



SPORTS

MC Basketball

Midland College women's basketball team clinched a share of the Western Junior College Athletic Conference crown with an 80-60 win over South Plains College Thursday at the Chaparral Center. The men won also. /1C

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State of the Economy 2000

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2000

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Ira Block, photographer for National Geographic, takes a light and color meter reading while shooting pieces of nose art at the Confederate Air Force Headquarters Thursday. Block is working on a National Geographic book called "Saving America's Treasures."

Photos by
Tim Fischer
Reporter-Telegram



Nose art like this taken from World War II aircraft will be featured in a book by National Geographic.

World War II 'girlie' art photographed for National Geographic

By Ed Todd
Staff Writer

The "nose art" that adorned the warbirds of World War II has evolved into a national treasure. Morale-boosting works such as "Sack Time," "Squeeze," and "Target for Tonight," will appear later this year in the National Geographic book, "Saving America's Treasures."

"It was basically morale," said National Geographic photographer Ira Block of New York. Block was at the Confederate Air Force headquarters in Midland on Thursday to photograph selections from the museum's 33-piece nose-art collection, which museum director Tami O'Bannon termed "precious pieces of American folk art."

Images of the rare pieces, salvaged from the fuselages of scrapped B-24 Liberator and B-17 Flying Fortress bombers in the postwar years, are to be among images of 50 almost-

Please see CAF/4A

Clinton may push oil prices lower

By John Paul Pitts
Oil Editor

Political pressure from the Clinton Administration may put oil prices in a downward spiral back to the \$20 range, according to industry analysts.

Oil prices on the New York Mercantile Exchange Thursday fell 59 cents to \$29.46, the biggest drop in two weeks, largely the result, say analysts, of growing political pressure being put on high oil prices, which topped \$30 per barrel this week.

Much of the pressure has come from President Clinton and Secretary of Energy Bill Richardson. With oil prices hovering at \$30 for the third straight day, President Clinton said Thursday he would appeal to OPEC producers to help ease soaring oil prices and would even consider tapping the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to bring oil prices lower.

Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan backed Clinton's comments, saying that high oil prices would hurt the U.S. economy.

Consumers in the Northeast have complained bitterly that energy prices are too high and are imposing a financial hardship upon the area, which has been hit by higher than normal prices for gasoline and heating oil. A number of organizations that provide assistance to poor families to help them meet their energy needs report that they are out of funds and have stopped giving assistance. Truckers in the region have asked President Clinton to withdraw oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, and sell it on the U.S. market to drive prices down.

In Midland, those in the oil industry are taking a dim view of Clinton's remarks that oil prices are too high.

"You can't print what I think about Bill Clinton and his plans to lower energy prices," one local individual said.

Steve Castle, president of Cowboy's Resources, an independent oil company, noted that most oil companies have not fully recovered from two years of record low oil prices.

"I am sure the Bill Clinton and Bill Richardson would like to see oil prices back at \$10 per barrel, because low oil prices are good for the economy. But, what we really need is price stability in

Please see OIL/4A

Bivins mulls end to the oil severance tax

By John Paul Pitts
Oil Editor

State Sen. Teel Bivins, speaking to the Permian Basin Petroleum Association Thursday, broached a plan that could phase out Texas' historical oil and gas severance tax.

Bivins, who hails from an oil and cattle family, said the industry, with \$30 oil prices, is today enjoying much better times than a year ago, when oil prices were in the single-digit level. "But now is the time to fix the roof while the sun is shining," said the Panhandle senator.

He said Senate Bill 290, which was passed in 1999 and temporarily eliminated the severance tax on oil under \$15 a barrel and gas under \$1.80, helped 6,600 producers during the price crash of 1998-1999, but now it was time to think about getting rid of the tax altogether. "At one time the severance tax accounted for 28 percent of Texas tax revenue. Today, it is less than 8 percent."

He said the Senate Natural Resources Committee, looking at the future of the Texas oil and gas industry, had identified the severance tax as an impediment to the industry.

Bivins said that some had recommended the outright repeal of the 4.5 percent wellhead tax for oil, but said he thought it should be phased out. "Politics is the art of the possible. It is not realistic to expect the repeal of the severance tax when the industry is enjoying a good year."

He said there was still sentiment for the oil industry in the legislature, and that should be used to help pass the bill. Since it is a tax issue, he said any bill to repeal



Bivins

Please see BIVINS/4A

City councilman questions additional \$4 million for stadium bonds

By Ian Heald
Staff Writer

On Tuesday the Midland City Council will vote on the issuance of \$38.95 million in bonds for the sports complex, but not before Councilman Jose Cuevas asks the question that seems to be on everyone's mind.

Why does the city need nearly \$4 million more than originally planned?

The bids for the project aren't in, and Cuevas said it is premature to borrow the amount of money the city is considering.

"I've got to ask some questions. Why does it need to go up \$4 million before any concrete costs (have been established)? I could vote for \$35 million in

a New York minute. That's what the voters voted for. That's a huge issue I've got to work on this weekend — \$35 million dollars I could support. I think that's a no-brainer. The extra \$4 million they're asking for, that needs to be questioned."

City Manager Rick Menchaca has said that because on-site estimates have risen to \$40 million, the city will take out \$38.95 million in bonds and invest those portions not being utilized. Menchaca's plan suggests:

■ Interest will accrue on the invested money.

■ A \$750,000 scoreboard could be paid for with advertising revenue.

■ A 1,000-slot parking lot, estimated at \$1 million, may not be constructed if bids come in too high. This will not affect

the planned construction of the original 3,500-slot parking lot.

However, Cuevas contends that the city ought to take out \$35 million in bonds now and if additional funds are needed later, take out the extra bonds then.

Councilman Berry Simpson, who also sits on the special 4b Corporation set up to oversee the stadium project, said he has no problem supporting the current bond proposal.

"I'm ready to vote for it," said Simpson. "It's all a guess now anyway. We don't have any real bids yet. It's not going to be any more than that. Or, I'd be stunned if it were more."

City of Midland Director of Finance Troy Gifford said the city is essentially

pledging property taxes as collateral for the certificates of obligation.

To get favorable ratings on the bonds, the city pledged both its sales tax and property tax bases. In the event of a severe depression in sales tax revenue Gifford said it is possible that property taxes could be raised. But, said Gifford, the chances of such an event happening are "extremely minimal."

The city has told the bond rating companies that "conservative" estimates can expect \$3 million a year in revenue from the quarter-cent sales tax increase. Gifford said the debt paid on the bonds each year will range between \$2.9 million and \$2.95 million. Gifford has said that extra \$50,000-\$100,000 would be invested in a retirement fund.

If the market were to fall below \$2.9 million in annual revenue the city would tap into the retirement fund to settle the difference.

But, what if the market fallout is so severe that the retirement funds can't make up the difference?

Or, what if the sales tax figures suffer depressed levels within the first year or two, when the retirement fund hasn't yet grown? In that case, says Gifford, property taxes would be raised slightly — 1 to 2 cents. But, Gifford said, that scenario would have the average (property) owner paying an extra \$6-\$12 a year on their property tax.

Gifford added that the city of Midland has never before applied for bonds without pledging the property tax base.

Democratic candidates talk to small crowd of voters

By Rick McLaughlin
Staff Writer

The issues ran the gamut at the Midland County Democratic Party candidates' forum Thursday as about 75 voters crowded into county Democratic headquarters on East Illinois Avenue to hear biographies and ask about stands on issues of local concern from candidates in the March 14 primary.

Issues most talked about included education, jail overcrowding, roads, development on the east side, water conservation, the sports complex and trust in government officials.

The forum included four candidates for Midland County Commissioners' Court Precinct 3, being vacated by retiring Commissioner Louisa Valencia. The candidates are Carolyn Palmer, 55, Max

Cuellar, 39, Josie Ramirez, 58 and Julius Brooks, 60. Mariano "J.R." Rendón Jr. announced that he was withdrawing because his wife is expecting their fourth child.

Michael Trost was the unopposed candidate for Precinct 1.

Another Democratic candidate is Gilberto Garcia, 51, a public school teacher and a candidate for District 82 of the Texas Legislature. He is seeking to oust Rep. Tom Craddick, R-Midland, in the November general election.

Also appearing from San Antonio was Joseph Sullivan, a candidate for the U.S. Congressional District 23 seat of Rep. Henry Bonilla, R-San Antonio.

Garcia started the prioritizing of issues for the night, stating he had four

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Carolyn Palmer speaks during a Democratic candidates forum Thursday night.

Midland College and MHS hold Upward Bound Rally

By Jeff Stevens
Staff Writer

Midland College and Midland High School introduced what it hopes to be a fine crop of college students Thursday at an Upward Bound rally. The group of students have almost three years before they'll actually be college students, but that's the whole idea of the Upward Bound program.

In April, MC and MISD announced a joint grant that provides \$1 million to bridge the gap between high school and col-

lege for students who might not ordinarily go to college. Students can qualify for the program socioeconomically or by being children of noncollege-educated parents.

"Upward Bound improves the level of involvement necessary to go to college, not to let this talent go to waste," said Judy Merritt, director of Upward Bound at Midland College.

Ms. Merritt explained that students will get assistance in taking the ACT and SAT tests — college entrance exams — will be exposed to college life in var-

ious ways and will be given assistance in applying for financial aid and scholarships.

The idea of the program is to give students, without access to college-educated family members, an insight into college life, said Ms. Merritt.

"If they don't have someone that can give them information, someone to explain what a semester hour is, they may not have access to some of the inside language of college," said Ms. Merritt.

Thursday's rally was part of National TRIO day. TRIO is a

group of federal precollege and college programs, including Upward Bound.

"I really want to go to college and I want to make something of myself," said Midland High School sophomore Jezi Larez, explaining her motivation for signing up for the program.

The program will work with 50 students at a time. Ms. Merritt has already received about 37 applicants. She said she'll stop taking applications from sophomores Feb. 24. She will start recruiting freshman next week.

"I'm always interested in any-

thing that can help me get into college or motivate me to want to go to college," said Krystal Rodriguez, a freshman at MHS.

Carolyn Cropper, who wrote the grant, was excited that so many students had applied. "These are children with the capability of going to college."

Dennis Stratton, instructional services director at MHS, also expressed his excitement over the program.

"Some kids are kind of marginal and sometimes can get lost. These programs are aimed right at those kids," Stratton said,

adding that MHS has several programs with much the same purpose.

Students at Midland High can take Reconnecting Youth, an elective course that helps students make decisions to stay in school. The high school also has a full time social worker that assists up to 100 students. According to Stratton, the counselor makes home visits and even provides resources to help the students stay in school. Lee High School students also have the same programs.

Suspect indicted in death of Midland baby

By Rick McLaughlin
Staff Writer

The 20-year-old Midland man accused of capital murder in the death of 14-month-old Camron Swaboda of Midland was indicted Wednesday by a 238th District Court grand jury. Michael Dewayne Burdick is being held in Midland County Detention Center in lieu of \$500,000 bond in connection with the death of the boy, who was receiving child care in the Burdick home.

Swaboda's head injuries, the cause of his death, may have come about as a result of his head being forcibly hit on the right side.

The injury occurred Jan. 27 at 4247 Siesta, Burdick's Midland residence. Burdick lived in the home with his wife and three children, whose ages are 9 months, 3 years and 5 years. The 9-month-old is Burdick's child with his wife; the other two children are Burdick's wife by a previous relationship.

An autopsy was performed Feb. 1 on Swaboda by the Dallas Medical Examiner's office. The autopsy confirmed that the cause of death to be head injury by force, or trauma. Swaboda received injuries to the side of his head, said Jauz.

Swaboda died Jan. 31 at Midland Memorial Hospital, after

life-support equipment was turned off at the request of family.

The child was brought to the emergency room Jan. 29 at 7:30 p.m. by his Midland caretakers. Detectives were called to the hospital Jan. 30 in the morning in reference to a reported injury to a child. The parents, who are separated, were both out of town.

The case is being classified as a capital murder case because of the age of the victim. By law, anytime a homicide victim is under the age of 6, the case may be carried as a capital murder, said Tina Jauz of the Midland Police Department Public infor-

mation Office.

A bank account trust fund has been established for the family of 14-month-old Camron Swaboda for donations to help with expenses. The account has been set up in the name of Donna Shaw, account number 0274893411, at Northwest Bank, P.O. Box 2097, Midland, 79702-2097.

UT acquires papers of Americo Paredes

AUSTIN (AP) — The University of Texas has acquired the papers of the late Americo Paredes, the internationally-known scholar and award-winning folklorist.

The Paredes Papers include manuscripts of his published and unpublished work, correspondence, note cards, class notes, audio and videotape and other collections. They will be part of the Nettie Lee Benson Latin American Collection, at the university.

The collection acquires and provides access to materials on Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean and Latino culture in the United States.

A founder of the Center for Mexican American Studies and the Center for Intercultural Studies of Folklore and Ethnomusicology, his works include the novels "George Washington Gomez" and "The Shadow."

Among other honors recognizing his contributions to literature and folklore, Paredes was awarded the Charles Frankel Prize from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Orden del Aguila Azteca (Order of the Aztec Eagle), Mexico's highest honor given to scholars from other countries.

When he received the University of Texas Presidential Citation in 1997, it was said that his seminal folklore studies in the 1940s and 1950s lay the foundation for understanding the people and culture of the

Lower Rio Grande border area. Paredes received his doctorate in English from UT-Austin in

1956. He died last May at the age of 83.

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OBITUARIES
Funeral services for son have been held on Thursday, February 17, 2000, at 10:00 a.m. at Resthaven Funeral Home, 1500 N. 15th St., Midland, Texas. He was born on February 19, 1921, in Dallas, Texas. He was the husband of the late Mrs. Vivian Foster Johnson. He died on February 15, 2000, at his home. He was preceded in death by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wyndell Johnson. He leaves six children: James Johnson, Robert Johnson, Danelle Johnson, Vivian Foster Johnson, Johnson, and Long, both of whom have great-grandchildren and great-granddaughters.

EMMA HOUGH

Emma Hough, 67, of Midland, Texas, died on Monday, February 14, 2000, at her home. She was born on February 14, 1933, in Habersham County, Georgia. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. St. James Hough. She leaves two daughters: Mrs. Hough and Mrs. Hough.

EMMA HOUGH
11
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MIDLAND
2 p.m.

"We are as new as the day we were born" our friends and family will be confident in the hands of the Lord.

Ellis

Midland
31
MIDLAND

OBITUARIES



Dan Johnson

Funeral services for Dan Johnson have been scheduled for Saturday, February 19, 2000 at the Northside Church of Christ at 10:00 a.m. Interment at Resthaven Memorial Park under the direction of Thomas Funeral Home.

He was born September 8, 1921 to Dan and Adele Johnson. He was the Pastor of Northside Church of Christ.

He died Tuesday, February 15, 2000, at a local hospital. He was preceded in death by his parents; and two grandchildren, Wyndell Johnson and Ben Anthony Foster Jr.

He leaves to cherish his memory his wife, Mable Johnson; and six children, Roy Johnson Sr. and James Johnson, both of Midland, Robert Johnson of Houston, Danelle Tatum of Midland, Vivian Foster and Amy Johnson of Terrell, Texas; one brother, Ed Johnson; and a sister, Rebecca Long, both of Beaumont, Texas; seventeen grandchildren, fourteen great-grandchildren, and a host of relatives and friends.



Emmaretta Hough

Emmaretta Early Hough, formerly of Knoxville, Tenn., passed away Monday, February 14, 2000, at home following a brief illness. She was 89. Mrs. Hough was born January 11, 1911 in Habersham, Tenn. to Louise Virginia Slater and Evan Burt Early.

Mrs. Hough was a member of St. James Episcopal Church, Daughters of the King, treasurer

of Gamma Phi Beta Sorority at the University of Tennessee, credit manager at the Knoxville Cadillac Company, and an employee of Dr. Frank Galyon and the former Myers Whaley Company, all in Knoxville.

Since moving to Midland 4-1/2 years ago, she had been a member of The Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity, its ECW and the Holy Rollers service group at Trinity Towers.

Mrs. Hough was preceded in death by her beloved husband of 41 years, Austin Edward (Bud) Hough. She was the loving mother of two daughters, Diane Hough (Mrs. Arthur) Dinsmoor of Midland and Eben V. (Mrs. Charles) Appleton of Gallatin, Tenn.; 10 grandchildren, Bob Scott and his wife, Susan Bickley of Houston, Bill Scott and his wife, Sandy of Midland, Cathie Party and her husband, Mike of Midland, Merry Stanley of Midland, Lacy Roop and her husband, David of Breckenridge, Texas, Roseann Stoltz and her husband, Raun of Roanoke, Texas, C. Jeff Vitelli and his wife, Robin of Chattanooga, Tenn.; Loree Alexander and her husband, Bret of Georgetown, Texas, Susan McCoy and her husband, John of Hendersonville, Tenn.; and Rachel McAuley and her husband, Tommy of Hendersonville, Tenn.; 17 great-grandchildren, Ashleigh Scott, Lauren Party, Michael Party, Robby Party and Scott Stanley, all of Midland, Brandee Noll and her husband, Anthony of Houston, James Roop, Michael Roop and Daniel Roop, all of Breckenridge, Blake Stoltz, Sarah Stoltz and Max Stoltz of Roanoke, Jillian Michael Vitelli of Chattanooga, Tenn.; John Lucas McCoy, Avery Elizabeth McCoy, Thomas Grant McAuley and Charles Griffin McAuley, all of Hendersonville, Tenn.; and two great-great-grandchildren, Chase Noll and Chandler Noll of Houston.

Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, February 18, 2000 at The Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity in Midland under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home. A second memorial service will be held at St. James Episcopal Church in Knoxville under the direction of Rose-Mann Funeral Home. Burial will be in Highland Memorial Cemetery in Knoxville.

The family requests memorials be directed to Hospice of Midland, P.O. Box 2621, Midland, TX 79702; The Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity, 1400 W. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701; or St. James Episcopal Church, 1101 N. Broadway St., Knoxville, TN 37917.

The family requests memorials be directed to Hospice of Midland, P.O. Box 2621, Midland, TX 79702; The Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity, 1400 W. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701; or St. James Episcopal Church, 1101 N. Broadway St., Knoxville, TN 37917.



Mary Maker-Romero

Services for Mary Alice Maker-Romero, 58, of Midland, are set for 2:00 p.m. Friday, February 18, at Pipkin Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow at Fairview Cemetery, and Rev. Bob Porterfield will officiate. Arrangements are under the direction of Pipkin Funeral Home.

Mary was born June 5, 1941 in Brosely, Missouri to Alvie Lee and Ella Mae Henson Brookshire. Mary passed away on Tuesday, February 15, 2000. She was a homemaker. Her first husband, Earnest Maker; a son, Ronald Brookshire; her parents, and a brother preceded her in death.

She is survived by her husband, Arturo Romero of Midland; two sons, Robert Reed and Michael Maker, both of Midland; four daughters, Alisha Haase of Midland, Linda Sheahan of Barwick, Ga., Nancy Elaine of Corpus Christi and LaQuita Maker of

Westfield, N.C.; one brother, David Henson of Springtown, Texas; two sisters, Iva Henson of Dexter, Mo., and Shirley Hardee of Springtown, Texas; nine grandchildren, Amielia and Amanda Sheahan, Sara Haase, John Wilber, Kim Cruz, LaCasta Brookshire, Kimberly Wilber, April Maker, and Sherry Gordon; and great-grandchildren, Jessica Wilber, Noelle Wilber, Blake Hatfield, Kristopher Brown, Olivia Cruz, Mackenzie Brookshire and Darain Cunningham.

Pallbearers will be Robert Reed, Michael Maker, Mike Sheahan, Bill Haase, Johnny Wilber and Feliciano Lombardo, Jr.



Michael Maker

Michael Dewayne Maker, 27, God's special little angel, took our Savior's hand surrounded by the Angels and peacefully began his new life in heaven on Tuesday, February 15, 2000. There to live

forever with no more pain, seizures, or surgeries, and no need of a wheelchair ever again.

Services are to be Friday, Feb. 18, 2000 at 4:00 p.m. at Temple Baptist Church, 4301 Thomason Drive, Midland, Texas, with Dr. Darrel Martin officiating. Burial will be in Resthaven Memorial Park under the direction of Thomas Funeral Home.

Michael was born December 8, 1972 in Stanton, Texas, to parents, Earney Lee Maker and Linda Diane Maker of Midland, Texas.

He lived in Midland and attended the Cerebral Palsy Center and the Opportunity Center for many years. Michael also lived in San Antonio, Texas, at the Willows Development Center (formerly Cresthaven Children's Center) and attended Special Education School, where he graduated from Sam Houston High School on May 28, 1995. He returned to Midland in April of 1999, and resided at Manor Park Nursing Facility. Michael lived a short life with us here on earth, but the hearts and lives he touched with his precious smile and bright blue eyes will never be the same. Because of Michael, our hearts will love unconditionally and our eyes can see things so many fail to see. God truly blessed his family and friends by sending us this special little angel to love.

He was preceded into the loving arms of Jesus by three grand-

fathers, Earnest Orville Maker, December 25, 1984, Wayne Compton Young, March 23, 1963, and William L. (Hoot) Gibson, September 9, 1999; and a great-grandmother, Donnie Elizabeth Hayes, December 13, 1989.

Michael temporarily leaves behind to cherish his memories his parents; two brothers, David Wayne Maker of Dallas, Texas and Earney Lee Maker Jr. of Midland, Texas; grandparents, Virginia Doris Gibson of Midland, Glen D. Merworth of De Queen, Arkansas, and Nina Mae Le Clair of Winthrop, Arkansas; triplet nephews, Alexander Wayne Maker, Earney Lee Maker III, and Elizabeth Leanne Maker; numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, and family; and a host of friends who loved him and will miss him so very much.

Pallbearers are to be Brandon Merworth, Chris Merworth, John S. Hayes, Robert Menchaca, Gordon Miller and Jeremy Gibson.

Honorary pallbearers are the triplets, Alexander Wayne Maker, Earney Lee Maker III, and Elizabeth Leanne Maker.

The family requests memorials be directed to Vista Care Family Hospice; Vista Care Foundation, 618 N. Golder, Odessa, Texas 79761; or Temple Baptist Church Memorial Fund, 4301 Thomason Drive, Midland, Texas 79703.

Please see OBIT/5A

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Looking For A Few Good Men
L.S. Walker wrote, "The world is looking for men who will stand for the right if the heavens titter and the earth reels; men who will tell the truth and look the world right in the eye; men who know their message and tell it; men who know their place and fill it; men who know their business and attend to it, men who will not shirk or dodge; men who are not too lazy to work, nor too proud to be poor."
And, they're hard to find. Politics and government keep searching, big business is calling, women and their kids are pleading, and God is still hoping. The Bible says, "Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men of courage; do everything in love." I Corinthians 16:13. We just need a few more good men.
Men like the immortal coach Tom Landry, whose pristine qualities on and off the field commanded respect and dignity. Now that he is gone, will the dynamic yet corrupted sports world find another? Men like a strong Christian leader of our community, Dan Johnson, Jr. who for 35 years had given leadership, friendship, and courage from God to the Northside Church of Christ in Midland and this community. Who can fill his shoes? God, our prayer is that you will confront our men, young and old, to become true leaders in our world today.

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TODAY'S FUNERALS

EMMARETTA HOUGH
11 a.m., Holy Trinity Episcopal

MEDIE NICHOLS
2 p.m. Ellis Chapel

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OBITUARIES

(From 3A)

Medie Nichols

Medie Marie Lundy Nichols passed from life to death at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 15, 2000 at Tranquility Hospice Center in Austell, Georgia.

Born February 23, 1912 in Miller County, Arkansas, the last of seven children and the second daughter of Mabry Albert and Frances Tallulah (Gillespie) Lundy, she was educated in the public schools of Miller County and boarding school in Jefferson, Texas.

On July 4, 1929 she married her childhood sweetheart, Lake Vestal (Nick) Nichols on the Texas/Arkansas state line in Miller County.

The family moved to Rodessa, Caddo Parish, Louisiana in 1936, where they remained until 1944; at which time the family moved to Wake Village, Bowie County, Texas. The family moved to Sundown in 1950, to Denver City in 1952, to Odessa in 1955, and to Midland in 1960. She moved to Powder Springs, Georgia in 1998. Family, home and church comprised her world.

She was predeceased by her parents, her only sister, and all five of her brothers. Her husband died August 19, 1990.

Services are scheduled for Friday, February 18 at 2:00 p.m. in the Ellis Funeral Home Chapel in Midland, with Reverend James Aldridge of North-western Baptist Church officiating. Interment will follow at

Resthaven Memorial Park where she will rest beside her husband of 61 years.

Survivors are a son, J. Waylon Nichols and wife, Leona of Odessa; a daughter, Norma LaNell Daniel and husband, James of Powder Springs, Georgia; three grandsons, Lyndon Bruce Daniel and wife, Dawna of Decatur, Georgia, David Eugene Nichols and wife, Allene of Arlington, Texas, and Ramon Andrew Nichols of Arlington; two granddaughters, Shelia Carol Wigley and husband, Gene of Marietta, and Sabrina Marie Christian and husband, Eric of Kennesaw, Georgia; and three great-grandchildren, Kristin Nicole Wigley of Marietta, Wesley Christian and Kennesaw and Maxwell Nichols of Arlington. Additionally, she is survived by nine nephews and six nieces.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, memorials be made to the Alzheimer's Association, Post Office Box 3389, Midland, Texas 79760.

"Never forget those who cannot remember."

Samuel Wine

Samuel Floyd Wine, 81, of Arlington, Texas, died Wednesday, February 16, 2000 in Arlington.

Funeral services will be 2 p.m. Saturday, February 19, 2000 at First Presbyterian Church of Arlington, 1200 S. Collins. Burial will follow at Moore Memorial Gardens. He will lie in state 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday at Moore Funeral Home

in Arlington.

Samuel was born August 6, 1918 in Arlington, where he was a life-long resident.

He was a retired accountant for Williamson-Dickie Manufacturing Company of Fort Worth, where he was employed for 38 years. He was a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin, where he was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity. During World War II, he was a lieutenant in the Navy as a naval aviator. He served as a flight instructor. He was a Mason since 1946 at the Arlington Lodge. He was a 73-year member of the First Presbyterian Church of Arlington, where he served as an elder for several years. His community services included: Boy Scout Troop Leader for 10 years, Order of the Arrow and Silver Beaver; Democratic Precinct Chairman for 25 years, treasurer of the Arlington Senior Men's Club;

member of Arlington Men's Bible Class and the Oldtimers Club; and volunteered for Meals-on-Wheels.

He and his wife, Dorothy "Dot" Wine would have celebrated their 60th anniversary in November. Mr. Wine's greatest pleasure was being with the family group.

Survivors include his wife of 59 years, Dorothy "Dot" Wine of Arlington; four children, Floyd Wine, Jr. and his wife, Janet, of Fort Worth, Susan Seltzer of Midland, Larry Wine and his wife, Jane, of Libertyville, Illinois, and Bill Wine and his wife, Kathy, of Dallas; nine grandchildren, Eric Wine, Shera Wine, Angela Meister, Dawn Seltzer, Tracie Seltzer, Emily Wine, Amanda Wine, Haley Wine, and Annabelle Wine; and two great-grandchildren, Brittany Meister and Jayci Meister.

DEATH NOTICES

Fern Harris

Fern Wood Harris, 83, died Monday, Feb. 14, at a local care center.

Memorial services will be 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 19, at Crestview Baptist Church with the Rev. Dr. Larry Ashlock officiating under the direction of Pipkin Funeral Home.

She was born March 26, 1916 on her parents ranch near LaJunta, Colo.

She had lived in Los Angeles, Calif., until retiring; Mountain Home Village, Calif., Tehachapi, Calif., and Stayton, Ore., before moving to Midland.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Jesse Lyle Harris.

Survivors include a son, Tom Harris of Salem, Ore.; a daughter, Valerie Mullins of Midland; two brothers including her twin, Frank Wood Jr. of McCleary, Wash., and Ed Wood of Chicko, Calif.; five grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the Crestview Baptist Mission Fund.

Lossie Dean

LUBBOCK—Lossie Gem Dean, 89, formerly of Lamesa,

died Tuesday, Feb. 15, at a Lubbock hospital.

Services will be 4 p.m. today, Feb. 18, at the First Baptist Church Chapel of Lamesa with the Rev. Clifton Igo officiating. Burial will be at the Lamesa Cemetery under the direction of Branon Funeral Home. Visitation will be 2:30 p.m. Friday at the church parlor.

She was born April 24, 1910 in Dickens County.

She taught Sunday School and was a member of the First Baptist Church. She was a member of the Medical Arts Hospital Auxiliary. She was a professional seamstress for Juanita's Drapery Shop. She moved to Lubbock five years ago.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Richard Self in 1946; and a son, R.W. Self of Crosbyton.

Survivors include her husband,

D.J. Dean of Lubbock; a daughter, Mona Madison of Midland; two sons, Nat Self of Montgomery and David Dean of Boise, Idaho; a sister, Zona Vilas of Lubbock; eight grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the R.W. Self Memorial Scholarship, P.O. Box 486, Crosbyton, TX 79322.

Leonah Thompson

Leonah Thompson died Thursday, Feb. 17, at a local hospital.

Services are pending with Ellis Funeral Home.

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FEB 18 2000

Government now says FBI infrared used at Waco can detect gunfire

WASHINGTON (AP) — Government officials now acknowledge that the type of aerial infrared camera used by the FBI during the 1993 Waco siege is capable of detecting gunfire — an about-face that comes just weeks before a crucial demonstration that will test the Branch Davidians' claim that federal agents fired their weapons.

Lawyers for Branch Davidian plaintiffs who have filed a wrongful-death suit against the government contend the feds' acknowledgment, which they characterized as a "stunning reversal," is a tacit admission that

next month's field test will capture flashes of gunfire.

"What we're seeing is the government can read the handwriting on the wall, so to speak, and their experts have told them 'Expect to see gunfire flashes on the (infrared) demonstration tapes that are going to look just like the flashes on the April 1993 tape,'" the plaintiffs' lead counsel, Michael Caddell, said Thursday.

A day earlier, one of the government's chief defenders in the lawsuit said the Forward Looking Infrared camera, or FLIR, is capable of detecting gunfire.

"Our position is that it is pos-

sible for FLIR technology to capture gunfire in some circumstances," U.S. Attorney Michael Bradford of Beaumont told reporters, reiterating the government's stance that no shots were fired by federal agents on April 19.

Three months earlier, however, the government appeared skeptical about the FLIR's ability to detect gunfire. In a November filing in federal court in Waco, the Justice Department proposed to test the plaintiffs' "hypothesis" that gunfire can be captured on film.

And the FBI's own FLIR oper-

ators, in recent depositions, denied that the infrared camera could detect muzzle blasts, Caddell and co-counsel Jim Brannon said.

"Now they see they are going to lose the test, they are shifting gears," Brannon said. "To diminish the test before you ever run it, that's the best strategy you could ever follow, isn't it?"

The government has long insisted that no shots were directed at the Branch Davidians during the waning moments of the 51-day siege, which ended when

their retreat was consumed by flames several hours into an FBI tear-gassing operation designed to flush them out.

Some 80 Davidians died during the blaze, some from the fire, others from gunshot wounds. Federal officials say the cult members' died by their own hands.

In an interview Thursday, Bradford denied any shift in the government's stance on the FLIR. As for statements made during the depositions, he said the plaintiffs' lawyers inter-

viewed "individual FBI agents that we did not offer as experts."

The field test, which is due to be held at Fort Hood in mid-March, is about more than whether the FLIR can capture gunfire, Bradford said. Also central to resolving the lingering controversy is whether the cameras used during the field test will detect people on the ground, he said, noting that the 1993 FLIR did not capture the thermal signatures of agents stationed outside the compound.

Lee High Madrigal Dinner this weekend

By Matt Josefy
Staff Writer

Magical things are bound to happen this weekend and the next at the Lee High School annual Madrigal Dinner.

For the ninth consecutive year, chorale students will be putting on a program of renaissance music, which often includes six- and eight-part harmony.

"The main purpose is to bring another arts and entertainment event to the Permian Basin through a music and dinner theater. We don't get a lot of those," said publicity chairwoman Phyllis Mason.

"It brings in places from Renaissance times. They bring in community things and world events that are happening now, so you can identify more with what's going on. Parts of it are

really humorous," said Susan Reeves, who said she enjoyed the program last year and looks forward to seeing her daughter's participation this year.

"This year's is going to be like a time travel back through the centuries," Ms. Reeves said.

The choir has been working on the performance daily for the past two weeks, and begun preparing the musical scores in January.

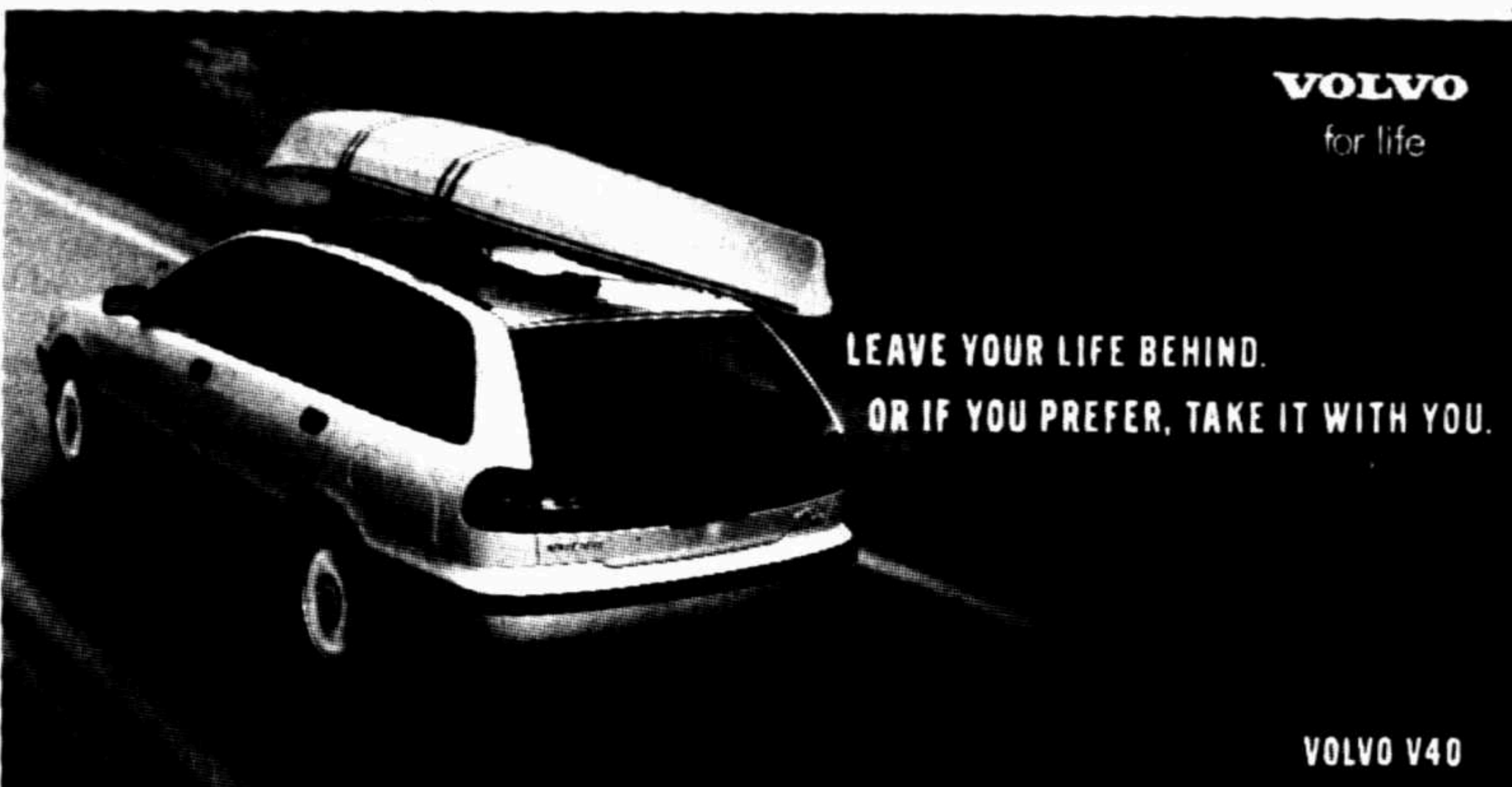
Ms. Mason promises satisfaction.

"Everybody has a good seating and there are jesters in full cos-

tume," she said.

Tickets, which must be bought ahead of time, are available from the choir office, which can be reached at 689-1619. The tickets, \$25 for adults or \$17.50 for the Thursday performance for high school students, include a dinner at Greentree Country Club, where the event will be held.

Performances, with seating beginning at 6:35 and the show at 7:05, will be tonight, tomorrow night, and February 25-27. The Saturday show and the 26th show are already sold out.



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Area briefs

Tree planting

Volunteers from Keep Midland Beautiful, Tree-Keepers and the Midland Boys and Girls Clubs will meet at Taylor Park, at the corner of Goode and Carter streets, to plant more than 60 30-gallon trees. The trees were furnished through funding by the city of Midland, Chapman Forestry Foundation of Lubbock, Keep Midland Beautiful and the Boys and Girls Clubs of Midland. All-dredge Gardens donated plants and materials along with discounts.

For information on how to volunteer for this and other projects, call Keep Midland Beautiful at 688-4190.

Diabetes drive

Adela Marmolejo of Midland is organizing a petition drive for signatures to persuade Congress and the president to support a significant increase in research funding for America's sixth-deadliest disease. The petition efforts earned Marmolejo a free trip to Washington to rally before Congress in March.

Once all the signatures have been tallied, the petitions will be presented at the ADA Rally for a cure in Washington, DC on March 21.

For local information call, Adela Marmolejo, 685-4915.

Today's Agenda

For information on checking out books, library hours and how to get a library card, call the Midland County Library at 688-8991.

Myrtle-Tree ministries, Women's Bible Studies, noon, 312 W. Illinois, 683-1370, 683-5670.

Recreation lessons for those with mental retardation, 682-9771.

Tall City Road Riders, dinner ride, 7 p.m., leave from Texas Am. Bank, 684-5310.

American Legion bingo, 8 p.m., 501 Air Park Road, 682-5511 (license: 1-75-6035782-8)

Compulsive Eaters Anonymous, noon, First United Methodist Church, 694-2860.

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Cuba

By John Rice
Associated Press

HAVANA — can't even think in a country where can cost months the streets of Havana these days with traffic: a testament to inventiveness improvement.

Only five years was an automotive army of bicycles ruled the streets. They have joined the pedalcars, motorized bicycles dodging cavernous the capital's streets.

Clouds of black from the diesel Russian Kamas ancient American to run on diesel.

The crowded dence of the U.S. lating in the Cuba legalized dollars in 1993 selling gas for service stations.

The cost can lon of regular while many Cuba about \$10 a month.

Still, enterprising buying. Some have

Latin American minister moves to crude oil

Associated Press

Latin American are suggesting the output of crude soaring prices to year highs and heavily boosted gasoline oil costs in the U.S.

Mexico's energy minister, Luis Tellez, said he believes Saudi Arabia's OPEC producer major producer tel, both share Mexico production should

His comments view in Mexico's oil industry suggesting building on the Petroleum Export raise production meeting March Austria.

Late Wednesday's oil minister, called on OPEC about rising crude

"I think it's a corrective measure," said in a television

Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia's oil minister, Ali Naimi, warned South Korea, saying he favors prices in a range barrel. Currently \$30 in the United States, approaching that

A statement issued by the Korean Energy Development Corp. also said Naimi's crude prices would the high-demand oil. It gave no clue whether Naimi's quotas at the next or believes prices on their own.

Saudi Arabia's largest crude oil Venezuela are among producing members of the 11-nation supported production begun in 1998 prices from several levels.

Oil prices have doubled since 1997, non-OPEC allies March 1999 to some 2.1 million barrels a day. That, added to removed more than barrels a day from markets, a decline cent.

A series of countries could provide OPEC may do March.

U.S. Energy Richardson is scheduled to Mexico on Saturday with Tellez on Saturday he is expected Saudi Arabia and their discussions.

Oil ministers Gulf states are Wednesday in Riyadh, to coordinate for the OPEC. Tellez, meanwhile, led a trip to Norway for talks with counterpart, Mari Holmboe, later, he is scheduled to meet the Saudi and other ministers.

Mexico, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela were producers that cut 1998 output cut both OPEC and non-OPEC producers.

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Associated Press

Still, enterprising Cubans are buying. Some have relatives or

Many Cubans have removed

"It's not an alarming failure rate," he said, though a spot check of windshields for inspection stickers indicates many drivers of old cars have yet to put them to the test.

Even some repairs can be risky. With parts hard to find, some Cubans have found or bought parts diverted from state stocks. Each car's registration book shows the legal source of its engine and other main pieces. If the numbers don't match, the car can be seized.

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Associated Press

Mexico, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela were the trio of oil producers that put together the 1998 output cuts that involved both OPEC and non-OPEC producers.

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Map showing the location of the event at the University of Texas at Austin. The map includes landmarks such as Music City Mall, Home Depot, and the University of Texas. The event location is marked with a black dot near the intersection of 42nd St and the University of Texas campus. A north arrow is also present.

1 AM-6PM

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Detainees, human-rights groups say Russia torturing Chechen men

By Andrew Kramer
Associated Press

MALGOBEK, Russia — Chechens trying to leave their war-ravaged republic are being tortured in Russian detention camps and subjected to severe beatings, rapes and other brutality, refugees and human rights groups say.

The allegations come on the heels of other complaints of human rights abuses in the Russian offensive in Chechnya, including reports of summary executions of civilians in Grozny, the Chechen capital.

Russian officials deny the allegations, but Chechens who have fled into neighboring republics tell similar, grisly accounts of their detention in camps that Russia says it set up to filter out rebels who are trying to escape disguised as civilians.

A 21-year-old Chechen, lying in pain in a bed in Malgobek in neighboring North Ossetia, said his ordeal began Jan. 22 when police dragged him off a bus of refugees and took him to a camp in the Chechen village of Chernokozovo.

The man, who asked that he be identified only by his first name, Ruslan, said he was forced to run a gauntlet of masked policemen swinging truncheons, had his

clothes torn off and was forced to stand naked in a cold storage room.

"I asked what they were detaining me for, but they didn't answer," he said. He was released only after his mother paid a bribe to the camp directors, he said.

At least three such camps are operating, according to Peter Bouckaert, a researcher for the Human Rights Watch group in the region.

"Russia appears to have declared any Chechen male to be a suspected rebel, subject to arbitrary arrest and brutal treatment," he said.

The allegations were echoed by the World Organization Against Torture, which issued a statement in Geneva on Thursday saying, "We cannot ignore that the filtration camps are indeed concentration camps where Russian soldiers are committing the worst atrocities, in all impunity, against their prisoners."

In Washington, State Department spokesman James P. Rubin said Thursday that "Russia has a clear obligation to investigate the numerous credible reports of civilian killings and alleged misconduct by its soldiers promptly."

Sergei Yastrzhembsky, who is acting President Vladimir Putin's aide for Chechnya information, on

Thursday reiterated denials of torture at Chernokozovo.

The allegations are "the No. 1 topic in the information war the Western mass media have unleashed," he said on Russia's ORT television. "Routine work like in any other detention center is going on there."

He said that European Union observers would be allowed into the camp to see the situation for themselves, but gave no date of a possible visit. The Council of Europe's human rights commissioner, Alvaro Gil-Robles, is due to arrive in Moscow on Feb. 24, but his office could give no details of the trip.

Ruslan, the refugee, told of a routine of torment, in which detainees were often beaten in a hallway in the early morning, their cries awakening others in

their cells.

Ruslan said guards told him "don't look me in the eyes, you black face," and then one hit him in the spine with a hammer. He says he has not been able to stand erect since then.

An investigator accused him of fighting on the side of the Islamic rebel groups that have battled Russian soldiers during the six-month war and demanded names and addresses of rebels, Ruslan said.

"Those who signed confessions, or said they could identify other men who were fighters, did not come back to the cells," according to another refugee who said he had also been at Chernokozovo.

The refugee, Eli, said a masked policeman once opened a peephole to the cell and said, "Who

wants a smoke?"

When a prisoner approached the hole, the guard sprayed tear gas into the cell and those inside reeled and were racked by coughs for minutes, Eli said.

Eli said a man from their cell was called out and he heard guards rape him. Then a guard said he should answer to a woman's name, Fatima. Other detainees described similar acts.

After this event, when guards rapped on the cell door with a truncheon, the detainees were to call out the number of people in the cell as "fifteen men and one

woman," said Eli.

Yastrzhembsky said Thursday there are 16 women among the 235 people currently held in Chernokozovo. But he rejected a report by the French newspaper Le Monde that said there were children in the camp.

In a move possibly aimed at deflecting criticism of Russia's human rights record in Chechnya, Putin on Thursday appointed Federal Migration Service head Vladimir Kalamonov as his special representative on human and civil rights in Chechnya, the Interfax news agency said.

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Thousands demand execution

NABLUS, West Bank (AP) — Chanting "execution, execution," some 3,000 Palestinians took to the streets Thursday and demanded that a man suspected of raping a 5-year-old girl at knife-point be put to death.

Guns fired shots in the air and marchers carried banners reading, "Our children have the right to live in security."

The suspect, Bilal Shuko, a 22-year-old baker's assistant, was put

on trial Thursday before a military tribunal.

Three people have been executed in Palestinian-controlled areas in the past six years. In two dozen other cases, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat commuted a death penalty to life in prison.

Arafat's Fatah group organized Thursday's street protest and distributed leaflets calling for Shuko's execution.

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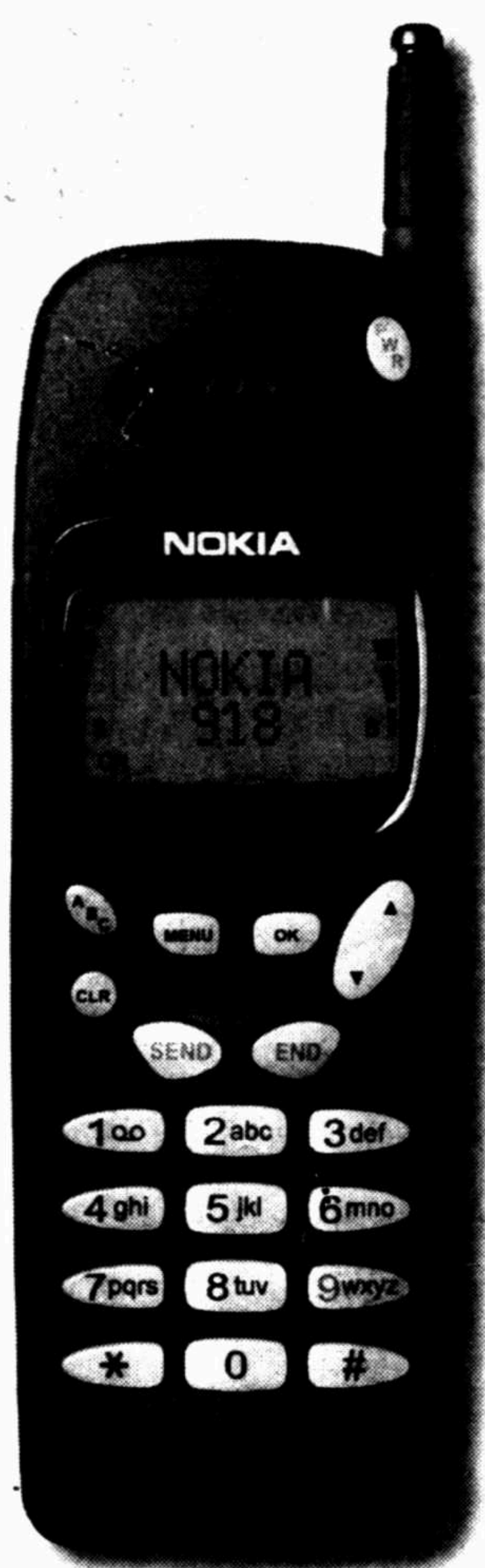
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Iran's

By Vijay Joshi
Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Blue words scrawled on a police sheet at a polling station in the frustration of "20 years of oppression is enough."

As Iran holds elections Friday, have emerged vowing to vote to provide their own future, denied after the election.

In 1979, grabbed at the the dictatorship of the U.S.-backed revolution. Ruhollah Khomeini's sons and daughters are battling for power. They are the sengers of God, what to do, we don't like this chemical engineering Tehran University give his last name have been.

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Iran's young voters may use election to end 'ideological suppression'

By Vijay Joshi
Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — The electric blue words scrawled on a white sheet at a political rally captured the frustrations of Iran's youth: "20 years of ideological suppression is enough."

As Iran holds parliamentary elections Friday, young people have emerged as kingmakers, vowing to vote for those who will provide them the freedoms denied after the Islamic revolution.

In 1979, young Iranians grabbed at the chance to topple the dictatorial and corrupt regime of the U.S.-backed shah and join the revolution led by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini. Today, the sons and daughters of those Iranians are battling what they say is another kind of repression.

The hard-liners have "used Islam as a tool to fortify their power. They think they are messengers of God and can tell us what to do, what to wear. We don't like this," said Mehdi, a chemical engineering student at Tehran University who refused to give his last name. Outspoken students have been jailed in Iran.

Young people complain that 21 years of Islamic rule by Khomeini's followers and successors failed to bear the promised fruit: jobs and prosperity. Instead, youth were barred from mixing freely with the opposite sex, listening to pop and Western music or watching foreign television programs. Women were told to cover themselves from head to toe and the clergy, in its role as the interpreter of God's will, was deemed above criticism.

More than half of Iran's 62 million people are under the age of 25. About 20 million of them are in high schools and universities that have traditionally been the

harbingers of change and the barometers of public discontent.

"The young people have needs, but they get nothing. It means they are very angry with everybody," said Saeed Laylaz, a newspaper columnist and political analyst.

A frequent target of youth anger is former President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani. A former moderate, he has riled many by leaning toward hard-liners in recent weeks.

At the Tehran University rally Wednesday where the handwritten declaration was held aloft, men and women chanted anti-Rafsanjani slogans, interrupting speeches by pro-reform candidates.

Iran's economy, a mix of free-market and socialism, has struggled with high inflation, a bloated public sector and unemployment. Joblessness is officially around 20 percent, but unofficially believed to be higher than 30 percent.

Iranians' hopes were raised by the election of reformist President Mohammad Khatami in May 1997. He has relaxed many strict

rules and allowed unprecedented press freedom. But Khatami's hands will remain tied as long as hard-liners control key institutions like the 290-member parliament, or Majlis.

Even if pro-reform candidates win the elections, they have a long way to go. Laws passed by parliament have to be approved by a 12-member Council of Guardians, which is now controlled by hard-liners.

The conservatives also control other pillars of power — the judiciary, the state media and the armed forces. And the supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who is considered a hard-liner, has the final authority on all matters.

Analysts say any change will have to flow from the youth.

In 1953, the students were the main supporters of popular Prime Minister Mohammed Mosaddaq, whose government was overthrown by a CIA-backed coup that reinstalled the shah. Since then Iranian universities have been centers of resistance against the regime.

The 1979 revolution was pre-

ceded by almost daily demonstrations by students against the shah, providing the impetus to clergy.

It is clear that the youth are once again frustrated, this time with the hurdles created by hard-liners against Khatami's reforms.

After a reformist newspaper was closed by hard-liners last summer, tens of thousands of

Tehran University students flooded the streets for three days. The protests spread across the country, and scores of student leaders were arrested, some later sentenced to lengthy jail terms or even death for their roles in the demonstrations.

Analysts say the students' movement fills the vacuum created by the lack of established

political parties, which were allowed only in 1989. Candidates still contest elections as independents.

"Once we have a professional political party system then the role of this movement will also decrease," said Mohsen Mir-damadi, a professor of law and political science at Tehran University.

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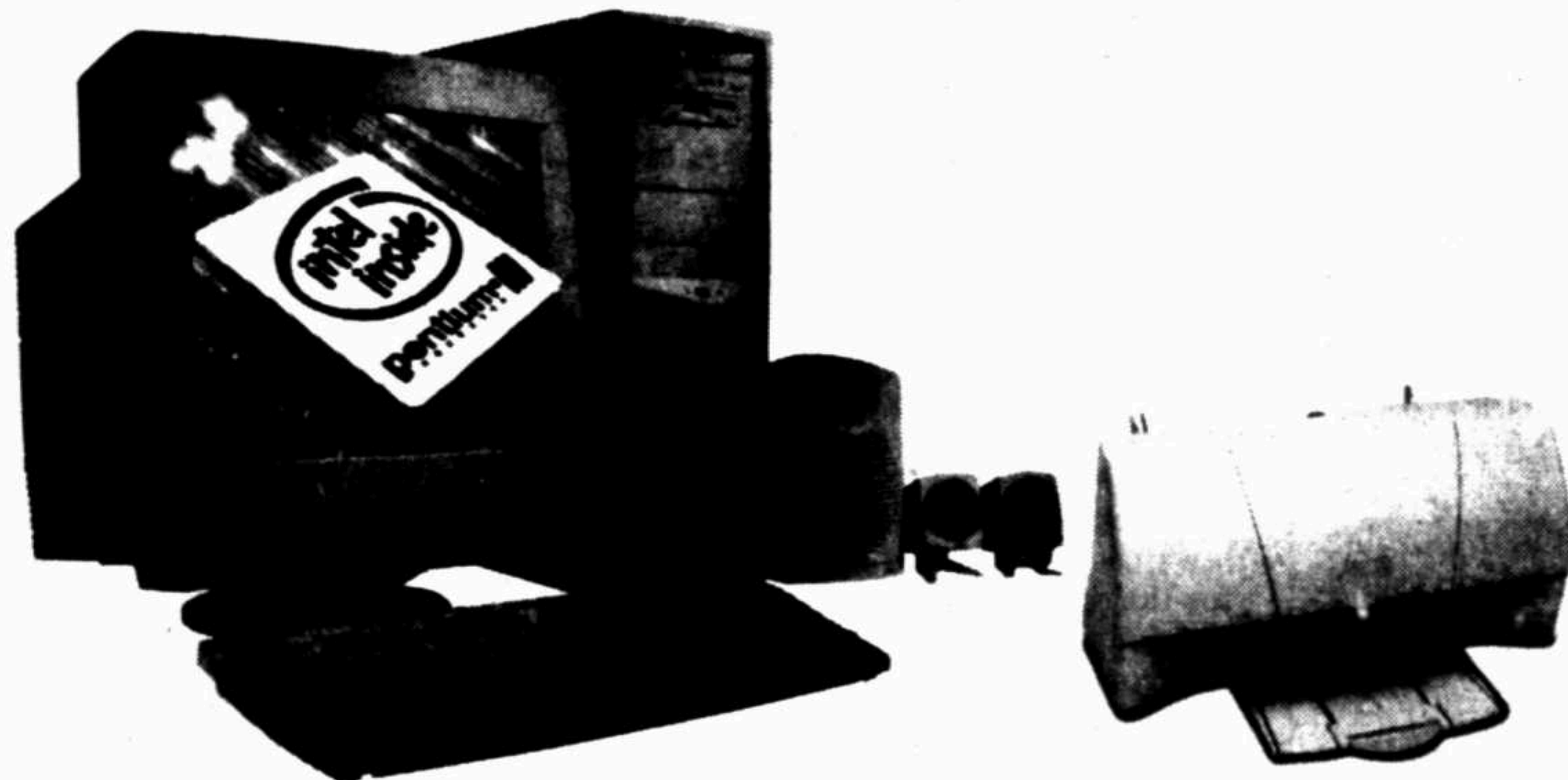
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Aaron building, medical program vital for this area

Over the past several years we have watched along with other Midlanders as Midland College has grown from a small community-based college into a vital community-oriented institution of higher learning.

With this week's approval by Midland College trustees of the start of construction on a \$4.2 million medical building to bear the name "Aaron Medical Sciences Center" the college truly has moved beyond the bounds of Midland to embrace a special relationship with Texas Tech University in Lubbock in the quest to improve the field of medicine in this region.

The building, on which construction is expected to begin Monday, will be named for retired oilman Todd Aaron and his wife, Dorothy. Their contributions toward this end are truly noteworthy and will benefit all the residents of this area in future years.

One of the goals of the establishment of the physicians' assistants program that MC will operate with Texas Tech is to educate assistants — a growing, needed arm of the medical establishment — who will remain in the West Texas area where physicians are too few and often far between.

As it is structured, Texas Tech and MC agreed to a joint operation in which Texas Tech will offer the physicians' assistant program and MC will teach EMS, respiratory therapy and medical information classes. Texas Tech and MC will also split the costs of constructing the Aaron building at about \$3 million each.

This crucial medical program is important not only for Texas Tech and Midland College, but for the residents of Midland, Lubbock and the entire Permian Basin.

It is to be hoped that the program will prove successful in relieving the tremendous shortage of medical professionals in this entire area of Texas.

One of the goals of the establishment of the physicians' assistants program that MC will operate with Texas Tech is to educate assistants, who will remain in the West Texas area where physicians are too few and often far between.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Friday, Feb. 18, the 49th day of 2000. There are 317 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 18, 1861, Jefferson Davis was sworn in as president of the Confederate States of America in Montgomery, Ala.

On this date:

In 1516, Mary Tudor, the Queen of England popularly known as "Bloody Mary," was born in Greenwich Palace.

In 1546, Martin Luther, leader of the Protestant Reformation in Germany, died.

In 1564, the artist Michelangelo died in Rome.

In 1885, Mark Twain's "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" was published in the United States.

In 1930, the ninth planet of our solar system, Pluto, was discovered.

In 1960, the Eighth Winter Olympic Games were formally opened in Squaw Valley, Calif. by Vice President Nixon.

In 1970, the defendants known as the Chicago Seven were found innocent of conspiring to incite riots at the 1968 Democratic National Convention.

In 1972, the California Supreme Court struck down the state's death penalty.

In 1977, the space shuttle Enterprise, sitting atop a Boeing 747, went on its maiden "flight" above the Mojave Desert.

In 1988, Anthony M. Kennedy was sworn in as the 104th justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.

Ten years ago: In general elections, Japan's conservative governing party held onto its 34-year-old majority in the Parliament's lower house.

Five years ago: The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People replaced veteran chairman William Gibson with Myrlie Evers-Williams, the widow of slain civil rights leader Medgar Evers, after the rank-and-file declared no confidence in Gibson's leadership.

One year ago: The Clinton administration warned Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic to choose peace with ethnic Albanians in Kosovo, or face a devastating military strike.

WILLIAM MURCHISON

Passing of gentlemen marks end of era

Cartoonist and a football coach. Not much relationship there, surely, apart from their ages at death: Charles Schulz, 77; Tom Landry, 75.

Ah, in some sense, though, you see, that was the relationship: lives formed by, and conditioned on, social, cultural, moral and religious outlooks that went out of style some years ago.

You could call both men — setting aside their innovative gifts — old-fashioned guys, men of the past. Their brains shaped their lives and fortunes, but the past had its way with them — its standards, its expectations. They were high standards, large ones, at any rate, by comparison with what replaced them.

Take a look:

What are fans and sports writers lauding Coach Landry for in those long tributes earned in the course of a long career? They are lauding, among other things, his dignity and upright manner of life. Would you say that professional sports are swamped with coaches and players and owners who exemplify those traits? Probably not.

Right now, if I count correctly, we've got two pro footballers facing murder charges. In various pro sports, we've got: players who choke coaches; players who father children out of wedlock; players charged with rape and drunk driving; taunters of fans; adversaries of referees and yahoos. It's anything goes. It's the outstretched hand, the unbuttoned lip.



Murchison

Against all of which Tom Landry stood. A man of the old culture was Tom. Not least the old sports culture, with its strong bias in favor of — for some odd reason — sport, rather than money, ego or personal aggrandizement. In the old culture, famous as folk like Red Grange and Joe DiMaggio might become — sport was a game. A game had rules. A player kept within the rules. A coach's job was helping him do so.

Tom Landry kept his players in line and still won. It can be done. It's just not done that much anymore. Thus Tom's achievements, though belonging to the past, look all the more notable 10 or 20 years after they took place.

As for Charles Schulz and "Peanuts": Every day, every single day for half a century, he gave his fans first-class entertainment — funny and wise, but also gentle. Deliberately so. The propensity to gentleness marked him distinctly as a man of the past. Public entertainment, at the turn of our century, is about as gentle as a meat hook.

Schulz, a man of rich imagination, refused to "push the envelope," or get "edgy." He respected the conventions of the comic strip, never preaching at readers as Walt Kelly did, and now Gary Trudeau, never trying to enrage or shock, like "South Park."

A lesser man might have shoe-horned child abuse or Monica Lewinsky into his strips. Not Schulz, who had a constricted idea of "relevance." His response, for instance, to the civil rights controversy of the '60s was to invent a black character, Franklin — as if to say, hey, folks, here's Franklin, look how everyday he is.

Tom Landry won two Super Bowls. Charles Schulz reached readers in 75 countries. Not bad

for a couple of old-fashioned guys, living more or less by the mores of their youth, their backs turned to the temptations of anger and exhibitionism.

It was a different culture in important respects, the culture of the '30s, '40s and '50s. Not a perfect culture by any means, possessing hard edges and blind spots of its own.

Interesting thing about those blind spots — such as disdain for some who had done nothing to earn disdain. The old culture worked its way out from behind those blind spots: coming on its own, like Schulz, to see Franklin as a good guy and not a racial stereotype. The old culture had that flexibility. Its sense of dignity pertained to more than hats and white gloves and holding ladies' chairs. Character was dignity — not the only measuring stick but the most used and the most respected.

At the heart of the old culture was religion: the honor due deity. Landry and Schulz believed in God, went to church and transported the principles learned there into the areas of life they frequented. It showed.

One couldn't say this never happens now. Religious faith abounds — the culture just happens not to affirm it. The culture's creed is no creed: Whatever turns you on.

Two old-fashioned gents indeed — Tom Landry, Charles Schulz; men of the past. And what should their fans be proud of? Of missing them and recognizing and honoring their qualities. Good sign. Maybe we're not as dumb as we generally look.

William Murchison's column is distributed by Creators Syndicate.

LETTERS

Letter should be factual if it's going to berate police

If Tony Heredia is displeased with the Midland Police Department and its officers and wishes to berate them, then he should make sure his letter to the editor (Letters, Feb. 6) is factual and accurate.

I am a civilian employee — community relations officer — assigned to the front desk — telephone response unit — and was on duty the day Mr. Okrasinski was fatally wounded. The first call came into the 911 operator at 5:01:25 p.m. This was a Priority One call and while the dispatcher was getting as much pertinent information as possible from an excited caller who probably witnessed his or her first actual shooting, officers were being dispatched. Officers were on the scene at 5:04:03 p.m. (two minutes and 30 seconds after the initial call).

Next, street officers and detectives had to interview all possible witnesses to attempt to get a thorough description of the actor and suspect's vehicle while identification technicians collected physical and photographic evidence at the crime scene. If you have six different witnesses at different locations in respect to the crime scene, it is very possible to have six different versions of what happened and you have to piece together when, what, who, where and how the incident occurred. At the 8:30 p.m. briefing, officers and volunteer civilians — COPs — were given the description of the possible actor and vehicle and the rest is history.

Sworn officers and civilian personnel are dedicated to doing their best to give Midland the best police force that the citizens have come to expect and demand. If the people of Midland want to maintain a high-caliber police force, then there should be incentives of some kind to make sworn officers and civilians want to make a career in this often thankless job with very few rewards. Most of the time we are not recognized for the good job that we do, but if something bad happens, it becomes front-page news for everyone to read.

E.G. Davis
community service officer

Maybe 31 percent of voters will change vote

So what's an additional 31 percent? If the speed limit is 70 mph and you're driving 92 mph, you are driving 31 percent faster than the speed limit. It is like driving up to the gasoline pumps and seeing gasoline prices of \$1.76 per gallon for regular unleaded gasoline instead of \$1.34.

Why not pay 10.1525 percent sales tax (10.48 percent after April 1) instead of the current 7.75 percent? That new Suburban you thought you were going to pay \$34,000 for will now cost you \$44,540.

Let's ask coaches Browning and Parchman if they would rather have a salary of \$78,500 per year or \$102,835? Is that your final answer or would you like to phone a friend? Oil companies would like to see a posted price of \$32.75 instead of \$25. How about adding 31 percent more students to the 2000-plus students at the currently overcrowded Midland High School? Do you think it could accommodate 2,630 students?

The new Scharbauer Sports Complex was "sold" to the voters last year for \$35 million dollars. Now that the vote is complete, we find out the "total cost" is going to be around \$46 million — before any actual construction begins. Hey, that's only an additional 31 percent! On top of that, we find out football games will not be played in the new stadium until 2002, a year later than originally planned. It makes you wonder ... what if 31 percent of the voters who approved the Scharbauer Sports Complex had known about the 31 percent additional cost and time delay prior to casting their vote and decided to vote no?

Gary Bond

What's the real story on stadium costs?

Gradually, we are learning more about the ultimate cost of the fine, new sports complex. While some of the council expressed surprise that the cost is now one-third

higher, others knew that the cost would be higher but chose not to share that knowledge with the voters. Don't be surprised when the actual cost comes in much higher than this new, revised guess.

We didn't fool the bond underwriters with our scheme to keep the project off the tax rolls. They obviously took a look at the magnificent building plan and our meager 1/4-cent increase in our declining sales tax and said "no way." Funny, we planned to keep the airport off the tax rolls too, but the bond rate came in too high then too, remember?

Our recently promoted city manager, who reportedly was responsible for the planning, says we can cut out 1,000 parking places. This would equate to an even higher overestimate of seating needed. The complex either needs them or not! For this kind of planning we promote the planner? The mayor says "when the bids come in, we may have to trim the project." Did he actually mean we may have to trim the taxpayers even more?

It was my impression that the voters approved an increase in the sales tax rate to permit the construction of a complex which would not be funded by taxpayer obligation bonds (per the city attorney) and that would cost, by conservative estimate, \$35 million. By what authority does the mayor approve taxpayer obligation bonds for \$38.95 million? Obviously, we were not told the whole story or we have a city administration out of control.

Let's hear the real story.

John P. Snider

Celebrity opinions should not sway voters

The other day, I was watching CNN's coverage of the presidential candidates campaigning in New Hampshire. CNN allowed Ted Danson and his wife to express their opinions on national television. They are both strong supporters of Al Gore. They just about made me sick to my stomach as they proudly pro-

claimed their support for Al Gore's stance on being pro-abortion, pro-gun control, pro-environmentalism, and supporting homosexuals serving openly in the military.

Danson also went door-to-door trying to drum up support for Gore. What makes CNN think that we value the political opinions of actors or other celebrities? Are they supposed to be more enlightened simply because they are famous? Please, give me a break! These actors like Ted Danson make their living pretending to be other people. They live in a make-believe world and are paid unreasonably high salaries. Do you really think that they are in touch with the real world?

It is an insult for CNN or any other network to think that these actors can influence our decision. This also shows bias on CNN's part by only showing left-wing, liberal support. This is not so surprising because you cannot hardly watch a television show without some underlying liberal political agenda promoting homosexuality as being a normal, accepted lifestyle, or tolerance for anything except the Christian morals and values that this nation was founded on.

If you are like me, and are tired of being forced this kind of propaganda, then make your opinions heard. Don't leave it up to the celebrities and networks.

John Pierce

Midland citizens give visitors warm welcome

My family and I had the pleasure of visiting "The Tall City" over the weekend to participate in "Stream In The Desert," hosted by the Golf Course Road Church of Christ.

We want to thank the friendly citizens of Midland for their warm welcome and hospitality and especially, the members of the Golf Course Road church for their vision and tireless work to make an event of this magnitude so successful.

Andrew Turner



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By David M

Associated Pr

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By Marcia D

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Regents vote on Florida university admissions changes

By David Mark
Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — With several hundred students arriving to protest, the State University System's Board of Regents convened Thursday to vote on Gov. Jeb Bush's plan to drop affirmative action in admissions.

Under the plan, the university system will ban consideration of race and gender and instead admit the top 20 percent of every high school graduating class in the state. It is called the Talented 20 program.

The regents were also voting on whether state universities should take into account such factors as socioeconomic status, whether a student's parents went to college, and the quality of the student's high school.

Florida's 10-school university system has about 219,000 full-time students.

The Republican governor has said the proposal — part of his larger One Florida plan to bar consideration of race and gender in

admissions and state contracting — will increase diversity. Opponents dispute that.

Critics, many of them students, began filling the meeting room at the University of Central Florida more than two hours ahead of time.

Sylus Green, who was at the meeting to speak against Bush's plan, said he had a 1.7 grade-point average as a high school student from Chicago's South Side. The 20-year-old psychology major said he has a 4.0 at the University of Central Florida.

Under Bush's education plan, Green's low GPA might have prevented him from going to the university and receiving a minority scholarship.

"If I weren't given an opportunity to go to college, I wouldn't have had my chance to soar," said Green, who is black.

Thursday's session grew heated with the comments of Frank Williams, a Tampa minister.

"You say Bush, I say 'Heil Hitler,'" Williams shouted. "He

is nothing but a dictator, and I guarantee we as a people in America will not stand for a dictator in Florida."

That raised the ire of Regent Steven Uhlfelder.

"For you to compare this governor to Hitler it totally irresponsible, and I'm not going to sit here and listen to that," Uhlfelder said as he got up from his chair for a break.

A few in attendance Thursday spoke in favor of the proposed university admissions rules changes.

"We should not cling to policies that are not based on merit," said Dennis Freytes, a trustee of Orlando's Valencia Community College. "I hope you don't let demagoguery and group politics affect your vote."

Minority students attending the meeting said they supported parts of Bush's plan, such as increased funding to improve the state's struggling public schools and \$20 million more in financial aid for college students.

But many said it won't work unless the gap in resources is narrowed between mostly black public schools and mostly white ones.

"Some schools don't even have enough chalk," said Gerald Jones, who is black and recently graduated with a master's degree in public administration. "Our public school system isn't balanced."

Democratic state Sen. Daryl Jones of Miami, chairman of the Florida Conference of Black State Legislators, said white suburban teen-agers would benefit the most under the governor's plan.

Kim Hunter, a UCF junior, was more optimistic about the changes.

"Whoever has the best qualifications should be the ones that get the reward," said Hunter, who is white.

If approved by the board, the rule changes must still go before the independently elected Cabinet, which is to consider the matter Tuesday.



AP Photo
Students from the University of Central Florida applaud testimony given during the second hearing by the Florida Board of Regents on Florida Gov. Jeb Bush's "One Florida Initiative" Thursday at the University of Central Florida in Orlando, Fla.

NASA's full mapping mission approved

By Marcia Dunn
Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — By scrimping on fuel, space shuttle Endeavour's astronauts have saved enough to complete their mapping of Earth's peaks and valleys, NASA said Thursday.

"We have basically nicked and dimed our way up to full payment, and this has not been easy," said NASA official Milt Heflin.

A balky thruster on the end of the 197-foot-long radar antenna mast jutting out of Endeavour's cargo bay had threatened to cut short the mapping by as much as a day. But on Thursday, the space agency informed the six astronauts that their mapping would continue until Sunday night as planned.

That wasn't the only good news. To NASA's surprise, the thruster started working again, though only slightly. The astronauts had kept opening and closing the valve to the nitrogen-gas line in an attempt to clear any

debris.

"So everything's headed the right way and we're all pleased," Mission Control told the astronauts.

As of Thursday — Day 6 of the nine days of mapping planned — the radar aboard Endeavour had scanned more than 39 million square miles of Earth's terrain at least once, and 23 million square miles at least twice.

By Sunday night, the astronauts hope to have mapped about 48 million square miles of terrain at least twice, allowing scientists to create the most complete and accurate 3-D maps of the world.

The thruster problem cropped up over the weekend. Because of a leak or clog, the thruster on the tip of the radar antenna mast wasn't working and the astronauts had to fire Endeavour's thrusters more often to steady the mast.

Working round the clock, flight controllers came up with innovative ways to conserve fuel, including changes in steering the shuttle and flushing away urine.

The astronauts need ample fuel not only for the mapping but for pre-landing maneuvers in case bad weather keeps Endeavour up in orbit an extra day or two. Landing is scheduled for Tuesday.

In other shuttle news, NASA said it will send Atlantis to the international space station in April so astronauts can perform

repairs, and again in late summer following the launch of Russia's service module. All of the work was supposed to be done in a single mission, but managers split it into two because of continuing delays with the Russian module.

The Russians' latest target date for launching the module is July, more than two years behind schedule.

U.S. Customs agents finding cocaine in 'Miami Vice' levels

MIAMI (AP) — Smugglers have been moving increasingly large amounts of cocaine into Florida by way of Haiti, employing hiding places so ingenious that federal agents have had to drill into the keels of freighters to find the drugs.

This month alone, agents seized more than a ton of cocaine stashed inside false compartments aboard several freighters from Haiti. They found an additional 160 pounds of the drug hidden inside barrels of butter aboard a commercial flight that arrived in Miami.

"This particular incident of uncovering cocaine in the keel will force the organizations to come up with a new way to bring it in," said Frank Figueroa, lead investigator at the Customs Service office in Miami.

In the "Miami Vice" days of the 1980s, Colombian drug lords brought their cargo to Florida shores on fast boats or dropped it from low-flying planes. When federal agents caught on, the smugglers started shipping cocaine through Mexico. Then

when agents cracked down on that route, smugglers adapted yet again and began moving the drugs through Haiti.

Ten to 15 years ago, marijuana and illegal immigrants were the main illicit cargo from Haiti, an island nation 600 miles southeast of Miami.

Figueroa said agents noticed an increase in cocaine shipments from Haiti in the past four to five years. They were often brought by "mules," people hired to hide a few pounds of cocaine on them or in their luggage.

The Office of National Drug Control Policy estimates 12 percent of the drugs smuggled into the United States comes through Haiti. More than 3,000 pounds of that total — with a street value of \$25 million — was found this month, hidden in five vessels docked along the Miami River.

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Help with filing basic tax returns is to be available free for the public at the Midland County Public Library, 301 W. Missouri Avenue, on five Saturday afternoons from 2 to 4 p.m. IRS volunteers will be at the downtown Library's meeting room February 19 and 26, March 11 and 25, and April 8.

Those needing assistance should bring the tax package sent by the IRS with the label; all forms, W-2 and 1099s; information on other income, deductions and credits; and a copy of the 1998 tax return. Help is available for non-English speaking taxpayers.

In addition, both the downtown and Centennial Libraries have commonly used tax forms and information booklets. Less commonly used forms may be photocopied, Internet access to the IRS is also available.

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Government plans to track 22,000 tots for six years

By Anjette McQueen
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The vast majority of children enter kindergarten knowing their letters and numbers, well-behaved and in good health — but their poorer classmates start from behind, the Education Department said in a first-ever report card on the nation's youngest students.

The department announced that for six years it will follow the progress of a national sample of 22,000 youngsters who entered private and public kindergartens in the fall of 1998 in hopes of finding out how to help those who are lagging.

Until fifth grade, the pupils will be regularly tested in math and reading and observed for physical well-being and social development

in school and at home.

The goal, researchers say, is see how early childhood nutrition, education and other nurturing contributes to a child's long-term school performance.

"The better the start, the stronger the finish," said Education Secretary Richard Riley. "More families can read to their children every day. And we can help parents, especially working mothers, spend more time with their infants through paid maternity leave."

The study shows that for most of the nation's little ones, the start is strong: Nearly all, 94 percent, can count to 10 and pick out shapes when they start kindergarten. Two in three know their ABC's. More than 80 percent make friends,

For six years, the government will monitor nutrition, education and other nurturing factors.

cooperate and otherwise avoid bad behavior. All but 3 percent are in good health.

But the news isn't as good for children in poverty, single-parent homes and non-English speaking families, and those whose parents didn't finish high school. These children were less likely to count to 10 or recite the alphabet or to be in good health.

Healthy youngsters are more likely to come to school and pay attention, as are children who avoid fights and arguments, but the importance of family background is becoming increasingly evident as a factor in a child's academic success, said Nicholas Zill, who studies children and families for the department.

"Despite the booming U.S. economy, large numbers of children are growing up in precarious family circumstances," said Zill.

He said half of the children being studied had at least one of the four main family situations that put pupils at risk for failing tests, repeating grades or dropping out of school. These factors — a single-parent home, parents who did-

n't finish high school, welfare dependency or a family that speaks a language other than English — need closer attention from policy makers and parents who have tended to blame schools for the failure.

"These difficulties cannot be attributed solely to bad schools, because children are already behind when they reach the classroom door," Zill said.

Another researcher said she hoped the students' performances wouldn't prompt more standardized testing in kindergarten.

"Learning your letters is not hard, but not every child has had the opportunity to learn them," said Sue Bredekamp, a Head Start consultant.

Today's kindergartners — some

of whom use computers — get more advanced math and reading lessons than their predecessors even a decade ago, she said. However, the United States can follow the example of other nations by not discounting the value of exploration and play.

Maura Backenstoe, a 10-year veteran kindergarten teacher from Bethesda, Md., said she always tries to make sure her 22 charges have fun while they're learning.

"I give my kids a lot of ownership in what they are going to do," said Backenstoe, who did math exercises with footballs and other activities during Super Bowl week. "You need to grab their attention, so that they are motivated to learn."

Three die in California plane crash

By Jennifer Coleman
Associated Press

RANCHO CORDOVA, Calif. — Moments before his DC-8 cargo plane crashed into an auction yard of junked cars, the pilot reported problems with the balance of the aircraft, investigators said Thursday.

Emery Worldwide Flight 17 plunged into the yard Wednesday night, killing its three crew members and setting dozens of cars ablaze.

The pilot described a "center of gravity" problem shortly after leaving Mather Field in suburban Sacramento, investigators said. That could mean, among other possible causes, a shift in load, incorrect cargo weight or mechanical problems, Preston Hicks of the National Transportation Safety Board said Thursday.

Investigators were trying to locate the plane's flight data recorder and cockpit voice recorder in the smoking wreckage, Hicks said.

The plane, carrying a load of transmission fluid, clothing and a small packet of detonators for auto air bags, was at 800 feet when it tried to return for an emergency landing. It crashed in a fireball about a mile east of the field shortly before 8 p.m.

One witness said the plane hit the ground belly first and was immediately engulfed in flames.

Those aboard were dead by the time fire crews arrived at the site, said Capt. Dan Haverty of the American River Fire Department. Firefighters were hampered by intense flames, which burned for several hours after the crash. Smoke was visible in the moonlit night several miles away.

"There was no chance of rescue," Haverty said. The victims were identified as Capt. Kevin Stables, 43, of Berlin, N.Y., who had been with Emery for five years; First Officer George Land, 35, of Placerville, Calif., 3 years; and Second Officer Russell Hicks, 38, Sparks, Nev., 1 1/2 years.

Company spokesman James Allen said the crash was the first fatal accident in the company's 50-year history.

Nobody on the ground was injured.

UPS ordered to create more full-time jobs

ATLANTA (AP) — An arbitrator has ruled that United Parcel Service must create 2,000 full-time jobs under the terms of its five-year contract with the Teamsters.

In a decision released Wednesday evening, independent arbitrator George Nicolau gave Atlanta-based UPS 90 days to add the full-time positions. UPS also must pay back wages and benefits to those workers, who previously were part-time.

Teamsters officials estimated Thursday their members would realize at least \$80 million from the arbitration decision, which they said was among the largest in union history.

UPS spokesman Norman Black called the \$80 million figure "ridiculous" and said the company had not yet determined any costs.

As part of its 1997 contract with the Teamsters, UPS agreed to hire 2,000 new full-time workers per year for five years — replacing part-timers — if UPS regained and surpassed shipping volume lost to a 15-day strike.

When package volume dropped because of the strike, UPS officials contended that the job-creation language was void for the contract's first two years. The Teamsters then filed grievances for 1997 and 1998.

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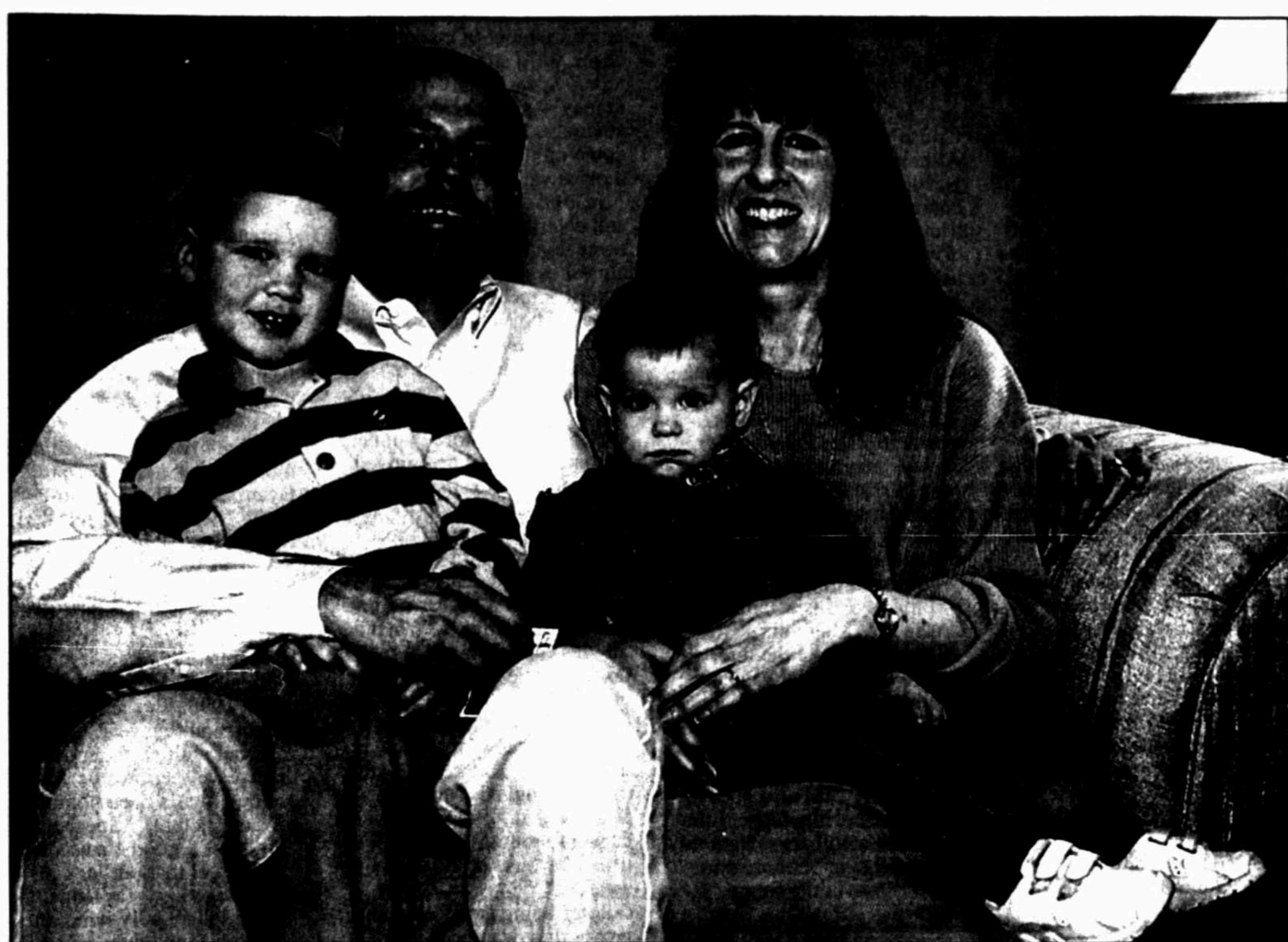
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U. Frank Williams Jr./Reporter-Telegram

Couple who successfully picked last year's Academy winners recall their favorite films of 1999

by Georgia Temple

The passport to adventure and romance that Shane and Lurene Spear collected in 1999 when they won the Reporter-Telegram's name the Academy Award winners contest allowed the couple to view worlds they would not otherwise have seen.

"It's been wonderful," Spear said of the passes they received, which entitled them to go to any movie showing at the Wallace Hollywood movie theaters. The corporation, which owns all the theaters in Midland and Odessa with the exception of The Century in Odessa, provided the passes.

"It's been a blessing to us as well because we had put ourselves on a pretty tight budget for entertainment since I quit work, and we're living on one income now," said Mrs. Spear, who stays home with their two preschoolers, Walker and Quinn. "We would rarely go to a movie because paying for a babysitter plus dinner plus a movie is a pretty big expense. So if we went to a movie we either wouldn't eat dinner or we'd split a entree or we'd go to Wienerschnitzel."

Through the year, the couple kept track of the movies they saw.

"The way we do our entertainment budget is the envelope system — so

Please see MOVIES/2B



Shane and Lurene Spear, shown at top with their children Walker, 3, and Quinn, 1, saw 20 films in 1999. Among their favorites were: at left, "Life is Beautiful," from top, "The Matrix," "Bowfinger," "October Sky," and, at right, "Payback."

Last year's winners spent

A year at the movies



Pick the Academy Award winners

Win season passes to Wallace Hollywood movie theaters in the MRT Pick the Winners contest...

And the award goes to...

The Midland Reporter-Telegram wants to know if you can "Pick the Winners" of the 72nd annual Academy Awards. The winner of the Midland Reporter-Telegram-sponsored contest will live a year of movie magic with a season's worth of passes to any Wallace Hollywood Theaters.

Only one entry per household. To enter: fill out the ballot on this page; fill out the ballot online at www.mrt.com; or pick up an official ballot at a local movie theater. Mail ballots to Pick the Winners, Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, Texas 79702. Entries must be postmarked by March 15, 2000, or brought to the Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois Ave., by 5 p.m. Friday, March 17, 2000, or turned in on the Web site by 5 p.m. March 17, 2000.

All entries must include a telephone number. In the event of multiple winners, a single entry will be drawn. The winner will be announced the week following the March 26 televised ceremony. This contest is not affiliated with or endorsed by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

Best Supporting Actress



Best Supporting Actor



Name: _____

Street address: _____

City: _____

Daytime phone: _____

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Best Actress



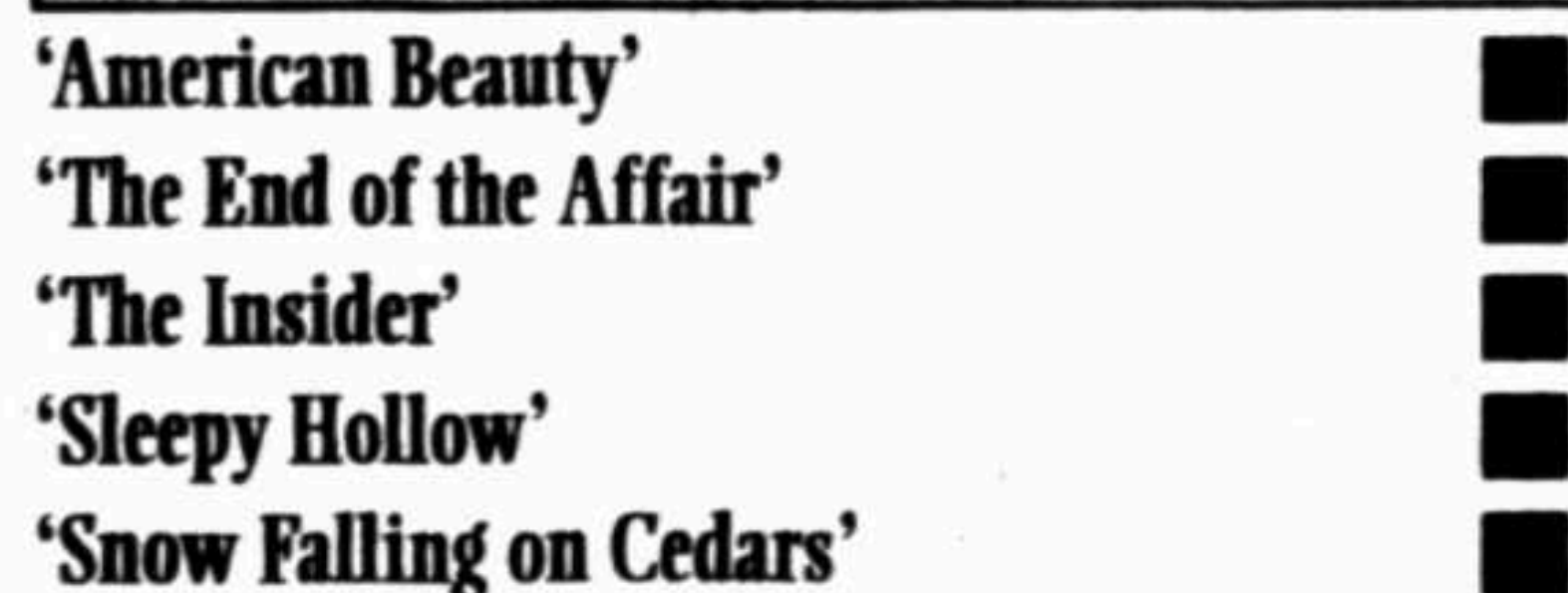
Best Actor



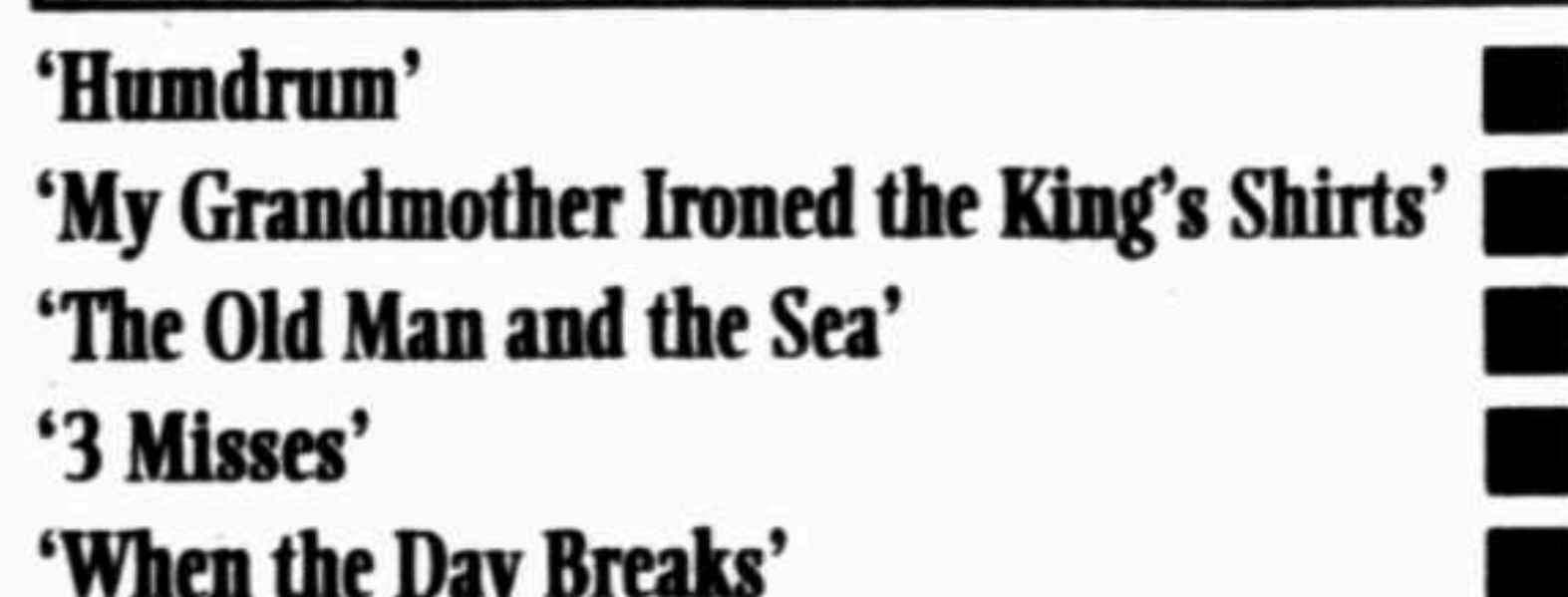
Best Director



Cinematography



Best Animated Short Film



Best Picture



'American Beauty'



'The Cider House Rules'



'The Green Mile'



'The Insider'



'The Sixth Sense'

So, there's nothing to do in Midland?

Friday, Feb. 18

The Bar: today (9 p.m.) and Sat. (9:30 p.m.), Toast. 606 W. Missouri Ave. No cover Fri. Call: 685-1757.

Blakemore Planetarium Sky Show: Are We Alone? 8 p.m. Cost: \$3 adults, \$2 children, members, free. Sun. shows: Are We Alone?, 2:30 and Understanding the Universe, 4 p.m. Call: 683-2882.

Jazz: today & Sat.: Bud Justice. Thurs.: Amy & Roland Unplugged, 2215 N. Midland Drive. Up charge on menu items. Call: 689-7777.

Midland Community Theatre: The Music Man. 8 p.m. Cole Theatre, 2000 W. Wadley Ave. Tickets: \$14 Fri/Sat & \$12 Thurs/Sun. Through March 18. Reservations: 682-4111 or 570-4011.

Midland Symphony Guild: February Fantastique, Benefit. Today: Ball. Sat.: brunch. Holiday Inn Convention Center. Information: 563-0921.

Riley's Bar & Grill: today & Sat.: Crome Molly Band. Call for cover. Sunday: Steak & Bake. Cost: \$5 plate. 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wed. & Thurs.: Vertical Smiles Band. Call 520-0006 for cover. 3421 W. Wall.

Your Place: today: One Ninety One. 9 p.m.-1:30 a.m. 3704 W. Wall. No cover. Call: 689-3022.

Odessa

Chelsea Street Pub: today & Sat. Tues.-Thurs.: Karaoke with Reed Boyd. 9 p.m. Tues.-Thurs.: Music City Mall. Call: (915) 368-0949. No cover. Outside entrance after mail hours.

Incredibles: today & Sat.: live entertainment. Cover: \$5. Wed. & Thurs.: Karaoke with Bennie & Denny. No cover. 600 N. Grandview Ave. Call: (915) 332-1812.

Opening: "Boiler Room," "Pitch Black," "Hanging Up," "The Whole Nine Yards" & re-release of "American Beauty." Wallace Hollywood Theaters Tall City 10.

Odessa: Permian Palace, "Angela's Ashes."

Saturday, Feb. 19

Bowl for Kids' Sake: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Midland Park Lanes. Sponsor: Big Brothers Big Sisters. To register call: 687-0915.

Job Fair: Midland Center. 105 N. Main St. 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Call: 563-5499.

Texaco-Metropolitan Opera International Radio Network: Arrigo Boito's "Mefistofele." KCRS Radio. 12:30 p.m.

ODESSA — Permian Playhouse: "Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr." Kaleidoscope Company. 310 W. 42nd. Tickets: \$5. Reservations: 550-5456/(915) 362-2329.

Sunday, Feb. 20

Millennium Concert: St. Ann's Church. 1908 W. Texas Ave. 3:30 p.m. Free. Reception follows.

ODESSA — Ricky Boen & Texas Mud: Music City Mall. 2:30 & 3:30 p.m. Information: 684-6845.

Tuesday, Feb. 22

45 Plus Dance Club: country western band, Midland Downtown Lions Center. non-smoking/non-alcoholic. 7:30-10 p.m. Cost: \$4. Guest: \$5. Guest welcome without member. Call: 694-8442.

Wednesday, Feb. 23

Economic Outlook Conference: Midland Center. 105 N. Main St. 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Cost: \$20 includes breakfast & lunch. Call: 683-3381.

Seniors Over 50 Dance Group: 8-10:30 p.m., American Legion Hall, 501 Air Park Road. Country western. Professional bands. Admission: \$4. Call: 682-5511, 694-3236, 687-1633.

Thursday, Feb. 24

Brown Bag Lunch: Petroleum Museum. Doyle Phillips. 11:30 a.m. 1500 Interstate 20 West. Free. Coffee, tea and cookies provided. Information: 683-4403.

To be listed in this column, please send name of performers or show, location, date, time, admission price and contact number to Reviews & Previews, Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois Ave., Midland, Texas 79701. Fax: 682-7650, or email: mhal@basinlink.com. The information must be in the Reporter-Telegram office on Monday to run in Friday's listing.

Now that we all know which actors, directors, and films the Academy has nominated for Oscar consideration, The Movie Guys are ready to make our choices, not our predictions, for this year's winners. Each week until the March 26 ceremony, we will focus on one award. The first award under consideration is that for Best Supporting Actor. Nominated in this field are Michael Caine for "Cider House Rules," Tom Cruise for "Magnolia," Michael Clarke Duncan for "The Green Mile," Jude Law for "The Talented Mr. Ripley," and Haley Joel Osment for "The Sixth Sense."

TIM: Remember, the Best Supporting Actor award is usually given out first in the evening. They present it early in order to fool you into thinking that the show might end before midnight. In addition, the Academy has a tradition of presenting this award to "popular" actors in successful turns. Although he was nominated several times for Best Actor, Robin Williams did not win until he was nominated for Best Supporting Actor.

DAVID: This is the category to watch this year. With the exception of Michael Caine's turn in "Cider House Rules," which didn't play in Midland (like so many other of the nominated films), most of these performances delighted me. Especially outstanding was young

THE MOVIE GUYS

Black Gold Review



By David R. Allen, MC drama instructor, and Tim Jebson, MCT executive director

Osment's chilling portrayal of a prodigy who sees the dead in "The Sixth Sense." Michael Clarke Duncan's characterization of the hugely blessed and sadly doomed convict in "The Green Mile" was also a milestone last year.

TIM: I agree with you completely about Michael Clarke Duncan, whose performance in "The Green Mile" helped make it a successful story. In addition, I had the opportunity to see "Cider House Rules" while home in Ohio for Christmas. Although I was disappointed in the movie (as with most John Irving screen adaptations), Michael Caine's performance was worthy of nomination. His performance was strong, and it was worth the price of admission just to see him with an American accent. In the end, however, Tom Cruise deserves to win this award. His performance in "Magnolia" is definitely central to the movie, and almost saves the movie from being worthless.

DAVID: I couldn't agree with you more, Tim, about

Cruise's work in "Magnolia." Although the film as a whole was less than perfect, Cruise's characterization of an egocentric, chauvinistic, control freak driven by the pains of his childhood was uncompromisingly edgy and forceful. It really is too bad that he so often relies on lesser material that adds lustre to his Hollywood star rather than to his acting talents.

TIM: Jude Law's performance in "The Talented Mr. Ripley" may indicate that this actor is one to watch in the future. However, his performance is overshadowed by the outstanding performances of Duncan and Cruise. In the end, I would give this award to Tom Cruise for "Magnolia."

DAVID: While the three actor's I mentioned gave outstanding performances which would clearly qualify them for the Best Supporting Oscar, my vote for the 1999 Best Supporting Actor Award also goes to Tom Cruise. Hopefully, if the Academy members reward this role, he'll take on more parts like this one in the future.

Midland Reporter-Telegram

ONE ON THE AISLE

By Pamela C. Allen

Permian Playhouse Presents

I missed the opening of Permian Playhouse's production of "The Mousetrap" by Agatha Christie. I freely admit to not reading the publicity in the Reporter-Telegram to find out dates and times. Finally waking up the last weekend, I did see it the last Saturday night it ran, and I'm glad I did.

An almost full house enjoyed a classic "who done it." Director Rene Brister Chambers did a good job of keeping the pace moving right along considering the type of play. Even though this was a mystery, there was much character-driven humor by as quirky a cast as I've seen.

My only criticism, if I really had any, would come by way of the accents attempted. When an accent used is not consistent, it tends to be more noticeable than none used. The one accent that stayed in place all night was from the only actor that didn't play an Englishman — Kent Stallcup as Mr. Paravicini, the Italian.

A very convincing, good cast gave the audience a lot to think about through a first act of "red herrings." I don't know about you, but when I watch something like this everything becomes a clue. For instance, Miss Casewell (Cherri Timms) lit, blew out and dropped wooden matches all over the place. (A clue?) Mollie Ralston (Jhenai Mootz), the owner of Monkswell Manor, kept reacting weirdly to the music of Three Blind Mice. (A clue?) And Christopher Wren (Scott Timms) was just weird. He became the walking clue. The ex-Magistrate, Mrs. Boyle (Darci Georges), was so annoying a character you kind of knew she had to get bumped off sooner or later.

The end of the first act was the classic, tried-and-true murder mystery act close: the black-gloved hand coming out of the down stage door, turning off the lights as our victim is at the radio. You hear a scuffle, the lights come on, and the curtain comes down on a perfect murder mystery scream!

During intermission, the audience was discussing the clues and enjoying the twists and turns of the well-written plot.

If you didn't get to see "The Mousetrap," I'm sorry for you. You missed a solid production with a cast that was strong and worthy of seeing. This production was a well-received entry in the PPH Season!

TEXAS TOAST

"That's Show Biz" - A Musical Revue
A fund-raiser is about heart: giving of your

'The Mousetrap'

'Texas Toast'

time, energy and whatever talent you might possess to participate in a few hours of getting other people to give their money to your cause. Several years ago when PPH did "Texas Toast" every year or so, I remember audiences so full they were in the aisles. This was not the case the night I attended, but it still was a good size audience. I sincerely hope the Playhouse made much needed funds in the three-day run.

"Texas Toast" was a loosely put together two-act revue of musical skits giving us the origins of show biz from the stone age to talking pictures.

What you have to remember here is not the lack of talent involved but the courage it took for the judges of Ector County to dress as stone age Fred Flintstone contemporaries and sing. I thought the Junior League of Odessa looked fetching singing and dancing to the theme from The Flintstones. Picture in your mind the Permian High School Baseball Team, dressed as Egyptians, dancing, and carrying Cleopatra. County Attorney Tracy Bright was the tight-rope artist in the circus scene with Jay Gordon Lunn.

I think my favorite was the Chuck Wagon Gang, dressed in their amber jumpsuits, overdressed as Vikings with some of the strangest aluminum foil horns sticking out in all directions from their oilfield helmets. They did a mock-opera number with Wagnerian soprano Colleen Beeson as Brunhilde. With all the laughter it was hard to tell what words they were singing precisely, but the "Lonely Goat Herd" tune from "The Sound of Music" was easily recognized.

Yes, the night was strange, but also lots of fun. To all the cast of "Texas Toast," good for you! Remember the song from "Damn Yankees" — "You Gotta Have Heart!"

Opening March 3 at Midland Community Theater is "Greater Tuna." Call 682-4111 or 570-4011 for times and dates. At Permian Playhouse the next show is the Kaleidoscope Company production of "Schoolhouse Rock" on Saturday, then "The Star-Spangled Girl" on March 17. Call the box office at (915) 362-2329 or 550-5456.

Pamela C. Allen, a 14-year member of the Reporter-Telegram staff, has been involved in all aspects of live theater since 1963 from finding props to producing. She has served in a number of volunteer capacities at Midland Community Theatre.

Midland Reporter-Musicgram

By Caleb Brown

On Saturday, Mick Taylor, former Rolling Stone and guitar god, paid a visit to our Yucca Theatre. Midland was the 12th stop on his 2000 tour, promoting his new release, "A Stone's Throw."

The night turned out to be a disappointment, but to no fault of Taylor's. The warm-up band, K.K. and the Rays, overstayed its welcome, and after an hour of dead time between the two performances, the audience had lost most of its enthusiasm. Nonetheless, Midland saw some of the best blues guitar it will see in a while.

Mick Taylor is a far cry from the slew of Stevie Ray Vaughn imitators crowding the blues scene today. His originality is refreshing and rare. Taylor, whose singing guitar leads played a large part in making the Rolling Stones "the world's greatest rock 'n' roll band" in the late '60s and early '70s, displayed his unique talents in fine style on Saturday.

In Taylor's hands, the guitar

sang with a human quality, a vibrato unlike any other in music today. Technically flawless, he stitched together some impressive solos, without changing the expression on his face. There were no bizarre postures and no pained countenances. Some call this boring; others call it professional.

Though Mick Taylor's performance on the guitar left even the most accomplished blues guitarist drooling, his singing was less impressive. Make no mistake, his voice suffices for a blues band,

but his characteristic lack of emotion left the vocals flat. Still, his bland singing is more than made up for by his guitar work.

His new album, "A Stone's Throw," will be of great interest to the blues lover this year. It features a catchy tune called, "Secret Affair" that will likely make its way to a radio station in town. Of course, there is no substitute for the live performance.

Caleb Brown is a senior at Midland High School where he is vice president of the National Honor Society.

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MOVIES: Winners of last year's MRT contest saw 20 films in '99

(From 1B)

much cash out of each paycheck we'd stick in an envelope," Spear said. "When the money's gone, we don't go anymore. And we'd write down on the envelope the movies we saw."

In 1999, they saw 20 movies and determined that they had been able to go to a movie almost every other week. Their favorites included "October Sky," "The Matrix," "The Sixth Sense" and "Bowfinger."

"Our absolute favorite is 'Life is Beautiful,'" said Mrs. Spear, who enjoyed "Bringing Out the Dead" more than her husband did, and he enjoyed "Payback" better than she did.

"And I can tell you for sure that if we hadn't won those passes, we wouldn't have bothered to see it because it was subtitled," Mrs. Spear said of "Life is Beautiful." "When movies cost as much as they do, you have to pick and choose. And it's hard for subtitles to compete."

"With 'Star Wars,'" Spear quipped.

They laughed. And Mrs. Spear added, "But we were real curious about it ('Life is Beautiful') because it had won some awards."

After being free to see any movie they wanted, Spear developed an opinion of the "cinema here in Midland. I think they do have a good selection."

"And the stadium seating is really nice," Mrs. Spear said.

Of all the characters they saw talking and living and dying on screen in 1999, the character Roberto Benigni played in "Life is Beautiful" was Spear's favorite. Benigni received the Oscar for Best Actor for his portrayal.

"He has such an upbeat attitude," said Spear. "And I think Bruce Willis did a great job in 'The Sixth Sense.'"

"Shane usually figures out the end of the movies and that was the only one I've seen that

he didn't figure out the end," Mrs. Spear said of "The Sixth Sense."

This year's nominations for Best Picture include "The Sixth Sense" along with "American Beauty," "The Cider House Rules," "The Insider" and "The Green Mile."

"I bet it doesn't make it," Lurene said of "The Sixth Sense."

"We are going to guess 'American Beauty' is going to win," Spear said. "And the reason why is the critics have been talking it up."

The Spears are good at guessing. Last year, they had seen only two of the nominated movies — "Saving Private Ryan" and "The Truman Show," which Spear recalled as being "The Newman Show." When Mrs. Spear corrected him, he laughed and said, "It made a big impression, obviously."

Despite having seen many more movies in 1999 than they did in 1998, they are in a similar position this year.

"Even with all the movies that we've seen, we've only seen one (that's been nominated for best picture)," Spear said. "We have a good chance then."

"We feel that our lack of knowledge last year helped us tremendously in winning the contest," Mrs. Spear said. "We watched the news."

"Read the paper," Spear added.

"I watched a little on that E! network on cable," Mrs. Spear said, adding that "some of the guesses were pretty far-fetched."

Far-fetched or not, they received the prize that will again be awarded this year to the competition winner following the Academy Awards on March 26.

"We are grateful for the tickets," Mrs. Spear said. "We wouldn't have seen so many of the movies that we really enjoyed if we hadn't had those passes."

Oscar nominations boost box office

By Jason Cohen

N.Y. Times News Service

Films that weren't exactly smash hits at the box office — "The Cider House Rules" and "The Insider" — may double their current revenues following Tuesday's Academy Award nominations, industry trackers predict.

"It's a validation and it's a strong indication of how well-received a movie is in terms of critical praise. It motivates people to go see those movies," said Paul Dergarbedian, president of Exhibitor Relations Co., which tracks box-office sales. "The Oscar nomination makes people think, 'Hey this is a good movie.'"

People who plan to watch the awards show live also tend to want to have their own impressions to compare to the outcome of the vote, he said.

"When people watch the Oscars, they want to be able to know what they are watching," Dergarbedian said. "Certainly, the water-cooler effect is there."

The best picture category usually has the most effect because it's the most recognized of the awards given out, said Robert Bucksbaum, president of the Reel Source film tracking service.

"The Cider House Rules" probably has the best chance to at least double its revenues because it hasn't reached the mainstream," Bucksbaum said. "You can always count on Miramax to promote this film heavily."

If last year is any indication, Bucksbaum is right about Miramax. After the nominations were announced in February 1999, Miramax expanded its distribution of "Shakespeare in Love" by an additional 1,123 theaters.

The studio said it has plans to almost double the number of theaters showing "The Cider House Rules," from around 800 to 1,500 the weekend of Feb. 25. The film has grossed \$22 million

to date. Other films that stand to gain from a predicted Oscar boost are "The Insider," the story of a tobacco industry informant, which to date has brought in \$27 million. Bucksbaum predicted the film could see \$40 million in revenues with the increased interest.

DreamWorks' tale of suburban dysfunction, "American Beauty," will gain on a lesser scale, mainly because it already has done so well in theaters, Bucksbaum said.

But Dergarbedian said he believes "American Beauty" will attract a more mainstream audience than it has to this point.

More commercially successful films such as "The Green Mile" from Warner Bros. also will see upticks in their box-office revenues following their best picture nominations, but both experts said the people who are most likely to go see them already have.

Buena Vista Films, distributor of "The Sixth Sense," would do well to release the film on video between now and the awards show, Dergarbedian said. No such date has yet been set.

The film, which is still in theaters, could gain a boost in video sales from the nominations, he said.

The nomination committee can doom a film as much as it can give sagging box-office returns a shot in the arm, Dergarbedian said.

"Man on the Moon," starring Jim Carrey, was widely expected to receive at least a best actor nomination, he said.

"Let's put it this way: If you don't get an Oscar nomination, there's no way you're going to get an Oscar boost," he said.

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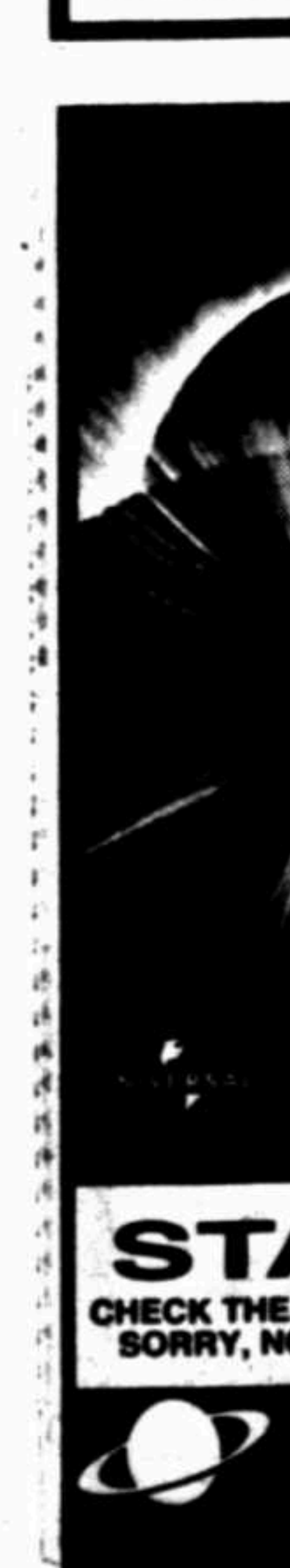
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AROUND TOWN

Midland Christian Women's Club will have a "Breezy Fashions for Spring" luncheon 11 a.m.-1 p.m. March 7 at Green Tree Country Club. Virginia Lyle of Ginny's Collection will present a spring style show. Jane George will present music. Mary Lee of Austin, a former Mrs. Texas, will be guest speaker.

Cost of the luncheon is \$11 per person. Free nursery will be available with a reservation; mothers are asked to bring sack lunches for their children.

Midland Christian Women's Club is non-denominational and has no membership dues. All interested women are invited to attend. For luncheon and nursery reservations call 570-8945 or 682-5851.

20TH ANNUAL Boerne Optimist Hill Country Antiques Show and Sale will be March 4-5 at Kendall County Fairgrounds on Highway 46 East in Boerne. Proceeds benefit Boerne Optimist Club's youth programs.

HOT DOG HOE-DOWN Fundraiser, sponsored by the Greenwood Parent-Teacher Club, will be 10 a.m.-6 p.m. March 25 at the Greenwood Elementary School cafeteria and gym. Included in the family event will be arts and crafts booths, bingo, games, entertainment and food booths. For more information call 683-2331.

BROWN BAG Lunch is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. Feb. 24 at the Petroleum Museum. Doyle Phillips, editor and designer of the new book, "Comanche War Trail Artifacts," will be guest speaker. Persons attending are invited to bring their own lunches; coffee, tea and cookies will be provided.

PERMIAN BASIN Landmen's Auxiliary will host a couples/singles dinner 6:30 p.m. March 2 at Venezia Restaurant. For reservations or information call 683-4329, 683-8004 or 683-8116 by Feb. 23.

VAN, Serving the Visually Impaired, has two weekly group meetings.

The men's support group will meet 10-11 a.m. Feb. 22 at the VAN House, 2908 W. Ohio. All men with visual impairment are invited to attend. Coffee and refreshments will be served.

The women's group will meet for bingo 10 a.m.-noon Feb. 23 at the VAN House. Those attending are invited to bring sack lunches. All interested people are invited to attend.

For information about either group call 694-2648.

UNITED OSTOMY Association, Midland-Odessa chapter #590, will meet 2:30 p.m. Feb. 20 at Westwood Medical Center. Video on "Don't Fall for a Telephone Line" will be shown.

2000 MRS. TEXAS United States Pageant is accepting applications for the pageant, scheduled for May 11-12 in Dallas. The winner of the event, a preliminary to the Mrs. United States Pageant, will represent Texas in the national pageant in Las Vegas in July. Contestants must be married, U.S. citizens and at least 21 years old. The contest has no upper age limit and no talent requirement. Judging will be on personal interview, evening gown presentation and swimsuit. For more information call (214) 339-4788 or write to 2910 E. Perryton Drive, Dallas, Texas 75224.

WEST TEXAS Bass Club will have a tournament Feb. 19 at Oak Creek. Participants should check in at the Sportsman Lodge, on the south side of the lake, at 6:30 a.m. Fishing begins at 7 a.m.; weigh-in time is no later than 3:30 p.m. Fishermen may participate as guests one time. Pay \$20 to be eligible for the prize money. For more information call 366-1322 or call up the web site at <http://pages.prodigy.net/doyle>.

FAMILY MATTERS

Second chance needed

By Jim May, Ph.D.

DEAR FAMILY: I'm puzzled by my church and wonder what I'm supposed to think concerning what I'm about to address. I hope that you might enlighten me.

On Nov. 30, I sent in my tithe of (amount). I have always done this when I can't go to church due to illness. I asked them to send me a Sunday school quarterly to be able to study my lesson.

It's now Jan. 14, and I never heard a word or even a Christmas card, get-well card or anything. I know that they have received my request as I got my canceled check back.

I have a severe ulcerated ankle and the doctors were afraid I'd lose my foot. I've had to keep my foot elevated above my heart. I haven't been able to hardly keep up with my housework. I don't need company, but a card would have been nice and I think that my tithe would have paid for my quarterly, don't you? I don't call this Christianity by a long shot.

So now I just listen to church service on television with my foot up. I doubt if others send their tithes when not attending. WHAT NEXT?

DEAR WHAT: My guess is that there has been a clerical error in the church office. Your request for a quarterly may have been inadvertently thrown away or misplaced.

Call or write the church office and ask to be sent a Sunday school quarterly. At the same time, tell them you are a shut-in and request that they put you on the prayer list for healing.

Sometimes things get misplaced or mishandled, so maybe another chance is in order. I pray that you are restored to health and soon will be able to attend church in person. In the meantime, keep watching on television, studying your lessons and reading your Bible.

DEAR FAMILY: I have just discovered that my 16-year-old daughter pulls out the hair around her groin area. She denied it at first, then admitted that she had been doing it since hair started growing there.

I have never heard of such a thing and she absolutely refuses to talk to our family doctor about it. She made me promise that I wouldn't even tell her father about it. Have you heard of this and what can we do about it? PUZZLED MOM

DEAR PUZZLED: Compulsive hair pulling, or Trichotillomania, is more common than you might think. More females than males report having the disorder, and it is estimated that about 1 percent to 2 percent of college students suffer from this condition. For children with the disorder, it usually peaks around 5 to 8 years of age, and for adolescents, between 11 and 13 years of age.

What might have been thought of as just "a bad

habit" can turn into a chronic problem if not addressed. While the hair-pulling may occur anywhere on the body where hair grows, the most common sites are the scalp, eyebrows and eyelashes.

It is generally believed that hair-pulling increases during times of stress, but interestingly enough, it also occurs during times of relaxation. Current research indicates that it may be closer to a form of Tourette's disorder than to an obsessive-compulsive disorder. It is more than just a habit, and may involve a complex brain disorder.

This long explanation is a way of saying that it is not very likely that the desire to stop pulling one's hair will be enough to actually stop.

Now for the good news: Treatment for this condition is available. It usually involves medication and behavioral modification. It can be treated and controlled, but usually involves going to a counselor or psychiatrist familiar with the disorder and associated treatments.

In my experience, once the person gets past the feelings of shame and embarrassment associated with hair-pulling, she is very willing to work toward getting better.

Encourage your daughter to seek counseling. She can get better and feel better about herself. You may also want to contact the Trichotillomania Learning Center at 1215 Mission Street, Suite 2, Santa Cruz, Calif. 95060 or call (408) 457-1004 for more information.

THE FOLLOWING TIPS ON AN "EFFECTIVE PROBLEM-SOLVING PROCESS FOR YOUR STUDENT" ARE OFFERED BY THE CENTERS FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES:

Step 1: Decide what the problem is. Summarize it in a few words.

Step 2: Generate several possible solutions. Ask "what might be done to solve this problem?" Older children can write their ideas down.

Step 3: Evaluate the solutions. List the positive and negative effects of each possible solution.

Step 4: Decide on a solution. Consider the pros and cons of each solution. Decide on which one is best. Use the child's favorite solution if at all possible.

Step 5: Develop a plan to make the solution work. Few problems have just one possible solution. The real secret to responsible problem-solving is to use the problem-solving process to make the best decision you can — and then make it work!

Help your child consider what should be done first, second and third. The problem will not be solved until your child puts his or her plan into action.

(The Parent Center)

Jim May is the director of the Family Wellness Center.

Questions for this column should be addressed to Family Matters, P.O. Box 51638, Midland, 79710-1638.

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Short getaway easy to rationalize

By Susan Swartz
N.Y. Times News Service

A short getaway, perhaps to take advantage of the kids going to your brother's or maybe just a compelling need to be where e-mail doesn't go, is something that even workaholics can rationalize.

The getaway is not like a real vacation. The umbilical cord to everyday life is only briefly cut. You don't even have to drive into a different area code. The goal is to simply play hooky for a weekend, although it's even more mischievous if you do it in the middle of the week.

I think that's why B&B's thrive, because they invite you to do the things that you might do at home if you could indulge yourself free time without guilt. To stare outside at the rain, read all day by the fire, eat chocolate in bed. Were you to do this on a Saturday in your own house someone would certainly wonder if you were sick or sulking.

We need our getaways, even more so now that so many people's home is also their office and it's so easy to wreck a Saturday just by checking your messages.

My friend Rachel, who has an inn in Mendocino, says couples often come to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, the last time alone before the baby comes, even the successful completion of a work project, but more and more the typical couple "arrives just exhausted from their normal frenetic pace. What they're looking for is an excuse to simply do nothing." Think of it. Two days being unaccountable plus baby soaps and free shampoo — what a great escape.

In this economy people have more money than time, says Rachel. "It's very hard to find time to just squander." We live in an overbooked world, when overtime is the norm and multitasking is an epidemic.

You even have to play productively. You plan an extended vacation and you better come back with adventures, an award-winning travel video and a list of little known museum shows. There are expectations.

But you don't have to report what happens on a quick getaway, because people are going to think all you did anyhow was

stay in bed and read the funny papers.

Of course, with some couples there may be one who loves the idea of getting away and one who wonders why a person would choose to sleep in a strange bed when their mattress knows them so well. They'll go out to eat, but sleeping over is pushing it.

In long-ago sexist times, we would have assumed that it is more a womanly thing to crave a night away and that more women than men appreciate the novelty of leaving wet towels on the floor.

But, Cathy, who runs a B&B in California's Wine Country, says just as many men as women call looking for a room and a place to chill the champagne. This week she talked to a man who explained his wife was between jobs and for the first time in a long time they were both free to get away. Last week Cathy hosted a couple whose seven kids were stashed elsewhere so they could spend the whole day in her living room just reading and writing.

This is not a promotion for B&Bs, but a seasonal reminder that staying over in some clean, cozy spot which has a claw-foot tub and a deck to sit with your coffee when the sun breaks through can get a person as many points as booking a trip to France.

You don't even need to take a change of clothes and it doesn't cost that much considering the

huge breakfasts that are part of the deal. Red roses and poetry are nice, but a person can feel very pampered being led to a tub full of bubbles and told they needn't worry about the strain on the well and that a clean terry robe is waiting when they get out.

Simple pampering is what the workaholic couple craves. Sarah runs an inn in New England and tells people not to come if they want chandeliers and velvet drapes, but do come if they like dogs and cats, sleeping in a big bed and well-stocked bookshelves.

Reading makes me think of chairs, which can be an issue. There's this person who will agree to go away, but first he needs reassurance about the chairs. He gets a little itchy if he walks into a room that's overfluffed and the bed is piled high with heart-shaped pillows. But he can put up with an excess of lace if at least the chair is right.

We all have our getaway needs and his is a chair that is comfortable enough to read and doze in. He believes that's impossible in anything made out of rattan or wicker.

All I want is a room with a view and a fireplace, wood stacked and ready to light, no TV, no phone, a window that opens and someone else up early to make the coffee.

Susan Swartz writes for The Press Democrat in Santa Rosa, Calif.

DEAR ABBY

Wife thinks office girlie calendar is behind the times

By Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: Here we go again. Besides being disrespectful, could it be construed as sexual harassment when a business establishment that caters to men and women hangs a calendar depicting nude or almost nude women in a conspicuous place?

My husband has one of those calendars in his office in a white-collar business that is patronized by male and female clients. When I or my daughter, adult sons, grandson or granddaughters go to an auto repair shop, gas station or tire shop that displays girlie calendars, I am embarrassed and offended. My company has seminars regarding sexual harassment, and we are informed that this is a form of it. I do not allow it in my office. It is disrespectful, and I don't want to be part of a lawsuit.

Please don't get me wrong, Abby. There is nothing wrong with nudity — it just doesn't belong in a public place. — OFFENDED IN PALATINE, ILL.

DEAR OFFENDED: It may be in poor taste, but it is not against the law. As a member of the public, you are free to take your business elsewhere if the "calendar art" offends you. However, if you had to WORK in that environment, and if there was also demeaning conduct that was severe and pervasive, it might be considered sexual harassment.

DEAR ABBY: Yesterday my husband had surgery to remove a lump. The doctor prepared us for the worst, indicating that it might be cancer. My husband told only close family members and a few friends about his condition.

His sister, "Winifred," traveled 150 miles to come to the hospital, even though she was told there was no need for her to be there. I was very upset with her presence. I wanted some private time with my husband in the pre-op room, but within minutes, Winifred ushered herself in. I became upset and told her so. However, she refused to go back to the public waiting room.

While in the waiting room, during my husband's surgery, Winifred asked me if I would like to "talk about" the way I was acting. I told her I had wanted private time with my husband. She said I was selfish, that she is dearly fond of her brother. Abby, in the nine years we've owned our home, I can count on one hand the number of times Winifred has visited us. For the past year she has lived only 150 miles away.

Winifred has three children and a granddaughter to go home to, but what would my son and I have if my husband didn't make it? She would have lost her brother, but our lives would be drastically changed.

Fortunately, my husband does not have cancer. Do you think I was selfish requesting private time with my husband? — BELIEVES IN THE RIGHT TO PRIVACY

DEAR BELIEVES: Your sister-in-law was frightened over the possibility of losing her brother, and probably felt guilty for not visiting him more in the past. Although you were understandably upset, you could have acted with a little more sensitivity. She is your husband's sister, not a stranger.

She, too, could have been more sensitive to your request, and left you and your husband alone after making her presence known.

Since your husband appears to be healthy and the crisis is past, I urge you to bury the anger and resentment you feel toward each other and try to become a closer family. Everyone will benefit.

DEAR ABBY: Is it appropriate to wear velvet after the Christmas holidays? Also, my new husband and I exchanged many gifts with my family and my new in-laws — should we send thank-yous for each? — WANT TO DO WHAT'S RIGHT

DEAR WANT TO: Velvet is fine in cold weather and certainly acceptable to wear after the holidays.

By all means, send a personal thank-you to each person who gave you a gift — you want to start your marriage off on the right foot. His family, and yours, will be impressed that you both married courteous and thoughtful people.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more attractive person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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

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MEDICARE/MEDICAID ACCEPTED
Vallie Monday-Friday 8:00 to 5:00 & 1:30 to 5:00
Gorania

all-star KIDS Pageant
BOYS & GIRLS
Beautiful Babies 0-11 Months 12-23 Months 24-35 Months 36-47 Months
Beauty & Beau 4-6 Years 7-9 Years 10-12 Years 13-15 Years 16-18 Years
Photogenic All Ages
TALENT (Optional)

TROPHIES CROWNS BANNERS
NATIONAL INVITATION
ENTRY FORM (877) 618-7827 TOLL FREE

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PRIME TIME

PRIME TIME CALENDAR

CASA DE AMIGOS

Casa de Amigos is located at 1101 E. Garden Lane. Call 682-9701. Activities include:

- Monday: 9 a.m. billiards/bowling; 9:45 a.m. exercise; 10:15 a.m. crafts; 11:15 a.m. lunch; 12:15 p.m. games.
- Tuesday: 9 a.m. billiards; 9:45 a.m. gem and mineral; 10:15 a.m. sing-a-long; 11:15 a.m. lunch; 12:15 p.m. bingo.
- Wednesday: 9 a.m. billiards; 9:45 a.m. exercise; 10:15 a.m. advisory meeting; 11:15 a.m. lunch; 12:15 p.m. table games.
- Thursday: 9 a.m. billiards; 9:45 a.m. adult classes; 11:15 a.m. lunch; 12:15 p.m. games.
- Friday: 9 a.m. billiards; 10:15 a.m. crafts; 11:15 a.m. lunch; 12:15 p.m. Bible study.

MIDLAND YMCA

Midland YMCA has many activities scheduled for Prime Time adults. Contact Central YMCA 682-2551. Scheduled activities are:

- Low impact aerobics: 8:15 a.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday; 6 p.m. Monday and Wednesday.
- YMCARDIAC (YCT) Therapy, call for appointment before beginning class.
- Senior water aerobics, 8-8:45 a.m. Monday through Friday.
- Water arthritis classes, 10:15 a.m., 2 p.m. and 5:15 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
- Deep water aerobics, 6:30 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday.
- Hydro-fit and water aerobics, 9 a.m. Monday through Saturday.
- Hydro-fit aerobics, 6 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday.
- Lap swim/water walking, 5:30-8 a.m. and 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday through Friday; 6-8:30 p.m. Monday and Wednesday; 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday; 10 a.m.-1:45 p.m. Saturday; and 1:15-4 p.m. Sunday. **Certified lifeguard is on duty during lap/open swim times and water classes.**

SOUTHEAST SENIOR CENTER

Southeast Senior Center, 1803 E. Indiana, is open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. Call 685-7231. Activities include:

- Monday: 9:30 a.m. singing; 9:45 a.m. exercise; 10 a.m. ceramics, needlework and billiards; 11:15 a.m. lunch; 1 p.m. table games.
- Tuesday: 9:30 a.m. singing; 9:45 a.m. exercise; 10 a.m. quilting, crafts and billiards; 11:15 a.m. lunch; 1 p.m. table games.
- Wednesday: 9:30 a.m. singing; 9:45 a.m. exercise; 10 a.m. ceramics, choir and billiards; 11:15 a.m. lunch; 1 p.m. table games.
- Thursday: 9:30 a.m. singing; 9:45 a.m. exercise; 10 a.m. ceramics and table games; 11:15 a.m. lunch; 1 p.m. table games.
- Friday: 9 a.m. singing; 9:45 a.m. exercise; 10 a.m. Bible class and table games; 11:15 a.m. lunch; 1 p.m. movie and center bingo.

MIDLAND SENIOR CENTER

Midland Senior Center is located in Kingsway Mall, 3303 W. Illinois, Space #18. Call 681-7636. Activities for Feb. 21-25 include:

- Monday: 9 a.m. billiards, exercise, cards and dominoes; 9:30 a.m. art class; 10 a.m. Kitchenettes; 11:30 a.m. lunch; 1 p.m. bridge, cards and dominoes.
- Tuesday: 9 a.m. billiards, exercise, cards, dominoes and ceramics; 9:30 a.m. blood pressure check and line dancing for fun; 11:30 a.m. lunch; 12:30 p.m. art class and AARP income tax help; 1 p.m. bridge, dominoes and cards.
- Wednesday: 9 a.m. billiards, cards, dominoes, ceramics class and exercise; 10 a.m. Gospel singing; 11:30 a.m. lunch; 1 p.m. bridge, dominoes and cards.
- Thursday: 9 a.m. prescription help, billiards, exercise, cards, dominoes; 9:30 a.m. country and western dancing and Tall City Dancers; 11:30 a.m. lunch; 12:30 p.m. art for fun and AARP income tax help; 1 p.m. bridge, cards and dominoes.
- Friday: 9 a.m. billiards, exercise, cards, dominoes; 11:30 a.m. lunch; 1 p.m. bridge, cards, dominoes.

Senior Recreation Group (age 55 and older) meets 5:30-8:30 p.m. Feb. 21 for snacks and games. Newcomers are welcome to join the group, which meets the third Monday of each month at the center.

MISSION ADULT DAY CARE CENTER

Mission Adult Day Care Center of Midland is open 6:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday at 5212 Sinclair. The center is closed for major holidays. Call 522-1221. Weekday schedule includes:

- 8 a.m. light breakfast or snacks; 9 a.m. visitation, special events; 10 a.m. exercise, R.O.M., singing or live music; noon lunch; 12:30 p.m. rest period; 2:30 p.m. snacks.
- Activities include visits from Gospel groups, line dancers and country groups, and golfing.

Skilled nursing services with registered nurse director and certified activity director. Medicaid licensed, with adequate, caring skilled staff and transportation available.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul assists Midland's poor with rent, utilities, food and clothing. Volunteers are needed to work one to four hours each week in the agency's Thrift Store, 701 N. Fort Worth. Store hours are 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. Call 687-2343. Meetings are 6:30 p.m. each Thursday at St. Ann's Catholic Church parish office, Texas at M Streets. Call 688-3999 for more information.

COM AQUATICS SENIORS AND THERAPEUTIC EXERCISE

City of Midland Aquatics has programs of water exercise for seniors. The schedule is:

- Monday: 7:30-11:30 a.m. water walking; 10:15-11 a.m. therapeutic aerobics (deep pool); noon-12:45 p.m. and 1-1:45 p.m. arthritis exercise.
- Tuesday: 7:30-9:30 a.m. water walking; 9:30-10:30 a.m. arthritis plus; 12:15-1 p.m. therapeutic aerobics (deep pool); 12:30-1:30 p.m. arthritis plus.
- Wednesday: 7:30-11:30 a.m. water walking; 10:15-11 a.m. therapeutic aerobics (deep pool); noon-12:45 p.m. and 1-1:45 p.m. arthritis exercise.
- Thursday: 7:30-9:30 a.m. water walking; 9:30-10:30 a.m. arthritis plus; 12:15-1 p.m. therapeutic aerobics (deep pool); 12:30-1:30 p.m. arthritis plus.
- Friday: 7:30-11:30 a.m. water walking; 10:15-11 a.m. therapeutic aerobics (deep pool); noon-12:45 p.m. and 1-1:45 p.m. arthritis exercise.
- Saturday: 10:30 a.m.-noon water walking.

CITY OF MIDLAND HOUSING AUTHORITY

Recreation and leisure activities at Hillcrest Manor, Langtry Village and Parker Place are managed by City of Midland Housing Authority and coordinated through Community and Senior Services. The schedule is:

- Tuesday: 10 a.m. exercise at Parker Place; 2 p.m. exercise at Hillcrest Manor; 2:30 p.m. exercise at Langtry Village; 3 p.m. blood pressure check at Langtry Village and Hillcrest Manor.
- Wednesday: 10 a.m. bingo at Parker Place; 2 p.m. bingo at Hillcrest Manor; 3 p.m. birthday party at Hillcrest Manor.
- Thursday: 10 a.m. exercise at Parker Place; 2 p.m. exercise at Hillcrest Manor; 2:30 p.m. exercise at Langtry Village; 3 p.m. bingo at Langtry Village; 4 p.m. birthday party at Langtry Village.

RSVP

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) is recruiting persons 55 years and older to volunteer with non-profit agencies. RSVP will match volunteers' skills and interests to community agencies' needs. The program is sponsored by Community and Senior Services, 3301 Sinclair. Call 689-6693. Current opportunities include:

- St. Vincent de Paul Store needs volunteer clerks to sort clothing and other items. Shifts are one day each week, Monday, Wednesday or Friday.
- RSVP and U.S. Census 2000 need volunteers to help man census sites and help individuals fill out census forms from March through April 15. Shifts will be two to three hours each week at Community and Senior Services. Special training will be provided.
- Southeast After-School Program needs volunteers to help children with reading, math and daily homework, and to assist partnering agencies with special programs. Shifts are 3:30-5 p.m. one day each week, Monday through Thursday. Support provided.

By Lana Cunningham

"Marching to the beat of a different drummer" could partially describe Frank Bass, and even that doesn't quite address his non-conformity.

"I play the drum," he said with a soft chuckle. "I never did do what anyone else did."

His slightly irreverent sense of humor colors his life, which consists of volunteering at least five days a week. "Volunteer work has become a part of my life. I don't even remember working for a living," said the man who estimates he has put 35,000 to 40,000 miles on his car traveling to the airport to help at the Information Desk or with the Confederate Air Force.

But Bass did have a life before he entered the volunteer world.

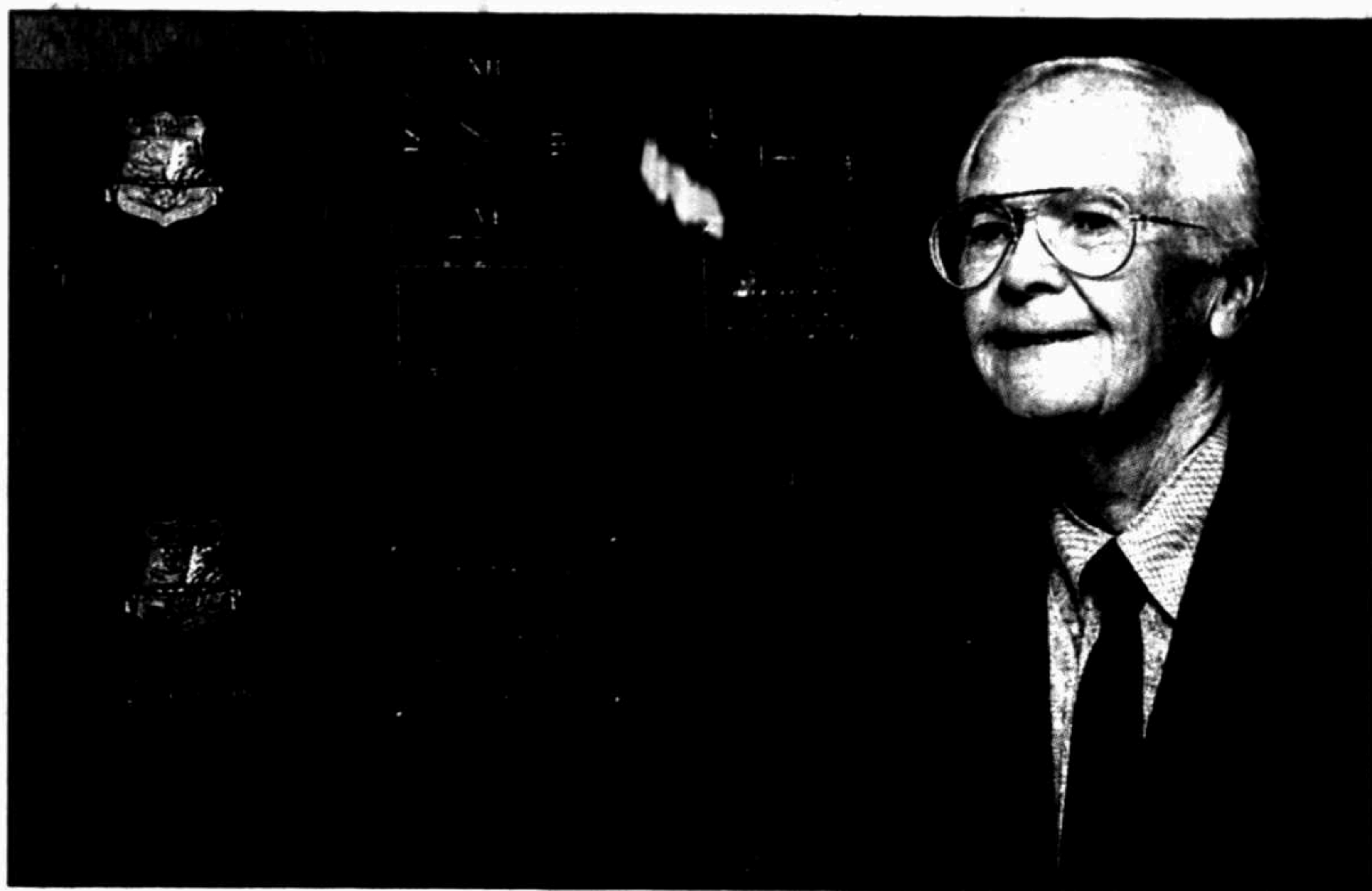
The Fort Worth native graduated from high school in 1941, tried junior college for awhile, then joined the Air Force during World War II. "I washed out of the flying program and ended up in Air Force communications out in the Pacific."

Not sure what he wanted to do, Bass returned to Fort Worth and graduated in 1950 with a bachelor's degree in business administration from Texas Christian University. Then came a string of jobs while Bass searched for what he felt would be the "right" job. His resume includes working at three aircraft plants, an auto air conditioning manufacturer, managing a machine shop and selling advertising for the Fort Worth Press. "If you don't keep looking for the right job, you'll always wonder," he said.

During that search, he married Lynn in 1952. Two years later, Bass found the right job working as a landman for Gulf Oil in Midland. At the age of 62, he retired the day before Chevron took over the company.

Then came the three requisites for anyone retiring, according to Bass:

- Sleep late.
 - Paint the house.
 - Travel a little.
- "Then I said, 'now what.'" He considered working as a docent for local organizations, but decided it was "too structured" to fit his tastes. "In 1987, I heard about the



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Frank Bass, 77, worked at several jobs before he discovered his ideal career was to be a landman for Gulf Oil in Midland. Since his retirement, he has discovered the joys of being a volunteer for several different agencies. And his volunteer service has lead him to many different awards, included those shown here.

city starting a program for volunteers. I thought, 'why not?'"

Bass starting out doing land work for the city. Then he worked in the Traffic Department, "putting little pins all over a map," he said wryly. The next job involved identifying all city properties on a map. When the airport needed volunteers for the Information Desk, Bass signed up for three days a week. Recently, he cut back to working only Wednesday afternoons. Even so, he has tallied 3,300 hours as a city volunteer.

In 1990, the CAF opened its doors and Bass jumped at the chance to join. It wasn't the idea of flying the war birds that drew him like a magnet, but rather the opportunity to fix broken planes. He started with the B-29/B-24 Squadron, where he has donated about 4,000 hours, and then also signed on with the High Sky Wing, where he has devoted about 400 hours. And when the Air Show rolls around every fall, he puts in another 200 hours.

"I've gone out to that airport for 12 years — a lot of it in the last

eight years. Sometimes, I've been out there seven days a week," Bass said.

"I have always been a mechanical nut," he explained of his unflagging interest. When Bass was 12, he and other neighborhood boys found an abandoned Model T and, after two years, finally got the antique car running.

"If somebody can build something, I can take it apart and put it back together." At the CAF, his greatest love is to fix a broken part of the old airplanes. "I can't wait for something to break," he said with a grin. "Whatever is broken, I fix."

Before the CAF moved to Midland, Bass kept his hands in the mechanical field by always owning one sports car to work on in the garage. "I've worked on Jaguars, Austin Healeys and Aston Martins," Bass said, the eyes sparkling. "I drive a Camaro now."

It's not quite the image car for a man who will be 77 this summer and enjoys dispensing wisdom along with his insights. As

father of a son, Randy, and daughter, Rebecca, he said of parenting, "In the end, if both of them still love you, you've done OK."

During his career as a landman, Bass recalled he often saw retired people living in trailers and watching television all day. "They're not going to last," he would think. "They're just waiting to go, and we're all going to go."

But Bass knew that when retirement rolled around for him, watching television wasn't going to be part of his regime. "Volunteering is an outlet. Once you get started in it, you're going to love it. I volunteer for a lot of goofy things. I can't help it," admitted the man who still helps people who are stopped at the side of a road.

"I have fun. I still have my senses, still get around and still eat lunch with the guys. And when I go, I hope the Pearly Gates are out of kilter so I can work on them for awhile before I go in."

Bass laughed. And while he's in heaven, he might play the drum — to his own beat.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Seminars of interest to seniors planned

By Alexandria L. Rose

February is a month with three important dates — besides, of course, Valentine's Day.

Highlight Feb. 22, 23 and 24 on your calendar as great days for gathering information.

A forum, "Family Councils in Action," hosted by the Permian Basin Area Agency on Aging Ombudsman Program, will provide information to relatives and friends of people in long-term care facilities. The purpose of this forum is to help family groups get organized and be part of the long-term care community. The forum is scheduled for 7-9 p.m. Feb. 22 at Texas Tech University Health Science Cen-



Rose

ter Lecture Hall in Odessa, and 7-9 p.m. Feb. 23 at Midland College Health Sciences Continuing Education Lecture Hall.

Council educators Beverly Hamilton, BA, MSW, and Marie Crawford, BS, BS from the Advocacy Center in Bloomington, Minn., will be facilitators. The Advocacy Center for Long-Term Care is an independent, non-profit organization for the residents of nursing and assisted living facilities and their families. Founded in 1972, the center was the first of its kind to foster nursing home consumer education. Admission to the forum is free, but reservations are required. Call 1-800-491-4636.

On Feb. 24, a seminar on "Recognizing Financial Abuse of the Elderly" will be presented 9-11:30 a.m. at MC's Scharbauer Student Center Roadrunner Room, and again from 1-3:30 p.m. at Casa de Amigos, 1101 E. Garden Lane.

Financial abuse of the elderly is one of the fastest-growing,

most often-reported, types of abuse in Texas. This seminar will provide information from a variety of state and local speakers to help you understand what financial abuse is and where to get help if you or someone you know is a victim.

This seminar is also free, but pre-registration is required. Call MC's Continuing Education Office at 685-4518. CEUs are available at the door for \$10.

Nancy Gresham, public outreach specialist in the Elder Law

and Public Health Division of the Office of the Attorney General; Darla J. Burton, who has been employed as an adult protective services investigator; and Mary Lou Cassidy, who has been practicing law for 20 years and is a public speaker on elder law issues, will be the presenters.

Alexandria L. "Alex" Rose is district coordinator for the American Association of Retired Persons.

OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, February 20
2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

You're invited to visit The Birthplace—Midland's newest labor and delivery facility at Westwood Medical Center. Nurses will be available to show you our home-like setting designed for a wonderful birth experience. Business office personnel will also be on hand to answer questions. Join us Sunday afternoon and see for yourself why expectant mothers are choosing The Birthplace.



4214 Andrews Highway
www.westwoodmed.com

Plan to attend
a seminar on Fraud/Abuse Targeting our Seniors

Speakers: Al Schorre, Midland County D.A.;
Nancy Gresham from the Attorney General's Office;
Mary Lou Cassidy, Attorney with Stubbeman, McRae Law Firm and
Darla Barton with Adult Protective Services

on
Thursday, February 24th

Repeat sessions held:

9:00-11:30 AM at Midland College's Roadrunner Room
1:00-3:30 PM at Casa de Amigos

Call your Area Agency on Aging for more information
563-1061



FOR BETTER OR WORSE



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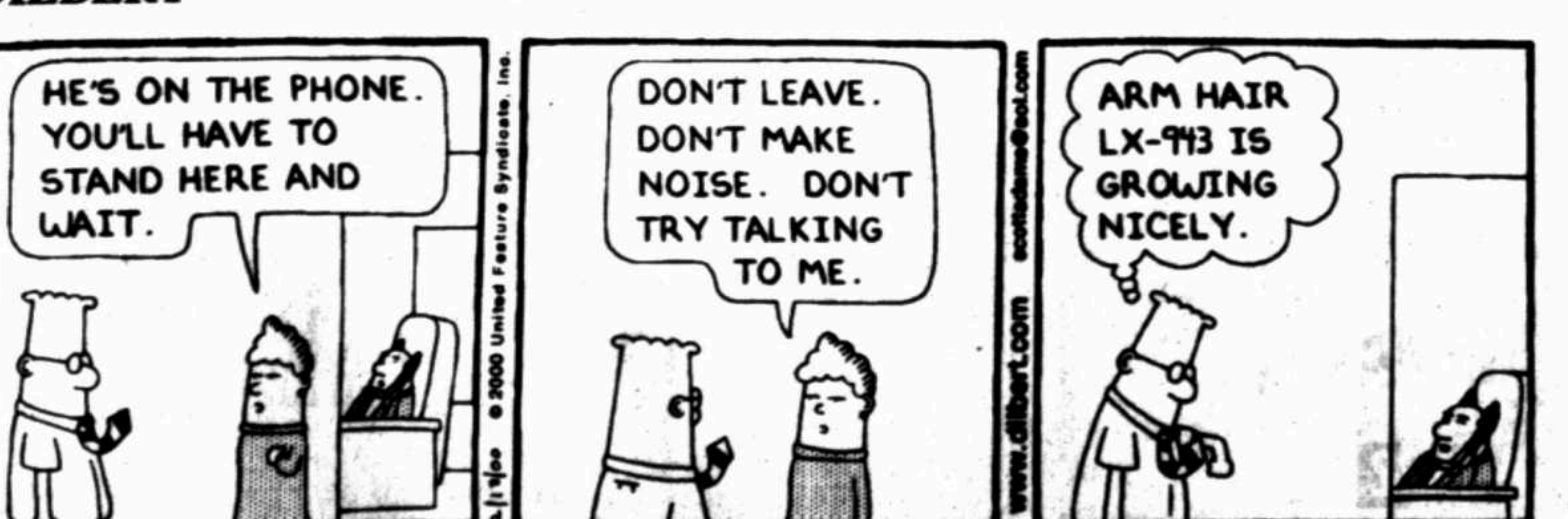
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MARY WORTH



JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, Feb. 18, 2000: Defer to others more this year. Listen to your inner voice to help you deal with family and domestic matters. Many choices lie ahead of you, and most of them are excellent, though they take you in new directions. Frequent timeouts allow you to center yourself and learn more about what fits you. You are changing, and you might make different choices now than you had before. If you are single, others seek you out. Popularity soars. You can become confused by what you hear and what you want. If attached, you might not convey your message clearly. On some level, you might be unsure of what you want to say. Work more as a team, allowing for individual differences. LEO challenges your style.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★★ Use your skills to determine what is necessary. You could be looking at a goal that seems unusually cloudy to you. Opportunity knocks as a friend comes up with several ideas. Network; reach out for others. You make new friends and contacts.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★★ Opportunity strikes, out of the blue. A partner shares interesting information. You might find a boss difficult and testy. Be careful how you display your frustration. You tend to go to extremes. Follow your course with more self-restraint.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★★ Reach out, but try not to read more into what others are saying than what's actually there. News sends you in a new direction. Stay centered, and know what is workable for you. Your drive and focus can make or break a project. It's your call!

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★★★ Getting what you want proves costly, but you might not care! A partner might have strong feelings about what is happening, though seeing eye to eye proves to be complicated. You need another's support in order to maximize a career offer.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★★ Go for what you want. Don't worry. Keep expectations clear and realistic. You have many choices to make; others seem willing to offer suggestions. Creativity and perspective are an unbeatable combination. Work with surprises.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★★ Say little, and worry less about what is happening, if possible. Think rather than react. A partner has many different opinions; listen to them. Unexpected developments occur at work. Go with the flow. Flexibility counts.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★★ Friends surround you, and a close associate cheers you on. There seems to be little choice about which way to go. Recognize that another's extravagance could affect you. Discuss your worries and make strong choices for your future.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★★ Another pushes you to assume responsibility. When you do, there is a general sigh of relief. Your fine sense of direction and your capabilities are a source of pride to those close to you. You get the job done, even if it means putting forth an extraordinary effort.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★★ Get out of the office as quickly as you can. A lot can come up that detains you. Your high energy needs an outlet besides work. A change of scenery is just what the doctor ordered. Work with the unexpected, but don't get tangled in situations you don't want.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★★ Relax with a special partner. Worry less about the risk you might be taking. Financial options appear. Recognize your limits with a real estate investment. Do your homework; ask important questions. Nothing is frivolous.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★★ Others knock on your door. You have difficulty finding privacy, even at home. You could become frayed and tired and could do the unexpected, upsetting a partner as a result. Take a walk. Pull away, if that means preserving the peace.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★★ So much hits you so fast that you could be overwhelmed. Sort through what you want to do. Aim for what you desire. Concentrate, and don't scatter. Others seek you out; popularity soars. You could get nervous if you think about all you have to do.

BORN TODAY
Actor Matt Dillon (1964), director Milos Forman (1932), novelist Toni Morrison (1931)

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

East-West vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH		EAST	
♠ A K 6	♥ 7 5 3	♠ Q 10 3 2	♥ K J 9 8 4
♦ 9 7 6 3	♣ A K 8	♦ J 10 8	♣ 5
WEST		SOUTH	
♠ J 8 7 4	♥ A Q 10 6	♠ 9 5	♥ 2
♦ A Q 10 6	♣ 5 2	♦ A K 4	♥ Q 10 9 7 4 3 2
♣ J 6			

The bidding:		NORTH		EAST		SOUTH		WEST	
10	Pass	24	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
34	Pass	54	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: Four of ♠

Take a poll as to who was the greatest woman player of all time, and our bet is that Helen Sobel Smith would win by a mile. This deal is from a major duplicate pairs event, where an overtrick could be worth its weight in gold.

The auction would probably be duplicated today, except that a few pairs might stray into three no trump since it has become unfashionable to declare five of a minor suit. It might seem that declarer must lose a trick in each red suit, but Helen had other ideas.

West's spade lead was ducked in dummy (!) and East won with the queen. At the very worst, declarer was simply exchanging a loser for a

That Elusive Overtrick

loser, since a red card could be discarded from the closed hand on a high spade. However, East had no idea whether to return a heart or a diamond, and declarer was banking on East choosing the latter.

East did indeed shift to a diamond. Declarer won in hand, drew two rounds of trumps, then cashed the remaining diamond honor. A spade was led to the king, and the losing diamond was dis-

carded on the ace of spades. Next a diamond was ruffed and, when the suit broke evenly, South's foresight at trick one reaped a handsome dividend.

There was a good diamond on the table, and still a trump in dummy to serve as an entry. Declarer's heart went away on the 13th diamond, and the contract was home with an overtrick for a clear top on the board. Not surprisingly, no one else landed 12 tricks.

CLOSE TO HOME



"See? It LOOKS like a real dog, FEELS like a real dog, but without the hassles of owning a real dog!"

ZITS



DENNIS



"His F TO LEA"

FAMILY



2-18

"Why"

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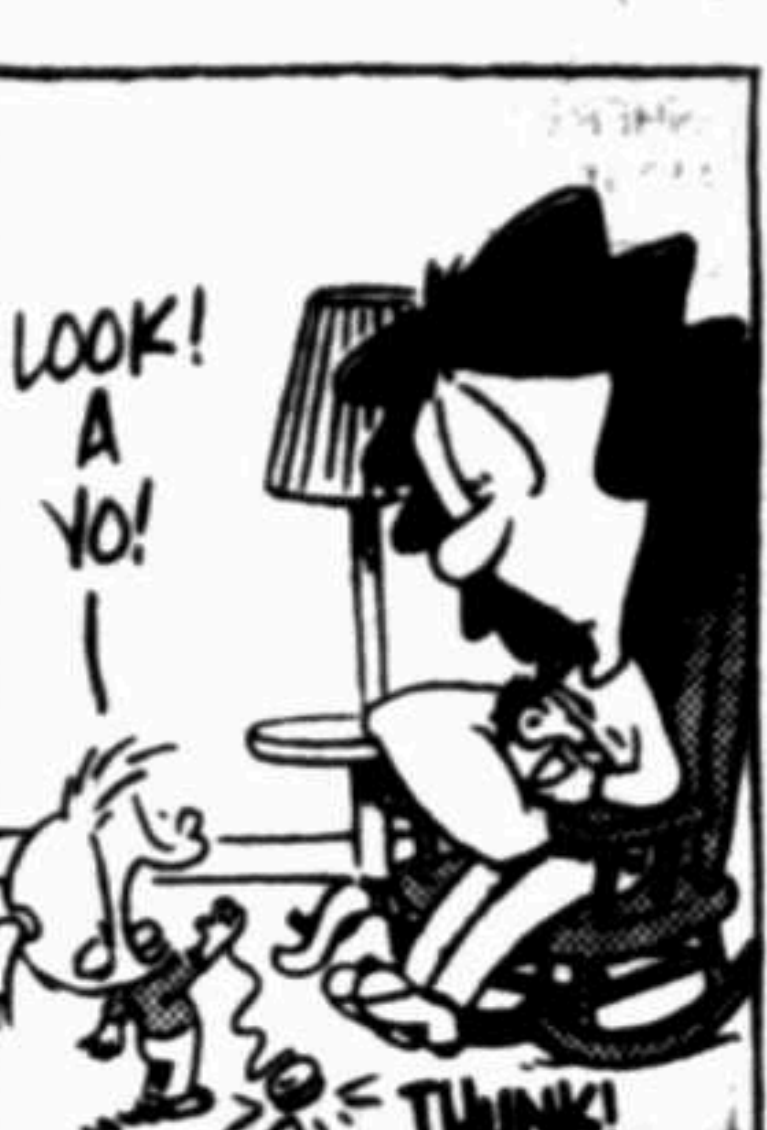
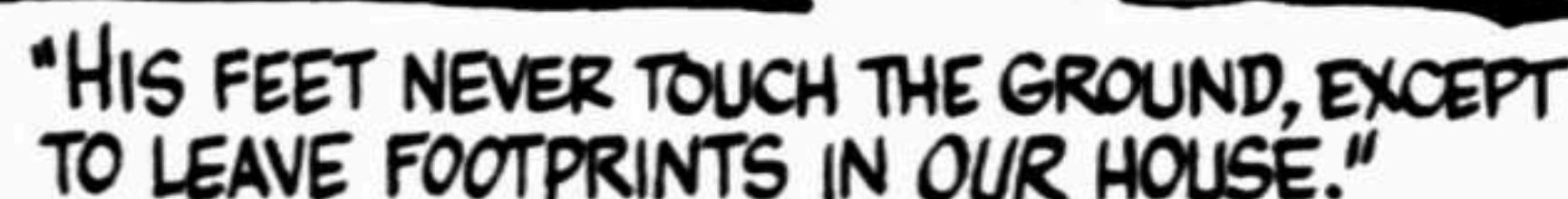
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BABY BLUES

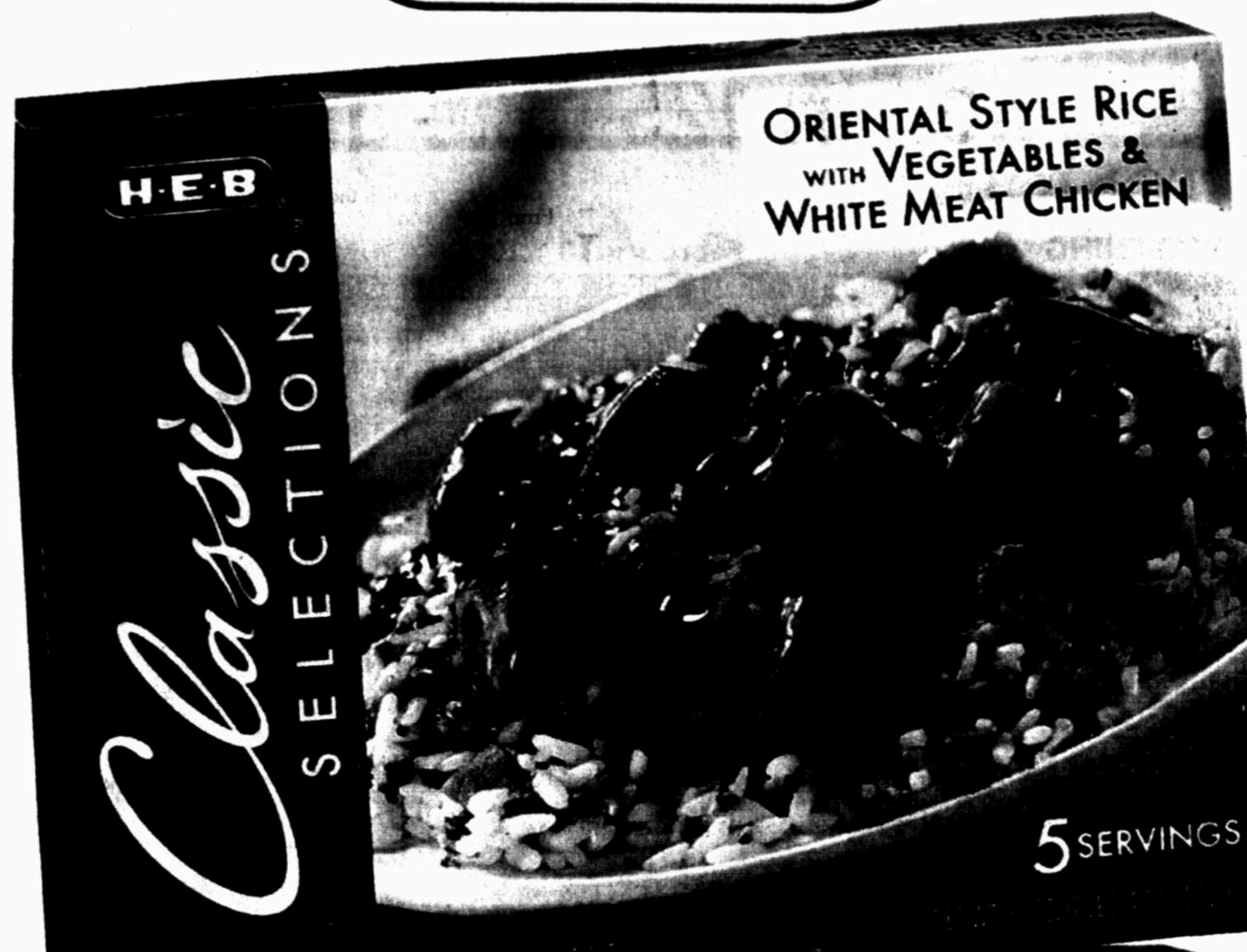
**February 18, 2000**

"Why do I hafta get all bungled up?"

By Harvey Estes
© 2000 Los Angeles Times Syndicate

2/18/01

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- Cheese Lasagna
- Stuffed Green Peppers
- Beef Stroganoff
- Chunky Chicken With Noodles
- Beef Shepherd's Pie
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- Baked Penne With Meat Sauce
- And More!

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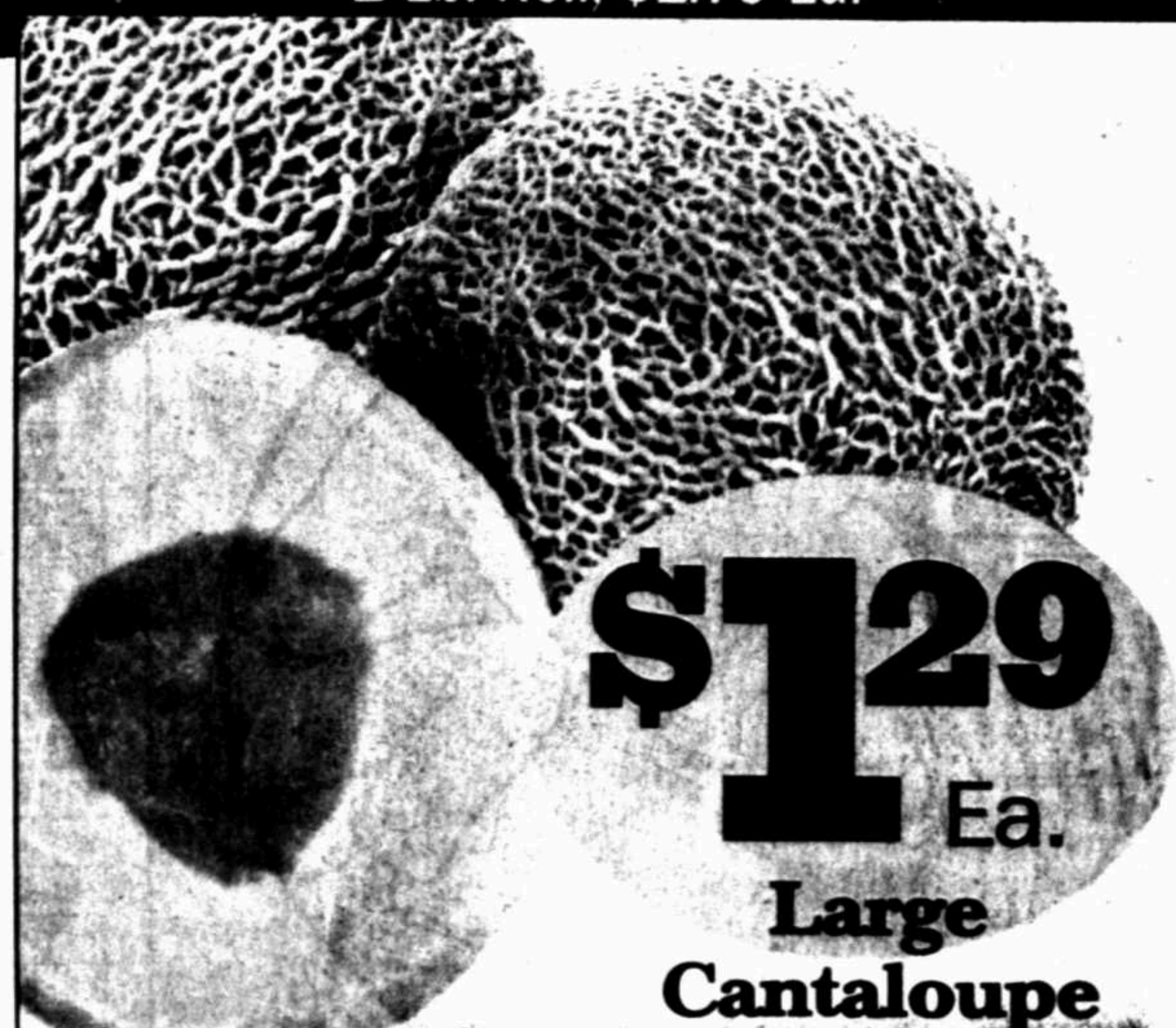
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Midland
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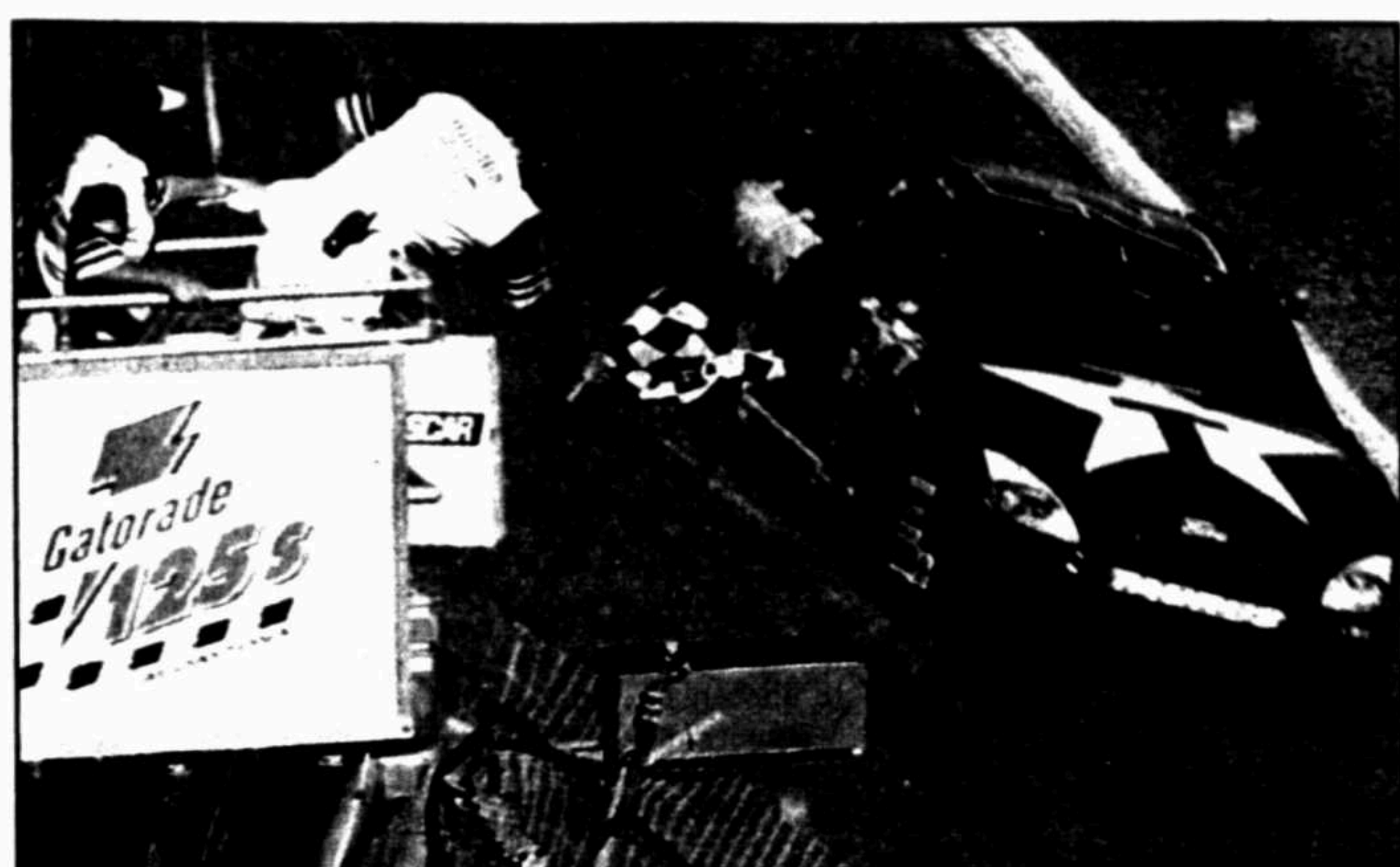
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Ricky Rudd takes the checkered flag to win one of the two 125-mile qualifiers which prelude Sunday's Daytona 500 Thursday afternoon at the Daytona International Speedway. Bill Elliott, a two-time Daytona 500 winner, captured the other qualifier. Rudd and Dale Jarrett will begin Sunday's race on the first row.

No drivers challenge Rudd, Elliott in 125-mile qualifiers

By Mike Harris
AP Motorsports Writer

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — The only drivers who seemed to enjoy the two Daytona 500 qualifying races were Bill Elliott and Ricky Rudd.

And why not? They won. Yet the 100 laps of racing offered little drama Thursday. There were no caution flags — first time since 1964 that's happened — and just one pass for the lead.

Tony Stewart and Robby Gordon even stayed away from each other on the track, a day after their scuffle in the garage area.

"That's the worst racing I've seen at Daytona in a long time," said seven-time Winston Cup champion Dale Earnhardt, the 1998 Daytona 500 winner.

Elliott, a two-time Daytona 500 winner who had not won any kind of race since the Southern 500 in 1994, was

never challenged in the first of two 125-mile qualifiers. From the outside of the front row, he passed Dale Jarrett at the very start and led a three-Ford breakaway, easily finishing ahead of Jarrett and Rusty Wallace.



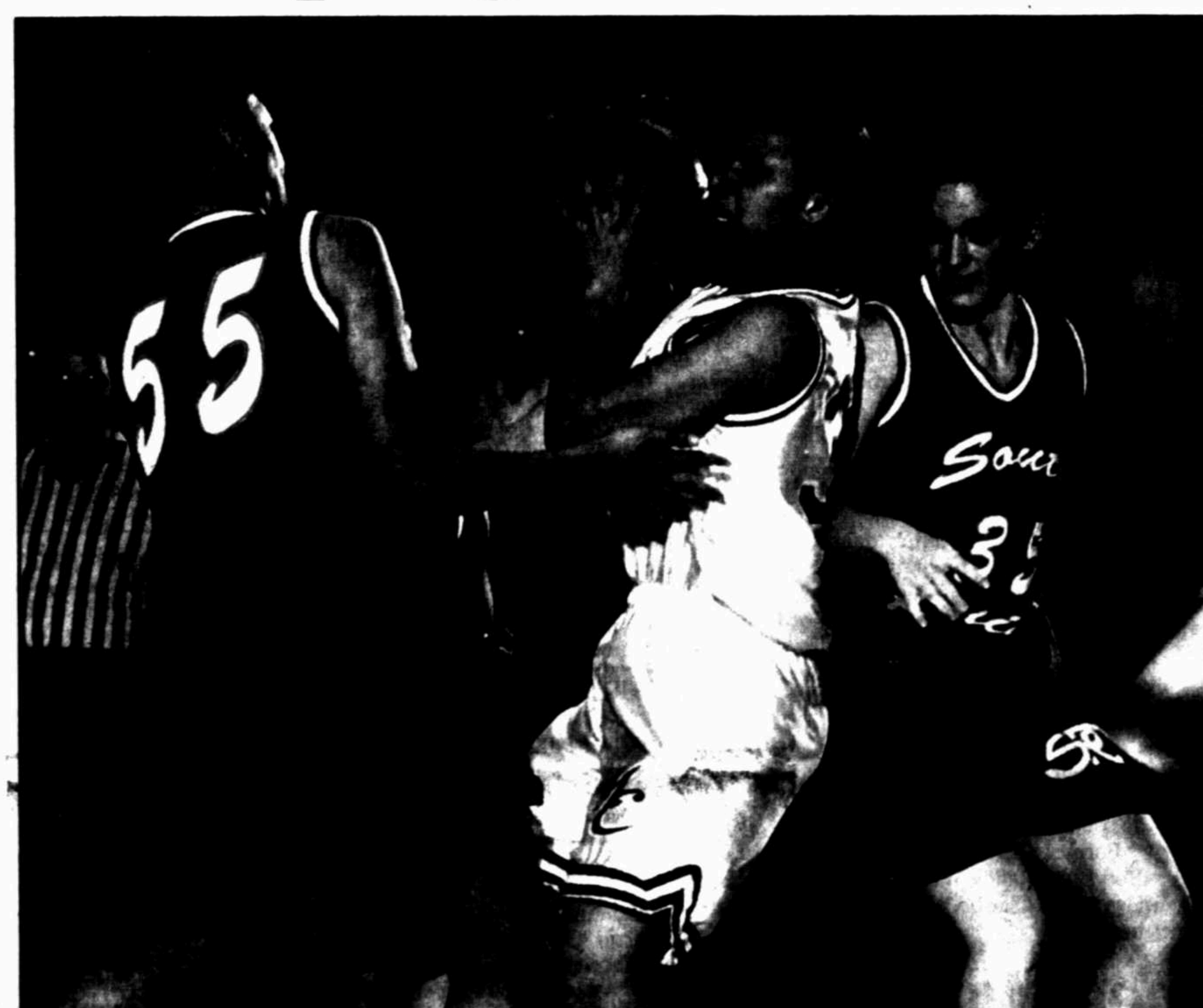
Jarrett, who remains the favorite to win on Sunday, had dominated at Daytona International Speedway, winning time trials for the pole position in the main event and easily taking the Bud Shootout, a 25-lap race for last year's top qualifiers.

"The main objective today, especially for us, but for most of the guys, was to get 50 laps under our belts and see what was going to happen as the tire pressures got up and the

Please see CAR/6C

MIDLAND COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Sweeping South Plains



U. Frank Williams Jr./Reporter-Telegram
Midland College's Nikki Maloney (center) is surrounded by South Plains' Shenika Griffin (55) and Jennifer Stockman while snagging a rebound in the first half of their Western Junior College Athletic Conference game.

Lady Chaps defeat Lady Texans by 20, clinch share of WJCAC championship

By Jay Peden
Sports Writer

Conference championships are nice. But for a team that finished third in the nation last year and has the potential to go far again this year, a conference title isn't enough.

So while the Midland College women's basketball team clinched at least a share of the Western Junior College

Athletic Conference crown with an easy 80-60 win over South Plains College Thursday at Chaparral Center, there wasn't much celebration.

"I think we did some good things, and we did some things we can learn from," said MC's Heidi Lange, sounding like someone who had just finished a day at the office.

The Lady Chaps are now 11-1 in WJCAC play and 23-5 overall and are

finally back in the NJCAA Top 25 — at No. 25. The Lady Texans are 5-7 and 13-14.

As always, MC coach Ron Jones was concerned more with how the Lady Chaps played than with the fact that they won by a lot.

"I'm happy with our win," he said. "Once we got up by a little bit we lost our intensity, which I was not happy

Please see TITLE/5C

No. 15 MC men beat struggling SPC

By Oscar LeRoy
Sports Writer

The No. 15 Midland College men's basketball team regained their identity on Thursday against a young South Plains College team.

But it's not like they had lost much of their identity in the first place after their 80-67 win at Clarendon on Monday.

First-year Chaps coach Junsie Cotten, though, wants his team to be known for their defense and rebounding.

On Thursday, Cotten got his wish as the Chaps pounded inside and played tough defense as they beat a strug-

gling Texan team, 79-56, at Chaparral Center.

"It was much better than Monday night," said Cotten after the game. "I thought our kids played extremely hard, and we guarded a very tough South Plains team. We beat this same team by five points the last time we played them. We came out mentally prepared to play this game. When we play that way, we're a pretty good basketball team. When we don't play that way we're average or below average."

The Chaps (24-4 overall, 11-1 in the Western Junior College Athletic Conference) showed how good they can be against a South Plains squad which lost its third straight

Please see MEN/5C

Area round playoff game has meaning for Rangerette team

By Jay Peden
Sports Writer

It's been a while since the Greenwood girls basketball team has played a game that counts.

It was way back on Feb. 4 when Greenwood beat Monahans in the regular-season finale. That win, combined with Alpine's win over Crane, gave the Rangerettes the District 4-3A championship. The district title gave Greenwood a bye in the first round of the Class 3A playoffs, and the bye, together with the fact that 4-3A finished district play three days earlier than most districts, meant some free time for the Rangerettes.

Tonight that ends. The Rangerettes re-enter the season with an area-round matchup against Lubbock Cooper at 6 p.m. at Scurry County Coliseum in Snyder.

"They're ready to play," coach Amy Daniels said of her Greenwood players. "It's been a long wait."

Girls Basketball

Greenwood filled one of those open dates with about as good a practice-game opponent as a team from this area could hope for: Class 2A power Ozona. They played on Feb. 12, and Ozona won, 51-41, but Daniels said the Rangerettes kept their composure and played well.

"We came out of the Ozona game getting out of it what we needed to. We had some things to work on," Daniels said. "But that's the best thing I feel from them; they're ready to get out on the floor."

There's one good thing about a long lay-off: plenty of time to scout the opponent.

"I watched (Cooper) play Tuesday, and we scouted them the week before," Daniels said. "We match up pretty well personnel-wise. We may be a little bigger inside with our six-foot post."

Please see HOOPS/5C



AP Photo
Roger Staubach, who quarterbacked two of Tom Landry's teams to Super Bowl wins, looks up at the opening of a memorial service for Landry in Dallas. To the left of Staubach is a picture of his former coach.

Landry's memorial service brings out inspiration, tears

By Jaime Aron
AP Sports Writer

DALLAS — A gray fedora rested on the altar. An open Bible sat inches away. A portrait of a serious-looking Tom Landry stared at pews filled with Pro Football Hall of Famers and Super Bowl champions.

Those simple images of class, faith and success reflected the words spoken Thursday during a memorial service in honor of the former Dallas Cowboys coach.

"Tom Landry was everything the world believed him to be," said his son, Tom Landry Jr. "He was a man of virtue, of high moral character, a man whose talents and hard work propelled him to the top of his profession."

"Tom Landry never strayed from his ideals. He remains a consistent, shining example to all of us."

Landry's 29 years with the Cowboys were only a backdrop for many of the stories told during an hourlong church service for relatives and friends. The focus instead was his faith and staunch

principles.

"He was our rock, our hope, our inspiration. He was our coach," former Cowboys quarterback Roger Staubach said. "Probably there were some players that didn't love him, but they all respected him. He was committed to us, and you don't find that type of commitment in life very often."

The mood was much lighter during a second service, a two-hour public ceremony at a downtown symphony center. A dozen former players and colleagues shared their Landry memories, often through humorous anecdotes.

Tommy Loy opened it with a trumpet solo of the national anthem, as he did so many of Landry's home games. The service closed with dozens of former players walking across the stage and placing yellow roses into a vase as a choir sang "Amazing Grace."

No Cowboys symbols were displayed at either ceremony. The closest was a photo of Landry inside Texas Stadium at one end of the public service's stage. At the other end was a blown-up photo of Landry wearing his trademark hat and his arms crossed. It's similar to the picture on the cover of his 1990 autobiography.

Please see REFLECT/2C

West Texas Championships offers last chance to earn qualifying time

By Lee Passmore
Sports Writer

It's a last chance for age group swimmers this weekend at Midland's Mabec Aquatic Center.

The West Texas Championships will be the last chance that swimmers from the region 18 and under can qualify for the Texas Age Group Swimming (TAGS) short course meet in Dallas in two weeks. The meet will take place over the next three days, starting today at 6 p.m. and on Saturday and Sunday at 9 a.m. each day.

If the young swimmers want to make

COM Swimming

the TAGS meet, they have to be feeling a sense of urgency about this weekend. "They've got to do it now or never," City of Midland swim team executive director Brad Swendig said.

With no other chance of making the TAGS meet, the seriousness factor will be higher in this particular meet than it has been for any other this season. It is a fitting way to cap the short course season for COM, which also hosted the West Texas Winter Invitational meet in

January at Mabec.

There were a lot more numbers at that meet than are expected in town for this weekend, but the quality level might be a little higher.

"The competition should be comparable (to the Winter Invitational) because we're cutting out some of the lower end kids who aren't as fast," said Swendig.

The meet, an annual event which COM also hosted two years ago, will feature 10-12 teams mainly from the West Texas region, with teams expected to come

Please see SWIM/4C

REFLECT: Many NFL dignitaries, fans pack churches for services

(From 1C)

Speakers were asked to keep to a three-minute limit. Hardly any did.

Bob Lilly, Landry's first draft pick, remembered how he was awed the first time he met the coach. Randy White said one of his fondest memories was Landry consoling him after his father's death.

Drew Pearson suggested Landry was putting together the GFL, God's Football League, and had a lineup that included Derrick Thomas and Walter Payton.

Former New York Giants star linebacker Sam Huff touched on a similar theme after recalling the days when Landry was the team's defensive assistant coach and Vince Lombardi was the offensive assistant. The two later became "Ice Bowl" adversaries.

"This is the vision I have: Vince Lombardi sitting in one hand of God's and Tom Landry in the other," Huff said.

About 1,000 people attended the service at Highland Park United Methodist Church, including the five Cowboys players in the Pro Football Hall of Fame: Staubach, Lilly, White, Tony Dorsett and Mel Renfro. Other former Cowboys and New York Giants players and coaches also were there, as was NFL commissioner Paul Tagliabue.

Several buses carried them and other to the second service, which

Remembering Tom Landry

DALLAS (AP) — Quotes about Tom Landry from the private and public memorial services held Thursday.

"I could never call him Tom. He was my coach. He was like my second father." — Former Dallas defensive tackle Bob Lilly, the team's first college draft pick.

"Every player who has ever played for Tom Landry has to be a better person." — Former New York Giants star Sam Huff, for whom Landry created the 4-3 defense.

"I'm sure Tom will be up there looking at I hope we can fulfill in our personal lives the great things he had in mind when he was here." — Former Cowboys general manager Tex Schramm, who hired Landry and worked with him all 29 seasons.

"Tom Landry's faith was his character. He transferred that faith to his team every day." — Former Dallas quarterback Roger Staubach, who started on Landry's two Super Bowl champions.

drew about 1,200 fans. Thousands more watched on live television.

Landry died Saturday at age 75. He had been battling leukemia since May.

All state buildings were asked to lower the Texas flag to half-staff in Landry's honor Thursday



AP Photo
Former Dallas Cowboy Bob Lilly talks about Tom Landry during a memorial service Thursday in Dallas. Landry was remembered as a quiet man who lived his faith on and off the football field.

as the two memorial services were held in Dallas and another in Mission, the South Texas town where Landry was born and raised.

Landry coached the Cowboys from their birth in 1960 until February 1989. He guided the club to 20 straight winning seasons, 13 division titles, five Super Bowl appearances and two championships.

Although the glitzy Cowboys became "America's Team," Landry remained the quiet guy in the fedora hat and business suit.

with advice and best wishes when the NBA team was being put together.

"He's going to have more of an impact after his death than before. The lesson of his life is that if you will stay with your commitment and truthfully not deviate... the Lord will give you the beat to walk to," he said.

The city of Dallas and former players planned another gathering for about 2,600 fans at a downtown symphony center. A third service was planned in Landry's hometown of Mission, about 460 miles south of Dallas.

At a private funeral Wednesday that drew 400 people, including 150 former Cowboys, Landry was remembered for his dignity, class — and his fedora hat.

"Before it started, Tom Jr. actually placed his father's hat in the casket with his father," said Sparkman Hillcrest Funeral Home manager George Rohrer Jr.

Former Cowboys players Tony Dorsett, Bob Lilly, Randy White, Drew Pearson, Bob Hayes and Charlie Waters served as his pallbearers.

Ray Lewis says he's innocent of murder charges

By Stephen Manning
Associated Press Writer

OWINGS MILLS, Md. — Ray Lewis, speaking publicly today for the first time since he was charged with murder Jan. 31, said he was innocent and expressed sympathy for the two victims' families.

"I am very sorry about the tragedy that occurred in Atlanta," the Baltimore linebacker said at the Ravens' training camp. "My sympathy goes out to the family and the friends of both of the men that died."

"You've heard it many times before. Now you get to hear it from me: I am innocent," Lewis said.

He returned to Maryland on Wednesday from Atlanta, where he was charged with killing two men after a Super Bowl party earlier that day.

Lewis read a brief statement that was approved by his lawyers and refused to answer any questions.

"I've been ordered by the court that I can't speak about the case; so, I won't," Lewis said. "All I can do is sit back and wait for justice to take its course and everything else to take its natural course. But I'm looking forward to the day all the facts come out, everything is out in front and my name is cleared."

Lewis left the building and the complex immediately after his speaking and drove straight to his

home a few miles away.

Ravens officials said neither Lewis nor any member of the team would talk about the case again.

Lewis was released from an Atlanta jail Tuesday on \$1 million bail.

The bond requires Lewis to stay in Maryland unless he is traveling to Georgia for court appearances or to meet with his lawyers. It doesn't permit him to visit Florida, where his fiancée and two of his children live.

Ravens owner Art Modell, who went to Atlanta to testify for Lewis during Monday's bond hearing, also was present during Lewis' statement, but did not speak.

Ravens coach Brian Billick said Lewis remains a member of the team.

Lewis, 24, and two companions are charged in the stabbing deaths of two men during a brawl outside an Atlanta nightclub.

Lewis, Joseph Sweeting, 34, of Miami, and Reginald Oakley, 31, of Baltimore, were indicted Friday in the deaths of Richard Lollar, 24, and Jacinth Baker, 21, who were stabbed during a 4 a.m. fight outside an Atlanta nightclub.

Lewis' lawyers say he tried to stop the fight and that he was at least 60 feet away when Lollar and Baker were stabbed. Police say Lewis drove away in a limousine and later lied when they tried to determine who was in his entourage.

Houston officials agree \$367 million budget for new football franchise

■ New stadium price is \$57 million more than originally discussed.

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Officials have agreed to a \$367 million budget for the proposed retractable roof stadium that will host the city's new NFL franchise, an amount \$57 million more than originally discussed.

Taxpayers likely will pick up most of the difference through hotel and car-rental taxes, the Harris County-Houston Sports Authority said Wednesday.

"We have a budget, and based upon the funds we and the (Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo) are contributing, we expect the balance will be provided by the sports authority," team owner Bob McNair said.

In October 1998, the main parties agreed to a \$310 million cost based on preliminary figures. The sports authority's initial share was \$195 million, McNair's was \$50 million and the rodeo's was \$65 million.

Wayne Smith, the authority's construction committee chairman, said no final decision has been made as to who will pay the extra \$57 million.

The sports authority may absorb overruns as long as it maintains \$80 million for a proposed downtown basketball/hockey arena. Mayor Lee Brown said

■ NFL Roundup

he will make sure the authority reserves the money.

The authority has the bonding capacity to cover both the extra stadium money and the projected arena sum, said authority finance committee chairman Ric Campo.

No arena can be built until voters authorize it in a referendum, possibly in November. Harris County residents resoundingly rejected such a proposal last year.

Redskins sign Detroit safety Carrier

ASHBURN, Va. — Three-time Pro Bowl safety Mark Carrier signed a five-year, \$15.9 million contract with the Washington Redskins on Thursday.

The signing came one day after Carrier's enthusiastic visit to Redskin Park. Carrier was flown into town in owner Dan Snyder's private jet, met with Snyder at length and said: "I like it, I like it a lot."

Carrier, who received a \$3 million signing bonus, said he was also considering Tennessee and Chicago.

Carrier replaces Leomont Evans, a fourth round draft pick in 1996 and the starter at free safety for the last two seasons. Evans' last big play for the Redskins was a negative one: His 31-yard pass interference penalty led to Tampa Bay's first touchdown in the Buccaneers' 14-13 victory over Washington in the playoffs.

By Juan A. Lozano
Associated Press Writer

DALLAS — Dallas Cowboys coach Tom Landry was remembered today as a quiet man who lived his faith on and off the football field.

"Tom Landry's faith and deeds went hand-in-hand. That's why he was so loved. He lived his faith every day," said Landry's former quarterback, Roger Staubach, at a memorial service attended by about 1,500 people at Highland Park United Methodist Church.

"Tom Landry's faith was his character. He transferred that faith to his team every day," Staubach said. "He was our rock, our hope, our inspiration. He was our coach. Probably there were some players that didn't love him, but they all respected him. He was committed to us, and you don't find that type of commitment in life very often."

The church that Landry attended for 43 years was decorated with flowers and a portrait of Landry. A fedora hat, Landry's trademark, rested on a table at the front of the sanctuary next to a Bible.

Midland's Tucker signs offer sheet with Miami

Knight-Ridder News Service

DAVIE, Fla. — The Dolphins hope they took a major step toward bolstering their offensive line Thursday by signing St. Louis' Ryan Tucker to an offer sheet.

The Rams now have six days to decide whether to match the Dolphins' three-year, \$8.25 million offer that includes a \$4 million

signing bonus. The Dolphins would give St. Louis their fourth-round pick in April's draft if Tucker were signed away.

The amount of the contract caught St. Louis off guard, as Tucker played only 133 offensive snaps last season. But Dolphins coach Dave Wannstedt believes Tucker is about to emerge as a quality NFL starter.

"We like him," Wannstedt said. "He's played every position, and he's 24 years old."

Wannstedt said he would reserve comment on where Tucker would fit on the Dolphins' line until St. Louis decides whether to match the offer sheet. Tucker was drafted as a center but was a backup right tackle in 1999 and almost unseated starter Fred Miller last season.

Jackalopes defeat Lubbock again

Staff Report

LUBBOCK — The Odessa Jackalopes are making their move at the best time of the season against one of the WPHL's toughest teams.

The Jacks scored their third straight win over the Lubbock Cotton Kings — including their second on the road — when John Bossio scored an unassisted goal to complete a hat trick for a 6-5 victory Thursday night.

It was a rollercoaster game for the Jacks, who took a 3-0 lead in the first period as Bossio scored two goals. On both goals, Paul Vincent and Derek Laxdal assisted, and Vincent also got a goal.

Things fell apart in the second period for the Jacks defensively, as they gave up four Lubbock goals to tie it 4-4. Lubbock's Doug McCarthy scored two goals and assisted on another in the period.

When Craig Binns scored at 7:18 of the third period, the Cotton Kings led 5-4 and appeared to have all the momentum at home.

But the Jacks fought back, showing the toughness they have developed since Don McKee took over as coach and led them to an 18-11-3 mark. Jason Heywood scored on a rebound midway through the period to tie it at 5-5, then Bossio scored from the right face-off circle following a face off with 5:35 left to give the Jacks the lead.

Lubbock had three legitimate chances to tie the game, but

Odessa goalie Joe Harris turned back all three chances.

The win makes the Jacks 23-24-4 on the season. They can get to .500 for the first time all season when they travel to Amaril-

lo tonight at 7 p.m.

Odessa 6, Lubbock 5
Lubbock 3, Odessa 1
First Period: 1. O. Bossio (Laxdal, Vincent) 3:45, 2. O. Vincent (Hillman) 6:31, 3. O. Bossio (Vincent, Laxdal) 19:32
Second Period: 4. L. McCarthy (Brown,

Reeves) 1:22, 5. L. McCarthy (Legg) 10:07, 6. O. Kaebel (Hillman) 11:29, 7. L. Kupacs (Legg, McCarthy) 14:49, 8. L. Green (Rice, Bull) 15:31
Third Period: 9. L. Binns (Green, Brown) 7:18, 10. O. Heywood (Mitrovic, Kaebel) 11:38, 11. O. Bossio (unassisted) 14:25
Shots on Goal: Odessa 13-6-12-31, Lubbock 13-20-16-49. Goals: Odessa, Harris 44 of 49, Lubbock, Gadden 25 of 31. Penalties: Odessa 5 for 10 minutes, Lubbock 10 for 34 minutes.

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Cincinnati	9-1-2
Johnson	8-14-0
2-6, Stokes	1-1
1-9, Fletcher	2-0
Totals	28-67
Houston	8-1
3-10, Younger	4
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37. (65) Tod	
provisional	
38. (57) Jason	
visional	
39. (34)	

Associated Press	Sacramento	25	22
IN CONFERENCE	Utah	25	30

Goals—Sacramento 5-12
1-1. Barry 1-1. Anderson
0-0. 1-3-0-0
0-13 (Hornbeck 4-4, Russell
1-4, Malone 0-1, Vaughn 0-
4—Russell. Rebounds:
to 44 (Pollard 9), Utah 55
3). Assists: Sacramento 16
9), Utah 30 (Stockton 10).
—Sacramento 30, Utah 33.
—Webster, Davis, Martin 2.
2. Delfino, Stockton, 16
Martin. A.—19.911 (19.911).

ars 116, Nuggets 101
Rings (116). Murray 8-16-36
1-0-0-3. Lantry 5-10-0-0
0-0-13 0-10 5-7 19. Sath 4-
4-11 7-2 10-11 4. McClood
Alston 0-2-0-0
Totals 36-85 26-32 101

ILAND (116): Murray 9-16-36
3-8 4-4 10, Bryant 1-7-0-0
Alston 9-2-4-0, Lantry 5-10-0-0
2-2-5-2-22, Stock 0-0-0-0, Chi-
0-0. Totals 46-87 21-24 116

27 Goals—Denver 3-21
 1-3, Posey 1-4, Van Exel 1-4
 0-1, Getting 0-3, Stith 0-4
 and Eric 1-3 (Person 4-7, Ferry
 1-3, Murray 0-1), Fouled
 12, Rebounds—Denver 45
 12, Cleveland 54 (Person
 12, Denver 23 (Van Exel
 12, Miller 13), Total
 24, Cleveland 29, Tech-
 an Exel, Getting, A—12,037

[illegible]

3-8 0-0, Mashburn 5-14, 2
 Card 4-9 0-0, Hardaway 5-
 0-0, Carter 1-0 0-0, Smith
 1-0 2-0, Strickland 0-0 0-0
 3-4 1-2 7, Buford 1-2 0-0
 79 61 11-76.
FG (83): Simpkins 1-2 1-2
 0-0 8-26, Artest 2-7 0-34,
 12-22 2-0, R. Brown 0-7-2
 0-0 0-0, Ch. Carr 5-16-7
 2-4 0-0, A. Rivers 1-0-0,
 1-0 0-0, 2-3 2-7, 25-22-

23 17 13 23 — 76
 16 21 18 28 — 83
 (Goals—Miami 6-12 (Hard-
 Lenard 2-5, Mashburn 0-1,
 0-1, Carter 13 (Hardaway 5-
 5-15, Ch. Carr 7-2, Artest 0-
 0 out—None. Rebounds—
 (Mourning 11), Chicago 57
 9). Assists—Miami 27 (Hard-
 Chicago 20 (Brand 5). Total

Results

Rankings (mean $\pm$ SD) for the 10 trials were: 1st, 1.0 $\pm$ 0.0; 2nd, 2.0 $\pm$ 0.0; 3rd, 3.0 $\pm$ 0.0; 4th, 4.0 $\pm$ 0.0; 5th, 5.0 $\pm$ 0.0; 6th, 6.0 $\pm$ 0.0; 7th, 7.0 $\pm$ 0.0; 8th, 8.0 $\pm$ 0.0; 9th, 9.0 $\pm$ 0.0; 10th, 10.0 $\pm$ 0.0.

diens 3, Hurricanes 0
 1 0 2 3
 Period—1, Montreal, Rusinsky
 n, Stevenson, 11:14.
 Period—None
 Period—2, Montreal, Linden
 on, Rusinsky, 14:24, 3, Mon-
 treal 18 (Stevenson), 17:17.
 on goal—Montreal 7-6-9—22
 6-7—7-26 (PP) Opportunities
 of 1, Carolina 0 of 2, Golesbe
 Theodore 11-11-2 (26 shots)-
 19 shots, Ite 21-21-7 (22-19).

Period-4, Philadelphia, 6
Richardson, 4; 16
Philadelphia, Jones 5 (McGillie),
Period-4, New York,
1 (Rivers, Lapointe). 9-6:
None.
on goal—New York 11-6-7;
Philadelphia 12-9-12-6=39.
fortunes—New York 1 of 5;
Philadelphia 0 of 5. Goals—
Philadelphia 11-15-6 (3 shots-37
Philadelphia, Vanbiesbroeck
26-24).

Lanchette 5, Devils 5

	1	3	1	0	=	5
Goalies	3	2	5	2		
1st.	1	New Jersey, Madden	(n, Broder)	3	20 (sh) 2	New
Yorkers 17	Armitt, Elias,	6:44				
to, Dingman 8	(Rowlett), Tan-					

Period-4, New Jersey
(Montrose, Rafalski), 11:42.5.
Position 11, 13:21.6, Colorado,
11 (Drury, Gussarov), 14:16.7.
Period-8, 12 (Drury, Miller),
Forsberg 12, Colorado, Tan-
(Forsberg, Hejduk), 52.9,
ysey, Niedermayer 7 (Elias,
03:10, New Jersey, Gomez
Amott), 10:25 (pp).
Time-None.
New Jersey-Colorado 7-5-2
January 9-12:8-5-3-32 (PP)
ties-COLORADO 0 of 2; New
of 2. Goalties-COLORADO,
-3 (32 shots-27 saves). New
deur 34-10-7 (23-18).

27	19	5	59	212	194
23	24	4	50	186	207
lo	19	30	2	40	163
	18	30	2	40	163
	16	30	5	37	156

Two points are awarded for a shootout loss. Losses are separate from

eball

horce 6, Washington & Lee 5
o 3, St. Andrew's 1
o 3, West Florida 2
o 10, Warner Southern 5
orge 10-12, Clark Atlanta 6-8
Tenn. 2, Lindsey-Wilson 0
Georgia 13, Berry 3
FAR WEST
nton 12, Washington 10
avis 16, Savannah 2

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theast Division
 W L T RT Pts GFGA
 30 21 7 3 70172157

15-20-6 = 43 (pp) Oppidum
 18-19-7 = 21 (pp) Oppidum
 Tampa Bay, Cluster 8-25 = 24
 va. Tugent (8:33 period, 19-
 va). Parris 15-9? (19-17)
 diens 3, Hurricanes 6
 0 0 0 0
 0 0 0 0
 Period=1, Montreal, Ruckiny
 nd Stevenson), 11:14.
 d Period=None.
 Period=2, Montreal, Linden
 Ruckiny, Ruckiny, 14:24, 3, Mon-
 treal 18-19-7 = 21 (pp) Oppidum
 on g-6-Montreal 7:9-22
 on 6-7-26 (PP) Oppidum
 of 1, Carolina 0 of 2, Goals
 Theodore 11-11-2 (25 shot-26
 olina, lbe 21-21-7 (22-19)
 anders 2, Flyers 2
 0 1 0 - 2
 0 2 0 - 2
 0 2 0 - 2
 1 New York, Krog 2
 zerokawski), 59 (pp).
 0 0 0 0

Period-4, Philadelphia, 6
Richardson, 4; 16
Philadelphia, Jones 5 (McGillie),
Period-4, New York,
1 (Rivers, Lapointe). 9-6:
None.
on goal—New York 11-6-7;
Philadelphia 12-9-12-6=39.
fortunes—New York 1 of 5;
Philadelphia 0 of 5. Goals—
Philadelphia 11-15-6 (3 shots-37
Philadelphia, Vanbiesbroeck
26-24).

Lanache 5, Devils 5

	1	3	1	0	=	5
Goalies	2	5	2	5		
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Period-8, 12 (Drury, Miller),
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(Forsberg, Hejduk), 52.9,
ysey, Niedermayer 7 (Elias,
03:10, New Jersey, Gomez
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Time-None.
New Jersey 9-12-85-2 (P-
P) Jersey 9-12-8-5-3-32 (PP)
ties-Colorado 0 of 2; New
of 2. Goallies-Colorado,
-3 (32 shots-27 saves). New
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orge 10-12, Clark Atlanta 6-8
Tenn. 2, Lindsey-Wilson 0
Georgia 13, Berry 3
FAR WEST
nton 12, Washington 10
avis 16, Savannah 2

Sports Brief

—Kerryon Martin had 28 points as No. 1 Cincinnati held off a charge by Houston for a 77-66 victory last night that gave the Bearcats a conference USA clinch straight victory. The Bearcats (24-1, 12-0) led 62-44 at halftime. Martin, who scored 12 points in the second half, to foil the Cougars.

EP beats TCU
Brandon Wolfram, who
0-point mark in his ca
high 33 points to lead Te
77 victory Thursday night
4-6 Western Athletic) w

he half, opened the second half with a 58-48 lead with 1:00 left. TCU (15-12, 6-5) could not get back on the rest of the way. The Horned Rattlesnakes scored 13 consecutive points in the second half, hit 14 of 20 shots, went 2-of-2 from 3-point range and downed six rebounds.

Without Rodman
With Dennis Rodman, the Pistons are 0-2. Without the weight of their last nine games, they seemed more focused in a sideshow on Thursday night, 110-87, while Rodman was out.

first two games for Dallas. They stepped up their effort on offense and had a 46-43 rebounding edge this season the Mavericks needed an opponent. "We took it upon ourselves to win," Mavericks guard Mervyn is a great rebounder. "It up."

The Mavericks dug deeper during the game. Grant Hill and Jerry Stackhouse led for 34 points in the first half. The Detroit duo had a total

nts.

"A lot of guys took it upon themselves to take it up in those areas," Mavericks guard Rick Finley said. "Dwight is a great player."

...is a great rebound
it up."
...icks dug deeper data
...ll. Grant Hill and Jerry
...d for 34 points in the final
...e Detroit duo had a total of
...nts.



PGA tournament rules director Ben Nelson, left, tells El Paso's J.P. Hayes that he may take a drop after his second shot on the 18th hole bounced off a cart path and landed in the gallery of an adjacent hole in the first round of the Nissan Open Thursday. Hayes chipped to the green and tapped in a 6-foot putt to save par and preserve his sole possession of the lead at 7-under.

El Paso's Hayes leads Nissan tourney; Woods trails by four

By Ken Peters
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES — Tiger Woods headed to the range to cure what sounded like a lengthy list of ills in his game despite shooting a 3-under-par 68 Thursday that left him within four shots of J.P. Hayes' Nissan Open lead. Hayes, whose only tour victory came in the 1998 Buick Classic, began his round at Riviera Country Club with an eagle 3 on the first hole, then birdied No. 2 to jump-start his round of 64. Robin Freeman, half a brother act near the top of the leaderboard, was one shot behind Hayes with a 65. Jeff Freeman, a club pro, was another shot behind in a group at 66. Ernie Els opened defense of his Nissan title with a 69 on a warm, sunny day, with the course drying rapidly after rain earlier in the week. Woods, whose six-tournament win streak ended last weekend when he tied for second behind

Phil Mickelson at Torrey Pines, was mostly happy with his opening round at Riviera.

"One bogey and it was a three-putt; you can't get mad at that," said Woods, who rushed and missed a par putt of 1 1/2 feet on No. 6. "I hit the ball well enough to shoot a low number, I just didn't. I just didn't make a lot of putts."

"I rolled the ball well, but I lipped out probably four or five putts and there's nothing you can do about that."

Still, soon after he rammed home a tricky 12-footer for par on No. 18, Woods rushed off to work out some perceived kinks in his game.

"Right now I need to work on my hip turn, my right knee flex, my left arm at the top, my left wrist, as well as getting my club out in front of me," he said in one streaming sentence, adding, "and my footwork as well."

Hayes, who made his tour debut in 1992, said his game was "solid all day."

"I hit a lot of good iron shots, hit 16 greens, putted pretty well, hit a lot of fairways. I guess I just played well," he said.

Robin Freeman, winless on the tour, was almost as happy about his brother's 66 as he did with his own, one-shot better score.

"He looks like he's got it together now. He's a really good player. It looks like he's trying to catch me. He won't though," Robin Freeman, at 40 three years Jeff's senior, said with a laugh.

Jeff Freeman also was pleased to see his brother shoot low, saying, "We pull for each other so hard. I hope he breaks out soon."

Nick Price, making his first U.S. start of the year, seemed relieved after shooting a 67.

"I was about ready to file an autopsy report on my game," he said. "I've been through a lot of down, but I'm definitely on the way up."

The group at 66 also included Mark Brooks, Neal Lancaster and Bob Tway.

Woods' finale draws 'major' ratings

NEW YORK (AP) — Tiger Woods' failed attempt to win his seventh straight PGA Tour event got higher ratings than any U.S. Open or British Open in the past 15 years.

Final-round coverage of the Buick Invitational on Sunday got an 8.0 rating and 18 share, Nielsen Media Research said Thursday, topping the NBA All-Star game (6.9/12) on NBC later Sunday night.

It was the highest rating for golf other than the PGA Championship and the Masters since the final

round of the Bob Hope Classic got an 8.3 in 1985. The rating was up 27 percent from last year, which got a 6.3/15 as Woods won. Saturday's rating of 4.0/10 was up 38 percent from last year's third round, which got a 2.9/8.

CBS is averaging a 4.0/9 for six weekends of golf, up 18 percent from last year's 3.4/8. The figure does not include coverage of the final round of the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am, which was pushed back to a Monday (Feb. 7) because of rain.

Coley says Golden Boy doesn't put his fists where his mouth is

Associated Press

Derrell Coley doesn't think Oscar De La Hoya will fight like he says when they meet next Friday night in Madison Square Garden.

"De La Hoya says he's going to make it a rumble, but I seriously doubt it," Coley said Thursday. "Everything he says he's going to do, he doesn't."

It will be De La Hoya's first

fight since losing the WBC welterweight title on a majority decision to Felix Trinidad Sept. 18, and he has said, "I can't let the judges handle it. I'm coming out with anger. No more boxing. It's very sad people don't appreciate boxing any more."

David Reid, the WBA junior middleweight champion, agrees with Coley.

"He (De La Hoya) hates to be

hit, so he won't take any chances in this fight," said Reid, who on March 3 will defend the 154-pound title against Trinidad, the IBF 147-pound champion. "I think Coley will give a clinic for as long as it lasts. After Feb. 26, you won't be hearing any more talk about Oscar moving up to 154 pounds. It wouldn't surprise me if he moved back down to 140."

SWIM: COM to host championships

(From 1C)

from Odessa, Lubbock, Amarillo, San Angelo and Abilene among others. A team is also expected to come from New Mexico, featuring swimmers from Hobbs and Carlsbad.

What the meet might be lacking is an abundance of swimmers in the 15-18 age group. With the high school state meet scheduled for next weekend in Austin, many of the top swimmers in the oldest group will probably be taking it relatively easy this weekend.

That means that several swimmers from the Midland High girls team, including multiple event qualifiers such as Erin Irons, Stephanie Brown, Kristen Sheffield, Keleigh Wentworth and Mallory

Keathley will swim in few or no events as COM representatives.

"Some of the high school kids may get in here and swim some off events just to stay a little bit sharp," said Swendig.

While many of the swimmers will be desperately trying to reach TAGS times over three days, others could be using the meet as a tune-up. Swendig estimates that at least 30 COM swimmers have reached TAGS standards in at least one event, and could be looking to lower their times prior to TAGS.

"The ones who have made the cuts get a little bit better of a seed time," said Swendig. "If you're in the top 24 (in the state) you'll have some pretty good kids to swim against. They might ride some momentum two weeks before TAGS."

MIDLAND PARK LANES BOWLING

Bowling results from AMF Midland Park Lanes:

Leading Men: Ron Leverich, Teachers Mixed, 238-247-247-732
Leading Women: Kim Tyson, Teachers Mixed, 256-265-234-795

Adult

Chevron/Marathon: Men: Greg Roberts, 244-670; Jeff Davis, 276-663; Rick Calmes, 215-627; Dave Searle, 226-607; Bill Keyser, 229-599; Women: Patty Edens, 169-451; Laura Keyser, 265-755; Judy Leverich, 158-416; Jill Williams, 141-414; Robin Foster, 165-408; Carla Bates, 147-394

Teachers Mixed: Men: Ron Leverich, 247-732; Eddie Mackey, 243-708; Arthur Brown, 280-680; Maurice Elm, 277-675; Damian Dechant, 258-688; Jack Hensley, 245-595; Women: Kim Tyson, 265-755; Judy Leverich, 158-416; Kaye Kusnich, 214-578; Hazel Harper, 179-507; Tammi Titworth, 174-498; Mary Tyson, 184-465; Sherri McCain, 163-446

City Men's: Mike White, 258-721; Choy Young, 248-688; Diego Maldonado, 246-677; Damon Braswell, 279-678; Joe Tidwell, 238-665; Jim Guernsey, 266-600; Pat Wilson, 287-647; Jerry Mayo, 226-651

Monday Men's League: David Child, 190-531; Michael Scarborough, 188-518; Rich Fisher, 173-501; Mike Taylor, 183-415; William Scarborough, 184-329

Midland Park Ladies: Kim Tyson, 238-661; Dottie Knebel, 222-588; Bobbi Bowling, 232-583; Jody Brock, 223-576; Carol Henry, 201-573; Debbie Smith, 222-582

Non Smokers Klub: Men: Damian Dechant, 275-724; Kerry Meise, 269-639; Jeff Morris, 256-639; Terry Donathan, 225-585; Greg Chastain, 237-556; David Parkin, 232-521; Women: Cathy Donathan, 225-540; Diana Cooper, 177-503; Donna Meise, 169-468; Kathy Wells, 180-468; Alice Armstrong, 180-493

4 of a Kind: Men: Ron Leverich, 258-718; Bill Theobald, 279-688; Harry Dater, 268-674; Randy Binsingley, 247-652; Jerry Mayo, 244-641; Women: Pat Hall, 235-637; Barb Giddens, 211-608; Nancy Egan, 201-582; Dottie Knebel, 233-559; Charla Fleming, 194-538; Kim Guernsey, 219-511

For Members Only: Men: Chris Richardson, 283-580; Tommy Richardson, 165-441; Terry Mobley, 145-406; Benny Massey, 138-371; Paul Perez, 136-346; Keith Moore, 136-305; Women: Donna Moore, 125-354; Donna Mobley, 112-325; Monica Burns, 111-322; Cindy Richardson, 129-316; Marie Rodriguez, 94-256

Highnoon Ladies: Beal Amstutz, 202-556; Karen Dooley, 177-608; Wanda Hoover, 190-495; Leah Gehard, 189-467; Sandy Gault, 189-478

Midweek Evening Mixed:

Men: Damian Dechant, 255-680; Bill Bush, 214-573; Dennis Tenby, 203-562; Ken Dearman, 213-545; Joel McEndree, 182-539; Jerry Lakey, 215-505; Robert Parker, 204-463

Women: Dottie Knebel, 202-575; Mary L'Amee, 182-544; Pat Vincent, 190-534; Nancy McBurney, 200-528; Kelli Boone, 202-518; June McEndree, 211-497; Paulette Ray, 182-485

Kent Oil Mixed: Men: Jeff Sizemore, 211-510; Arlie Smith, 177-454; Andy Salgado, 185-454; Chris Ward, 150-040; Forrest Richards, 171-434; Terry George, 152-376; Women: Melody Ward, 178-480; Rosey Hawkins, 162-414; Sabrina Smith, 133-387; Martha James, 135-354; Paula Dority, 117-313

Vive Las Vegas: Men: Sam McCranie, 235-671; Butch Hall, 202-539; Jerry Smith, 204-536; Mario Rubio, 215-534; Scott Rapp, 185-521; Billy Haggarty, 190-459; Women: Charla Fleming, 204-553; Carolyn Davis, 208-514; Shari Higgins, 176-484; Tiffany Fleming, 168-469; Jeanne Marks, 173-469; Patty Brewer, 192-419; Kasee Hall, 184-482

Charlie Louie: Men: A.C. Clark, 221-575; Clarence Grant, 190-580; Jim Wilson, 208-580; George Higgins, 221-558; Forrest Rogers, 210-547; Nick Nicholas, 255-641; Jay, 232-510; Wayne Harvey, 230-525

Women: Beal Amstutz, 201-535; Bobbie Reynolds, 212-519; Jody Brock, 196-518; Benita Gibson, 197-514; Barbara Russell, 178-476

Seniors Trio: Men: Jack Noyes, 210-575; Bill Gray, 214-575; A.C. Clark, 213-574; Truman Broughton, 213-540; Wayne Harvey, 177-512; Steve Bonita, 192-484; Women: J'Net Darrough, 197-570; Bobbie Reynolds, 199-495; Jody Brock, 180-491; Dottie Moore, 167-480; Lillian Naquin, 188-476; Linda Dearman, 187-474

Youth

Sammy Prep: Boys: Russell Lee, 211-516; Matt Whittis, 171-468; Cameron Matile, 169-456; Anthony Gilliland, 178-449; Travis Smith, 146-404; Kyle Guerrieri, 151-389; Girls: Crystal Garcia, 172-415; Caron Schreiber, 156-412; Erin Gilliland, 128-339; Erin Alexander, 153-335; Stephanie Sullivan, 114-298

Midweek Potential Youth: Boys: Shane Wright, 279-628; Justin Humphries, 210-580; A.J. Eaton, 185-523; Shane Matile, 177-520; Alfred Ogilvie, 187-513; Trevie Hobbs, 195-461; Girls: Beth Guay, 232-651; Mandy Martin, 221-511; Lauren Schneider, 189-450; Susan Vasquez, 180-377; Shawna Telnert, 123-123; Ivy Brandon, 128-128

Win or lose, Rivera sets record for highest salary in arbitration

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Win or lose, Mariano Rivera will set a record for the highest salary in arbitration.

The New York Yankees reliever asked a panel for \$9.25 million on Thursday, more than double the \$4.25 million he won in arbitration last year. The team argued for its \$7.25 million offer.

"We'll see what happens," Rivera said.

During negotiations in the past few weeks, New York offered a \$36 million, four-year contract, but Rivera's agent, Jim Bronner, sought a four-year deal worth about \$40 million.

Jack McDowell got the previous high salary in arbitration, \$5.3 million, when he lost his case against the Chicago White Sox in 1994.

"We think we put on a good case," Yankees

president Randy Levine said. "We recognize he's a great player. We realize he'll be the highest-paid reliever in baseball."

Arbitrators Howard Block, Alan Symonette and Elisabeth Neumeier are expected to make their decision Friday.

If Rivera wins, he will have the No. 1 salary for a reliever, topping the \$8 million San Diego's Trevor Hoffman is averaging in a \$32 million, four-year contract that starts this season.

Rivera, a 30-year-old right-hander, was 4-3 with a 1.83 ERA and a league-leading 45 saves last season, then was voted Most Valuable Player of the Yankees' World Series sweep of the Atlanta Braves.

Last year, arbitrator James Duff selected Rivera's request over the Yankees' \$3 million offer. Rivera had made \$750,000 in 1998.

Mets' reliever Benitez agrees to new four-year, \$22 million deal

Associated Press

PORT ST. LUCIE, Fla. — Armando Benitez woke up to a pleasant surprise Thursday: His agent and the New York Mets agreed to a \$22 million, four-year contract.

"I found out this morning and I said 'good' because I was nervous," the closer said.

Instead of going through with an arbitration hearing in Tampa, agent Mike Powers and general manager Steve Phillips culminated weeks of talks.

Benitez, who made \$2,037,500 last year, gets a \$750,000 signing bonus payable over three years, \$3.25 million this season, \$5,625,000 in each of the following two years and \$6.75 million in 2003.

"The deal we reached is a win-win situation for both Armando and his security and the Mets having one of the best young closers in the game," assistant general manager Omar Minaya said.

"Negotiations lasted until 1 a.m. and Steve felt we pretty much had a deal at that point."

Benitez, a 27-year-old right-hander, was 4-3 with 1.85 ERA and 22 saves in 77 games for the Mets last year.

Kerry Wood's second outing better than first

MESA, Ariz. — Kerry Wood, more relaxed than his first time out this spring, threw 32 pitches during a six-minute workout

Baseball Roundup

from the mound Thursday in his comeback from reconstructive elbow surgery.

Wood, the 1998 NL Rookie of the Year, won't throw breaking pitches until next month. On Thursday, he estimated the velocity of his best fastballs in the low 90s.

"The biggest thing was that I was pain free and I let a few go and I had more velocity on it than I had Monday. I felt great," said Wood, who played high school baseball in Grand Prairie, Texas. "I haven't had a radar reading since the 1998 season, so it's been too long for me to be able to tell how hard I'm throwing. But you know, if I had to guess, I'd say 92 or 91 somewhere."

Wood slowed down his delivery Thursday. On Monday, with numerous cameras clicking on his every pitch and following his every move, he hurriedly made 42 pitches in five minutes.

Wood went 13-6 with a 3.40 ERA and 233 strikeouts in 166 2/3 innings pitched in 1998 and tied a major league record by striking out 20 batters in a single game.

Elbow soreness caused him to miss that September, but he came back and pitched Game 3 of the NL division series in early October.

The elbow gave out last March in Wood's only exhibition game of the spring. He had surgery April

8, missed the entire season and has been rehabbing ever since.

"I'm getting a little antsy. It's been so long," Wood said. "Now we got position players coming in, and everybody is getting ready to throw to some hitters. I'm itching to go."

Wood, just 22, is confident he can regain the form that made him so effective two years ago.

No decision on Griffey

tampering until next week

NEW YORK — Baseball won't decide until next week at the earliest whether the Seattle Mariners and Cincinnati Reds should be penalized for tampering in the Ken Griffey Jr. trade.

Griffey's agent, Brian Goldberg, said last week he began his talks with the Reds before the teams agreed on the trade Feb. 10. Under baseball's rules, teams must agree to a trade, then ask the commissioner's office for a 72-hour window allowing the player to negotiate with the acquiring team.

Cincinnati and Seattle asked for the window after the Mariners first gave Goldberg permission to talk with the Reds.

"We're still in the process," said Sandy Alderson, executive vice president for baseball operations in the commissioner's office. "There are still some things."

Baseball is unlikely to change the deal, but could fine the teams. Alderson said it was probable that commissioner Bud Selig would make his decision next week.

An Invitation from Andy Lane of



Dear Chase Bank of Midland Customers,

I would like to take this opportunity to invite Midlanders, especially our customers, to a very special event on February 23. It is not often that we as leaders in our business community get the opportunity to do something that can help everyone in our city. On February 23 an important conference will be held at the Midland Center. The purpose of that conference is to set a direction for Midland's economic future.



Andy Lane
President of Chase

Business & City Leaders from Abilene and Tyler will show how their communities set a new direction for their economic futures. Other speakers include Jack Rathbone of Titan Exploration. David Smith of Texas Tech Health Sciences Center and Economist Ray Perryman. The day's events will end in a question and answer format.

This will be an important day in Midland's future. You need to be there. Come listen and be prepared to participate on the 23rd and on into the future.

Andy Lane
President of Chase



February 23, 2000
Chamber of Commerce Call 683-3381

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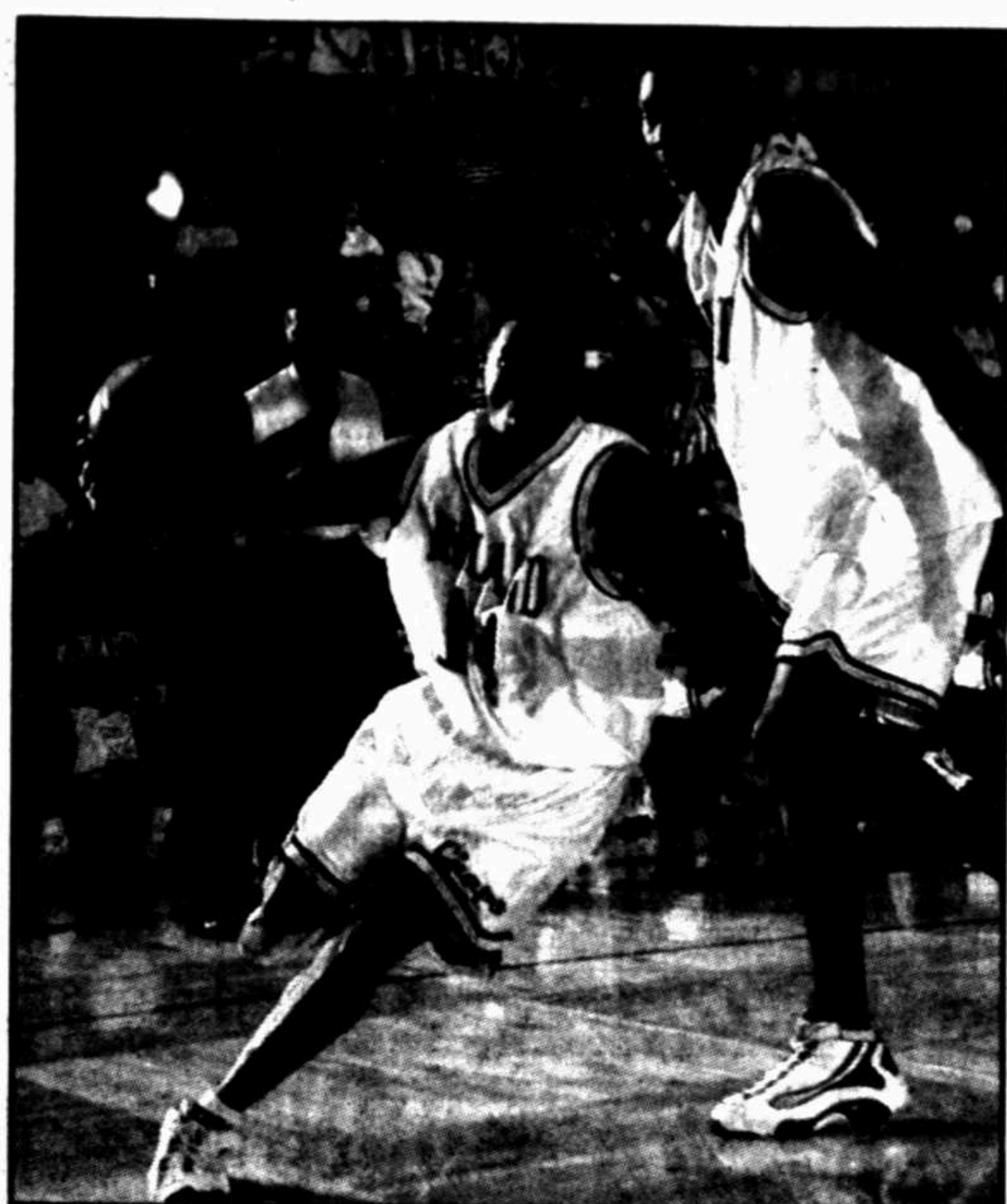
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MC's Armon Whitaker (14) corals a loose ball in front of teammate Jerome Beasley (right) during the first half of their game.

MEN: Costello scores 22

(From 1C)

game and seventh out its last eight. MC came out with a lot of fire in the first half and took a 47-22 lead at the break which included a 19-2 run to close out the first 20 minutes of play.

That first half outburst by the Chaps probably shook up the all-freshman Texan team, which dropped to 11-16 overall and 5-7 in the WJAC and is probably going through the same emotions the Chaps had last season when they struggled at times with a young team. Getting a jump on South Plains in the first half proved to be key for the Chaps.

"Give (SPC coach) Shawn (Scanlan) a lot of credit. His team played hard," Cotten said. "They've hit a little slump in the last seven games, but he has a lot of freshman, and mentally, I think they were taken out of the game. But we also have to give our kids credit. We played hard and we guarded. People don't like to get guarded."

Cotten added that it was the Chaps' defense which created their offense as they forced 25 turnovers, including 15 in the first half. The Chaps also held SPC to a double-digit score.

Chap sophomore guard Eugene Costello, who finished with a game-high 22 points, 17 in the first half, said the Chaps were on a mission in this game.

"We had a lot of emphasis on getting back where we came from," Costello said. "We wanted to get our identity back defensively. Just by our added emphasis on defense the game just kind of turned out that way."

"We wanted to go back to playing with a lot of energy, so I guess that's why we came out with a little more energy than we have been. We are a much better team when we play with intensity."

With the playoffs around the corner, the Chaps want to have that consistent fire burning deep inside.

TITLE: Lady Chaps win

(From 1C)

with, and we talked about that. But this is our fourth conference championship in a row, so I'm happy about that."

Midland College needs only one win to clinch the outright title and claim a top seed at the Region V tournament, which is set for March 2-5 at Lubbock's new United Spirit Arena. Lurking there will be Grayson County (26-0) and Weatherford (23-2), ranked second and eighth in the country, respectively.

Teams like those are the reason Jones worries about intensity in a 20-point win. Thursday's effort was good enough against South Plains, but it may not be good enough in the regional tournament. "It's a challenge for the coaches and for the players to keep the intensity. I really expected us to lose our intensity Monday at Clarendon, but we kept it up," Jones said, referring to a 100-38 win on the road earlier this week. "(On Thursday) after the first 10 minutes, we weren't quite as intense, and we didn't play quite as well on defense."

But those first 10 minutes were enough against South Plains. The Lady Chaps overwhelmed SPC, scoring the first 14 points of the game as SPC missed its first seven shots.

The Lady Texans would have been even worse off without Lanna Quintyne, a sophomore from Barbados who scored a game-high 26 points. She had 17 of SPC's 27 first-half points. Odessa Permian product Katrina Jordan scored 16, but 14 of those came after Midland College gained its biggest lead of the game — 68-38 — midway through the second half.

Men's Standings

	Conf.	Season	W	L	W	L
x-Midland College	11	1	24	4		
x-Howard College	10	1	18	8		
Odessa College	6	10	17			
New Mexico Military	5	7	14	12		
South Plains	5	7	11	16		
Frank Phillips	5	7	8	17		
New Mexico JC	3	9	9	18		
Clarendon	1	10	9	15		

x-clinched Region V playoff spot

Thursday's Results

Midland College 79, South Plains 68;

Howard College 52, Odessa College 48; New

Mexico Military Institute 84, New Mexico Junior

College 76; Frank Phillips 82, Clarendon 58.

Monday's Games

Midland College at New Mexico Military

Institute; Odessa College at New Mexico

Junior College; Howard College at

Clarendon; Frank Phillips College at South

Plains.

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HOOPS: Lady Kats go for third straight playoff over Wink's Lady Cats

(From 1C)

Daniels refers to senior Elizabeth Havlak, who along with sophomore Meagan Hatley and senior Sally Smith make up the top three in a balanced scoring attack. Hatley scores around 10 points a game, with Smith and Havlak just behind.

Having no prolific-scoring superstars makes Greenwood (18-8) similar to Cooper (20-11). The Lady Pirates are led by 5-foot-10 posts Hollie Beard and Amy Wuensche, both of whom average around nine points a game.

Daniels identifies turnovers and rebounds as the key to winning Friday.

"First of all, we have to be the ones with the fewest turnovers," she said. "We have to come out and be aggressive, and we have to control the boards."

The programs are also similar in playoff success; they haven't had much in recent years. Cooper's 53-45 win over Sanford-Fritch Tuesday was the program's first playoff win in nine years. Greenwood made the playoffs last season — its first appearance since 1995 — but a strong Seminole team beat the Rangerees in bi-district.

They hope to make it a longer playoff run this year.

"If we can stay injury-free, I think we have a chance to compete for a while," Daniels said. "With every experience we get,

we get a little more confidence."

Garden City takes on Wink
The postseason run for Garden City's girls' basketball team looks suspiciously like last year's.

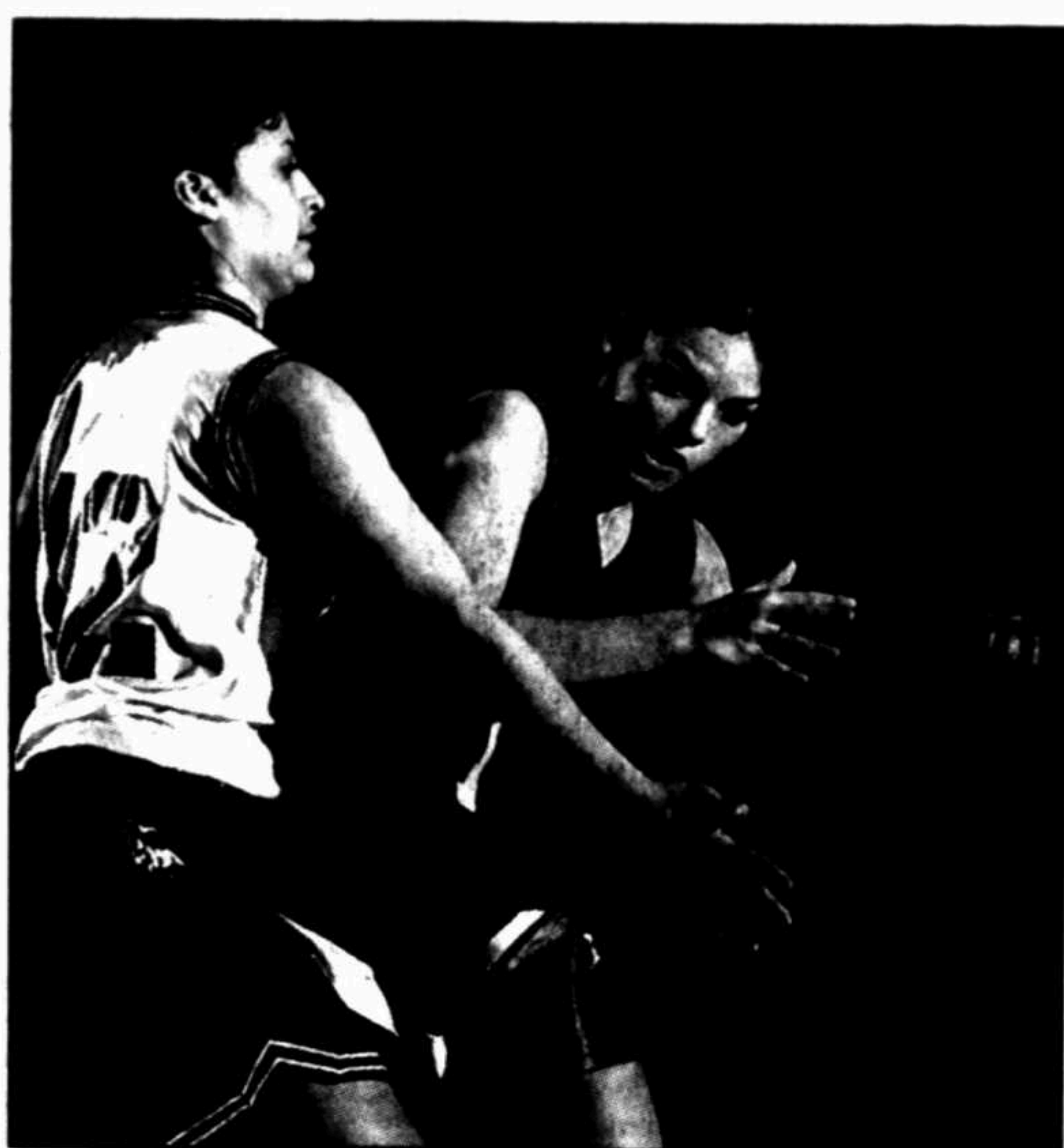
Last year, the Lady Kats beat Marathon, 75-36, in bi-district. This year, on Tuesday, the Lady Kats beat Marathon, 57-37.

Last year, they defeated Wink in the area round, 59-44. This year, they play Wink again in the area round. It is actually the third straight postseason that the two teams will meet. Garden City owns wins in the previous two. The teams meet tonight at 7 p.m. today in Andrews.

"I've seen them on video," Garden City coach Mike Wallace said. "They're young, they're quick, and they're pretty athletic. They like to press, and they like to push the ball up the floor. I can't really tell on video, but they're not supposed to be real tall, but they're athletic and they can jump. They look like a pretty good squad to me."

Wink (18-5), the champion of District 2-A, had no trouble getting past Sierra Blanca in bi-district, winning 69-30. Garden City (24-4), the champ of District 4-A, wasn't challenged by Marathon, although the Lady Kats were plagued by turnovers and poor shooting.

The assignments for both teams get tougher tonight.



Garden City's Daidra Hirt (right) tries to drive around Marathon's Katrina Martinez (12) during the Lady Kats' bi-district win Tuesday night at Odessa College. The Lady Kats play Wink today.

"It's a lot tougher. The caliber of ball as you get closer to this part of the country gets better," Wallace said. "And if we get past Wink, we're out of the frying pan and into the fire."

The winner of this game will get perennial power Sudan (26-1). Sudan beat Booker Thursday, but the Lady Hornets are a worry for next week. Tonight, the Lady Kats have to worry about Wink, who is led by leading scorer Jennifer Hawkins who is averaging 16.2 points. She is the only Lady Cat in double digits. Malory Bryan leads the team in rebounds with seven rebounds a game. Hawkins is second with 6.6.

"We're going to have to handle the ball, because they do press, and they're very quick," Wallace said. "We have to eliminate some of our turnovers, and we have to rebound and keep them from rebounding. We have to use our height advantage."

That height advantage is largely in the person of junior post M'Lynn Niehues, who entered the playoffs averaging 8.5 rebounds a game. She grabbed 13 against Marathon, but she wasn't alone. Daidra Hirt had nine rebounds and Lora Braden had seven.

If they repeat those rebound numbers tonight, that would be a good sign for Garden City.

REGION I GIRLS BASKETBALL PAIRINGS

Girls' basketball playoff pairings in Region I.

Class 5A

Bi-district

El Paso Socorro 75, El Paso

Address 28

Lubbock Coronado 87, Odessa

High 51.

Flower Mound Marcus 61, Hurst

L.D. Bell 52.

DeSoto 76, Killeen Ellison 33.

El Paso Franklin 52, El Paso Mont-

wood 49.

Amarillo High 83, Midland Lee 50.

Carrollton Newman-Smith 65, Irving

MacArthur 51.

Temple 49, Duncanville 45.

Abilene Cooper (20-9) vs. El Paso

Socorro (23-7), Friday, 8 p.m., Mon-

hans.

El Paso Hanks (23-5) vs. Lubbock

Coronado (25-5), Friday, 7 p.m.,

Pecos.

Copperas Cove (25-1) vs. Flower

Mound Marcus (25-7), Friday, 7 p.m.,

Hillsboro.

Eules Trinity (25-7) vs. DeSoto

(28-5), Friday, 7 p.m., Arlington Lamar

HS.

Lubbock Monterey (20-8) vs. El

Paso Franklin (16-18), Friday, 8 p.m.,

Artesia, N.M.

El Paso Irving (22-2) vs. Amarillo

High (23-5), Friday, 5:45 p.m., Odessa

College Sports Center.

Mansfield (30-2) vs. Carrollton

Newman-Smith (21-9), Friday, 7 p.m.,

Coppell.

South Grand Prairie (27-8) vs.

Temple (23-11), Friday, 7 p.m.,

McLennan Community College.

Class 4A

Bi-district

El Paso Bowie 42, Mountain View

36

Canyon Randall 55, Hereford 48

Cleburne 71, Snyder 29.

Denton Ryan 32, Justin Northwest

31

El Paso Ysleta 60, San Elizario 35.

Plainview 67, Dumas 35.

Stephenville 81, Big Spring 51

Wichita Falls Hirsch 66, Saginaw

Boswell 61.

Canyon (29-2) 111, El Paso Bowie

24.

Clint (17-9) vs. Canyon Randall

(20-10), Friday, 6 p.m., Odessa Perm-

ian.

Weatherford (27-2) vs. Cleburne

(20-10), Saturday, 6 p.m., Burleson.

Granbury (29-4) vs. Denton Ryan

(18-11), Friday, 7 p.m., Keller Fossil

Ridge.

Amarillo Palo Duro (24-4) vs. El

Paso Ysleta (18-10), Friday, 7:15

p.m., Odessa College Sports Center.

Plainview (29-3) 94, El Paso

Burgess 42.

Burkburnett (23-5) vs. Stephenville

(23-8), Thursday, 7 p.m., Boswell.

Sweetwater (29-2) vs. Wichita Falls

Hirsch (17-11), Friday, 7:30 p.m., Cis-

co.

Class 3A

Bi-district

Lubbock Cooper 53, Sanford-Fritch

45.

Lamesa 58, Alpine 45

Graham 53, Merkel 54.

Eastland 62, Whitney 59.

Muleshoe 49, Dimmitt 43.

Slaton 67, Crane 39.

Clyde 62, Childress 49.

Glen Rose 59, Hillsboro 55

Area

Greenwood (18-7) vs. Lubbock

Cooper (20-11), Friday, 6 p.m., Sny-

der's Scurry County Coliseum.

Shallowater (25-3) vs. Lamesa (19-

11), Friday, 7:30 p.m., Lubbock Cor-

onado HS.

Waco LaVega (24-7) vs. Graham

(21-9), Friday, 7 p.m., Stephenville.

Abilene Wylie (22-6) vs. Eastland

(21-9), Friday, 6 p.m., Brownwood HS.

Seminole (24-2) vs. Muleshoe (19-

11), Friday, 7 p.m., Lubbock Monterey

HS.

Perryton (22-7) vs. Slaton (16-11),

Friday, 7 p.m., Canyon.

Comanche (21-8) vs. Clyde (16-12),

Friday, 7:30 p.m., Brownwood Colise-

um.

CAR: Races go without much fervor

(From 1C)

fuel got out of the car," Jarrett said.

"The best way to do that is to stay in line and not get to dicing around."

In the second race, Rudd, Jarrett's new teammate, started from the pole and was untouchable, easily staying ahead of the Chevrolet Monte Carlo of runner-up Mike Skinner.

Earnhardt, Skinner's teammate, has won 12 Daytona qualifying races, including an unprecedented 10 in a row before Thursday. He started ninth, finished 11th and will start 21st in the 500.

He criticized NASCAR's new shock-absorber rule, which requires all of the Winston Cup teams to use the same shocks and springs and allows only minor adjustments.

"They took racing out of the hands of the drivers and the crews," Earnhardt said. "We can't adjust and make the cars drive like we want. They just killed the racing at Daytona."

Elliott disagreed, saying he thought the first qualifier was interesting. Then again, his win put him in the No. 3 position for Sunday.

"The cars are so equal everybody's afraid to jump out until they get themselves in the right position," he said. "It's strategy."

The qualifiers did nothing to quiet the General Motors teams, who have insisted their redesigned Chevrolet Monte Carlos and the virtually unchanged Pontiac Grand Prix are at an aerodynamic disadvantage to the partially redesigned Tauruses.

"It looked like a Ford show from where I was sitting," said Jeff Gordon, the defending Daytona winner, who finished sixth in the opener in a Monte Carlo.

Two-time Daytona winner Sterling Marlin finished 17th in the first race and will start 38th on Sunday in his Chevy. Felix Sabates, Marlin's team owner, said he doesn't have much hope of things getting better for the GM cars.

"If you go to a gunfight and you've got a wooden knife, that's not too

good," Sabates said.

Wallace shrugged off the GM talk.

"It's all in the preparation and the way they handled the new shock rule and so forth," he said.

Told that the Chevrolet teams would like to get some aerodynamic help by having NASCAR allow them a rear sway bar, he said, "Well, I'm sure people in hell would like a glass of ice water, too."

Mike Helton, who heads the competition side of NASCAR, said there will be no changes to the aerodynamic or shock rules for the 500.

Jarrett and Rudd will start from the front row on Sunday, thanks to their qualifying laps last Saturday in the opening round of

time trials.

Positions 3-30 went to the top 14 finishers — excluding Jarrett and Rudd — in the two qualifying races, with 31-36 filled by the fastest remaining drivers from the two rounds of time trials.

Six more positions went to drivers based on last year's team-owner points, with Darrell Waltrip getting the final spot in the 43-car field as a former series champion.

The lineup includes seven rookies, topped by two-time Busch Series champion Dale Earnhardt Jr., whose Chevrolet finished fourth in the second race, just behind the Pontiac of Ward Burton.

The younger Earnhardt, who made five Winston Cup starts in 1999, will begin his first Daytona

500 in eighth, just behind Stewart.

Stewart and Robby Gordon raced together in the first qualifying race and there was no carryover from their shoving match Wednesday. The drivers, angry about a fender-bender on the track, avoided any punishment, but NASCAR did fine a Stewart crew member \$2,000 for being too aggressive in breaking up the fight.

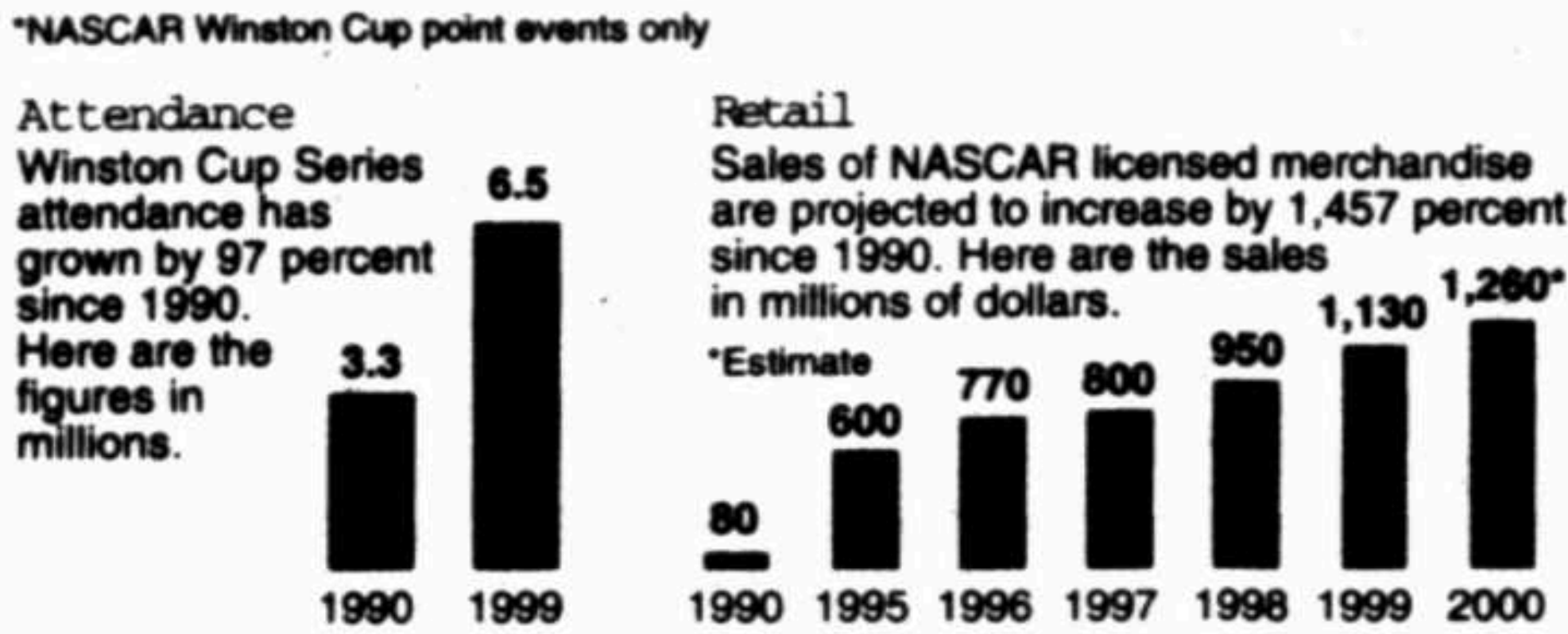
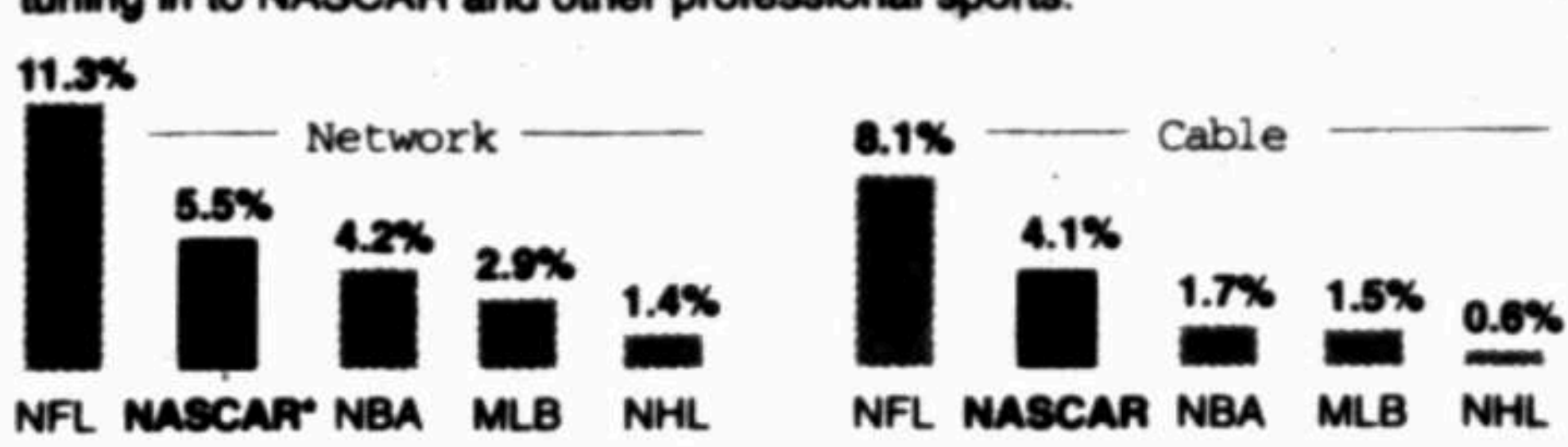
Among the 13 drivers who failed to make the 500 field were Dave Marcis, whose record string of 32 straight Daytona starts ended when he finished 17th in the second race.

Also heading home was 1986 Daytona 500 winner Geoff Bodine, who was 19th in the opener.

Speed sells

NASCAR has experienced tremendous growth since it expanded into new markets.

Total U.S. TV ratings
During the 1998-1999 regular season, more than 250 million fans worldwide watched NASCAR events on TV. Here are the percentages of U.S. households tuning in to NASCAR and other professional sports.



Sources: NASCAR, Nielsen Media Research

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of this event to the economic development of our community, the cost of the luncheon is being underwritten by the sponsors.

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February 23, 2000



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Intf	13	13
Mega	10	10
Mutual	11	11
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Name	NAV	Chg	YTD	5-Yr	UMI	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100	2101	2102	2103	2104	2105	2106	2107	2108	2109	2110	2111	2112	2113	2114	2115	2116	2117	2118	2119	2120	2121	2122	2123	2124	2125	2126	2127	2128	2129	2130	2131	2132	2133	2134	2135	2136	2137	2138	2139	2140	2141	2142	2143	2144	2145	2146	2147	2148	2149	2150	2151	2152	2153	2154	2155	2156	2157	2158	2159	2160	2161	2162	2163	2164	2165	2166	2167	2168	2169	2170	2171	2172	2173	2174	2175	2176	2177	2178	2179	2180	2181	2182	2183	2184	2185	2186	2187	2188	2189	2190	2191	2192	2193	2194	2195	2196	2197	2198	2199	2200	
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BUSINESS BRIEFING

OIL PRICES

Thursday	\$29.46
Previous	\$30.05

POSTED

Thursday	\$28.75
Previous	\$27.25

NATURAL GAS

Thursday	\$2.667
Previous	\$2.584

Accountants meet

The Petroleum Accountants Society of the Permian Basin will meet Tuesday at the Petroleum Club. The meeting begins at 11 a.m. with a technical session on individual taxes presented by Carl of Reinert with Morrison, Reinert & Hicklin. Lunch begins at noon with guest speaker Mike Atkins, mayor of Odessa.

Engineers' group

The Production Operations Study Group of the Society of Petroleum Engineers will meet Thursday at the Midland Center beginning at 11:30 a.m. Jason Wacker with Texaco Exploration and Production Inc. in Hobbs, N.M. will speak on "Triple-Action Pumping System for Downhole Water Separation and Injection."

Oil plunges

Crude oil futures plunged below the \$30-a-barrel mark Thursday on the New York Mercantile Exchange amid profit-taking and comments from Saudi Arabia's oil minister that prices would drop to \$25 a barrel or less.

Earlier this week, crude futures prices passed the \$30 mark for the first time in more than nine years.

Energy analysts agreed that crude futures prices are likely to drop — perhaps to the \$25 to \$27 range.

Dollar rises

The dollar climbed a third straight day against the yen, to 110.61 yen from 109.25 yesterday, going above the 110-yen level for the first time since Sept. 9.

The U.S. currency traded at 98.72 cents per euro from 98.61 late yesterday. The euro earlier rose as high as 99.52 U.S. cents after a German survey showed greater-than-expected optimism among business executives in Europe's largest economy.

The yen fell as far as 109.56 per euro, its lowest in a month, from 107.67 yesterday.

Nasdaq soars

The Nasdaq composite index surged past 4,500 for the first time Thursday as technology stocks withstood a warning from Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan that interest rates are heading higher. Banks, retailers and blue chip stocks, more vulnerable to rate changes, ended lower and left the overall market mixed.

The Nasdaq composite index rose 121.27 to 4,548.92, surpassing its record close of 4,485.63, reached last Thursday.

The Dow Jones industrial average, off more than 100 points in earlier trading, finished down 46.84 at 10,514.57. The Standard & Poor's 500 index was up 0.59 at 1,388.26.

Blue-chip stocks tumbled as the market interpreted Greenspan's comments as implying that the central bank will raise interest rates again — most likely at its next meeting in March. Investors worried that higher rates would curtail these companies' earnings.

Financial stocks, vulnerable because higher rates can depress loan demand, fell sharply, including Dow component American Express, off 5 29/32 to 147 15/16. Citigroup fell 1 1/8 to 52 1/2.

Gold rises

Gold closed in London at a recommended price of \$303.70 bid per troy ounce at midmorning, up from \$301.80 on Wednesday. In Zurich, the bid price was \$304.25, up from \$301.75. Gold rose \$4.00 in Hong Kong to close at \$303.50.

Greenspan warns of inflation threat

By Jeannine Aversa
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan called the economy's record-breaking performance the best in a half century, but he warned Thursday that inflation remains a threat to the economic good times that many Americans are enjoying.

Wall Street viewed Greenspan's remarks to the House Banking Committee as confirmation that the Fed will continue to ratchet up interest rates this year until the economy slows to a more sustainable pace.

In presenting the central bank's twice-a-year report on the economy to Congress, Greenspan reiterated his concerns that employers seeking scarce workers in the current "tight" labor market may offer higher wages and benefits, increased costs that could lead to a sharp runup in product prices.

"At some point in the continuous reduction in the number of available workers willing to take jobs ... wage increases must rise above even impressive gains in productivity" that have helped to keep inflation low, Greenspan said.

"This would intensify inflationary pressures or squeeze profit margins, with either outcome capable of bringing our growing prosperity to an end," he said.

In efforts to slow the barreling economy and keep inflation at bay, the Fed has bumped up interest rates four times since June, overall pushing up by a full percentage point key interest rates that the Fed controls.

But Greenspan said those increases have had little impact.

"There is little evidence that the American economy ... is slowing appreciably," he said.

Fed policy-makers "will have to stay alert for signs that real interest rates have not yet risen enough to bring the growth

of demand into line with that of potential supply," Greenspan said. "Achieving that alignment seems more pressing today than it did earlier."

Most analysts widely expect Fed policy-makers will boost interest rates again at their next meeting March 21, and many also anticipate another rate increase in May.

Economists said Greenspan's comments appear to support their predictions of a series of rate increases this year.

Sung Won Sohn, economist for Wells Fargo, viewed Greenspan's remarks as saying, "The prescription that we need is high interest rates. I think Chairman Greenspan is probably getting the message that so far this slow-motion monetary policy has done nothing to dampen the enthusiasm in the economy and especially the stock market."

On Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average closed down 46.84 points at 10,514.57. The Nasdaq rose 121.22 points to 4,548.92, surpassing its record close of 4,485.63, set Feb. 10.

"He talked tougher than some had expected," said David Jones, chief economist at Aubrey G. Lanston & Co.

Even though inflation has remained low outside of an energy price surge, Greenspan said this favorable condition cannot last unless the economy's growth rate slows to less than the 4 percent-plus gains of the past three years.

Still, Greenspan marveled at the economy's performance: its record 9-year-long expansion; unemployment at a 30-year low of 4 percent; and strong gains in worker productivity — output per hour of work.

But even if the productivity gains continue, they could have a downside for the economy by pushing soaring stock prices even higher, Greenspan said. The Wall Street boom has contributed to the growth in consumer demand as investors have spent their stock gains with abandon.



AP Photo
Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan, left, shares a newspaper article with Donald L. Kohn, right, the Director of Monetary Affairs at the Federal Reserve in Washington Thursday. Greenspan testified before the House Banking Committee and said he was concerned about rising oil prices and the effect they could have on the U.S. economy.

don.

Responding to a question, Greenspan expressed some short-term worries about the leap in oil prices, which on Monday pushed the per-barrel price above \$30 to the highest levels since the Persian Gulf War in 1991.

Oil inventories have fallen to exceptionally low levels, he said, leaving the country vulnerable to a big price spike if supplies suddenly drop further. "Some are joking that we need to measure the fumes to get any measurable inventory at all these days," he said.

But he also said conservation moves by businesses in recent years have significantly reduced manufacturers' energy needs.

In its outlook for economic growth, the

Federal Reserve was more optimistic than the administration or the Congressional Budget Office, predicting the gross domestic product will expand by around 3.5 percent this year. President Clinton based his current budget on a slower 2.9 percent prediction.

The Fed also was more optimistic that inflation will slow this year, predicting that an inflation gauge tied to the GDP will rise by around 1.75 percent to 2 percent, compared with an increase of 2 percent last year.

As he has before, Greenspan urged Congress to devote the huge federal budget surpluses being generated by the economic boom to paying down the national debt rather than for increased federal spending or cutting taxes.

More taxpayers e-filing their own income tax returns

By Curt Anderson
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Twice as many taxpayers have electronically filed tax returns they did themselves so far this year compared with 1999.

Through Feb. 11, 1.2 million taxpayers had done their own tax returns — usually with tax preparation computer software or an Internet-based service — and zapped them via the World Wide Web to the IRS. That's already half the 1999 total and a 98 percent increase over the same period last year.

"We're pleased with the continuing rise in electronic returns," said IRS Commissioner Charles Rossotti. "These taxpayers reap the benefits of having more accurate returns and faster refunds."

Counting professional tax preparers

Twice as many taxpayers have electronically filed tax returns they did themselves so far this year compared with 1999.

and simple returns filed by telephone, the IRS received 14.7 million tax returns electronically through Feb. 11, up 10.2 percent from 13.3 million during the same span a year ago.

Trying to meet a congressional mandate of 80 percent e-filing by 2007, the IRS this year sent 33 million taxpayers special customer codes allowing them to electronically "sign" their returns, making the process truly paperless.

Without such a code, self-preparing taxpayers who e-file must sign Form 8453-OL — usually provided by tax computer software — and send it to the IRS via old-fashioned snail mail.

In addition, it usually costs about \$10 to file a tax return electronically, although some companies offer free filing for lower-income taxpayers and one, H.D. Vest, is shipping them free via the Internet for anyone. President Clinton asked Congress this year to approve a \$10 tax credit for people who file electronically.

Intuit Inc., maker of the leading TurboTax software, reported this week that 1.4 million federal returns have been filed using its products and another 875,000 returns have been started on the company's Internet site. That is far above last year, when a total of 240,000 federal returns were filed using Intuit's Web site.

Also on the rise is taxpayer use of

direct deposit. Through Feb. 11, the IRS sent 11.2 million refunds worth \$26 billion directly to taxpayers' bank accounts, a 19 percent increase in number of refunds compared with early 1999. Last year's total amount at this point was \$21 billion.

The IRS released these other statistics for the first part of the tax filing season:

■ Total income tax returns received totaled 23.4 million, down 1.2 percent from last year.

■ Average refunds so far are \$1,963, up 7.6 percent, and the total amount refunded amounts to \$32.5 billion, a 19 percent increase.

■ The number of refunds is up 10.5 percent, from 14.9 million a year ago to 16.5 million this year.

■ Tax returns must be postmarked or sent electronically to the IRS by midnight on April 17. The traditional date, April 15, falls on a Saturday.

Mint unveils five more state designs for new quarters

By Nancy Zuckerbrod
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The huge demand for state commemorative quarters has forced the U.S. Mint to more than double its production, an official said Thursday at a meeting to unveil design proposals for five more states.

The Mint typically produces about 1.5 billion quarters a year, but last year it produced about 3.6 billion because so many people are collecting the new state quarters rather than spending them, said George Hunter, a deputy associate director.

"There are more people who are now beginning to look at their coins ... as little pieces of art," Hunter said.

The commission on Thursday recommended designs for New York, North Carolina, Rhode Island, Vermont and Kentucky quarters, which are due out next year. Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers must OK the designs before

they go to the governors of the five states for final approval.

The Mint is honoring five states per year. The coins are minted in the order states joined the union. A quarter honoring Delaware, the first state to ratify the Constitution, went into circulation a year ago, followed by Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Georgia and Connecticut. The Massachusetts coin went into circulation this year. Maryland will be out next month.

The commemorative quarters are the same size as the traditional quarter, and George Washington's profile remains on the heads side. But rather than an eagle on the flip side, the new quarters have images honoring individual states.

The commission recommended a design of the Statue of Liberty in front of a map of New York for that state. "I just think it's a no-brainer," said the commission's chairman, J. Carter Brown.

A depiction of the Wright brothers'

flight on Dec. 17, 1903, was the choice for North Carolina, the "first in flight" state.

The commission chose a scene showing Providence, R.I., founder Roger Williams with American Indians for the Rhode Island quarter, but said it would not object to a rendering of a sail boat for the "Ocean State" if the Mint could improve upon the design submitted.

The commission chose a sketch of maple trees for Vermont and a design inspired by the song "My Old Kentucky Home" for that state's quarter. It shows the house Stephen Foster wrote about in that tune and also depicts a horse in a field.

Brown, who often lectures about Pablo Picasso and other master artists, said he is a fan of the new quarters.

"It is an opportunity to bring design issues into everyone's palm," he said.

The Mint produces a particular quarter for about 10 weeks before moving on to the next state.



AP Photo
This is a drawing of the design for the Kentucky commemorative quarter due out next year. The Commission of Fine Arts approved designs for four other states Thursday.

INVESTORS' GUIDE

Buying mortgage life insurance can be confusing

By Eric Tyson

Q: Can you tell me exactly how mortgage life works and what variations it has, such as for disability or credit? I just bought a house this past fall and have probably received 10 mailers offering it.

A: Mortgage life insurance is for the purpose of paying off your mortgage in the event that you as the policy holder pass away. You may be confusing mortgage life policies with credit life and credit disability policies that are usually sold by credit-card companies to pay your outstanding credit-card debt in the event of death or disability.

Mortgage life insurance is similar to

term life insurance. The main difference is in the way its marketed — the seller of mortgage life coverage is essentially "recommending" that the amount of insurance coverage you have be equal to your mortgage debt. This is self-serving on the part of the mortgage lender — the outfits that generally sell such policies. Their concern is not having defaults when a homeowner passes away.

Mortgage life insurance is often far more expensive (for the same amount of coverage) than term life insurance. This is partly because many mortgage life policies don't have as rigorous health screening/underwriting. The other reason is that purchasers of such policies often buy on impulse, and not having shopped around, don't know how much they are overpaying.

Mortgage life insurance might make sense for someone with health problems who can get coverage without lots of health questions and testing.

Q: I am retired and nearly 70 years old. I have the following Vanguard

mutual funds in an IRA: Primecap, US Growth, Capital Opportunity, Health Care, Tax-Managed Growth & Income and Growth Index fund. I have about the same amount in each fund. Should I be changing to more conservative funds, as I will have to begin taking distributions in one year? We are getting along fine on my pensions and Social Security.

A: The fact that you will soon be making distributions on your IRA in and of itself should not cause you to change how you invest, especially if you don't expect to tap this money to live on once distributed. In the event that you would like to continue holding the same funds, you could simply re-buy them in a non-retirement account once the money is distributed from your IRA.

That said, you have all of your IRA money invested in stock funds and all of these are domestic. Normally, someone your age would have up to about half of his portfolio in stocks with the remainder in bonds. About one-third of the

stocks would be overseas. Should you expect to pass on these assets as part of your estate, you could consider investing more aggressively, although I would still say that your current portfolio is too aggressive.

Of the funds you currently hold, I'm least enamored of the Tax-Managed fund, which you don't need inside of an account that is already tax-sheltered, and the Health Care, which is a sector fund. You also have a heavy dose of growth-oriented funds. While such funds have done well in recent years, that trend will surely change and more value-oriented funds will have their day in the sun.

Write Eric Tyson, author of the best sellers "Investing for Dummies" and "Personal Finance for Dummies" (IDG Books), in care of King Features, 235 E. 45th St., New York, NY 10017 or e-mail: eric@tyson.com.

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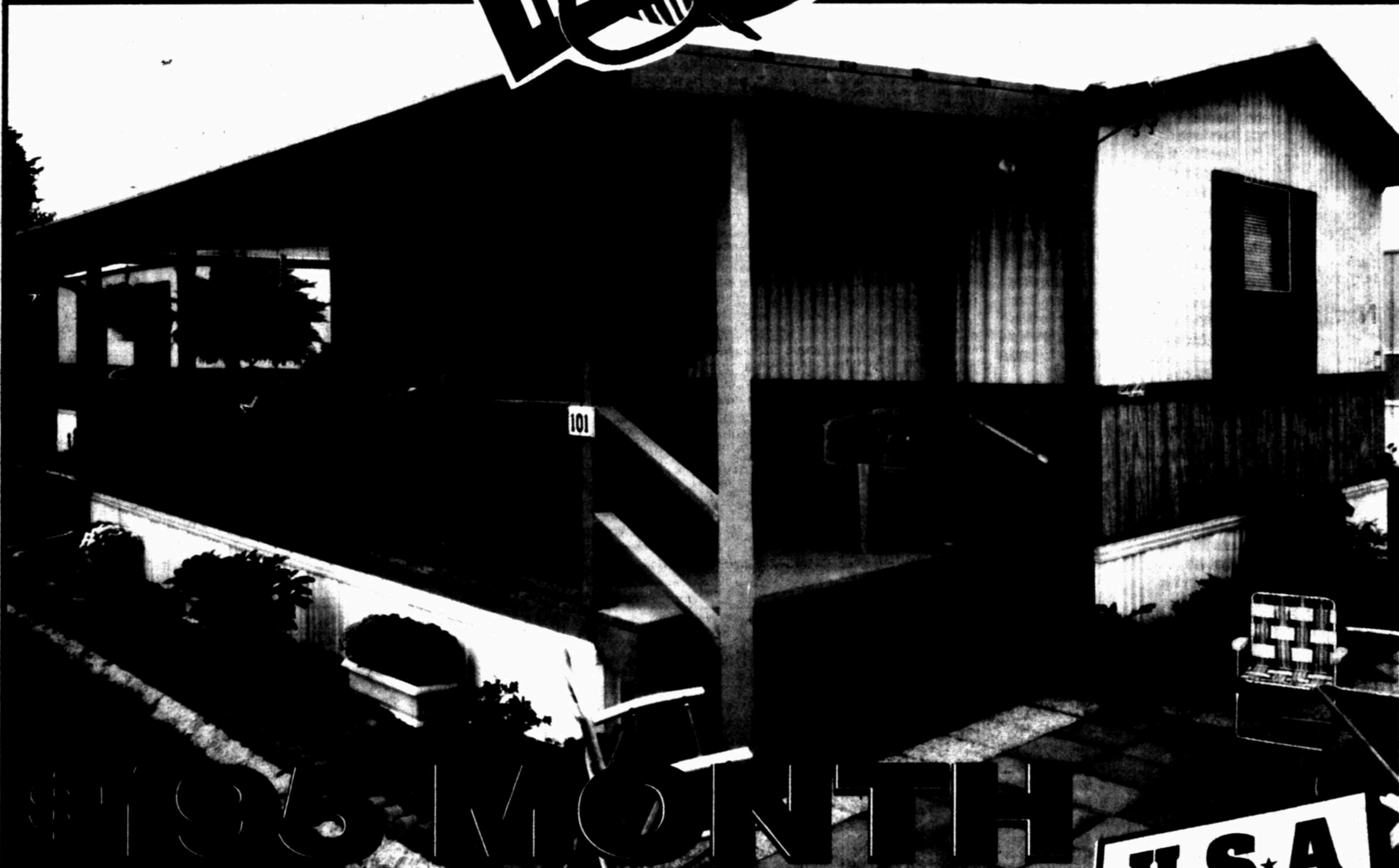
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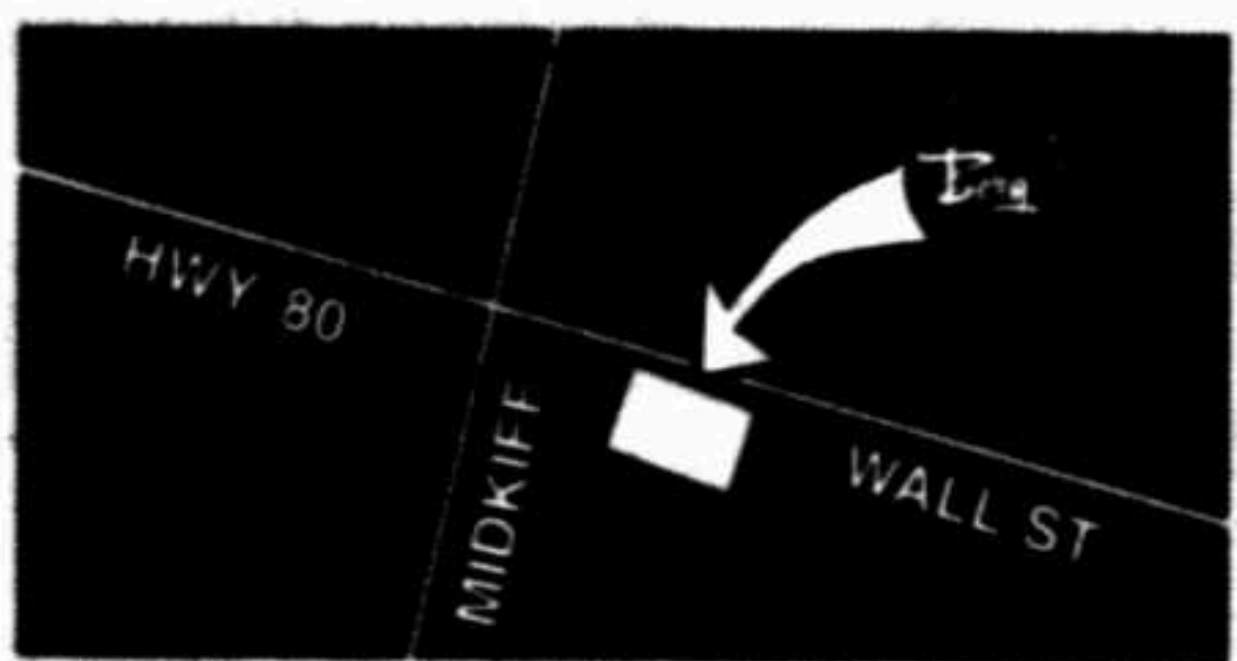
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- FORD 1987** F250- Diesel, real good condition. \$3,500. Call 915-756-2330 between 8 and 5.
- FORD 1994** 1 TON Crew cab, Power windows/locks, turbo diesel, automatic, towing package, electric brakes, maintenance records. 134K. \$12,500. 697-2169/661-9090.
- FORD 1995** F150XL- 8 Cylinder, 5 speed, 113K miles. \$5,500. Call 570-0035.
- FORD 1997** F250 Powerstroke, 1/2 ton, take over payments. Call 570-7292. Leave message.
- FORD 1998** F150 XLT, 24K miles, light blue denim with dark navy stripe. Excellent condition. \$19,500. Call 682-2809.
- GMC 1994** SONOMA- 80K miles, blue, excellent condition, am/fm cassette, tilt/cruise, tinted windows. \$4,000. Call 638-2671 or 687-6687.
- GMC 1995** Dually, 135K, \$11,000. obo. Chevrolet 1997 Lumina, 35K, \$11,000. obo. Nissan 1997 Pickup, 35K, \$8,000. obo. Call Connie, 683-3312.
- MAZDA 1993** B2200- One owner, 51K miles, like new. Must see! \$4,500 O.B.O. Call 915-337-1582.
- JEEP 1989** COMANCHE, only 61K miles, V6, new tires, auto, air, tilt. Blue Book \$4,300, asking \$3,995. Call 699-6432.
- DODGE 1998** SLT 1500, Quad cab, 5.9 engine, Infinity sound CD, tape. Forest green, 22K miles. \$21,500. 687-0511 after 6.
- FORD 1996** EXPLORER XLT, 4 Door, 2 wheel drive, V6, all power, alloy wheels, maroon/grey. 49K. Excellent! \$18,000. 697-6833.
- GEO 1993** TRACKER- White with pink trim, power steering, air conditioning, rear folding seat, looks runs great. \$4,800. Call 683-0957.
- NISSAN 1992** PATHFINDER- Good condition, 81K. Four door, tinted windows. \$7,800. Must sell! Call Marty at 694-4208.
- CHEVROLET 1989** S-10 Blazer, Auto, 4.3 liter, Can be self. 1200 N. Loop 250 W. \$3,950. 699-7275.
- CHEVROLET 1999** Extended cab, white, automatic, power windows/locks, tilt, only 17K miles. Please call Beau for more details 697-3293.
- DODGE 1999** Ram 1500 Quad Cab, real clean, low miles. Please call 697-3293.
- FORD 1996** F150 Short-bed, Eddie Bauer, power windows/locks, tilt/cruise, cassette, 39K miles. \$12,250. 694-7345 or 563-1125.
- CHEVROLET 1993** Silverado 3/4 ton, extended cab, power windows/locks, a/c. Must Sell! \$6,900. 684-4017.
- DODGE 1995** DAKOTA Sport, 5 speed, 4 cylinder, black with silver stripes, bed cover. \$5,500 or best offer. 683-6889 or 664-5997.
- GMC 1998** 1/2 Ton Pickup: Rear end \$550. Short bed \$400. Also: Koenig utility trailer with ladder rack. Sell at B&J Body Shop, 7611 N. Andrews Hwy, Odessa or call 570-8041.
- FORD 1994** Ranger single cab, automatic, 6 cylinder, tilt/cruise, bed liner, one owner, 51K miles, \$5,900. 694-7345 or 563-1125.
- FORD 1993** F350XLT- Clean, well maintained, all power, automatic, am/fm cassette, external fuel tank. \$11,500. Call evenings 684-9682.
- DODGE 1995** Ram Pick-up, Extended cab, very clean, grill guard, tool box, 73K miles, maintenance to a tee. \$13,900. 499-0259.
- FORD 1998** RANGER XLT- Super Cab, Forest green, excellent condition, Tonnneau cover. 35K miles. \$14,000. or trade for 689-0440. Leave message.
- FREIGHTLINER 1993** 80 Series Detroit, 430 horse power, 9 speed transmission. Good tires, working, everyday. \$18,500. 684-4024.
- CHEVROLET 1994** Silverado 3/4 Ton, extended cab, long bed, 6.5 liter turbo diesel, 70K, very nice. \$11,900. 682-4412/699-4883.
- TOYOTA 1996** T100 truck, Automatic, air, cruise, extended cab, theft control system, 35K, new tires, like new. \$14,500. Call 682-9513.
- DODGE 1995** 1500 4X4, single cab, 28K, fully loaded, new tires, excellent condition. \$15,000 or make offer. Call 263-2189.
- TOYOTA 1996** T-100 54K Miles, air, standard, factory warranty, excellent condition, good for work or school. \$9,950. make offer. 684-9753.
- CHEVROLET 1993** Astro, 4 Extended seats, 1 power seat, windows/locks. \$7,000. 699-6518.
- CHEVROLET 1994** Suburban Silverado, 72K, running boards. Very clean. \$16,500. O.B.O. 694-9974.
- FORD 1991** AEROSTAR, Great condition. Very clean. New air, radiator. Priced to sell. \$4,750. Call 550-0455.
- GMC 1985** Customized van, dual air, power windows/locks. AM/FM cassette, excellent condition. only 53K. \$4,300. 697-3913.
- HONDA 1997** Odyssey EX, 38K miles, white, gray interior, sun roof. Excellent! \$17,500. 520-3634.
- CHEVROLET 1985** SUBURBAN- Clean interior/ exterior, excellent running condition. Air/heat, towing package, good tires. \$2,795. 570-9556.
- CHEVROLET 1990** G-20 Tra-tech conversion van. 1 owner, excellent condition, maintenance records. \$4,500. 687-4003.
- CHEVROLET 1996** SUBURBAN: Green/silver, towing package, CD, Leather seats, 80K miles, mostly highway. Maintained by the book. Non-smoker. \$21,250. O.B.O. 684-9990. Days, 683-7403. Nights.
- CHEVROLET 1999** SUBURBAN 4X4, Pewter/gray leather, 43K highway miles, chrome grill guard, CD, Immaculate. \$28,500. Call David 915-333-2155.
- DODGE 1989** CARAVAN, excellent condition, running condition. \$3,150. CD. 697-1755. See 3221 Camarie.
- DODGE 1993** CARAVAN- Good condition, Vehicle needs work. V6, A/C. \$3,500. Call 915-704-4453 or 915-335-6618 or jwills@wrangler.odessa.edu
- BUICK 1983** Estate station wagon, V6, 60K, fully loaded. \$1,650. Call 915-683-3846.
- CHEVROLET 1980** Malibu, Good engine & transmission. Complete car for parts, not title. \$300. 570-8041.
- FORD 1983** F150- 460 engine, runs great. \$3,000. O.B.O. Call 683-7489 or pager 742-1282.
- FORD 1993** CONVERSION Van: Full size-extended, white/green accents, 90K miles, loaded, custom paint. \$9,000. 699-2166 or page 567-0021.
- GMC 1989** SUBURBAN, good condition, New transmission. \$4,300 or best offer. 520-9090.
- MERCURY 1995** Villager, asking \$8,010. Please call 687-6502 for more information.
- FORD 1994** E150 Conversion van. Excellent condition, 69K miles, chrome chairs, rear air, towing package, cassette CD, white. \$9,500. 689-0722.
- CHEVROLET 1998** SUBURBAN: 350, A/C with rear air, good tires, very dependable, runs great. \$3,200 O.B.O. Call 697-7312. Pager 498-1449.
- CHEVROLET 1993** Suburban Silverado, one owner, garage kept, AM/FM cassette. Excellent condition. \$12,750. Call 685-1771. Leave message.
- CHEVROLET 1995** SUBURBAN, green/silver, excellent condition, new tires, rear air, all power, towing package, \$18,500 or best offer, 683-7285.
- PLYMOUTH 1992** Voyager, Excellent condition, Quad seats, good tires, new transmission, one owner. \$7,200. Call 699-0919.
- CHEVROLET 1998** SUBURBAN LT- 37K, white/tan leather seats, CD stereo, immaculate condition, towing package. \$26,900. Days/ 686-5321, evenings/ 688-3949.
- CHEVROLET 1991** Lumina Van, Excellent maintenance record, runs like new, drive to appreciate. \$4,500. Or best offer. 686-0732 after 6PM.
- CHEVROLET 1991** Suburban, One owner, loaded, dual air, good condition, 150K miles. \$5,750. Call 687-6502. Ext. 203. Days. 687-6239. Evenings.
- CHEVROLET 1993** Suburban, Excellent condition, extra clean. Gray with red cloth, power windows, cassette, leather seats, rear air, high mileage. \$10,100. 683-1744 or 683-3475 after 5 pm.
- CHEVROLET 1995** SUBURBAN- 4X4, Red/gray interior, excellent condition, custom wheels. New a/c, CD, and tow package. \$18,900. 570-5104/ 634-2277.

- CHEVROLET 1997** SUBURBAN LT, white with gray leather, loaded, 40K miles. \$23,900. Please call 620-0345 days or evenings.
- CHEVROLET 1997** SUBURBAN, 4X4, loaded, towing package, blue with gray leather. Excellent condition. \$17,900. Call 697-5800 or 567-8204.
- 1996 CHRIS CRAFT**, 17 foot Sportsman, inboard, Beautiful mahogany boat in perfect condition. \$15,000 or trade for Suburban. 682-1704.
- CHRYSLER 1994** Town & Country, all power, air, leather seats, am/fm, CD player. 63K miles. \$10,500. Call 683-2908.
- GMC 1993** SUBURBAN: Excellent condition, low mileage, good tires, loaded, teal & champagne towing pack, cargo doors. \$13,250. Call 699-6711.
- CHEVROLET 1999** Suburban. Extremely nice, leather, custom wheels. NADA whole sale \$30,900. Must sacrifice for \$27,500. Louis at 681-3289/ 550-0200.
- GMC 1998** SUBURBAN SLT- 4X4, leather, CD, Auto 4WD, rear air/heat, 42K miles, pewter/gray, non-smoker. \$26,900. 683-3071.
- CHEVROLET 1993** Suburban Silverado, indigo blue, one owner, excellent condition. Towing package, 95K miles, am/fm cassette. \$12,250. 685-1056.
- FORD 1994** F150 Econoline high top conversion van, TV, VCR, leather, loaded. Very clean. \$12,200. Please call 561-5680.
- OLDSMOBILE 1991** Van Silhouette, Air, cruise, leather. Excellent condition. \$4,950. 522-2874.
- FORD 1993** 4x4 XLT F150, Super Cab, Short bed, automatic, 4" lift, offroad tires. Excellent condition. 129K miles. \$11K or best offer. Call 699-1156 or 699-1087.
- FORD 1999** Power Stroke, F-250 XLT Supercab, 4X4, automatic, custom paint, windows/seat, CD, towing package. Great truck. \$30,900. 685-1810.
- GMC 1997** SIERRA- 4X4 Crew cab, long-bed, 454 cubic inch, 83K. Loaded. \$20,800. Call 682-1717.
- JEEP 1985** CJ7- Automatic, a/c, hard-top, winch, 3" super lift, Nerf bars, mint interior, lots of chrome. \$5,200. Brett 689-3476.
- FORD 1985** F250 XLT- 460/4 speed, red and grey, extended cab, long bed. \$4,500. Call 683-0957.
- JEEP 1992** CHEROKEE, 2 door, high output V6, automatic, CD, tint, roof rack, towing. 121,821 miles. \$5,000 as is. 686-7870.
- BUICK 1983** Estate station wagon, V6, 60K, fully loaded. \$1,650. Call 915-683-3846.
- CHEVROLET 1980** Malibu, Good engine & transmission. Complete car for parts, not title. \$300. 570-8041.
- FORD 1983** F150- 460 engine, runs great. \$3,000. O.B.O. Call 683-7489 or pager 742-1282.
- FORD 1993** CONVERSION Van: Full size-extended, white/green accents, 90K miles, loaded, custom paint. \$9,000. 699-2166 or page 567-0021.
- GMC 1989** SUBURBAN, good condition, New transmission. \$4,300 or best offer. 520-9090.
- MERCURY 1995** Villager, asking \$8,010. Please call 687-6502 for more information.
- FORD 1994** E150 Conversion van. Excellent condition, 69K miles, chrome chairs, rear air, towing package, cassette CD, white. \$9,500. 689-0722.
- CHEVROLET 1998** SUBURBAN: 350, A/C with rear air, good tires, very dependable, runs great. \$3,200 O.B.O. Call 697-7312. Pager 498-1449.
- CHEVROLET 1993** Suburban Silverado, one owner, garage kept, AM/FM cassette. Excellent condition. \$12,750. Call 685-1771. Leave message.
- CHEVROLET 1995** SUBURBAN, green/silver, excellent condition, new tires, rear air, all power, towing package, \$18,500 or best offer, 683-7285.
- PLYMOUTH 1992** Voyager, Excellent condition, Quad seats, good tires, new transmission, one owner. \$7,200. Call 699-0919.
- CHEVROLET 1998** SUBURBAN LT- 37K, white/tan leather seats, CD stereo, immaculate condition, towing package. \$26,900. Days/ 686-5321, evenings/ 688-3949.
- CHEVROLET 1991** Lumina Van, Excellent maintenance record, runs like new, drive to appreciate. \$4,500. Or best offer. 686-0732 after 6PM.
- CHEVROLET 1991** Suburban, One owner, loaded, dual air, good condition, 150K miles. \$5,750. Call 687-6502. Ext. 203. Days. 687-6239. Evenings.
- CHEVROLET 1993** Suburban, Excellent condition, extra clean. Gray with red cloth, power windows, cassette, leather seats, rear air, high mileage. \$10,100. 683-1744 or 683-3475 after 5 pm.
- CHEVROLET 1995** SUBURBAN- 4X4, Red/gray interior, excellent condition, custom wheels. New a/c, CD, and tow package. \$18,900. 570-5104/ 634-2277.
- CHEVROLET 1997** short bed, V8, automatic, 75K. Please call xxx-xxxx.
- CELICA** Runs Good. Good work car. \$300. Call xxx-xxxx.
- FORD 1980** F150, automatic, air conditioning, new inspection- batteries- tires- brakes- starter. Good engine, body fair. \$1,825. Call 570-6490.
- MAZDA: 1979** RX7, Excellent condition. See at No. #3 Bristol Court. \$2,500 firm. Call 682-2418 or 697-9908.
- FORD 1970** Winch Truck- 1 ton, dual tires, 390 V8, chrome wheels, power seats, heaters, clean, mechanically sound. \$1,700. 682-7587.
- GMC 1986** SUBURBAN- Sierra Classic, Blue with gray interior, good condition, high mileage. \$2,350. Or best offer. Call 570-7028.
- VOLKSWAGEN 1987** Cabriolet, two door, convertible, five speed, new tires. \$2,950. Call 682-2465 days, 683-3800 evenings.
- CHEVROLET 1985** S10- 1700, 172K miles, 4 WD, automatic, Cruise control, a/c, power windows, new radio, loaded. \$2,500. 682-0284.
- MERCEDES BENZ 1980**, Body and interior in good condition, motor needs work. \$1,850 or best cash offer. 586-5946.
- CHEVROLET 1998** Impala, new tires. Runs and looks great. \$2,000 or best offer. Call 689-4381. See at: 2607 West Illinois.
- GMC 1986** Suburban- 2 wheel drive, all power, dual air, towing package. Very dependable. \$1,000 on new engine. \$2,500. 697-1375.
- TOYOTA 1990** TERCEL- 5 speed, recent tires, brakes, battery, belts and hoses. Excellent school car. \$3,000. 699-7775.
- 1995 HONDA** TRX-300 4x2, \$3,100. Also 1994 TRX-300 4X4 \$3,000. Both four wheelers in good shape. Bob- 699-0688/ Ricky 684-3759.
- 1998 HONDA** XR-100, Excellent shape. \$1,600. Call Bob at 699-0688.
- HEIN GERICKE: Dakar** Jacket. Size 48 with liner. As new condition. \$300. Call 694-2004.
- 1997 HONDA** XR 100, low hours. Great shape. \$1,800. Please call 664-9564.
- HONDA 1997** TRX250-4 Wheeler, adult owned. \$2,800. Call 686-1987.
- 1999** Harley Davidson Sportster, custom paint (black with candy flames), 5,800 miles, \$9,000. obo. Call 682-2080.
- 1996 HONDA** GOLDWING Aspencade, red, 21K miles, side running lights, extra chrome, CB radio, lots more. Excellent condition. \$11,500. 684-8641.
- KAWASAKI 1995** ZX6R- F1 NINJA, 9,365 miles, new rear tire, 2 matching helmets, tank bag. \$5,000. 686-7870. After 5 pm.
- YAMAHA 1996** V-MAX, 1,200 CC, 145 HP. Custom paint, 15K miles. Excellent condition, very fast, many extras. Asking \$6,950. 687-1530.
- 1991 HARLEY DAVIDSON/ FLHTCUI**, Blue, real nice, will sell for \$12,900. Please call 915-683-8468 between 11:00 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- ENCLOSED 16.5'X5.5'**, Dual axle, aluminum wheels, current tags, aluminum floor, side door, rear-end ramp door. Must see \$3,000 firm. Call 697-2693.
- 1972 WINNEBAGO**, fully functional, sleeps six, \$2,700. Please call 570-0069.
- 1995 38 FOOT** Southwind, Sleeps 6, garaged kept, 2 TVs, VCR, 3-way refrigerator, generator, 30,000 miles. \$59,000. Call 689-2432.
- BEAVER 1991** 36' Motor Home, Call Diesel pusher, 37K miles, loaded, never any pets or smoking. \$89,500. O.B.O. See at 315 E. 2nd Street, Odessa.
- LIKE NEW!** Beautiful 1996 Jayco 5th wheel, 26' with superside. Elderly couple must sacrifice. \$13,500 firm, used 9 times. 682-7197, see at 1208 East County Rd 128.
- FOURWINDS 1993** 26' Tag, Excellent condition, new A/C, includes owner's hitch. \$7,500. Call 688-6924 days or 697-4239 evenings.
- VERY NICE** Motor home, 1985 34' Southwind. Like New. Dual air, new tires, rides on air bags. 50K. \$17,300. 915-687-2190.
- 1995 COUNTRY** AIRE Motorhome- 38' 12' slide, 16K, loaded, list on request. \$69,995 firm. 689-3374.
- 1994 CAJUN** 18' 11" fishy sk combination, loaded, 120 Johnson, on owner, well cared for and maintained. \$7,950. Call 699-2451.
- 1990 SKEETER** 18.05' Bass Boat, 150 HP Yamaha Pro-V Motor. Motor guide, trolling motor. Excellent condition. \$9,500. 570-4131, pager 620-3082.
- 1998 LARSON SKI** Wake Board boat, 6' wake board pole, boat to lake 6X, mint condition, \$11,500. 689-4113, 495-2638 pager.

EXCELLENT condition, like new, one owner. 1998 Larson 174 SEI. Garage kept. Lots of extras. Paid \$16,000 new, will sell for \$11,800. Serious inquiries only. Call Rick 557-3970.

Now hiring all shifts, all positions. Please apply at one of the following locations.

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A MIDLAND-BASED service company involved in enhanced oil recovery is seeking qualified field personnel. Must have a Class A CDL. 2 years experience with major pumping services contractor, and willing to perform shift work. Company provides excellent pay, health and retirement benefits. Please send letter or resume to: Box P-6013, c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

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ALLREDGE GARDENS now hiring full and part time customer service and retail nursery workers. Flexible hours, Salary DOE. Apply in person 3300 Fairgrounds, Midland, TX.

AVON: CHOOSE Hours, income, rewards. For opportunity or

LYNN ALEXANDER'S AUTOPLEX HAS AN OPENING FOR AN AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE TECHNICIAN

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TOP PAY FOR TOP TECHNICIAN!

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NEW TODAY

Truck Drivers- Local Hauling

Due to expanding operations, Plains Marketing L.P. currently has driver positions open for crude oil and water transportation in the Midland/Odessa locations.

We offer excellent benefits, competitive pay and very good working environment.

If you have a current CDL with a (X) endorsement and a good safety record. Come by and talk to us.

Crude oil experience helpful but not necessary. Candidates must pass O.T. physical and drug screen.

Applications are being accepted at 3705 Hwy 158. For more information contact Ron Devore at 686-1731.

Plains Marketing L.P. Equal Opportunity Employer.

WIRELINE OPERATOR IMMEDIATE OPENING

Duties will include: Oil and/or gas well servicing, and maintaining and repairing equipment. Must be available 24 hours a day. CDL with Hazmat Endorsements preferred, and successful candidate must be able to pass DOT requirements. Physical & drug screen given. \$1,650/month + bonus. Must be at least 21 years of age and high school graduate or equivalent.

Applications available upon request at:
Schlumberger
4704 W. Hwy 80
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Temporary Full Time Days For Special Sports Ticket Promotion (Approximately 3 months work).

Apply in person only
10601 W. County Road 127
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Telemarketers Needed Day Shift Local Business Apply in person only 10601 W. County Rd. 127 (off 1788)

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NEW IN TOWN? For

your FREE "New Resident" Welcome Packet. Call Newcomers Unlimited, 570-8045.

HOUSEKEEPER Wanted: 2-5 days weekly, 6 hours; English speaking; references. PO Box 904, Midland, TX 79702

HOUSEKEEPERS Wanted: Some experience preferred. Flexible hours. Apply in person at Days Inn, 1003 S. Midkiff

KENT KWIK
24 Hour * Job Hotline
520-4053 ext. 371

NEW TODAY
KITCHEN MANAGER and Cooks needed, bilingual required. Competitive benefits and salary. Call Nita at 915-563-4900.

HIRED

LEASING AGENT: Full time position available at XXXX Apartments including Saturdays and Sundays. Experience a plus. Call for an appointment xxx-xxxx.

LINE COOK with experience and Service Staff. Part time, flexible hours. Apply at The Club at Mission Dorado Country Club.

NEW TODAY

LOCAL CHEMICAL Company taking applications for Driver/Blender with Class "A" and Hazard material endorsement. Must pass drug and alcohol test. Apply in person at 1011 Dayton Road, between 8:00 and 5:00 pm. Monday through Friday, Call 683-7132.

NEW TODAY

FLOOR CLEANERS

Starting @ \$6.25/hr. PART TIME 12AM-2AM Nightly WORK WITH A FRIEND "Paid Training" "Medical Plan" "Bonuses" Must be flexible & enjoy performing a variety of duties, including all types of janitorial. EOE (915)563-1112

MOBILE HOME DRIVER: Set up person. CDL required. Good pay, plenty of work. Call 520-9416.

NEW TODAY

DIRECTOR OF NURSING (R.N.) Pediatric/Private Services.

An aggressive, market driven Registered Nurse Professional is needed to develop and market comprehensive home Pediatric/Private Program for a revitalized JCAHO Accredited Home Care Company. Prior pediatric nursing experience is required, and the ability to be flexible enough to also manage adult cases is needed. This is a growth opportunity, and an excellent compensation package is awaiting the right person. 915-570-7567.

International Oilfield Service Company

Designs, manufactures and services highly efficient oilfield equipment that reduces the cost of drilling and producing oil and gas. Currently looking to fill the following positions:

Underbalanced Engineer:
B.S. degree in engineering and minimum of 5 years practical experience. Duties include: UBO modeling and well design preparation of pre and post job reports, technical presentations.

Underbalanced Equipment Operators:
Requires high school diploma or GED. Previous experience in well testing or air/underbalanced drilling preferred.

Technical Sales Representative:
Establish and maintain customer contact. All positions require excellent oral/written communication skills.

Competitive compensation and benefits package. Please send resumes in confidence to: Box N-4196 c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650 Midland, TX 79702.

NEW TODAY

CLINICAL DIRECTOR

Seeking qualified person with minimum 5 years experience in a counseling related field. Master's Degree in counseling, social work or competitive salary including benefit package with retirement. Will consider part time (25-30 hours). Please mail or fax resume to:

Buckner Children & Family Service, Inc.
110 W. Louisiana, Suite 160
Midland, TX 79701
Fax (915) 689-2210
EOE

NEW TODAY

TEACHER NEEDED

Must have at least 2 years experience in a Child Care Center. Great benefits, health insurance, college scholarships. Earn up to \$12,000. EMT-B in Midland and Odessa. Full time, Part-time and PRN. Call 580-5262.

R.N. CASE MANAGER:
Geriatric/Pediatric. JCAHO Accredited Home Health Agency has an immediate need for aggressive, caring home health nurses to manage patients for a growing agency. A full time geriatric nurse case manager is needed, as well as, an aggressive, caring home health nurse to manage pediatric and adult patients. Excellent pay and healthcare benefits. Call 570-7587. Rhonda Grissom or Martha Ortiz, R.N., to set up an interview.

THE COURTYARD CAFE is hiring: Chef with at least 5 years country club, hotel experience. Line cooks, waitstaff, both shifts available. Weekend off in all positions. Apply in person between 2-4 pm at 317 W. Texas.

NEW TODAY

THERAPEUTIC GROUP Home needs responsible person for part time assistance. Part time and CPR certification necessary. Training available. Must be at least 20 years of age, able to pass criminal background check. Contact Chris at 689-2052, or 634-8959.

TRUCK DRIVER/ YARD: Local delivery, must have good driving record, and verifiable references. Apply at: Triangle Lumber, 5801 West Industrial, 7:30 am until 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday.

V.I.P. Employment Services: 686-9722. Industrial Workers needed. Long/short term assignments.

VILLAGE CAR WASH is now accepting applications for a Part Time Cashier up to 32 hours weekly. Apply in person 604 Andrews Hwy, Midland.

WAITSTAFF needed for relief, some mornings, some evenings. Apply within Cowboys II Cafe, next to Super 8 Motel. Ask for Carme.

WANTED: Week-end Leasing Person. Apply at Meridian Apartments 4400 North Highway 171 Road. No phone calls please.

\$300 SIGN ON BONUS! Now Hiring PRN RNs up to \$37.50. LVNs up to \$30.00. NURSE FINDERS, 550-9399.

APPLICATIONS ARE: Being accepted for Part-time Laundry Worker & Part-time Dietary Worker. Apply in person at Midland Skilled Nursing Facility, 3201 Sage.

CERTIFIED PHARMACY Technician: Full or part time. Excellent working environment, pay and benefits. Send resumes to Graham's Pharmacy, P.O. Box 5785, Midland, TX 79701.

Pro Snips has openings for hair stylist in Midland. Great pay! Apply in person at 3109 East University, Odessa, TX or call 915-368-7475 ask for Betty.

REPRESENTATIVES: Needed: sell Avon part time, full time. Great earnings. Call Varta 520-0119. Independent Rep.

SALES CLERKS: Full and part time positions. Apply in person 908 West Indiana, Midland.

SIGN HOLDER \$6.00 per hour cash. Call 684-3676.

DIALYSIS CLINIC: accepting applications for Dialysis Supervisor. 2 years dialysis experience. Also needing RN, LVN, PCT. Dialysis experience preferred but will train. Excellent salary and benefits. Fax resume to: 915/687-5008 or apply at 731 W. Wadley, Midland, Texas 79705. No phone calls please.

DENTAL ASSISTANT: Chairside/ Sterilization 3 days/ week. Dr. Terry Carpenter, 3300 Haynes. For resumes/ application. No Phone Calls.

SEEKING AN Office Manager/ Administrative Assistant to join exciting, internet startup. Must be detail oriented, fun to work with, problem solver, and good with Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. Pleasant, polite, phone persons a plus. Please send resume and salary requirements to: PO Box 2230, Midland, TX 79702. All resumes held in strictest confidence.

RECEPTIONIST Needed. Must have experience in a typing and computer for a busy doctor's office. Send resume to: 1816 N. Midland Dr., Midland, TX 79701.

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Lacks Stores, Inc.

Major Furniture/ Appliance Retailer looking for:
**PROFESSIONAL SALES
ASSOCIATE**

The chosen applicant should be able:

- To be a self-starter
- To provide the highest standard of customer service
- To work as part of an elite sales team

Excellent benefits included. If you think the above description fits you and you want to take advantage of a rare opportunity to join our team, Apply in Person at:

Lacks Stores, Inc.
3111 W. Culbert
Midland, TX 79701
An Equal Opportunity Employer

NEW TODAY

OFFICE MANAGER: Midland Independent Oil Company Operator seeking individuals looking for skills in oil and gas accounting, word processing, bookkeeping, spreadsheets, JIB's and ability to manage all other general office tasks. (Geo Tech experience a plus). Send resume to: Box P-6015, c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

SEEKING LANDMAN: Landperson to join exciting, internet startup. Majority of work is in Midland office. Must be detail oriented, fun to work with, problem solver, and not afraid of computers. Please send resume and salary requirements to: PO Box 2230, Midland, TX 79702. All resumes held in strictest confidence.

UPSCALE SALON and Day Spa looking for energetic, esthetician (facialist) and female registered massage therapist interested in a full time position. Please contact Shawn Conner or Amber Fraley @ 682-8299.

WESTERN NATIONAL BANK Odessa, a rapidly growing independent bank is seeking a multi-task person as an addition to the staff in the credit department. Qualifications for this position are as follows: Strong computer, organizational, interpersonal and communication skills, experience in loan documentation. Previous banking and credit experience preferred. Applications accepted at: 200 West Wall or fax to: 915-334-5525. EOE/AA.

DISPATCHER/ SECRETARY: position: Hot oil service seeking energetic, dependable person for Oilfield Dispatching and Secretarial duties. Must have excellent telephone skills, experience with 2 way radio. Computer trained. Knowledge of accounts payable & accounts receivable and invoicing. Company offers health insurance & 401K plan. Call 915-683-0831.

KELLY IS YOUR JOB Connection. To Quality Job! Call Kelly Services 689-9801

HIRED PART TIME Receptionist. Windows & Excel experience. Approximately 20 hours per week. Bilingual preferred. Call xxx-xxxx.

★ DP PERSONNEL ★ Temp & Perm Positions Benefits & Bonuses Available 682-0033 or 570-0197

Global Personnel Network Positions Local & Worldwide! 686-8360.

Would you Love To Change Jobs? Temporary Resources Has Full Time & Temp 684-0527

LOW COST Major Medical high insurance advance. Call 685-1-888-671-1614

SALES PROFESSIONAL needed. Easy sale, great income. Full or part time. 915/651-6875.

Cheddar's

Now Accepting Resumes For
General Manager. Must Have
A Strong Management
Background. Fax Resume To
806-795-2397 or Email To
BJCHED@CS.com.

NEW TODAY

**Local Manufacturing Facility
is seeking:**

Fabricating Supervisor

Responsibilities to include: Excellent leadership skills, ability to interpret engineering drawings, ability to read and understand calipers, protractors, tape measures both standard and metric, ability to recognize and understand shop equipment and power tools, and the ability to prioritize the daily work schedule to meet deadlines and goals. 3 To 5 years of experience required. Some travel may be required.

Health, vacation, and retirement benefits required. Please send resumes to:

Box N-4199
c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram
P.O. Box 1650
Midland, TX 79702.

NEW TODAY

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 call the Better Business Bureau before signing any contract or giving out your credit card or bank information.

MUST SELL! In a time bind! 10 vending machines already set-up and making money! Six of them have changed machines attached! Perfect part-time job! 570-0049.

WE MAKE commercial loans, leasing and invoice factoring. Call 888-840-8085.

600 For Rent
ALL real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to indicate any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, age, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitations or discrimination.

WANTED: LICENSED Master Plumber. Call 5504029

WANTED: Experienced drillers and crews, roughnecks, and toolpushers. Must be able to pass drug test and have a valid driver's license. Benefits including paid vacations and medical insurance. Apply in person at: 4607 West Industrial in Midland. Drilling will be in Eastern New Mexico and West Texas Area. Experienced only.

CM MIDLAND: A growing company is looking for a service technician. Must have basic knowledge of computers and electronics. Servicing analog and digital copiers. Health insurance, 401K Plan, company vehicle. Apply at: 4500 W. Illinois, Suite 301 or call 915-520-2724.

HANOVER COMPRESSOR Company is looking for qualified Mechanics in the Ft. Stockton area. Must have a minimum of 3 years experience on Natural Gas Engines and Compressors. Send resumes to: 3201 East Loop 250 North or call 915-682-0301 for more information.

HELP WANTED: Three to five years experience. Carpenters, painters, framers. Contact Keith at 352-7712.

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS for experienced engine lathe operator. Salary DOE. Send resumes to: Box P-6017, c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

LAREDO PAVING INC., is now hiring for a Rock Quarry Driller. All applicants will be subject to drug screening. Apply at Price Construction Shop Office, four miles north of I-20 on Highway 350, Snyder Highway in Big Spring, TX. Complete benefit package including paid vacation, profit sharing, hospitalization. Pick up an application today at the Price Construction Shop Office, four miles north of I-20 on Highway 350, Snyder Highway in Big Spring, TX. Price Paving is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

PLAZA CENTER EXCON: Now accepting applications for a Mechanic and Part Time help. Apply at 3210 North Garfield, Midland.

PLUMBERS- LICENSED: Top Pay- Willing to relocate to Odessa. Whelan Plumbing Co., Inc. 2104 Memorial Blvd., Kermit, Texas. Phone 830-257-2104 or Fax: 830-257-2124.

Real Wheel Deals
ONLY \$25 w/Photo
Call for details
682-6222

WILL DO Babysitting in My home. Monday through Friday 2 p.m. to 7 a.m. Saturday and Sundays all day, ages 2 and up. Call 699-1773.

CHRISTIAN MOTHER Would like to care for your child in my home. Monday through Friday 7 to 5:30. Call 522-2921.

HOMEBASE BUSINESS: Growing communications company seeking outgoing independent Representatives. Work from home full or part time. 1-800-549-8654/ code 110.

OILFIELD SUPPLY Company, two locations, Tatum & Jal, NM. Complete with Buildings, Land, Shelving, both complete with pump shop and full inventory. Business now in 32nd year. Hang up your shingle & start selling. Will sell as package or each tool separate. You purchase the inventory at current cost and I will give you the real estate. Contact Earl L. Jones at Box 396, Tatum, NM 88267. Phone 1-505/398-5466 for more information.

AVAILABLE NOW: 1 or 2 bedrooms, pool, laundry, carports, all utilities paid. Immediate move in. 405 Sunset. 694-9878.

LAS COLINAS, Midland's foremost townhomes, 1, 2 & 3 bedrooms, \$495 to \$895. Open 3-6 pm except Sunday, 687-8770.

SILVER CREEK
APARTMENTS 2438 Wharmire, 687-0053. We have a sweetheart of a deal for you! Call or come by for the best offer on our 1 & 2 bedrooms- first month rent free. Also, ask about our 3 bedrooms.

PATIO TOWNHOUSES, 1710 N. A. Ask about a free month's rent. 1 Bedroom apartments & 2 bedroom townhomes. Gas & Water paid. Now open Saturdays 10:00am-4:00pm 682-4783.

ALL BILLS PAID: One and two bedroom apartments, 501 West Louisiana. Deposit required. Call 683-5161.

THORNWOOD
Apartments Great prices, 1, 2, & 3 Bedrooms. Free Cable. Senior discounts. 682-5381.

SUTTON PLACE
TOWNHOME Garden setting. Tired of closet size bedrooms and wall to wall carpet? Don't settle for 550 square feet, our smallest unit is 1,050 square feet. Enjoy Sutton Place spacious living. A Midland addition. Assigned covered parking. Call about our move in special! 682-2423.

BENCHMARK Leasing, 1, 2 & 3 Bedrooms. \$189 Move in Special. 522-2151.

VILLA TRIESTE
Apartments \$100 Off 1st month's rent. 4331 Dengar. Quiet living in pleasant atmosphere. 1, 2 & 3 Bedrooms available. \$100 Deposit. \$20 application fee, refundable if applicant qualified. Don't settle for 550 application fee for Senior Citizens. For appointment call 694-9311.

GOLDEN PARK Duplexes- 2 & 3 Bedrooms. \$199 Move in Special. 520-0133.

GARAGES, 1, 2, & 3 Bedrooms, \$389 to \$589. Open 3-6 except Sundays. Leisure Estates 682-5622.

WHISPERING OAKS:
Large very nice two bedroom, bath, free basic cable, covered parking, free laundry facility. \$350 per month. Located in beautiful serene Whispering Oaks, 1904 North Midland Drive, 694-4001.

1/2 OFF 1/2 OFF
First Months Rent
THE ARCHES
694-2466

LARGE TWO
bedroom, one bath, washer/dryer connections. Newly redecorated. \$295. 3012 West Michigan, 520-0118.

SAGEWOOD, 1/2 OFF 1st month rent. Quiet and clean. Full amenities. All appliances, a pool. 570-4884.

WHISPERING
OAKS: Exceptionally nice two bedroom, two bath, patio, free basic cable, covered parking, free laundry facility. Lots of closet space. \$450 per month. Located in beautiful quiet Whispering Oaks, 1904 North Midland Drive, 694-4001.

RENTED
COUNTRY APARTMENT for lease, \$350 plus utilities. All bills paid. Available livestock or horse stalls on premise. XXXX Rankin Hwy.

Find It! Buy It! Sell It!
682-6222

WILL BABY SIT in my home. Meals included. Call for references 699-6412

MOM WILL care for your young ones in my home. Great rates. Dependable. With References. For more information please call 694-1970.

Garage Sale
ZIP CODES
CO. RD. 60
100750 W.
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WADLEY
79703
NEELY
79701
SCHAUER
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MARTY'S MARKETPLACE

Leading you to the best bargains in Midland and the area!



Do you need to get rid of some of your extra goodies around the house? Don't want to spend a lot of cash?

*Marty's Weekday Special

3 Line Ad
1 Item Priced \$300 or Less
Monday through Thursday ONLY
\$4.00

Call or Fax Classifieds today to schedule your special Marketplace ad!

682-6222

Fax 682-6999

*Private Party merchandise ads only. 1 item per ad. Price must be in ad to qualify. Other restrictions may apply, ask consultant for details.

610 Household Furniture

10'X16' Storage buildings perfect for backyard. \$42 a month. Delivery/financing. 563-3108.

MUST SELL This week! Bargain! 14'x40' garage/workshop. Slight damage, will deliver. 563-3108.

4 RESTHAVEN Lots for sale, section F \$3,800 for all. 684-0030 after 7:30 p.m.

↓SOLD↓
ELECTRIC MOBILITY (handicap) Scooter. New batteries, also a lift to load/unload. \$1,200. Call XXX-XXXX.

↓NEW TODAY↓
BBQ Cookers like new with butane and covers. Chef's Choice by Sunbeam. \$100. Extra large charcoal, cost \$350 sell at \$200. 682-2074 after 5:30 weekdays, 9-5 Weekends.

POWERFUL NEW Immune Booster. Laboratory tested, proven 5 times more effective than any product known to the medical field. Free information packet: 1-800-925-5772.

↓SOLD↓
COKE MACHINE. In good shape. \$200. Please call xxx-xxxx for information.

↓NEW TODAY↓
20' REGULATION SHUFFLEBOARD. Excellent condition, extra pucks and sand. \$2,500. 683-2425.

BINGO, American Legion, 501 Airpark Road, Friday nights, games start at 8. Food, refreshments. 682-5511.

FOR SALE: Hooked on Phonics. \$50. Please call 687-1523 for more information.

↓NEW TODAY↓
ETHAN ALLEN coffee table. \$250. Brass lamps. \$25. Little Tikes: Country Kitchen. \$80. Beautyshop chair. \$10. Grocery cart. \$10. Schwinn 10 speed tour bike. \$50. 687-9937.

↓NEW TODAY↓
FOUNTAIN GARDEN Lots: #443 spaces 1&2. Resthaven Memorial Park. \$1,500 for both. Call 689-6769.

NEW YEAR 2000 Dressmaker School Model. Sew-N-Serge Free Arm, Zig-Zag Sewing Machine (never used) Heavy duty. Metal gears, 25 year warranty, first year free service in home, all stitches built-in, buttonhole, (any size) Blindhem, Overcast, Darn, Applique, Monogram, Embroidery, Much More. Elastic Stretch Decorative Stitches. These Dressmakers Are Designed To Sew All Fabric Without Adjustment. Levi, Upholstery, Quilting, Nylon, Silk, Stretch material, even Leather. You price with ad only \$688. Without ad Manufacturer's price \$699.95. Approved Credit, 12 months @ \$28 per month or \$288. Cash, Visa, etc. To see call Midland 915/563-8896 anytime.

↓SOLD↓
3 PIECE Queen Bedroom suite, armoire, night table, headboard with everything. \$350. xxx-xxxx

80% WAVELESS KING Size Waterbed mattress. Top of the line, two years old \$50. 697-9090

↓NEW TODAY↓
KING SIZE Waterbed, frame and brass headboard included. \$250. 686-8898.

↓NEW TODAY↓
TWO WHITE sofas, coffee table, two brass lamps. All excellent condition. Call 689-7923.

BEAUTIFUL BARNHART oval dining room table, cane back chairs, breakfast/ inlaid burling, beveled glass, Judy Jackson's Consignment Collection. Imperial Shopping Center.

↓SOLD↓
WASHER, Kenmore heavy duty plus, almond. \$150. Call xxx-xxxx.

COUCH FROM Bagwell's. Dark blue with gold, tan, scarlet and hunter green designs. \$475. 697-1335

THREE PIECE black leather living room 3 group and three piece glass and mirror table set \$900. Please call 683-7004 after 5pm.

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