- 590 Farm Equipment

RENTALS 600

- 600 Rooms For Rent
- 601 Hotel Res. - Rent
- 603 Roommate Wanted
- 604 Wanted to Rent
- 605 Apts. Furnished
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- 620 Houses Furnished
- 625 Houses Unfurnished
- 630 Houses Furn./Unfur.
- 635 Condos/ Townhouses Furn.
- 640 Condos/ Townhouses Unfur.
- 650 Mobile Homes Furn.
- 655 Mobile Homes Unfur.
- 660 Mobile Home Lots
- 665 Bus. Prop./Offices
- 670 Warehouse/Storage
- 675 Rec./Resort
- 680 Out of Town
- 685 Hunting Leases
- 690 Oil/Gas Leases

REAL ESTATE 700

- 700 Mfrg. Homes
- 701 Real Estate
- 710 Open Houses
- 720 Homes For Sale
- 725 Condo/Township
- 730 Suburban Prop.
- 735 R.E. Wanted
- 740 Out of Town Prop.
- 750 Lots & Acreage
- 760 Farms/Ranches
- 770 Resort Property
- 780 Business Property
- 785 Warehouse/Star.
- 790 Investment Prop.

WHO'S WHO 800

- 800 Who's Who

90 Legal Notices

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR KING COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION) NO. 00-5-02812-2SEA

OF)

UNBORN INFANT HULME.) SUMMONS AND NOTICE BY

a person under the) PUBLICATIONS OF PETITION:

age of eighteen) HEARING RE RELINQUISHMENT

) OF CHILD TERMINATIONS OF

) PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP

TO JOHN JOHN DOE (UNKNOWN) AND TO ANY OTHER INTERESTED PARTY

You are hereby summoned to appear within thirty days after the date of first publication of this summons, to-wit: within thirty days after the 30th day of October, 2000 and defend the above-entitled action in the above-entitled court and answer the petition of the Petitioner, BETHANY CHRISTIAN SERVICES and serve a copy of your answer upon the undersigned attorneys for Petitioner, BETHANY CHRISTIAN SERVICES, at the office below stated, if you fail to do so, judgment may be rendered against you according to the request of the petition which has been filed with the Clerk of said Court.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that there has been filed in this court a petition praying that the parent-child relationship between parents of the above-named child and the above-named child be terminated. The object of the action is to seek an order relinquishing the child to the Petitioner for adoption and to terminate the parent-child relationship.

The child was conceived in February, 2000 in Midland, Texas and is expected to be born on November 11, 2000. The child's natural mother is ANDREA HULME.

The court hearing on this matter shall be on the 4th day of December, 2000 at 9:00 a.m. in the King County Superior Court address: King County Courthouse, Ex. Parte Department, Court Room W-325, 516 Third Avenue, Seattle Washington 98104. YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR AT THIS HEARING MAY RESULT IN A DEFAULT ORDER PERMANENTLY TERMINATING ALL OF YOUR RIGHTS TO THE ABOVE NAMED CHILD.

You are further notified that any non-consenting parent or alleged father has the right to be represented by an attorney, and an attorney, and an attorney will be appointed for an indigent parent who requested an attorney.

You are further notified that your failure to file a claim of paternity within thirty days to the first publication of this notice or to respond to the petition within thirty days of the first publication of this notice is grounds to terminate your parent-child relationship with respect to the child.

One method of filing your response and serving a written copy on the Petitioner is to send them your written response by certified mail with return receipt requested.

WITNESS the Honorable Brian Gain, Judge, Court Commissioner of said Superior Court and the seal of said Court hereunto affixed this 24th day of October, 2000.

PAUL L. SHERFEY
King County Superior Court Clerk

By: Lu Ann Lew
Deputy Clerk

FILE RESPONSE WITH
Clerk of Court
King County Superior Court
King County Courthouse, W325
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

SERVE A COPY OF YOUR RESPONSE ON

Petitioner's Attorney
Albert G. Lirhus
Dubuar, Lirhus & Engel LLP
720 Olive Way, Ste 625
Seattle, WA 98101

100 Notices

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- 95 Public Notices
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- 162 Mortgages Wanted
- 163 Money To Loan
- 165 Investment Opport
- 170 Schools/Instruct.

110 Lodge Notices

- Centennial Lodge #1448
1600 W. Wall
Reg. meetings, 1st & 3rd
Sat. 8:30 am
Breakfast 7:30 am
Wendy Reddin, W/M
Bob Ellwood, Sec.

110 Lodge Notices

- Acacia Masonic Lodge #1414
1000 Upland
Stated Communication
2nd & 4th Tuesdays at
7:30 P.M.
Keith Hughes, W.M.
Al Talbot, Sec.

Midland Masonic Lodge #623

- 1600 W. Wall
Reg. stated meetings 2nd
& 4th
Thurs 7:30 pm
Paul M. Thompson, W/M
Robert G. Kiker, Sec.

Midland Shrine Club

- 2019 Trade
Dr. 689-7003
Reg. Meeting
3rd Thurs.
Hosp. 6:30 pm dine 7
pm. Bus meeting 8 pm
Copper Daugherty, Pres
Gary Anderson, Sec'y

\$0 DOWN NO PAYMENTS 'til February 2001

ON ALL NEW & PRE-OWNED VEHICLES IN STOCK!

\$500 FREE GAS on 2000 & 2001 Sable, Villager & Mountaineer
To be awarded in the form of a Diamond-Shamrock credit card

2000 MOUNTAINEER **2000 SABLE**

\$1500 & 0.9% APR **\$1000 & 0.9% APR**

2000 DODGE INTREPID



\$2000 REBATE OR 0.0% APR

2001 DODGE RAM 1500



\$2000 REBATE OR 0.9% APR

Past Credit A Problem?
Call Our Car Credit Hotline

1-800-522-7320
915-522-1131

If you don't check with Village before you buy, you're probably paying too much!

2000 DODGE DURANGO



\$2000 REBATE OR 0.9% APR

2000 HYUNDAI ACCENT



\$0 DOWN \$199 MO

PRE-OWNED AND PROGRAM CARS

98 Dodge 1500 X-Cab Sx #4000A Lots of Options, Low Miles \$19,999	99 Chrysler LHS Sx #1768 All the Bells & Whistles! \$23,999	'00 Lincoln Town Car Sx #1326 Like New, Hardly Driven! \$30,999	97 Mercury Cougar Sx #4028B Just Broken In! \$12,999	'00 Dodge Grand Caravan Sx #1922 Rear Air, Get Ready for Vacation Time! \$21,599	99 Dodge Durango Sx #1964 SLT, 4x4, Low Miles \$28,999
99 Chevy Monte Carlo Sx #1011 Time to Get Sporty! \$13,999	'00 Ford Expedition XLT Sx #1049 Save \$\$\$ Over New! \$27,999	99 Mercury Tracer Sx #1947 Great Economical Vehicle! \$10,999	'00 Dodge Intrepid Sx #1902 Sporty AND Affordable! \$17,999	'00 Ford Mustang GT Convertible Sx #1970 Come Drive This Bad Boy! \$26,999	'00 Ford Explorers Sx #1970 4x4s also available! \$24,999

VILLAGE SALES & LEASING
LINCOLN • MERCURY • DODGE • HYUNDAI

3801 West Wall
Midland, Texas
915-522-3115

SALESMAN OF THE MONTH
Armando Bonilla

VISIT US AT OUR WEBSITE: www.villagelincoln.com

105 Happy Ads	105 Happy Ads	105 Happy Ads	130 Personals	130 Personals	200 Autos Domestic
---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	--------------------

Forever 49!
Kathy Allen

Happy Birthday Sis

Love Pam

Personally Speaking
The Fun & Convenient Way to meet Midland Singles!

Look for it on Fri., Sat., Sun., & Wed. in The Midland Reporter-Telegram Classified.

Call 1-800-834-5294 to place your personal ad. Or 1-900-656-2300 to respond or browse.

\$2.19 Per minute. You must be at least 18 years of age or older to use this service.

1981 OLDSMOBILE CUTLASS SUPREME
Only 87K original miles! Custom wheels, tires, New AM/FM/Cassette. Runs great! Use, no oil! \$1,500 570-6743 for details & see!

LINCOLN TOWNCAR All power, leather, 85k clean. Must see! \$4,295. Call 687-3397 or 699-0788.

FORD 1992 Crown Victoria good condition, high mileage. \$3,750. 699-7624.

OLDSMOBILE 1996 LS luxury Sedan, white/grey leather. 32k miles. \$12,700. Call 684-4013.

PONTIAC 1994 Grand Prix Very good condition. \$4,500. Call 682-6084 for more information.

OLDSMOBILE 1995 Aurora. Leather, power everything, moon roof, CD changer. 82k. \$8,995. 699-0288.

BUICK 1988 LE SABRE 4 door, loaded, V6 engine. Looks new inside and out! Everything works. Excellent condition! \$3,500. 520-2535.

CHEVROLET 1997 CAMARO 30th Anniversary Edition, white with orange stripes. CD player, 350 automatic, low miles. \$17,000. 522-7284.

DODGE 1991 STEALTH white/tan leather, loaded, low miles. All maintenance records. Must see. \$6,950. 686-1857.

FORD THUNDERBIRD LX Ground effects, leather wrap seats, new tires, silver blue. V6 22mpg average. \$4,950. 689-2123 after 6pm.

FORD 1995 Mustang, red, adult owned, clean, excellent condition. \$6,750. 689-2555 or 560-7976 pager.

PONTIAC 1994 Grand Am, red, gray interior, 4 door, 116K, new motor, rebuilt transmission, great body, tinted windows. \$5,500. 570-1576.

PONTIAC 1997 FIREBIRD convertible. Loaded, automatic, keyless entry, CD, power windows, aluminum wheels, V6, 56k. \$13,500. O.B.O. Please call 522-1335.

PONTIAC 1997 SUNFIRE Four door, 73K, very clean, well maintained, excellent shape, navy with yellow wheels and stripes. \$8,225. Contact Les (days) 689-9838 (evenings) 563-5194.

110 Lodge Notices

Midland Chapter #253
Order of Eastern Star
1600 W. Wall
11:14-6 pm. Dinner: 7:30 pm. DGM Official Visit
PM Verla Carpenter
WP Tom Carpenter

150 Lost & Found

FOUND: Standard Dachshund male, red, black markings, and collar. 570-0749.

LOST: BLACK wire rim glasses with detachable sun glasses. Reward! 689-4491.

LCST NOVEMBER 3rd: Permian Court Area. Small white cat with gray markings. Crippled back leg, no collar. 16 years old, very timid. Always kept indoors. Please call 699-4542 or 688-0205 (work). Reward.

FREE: Lovable 9 year old male fawn Pug, needs good home. Call 682-6056.

IF your pet is lost-even if you live in the country, please check with MIDLAND ANIMAL CONTROL (on Fairgrounds Road) every three days.

FOUND: Tame bird, in the vicinity of Bonham Elementary. Call to identify. 699-0550.

LOST: PIT BULL female, white with black spots. Had chain collar with Colorado tags on. Reward! 689-3855.

115 Announcements

Email Your Classified Ad!
We now have an Email address created just for you...

150 Lost & Found

FOUND: Large Hound dog with blue collar, no tags. Sable and white, neutered. Slightly on inside of rear leg, blue collar, no tags. Child's pet. REWARD! 570-7222 to identify.

REWARD: LOST: Monday November 6th at Anson Jones Elementary. White with dark red, male, Walker Hound Dog. Stitches on inside of rear leg, blue collar, no tags. Contact B.J. at 689-6964.

SHELTIE: Looks like Lassie, CJ is his name! Sable and white, neutered. Lost in the 1600 block of Louisiana. Call 686-7943. Child's pet. REWARD!

FOUND: small female terrier mix, very cute. Please call 570-8797.

162 Mortgage Wanted
LOAN WANTED: secured by real estate. \$75,000. Interest rate 12 to 14% return. 915/638-3221.

CLASSIFIED CAN!

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LOAN WANTED: secured by real estate. \$75,000. Interest rate 12 to 14% return. 915/638-3221.

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130 Personals

Consolidate Your Bills! No Credit Check! Credit Cards! Unsecured Loans! Welcome. Serving West TX Since 1991. 620-0620.

163 Money To Loan

\$1,000/ \$50,000 Good and Bad Credit OK. 1-866-268-3411.

Attention Readers
Occasionally, ads found in this section come from distant points & the Midland Reporter-Telegram cannot always know the merits of the offers. We suggest when you are in doubt that you call the Better Business Bureau before signing any contract or giving out your credit card or bank information.

170 Schools/Institution
New Horizons Computer Learning Centers-World's Leading Computer Education Company. 1016-A Andrews Hwy. Near Westline. 522-2258.

SAXOPHONE LESSONS
beginning students. Call David (cell) 770-0954 or 694-0698.

Sell it in 10 or we'll run it again!
Classified 682-6222

Anything on wheels, 4 lines minimum. \$20.00
Call today for complete details.

200 Autos Domestic
ROGERS FORD Sales & Service 4200 W. Wall 694-8801.

130 Personals

Consolidate Your Bills! No Credit Check! Credit Cards! Unsecured Loans! Welcome. Serving West TX Since 1991. 620-0620.

163 Money To Loan

\$1,000/ \$50,000 Good and Bad Credit OK. 1-866-268-3411.

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200 Autos Domestic
ROGERS FORD Sales & Service 4200 W. Wall 694-8801.

200 Autos Domestic

1981 OLDSMOBILE CUTLASS SUPREME
Only 87K original miles! Custom wheels, tires, New AM/FM/Cassette. Runs great! Use, no oil! \$1,500 570-6743 for details & see!

200 Autos Domestic

LINCOLN TOWNCAR All power, leather, 85k clean. Must see! \$4,295. Call 687-3397 or 699-0788.

FORD 1992 Crown Victoria good condition, high mileage. \$3,750. 699-7624.

OLDSMOBILE 1996 LS luxury Sedan, white/grey leather. 32k miles. \$12,700. Call 684-4013.

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BUICK 1988 LE SABRE 4 door, loaded, V6 engine. Looks new inside and out! Everything works. Excellent condition! \$3,500. 520-2535.

CHEVROLET 1997 CAMARO 30th Anniversary Edition, white with orange stripes. CD player, 350 automatic, low miles. \$17,000. 522-7284.

Jack Sherman Chevrolet is open 24 hours a day just for you!

Call toll free and apply for your new or used vehicle loan right over your touch tone telephone. It's fast, hassle free, and confidential!!!

1-800-62-CHEVY
or 1-800-622-4389
or apply via the internet
www.ezjs123.getayes.com

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★ Bad/Good Credit

★ Charge Offs

WE'LL BE THERE

1999 NISSAN ALTIMA GXE's
4 to Choose From! **\$10,895+TTM**

1999 OLDSMOBILE 88 LS's
5 to Choose From! **\$12,895+TTM**

1998 FORD CONTOUR SE's
3 to Choose From! **\$7,495+TTM**

1998 CHEVY ASTRO VAN LS
\$13,995+TTM

MANY MORE VEHICLES AVAILABLE, PLEASE CALL STEVE OR BRANDON IF YOU DON'T SEE WHAT YOU ARE LOOKING FOR

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We Take Trade-Ins • All Cars • TT&L
Se Habla Espanol
MIDLAND INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
9914 SLOAN FIELD ROAD

AVIS

FORD 1983 MUSTANG limited edition, 5.0 LX, convertible, white, white, automatic. 689-6767.

FORD 1996 MUSTANG GT, 5 speed, AC, CD, power locks and windows, low mileage, \$8,000. Call for information 689-4790. 687-3876.

FORD 1997 CROWN Victoria LX, Red tan, all power, 59K miles. \$11,800. Call 694-1993 anytime!

CHEVROLET 2000 Monte Carlo LS, fully loaded, 13,000 miles, factory warranty, extra, extra clean. Please call Bruce. 580-6000 or 520-9060 after hours.

LEXUS 1994 LS400 cream puff! 58k miles, loaded. \$23,000. Please call 1-800-540-9825 ask for Jill.

MERCURY 1993 TRACER Wagon, power windows, locks, tilt, cruise, premium stereo, new tires, brakes, 5 speed, excellent condition. \$3,000. 570-1417.

OLDSMOBILE 1991 Ninety Eight Regency Elite-one owner 74K, lots of new including tires/battery. Excellent condition! \$4,895. 694-9366.

MERCURY 1990 Grand Marquis one owner, fully loaded, CD, new tires, 90K, very clean, asking \$3,295 obo. Call 520-6270.

CHRYSLER 1996 LHS Leather, power everything, 6 speaker infinity sound, warranty! \$8,800. Loop 250 front of Toys R Us. 915-699-5166.

DODGE 1992 Spirit beautiful, burgundy inside, out. Cold A/C stereo, cassette, new tires. Looks, runs and drives fabulous. \$3,400. 570-1417.

FORD 1993 Escort New tires and brakes, air conditioning, works, excellent condition if you drive you will buy it. \$3,400. 570-1417.

PORSCHE 1976 911S 66K, Tangerine red with black interior, excellent condition. \$10,000. 699-1312 home-683-0024 work-559-4453 mobile-4620 Andrews Hwy. (Midland).

MERCEDES 1929 Gazelle Replica kit car. Approximately 800 original miles. 90% complete. Needs minor exterior and interior completion. \$5,495. 570-7597.

JAGUAR 1976 XJ6 old English white, small block 400 engine, R700 overdrive transmission. Dayton wheels. \$6,000. 570-6702.

CADILLAC 1989 BROUGHAM Silver, gray leather interior, 89K miles, clean, good tires. \$3,795. Call 687-0024.

LINCOLN 1989 Continental Navy blue, 104k miles, everything works, drives great. \$3,500. O.B.O. Call 699-5977 or 556-5710.

OLDSMOBILE 1996 Eighty Eight LS 39 100 Auto V6, cruise control, loaded. \$9,000. Call 689-8059.

CADILLAC 1996 Eldorado ETC Cinnamon, moon roof, Landau top, Bose stereo, 23k miles, good body in good shape. Call 620-0661 or 563-4707.

MERCURY 1999 COUGAR Excellent condition! V6 20K miles, silver on gray. Power tinted windows, locks. \$13,000. obo. Call 570-0466.

CHEVROLET 1998 Cavalier. One owner, black, clean, CD Player. Still under warranty. Asking \$8,500 or best offer. 697-0090 or 682-7686.

AMC 1978 Pacer Wagon. Air, Heat, (Good) Clean inside and out. \$1,100. See at 305 Sprayberry Street. 694-3280.

TOYOTA 1999 CAMRY LE. Great condition. 31,000 miles, cruise control, A/C, other options. \$17,000 or best offer. 694-0718.

BMW 1998 Z3 Roadster. 8,800 miles. 6 cylinder, auto, very nice. \$32,000. 694-8596 after 6pm.

HONDA 1997 Civic DX 2 door, white, 5 speed, 47,600 miles. \$9,900. Blue book \$10,700. Call 697-1359.

PLYMOUTH 1999 ROAD RUNNER Must sell for Medical bills \$7,000. For only serious minded people. 694-3353 after 8:00 pm.

CHEVROLET 1973 NOVA SS, new paint, interior, rebuilt 327, automatic, centerlines, new exhaust, tagged, inspected. \$5,500. Call 664-7492.

LINCOLN 1985 Continental Classic. Runs good body in good shape. Shown by appointment only. \$3,000 negotiable. 694-6614.

FORD 1994 Deluxe Sedan. All original, excellent shape, navy with yellow wheels and stripes. \$18,500. Call 686-8759 or 683-2575.

210 Autos Imports

MERCEDES 1975 450 SE, 4 door, Runabout engine, transmission, brakes, paint. A/C. \$3,995. MAKE OFFER. Day 687-0381, evenings 682-2786.

KIA 1999 SEPIA Four door. \$7,500. Call 687-2101 9-5:30pm ask for Bob or 697-7662 evenings.

MERCEDES 1991 190E 2.6 liter, one owner, excellent condition. 98K miles, new tires, brake pads, \$10,500. Call 520-5901 for information.

TOYOTA 1998

Camry LE 4 door, 20,000 miles, one owner, CD, maintenance records available. Black/gray interior. \$14,950. Call 697-7222.

TOYOTA 1999 Corolla, 5 speed, metallic gold, 4 door, 36,000 miles a/c, excellent condition, +75,000 mile warranty, \$10,750. 550-5582.

MERCEDES BENZ 1999 ML 430 SU 4D, loaded including cassette and CD with changer/stacker. Skyview roof, integrated phone, 3,500 miles. Perfect! \$47,500. Call 685-6110 days. 684-5378 evenings.

TOYOTA 1990 Corolla, 4 Door, Sedan DX, Automatic, cold air, good gas mileage. \$2,400. 570-7218.

TOYOTA OF MIDLAND
Web site: <http://www.toyotaofmidland.com>

215 Sport/Utility Vehicles

FORD 1992 BRONCO XLT, 4x4, maintenance records. \$8,950. Great condition! Garaged vehicle. Please leave message 570-8876.

FORD 1994 Explorer LTD Dark Green, gray leather, power, everything, CD player, 130k miles, new brakes, \$7,500. Great condition! 699-0404.

JEEP 1999 Grand Cherokee, red, like new, low mileage. 2 wheel drive. \$21,000. Call 689-3583.

ISUZU 1998 RODEO Silver, fully loaded, 36K miles. \$18,500. Excellent condition! 684-6634.

JEEP 1994 Cherokee 98k miles, red, automatic. V6. CD, new tires. \$4,500. Call 699-0288.

FORD 1998 Explorer Sport 5 Speed white/grey, 41K miles, all power, grill guard, new tires. Excellent condition. \$12,500. 570-7592.

TOYOTA 1996 LANDCRUISER, White, 69K, leather, loaded. Excellent condition! \$28,000. 682-6622.

Saturn of Permian Basin

5201 W. Loop 250 N.
Midland, Texas 79701
(Next to Hollywood Theaters)
Questions? Call 915-520-5866

Choose Your Rate
1.9%* 3.9%* 6.9%*
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On Every 2001 Saturn in Stock

*1.9 for 36 months, 3.9 for 48 months, 6.9 for 60 months W.A.C. thru G.M.A.C. on all 2001 Saturns

CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED SATURNS COMES WITH WARRANTY FROM SATURN

1997 SATURN SC2 COUPE Sunroof, Sporty, #50935	\$11,990
1997 SATURN SC2 COUPE 5 Speed, Great School Car, #50979	\$10,990
1998 SATURN SC2 All Power, #50946	\$13,990
1999 SATURN SL Great Economy Car, #25542A	\$9,990
1999 SATURN SL2 Economical Family Car, #50938	\$10,990
1999 SATURN SL2 All Power, Family Sedan, #51064	\$10,990
1999 SATURN SL2 All Power, Automatic, #51065	\$10,990
2000 SATURN SL2 Safe, Economical, #50995	\$13,990

ECONOMY CARS

1999 SATURN SL2 Fully Loaded, #51023A	\$9,990
1997 CHEVY CAVALIER Sporty & Economical, #35122A	\$7,900
1997 CHEVY CAVALIER CD Player, Automatic, #51009A	\$7,900
1997 FORD ESCORT LX Checkout The Price!, #51010A	\$6,900
1998 CHEVY CAVALIER Automatic With Factory Warranty, #51033	\$8,900
1999 FORD CONTOUR Automatic, Fully Loaded, #51074	\$10,900
2000 MITSUBISHI MIRAGE Full Factory Warranty, #50977	\$10,900

SPORT CARS

1999 FORD MUSTANG Excellent Condition, 6 Speed, #25652A	\$9,990
1998 FORD MUSTANG CD Player Power Seat, Loaded, #51048	\$12,995
2000 GRAND PRIX Wheels, Warranty, Loaded, #51050	\$15,980
2000 FORD MUSTANG Perfect With Only 11,000 Miles, #50833A	\$15,990

LUXURY CARS

1999 BUICK LESABRE One Owner, #51014A	\$9,990
1997 CADILLAC CATERA Leather With All Power, #51019A	\$15,990
1998 LINCOLN TOWN CAR Definitely Must See, #51038	\$18,990
2000 CHEVY IMPALA Save Thousands Over New, #50983	\$16,990

MID-SIZE SEDANS

1997 CHEVY LUMINA Automatic, V-6, #51072	\$9,990
1997 FORD TAURUS GL All Power, #50925C	\$8,900
1999 CHEVY MALIBU Factory Warranty, #51046	\$11,900
1999 MERCURY SABLE Fully Loaded Sedan, #51043	\$11,900
1999 CHEVY LUMINA V-6, All Power, #51002	\$14,900
2000 BUICK CENTURY Low Miles, Perfect, #50914	\$13,900
2000 OLDS ALERO 2 Door, Sharp Car, #51012	\$17,900
2000 TOYOTA CAMRY Must See, #50962, Only	\$12,900
2000 PONTIAC GRAND AM SE Wheels, CD Player, #51060	\$12,900

TRUCKS & SUV's

1997 CHEVY VENTURE Perfect Family Vehicle, #50915	\$12,900
1997 GMC JIMMY Automatic, Wheels, All Power, #51058	\$13,900
1993 OLDS BRAVADA Leather, 4x4, #51006B	\$6,900
1998 CHEVY BLAZER CD, Great Shape, #50989	\$15,900
1998 CHEVY SUBURBAN Room For The Whole Family!, #40943	\$24,900
1999 FORD EXPEDITION XLT, V-8, 8 Passenger Seating, #51056	\$28,900
2000 FORD EXCURSION V-10, Great Power, #51031	\$28,900

PLUS - 6 EXPLORERS, 3 MORE SUBURBANS, 2 CHEVY SILVERADOS

3 MITSUBISHI MONTEROS, 2 DODGE DURANGOS

AND A PARTRIGE IN A PEAR TREE!

Visit our 2nd Used Car Location at
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220 Trucks 220 Trucks 220 Trucks 222 Suburbs & Vans

CHEVROLET 1996 Pick-up 305, extended cab, 60k, auto, excellent condition \$14,000 687-2998	INTERNATIONAL 1996 3 TON oil field gang truck Completely loaded out Good condition 83,190 miles \$27,500 Call 915-267-6654 Ask for Mike or Don. Weekend call 664-2132 mobile	CHEVROLET 1994 1994 EXTENDED Cab Silverado- Short wheel base White, 5 speed \$7,900 Call 685-5756 or 694-2424	DODGE 1996 CARAVAN- Teal green, two side doors, new tires & brakes. Excellent condition! 61K miles. \$14,000 Call 685-3934
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GMC 1995 DUALY 454 Engine, red, perfect condition, under warranty, 79K miles, \$15,000. Call after 5 pm, 570-9248	GMC 1994 S15 pick-up, Excellent V6 motor, chrome wheels \$2,750 Charley 8-5 682-0221	GMC 1973 PICKUP- 454, 650, A/C, AM/FM cassette, stereo, high pressure oil pump, headers \$2,500 689-8093	FORD 1992 Aerostar Extended Van 4 Wheel drive, 4.0 V6, white, maroon cloth interior. Runs great. New motor, transmission, starter, brake & tires. Has all power, cruise, tilt, Am FM cassette, seats 7, 20-26 mpg, high miles \$4,950 or cash and trade or will negotiate. See at 3212 Hill. Midland 694-4044, 559-2024
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CHEVROLET 1996 Pick-up Runs \$2,500 or best offer. 689-7941, after 5 pm	CHEVROLET 1996 S10 LS Extended Cab, red, 5 speed, 2.2, tilt, cruise, alloys, liner, excellent condition, 80K highway \$7,250 520-3904	CHEVROLET 1999 Silverado, long bed, 4.3 liter, V6 automatic, 35K miles, new body style. Superb condition. \$13,500 Call 684-5829	CHEVROLET 1999 Silverado, long bed, 4.3 liter, V6 automatic, 35K miles, new body style. Superb condition. \$13,500 Call 684-5829
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DODGE 1986 PICK-UP short wheel base, new wheels & tires, dual exhaust, CD. \$2,500 267-6488	CHEVROLET 1994 1500 Extended Cab, short bed, 6.5 diesel, loaded, towing package, tool box, new tires. Excellent condition. \$10,500 697-5643	CHEVROLET 1980 pickup, 350, 4 x 4, custom paint, CD player, Flo Masters, 6' body lift, 35" tires. \$5,500 522-2175	GMC 1985 SUBURBAN, front/back, A/C, power windows, 520 automatic, seats 7, \$2,999 O.B.O. 684-5851
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GMC 1997 Savana, Loaded \$14,900. Below book value or trade for new. Excellent condition. 620-0093	CHEVROLET 1999 Silverado, long bed, 4.3 liter, V6 automatic, 35K miles, new body style. Superb condition. \$13,700 Call 684-5829	CHEVROLET 1997 271 Pick-up, white, extended cab, \$15,000 Call 682-4714 or 631-4396	GMC 1992 Suburban, 1980 interior, 2 wheel drive. Excellent Shape! \$11,300. Must sell! Lets make a deal! (915)697-9407
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CHEVROLET 1995 C-1500 extended cab, tan/gold 6.5 turbo diesel, 65K. Excellent condition. 682-6296 ask for Eddie	DODGE 1991 DAKOTA, Short cab, 8ft bed, V6, auto and air, 85K. Loaded. Very good condition. \$5,600 call 689-7146	FORD 1998 RANGER, green, step side, 24K miles, 4 cylinder, 5 speed. Great condition. Call Chad at 263-3870	GMC 1996 SUBURBAN, SLT Indigo blue, chrome rocker panels, bug shield vent guard, new tires. Loan value is \$16,075. Will sell for \$15,500 915-263-1976
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CHEVROLET 1996 CREW Cab Silverado Long Bed. Keyless entry, cruise, tilt, AM/FM cassette. Excellent condition! \$16,000 obo 570-0839, leave message	FORD 1997 1/2 TON, 3 door extended cab, short bed, triton V8, automatic, tilt, cruise, 77K, \$12,250 O.B.O. 522-1335	TOYOTA 1994 T100 Full size pick up, 5 speed, highway miles. Very nice! \$3,975 694-5312	MERCURY 1997 Villager, teal, gold 3.0 V6. Fully loaded, 77K. Call 682-6296 for more details. Ask for Eddie
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CHEVROLET 1998 Z71 Extended Cab Silverado. White exterior, navy blue interior, towing package. Excellent condition! Only 16K miles! \$22,750 694-7400	FORD 2001 F150 SUPER CREW XLT (4 door), 2.500 miles, loaded, red, tan interior. Like new. Must sell! \$27,000 520-0204	CHEVROLET 1992 Suburban, excellent condition, gray/black with running boards, beautiful 94K, \$9,900 689-7739	PLYMOUTH 1994 Voyager with 1994 W/C lift in side door, removable driver's seat, hand control for person in W/C as passenger or driver. Accommodates person with sitting height up to 48 inches high. 70K \$8,900 687-5257
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CHEVROLET 1999 Tahoe LT, 29.500 miles, excellent shape, \$26,500, rear air, 2WD, hitch 683-2890	CHEVROLET 1996 Silverado extended cab, all power, cloth, alloy wheels, running boards, top, nice & clean, 65K miles. \$12,900 697-3719 after 5:00pm	CHEVROLET 1998 Suburban, Second owner. Good condition, blue/good Michelin tires, A/C, R134 conversion. Well maintained. \$4,200 697-2366 or 634-6904	CHEVROLET 1990 Suburban, "Anahem Conversion", Navy/bronze captain's chairs, dual air, alarm, super clean! Original owner, new transmission! battery (warranties). Michels. \$4,700 689-0239
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CHEVROLET 1997 S10 Step side Red, manual transmission, bought off show room floor. 35,000 miles, \$8,800 694-5194/682-6440	CHEVROLET 1992 C-20 Conversion van, 103K miles. Very good condition. Great interior. Family transportation. \$8,500 685-3623	CHEVROLET 1992 Suburban, Excellent condition, original owner, trailer hitch, white/gray interior. Amsoil used \$9,200 685-3312 (8:00-5:00) 689-4869	CHEVROLET 1996 Suburban, 95K, black with tan interior, excellent condition, with TV, excellent condition. \$18,000 697-0723 or 688-5106
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FORD 1997 F150 XLT-Black, supercab, V8 engine, cloth captains chairs, third door, tow package, sliding rear window, fully loaded. \$16,000 41K 520-4459	CHEVROLET 1998 S10 LS Extended Cab Cloth Interior, 6 cyl, 5 speed, 53K, extras. Custom utility shelf. Asking \$11,995 697-6263	FORD 1998 RANGER XLT Extended Cab- V6, automatic, 2 wheel drive, 46K miles. Excellent condition! \$12,000 689-0440	FORD 2000 F-150, Supercab, Flareside 4x4, Oxford white with graphite cloth, loaded, 6,000 miles, factory warranty. Make offer. Call 915-522-9953
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FORD 1995 F150- Green Supercab, fiber glass camper shell, Alpine new tires, 65K miles, loaded, excellent condition. \$10,000 689-9621			
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FORD 1994 F-250 Supercab, 136K miles. Very good condition. Great high school vehicle. \$8,600 685-3623			
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FORD 1998 RANGER Extended Cab, Lariat, Short bed, new A/C (R134), new tires, heavy duty shocks/overload springs. \$5,500 682-9804			
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FORD 1991 EXPLORER Eddie Bauer Trim, maroon/tan, 4X4, 4.0 V6, XLT package. 682-6296 ask for Eddie			
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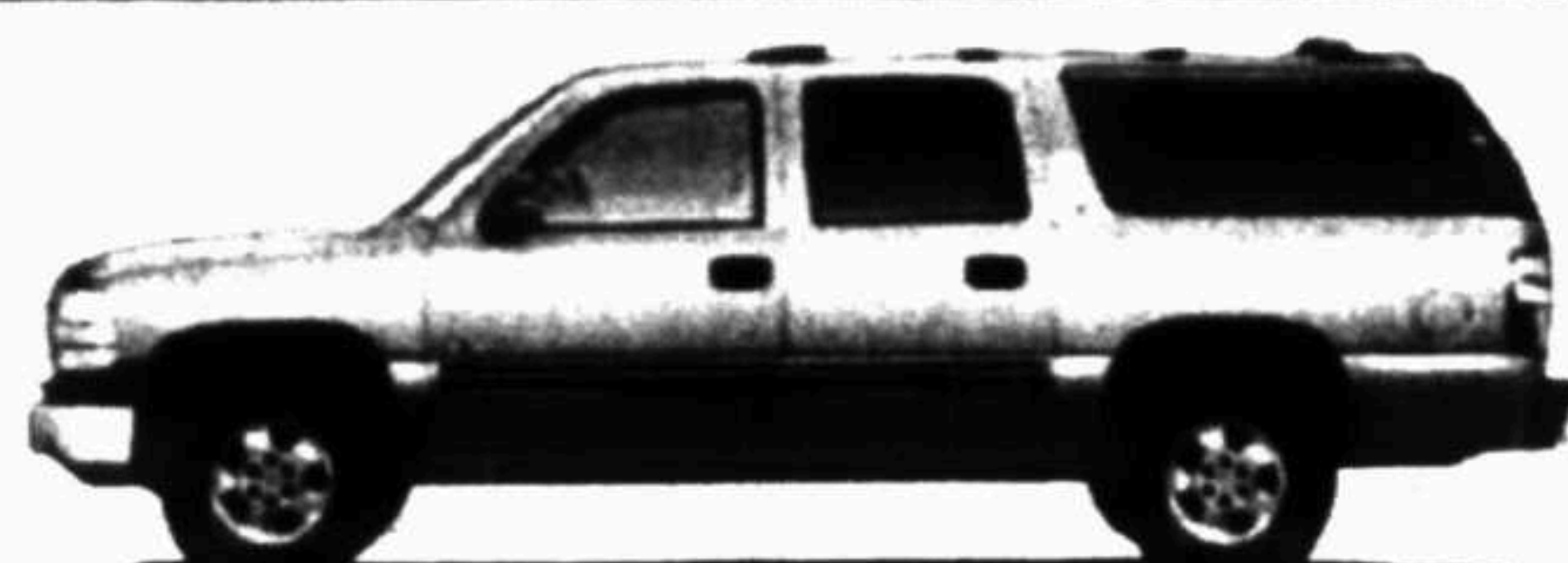
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SUBURBAN 1998 LS Leather, AM/FM/CD, rear A/C, power seats, windows, locks, cruise, 80K, towing package \$2,500 694-3559

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413 Jewelry & Furs
RED METAL bunk bed. Fisher Price table and chairs. queen size floral comforter with bed ruffle, shams, sheets and curtains 570-6858

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LOSE 40 LBS in 2 months. natural and guaranteed. Doctor recommended. Toll free 1-888-252-1759 or www.ezfitnes4life.com

450 Pets and Supplies
LARGE QUANTITY of nice new carpet. beige and gray colors. \$5 yard. Call 682-2422 or 5701994

455 FOR FREE
FOR SALE 4 1/2 X 10 drill pipe yellow band. 145 JTS. 4495 feet. tested by Tubesco. have papers. \$4.50 per foot. Call 267-3126 ask for Mike Evans

460 Antiques & Arts
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480 Antiques & Arts
FOR SALE Oak & Glass china cabinet. Must see to appreciate. \$500. 694-1169

485 FOR FREE
HOSPITAL BED \$900. wheel chair \$300. will negotiate. Both in very good condition. 699-4574

490 Antiques & Arts
19 CUBIC FOOT Harvest gold refrigerator. Excellent condition. \$75. 694-3190 or 694-4692

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500 Pets and Supplies
WHIRLPOOL Refrigerator \$275. Washer. \$200. Dryer \$175. For information call 683-2331

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SEARS HEAVY Duty beige washing machine. \$100. 699-5949. (P)560-1088

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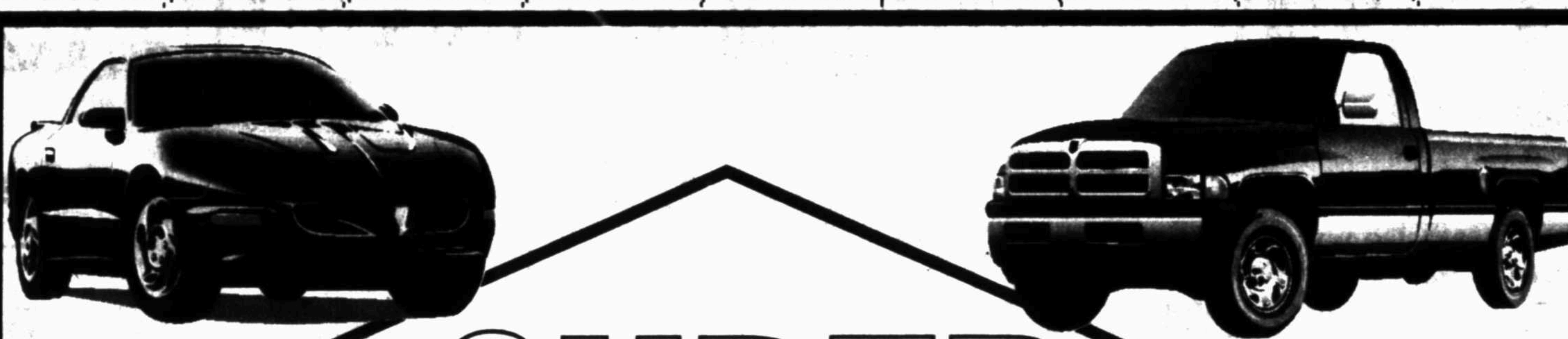
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