



MONDAY MORNING

Ring bearers

When Juan and Norma Ramos were married 25 years ago, they eloped to Mexico. They didn't even have wedding rings./1B



SPORTS

Lady Dawgs

This past week confirmed just what a valuable role Heidi Lange has played for the MHS basketball team all season long./1C

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A.M. BRIEFING

TODAY
Partly cloudy
with high in
mid-50s.
Weather on 4A



AP Photo

The Maine

Navy cadets escort Key West, Fla., school children Sunday as they place flowers next to tombstones of sailors that lost their lives in the Feb. 15, 1898, explosion of the U.S.S. Maine in Havana Harbor. Twenty-four of the 266 sailors who died in the blast, that helped ignite the Spanish-American War, lay at rest in a U.S.S. Maine Memorial Plot in the Key West Cemetery. The memorial service was among activities staged in Key West, 90 miles from Havana, to commemorate the centennial anniversary.

Story page 7A

'Doonesbury'

To our readers: Beginning today, "Doonesbury," by Gary Trudeau, will appear Monday through Friday and Sunday on the Editorial Page.

Taylor's Liberia

MONROVIA, Liberia (AP) — For seven years, Charles Taylor was a ruthless warlord, commanding thousands of soldiers in a civil war that left much of Liberia in ruins. Now, he is the president. And six months after taking office, there are signs he has hung on to his old habits of tolerating no criticism and handing out harsh punishment to those who anger him.

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U.S. attack worries Iraq's neighbors

By Eileen Alt Powell
Associated Press

AMMAN, Jordan — Countries that border Iraq fear they would be the victims of economic and political fallout from an American attack aimed at forcing Saddam Hussein to cooperate with U.N. weapons inspectors.

Jordan, Turkey and Iran again may have to deal with huge waves of refugees, as they did — with almost no international help — during the 1990 Persian Gulf crisis and 1991 Gulf War.

Along with Syria, they have important trade links with Iraq. And all are watching with dismay as foreign tourists cancel reservations for what had been expected to be a lucrative spring season.

Only Kuwait, which hasn't forgiven Saddam for his 1990 invasion of the country, has offered to support an American-led military campaign.

Neighboring Saudi Arabia, which participated with the U.S.-led coalition that ended Iraq's occupation of Kuwait, won't even allow its military bases to be used this time. Neither will Jordan or Turkey.

None wants to get dragged into a conflict that most certainly would spread if Iraq retaliates by firing Scuds or other missiles at Israel — and Israel, as promised, responds with greater force.

"We all lived the burden of the (Gulf) War," Turkey's prime minister, Mesut Yilmaz, said earlier this month. "And we

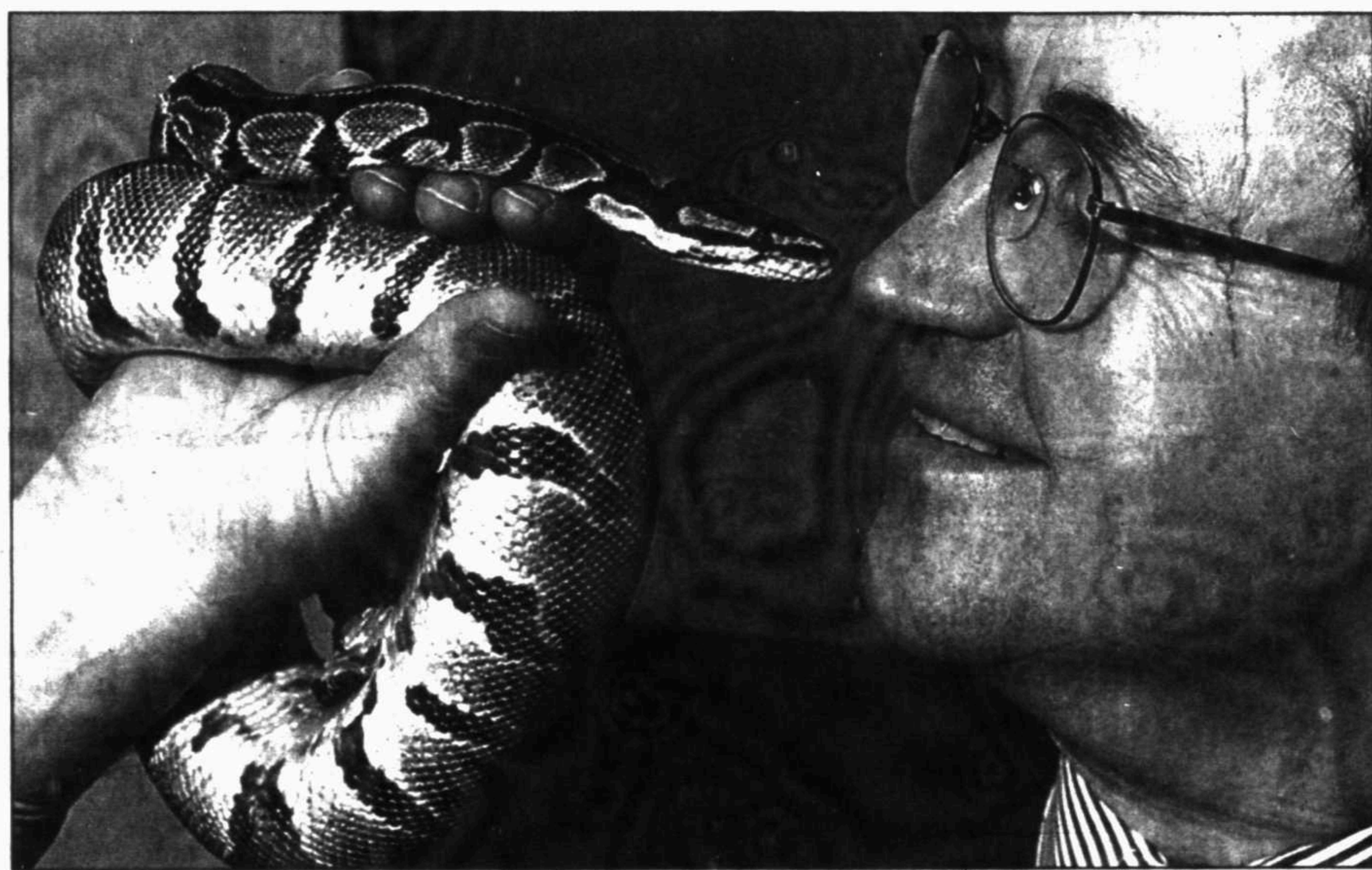
Please see IRAQ/4A



Palestinian youths burn a piece of cloth depicting the U.S. flag during a pro-Iraq demonstration Sunday at the Deheishe refugee camp near Bethlehem. Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza continued to show support for Iraq's Saddam Hussein.

AP Photo

All about Evie



Photos by Curt Wilcott/Reporter-Telegram

Stan Jacobs, associate vice president of instruction at Midland College, lets his pet python, Evie, make herself at home.

MC administrator takes his python everywhere he goes

By Amy Brasher
Staff Writer

A Midland College administrator may have found a new best friend, and it isn't a dog.

Every Wednesday, Stan Jacobs, associate vice president of instruction, walks from his office to the biology lab to pick up Evie, a 4-year-old, three-foot-long ball python. She rides to and from his office in a cardboard box labeled, "Driving Miss Evie."

While Jacobs tends to his usual business, Evie — whose name is derived from the biblical story of Adam and Eve — slithers around the office, curiously delving into anything she can. She has taken a liking to a marble sculpture that Jacobs made and often sleeps around it.

Evie has made herself at home, wrapping around Jacobs while he converses on the phone.

"One time, Evie began to squeeze around my arm, which

Please see SNAKE/4A



Jury to decide which is the real Diane Zamora

FORT WORTH (AP) — After two weeks of testimony, jurors this week must decide between sharply different portrayals of former midshipman and accused killer Diane Zamora.

Prosecutors say she's an obsessed and vengeful woman with no remorse about ordering her boyfriend to kill her romantic rival and then helping him.

Her attorneys, however, paint Ms. Zamora as a helpless victim trying to take the fall for her manipulative and domineering ex-fiance.

Ms. Zamora and boyfriend David Graham, a former Air Force Academy cadet, are accused of killing 16-year-old Adrienne Jones because of a one-time fling Graham had with Miss Jones.

Jurors were expected to hear closing arguments and begin deliberations in the capital murder case on Monday.

"In the end it may come down to who the jury believes — Diane Zamora or 5 witnesses, all of whom are somewhat credible," said Fort Worth defense attorney Bill Lane, who has watched the trial.

The defense has presented several witnesses and Ms. Zamora herself to give jurors the following account to consider:

Please see CADET/4A



AP Photo

Jurors must decide which portrayal of Diane Zamora is most convincing — killer or victim.

Crisis Intervention Unit seeks volunteers for training session

By Rick Lopez
Staff Writer

Mending hurt souls is not easy.

Some might think that a tragedy ends immediately after police arrive at the scene of mayhem, but any member of the Midland County Crisis Intervention Unit can tell you otherwise.

There are grieving family members who need counseling, rape victims who need a doctor, hungry children who need a meal and burned homes that need repair.

It's not an easy task, but it's one that fills a void in the hearts of 40 CIU volunteers, program coordinator Sue Slaton said.

"Everyone is looking for something out of this work," Ms. Slaton said. "Maybe they've been through a bad situation and they want to pass on what they've learned... or maybe they are thankful for what they have been given."

The unit is looking for people interested in participating in the next training. The first day of instruction will be held March 26 from 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. For six more weeks, training will be held every Tuesday and Wednesday from 6:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m.

During that time, the participants are part of a vigorous training program, which familiarizes them with criminal law, communication skills, local organizations and other resources.

Please see CRISIS/4A

FEB 16 1998

Liberian warlord becomes president and keeps some old habits

By Tim Sullivan
Associated Press

MONROVIA, Liberia — For seven years, Charles Taylor was a ruthless warlord, commanding thousands of soldiers in a civil war that left much of Liberia in ruins.

Now, he is the president. And six months after taking office, there are signs he has hung on to his old habits of tolerating no criticism and handing out harsh punishment to those who anger him.

Opposition politicians have been harassed, journalists have been arrested and radio stations closed. One of the country's most prominent opposition figures, a former Taylor ally, was murdered last year, and one of the men charged was an official in the government's secret police.

For some Liberians, the heavy-handedness threatens to overshadow the steps Taylor has taken to get the country going again and rebuild a feeling of national unity.

"I'm very worried about what could happen. The people who were doing the looting and fighting, now they're the security," said a Monrovia businesswoman.

"I'm very worried about what could happen," said a Monrovia businesswoman, who like most people who discussed the issue would speak only on condition her name not be used. "The people who were doing the looting and fighting, now they're the security."

Taylor, 50, is a Boston-educated descendant of freed American slaves who helped settle Liberia. He served in the government of former dictator Samuel Doe, fled to the United States when Doe charged him with embezzlement and broke out of a Massachusetts jail while fighting extradition. On Christmas Eve 1989, he led supporters into Liberia to begin a war against Doe's ethnic Krahn dictatorship.

The war, fought mostly by soldiers who were barely teen-agers, quickly degenerated into factional fighting that flared through cycles of brutal warfare and tenuous peace agreements. After seven years, about 200,000 people were dead and half the country's



2.6 million people were homeless. A peace treaty finally held, however, and Taylor was swept into power in July 1997 with a landslide election victory.

Taylor's years as a military commander were marked by tight control over his soldiers, and he appears to be keeping a close eye on post-war Liberia as well.

"I don't think much can happen in the country without Taylor knowing about it," said Kofi Woods, one of the country's best-known human rights activists.

The Special Security Service works out of the executive mansion. Its officers are a common sight in Monrovia's stores, bars and offices, swaggering men in well-pressed slacks carrying walkie-talkies.

While denying any intention to muzzle the press, Taylor's government has shut down a number of media outlets.

The most prominent independent radio station, Star Radio, was closed for nearly a month because of a disagreement about its license and for sending news on the Internet without permission.

The editor of an opposition newspaper was flogged for publishing an article alleging bad relations between a West African peacekeeping force and Liberia's police.

Another well-known journalist was arrested trying to report on

the funeral of Samuel Dokie, a Taylor opponent who was murdered with some family members late last year.

Taylor has decried Dokie's death and promised a full investigation. Four men are awaiting trial, but the main suspect, a regional secret police commander, escaped from prison before the trial.

Another major concern is Taylor's former militiamen are believed to dominate the security branches and there are worries they have been given little training in the ways of peace.

Government officials won't comment on the specific makeup of the security services. Reginald Goodridge, Taylor's spokesman, said the government has made sure to provide proper training and ensure the ranks include all of Liberia's ethnic groups.



A Liberian woman stands on the ledge of, what used to be, a hospital in Monrovia in far left photo where she and about 200 other displaced people have been living since the civil war began seven years ago. Left, Liberian President Charles Taylor sits on a throne with a traditional dancer sitting at his feet during a ceremony in Monrovia in this recent picture where Ghanaian immigrants crowned him Chief Okatakyle, "The Greatest of Warriors."

Goodridge also rejected accusations the government is heavy-handed. "We are going to uphold freedom of the press and human rights," he said. But he added that certain "sensationalist" reporting had to be stopped because it could spark renewed fighting.

"I don't think that's authoritarian," he said.

Even critics of the government's human rights record say a country emerging from such a bloody history cannot become a Western-style democracy overnight.

"We had war for seven years," Woods said. "People used to operating without question now must do things like deal with the press. So the transition will be painful."

There are positive signs. The peace accord has held, and crime slowly is being reined in.

A Liberian woman stands on the ledge of, what used to be, a hospital in Monrovia in far left photo where she and about 200 other displaced people have been living since the civil war began seven years ago. Left, Liberian President Charles Taylor sits on a throne with a traditional dancer sitting at his feet during a ceremony in Monrovia in this recent picture where Ghanaian immigrants crowned him Chief Okatakyle, "The Greatest of Warriors."

Taylor has appointed people from former enemy factions to his Cabinet and is negotiating with international lending institutions for money to rebuild the country. In Monrovia, Liberia's bullet-riddled capital, perhaps the

biggest change is a renewed sense of unity.

In a country that for years had a 10,000-man West African peacekeeping force to help keep things calm, former enemies now speak of governing together.

Some people worry that with the peacekeepers decreasing their presence — there are about 5,000 now, and their duties have been curtailed — violence could break out again.

Still, they are proud to be taking care of their own.

"It's time for Liberia to start rebuilding our country," said Ellis Peters, an unemployed construction worker. "Now, we are one people again."

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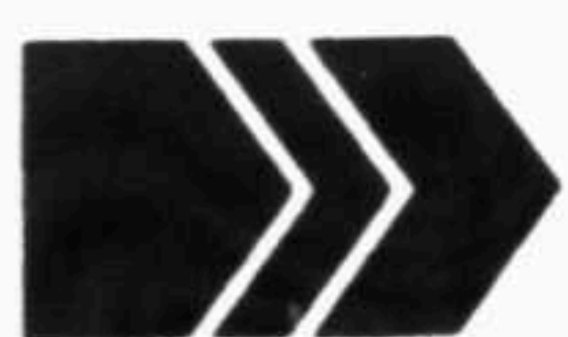
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Cuban prisoners freed for pope begin adjusting to life

By John Rice
Associated Press

HAVANA — After more than a year living in a cell with 48 thieves, drug addicts and killers, political dissident Hector Palacios spent the weekend in his small apartment trying to adjust again to freedom.

"One feels strange, one feels joyful," said Palacios, one of more than 300 prisoners Fidel Castro's government says it is freeing in response to an appeal by Pope John Paul II.

By Sunday, human rights activists here said they had confirmed the release of at least 36 political prisoners, though an unknown number of common criminals also have been freed due to health, age or other reasons.

With no official announcement of who was to be freed, uncertainty still gripped many families.

Jose Antonio Rodriguez, 78, hoped to hear word on the release of his twin sons, both jailed in October 1993 after forming a small political party. Rodriguez

traveled eight hours by train from eastern Cuba on Saturday to visit the home of human rights activist Elizardo Sanchez, who tracks political prisoners.

Sanchez' Cuban Committee of Human Rights and National Reconciliation listed almost 500 confirmed political prisoners in January, as well as more than 250 others whose status was uncertain.

"Until now, we haven't received any news," said Rodriguez, who rested in a chair among the peeling plaster in Sanchez' living room Saturday evening, awaiting a late night train to return home in hopes of finding his sons released.

For Palacios, a former government political officer, release came unexpectedly.

He said he was preparing for a visit from relatives Friday morning at the giant Eastern Combine Prison near Havana when guards ordered him to collect his belongings. "They didn't tell me anything," he said.

At first, he said, he thought he



Jose Angel Carrasco and his wife Lilian Mercedes Martell, walk through their home Sunday in Havana, Cuba. Carrasco who was among the 36 political prisoners recently freed by the Cuban government, was imprisoned for six years after helping publish a clandestine newsletter criticizing social and economic policies.

was being transferred to another prison. But after 2 1/2 hours, "we were told we were going to be pardoned."

Palacios leads one of the largest of the numerous small,

illegal dissident parties in Cuba, the Democratic Solidarity Party. He said the stay in prison — his second — would not deter him from political activity.

"Ideas don't die, as Fidel him-

self says, and I'm not going to leave Cuba," said Palacios, wearing a striped civilian shirt, slacks and rubber thongs.

He seemed relaxed as he sipped coffee and talked Saturday night, but he gazed intensely at the door when a knock sounded. It was a neighbor stopping to say hello.

Another freed prisoner, Jose Angel Carrasco, said his six-year stay in prison was enough.

"Continue with political activity? That is impossible. I would be a prisoner tomorrow," he said Sunday, resting at his apartment after being freed on Friday.

"My work is to express my thoughts openly now. But I am not thinking of organized political activity."

Carrasco, an economist at the government's central planning board, was imprisoned in March 1992 after helping publish a clandestine newsletter criticizing social and economic policies.

He too was held at the Eastern Combine, though after a year with 42 men in a mass cell, he was allowed to move to a factory on

the prison grounds making construction materials.

Carrasco and Palacios both said they were never beaten, though Carrasco said fights among other inmates crowded in his cell were often bloody. "I saw men die," he said.

Palacios said insects and rats were everywhere in the prison, food was sparse and sewage seeped through the ceiling of the 15-by-35 foot cell from a holding area for prisoners with AIDS on the floor above.

"When one is in prison, you have a way of living that is very different from that on the street ... the political prisoners have to live with the common prisoners," said Palacios.

While Carrasco was imprisoned, his daughter Legna emigrated to Miami — a step Carrasco, 53, said he hopes to follow, fearing his son also might one day wind up in prison if he stays.

"We don't fit in a system like this," said Carrasco.

Canada's high court tackles case: Can Quebec secede?

By David Crary
Associated Press

OTTAWA — Tackling one of the most volatile cases of its history, Canada's Supreme Court opens hearings Monday into whether Quebec has the right to secede unilaterally and form an independent nation.

If the court rules Quebec cannot secede without consent from the rest of Canada, it could trigger a backlash in the mostly French-speaking province that would intensify the already strong drive for independence.

"It will exacerbate political tensions," Quebec's separatist premier, Lucien Bouchard, said of a ruling restricting the province's options. "It will plunge us into a kind of political crisis."

Oral arguments are expected to last three to five days. A ruling is expected within six months.

The federal government of Prime Minister Jean Chretien, a Quebecer who opposes secession, initiated the case. Ever since the separatists' near-victory in a 1995 referendum on independence, Chretien has been struggling to find the best strategy for blunting their ambitions.

Last year, seeking to clarify the murky legal issues of secession, Chretien's government asked the

Supreme Court to rule on three questions.

■ Can Quebec unilaterally secede under Canada's Constitution?

■ Does international law give the province the right to secede?

■ If international and domestic law conflict, which takes precedence?

Chretien says he would not oppose independence for Quebec under certain circumstances — if a decisive majority of Quebecers voted for secession, if other provinces gave consent and if Quebec negotiated in good faith on the details of a split.

What the federal government opposes is the prospect of Quebec seceding without negotiations or on the basis of a narrow victory in a referendum involving an ambiguously worded question.

Quebec's separatist government refuses to participate in the court case, and its leaders insist that only Quebecers can choose their future.

"The last word belongs to Que-

bec democracy, the Quebec people," Bouchard told University of Montreal students last week.

"And what's this word? It's the word 'Yes,' pronounced in the next referendum."

He was alluding to his plans to hold another vote on secession, probably next year if, as expected, his Parti Quebecois wins a second term in power in a yet-to-be-scheduled provincial election.

Bouchard's disdain of the court case is widely shared in Quebec. Even Quebec federalists who oppose secession say the issue should be settled by voters, not judges.

Three of the nine Supreme Court justices are from Quebec, but all were appointed by federalist prime ministers.

Though Bouchard's government is boycotting the hearings, it will be represented by a court-appointed lawyer, separatist Andre Joli-Coeur. He intends to suggest that the Supreme Court refuse to answer the federal government's questions on the

grounds that these are matters for politicians to resolve.

Chretien has been annoyed by separatists' argument that the court hearings represent a potential usurpation of democracy. He noted that Quebecers had chances to vote on secession in 1980 and 1995, and opted each time to stay in Canada.

"They don't accept the will of the people of Quebec," he said on a radio talk show last week.

An intriguing subplot in the court case involves Quebec's aboriginals, who claim jurisdiction over the northern two-thirds of the province. Cree, Algonquin and Inuit leaders have intervened to argue that Quebec cannot secede without their consent, and that they would be entitled to remain part of Canada if the province declared independence.

About 83 percent of Quebec's 7 million people are French-speaking; the rest include long-established English-speaking Canadians and an array of more recent immigrants from other nations.

32 killed in three attacks in Algeria

ALGIERS, Algeria (AP) — Armed men killed 32 people in three weekend attacks in Algeria, including 17 people whose throats were slit, security forces said Sunday.

No one claimed responsibility for the attacks, but authorities lay the blame for violence wracking Algeria on Islamic insurgents trying to topple the military-backed regime.

A statement by the security forces, read on state-run radio, said armed men slit the throats of 17 people early Sunday near Sai-

da, 275 miles southwest of Algiers. Seven others were wounded in the attack, the radio said.

An estimated 75,000 people have been killed since the start of violence in 1992, triggered by an army decision to cancel legislative elections to thwart a likely victory by the Islamic Salvation Front, the main Muslim fundamentalist party, now outlawed. Authorities recently put the death toll at some 26,500, but that figure is widely regarded as far too low.

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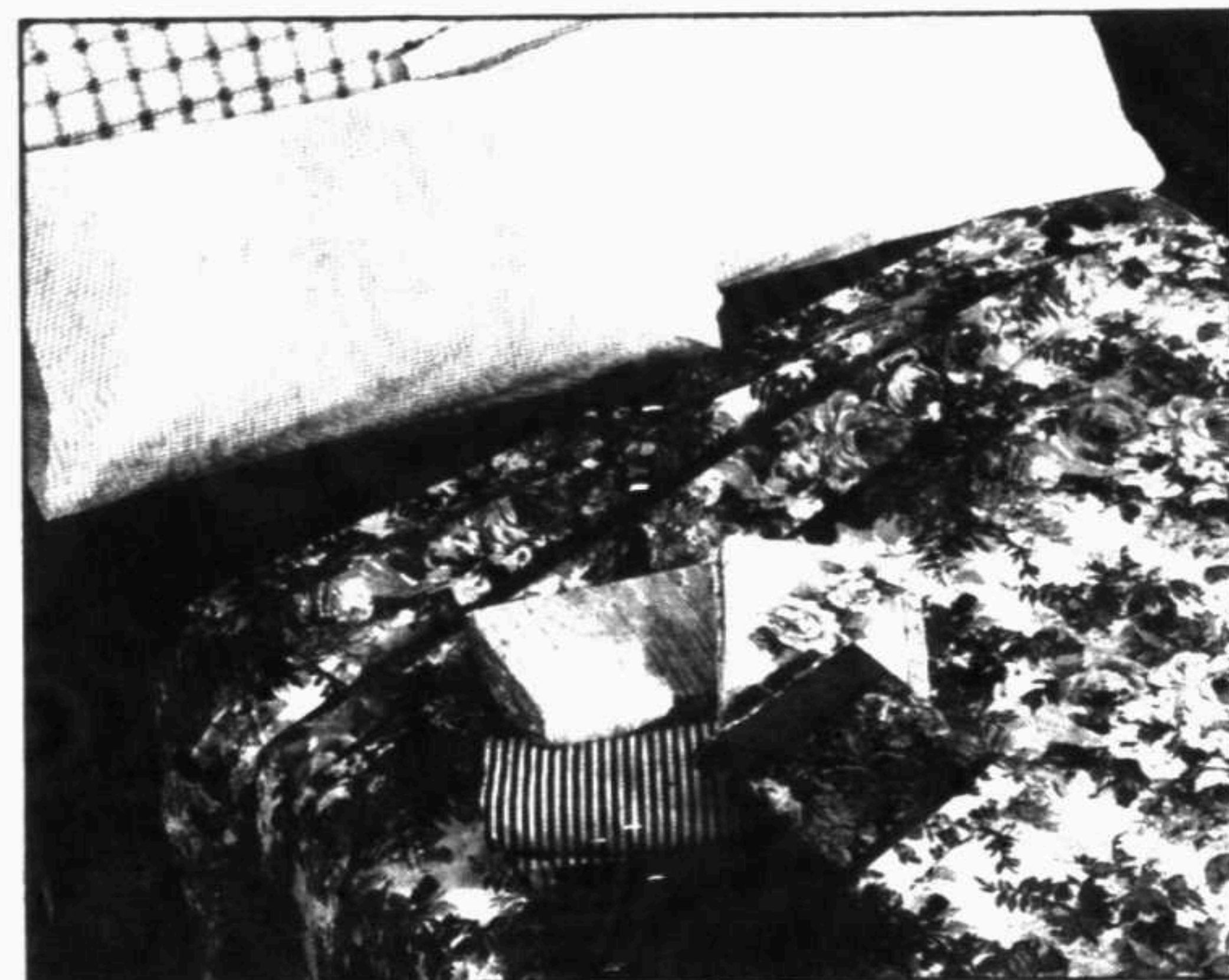
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Cleanup crews search for cause of Cameroon crash

YAOUNDE, Cameroon (AP) — Cleanup crews gathered corpses Sunday from around two charred oil tanker cars that derailed, exploded and caught fire, killing as many as 100 people outside Cameroon's capital.

The victims were mostly drivers who flocked to the ruptured tankers to scoop up the gushing oil to use in their cars. When the fuel ignited, flames engulfed the crowd of up to 5,000.

The circumstances of Saturday's accident were unclear.

State-controlled television reported the tankers ruptured after colliding with a second train. But investigators would not confirm that there had been a collision, or a second train. Reporters were barred from the scene.

Police investigator Robert Tiati Nlem said Sunday the tankers had been cut loose from their train and suggested they derailed on their own.

The train was delivering oil to a depot owned by the state-controlled Cameroon Petrol Depot Co. The two cars that derailed were detached from the train after company authorities refused to receive them because they were not full.

It was unclear why they were left loose on the tracks.

Oil company director general Jean-Baptiste Jineffa canceled a news conference scheduled for Sunday.

Police and soldiers were trying to disperse the crowd that had gathered when the cars caught fire.

"While the police were scuffling with the crowd, several people threatened to start a fire," Nlem said.

One witness said a discarded cigarette may have set off the explosion.

The government said the death toll was at least 84, although doctors and the city coroner's office said about 100 died.

Nlem's son was among the victims.

Doctors treated dozens of people for severe burns. Rescuers collected corpses and sent them to a nearby army base for identification.

The accident cut Yaounde's only rail artery and it could take days to restore train service to the city, state-run television reported.

Health system ailing across former Communist Bloc

BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP) — Across eastern Europe, the health system itself is ailing.

In some countries, patients must bring their own medicines and supplies. Everywhere, hospital buildings and medical equipment are decrepit. And everyone from doctors to janitors demand bribes before any work gets done.

Whether in Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic — countries on the short list for NATO and European Union membership — or in the more backward Balkan states, health care has been a low priority throughout the region since the collapse of communism.

Money is the biggest problem. Cash-strapped governments grappling with the shift from Marxism to the free market say they have nothing to spare for health care, particularly when international lenders insist they slash state budgets.

Even in Hungary, where the economy is comparatively buoyant, annual public spending on health care comes to roughly \$250 a person. In Germany it's \$2,500; in the United States \$3,200.

Mismanagement is another problem.

"Now we have doctors running hospitals who know nothing about running hospitals," says Dr. Florin

J. Russu, a U.S. Agency for International Development official in Bucharest, Romania. "They don't understand what 'private' means. They say they support 'reform,' but it has to stop outside their door."

Hospitals have staff laundries and painters instead of contracting such work out. The elderly and homeless take up beds because they have no other place to go. Brand-name medicines are ordered when cheaper generics would do.

"The mentality is very difficult to change," says Dr. Ioan Romosan, Romania's deputy minister of health. "You can't restructure like a factory, just shut down and start over new."

Large-scale privatization is out because only a few people could afford private health care in eastern Europe. Meanwhile, public hospitals and clinics are deep in red ink.

At 15, Ana Lucaci has undergone six operations since 1995 for a recurring tumor. A visit to a drab, chilly Bucharest children's ward finds her unusually happy. "This is the first week I don't have to share a bed with another patient," she says.

Free health care for all was one pillar of the communist system, and Soviet bloc countries made strides in prolonging life expectancy and reducing infant mortality.

Other communist features like cheap housing and education so far have largely survived the shift to capitalism.

But health care was deteriorating even before communism fell apart.

Ten years ago in Romania, hospitals were cold and unhygienic, while medicines and even food were scarce, Romosan says.

"It was quite the same, even worse than today," he says. "But it wasn't public. It didn't appear in the press, on TV."

Doctors, paid less than blue-collar workers by the communists on ideological grounds, have long demanded bribes — or "gratitude money," as Laszlo Z. Szabo, rector of Hungary's Medical School, calls it.

"It wasn't welfare or a high standard of living that created gratitude money, but poverty," he says.

Doctors still earn below the national average in most east European countries — the equivalent of \$200 a month in Hungary, \$75 in Romania.

Reform is supposed to boost those salaries. But many physicians and health care workers oppose change for fear of losing their extra — tax-free — money.

Doctors complain that health reform is in shambles, anyway. Hospitals incur huge debts just to

buy drugs or equipment.

"Every day there is a shortage of something," says Dr. Dinu Antonescu, head surgeon at Bucharest's Clinical Hospital for Orthopedics. "You have to improvise."

In Poland, the government's annual allocation for health care lasts only until July or August. After that, more debts pile up and patients often wait months for surgery.

"They are passing bureaucratic laws and regulations instead of giving more money to the health service," complains Dr. Klara Megyesi, an internal medicine specialist in Budapest, Hungary's capital.

In the fall, Romanian President Emil Constantinescu appealed for outside help.

"The price of medicine is at Western levels, but our financial resources aren't," he told leaders of Europe's conservative parties.

Governments are trying to cut costs. Hungary slashed 18,000 hospital beds. Romania's Health Ministry forced 27,000 layoffs last fall, including almost 1,700 doctors. Many hospitals across the Balkans require patients to bring their own food, linens and medicines — acquired abroad, on the black market or through connections.

Sinn Fein faces likely exit from peace talks

DUBLIN, Ireland (AP) — The IRA-allied Sinn Fein party faces the grim likelihood of expulsion from Northern Ireland peace talks after they resume Monday — a move that party leaders warn would fuel violence.

The threat of Sinn Fein's removal comes after two killings blamed by police on the Irish Republican Army, which is supposed to be observing a 7-month-old truce as the price for Sinn Fein's participation in talks.

The British and Irish governments and Northern Ireland's main Catholic party all toughened their opposition to the killings.

When talks open in Dublin on Monday, Britain's Northern Ireland secretary, Mo Mowlam, will present to the seven participating parties police evidence that the IRA killed drug dealer Brendan Campbell and Protestant militant Bobby Dougan. No one has claimed responsibility for the slayings.

"In peace talks no one wants to negotiate with a gun at their head," Mowlam wrote in Northern Ireland's main Sunday newspaper.

"That is why the Northern Ireland talks process is only open to

those committed to the principles of peace and democracy. And there can be no place in the negotiations for any party which demonstrably dishonors its commitment to those principles."

Last month Britain and Ireland expelled political representatives of the Ulster Defense Association, Northern Ireland's main pro-British paramilitary group, after it admitted taking part in sectarian killings that left eight Catholics dead.

The UDA representatives, called the Ulster Democrats, are expected to be readmitted at the end of this month, unless the UDA kills again.

This sets a precedent for expelling Sinn Fein. But Sinn Fein maintains that it doesn't represent the IRA, and the IRA refuses to confirm or deny involvement in the renewed killing.

Martin McGuinness, Sinn Fein's chief negotiator and a reputed former IRA chief, warned that Sinn Fein's absence from the negotiations for even a few weeks would create "a very dangerous... situation."

McGuinness refused to speculate whether it would goad the

IRA's seven-member ruling Army Council into formally resuming its 28-year guerrilla campaign against British rule in Northern Ireland.

But in a BBC television interview, he said that it might become "impossible for Sinn Fein to get back into these talks."

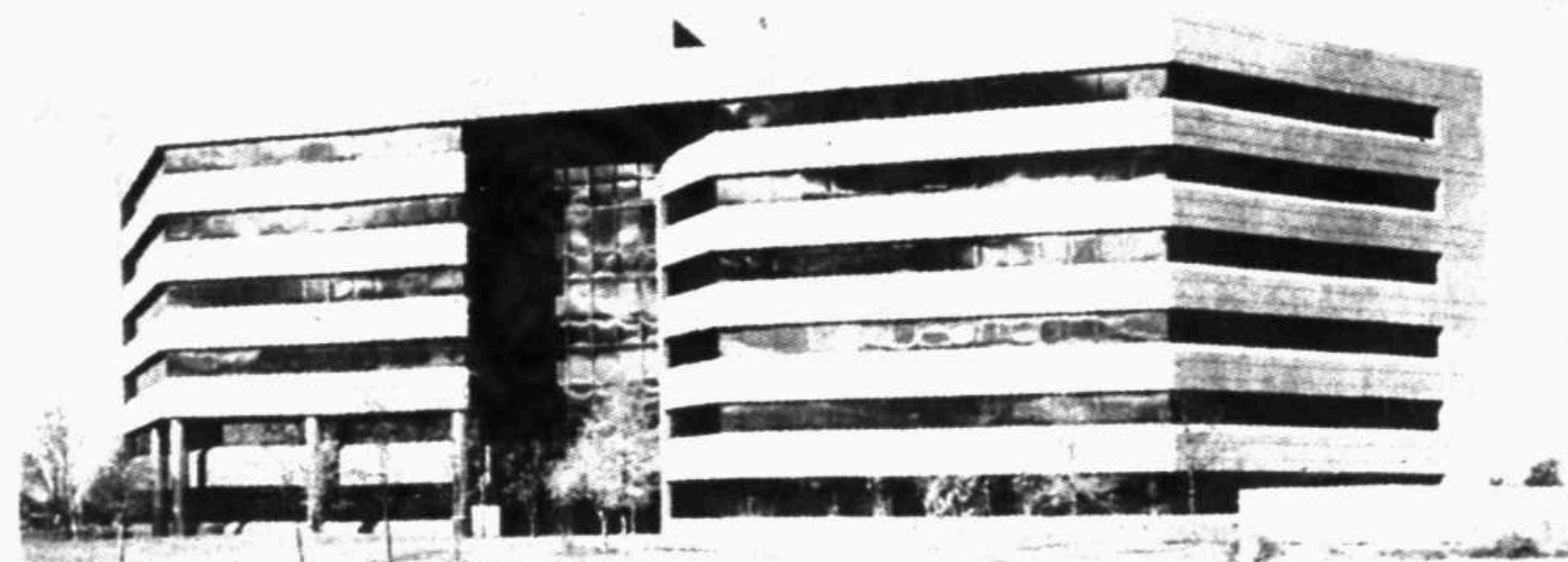
The Ulster Unionists, who represent about half of Northern Ireland's Protestant majority, warned they'll leave if Sinn Fein is allowed to stay. Since two other Protestant parties withdrew last September, this would leave the talks with virtually no Protestant representatives.

Letting Sinn Fein remain in the talks might also encourage the UDA to shoot more Catholic civilians in vengeance for the killing of Dougan, a UDA member.

John Hume, who leads the north's larger Catholic party, the moderate Social Democratic and Labor Party, said that if Mowlam presents "incontrovertible evidence" Monday of IRA involvement in the two killings, Sinn Fein should go.

"It's not a question of them being expelled from the talks. It's a question of them excluding themselves from the talks," Hume said.

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Malaysia urges Indonesia to put out fires on Borneo

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — Fearing a return of the haze that blanketed Southeast Asia last year, Malaysia appealed to Indonesia on Sunday to douse new forest fires on the island of Borneo.

The fires have burned 7,400 acres of forest, according to the national news agency, Bernama.

Forest fires in Indonesia last year spread haze over the region for months, especially in neighboring Malaysia where people were urged to stay indoors, reduce physical

activities and wear face masks while outdoors.

At the height of the crisis, schools, offices and factories were closed in the state of Sarawak on Borneo island, which Malaysia shares with Indonesia.

"We hope that the Indonesian authorities will take immediate legal action regarding the fires," said Mohamed Rahmat, chairman of the national disaster management and relief committee.

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Clinton annuity tax proposal ridiculous

The Clinton administration proposal to tax certain types of annuities, which along with IRA's and 401 (k) programs make up the bulk of what Americans save for their retirement years, is a ridiculous idea.

Perhaps President Clinton and some of those in his administration do not recall a few years back when Americans were noted worldwide for having a tremendously low savings rate. That was before individual retirement accounts, 401 (k) programs and other savings plans were promoted as a means of increasing savings.

Fortunately, the various savings plans found favor with American workers and now many have opted for one or more of the choices to increase their savings for retirement years. That's certainly a positive development.

But now along comes the Clinton administration with this half-baked idea of taxing annuities. And what happens if they do? Well, we think what will happen is that most Americans will pull out of the plans if the proposal goes through, knocking the props out from under the one real incentive that put American workers back into the business of saving for their retirement.

That would not only be ill-conceived, but downright dumb. It simply doesn't make sense to tax something that is intended to get people to save. What happens to the incentive?

The Clinton administration should drop this bad idea.

Perhaps President Clinton and some of those in his administration do not recall a few years back when Americans were noted worldwide for having a tremendously low savings rate. Fortunately, various savings plans, including annuities, found favor with American workers.

ANOTHER VIEW

Execution brought different reactions

A young mother and her family were captured by a film crew in town for the execution of Karla Faye Tucker. She was asked about the effect of this execution on the community of Huntsville.

We're more interested in the opening of the new grocery store, she said.

It is likely though unfortunate that the answer this woman gave — that Huntsville is more interested in the longterm effects of its newly opened Brookshire Brothers than it is in the execution of a female ax murderer — does nothing to dispel the perception of a callous community that stands by while an inhumane, even cruel and unusual, punishment is carried out.

It is unfortunate because it can be taken as evidence that Huntsville has more elemental concerns on its collective minds than lofty ones such as punishment and redemption.

There is little wonder why Huntsville would rather concentrate on the positive — quality of life, economic prosperity and variety — rather than dwell on the negative, especially when we have no control over it. We couldn't stop Karla Faye Tucker 14 years ago and we couldn't stop what happened to her last night (Feb. 3).

Regardless of our position on the death penalty — and we believe that to be varied rather than unanimous in Huntsville — we are united in our desire either to be known for who we really are or to be simply left alone.

— The Huntsville Item

JACK ANDERSON

New man begins to sort out IRS cyber mess

You catch more flies with honey than you do with vinegar, or so the saying goes. That certainly seems to be the new operating theory at the Internal Revenue Service, which has taken a public-relations beating over the past year over a multitude of issues, including its abusive treatment of taxpayers.

Now, the IRS seems on the verge of a comeback. But it may not have happened had the agency not invited one of its harshest critics into its inner circle.

It's been two years since the IRS announced, with great fanfare, that it was developing a revolutionary program that would give taxpayers the ability to file their returns directly to the government using their home computers.

CyberFile was supposed to be the crown jewel of the agency's modernization efforts. Instead it failed miserably. Congressional investigators from the General Accounting Office eventually discovered that the program was plagued by a host of security weaknesses that would have left confidential taxpayer information vulnerable to the prying eyes of hackers.

The man who headed the GAO's investigation was Len Baptiste, a 20-year GAO veteran who didn't mince words when he briefed us on the mess.

"It really fell short, to tell you the truth," he told our associate Aaron Karp. "We found 49 weaknesses (in the CyberFile security structure). It was a no-

hope situation."

Frustrated congressmen quickly pounced on the IRS, deriding its modernization efforts as a total "fiasco." They quickly concluded that IRS officials were incapable of reforming the agency from within. Outside experts would have to be brought in.

A bill that passed the House last fall — and is expected to sail through the Senate this year — will force the IRS to hire an outside board of directors drawn mainly from the private sector. Even the Clinton administration decided to back the proposal, conceding that things were out of hand at the agency. So the stubborn bureaucracy at the IRS has been forced to change its insular ways. And one of its first moves was to hire Baptiste to run its Office of Systems Standards and Evaluation — which is tasked with making sure the agency's computers are secure. Baptiste left the GAO last January, after 22 years, to help change the culture of incompetence that has become an IRS trademark in recent years.

Judging by Baptiste's testimony last week before a Senate subcommittee, times already are a-changing at the agency.

Rather than relying on its thin pool of in-house talent, Baptiste told the subcommittee, the IRS is now actively looking for outside advice on how to make its computers safe.

"SSE is ... utilizing contractor support in areas where even more specialized skills can help the IRS," he told lawmakers. He added that one contractor is providing the agency with "state-of-the-art practices to better recognize and prevent hostile attacks."

Baptiste's performance drew good reviews from the senators, many of whom have been quick to lash out at the agency for its repeated slip-ups over the



Anderson



WILLIAM SAFIRE

Talking-points paper is smoking gun

WASHINGTON — Like the purloined letter in Edgar Allan Poe's story, the smoking gun in the most recent Clinton scandal is in plain sight.

The evidence that strikes dread in the White House is a three-page document called "the talking points." Nobody has yet disputed that Monica Lewinsky gave the points to Linda Tripp to influence her testimony about a third woman, Kathleen Willey, in preparations for the Paula Jones trial.

Tripp had said publicly that she saw Willey, lipstick smeared and blouse untucked, in the White House after what Willey claimed was a pass made at her by the president. The purpose of the "talking points," transmitted by Lewinsky, was to get Tripp to change her story in an affidavit.

The person or persons unknown who drafted or dictated the talking points urged Tripp to swear to a more recent conversation with Willey. "As a result of my conversation with her and subsequent reports that showed she had tried to enlist the help of someone else in her lie that the president sexually harassed her," the talking-pointer directed Lewinsky to suggest that Tripp say, "I now do not believe that what she claimed happened really happened. I now find it completely plausible that she herself smeared her lipstick, untucked her blouse, etc."

White House aides know that few young interns use phrases like "subsequent reports." Question: Who was the talking-pointer? He or she or they seem to have been suborning perjury, tampering with a witness and using Monica Lewinsky as an accessory in obstructing justice.

That helps explain why immunity talks broke down. Lewinsky's lawyers were reported ready to have her assert a sexual relationship with the president, which is no crime, but were apparently not willing to let her identify the person who may have enlisted her in a conspiracy to suborn perjury, which

is a crime.

It also explains the existential dread palpable in the White House today, despite the bravado of the counterattack and the public's laudable aversion to invasion of privacy. The author of the talking points will likely be found, in real danger of going to jail, and may not want to go alone or for long.

Why did the talking-pointer take the chance of using the intern Lewinsky as a conduit for changing Tripp's testimony about Willey?

Because the Willey episode, if it occurred as initially described, could be a presidency-breaker. The Lewinsky affair (if it was not all a figment of her imagination) was consensual and could be forgiven by a cluck-clucking but prosperous majority. But when a job applicant is grabbed and fondled by an executive, chief or otherwise, that's outright sexual harassment. And because this applicant's testimony is given reluctantly, it's especially damning.

Is it any wonder that Monica Lewinsky's help was urgently sought? Not only was she needed to deny any relationship of her own, but to transmit a document that would shape another's sworn testimony. Having placed her in such a key position, the talking-pointer was eager to meet her career demands.

That in turn could explain the heat on Vernon Jordan to repeat his Webster Hubbell benefaction and to get her a job outside Washington. It could explain the spectacle of our U.N. delegate, Bill Richardson, making a pilgrimage to her Watergate apartment building with his staff to offer this former intern a job in his New York office.

Can you legally offer someone a federal job in consideration for valuable private service — such as keeping quiet or influencing a witness' testimony — that the employee will perform? Those in the offering chain aware of such a deal may run afoul of Section 211 of the Criminal Code, "acceptance or solicitation to obtain appointive public office."

Existential dread in the White House is the feeling of standing atop the world on a trap door. I remember that feeling. "Things are in the saddle and ride mankind."

William Safire's column is distributed by the New York Times News Service.

DOONESBURY



years. It seems as if the IRS may soon have security measures in place that are up to the task of protecting computers that are charged with accounting for \$1.4 billion each year.

STRANGE BEDFELLOWS — Sens. Robert Byrd, D-W. Va., and Phil Gramm, R-Texas, are usually on the opposite sides of most budget issues. Byrd never met a pork-barrel project he didn't like, and Gramm has made a career out of criticizing wasteful spending. But these two unlikely allies are now teaming up to drive their fellow senators crazy.

Congress has until May 1 to approve a new highway bill that will set a five-year blueprint for all highway spending. But Gramm and Byrd recently drove a wedge into the negotiations with a plan that would force the government to abandon the dishonest practice of looting the highway trust fund for other uses. Critics complain that Gramm's bill is nothing but pork — an attempt to spend an additional \$20 billion a year on roads when the expenditure isn't needed. Gramm sees it as a matter of simple justice.

"Between 25 and 30 cents of every dollar of gasoline taxes ends up being spent on general government," Gramm complains. "Sen. Byrd and I believe that's dishonest. ... I liken (Budget Committee Chairman Sen. Pete) Domenici's, R-N.M., opposition to a rustler who's been stealing your cattle, and you catch him. You say, 'OK, forget about it. We're not going to make you give back the cattle that you stole, just don't steal any more.' And Domenici says, 'Well, where am I going to get my beef?' Well, that's not my problem. That's his problem."

Jack Anderson and Jan Moller's column is distributed by United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

CHARLEY REESE

Problems arise on trying to explain Lewinsky case

To understand what is going on in Washington, D.C., it will be helpful to separate facts from allegations in the Monica Lewinsky affair.

Here are the facts, not allegations:

1. Lewinsky was an intern at the White House, and later, the White House placed her in a job at the Pentagon.

2. Lewinsky made at least three dozen trips to the White House after moving to the Pentagon but not for any reason related to her job.

3. Lewinsky denied in a sworn affidavit that she had a sexual relationship with President Clinton.

4. Lewinsky said on the tapes that she did have an affair, and she implied that Clinton and his pal, Vernon Jordan, persuaded her to lie in the affidavit.

5. Jordan personally drove her to an attorney's office in Washington and personally called Revlon, in New York, which offered her a job.

6. Bill Richardson, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, invited Lewinsky to breakfast and offered her a job with the delegation in New York.

7. William Ginsburg, her expensive lawyer, told a reporter from the Israeli newspaper Yedioth Ahronot that neither he nor Lewinsky want Clinton forced from office because "Clinton is very positive toward Israel and the Jews, and Monica and I are Jews."

All of the above are facts that no one has denied. The questions to be answered are explanations for the facts. Nothing in human affairs happens without a cause or a reason. There is a reason why Jordan was helpful, why Lewinsky was given a security clearance and a Pentagon job, why Richardson invited her to breakfast and offered her a job.

And what has it all got to do with Clinton's attitude toward Israel and Jews? Is Ginsburg trying to protect Clinton?

Only two people, Clinton and Lewinsky, know the truth, and both of them are refusing to talk.

If you assume that Clinton is innocent of both an affair and of attempting to persuade someone to lie under oath, then there must be some reasonable explanation for the following:

1. How did a 21-year-old intern with limited work experience get so much help in furthering her career from the White House, from a U.S. ambassador and from one of Washington's most high-powered power brokers?

2. Why did she say one thing in the affidavit and the opposite to her friend and confidante?

3. Why is she seeking immunity from prosecution? It is not a crime to fib to your friends.

4. Why has Clinton refused to give a reasonable explanation of the facts? If in fact he did nothing improper, then telling the truth could not possibly incriminate him or cause him any harm. On the contrary, it would do him great good.

I believe, of course, that Clinton is a sleaze, that he did have the affair and that he did encourage her to lie about it. We know from the past that when Clinton says, "I never told anybody to lie," he probably means he never used the word "lie."

Even if you disagree, you should not be taken in by the White House propaganda campaign that Mrs. Clinton is orchestrating and leading. Seriously now, when she tells the American people, "We just have to wait until the facts come out," she is insulting our intelligence.

Presumably, she sleeps with all the facts every night, and if the facts were not damaging, she would be sharing them with the public. Instead, she is leading the White House's normal modus operandi of attack, which is to deny, stonewall and slime all critics.

Clinton is still in trouble even if the pollsters don't believe it.

Charley Reese's e-mail address is OSOREeseaol.com

Charley Reese's column is distributed by King Features Syndicate Inc.

Disp

By Richard P. Associated Press

NEW YORK — The U.S. Navy's first aircraft carrier to strike at a naval museum Sunday to Maine" and debut 100 years power.

The historic lost on Jerry curator of the Space Museum retired Worn carrier on the waterfront.

"We've com years," he said was on Feb. 15. tleship USS M Havana harbor Spanish-American also was a tiny portions."

The American down to Cuba rebels who Spanish colon The explosion and sailors,

U.S.

By Robert B. Associated Press

WASHINGTON — American served through work of prison ing the Korean secret U.S. reports, which many died in nutrition or la

Rumors have that China, w North Korea's war, took large captives for indoctrination na and never a

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Display of artifacts marks 100 years since Spanish-American War

By Richard Pyle
Associated Press

NEW YORK — As two American aircraft carriers loitered in the Persian Gulf, awaiting orders to strike at Iraq, visitors to a naval museum were asked on Sunday to "Remember the Maine" and the United States' debut 100 years ago as a global power.

The historical analogy was not lost on Jerry Roberts, senior curator of the Intrepid Sea Air Space Museum, housed in a retired World War II aircraft carrier on the Hudson River waterfront.

"We've come full circle in 100 years," he said, recalling that it was on Feb. 15, 1898, that the battleship USS Maine blew up in Havana harbor, triggering the Spanish-American War. "That also was a tiny war of global proportions."

The American ship was sent down to Cuba in support of Cuban rebels who were fighting their Spanish colonists.

The explosion killed 267 officers and sailors, but it was never

determined what caused it. An underwater bomb, a boiler explosion and spontaneous combustion in a coal bunker are all possibilities.

But the slogan, "Remember the Maine," and inflammatory reports blaming the "perfidious Spanish" fanned sentiment for the "splendid little war" that heralded America's emergence as a world power.

A four-month conflict freed Cuba from Spanish rule and made Puerto Rico a possession of the United States. It also made a hero out of Theodore Roosevelt, who led a famous charge at San Juan Hill in Santiago.

That the United States in those days could marshal an army and

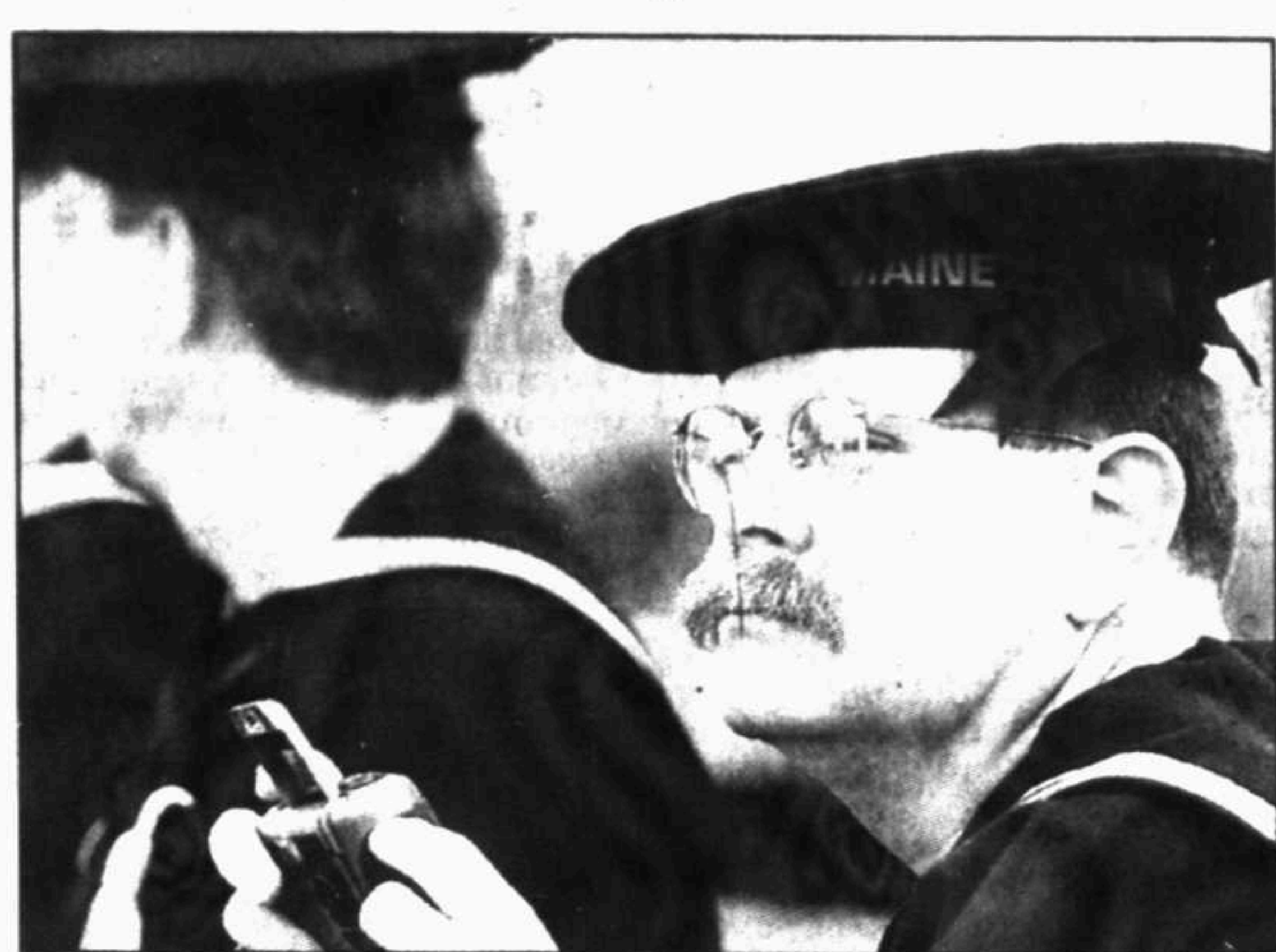
a navy capable of winning simultaneous victories as far apart as Cuba, Puerto Rico and the Philippines was remarkable, Roberts said.

A hundred years later, the United States still finds itself in foreign waters.

"It's the same sort of thing now — bring our ships over to your coast and say, 'Don't fool with us,'" he said.

To mark the Maine anniversary, the Intrepid museum opened a special display, featuring two bronze "In Memoriam" plaques cast from the sunken wreck of the Maine, and a one-ton wooden figurehead from the hull of the USS New York, a cruiser that saw action in the three-month Spanish-American War.

The hand-carved bow ornament, featuring an eagle and flags and designed to bring the



Great Lakes Living History Society member Bill Munday, of Lincoln Park, Mich., wears a vintage naval uniform as he takes pictures prior to the start of memorial services for the USS Maine Sunday at The Key West Cemetery. The re-enactors were on hand to provide a 21-gun salute, for the battleship that sunk 100 years ago today.

New York good luck, was removed from the ship's bow in 1907 and stored in a warehouse and museum in Washington state

for decades. It is believed to be the last surviving ship's figurehead from the 19th century Navy.

On Sunday, Intrepid president and CEO Donald Gardner opened the exhibit by smashing a bottle across a 20-foot wooden replica of the New York's bow, mounted with the old figurehead.

The museum display also featured a 700-pound bronze ship's bell from the cruiser USS Brooklyn, which saw service in the Spanish-American war.

While the Spanish-American War cost Spain its empire — Cuba, though nominally independent, became a virtual American satellite; the Philippines and Puerto Rico became the United States' first foreign possessions.

"All Americans know of it today is 'Remember the Maine' and Teddy Roosevelt and the Rough Riders," Roberts said. "It was a real war, in which men died. It's a forgotten war, but a pivotal war for us — it came right at the balance of our history and set us up at the dawn of the 20th century as a power to be reckoned with, a growing superpower."

U.S. intelligence tracked U.S. POWs in secret Chinese camps

By Robert Burns
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Hundreds of American servicemen were shuttled through a clandestine network of prison camps in China during the Korean War, say former U.S. Army intelligence reports, which speculate that many died in captivity from malnutrition or lack of medical care.

Rumors have persisted for years that China, which intervened on North Korea's side in the 1950-53 war, took large numbers of U.S. captives for interrogation and indoctrination in camps inside China and never accounted for them.

Declassified reports in the files of the Army's assistant chief of staff for intelligence now make clear that the United States knew of the prisoners, closely tracked their movements and feared for their lives.

On a visit to Beijing in January, Defense Secretary William Cohen asked top Chinese officials to open People's Liberation Army record archives and other files that might help account for missing U.S. servicemen.

About 8,100 are unaccounted for from the Korean War.

Cohen got no explicit assurances from President Jiang Zemin, but a Cohen aide present in the meetings said lower-level Chinese officials indicated Jiang's nonresponse should be interpreted as tacit acceptance.

China has consistently maintained that all POW questions were settled at the end of the war.

Chinese troops entered the fray in the fall of 1950 in a surprise offensive that killed and captured thousands of U.S. and other United Nations troops.

It has been well documented that China, with Russian help, ran most of the POW camps in North Korea. Less well understood has been the extent of POW camps in China and what became of American and other prisoners held there.

"One of the most significant features in U.N. POW treatment and policy is the movement of U.N. POWs into Manchuria and into South China," an Army intelligence summary dated Dec. 15, 1951, said. Its unidentified author added that he believed "Manchurian camps house a great many U.S. POWs, and Manchuria is a staging area or collecting point for U.S. POWs."

The report is one in a series of eight written at regular intervals during the war by Army intelligence officers attempting to track POW movements. Each is titled "UN Prisoners of War Camps and Conditions in Korea, Manchuria and China," and labeled "secret." They were declassified in 1996 at the request of Mark Sauter, a New York-based reporter for the syndicated TV program Inside Edition, but were not publicized until now.

The Dec. 15, 1951, report said a "careful assessment" of available intelligence on prison camps led to the conclusion that about 2,500 American POWs were being held in Manchuria, about 1,500 in

other parts of China.

"Specially selected groups are sent to China in relatively small numbers to undergo political indoctrination," the report said. "Of those POWs processed in Manchuria, the ones not going to China are apparently being sent to mines and labor camps in Manchuria itself."

"Because of obvious diplomatic complications ... it follows that the communists would neither wish to return these men to U.S. control nor admit to their existence at this time," the report said. It cited "almost conclusive evidence" that some POWs were being supervised by Soviets.

"These factors, together with the usefulness of U.S. POWs in a slave labor capacity, render the ultimate fate of any U.S. personnel in

Manchurian camps in grave doubt," the report said.

Intelligence reports often are based on information from sources whose reliability is questionable, and wartime reports often contain errors and misunderstandings. Even so, the Army intelligence documents leave little doubt that the Chinese prison camps existed and that Americans were held in some.

A report dated June 20, 1952, said more than 1,000 American POWs were held in a former military prison outside Nanking, now called Nanjing.

"A Russian colonel named Nokolov is in charge. All POWs 20-25 years old. Brought here from Peking (Beijing) in December 1951 for re-education in communist thought," the report said.

citing a source rated as "fairly reliable."

A Feb. 15, 1952, report said without elaboration that about 500 POWs at a camp 10 miles east of Mukden, China, were being indoctrinated "pending dispatch to USSR."

The Aug. 20, 1952, installment said POWs were grouped according to perceived political leanings. Those judged by the Chinese to be promising for anti-Western propaganda were kept in what the Army described as "peace camps."

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McCain demands deadline for strike on Iraq, others urge delay

By Jim Abrams
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Sen. John McCain said it's time for President Clinton to set a deadline for Saddam Hussein to back down or face U.S. military might. Other lawmakers insisted Sunday the president not act without a vote of support from Congress, which is on vacation next week.

"The president's got to set a deadline, and Saddam Hussein has to understand it," said McCain, R-Ariz., a senior member of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

He said on "Fox News Sunday" that the current standoff — threats by the United States to use force unless Saddam gives uncondition-

al access to U.N. weapons inspectors — gives Iraqi President Saddam an "equal place in the world forum" and "continues to erode our credibility."

But Defense Secretary William Cohen, appearing on ABC's "This Week with Sam and Cokie," said a specific deadline is not needed because "Saddam Hussein knows he's been in violation of his obligation for some time now." The president, Cohen said, "will decide if and when diplomacy has failed."

White House National Security Adviser Sandy Berger, on NBC's "Meet the Press," also said the administration "has been very careful not to set an artificial deadline." Repeating what other administration officials have said in recent weeks, he said the time-

line for commencing military action is "not measured in days but it's also not measured in months."

With Russia, France, China and other nations openly opposed to military strikes, the administration continued to campaign for international backing. Clinton talked Sunday with the prime ministers of Austria and Belgium and the emirs of Bahrain and Kuwait to coordinate Iraqi policy, White House officials said.

Other lawmakers on the Sunday news programs said military strikes should at least wait until Congress returns Feb. 23 from its Presidents Day recess and passes a resolution supporting military action. Differences over the language of such a resolution stopped Senate and House action last week.

"An attack would be an act of war," Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa., said on Fox. "And only the Congress has the authority to authorize that."

"I agree completely," said Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill. "The American people have to be in on this decision through their elected representatives."

Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Texas, said the president needs to explain what he will do beyond military strikes to interrupt the cycle of continual threats from Saddam. "I think if we're going to show the clear commitment to take these weapons of mass destruction away from this despot, we've got to take the second step," she said.

Hutchison, on CBS' "Face the Nation," said that could include

setting up a Radio Free Iraq and extending the no-fly zone over the country. U.S. warplanes currently are enforcing a ban on Iraqi aircraft activity in the country's northern and southern sectors.

Others have suggested that Saddam should be personally targeted. The Los Angeles Times reported Sunday that the FBI conducted a top-secret criminal investigation of a CIA attempt to murder Saddam in 1995.

Berger declined comment, as did FBI and CIA spokesmen asked by The Associated Press, but Berger pointed out that President Ford signed an executive order that remains in place barring U.S. government attempts to assassinate foreign leaders.

Berger and Cohen also neither

confirmed nor denied a report in U.S. News & World Report quoting a study by a House task force on terrorism that claims Iraq has built chemical weapons plants in Sudan, transferred nuclear materials to Algeria and sent scientists to Libya to work in a biological warfare complex.

"If it's true it only gives validity to the charge that has been made for some time now" that Saddam has chemical and biological weapons, Cohen said. "To the extent that this report is accurate, that contradicts the bold-faced lie that he has been telling."

Other administration officials, speaking on condition of anonymity to the AP, CBS and ABC, discounted the significance of the report.

Berger says no ulterior motive in meeting with John Travolta

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton's chief security adviser dismissed suggestions that the administration became involved in the Church of Scientology's disputes with the German government to influence Scientology John Travolta's portrayal of a Clintonesque president in a movie.

"The only thing I was trying to get was an autograph for one of my kids, but other than that I had no ulterior motive," National Security Adviser Sandy Berger said Sunday, discussing his meeting last year at the White House with a Church of Scientology delegation, including Travolta.

"I did meet with a delegation including Mr. Travolta to indicate that we would continue to discuss with the German government our belief that one should not be discriminated against on the basis purely of belief," Berger said on NBC's "Meet the Press."

The magazine George, in its March edition, quoted Travolta as saying that Clinton had told him that "I'd really love to help you with your issue in Germany with Scientology" and that the White House had later arranged for him to meet Berger.

Travolta also told the magazine that Clinton took no other specific action and did not mention Travolta's role as a presidential candidate closely resembling Clinton in the upcoming movie "Primary Colors."

Asked if the White House was hoping, by helping Travolta on the Scientology issue, to have the movie treat the presidential character more favorably than in the best-selling book, Berger said, "it sounds to me that you are developing your own conspiracy theories here."

The administration first raised questions about the German government's treatment of Scientologists in 1996. In its 1997 human rights report, the State Department pointed out that Scientologists can be banned from German political parties, and business people who are members of the church can face government-approved discrimination and boycotts.

The German government contends the church is a moneymaking organization with some traits of organized crime, and as such represents a threat to democracy.

Latest research suggests babies learn vocabulary in first year of life

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Careful what you say. Baby's listening.

Research into infants and language suggests that babies begin to pick up speech and can even tell apart different languages at a very early age. By 7 1/2 months, it seems, a baby can consistently tell the difference between some sound-alike words, such as "cut" and "cup."

Psychologists described recent insights into baby talk Sunday at a meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. They are trying to tease apart the milestones in learning speech, such as when babies can tell the cadence of one language from another, when they start to identify words in the babble of sound and when they begin to form these words into sentences.

Lila Gleitman of the University of Pennsylvania said that until about age 18 months, babies learn roughly one word every three days. Even then, they often are a little hazy about what they mean. The infant who gleefully yells "Daddy!" to every man on the street is just one potentially embarrassing example of this.

However, by the time they are a year-and-a-half, babies begin to put together their first simple two-word sentences. And Gleitman said research suggests this acquisition of grammar is the key to rapidly learning new words.

From then on, Gleitman said, people typically learn 10 words a day, 3,500 or so words a year, until about age 30.

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HUMOR ON THE SIDE

Late Night Lines

In what has to be a record, Monica Lewinsky's attorney, William Ginsburg, was on all five Sunday morning news shows, even Johnnie Cochran's going, "Will you shut up?"

This week Saddam Hussein invited Newt Gingrich to visit Iraq. You think Clinton was tempted to bomb Iraq before, wait'll Gingrich gets there.

You all excited about the Winter Olympics on Friday? The Olympics kind of always remind me of the Republican Convention. Ten thousand people devoting their lives to getting as much gold as possible.

Mike Tyson wants out of his contract with Don King because he's broke. I'm not even a Tyson fan, I gotta feel sorry for the guy. Guy made \$112 million in three years working with Don King and now he's broke. So that's why he bit Evander Holyfield. He wasn't mad, he was hungry.

Yesterday, the United States Senate voted to rename Washington Airport after Ronald Reagan. To help celebrate, every year on Reagan's birthday they're gonna fire all the air traffic controllers.

Prince Charles is recovering from a broken rib after falling off a horse. Apparently what happened was, he was out riding his horse, something went wrong, he got ejected from the horse, and on the way down one of his ears failed to open. By the time he pulled the cord on his emergency ear, he was already on the ground.

Have you seen that Ensure commercial where the little girl is sitting on a bench with an old man and she says, "Grandpa, can I marry you?" At first I thought it was a TV movie about Woody Allen and Soon-Yi.

— Jay Leno

Youthful zeal

A young businessman had just started his own firm. He'd rented a beautiful office and had it furnished with antiques. Sitting there, he saw a man come into the outer office. Wishing to appear the hot shot, the businessman picked up the phone and started to pretend he had a big deal working. He threw huge figures around and made giant commitments. Finally he hung up and asked the visitor, "Can I help you?" The man said, "Yeah, I've come to activate your phone lines."

Country Song Titles

Compiled by Bill Atchley
(atchley@coltrane. nets.ncsu.edu)

Get Your Biscuits In The Oven And Your Buns In The Bed

Get Your Tongue Outta My Mouth 'Cause I'm Kissing You Goodbye

Her Teeth Were Stained, But Her Heart Was Pure

How Can I Miss You If You Won't Go Away?

I Changed Her Oil, She Changed My Life

I Don't Know Whether To Kill Myself Or Go Bowling

I Fell In A Pie Of You And Got Love All Over Me

I Would Have Wrote You A Letter, But I Couldn't Spell Yuck

I Wouldn't Take Her To A Dawg Fight, Cause I'm Afraid She'd Win

If My Nose Were Full of Nickels, I'd Blow It All On You

If You Don't Leave Me Alone, I'll Go And Find Someone Else Who Will

If You Leave Me, Can I Come Too?

She Got The Ring And I Got The Finger

Thank God And Greyhound She's Gone

You Can't Have Your Kate And Edith Too

You're The Reason Our Kids Are So Ugly

Compiled from Reporter-Telegram wire services

MONDAY MORNING EDITOR
JIMMY PATTERSON



Wet wedding

Brides Angela Vigna, center, and Jacqueline Britt take the "plunge into matrimony" along with ten other adventurous couples Friday, Feb. 13. Tampa's Adventure Island hosted the "Wet Wedding" which took place in their Endless Surf wave pool. Reverend Kris Null presided over the legally binding ceremony which promoted Saturday's opening of the water theme park and Valentines Day.

Skidder prefers his mules over timber machine

By Jay Meisel
Associated Press

NIMROD, Ark. — It was a scene from a bygone era. Joe Brown held the reins of two mules as the animals skidded a log chained between them on property owned by Russell Owen in rural Perry County.

Brown occasionally pulled on the reins and shouted commands, but the mules seemed to know where they were headed without much prompting.

Brown said he favors mules over mechanized timber skidders because "personally, I don't believe it tears up as much timber."

These days, the sight of mules skidding logs is rare. But Owen, whose property is part woods and part pasture, said he prefers the mules because he doesn't believe in clear-cutting. He said mechanized skidders could damage the trees he wants to leave untouched.

Brown has been working as a skidder since he was 8, following in his father's footsteps. He said he became interested in the job after observing some skidders who drank too much on the weekends and were not ready to work when Monday morning rolled around.

Thinking he could do the job more reliably, Brown said, he went out and learned the trade.

Nearly 50 years later, he said, he still enjoys the work.

"It's the way I was raised," he said.

Jack, a white-colored mule, and Kate, a reddish-brown mule, seemed to take everything in stride. As Brown talked, Jack watched the visitors while Kate chomped on some leaves. Kate is gentle and enjoys having children pet her, Brown said.

Brown said it is possible for his mules to haul as many as 100 to 200 logs a day, usually one at a time. However, the mules may pull as many as three logs at once. In the past, some people had teams of mules pulling a wagonload of timber at a time, he said.

Some say Brown leads an easy life.

"They say that the mules get to do the work and all you've got to do is follow them," Brown said, but those people don't know what it's like to work mules for hours every day. It may seem easy, but mules must be trained to pull logs up and down hillsides and along crooked paths.

Brown said Jack and Kate are at the point where he can let them go and they will take logs to their intended destination without him being around. He said if he leaves the mules somewhere, the animals will stay until he returns.

Not all people can get every mule to relate to them, he said. At least a couple of times during his job on the Owen property, the mules have run off while working with other people. At night, the mules are kept in a pen shrouded by trees, an important consideration during deer hunting season, Brown said.

"A lot of people can't tell the mule's eyes and the deer's eyes apart," he said.

The biggest danger to his animals, he said, is illegal hunting.

Skidding logs with mules won't make a person rich, Brown said, but a living can be earned.

JIMMY PATTERSON

Exiled to Molokai: Couch not bad when sick

I don't know how it is at your house, but when there's someone sick at our place, the one who ails gets banished to the Sick Couch for the duration of his or her illness.

Every home should have a Sick Couch.

We've even named ours Molokai, in honor of the Hawaiian island where lepers were banished in the days before the Pacific paradise earned statehood.

In the old days, you lose a thumb in Hawaii, and it was the first ferry to Molokai for you, pal.

Today, we proudly carry on that tradition in our house: Get sick, Get thee to Molokai.

I spent five days on Molokai last week. It was not paradise.

It would be my guess that The Sick Couch is pretty much the same from household to household.

Your loving, well-intentioned spouse sentences you



Patterson

to a stay on the island, shrouding you in blankets and other trinkets of her affection, bringing you cold and flu remedies and assorted exotic juices designed to hasten the end of your illness while all the while she has but one thing on her mind: crawling into her warm bed and getting a good night's sleep while not having to listen to you whine, moan, shiver, sneeze, sniffle, cough, hack and blow.

But there are certain advantages to being exiled to The Couch in our house.

First, it's comfortable. It's warm, and the glow of the television offers a cozy feeling when 2:30 a.m. rolls around and you're choking back another round of Nyquil.

Second, it's just a couch, which means you're on it alone. You own it. Everyone else has to stay away from it. More importantly, since only one person can be on it at a time, your wife can't be there with you and STEAL THE SHEETS ALL BLOODY NIGHT LONG.

As chief occupant of The Sick Couch, you own the remote control. Whatever the sick person wants to watch on television, everyone else has to watch. Last

Teacher battling multiple sclerosis invents game

By Paul Bourgeois
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

FORT WORTH — Jeanne Lee may be confined to a bed and a wheelchair, but that hasn't stopped the former teacher from continuing to work.

Lee, who has had multiple sclerosis for almost half of her 56 years, has invented a board game based on the presidential election process.

And now, from her hospital bed and with help from her husband, she is marketing "Run Off: The Game of Presidential Campaigning."

"One day seven or eight years ago she said, 'I've got this idea for a game,'" said her husband, L.H. Lee, a contract specialist for the General Services Administration at the Fritz G. Langham Federal Building in downtown Fort Worth.

The game is a little like "Trivial Pursuit," although most questions center on American history and politics. As teen or adult players answer the questions, they rack up electoral votes. The player collecting enough votes to be elected president wins the game.

"I was becoming a couch potato."

Please see GAME/2B



Juan and Norma Ramos, who couldn't afford rings when they were married 25 years ago, recently received a set of wedding rings as an anniversary present from their children — from left, Erika Ramos, Claudia Baeza and Johnny Ramos.

Ring bearers

Children give parents wedding bands on 25th anniversary

By Mella McEwen
Staff Writer

When Juan and Norma Ramos were married 25 years ago on Jan. 17, they eloped to Mexico, with only the judge and her mother in attendance.

"We didn't know where to go, so we went to Mexico. We were scared to come back," Mrs. Ramos recalled. The newlyweds didn't even have wedding rings.

When the couple celebrated their 25th anniversary at Our

Lady of San Juan Catholic Church last month, their five children surprised them with a set of wedding rings.

As daughter Erika explained, "We all decided to get them wedding rings. We work, so we all chipped in to buy them. We decided the rings were something more meaningful than anything else, and they'd be forever."

It was a last-minute decision, she said, but she and her brother and three sisters went to a jewelry store and picked out wedding rings

with a guarantee that they could be exchanged for the correct sizes later.

Ramos said he was not expecting any special recognition at the surprise ceremony.

"We had no idea," he said. "We were just going to church to give thanks for 25 years of marriage. Then they called my daughters up and we started wondering what was going on, then they gave us the rings."

Please see RINGS/2B

The town with the great personality

By Cy DeBoer

"Honey, guess what? I've been offered a job in Midland, Texas."

"That's nice, would you please pass the salt?"

"Honey, they would like us to fly down to Midland and see if we think we might like it."

"These eggs really need some salt, can I talk you into passing it, please?"

"So, what do you think?"

"I guess even salt isn't going to help these eggs, please pass me

the pepper."

"I'm serious, I'm interested in going to Midland to check it out."

"Oh, you're serious? Well in that case would you please pass me a GUN!"

It's not exactly verbatim, but I imagine you get the idea regarding my reaction to moving to Midland. No offense, Midlanders, but I am a native of Colorado and truly the only reference I had to Midland was my recollection that a little girl named Jessica fell down a hole

there.

As I began to accept the reality that my husband was going to pursue this job thing, I mentioned Midland to friends, family, neighbors and people behind me in the grocery line, hoping to solicit a positive opinion from someone. The usual responses were:

"Where?" "How far is that from Dallas?" "You're kidding, right?" "Where?" "How far is

Please see MOVE/2B

FEB 16 1998

DAVE BARRY

Ski jumpers brave? Just put 'em on the media bus

HAKUBA, JAPAN — I went up to this picturesque mountain village to watch the ski-jump competition, along with what I believe is the entire population of Japan, including deceased ancestors. Ski jumping is hugely popular here, which is not surprising: People who are brave enough to eat octopus on a stick are not going to be afraid of hurling themselves off cliffs.



Barry

I had never seen ski jumping in person. My only exposure to it had been while lying on the couch at home, watching TV, and when you see it that way, you can't appreciate how spectacular this incredible, death-defying sport is, because so much of the screen is

blocked by your stomach.

So I was looking forward to seeing it, and I will never forget my reaction when the first skier hurtled down the ramp and launched himself into space. My reaction was: "I wish could see that!"

At the time, I was still on the press bus, which was creeping along toward Hakuba in a massive traffic jam on a road that was designed for vehicles no wider than a subcompact gerbil. I don't mean to harp on this bus thing, but it tends to be on your mind when you're spending six or seven hours per day in a crowded, hot, airless space as part of a press corps that has been wearing the same garments for so many consecutive days that our pants come running when we whistle for them in the morning.

Finally got to Hakuba, where thousands of Japanese were thronging in the narrow streets. (This is a thronging culture. You can openly throng in public here, and nobody says a thing.) People

were blowing horns and, as we trudged past, calling out the traditional greeting, "Chiketto ga hoshii desuka?" ("Anybody need tickets?") The demand was so great that scalpers were getting (ital) 10,000 yen (end ital) for a single ticket. Do you have any idea how much money that is? Neither do I! And I've been here for a week!

Finally I got to the ski-jumping stadium, which was packed with 40,000 spectators, who were making a lot of noise by Japanese standards, by which I mean they were about as loud as a single New Yorker hailing a cab. I made my way to the bottom of the hill and looked up. From where I stood, I couldn't see the top, but I could hear the crowd murmur as the skier started down. Suddenly, WHOOSH, he rocketed into view WAY overhead, soared through the air a ridiculous distance, and then, with an impossibly easy grace, splatted on the ground so hard that his internal organs were scattered over an area the size of a tennis court.

No, that is what I (ital) thought (end ital) was going to happen, but somehow the jumper managed to land safely. In fact they all landed safely, although the cumulative impact of all these landings has clearly taken its toll in the form of causing the letters in their first names to get all jumbled up. There were competitors out there who are now saddled with such comical monikers as "Bjarte," "Magnar," "Tambet," "Roomet" and "Urs."

After each jump, the jumper received a score calculated from the distance of the jump in meters (one meter is equal to seven degrees Celsius) and "style points" — usually around 18 or 19 — awarded by the judges to indicate how many quarts of sake they would have to drink before THEY would ever participate in this sport.

The gold-medal winner was a Finnish jumper named Jani Soininen, who hails from the town of Jyvaeskylae (civic motto: "We Can't Pronounce It, Either"). According to his official

Olympic athlete biography, his coaches are named "Lepistoe," "Risto" and "Kalso," and his hobbies are listed as — I swear — "Rock Music, Dog."

After the jumping, it was time to leave the stadium and participate in what has now become the most hotly contested sport at these Games: The 800 Reporters Trying To Get On A Bus With A Capacity of 62 Event. As usual, the German reporters won. They must have some kind of bus-boarding training facility. If America is going to compete at the Olympic level, we need to build one, too. But first we need to do our laundry.

(Dave Barry is a columnist for The Miami Herald. Readers may write to him at 1 Herald Plaza, Miami, Fla., 33132-1693.)

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MOVE: New Midlander has 'ya'll' down real good; next speech lesson: 'Fixin' to'

(From 1B)

that from Houston?", "Why?" "Isn't that where that little girl fell down the well?" "Where?" "How far is that from Denver?" Sometimes words went unspoken and sympathetic shoulder shrugs took their place. This is with the exception of my good friend, Rhonda, who said "What the heck! Look at it as an adventure!" This innocent, but sincere comment helped me to put the gun away.

Still, a word of advice: when soliciting an opinion about some place, ask a person who has actually been there — or better yet, lived there! Almost to the person, new and native Midlanders we have encountered told us "you may not like it at first, but after a while you won't want to leave." Another consistent observation was, "it's not pretty, but the people are friendly." Sounds like the "she's not much to look at, but has a great personality" type of analogy.

Our initial visit to Midland was kind of like going on a "Blind date." Let's just say we were really hoping for a great personality!

As God would have it, we prayed, we came, we saw, we moved and that's exactly what we found — great personality!

However, at first we were slightly dubious about the friendly nature of the people. "Could it have something to do with the water?" I lamely inquired.

"No. Nobody here drinks the water," my husband adroitly replied.

Therefore, we resolved to the idea that Midlanders just seem to have an inherent friendliness. I honestly think when they say "have a nice day," they mean it!

We've had to make several adaptations to West Texas living besides this friendliness thing. For instance, I can't believe I'm not allowed to carry my groceries out to the car. The man at the store has practically put me in "time-out" for trying! I have always carted and trunked them even if I was 8.9 months pregnant and had both arms in casts! I've bulldozed my grocery cart through 6 foot snow drifts for cryin' in a bucket! It's not that I

mind the assistance—it just makes me feel sort of guilty.

Also, it took us awhile to stop leaving our house 45 minutes before we had to be someplace as we did in Denver. After showing up 40 minutes early for everything, we began to adjust our departure times. (This is with the exception of church, we are always late!)

It took us some time to "chill out" and stop tailgating people going the speed limit. No one seems in quite as big of a hurry here in general. This again is a good thing, but nevertheless requires another attitude adjustment.

It did take less time for our daughter to start saying "ya'll." Which to her credit, is minor considering the fact I've developed some affliction which causes me to mimic and exaggerate the accent of the person I am speaking with. If our new Texas neighbor, Judy, calls me on the phone, according to my family some transformation comes over me and my speech pattern has way more syllables... they think I'm fixin' to start tawkin' different from here on out! Oh, I suppose I will have to seek some sort of therapy for this personality disorder — perhaps while I am dealing with the guilt issue over the grocery thing and my addition to Rosa's Cafe.

I don't think I will ever know which direction I am going as long as I live here. What have you done with the MOUNTAINS?

Well, anyway, I feel like I'm on my second blind date of sorts Midland. So far, so good. (By the way, the White, "day after" Christmas was a nice touch, sort of like showing up at the door with flowers and candy.)

Even though we miss our friends and family in Colorado very much, we are having a wonderful experience meeting people, making new friends, finding a Church and discovering we are beginning to feel at home. Rhonda, was right, it is an adventure.

Truthfully, my husband and I feel very optimistic about this "second" blind date for both of us since we married our first ones and — so far — reeeyul good!

Cy DeBoer is a Midland-based writer.

YOURS FOR THE ASKING

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■ Contact the Reporter-Telegram in writing if you are an individual with something to give away, or a non-profit organization in need of an item or items. Requests should be sent to "Yours for the Asking," c/o Monday Morning, The Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, Texas, 79702, or faxed to 570-7650.

■ Non-profit organizations should be prepared to provide a brief description of your organization and a copy of its 501(c)(3) status.

■ "Yours for the Asking" items are printed with the intent they be given away — not sold — and are published at the newspaper's discretion.

■ If you'll be calling someone with something to give away, make sure you wait until after 7 a.m. to call the owner.

■ Look around your home for something someone else could use. Almost everyone has something no longer needed that someone else may benefit from.

GAME: Couple has sold game by word of mouth

(From 1B)

to at home, just sitting in my wheelchair looking out the window," Jeanne Lee said. "I said to myself, 'Jeanne, you're not doing anything with your brain.'"

"I didn't want to just waste my time. It just came out of the blue."

The Lees live in the Eastern Hills area of east Fort Worth, although she often is in the hospital for months at a time.

The mother of two grown daughters said her goal is to "help refresh awareness of the American heritage" while, her husband said, "she still had her mind, her eyesight and her ability to speak."

MS attacks the central nervous system and can cause blindness, crippling and loss of body functions. More often, it attacks people 20 to 40 years old.

Without use of her arms and legs, Jeanne Lee said, she watched historical documentary videos and enlisted friends and family to read to her from history books, almanacs, magazines and newspapers as she compiled questions and answers.

Working with a voice-activated tape recorder, she filled 45 tapes, each 90 minutes long, with 8,000 questions and answers. It was then that her husband took on the

task of transcribing the tapes.

Then they found a printing company in Dallas to produce the game and they sank more than \$25,000 into producing 1,000 sets.

L.H. Lee said his wife has always been a history buff. They met at Oklahoma Baptist University and migrated to North Texas in the early 1980s as her disease progressed and he had to give up a ministry for a job with regular hours and better medical benefits.

Jeanne Lee had been a teacher at various Christian schools when she was more mobile. This, she said, was a way to keep on teaching.

"I want Americans from high school on up to play the game and learn a lot in a fun way," she said.

L.H. Lee said he and his wife also have learned that selling the game is as difficult as producing it.

"The large retail merchants don't want to deal with somebody who has only one game for sale. Also, the large game companies do not want to entertain outsiders' ideas," he said.

Since Thanksgiving, they have sold about 100 sets at \$31.95, mostly by word of mouth, but L.H. Lee said a company is considering taking over production and distribution of "Run Off" throughout the country.

PATTERSON: Sick? Get thee to Molokai

(From 1B)

As the illness plays itself out, my little Molokai becomes more like the Island of Dr. Moreau and Mrs. P slowly transforms from Nurse Nightingale to Nurse Ratchett. It's as though we men have a limit on just how long we can be sick, and if we overshoot that limit, there's some serious heck to pay.

Fortunately, I timed it just about right. Right when I started feeling good again, Mrs. P was getting a little fidgety; a little jumpy. My minute I expected her to say, "It's been five days, isn't it about time you came around?"

So on the day I regained full strength, Mrs. P asked me, "Are you sleeping in my bed again tonight finally? As if it was MY idea in the first place to leave the comfort of OUR bed for the stark, bleak prison of the Sick Couch."

"Your bed?" I asked. "Yeah. You can sleep in it again if you won't be doin' any coughing or sniffing or nose blowing."

"Thanks. Do I bow now, later or every waking moment?" So for the first time in five nights, we are joined again in a bed that, for the life of me, does not have a sign posted over it at that says, "Mrs. P's Bed."

We go to sleep. And wake up the next morning.

I'm feeling good. It's the first morning I have woken in a week that I can tell nothing is wrong with me. My strength is back. I am again healthy. Not quite ready for my abs to be on the cover of *Muscle and Fitness*, but I'm feeling good enough for me.

"I tried to snuggle with you last night, but you wouldn't have anything to do with me," she blurted out.

"I was asleep. How am I supposed to know to do that if I'm asleep?"

"I don't know. It just seems like you were ignoring me." "I can ignore real easy when I'm asleep. It's not a problem for me. Besides, I've been on Molokai for five nights. Last night was like a first date for me. I don't snuggle on the first date."

Jimmy Patterson is a staff writer for the Reporter-Telegram. He can be emailed at jpatterson@basinlink.com

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RING: Couple's belief in promises of marriage help keep them together

(From 1B)

"We didn't have a formal wedding the first time or this time, but this was even more of a blessing because we had our friends and children there," Mrs. Ramos said.

The couple went together two years before marrying when she was 17 and he was 24. He said they met "a long time ago in Eagle Pass."

"No," his wife corrected him. "We met in Iowa. We were migrant farm workers and we would go up to Iowa and harvest sugar beets. That's where we met."

"Our fathers grew up together," she said. "I used to play paper dolls with his sisters."

When the couple married, she said her family accepted him immediately, but his family was less accepting.

"He's the oldest of 10 children," Mrs. Ramos explained. They really depended on him to help do the work, bring in money and support the family and when we got married, they were afraid I had taken him away."

Asked if they had expected to remain married 25 years, Mrs. Ramos, laughing, said no.

"I did," her husband said. "I believe that when you get married, you commit yourself, and when you commit yourself you must be serious. Marriage is like life, it's not a game."

In addition to Erika, who

works at Samaritan Counseling Center, the Ramoses have four other children — Juan Jr., Claudia, who is about to celebrate her own third wedding anniversary, Virginia and Veronica. They also have two grandchildren.

The family moved to Midland 11 years ago from Idaho. Ramos and his son own and operate Juan Ramos Construction, a contracting business that does new construction and remodeling work.

At a time when as many marriages end in divorce as stay intact, Ramos said the secret to a happy marriage is this: "A lot of people say marriage is 50-50, but I believe it's 100-100, that's how you make a marriage work."

"You have to understand no one is perfect — I'm not perfect, she's not perfect, that's what makes you understand each other. If you were to marry someone perfect, you probably couldn't live with them. Marriage is a big commitment and something you need to work at every day. Love is like a plant — you need to water it and fertilize it as the years go by. And I think as you continue a marriage, it can get stronger, but you always have to have God in first place."

His wife said she agrees wholeheartedly with his advice and added, "You also need to trust each other, let each other make mistakes and listen to and support them. Communication is very important."

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Ron Ellison - Presenter
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By Larry B...
Fort Worth St...

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Wrongly institutionalized for 33 years, Arlington woman finds daylight

By Larry Bingham
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

ARLINGTON — Velma Elliott's story begins in a courtroom, when she is 10 years old and listening to her mother tell a judge her daughter needs to be committed to a state institution.

Velma's mother says she is mentally retarded. She has cerebral palsy, she is blind, and she can't walk, but Velma is not retarded.

The judge commits her to a state school where she doesn't belong, and she stays in state schools for 33 years, until 1995, when a psychologist gives her an IQ test and proves the judge wrong.

Life in state schools, as Velma tells it, went like this:

Lights on at 6 a.m. Lights out at 9 p.m. Eat what you're given, when it's given, and wear what they put on you.

She slept in a dormitory, ate in a dining hall and shared her childhood with friends who were so profoundly retarded they couldn't talk. "They read stories to us, and I'm talking little kid stories like 'What did Johnny eat for breakfast' and all that garbage," Velma says.

They weighed Velma once a month, and when she weighed more than a girl her age and height should, they gave her less to eat. She was allowed home to visit her family once a year, on Christmas.

This, Velma says, has been her life. Someday, she will write a book about it. "I will do the story to let handicaps know they do not have to be told what to do. They do not have to be told when to get up and when to go to bed. The caption will read like this: This is 'The Velma Elliott Story.'"

In the book, Velma will write about the group home where she lives now, about the people who have helped her, and the time, just last month, when Texas Wesleyan University and Shakespeare in the Park asked for her advice.

The cast of the play "Lizard," a co-production of TWU and Shakespeare in the Park, wanted to hear her story. The play, Velma says, "is about a guy like me who was put in a state school just like me. He was classified as mentally retarded just like me. Because his eyes ain't right, his ears aren't straight, they don't like him."

In the play, which runs through Feb. 22 at the Scott Theatre in Fort Worth, the disabled 13-year-old boy escapes and joins a troupe of actors presenting "The Tempest."

The cast gave Velma a script and free tickets to see the show. This, too, will all be part of her book.

Her life today is an important chapter.

She is 45 and lives in a group home in Arlington. Velma's room faces Pleasant Ridge Road, and she has filled it with stuffed animals, dolls and a videotape collection that includes her favorite —

Elvis Presley.

She wakes when she wants.

She sleeps when she wants.

She eats — whenever and whatever — and she never gets weighed. Velma goes to class every day because she's working on her GED and because this is what she wants to do.

She leads a sensitivity training class at the mental health department, and she wants to start a business. She wants to live alone, get a new puppy and start her book. It could happen if she gets a grant.

When Velma was 10, her parents had nowhere to turn for help. "To get help, they had to play like I was mentally retarded. Because back then there wasn't a lot of knowledge about CP, so everybody who had CP was diagnosed as mentally retarded. Do you know what it's like to go to a courtroom and hear your own mom say you're mentally retarded?"

In the late 1960s, an estimated 200,000 people were like her — wrongly institutionalized, says Stanley S. Herr, professor of law at the University of Maryland School of Law. Today, disabled adults are given choices, and the number of people with wrongly diagnosed conditions who still live in institutions is about 7,000, Herr estimates.

Velma was the last resident at the Fort Worth State School when doctors, trying to decide where to move her because the facility was closing, tested her IQ. Velma's score was 82 — high enough to



Velma Elliott, 45, holds one of her baby dolls in her room at a group home in Arlington. Elliott was wrongly institutionalized for 33 years because people thought she was retarded. She is blind and has cerebral palsy.

remove the 33-year-old label of "mildly retarded" from her files.

Velma will include that in her book. She knows where it starts,

but she doesn't know where it will end.

"I would just keep writing and adding and thinking. I would live

it as I write it."

Distributed by The Associated Press

Houston behind on redevelopment of 'dead zones'

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston is playing catch-up in the "brownfield" clean-up game.

Brownfields are abandoned properties, such as former gas stations or factories, that aren't redeveloped out of a fear of environmental contamination.

Such areas hold back urban revitalization since developers and lenders won't risk the cost of cleanup or potential liability. The government, meanwhile, lacks resources to test and clean the sites.

"These brownfields are dead zones within our cities that should be recycled and returned to the citizens for productive economic use," said Fort Wayne, Ind., Mayor Paul Helmke, president of the U.S. Conference of Mayors and a national leader on brownfields initiatives.

Houston has put the issue on the back burner.

"Houston really got left behind," said Miguel Garcia, assistant director of the city's Planning and Development Department. "Most of those first-round grant cities were much more organized and really had a

jump on us."

Houston is apparently changing its attitude, however. City officials have hired Dawn Moses, a full-time project manager for brownfields and a volunteer committee is also at work on the issue. Officials are also completing plans for a demonstration project that could serve as a model for brownfield redevelopment citywide.

More than 100 cities around the country are confronting the brownfield problem.

The economic impact is tremendous. In a national survey conducted by the mayors conference, 100 cities estimated they could create a total of \$500 million in new tax revenue by returning their brownfields to productive use. It could also mean 236,000 new jobs.

More than 100 cities reported 47,000 acres of brownfields combined, spread across about 16,500 different sites.

Brownfield redevelopment has come to the forefront as cities recognize that such revitalization could encourage revenue growth, neighborhood revitalization and

job creation. Cities have started to offer low interest loans, tax incentives and other inducements to potential developers.

State legislatures have joined the fray with tax packages, voluntary cleanup programs and other intergovernmental efforts.

The federal government also responded with grant funds for brownfields assessment, remediation and pilot projects. Also, new federal tax incentives allow developers to deduct certain costs associated with brownfield cleanup.

The proposed new federal assistance the mayors conference is pushing would increase grant funding for brownfields assessment, loan funds for cleanup and ease liability issues for developers.

"No business will go into a dicey situation without clarification of their potential liability," said Rep. Sherwood Boehlert, R-New York, sponsor of a Superfund reform bill endorsed by the mayors that also addresses brownfields.

In Texas, a relatively new state law provides some liability pro-

tection from state action against property owners not responsible for land contamination.

There has been no survey to determine the number of brownfields in Houston, but there are "quite a few," Garcia said. Among other Texas cities, Galveston reports that it has 25 brownfields, Texas City estimates 45 spread across 500 acres and Austin reports 25 brownfields, including land that is part of a city park.

In contrast, older, industrial cities like Boston, Chicago, and St. Louis report more than 700 brownfield sites each. New York City has identified 6,000.

Houston city officials say they hope to come up with a system for working with developers, neighborhoods and environmental scientists to identify and address the brownfield problem.

"One of the problems we have in Houston right now is that there is no institutional process to take a brownfield from a neglected state through the process of redevelopment," Garcia said.

Oprah Winfrey beef defamation trial takes Presidents' Day off

AMARILLO (AP) — As if Oprah Winfrey's four-week-old beef defamation trial needed another reason to stretch on, it's getting one Monday.

The Presidents' Day federal holiday means attorneys won't reconvene in U.S. District Judge Mary Lou Robinson's court until Tuesday morning, when she'll hear arguments concerning a defense motion to issue a verdict in their favor.

A group of Texas cattlemen rested their case Friday. They accuse Ms. Winfrey, her production company and a vegetarian activist guest of causing cattle prices to drop by unfairly suggesting U.S. beef consumers were at risk from catching a fatal brain ailment from tainted meat.

Ms. Winfrey's April 16, 1996, show touched on mad cow dis-

ease, which has ravaged British herds since the 1980s and is suspected in causing 23 people to die of a similar ailment.

Neither the bovine nor the human illness has been detected in the United States.

Outside the presence of jurors, attorneys will debate Tuesday whether Judge Robinson should rule in favor of the defense. Defendants claim plaintiffs failed to offer enough evidence and that the Texas law allowing them to sue is unconstitutional anyway.

If Judge Robinson allows the trial to continue, jurors will return to hear the defense's case begin Wednesday. The trial could last another two weeks if both sides use all their allotted time.

Texas A&M's new program eliminates standardized testing

AUSTIN (AP) — A company that prepares students for standardized tests is applauding a Texas A&M program that doesn't require the Medical College Admissions Test for some incoming medical students.

Paul Cohen, a spokesman for the New York-based company Princeton Review, said the MCAT and similar tests are poor indicators of a student's ability to perform.

"They are also tremendously biased along racial lines," Cohen told the Austin American-Statesman.

The program at Texas A&M recruits students from areas with large minority populations and

offers them guaranteed admission into the university's medical school if they maintain a certain grade-point average in a science-intensive curriculum during their undergraduate years.

The program resulted from declining minority enrollments in the university's medical school after a federal court ended affirmative action programs at Texas colleges in 1996.

"If these tests really measured how well you were going to do in medical school and law school, you couldn't take a test-preparation course and go up 6 points," Cohen said.

"We don't make our students better doctors or lawyers, we make them better

test takers."

Assistant Director of the Princeton Review's Austin office, Jennifer Lynn, said the company was formed because it wanted to give students a better chance at passing the tests. Ms. Lynn and Cohen both agreed Texas A&M deserved praise for eliminating the tests, they say are unfair.

Others, however, disagree. Maria Lofthus, director of academic services for Kaplan Educational Centers' health sciences division, said the MCAT is a valuable tool in predicting a student's success in medical school.

She said the test is also a good indicator of how a student will perform on his medical licensing

exam.

Standardized testing has come under more scrutiny as states such as Texas and California have eliminated affirmative action in higher education.

Both states have seen declines in minority enrollment in their medical and law schools.

The decline has also caused the University of Texas' medical school to take a second look at its policies. The school recently announced that it will look at a factors beyond grades and test scores in hopes of recruiting a more diverse group of students.

Police hunt for former officer

DALLAS (AP) — A former Fort Worth police officer accused of assault and possession of child pornography is now sought on allegations he impersonated a Dallas officer and engaged in illegal bounty hunting.

An arrest warrant was issued Thursday for Roy D. Morrison, 29, who resigned from the Fort Worth police department after allegations of assault and possession of child pornography.



Morrison

Morrison and a friend, Douglas K. Fox, 35, are wanted in connection with a Jan. 13 attack on Edward Allen Wright. A bail bond company had offered a \$5,000 reward for the capture of Wright, 53, who had jumped bail in a felony drug case.

"These two guys are playing bounty hunter, and they're impersonating police officers. They're a real threat to the public trust," said investigator Gary Lachman of the Dallas County Sheriff's Department.

Police believe Morrison and Fox forced their way into a house where Wright was staying by pounding on the door and yelling, "Dallas police officers - open the door!"

One of the men also flashed a badge and pointed a pistol at several people in the house while ordering them to lie on the floor, Lachman said. They then handcuffed Wright.

Morrison and Fox have been charged with aggravated kidnapping, aggravated assault and impersonating a police officer in connection with the incident.

It's the second bounty hunting case in a month that Sheriff's Department investigators have filed against Morrison and Fox. The two men also were arrested last month on kidnapping charges in connection with the abduction of a Dallas man who had jumped bail.

Investigators said Morrison and Fox wanted the \$5,000 reward that a local bail bond company was offering for Wright's capture. The company stood to lose \$50,000 because he had failed to appear in court on a felony drug charge.

Morrison, who had been a Fort Worth officer for five years, resigned Jan. 9.

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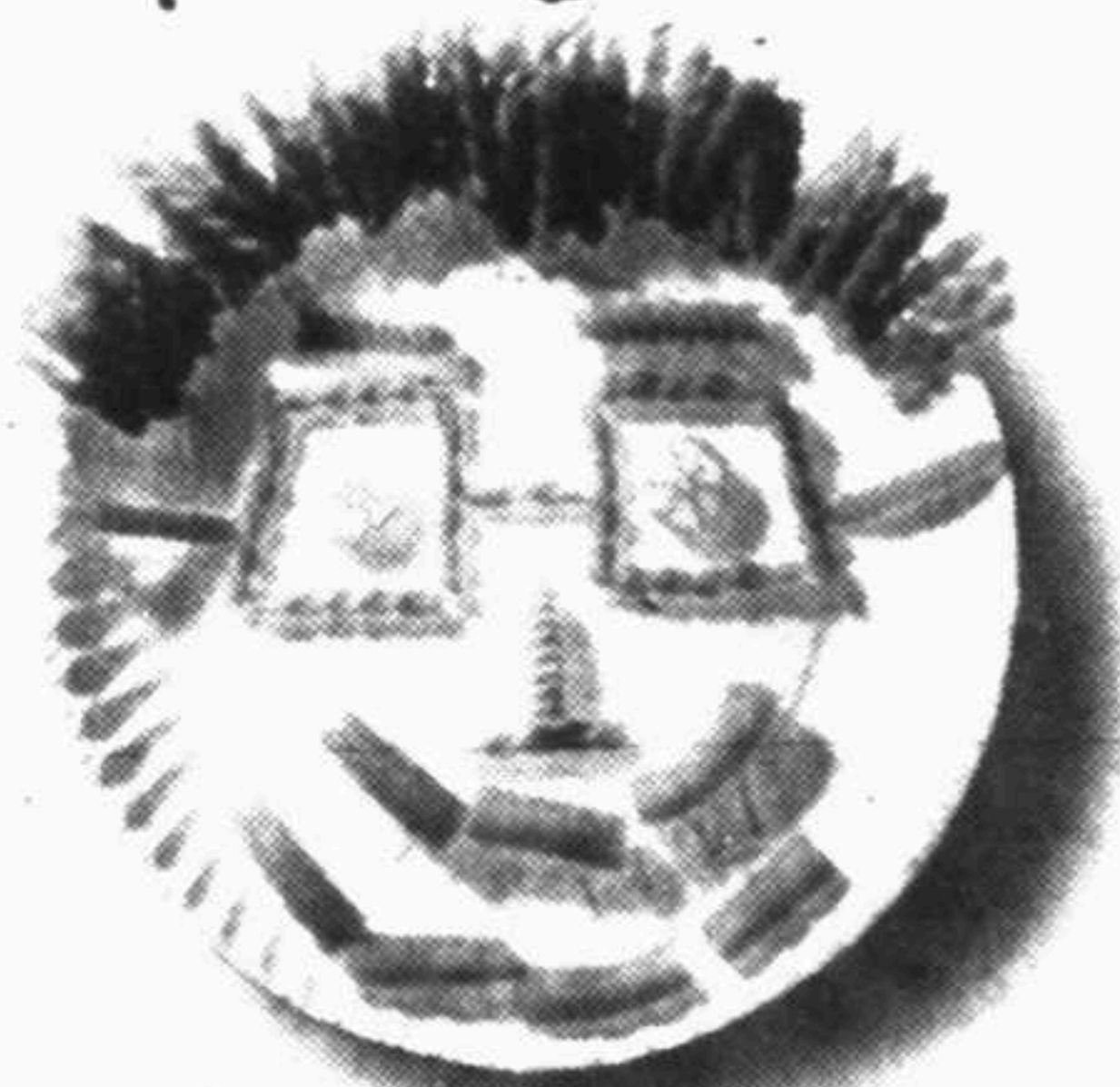


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FEB 16 1998

DEATHS

Troy Long

Troy Cullen Long died early Sunday, Feb. 15, in a Stanton hospital.

Services are to be 3 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 17, in Resthaven Memorial Park with the Rev. Verl Gunter officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

He was born July 30, 1906, in Eastland County.

He moved to Midland in 1949, from Ardmore, Okla., and retired from Red Little Motor Company in 1970. He was a member of Tabernacle Baptist Church in Odessa.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Stella Fay Harris Long Nov. 22, 1995 and a brother, Harry D. Long.

Survivors include a son, Ralph Warren Long of Apple Valley, Calif.; a daughter, Virginia Lee Otho of Midland; five grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be directed to Stanton Care Center, Broadway Street, Stanton 79782.

Rachel White

Rachel Lois White died Sunday, Feb. 15, in a Midland hospital.

Services are to be 3 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 18, in Belview Baptist Church with the Rev. G.A. McGee officiating. Burial will follow in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

She was born June 20, 1912, in Elm Mott.

She grew up in Draw and attended school there. She married Thomas D. White in Tahoka. The couple moved to Midland after marriage.

She was preceded in death by her husband Nov. 10, 1989.

Survivors include three sons, Thomas D. White, Jr., Richard don White and James A. White, all of Midland; two daughters, Fannie Mae Dawson of Midland and Doris Williams of San Angelo; one sister, Ruby Truex of Midland; 18 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandchild; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be directed to Hospice of Midland, P.O. Box 2621, Midland 79702.

OBITUARIES



Robert Leibrecht, Jr.

Robert John "Robbie" Leibrecht, Jr., was born December 30, 1976, in Houston, Texas, to

Julie Ann Ledwith and Robert John Leibrecht, Sr. He graduated from Katy Taylor High School in Katy, Texas. He attended Blinn College in Brenham, Texas, and recently attended Midland College. He was a member of St. Stephen's Catholic Church and was Co-President of S.I.F.E. (Students in Free Enterprise).

Survivors include his parents of Midland; two brothers, Joseph Matthew Leibrecht, attending Stephen F. Austin University in Nacogdoches, Texas, and Thomas Edward Leibrecht, attending Florida Air Academy in Melbourne, Florida; a sister, Christie Chalker and husband, John of Midland; grandparents, John and Shirley Ledwith of Tucson, Arizona, and Lillian Leibrecht of St. Louis, Missouri; and two nieces.

Robbie died early Saturday, February 14, 1998, in a Midland hospital.

Funeral services are set for 11 a.m. Wednesday, February 18, in

Obituary & Death Notice policy

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

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

Deadline for both free death notices and paid obituaries is 4:30 p.m. and information must be either received from or verified by a funeral home.

St. Stephen's Catholic Church with Father James Bridges officiating. Burial will follow in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

Rosary will be recited at 7 p.m. Tuesday, February 17, in St. Stephen's Catholic Church.

Pallbearers are John Chalker,

Jim Ledwith, Steve Nestvold, James Brezina and Jason Scott.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be directed to SIFE Memorial Scholarship Fund, attention Dr. Belazi, Midland College, 3600 N. Garfield, Midland, Texas 79705.

Austin rail project picking up steam, but sluggishly

AUSTIN (AP) — A year after some 10,000 people lined up to glimpse the future of passenger rail service in Austin, there's little evidence that commuter trains will arrive anytime soon.

But the idea is slowly picking up steam as the city's transit agency, Capital Metro, prepares its big pitch for \$100 million in federal transportation aid.

Congress will decide this spring what projects get federal money, and it could be Austin's last chance for the next five years. Competition is fierce.

"Other areas are competing for every scrap of money," said Ross Milloy, president of the Austin-San Antonio Corridor Council, which is pushing another rail project — regional commuter line from Round Rock to San Antonio. "It's a war — a bloody war."

Last year, the agency brought a train called RegioSprinter to town to generate support for building a 29-mile starter line, the so-called red line, from Leander to downtown Austin.

Austinites seemed enthusiastic at the time, and the future looked bright.

But the Austin American-Statesman reported Sunday that Capital Metro is behind in preparations for its proposal to Congress. Although the board decided last year to order engineering and environmental studies on the starter line, the agency has not hired consultants to do the work.

Inner turmoil might be responsible for the delays, the newspaper said.

In the past year, the authority has been under fire because of questions about its spending and management practices.

The state Legislature changed the structure of the agency's board, and the new board fired General Manager Justin Augustine III, who had championed light rail. The agency's longtime

rail planner quit.

Current board members promise to speed things up. They say they still see rail in Austin's future; they just can't say when, or what route it will take.

The first thing board members must do is choose a route to present to voters. A referendum will be held on that question as early as next year.

The fastest plan, using the existing rail line from Leander to downtown Austin, would have rail cars running by 2002. The regional line from Round Rock to San Antonio could have limited service by 2003.

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POLICE REPORTS

Midland Police Department
Saturday

Theft: Theft by shoplifting was reported at Best Buy at 2511 W. Loop 250 North. The incident was reported to police at 10:54 a.m.

Beer-Wine Offenses: A 17-year-old youth was cited for possessing a pack of Marlboro cigarettes and a bottle of wine in an alley in the 3300 block of Camarie Avenue. The incident was reported at 10:43 p.m.

Burglary: A portable stereo sound system was reported stolen in an apartment burglary at 4315 Neely Ave. The incident was reported to police at 12:30 p.m. The

burglar's entry into the apartment apparently was by way of an unlocked patio door.

Sunday

Beer Offense: A 17-year-old youth was cited for possessing a 12-ounce can of Budweiser beer in his right-front pocket in the 3100 block of West Wall Avenue. The offense was noted at 1:31 a.m.

Midland County Sheriff's
Department

Theft: Randall "Randy" Prude reported the theft of campaign signs at 3704 Trinity Drive. The incident was reported at 11:58 a.m.

Protestors picket new Planned Parenthood site in Brazos County

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — A move by Planned Parenthood to offer abortions for the first time in Brazos County is meeting stiff resistance from some local residents.

About 40 protestors joined outside the proposed new clinic site this weekend after hearing news that the agency plans to offer abortions there.

Planned Parenthood has offered a wide variety of health care services in the community for the past 22 years at a site about a mile and a half away from its proposed site.

But abortions have never before been offered in the county.

Bryan resident Terrie Lipscomb says she doesn't want the agency to be allowed to go through with its proposal.

"They're putting it right down the street from Bryan High School," said Ms. Lipscomb, a mother of seven and member of a local church protesting the clinic.

"I don't like that our daughters can go to school, come down here, get an abortion and be home before their mother knows what happened. Our grandchildren will be killed before we know about it."

Peter Durkin, president and CEO of Planned Parenthood of Houston and Southeast Texas, said on Friday he was cautiously optimistic about response to the agency's expansion plans. He said the bottom line is public health.

"Our goal is (to make) the service available to women, give them a safe choice and improve public health outcomes," Durkin said.

"Good people can disagree on the issue of abortion."

Even though abortions have never before been performed in Brazos County, Texas Department of Health statistics from 1995 show that at least 554 women from the county received abortions in other cities. Officials say that number is conservative considering it is not mandatory for patients to state where they reside.

A Bryan official told the Bryan-College Station Eagle there is no zoning ordinance preventing the agency from building a medical facility on the proposed site.

But opponents vow not to give up.

"There might not be any laws preventing them from doing it, but God is more powerful than that," 25-year-old College Station resident Drew Starnes said.

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DEAR AB

old woman. When I was 20s, my doctor never have children. At that time I was dating "Doug" and told him about my infertility. He said it didn't matter to him. We became engaged and started planning the wedding. After all of the plans were made, Doug changed his mind. He wanted to marry me. He was thinking it over. Very important. astated.

I have now a nice man for two me that the father does not want me, and that if a family we can say that he'll be how can I believe CAN'T TRUST MASS.

DEAR CAN was a cad. How

2nd Harris

HOUSTON inmate within found dead in a at the Harris County

Former Bay Stuart Dale Johnson, 30, was found dead in a cell at the Harris County Jail. He had been in the jail for 10 years.

Johnson's death after a capital was found dead in the sixth floor of the jail.

Sheriff's Capt. said Johnson, 30, away from the cell he was a former

Johnson was before 9 p.m. in cell. About 40 officers found him bedsheet. The to a television of the cell.

"There was thing was wrong."

TIT
12:00
4:50

Struttin' their stuff



ABOVE Jacob Sandoval, 8, shows off children's fashion.



ABOVE Kenny Dresel, vice president of marketing for Kent Oil, knows how to have fun in a tuxedo as he shows off his Mickey Mouse cummerbund and vest.

Several male models took to the stage at Midland Center Saturday night to raise scholarship money for local students. More than 500 people were expected to attend the "Parade of Hearts ... Men in Black" all-male fashion show and dance presented by the Midland Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's Women's Department. The event — which included a social hour, fashion show and dance — is expected to raise more than \$10,000 for scholarships for students at Midland, Lee, Coleman and Greenwood high schools, and Midland College.



ABOVE RIGHT Michael Elphick, owner of Bengal Grill, struts down the runway Saturday evening at 10th annual event.

'Boatless' can't beach hopes for fishing fun

By Mark McDonald
Hearst Newspapers

SAN ANTONIO — You love fishing, but you're new to town and don't know where to go. Perhaps you're a beginner, just feeling your way into the sport.

Or maybe your ex-wife got the boat in the divorce settlement. In any case, you're a candidate for the lead role in "Boatless in South Texas," a long-running feature film with a cast of thousands.

Not to worry. This region, so blessed with wildlife-related activities, offers plenty of opportunities for the angler who doesn't own a boat.

We could fish saltwater or fresh, stream or lake. We could try for bass and bluegill, or speckled trout and redfish. A \$5 cane pole, or \$500 custom fly rod.

We could book an offshore trip to the Gulf, or visit Aunt Maggie's livestock tank. Go to a catfish pond where you pay by the pound or to one of the lighted piers on the coast where you pay by the day.

For this mythical tour, we're going to take to visit my top five favorite boat-free fishing holes:

— North Jetty: Aim your vehicle at Corpus Christi, but cut off toward Port Aransas. At Fisherman's Wharf, take the Jetty Boat, which makes regular runs daily, across the channel.

You'll like the way the jetty partially blocks prevailing southeast winds and provides habitat for the marine food chain. Massive granite blocks stretch seemingly forever into the Gulf of Mexico, so there's ample room to spread out.

Field tips: Call Woody's (512) 749-5252 for shuttle schedule and weather conditions. In hot weather, don't bother buying bait shrimp unless you have an aerated tank. It'll be dead by the time you reach the jetty. Wear sturdy shoes, big hat and pack to be self-contained.

— Canyon Lake tailrace: About 45 minutes north of San Antonio, just below the reservoir, lies some of the most scenic fishing in Texas.

From State Highway 46, on the north side of New Braunfels, take River Road north to the community of Sattler and follow the signs.

Actually, signs help fishermen, too.

Field tip: Wear waders and/or felt-bottomed boots for the best wading. Use your fly rod or ultralight spinning gear with 6-pound line, max, and lures ranging ranging from 1/8-ounce. Watch the signs, heed private property and you'll be in for a treat.

— Braunig and Calaveras: The two reservoirs, both located about 15 minutes south of downtown, fish so similarly that one approach fits either.

Look for fish anywhere reeds grow in the shallows. That's where you find bluegill, redears and other sunfish — even largemouth weighing up to 5 pounds.

Use a cane pole, fly rod or spinning gear and wade quietly from pocket to pocket, dropping a live minnow (for sale at the bait stand) or earthworm close to cover. A good place to start a beginner.

Field tip: Pay no attention to the guys wading out to their chests, casting heavy tackle toward the middle of the lake. They're using cut-bait trying to catch a big redfish or blue catfish. The most consistent fishing, for bluegill, is right behind them.

— Padre Island The Padre Island National Seashore, which begins at Malaquite Beach near Corpus Christi, beckons with 60 miles of undeveloped sand and surf.

Only the first five miles of beach is groomed. Beyond that, you will need a 4x4 vehicle. Independent souls pack a tent, extra food and a bedroll. That way they mix fishing with camping.

Field tip: For a recorded message on surf conditions and beach travel, call the 24-hour hotline, (512) 949-8175. If you've never fished Padre, go with a veteran or make your first outing a day-trip.

— Upper Guadalupe River: If you can reach the water, chances are, you will catch fish on small topwater plugs or sinking flies. Toss your tiny offerings — usually, no heavier than 1/8-ounce, as close to shaded cover as possible without snagging. Release everything you catch.

DEAR ABBY

Woman can't believe what she hears the second time around

DEAR ABBY: I am a 38-year-old woman. When I was in my mid-20s, my doctors told me I could never have children. At that time I was dating "Doug" and told him about my infertility. He said it didn't matter to him.

We became engaged and I started planning the wedding. After all of the plans were made, Doug changed his mind about wanting to marry me. He said that after thinking it over, being a father was very important to him. I was devastated.

I have now been dating a very nice man for two years. He has told me that the fact I can't have children does not affect his feelings for me, and that if we decide we want a family we can always adopt. He says that he'll never let me go. But how can I believe him, Abby? — CAN'T TRUST IN CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

DEAR CAN'T TRUST: Doug was a cad. However, just because

you got a bad egg once doesn't mean you should give up on finding a man you can trust. Not all men are alike. The one you're dating now sounds like a keeper to me.

DEAR ABBY: My sister and her husband and children have completely severed their relationship with my brother because of his new wife's gift-giving practices.

On my teen-age niece's last two birthdays, our brother's wife has given her a "gift" of used clothing still reeking of our sister-in-law's perfume. My sister and her daughter were very hurt by these tacky gifts.

Our brother and his wife shop for themselves in thrift shops. They don't have to shop there, but they choose to. However, neither my sister's family nor myself is comfortable doing so.

Abby, I'm usually the family peacekeeper, but I'm open to any suggestions. Should I say something, or should I keep my mouth shut and let them resolve this? — IN THE MIDDLE IN TUCSON

DEAR IN THE MIDDLE: It's unfair for your sister to cut your brother out of her life without explaining why. Encourage her to explain politely, but truthfully, why they have stopped speaking —

but after that, you should stay out of it.

DEAR ABBY: Recently, in the middle of the night, a friend had chest pains. She called a neighbor and was taken to the hospital, where she was treated. Fortunately, all is well. However, her doctor told her that what she had done was wrong. He said, "You should never call a friend or neighbor; they are not equipped to help you in an emergency. Call 911!"

She told me this story, and two weeks later, I was at a friend's for New Year's. I ate too much salty food and suddenly was gasping for breath. I had just told them the story about 911 that evening. They did just that — called 911 — and within minutes a police officer arrived with oxygen, administering it while waiting for the ambulance. I'm convinced it saved my life. — RUTH DAIGEN, WANTAGH, N.Y.

DEAR RUTH: I'm sharing your story with my readers because it illustrates what 911 is supposed to be used for — a life-threatening emergency. Thank you for an important letter.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS, and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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



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2nd Harris Co. inmate found dead within week

HOUSTON (AP) — A second inmate within a week has been found dead in an apparent suicide at the Harris County Jail.

Former Baytown police officer Stuart Dale Johnson had been sentenced to 10 years in prison for the aggravated sexual assault of a child the day before he was found hanging in his fifth-floor cell Friday night.

Johnson's death came six days after a capital murder suspect was found dead in his cell on the sixth floor of the jail.

Sheriff's Capt. Don McWilliams said Johnson, 37, was being housed away from other inmates because he was a former police officer.

Johnson was last seen a little before 9 p.m. Friday in his single cell. About 40 minutes later, officers found him hanging from a bedsheet. The sheet had been tied to a television bracket on the wall of the cell.

"There was no indication anything was wrong," McWilliams said.

Earlier in the week, officers found the body of Roger Angleton, 55. Sheriff's investigators said they believe Angleton died from self-inflicted cuts to his arms using disposable razors.

Angleton was awaiting trial in the shooting death of his sister-in-law, Doris Angleton. Ms. Angleton was shot to death in her River Oaks home in April.

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TITANIC (PG-13) 12:30 4:00 8:30	AS GOOD AS IT GETS (PG-13) 12:10 3:10 7:05 10:00
THE WEDDING SINGER (PG-13) 11:55 2:10 4:30 7:10 9:30	BLUES BROTHERS 2000 (PG-13) 12:30 3:30 7:10 9:45
THE BORROWERS (PG) 12:10 2:20 4:40 7:20 9:35	GOOD WILL HUNTING (R) 12:30 3:30 7:05 9:50
SPHERE (PG-13) 12:25 3:40 7:00 10:00	GREAT EXPECTATIONS (R) 12:00 2:30 4:55 7:25 9:55

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DESPERATE MEASURES (R) *2:45 5:05 7:30 9:50	REPLACEMENT KILLERS (R) *2:30 4:45 7:20 9:40
HARD RAIN (R) *2:30 4:45 7:15 9:30	SPICE WORLD (PG) *2:30 4:45 7:15 9:40

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HALF BAKED (R) 2:00 3:45 5:30 7:30 9:35	TOMORROW NEVER DIES (PG-13) 2:05 4:40 7:10 9:50
HOME ALONE 3 (PG) 2:30 4:45 7:15 9:30	SCREAM 2 (R) 2:00 4:30 7:15 9:45
STARSHIP TROOPERS (R) 7:00 9:30	FOR RICHER OR POORER (PG-13) 2:15 4:50 7:30 9:55
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HEALTH BRIEFING

Walk two miles

Simply walking a couple of miles a day can sharply reduce older men's risk of death from all causes, including cancer and heart disease, according to a recent study.

Researchers compared the walking habits of 707 retired men in Honolulu between the ages of 61 and 81, none of them smokers. Over a 12-year period, 43 percent died among the group who walked less than a mile a day. Among those who walked at least two miles a day, only 22 percent died.

The pattern held after researchers accounted statistically for other risk factors, such as high cholesterol levels, obesity, high blood pressure, alcohol consumption and diet.

Cancer death rates were also cut in half by the two-mile-a-day habit. About 6 percent of those who walked that much died of cancer over the 12-year period, versus 13 percent among those who walked less than a mile daily.

Deaths from heart disease and stroke were 66 percent lower among the two-milers.

Few studies have been done on the benefits of such low-level exercise among older people. A 1993 report from the long-running Harvard Alumni Study found a less pronounced reduction in overall mortality, but it included smokers, non-retired men, and those not physically capable of long walks.

"Low-intensity activity is likely to benefit the health of the elderly," the researchers, from universities in Virginia, Minnesota and Hawaii as well as various federal agencies, wrote in the current New England Journal of Medicine.

Besides, they added, it may be easier to get people to take long walks than to get them to do more strenuous exercise.

Study gets a riposte

Dr. C. Everett Koop is fuming. The former US surgeon general, who now heads a group called Shape Up America, has been working tirelessly to get the nation to face up to its burgeoning obesity problem. One-third of Americans are now classified as overweight.

Now, along come the top editors of the vaunted New England Journal of Medicine telling US doctors they needn't mention weight loss to patients who are "only mildly obese." "Many Americans are sacrificing their appreciation of one of the great pleasures of life — eating — in an attempt to look like our semi-starved celebrities," Dr. Jerome P. Kassirer and Dr. Marcia Angell lamented editorially.

The obesity warriors fired back, led by the formidable Dr. Koop. One critic characterized the journal's position as: "Don't worry, be flabby."

The editorial "trivializes the second leading cause of preventable death in the United States," Koop and two leading obesity researchers complained in a letter to the journal faxed yesterday to news organizations. "It is difficult to justify complacency in the face of this growing epidemic now afflicting more than 58 million Americans."

The North American Association for the Study of Obesity also weighed in, as it were. The journal's suggestion that physicians should urge weight loss only for severely obese patients, or those already with weight-related diseases, "is incongruent with our approach to other medical illnesses," wrote James O. Hill, the association's president. "Not all patients with hypertension develop a stroke, but we do not wait for a stroke to occur before treating hypertension."

Kassirer stood firm. "The whole area is a slippery one," he said. "I don't think we have enough data yet to be confident that being slightly overweight is terribly bad for you." For the record, Kassirer weighs 214 pounds and stands 6 feet 1-1/2 inches tall, for a body mass index of 27.8 — slightly obese.

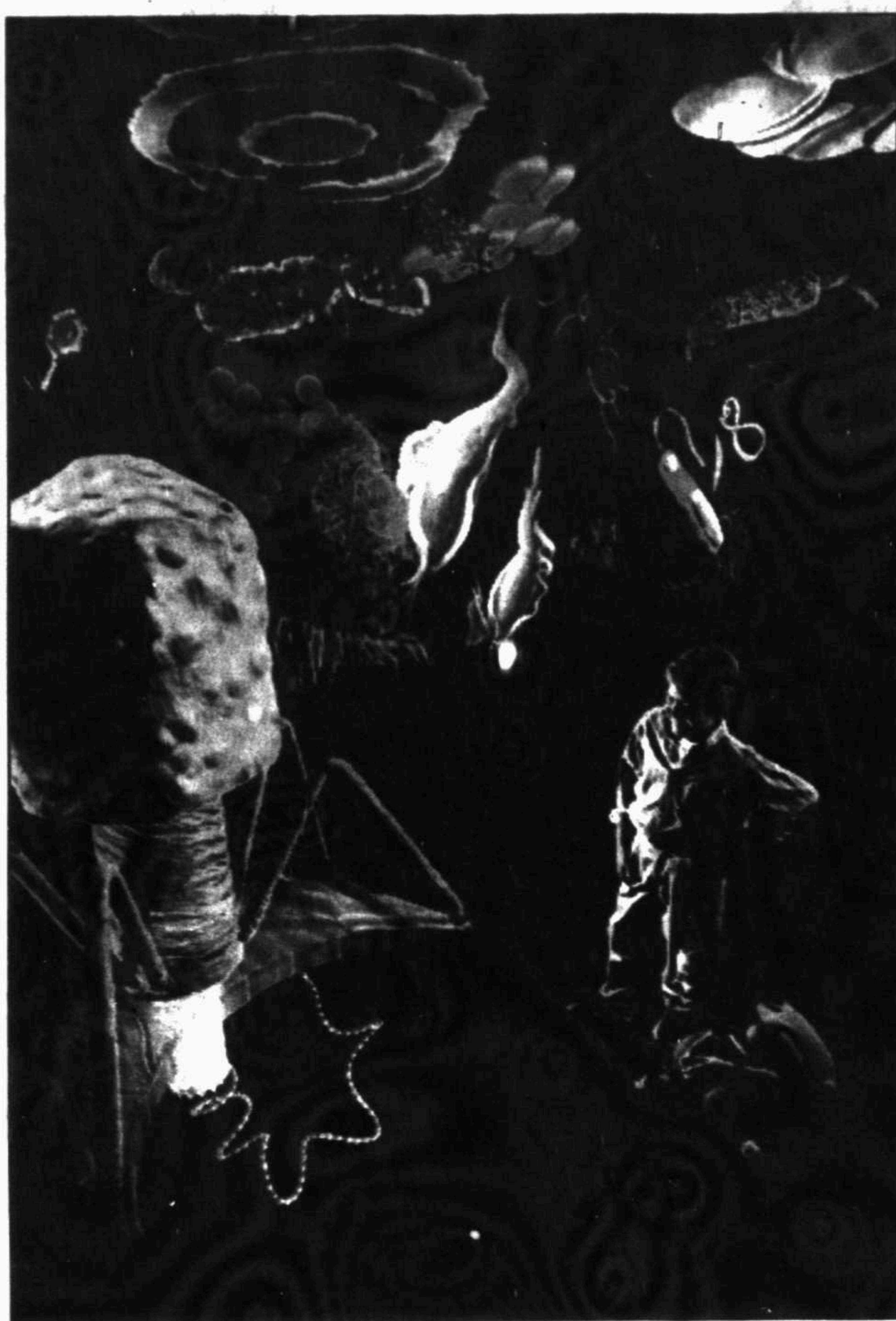
Diabetics genes

Type I diabetes, a disease in which an individual's own immune system destroys insulin-producing pancreas cells, often in childhood, has a strong genetic component. Yet not every type I diabetic's twin gets the disease.

Researchers at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston report why in the British journal Nature published today. Some at-risk twins have immune cells that make a protein called IL-4, which protects against diabetes. The ones who get the disease can't make IL-4.

Dr. David Hafler, senior author of the report, said the finding moves scientists closer to understanding the mechanism behind type I diabetes, and perhaps to a preventive treatment.

Compiled from Reporter-Telegram News Services and "Med Notes" by Richard A. Knox.



Brent Tilley, 12, and Lauren Collins, 10, of Toronto, watch a giant robotic microbe, a bacteriophage, in the eerie Microbial Universe, a section of the exhibit, "Microbes: Invisible Invaders — Amazing Allies," at Liberty Science Center in Jersey City, N.J.

If you go:

JERSEY CITY, N.J. (AP) — "Microbes: Invisible Invaders — Amazing Allies" is on show at Liberty Science Center through May 3.

HOURS: Tuesday to Sunday, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
ADMISSION: \$9.50 adults, \$8.50 seniors and students, \$6.50 children ages 2 to 12.

GENERAL INFORMATION: (201) 200-1000.

EXHIBITION ITINERARY:

■ Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, May 23-Sept. 7.

■ San Francisco, California Academy of Sciences, Oct. 3, 1998-Jan. 10, 1999.

■ Dallas Science Place, Feb. 6-May 1, 1999.

■ Smithsonian International Gallery, Washington, D.C., May 23-Sept. 6, 1999 (tentative).

■ Buffalo, N.Y., Museum of Science, Jan. 28-April 23, 2000.

Top 10 fruits, vegetables loaded with health benefits

By LoAna M. Gonzales
Associated Press

WACO — One of the most commonly repeated health tips from nutritionists and dietitians is to eat more fresh fruits and vegetables.

So you go to the grocery store and stock up on apples, oranges, carrots and plenty of lettuce for salad.

Good move. It seems obvious that all this natural stuff is great for your health. But you might be left wondering why.

Just what is it about this stuff that makes it so good for us? More specifically, what's inside the more common fruits and vegetables that everyone seems to eat anyway? How nutritious are they?

For those of you who have resolved to do those healthy things this year — like eat more fruits and vegetables — here's a list of 10 of the most common fruits and vegetables and how they can benefit you:

■ Apples. That cliché about eating one of these a day gave apples a good name long ago. Lisa Hoelscher, local consultant dietitian, said apples — when eaten with the peel — are a good source of soluble fiber.

■ Oranges. Eat one medium orange a day, and Hoelscher says you'll meet your daily requirement for vitamin C. Vitamin C is "an antioxidant thought to have a protective effect against certain chronic diseases such as cancer," she said. These fruits also contain soluble fiber and potassium.

■ Grapes. Particularly popular among children, grapes contain small amounts of vitamins, minerals and some fiber. Hoelscher said grapes do not contain high amounts of any one nutrient. But as with any natural food, grapes are an excellent substitute to candy

and other sweets kids can't seem to get enough of.

■ Strawberries. Though not available year-round, one cup of strawberries also fulfills one's daily need for vitamin C. Hoelscher said these berries are also high in fiber.

■ Kiwi. Hoelscher said kiwi, which is high in fiber, is also popular with children. Marilyn Preston, syndicated health columnist, said one little green kiwi has more than twice the vitamin C of an orange. Kiwi fruit also has about as much potassium as bananas, not to mention healthy amounts of vitamin E and magnesium.

In general, fruits provide sweetness as an alternative to higher calorie desserts.

■ Corn. If you don't like greens, corn might be one of the only vegetables you eat on a regular basis. Hoelscher said corn is a source of fiber and some B vitamins. Because of its starchy characteristics, it is a high complex carbohydrate choice.

■ Potatoes. Also a good source of complex carbohydrates, potatoes contain a variety of vitamins and minerals including potassium, vitamin C, iron and vitamin B6. As with apples, Hoelscher said potatoes are nutritionally better when eaten with the skin, especially to help increase fiber.

■ Broccoli. Popular for vegetable trays and available at salad bars everywhere, broccoli is an especially good choice for those wanting to consume a healthier diet. Included in this green vegetable are vitamins C and A. Like C, vitamin A is an antioxidant that helps fight against chronic diseases, especially cancer. Hoelscher said broccoli also contains fiber and some calcium.

While broccoli has always been a vitamin-packed superstar, you may also want to start gobbling it up before it develops its trademark green "afro," accord-

ing to recent research from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. "Just-born broccoli sprouts (which look much like bean sprouts) contain anywhere from 30 to 50 times the cancer-proofing power found in the adult variety," according to the research as reported in a story from the Associated Press. "Thanks to very concentrated amounts of sulforaphane, a substance that is thought to trigger enzymes that detoxify and help flush potentially cancerous compounds from the body, broccoli sprouts are particularly adept at blocking the formation of breast tumors and other types of cancer. All you need is a handful or two tossed on a salad once weekly."

■ Carrots. One of the best sources of vitamin A, one medium carrot provides more than twice the daily requirement for this nutrient, Hoelscher said. Carrots also contain fiber.

■ Lettuce. While it does not contain significant amounts of any one nutrient, Hoelscher said lettuce has two main benefits: it is low in calories and is a good base for foods like salad, which often lend themselves to other healthy choices.

Overall, vegetables are low-calories sources of vitamins and minerals.

Hoelscher also said fruits and vegetables are great sources of phytochemicals. Phytochemicals — also found in nuts and grains — are substances that have been shown to provide protective effects against chronic diseases like cancer and heart disease.

"They are not vitamins or minerals, but are thought to have an antioxidant-like action to help fight disease," Hoelscher explained. "Phytochemicals give us yet one more reason to include more fruits and vegetables in our diet."

Presentation helps tell story of microbes

By Joan Brunskill

JERSEY CITY, N.J. (AP) — Never mind the idea of pesky "germs." With colorful visuals and optical tricks, a traveling exhibition turns the demystification of microbes into eye-catching entertainment.

The exhibition, "Microbes: Invisible Invaders — Amazing Allies," is at Liberty Science Center through May 3. Its five-year, coast-to-coast itinerary will include Los Angeles, San Francisco, Dallas, Washington, D.C., and Buffalo, N.Y.

It's a high-tech show geared for children. Interactive gadgets plus flourishes of drama help tell the story of microbes — baleful sources of historic epidemics but also agents of today's benign benefits from penicillin to pizza (the yeast in pizza dough).

"Don't worry," a text label says. "A few may make you sick, most are harmless or helpful."

On a recent visit, local sixth-graders were venting their curiosity with lots of hands-on stuff, whacking "bugs" through an arcade-style game, peering into a yogurt-stocked refrigerator in a set-up kitchen, punching buttons to light up world maps, goggling at robotic figures.

It's intended to be a highly engaging experience, museum president and chief executive officer Emlyn Koster said at a media preview. That's the museum's way of teaching science, in this case focusing on these pervasive microscopic organisms, the smallest form of life on earth, and the many roles they play in our lives.

"Microbes are both protectors and hazards, they were the first organism to evolve on the planet, millions of years ago. It's a very logical subject for a science museum to cover," Koster said.

The installation winds through theatrical settings, dealing with microbes' different aspects. Alcoves re-creating scenes focusing on ancient Egyptians, Aztecs and medieval plagues vie with a jazzy, large-screen cartoon film featuring Microbe Man and explaining the minuscule scale of microbes. Not far from an iron lung used by victims of 1950s polio epidemics there's a video on penicillin, the "wonder drug."

The eerie glow of ultraviolet light ushers visitors into the spectacular visuals of the central gallery dubbed Microbial Universe, with its black walls that make the shadowed space seem infinite.

The designers envisioned a total effect that included models overhead, paintings on the dark walls, and specially composed electronic music.

"We were trying to create an otherworldly environment, a place of wonder," Dennis Bartz said. He's vice-president for design and exhibition development of BBH Exhibits Inc., which produced the exhibition in collaboration with the National Institutes of Health, sponsored by Pfizer Inc.

Giant sculpted microbe shapes loom out of the mysterious dark, slowly moving blobs in colors made brilliant by the ultraviolet light. They are pneumatic robots, showing the behavior of predatory microbes, Bartz explains.

"The one that looks like a big blue Easter egg is a hunter-killer, Didinium. They're barely visible to the naked eye in real life — they are free-swimming organisms, like little sharks, that feed on protozoa."

Nearby, holograms of microbes, glowing 3-D images, float out from the walls toward you. A hologram of penicillin is presented on a circular stand as an exquisite tabletop decoration, like an exotic flower through which you can pass your hand.

What Bartz describes as cutting-edge technology creates the real volume, dazzling hues and complex geometry of large gemlike images that the labels tell you are herpes, polio and HIV.

Further galleries include a virtual sports arcade where visitors can "Race a Bug" and fire "Antibiotic Artillery," among other interactive computer and video games.

"The kids can really get this type of information now, they're growing up with computers and electronics," said Stacy F. Bishkin, BBH Exhibits' president and chief executive officer.

"Science may sound daunting but it needs to be explained and related to our lives. It can be done entertainingly — think of the impact of 'Jurassic Park.' Before then, how many of us knew what Jurassic meant?"

George Remisovski, sixth-grader of Public School 14, Bayonne, decided the show was even better than a book.

"The best thing about it is it's interactive," he said. "You can really have fun looking at all these microbes."

Hypochondria, or fear of disease, can be treated too

By Dr. David S. Goldman
Associated Press

All of us worry about our health. But for those who suffer from hypochondria, a mental disorder characterized by an intense and unwarranted fear of illness, preoccupation with health is a constant companion. The disorder (medically known as hypochondriasis) may affect, in some degree, nearly a quarter of all patients seen in health clinics and physician offices.

Hypochondria most often strikes people between the ages of 20 and 30, and can be a problem for the elderly and children as well. And contrary to popular belief that more women suffer from the condition, hypochondria afflicts both sexes equally. Conservative estimates by medical economists place hypochondria's burden to the nation's health care system at \$30 billion a year. And researchers have found that somatizers — patients whose emotional conflicts are expressed primarily as physical complaints — have medical costs 10 to 14 times greater than the national average.

It is normal for any health-conscious

person to pay attention to vague persisting symptoms, ask doctors many questions, seek a second medical opinion, or even get symptoms after reading about a specific disease.

However, there are major differences between being concerned about health and suffering from hypochondria. To be diagnosed with hypochondria serious enough to be considered a psychiatric condition, a person must suffer from the condition with marked distress for at least six months.

True hypochondriasis has three common features that spell out the definition of the disorder: 1) a morbid fear of disease, 2) preoccupation or obsession with bodily symptoms and functions and, 3) a firm conviction of having a disease, despite medical assurance and test results to the contrary.

Although many people believe that the hypochondriacal person's distress is not real, the patient actually experiences mental anguish and physical symptoms. Mind-body interplay can exacerbate illness, such as an ulcer or even a cold, if one is anxious or under stress.

Many people with hypochondriacal

symptoms ignore reassurances from their physicians and go doctor shopping. Others may withdraw completely from doctors and hospitals, or turn to self-medication, such as vitamins and other sorts of health products. Psychiatrists today agree that intense, long-term psychoanalysis is not effective in treating hypochondria.

But the prognosis for hypochondria, once poor, has greatly improved because of new medications and behavioral techniques, as well as a greater recognition of the problem and changes in doctor-patient relationships.

Physicians encouraged in a managed-care environment to identify and treat hypochondriacal patients, now talk about "managing" the problem and measure improvements in reduced visits to the doctor and in a reduction of complaints.

The first step in the treatment of the condition is a diagnostic assessment to rule out physical disease. This would include a thorough medical history and physical examination, a review of previous medical history records, mental status assessment, ECG, X-ray, a urinalysis and thorough blood testing.

When the history and physical examination point toward a probable diagnosis of hypochondriasis, it is important for both family and physician to be empathetic, to assure the patient that his physical discomfort is very real and to be supportive as he learns to develop better coping strategies.

Toward this end, the treatment for hypochondriasis that appears to be most effective is a combination of medical and psychotherapeutic strategies. Hypochondriacal patients, for example, might have "co-existing" psychological diseases, such as depression, panic disorder, or obsessive-compulsive disorder. All are conditions in which psychoactive drug therapies have proven to be of great help.

Group therapy, progressive relaxation techniques, and behavior modification sessions also can be roads to recovery by helping the hypochondriacal patient focus on other aspects or problems in life, rather than dwell on his or her symptoms of disease.

Dr. David S. Goldman is a Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at the New York University School of Medicine.

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SPORTS BRIEFING

TV Sports

OLYMPICS — XVIII Olympic Winter Games, men's ice hockey (Czech Republic vs. Russia; Finland or Sweden vs. qualifier), nordic skiing (women's 4x5km relay), at Nagano, Japan (same-day tape), noon, CBS.

Figure skating, (ice dancing, free program), speed skating (women's 1,500m), freestyle skiing (men's and women's aerials, eliminations), ski jumping (team event), nordic skiing (women's 4x5km relay), at Nagano, Japan (same-day tape), 7 p.m., CBS.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL — Women, Tennessee at Vanderbilt, 3 p.m., ESPN.

Men, Syracuse at Villanova, 6:30 p.m., ESPN.

Kansas at Colorado, 8:30 p.m., ESPN.

New Mexico at UNLV, 11 p.m., ESPN.

Texas Scores

NBA — Houston Rockets 90, L.A. Lakers 88.

Minnesota Timberwolves 105, Dallas Mavericks 99, OT.

WPHL — Odessa Jackalopes 4, San Angelo Outlaws 0.

Sports Today

JUCO BASKETBALL — Clarendon College women at Midland College, 6 p.m., Chaparral Center. RADIO: KCRS (550 AM).

Clarendon College men at Midland College, 8 p.m., Chaparral Center. RADIO: KCRS (550 AM).

Boy's Hoops Poll

WACO — The weekly high school basketball poll as compiled by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches. Records are through Saturday, Feb. 14:

Class 5A

1. Dallas Kimball (30-3)
2. Midland (28-2)
3. Galena Park North Shore (26-5)
4. Dallas Skyline (23-5)
5. Houston Milby (25-3)
6. San Antonio Clark (29-2)
7. Alief Elak (27-4)
8. Converse Judson (26-3)
9. Duncanville (25-5)
10. Fort Bend Elkins (25-5)

Class 4A

1. Dallas Lincoln (29-3)
2. Port Arthur Lincoln (25-4)
3. Houston Walltrip (26-3)
4. San Antonio San Houston (30-2)
5. Waco University (30-3)
6. Dallas Highland Park (28-2)
7. Lancaster (25-4)
8. San Antonio Alamo Heights (26-4)
9. Everman (30-2)
10. Wichita Falls (22-5)

Class 3A

1. Tulla (29-0)
2. Clarksville (25-4)
3. Kennedale (27-1)
4. Clyde (28-2)
5. Seminole (25-5)
6. Kountze (25-5)
7. Ruak (27-2)
8. Trinity (28-6)
9. Childress (24-6)
10. Gainesville (19-8)

Class 2A

1. Krum (28-1)
2. Little River Academy (29-1)
3. Leonard (24-5)
4. Beckville (27-4)
5. Harleton (22-5)
6. Stanton (15-1)
7. Hale Center (25-3)
8. Buffalo (24-3)
9. Howe (25-4)
10. Lexington (24-5)

Class A

1. Paducah (25-3)
2. Moulton (31-1)
3. Detroit (26-2)
4. Goodrich (26-3)
5. Brookeland (26-2)
6. Aspermont (28-2)
7. Itasca (19-6)
8. Port Aransas (24-6)
9. Lipan (25-5)
10. Weatherford Brook (27-5)

Private Schools

1. Houston Westbury Chr. (25-5)
2. Harlingen Marine Military (20-4)
3. Dallas Jesuit (26-6)
4. Houston Strake Jesuit (25-6)
5. Dallas Greenhill (27-4)
6. Galveston O'Connell (21-10)
7. Fort Worth Chr. (25-4)
8. Grand Prairie Shady Grove (27-11)
9. Katy Faith West (24-6)
10. Houston HCYA (20-10)

(tie) Houston Boys Prep (17-11)

Graf tries comeback

HANOVER, Germany — Steffi Graf, who four times has had to abandon her long-awaited comeback from knee surgery, will try again this week in Hanover.

The seven-time Wimbledon champion, sidelined since an operation on her left knee in June, is the No. 2 seed in the \$450,000 Faber Grand Prix, which begins Monday.

Graf approved her return following practice Sunday at Hanover's Eilenriede Hall.

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Dale Earnhardt celebrates in Victory Lane after winning the Daytona 500 Sunday afternoon at the Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Fla. Earnhardt won the race on his 20th try.

Earnhardt finally wins Daytona

By Mike Harris
AP Motorsports Writer

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Finally!

Dale Earnhardt won the Daytona 500 on Sunday in his 20th try, with 185,000 spectators standing and screaming in tribute to the stock car great who captured the race he wanted more than any other.

"Unbelievable," exclaimed team owner Richard Childress after Earnhardt ended a 59-race winless string, the longest of his illustrious career, with the biggest of his 71 victories.

Earnhardt took his slowest drive ever to Victory Lane, shaking hands and slapping high-fives with dozens of crewmen from competing teams lining pit road at Daytona International Speedway.

Halfway down pit road, the 46-year-old driver rode his black No. 3 Chevrolet onto the tri-oval grass, between the pit lane and the front straight, etching a number three in the grass with a pair of joyous donuts.

"Yes! Yes! Yes!" Earnhardt said before turning to hug crew chief Larry McReynolds. "We won it! We won it! We won it!"

Some of the seven-time Winston Cup champion's crewmen cried openly as they returned to the garage area, their driver having at long last captured the richest and most prestigious NASCAR race.

Earnhardt dedicated the victory at the beginning of NASCAR's 50th anniversary season to three people especially close to him, among them T. Wayne Robertson, the head of series sponsor Winston's sports marketing group. He was killed last month in a boating accident.

"This is for T. Wayne, Neil and Ralph Earnhardt, all those people up there who kept me in front," Earnhardt said.

Neil Bonnett was Earnhardt's closest friend in racing. He was killed in 1994 while practicing for the Daytona 500. Earnhardt's late father, Ralph, was an early NASCAR star who died before his son became a racing star.

Earnhardt led five times for 107 of the 200 laps, but the victory was not assured until John Andretti and Lake Speed got together coming off the second turn and brought out the third caution flag on lap 199.

Earnhardt, barely ahead of the Pontiac of pole-winner Bobby

Labonte and the Ford Taurus of surprising Jeremy Mayfield, was able to stay out front in the desperate sprint to the flagstand. He used the lapped car of Rick Mast as a blocker off the fourth turn.

Mayfield tried to get past Labonte for a shot at Earnhardt, but the two bumped several times and Earnhardt, finally, was home free.

Labonte held on for second, followed by Mayfield and Ken Schrader, who had a sensational drive while wearing a flak jacket to protect a broken sternum sustained in a qualifying race Thursday.

"I don't know what would have happened with another lap," Labonte said. "I've got to congratulate him. I had a feeling all winter he was going to win it. I guess I should have gone out and bet on him."

The winner said he never doubted he could hold off Labonte and the dangerous line of contenders behind him.

"Years of experience helped me out there," Earnhardt said. "I was working to keep the car out front. I was going to stay there until somebody turned me over or we got to the flag."

Please see RACE/2C

Lange's play helps MHS Lady Dawgs stay alive

■ MHS plays in the bi-district round of playoffs Tuesday night in Levelland.

By Lee Passmore
Sports Writer

This past week confirmed just what a valuable role Heidi Lange has played for the Midland High basketball team all season long.

The Lady Dawgs entered last week on a three-game losing streak, having fallen from sole possession of first place in District 4-5A to being only one loss away from their season ending.

Midland High had to beat Abilene Cooper on the road last Tuesday to force a district playoff and determine the third and final team from 4-5A.

Lange saw to it that the Lady Dawgs weren't going to close up shop after Tuesday. Although she has been the team's leading scorer almost the entire season, Lange topped herself against Cooper, scoring a game-high and career-high 30 points to carry the Lady Dawgs to a 51-43 win and force a playoff three nights later at Chaparral Center.

Naturally, the Lady Cougars weren't going to let Lange burn them twice. They didn't do anything particularly exotic defensively against Lange, with the only exception being that their offensive star, the taller Catherine Weir, often was assigned to the 5-foot-7 Lange one-on-one.

"I don't think they really defended me any differently in the man defense but it opened a lot more people up," said Lange after Friday's game.

The stat sheet will show that Lange contributed a relatively meager eight points for the Lady Dawgs in their 56-38 win over Cooper which put them in the bi-district playoffs Tuesday against Amarillo Palo Duro at South

Plains College. With Lange on their minds, however, the Lady Cougars seemed to forget about defending the other MHS players. Point guard Michelle Acosta and forward Sonia Castillo had career highs of 19 and 13 points respectively to lead Midland High.

In terms of scoring, Friday's win over Cooper proved to be the exception instead of the rule for the Lady Dawgs. Usually it's Lange, who is averaging 14.0 points a game, and sophomore Rebecca Nobles who are counted on to put up double figures. One or both of them will likely have to emerge if Midland High is to make a deep run into the post-season.

If Lange's development might seem like something of a surprise to outsiders, it's not to MHS coach Jim Raughton.

"When I saw Heidi shoot the basketball as a ninth grader I saw she had a real nice touch," Raughton said. "There's certain people you feel comfortable with shooting the basketball and she's one of them."

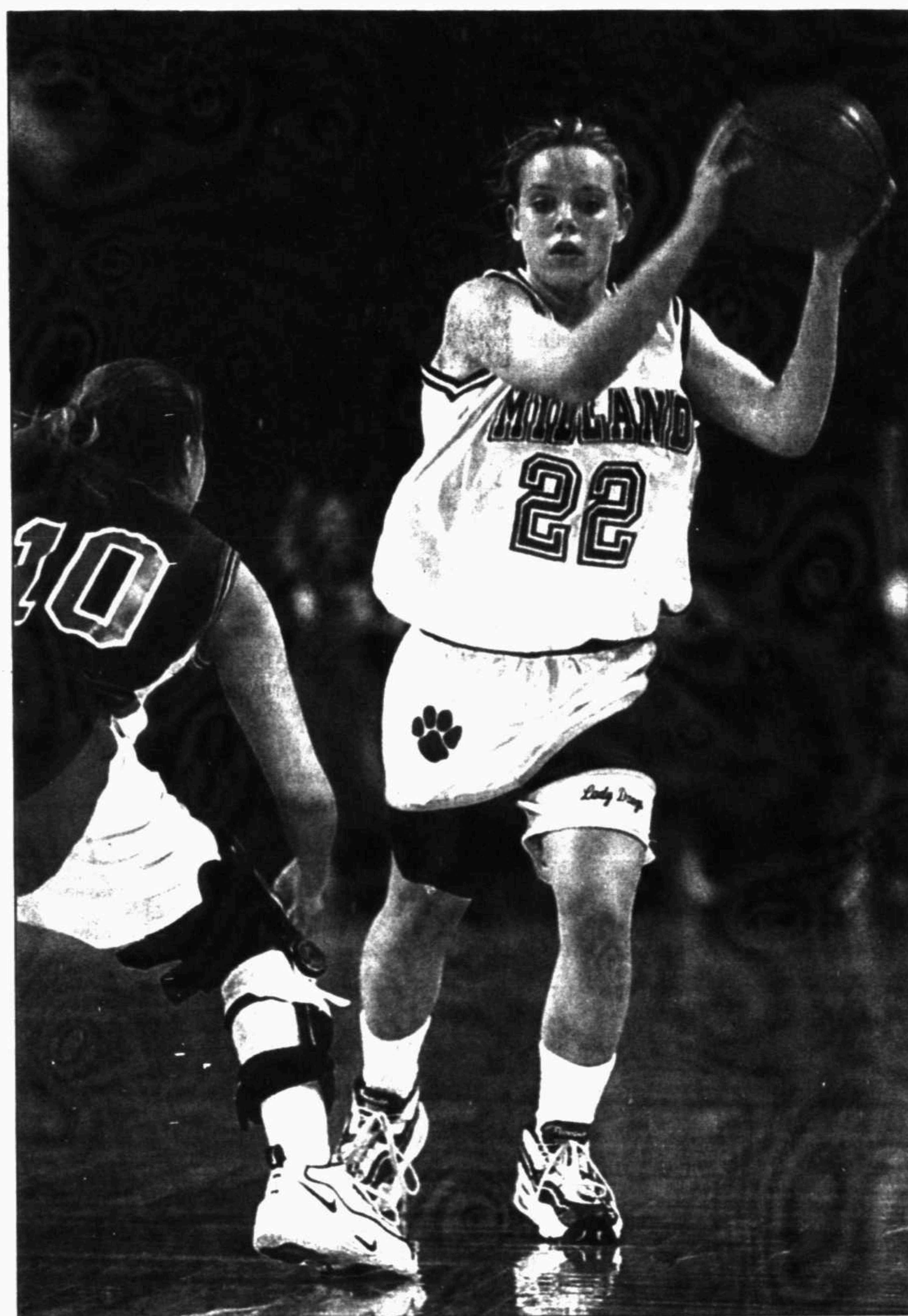
Lange, who leads the team with 19 3-pointers, seems to be ready for whatever challenge an opposing defense is going to throw at her, and she credits the tutelage of Raughton.

"Coach Raughton does a good job of telling you how he thinks people are going to defend you, so I'm ready for anything," Lange said.

Such an offensive output might not have seemed so likely at the beginning of the season. As a sophomore last season, Lange made the varsity and played in all but one game. Her role was like that of a Swiss Army Knife, coming off the bench to fill in at guard or small forward.

Lange still made enough of an impact in her first year on the varsity to average 4.3 points a game and earn praise from Raughton for her hustle, especially at the defensive end. She figured to play a prominent role this season, but she didn't know how prominent.

Please see LANGE/2C



Midland High junior guard Heidi Lange looks to pass in Friday night's 56-38 win over Abilene Cooper. The win secured the Lady Dawgs third place in District 4-5A and a playoff spot.

U.S. loses out on curling bronze to Norwegians, 9-4

KARUIZAWA, Japan (AP) — No more miracles for the United States men in Olympic curling. No medal, either.

And, for the Canadians, only one of the two gold medals they expected as curling made its debut as a medal sport.

The Canadian men, winners of four of the last five world championships, were surprised 9-3

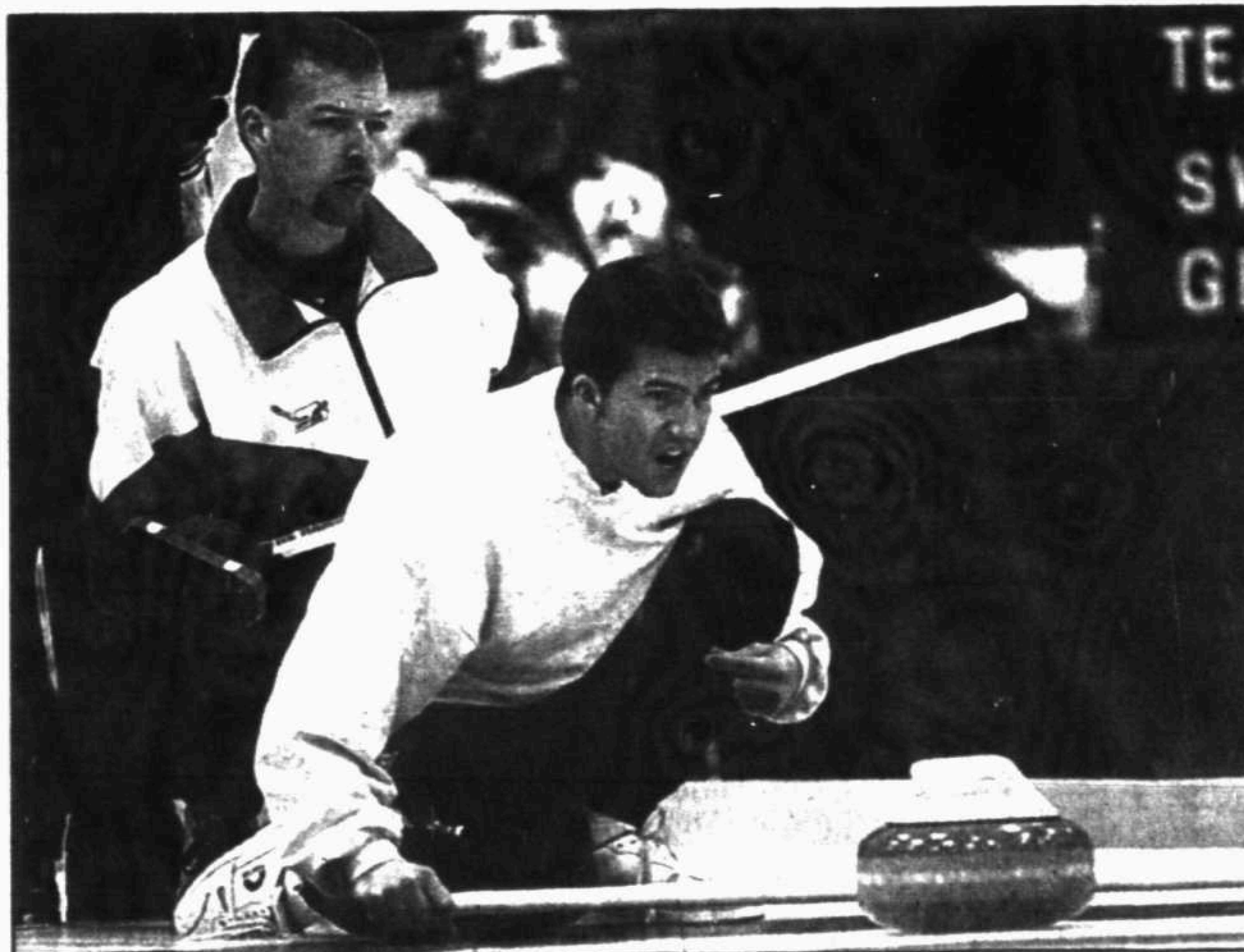
by Switzerland on Sunday in the gold-medal match — a near reversal of Canada's 8-3 victory in round-robin play.

Apparently, the Olympics bring out the best in the Swiss, who haven't won the world championship since 1992 — the same year they also won the Olympics when curling was only a demonstration sport.

The Americans fell well behind early for the second match in a row and lost 9-4 to Norway in the men's bronze-medal match.

The Swiss opened up a 9-1 lead by scoring seven points in the fourth, fifth and sixth ends and the Canadians conceded after the eighth end, partly because Switzerland owned the all-important hammer — the final shot — in the 10th and often decisive end.

The Canadian women, aided by a point in the eighth end that was so close a mea-



Norwegian curler Jan Thoresen, right, tries to coax his team's stone towards the mark in the bronze medal match against U.S.A. Sunday in Karuizawa, Japan. American curler Mike Peplinski of Eau Claire, Wis., looks on at left. U.S. lost 9-4.

surement was required, defeated Denmark 7-5 for the gold medal. It was the first Winter Olympics medal for the Danes in any sport, but it wasn't the color they wanted.

Canada, winner of the past two and four of the previous five women's world championships, got off to a 3-0 start in the first end and led 6-2 after the sixth.

"The team is totally ecstatic," Cana-

da skip Sandra Schmirler said. "We played a strong game throughout and got off to a great start ... (but) they really put the pressure on us and made us make good shots."

Sweden beat Britain 10-6 for the women's bronze medal.

Denmark has never been a factor before in the Winter Olympics because it

Please see CURL/2C

Rival Outlaws shoot blanks against Jacks

By Ted Battles
MRT Correspondent

ODESSA — Up until now, it seemed like wishing on a rainbow with the Odessa Jackalopes having about as much chance for a playoff berth as an Roswell Alien.

It's still a stretch, but the way the Jacks have played the last three games, there's still hope.

Saturday, rookie goalie Michael Tornquist almost got a shutout in a 5-1 win over New Mexico's Scorpions, the first place team in the WPHL west, Sunday it happened.

Goalie Billy Pye, back after his three-game suspension following the riot in San Angelo last week, gained revenge with a 4-0 whitewash of the "hated" Outlaws before 4,711 boisterous fans at the "Jack Shack" Sunday afternoon.

Pye's shutout was the first in Odessa's history, first in two years in the WPHL and first since his days with South Carolina in the East Coast Hockey League.

"The way this team is playing defense, I began thinking about a possible shutout

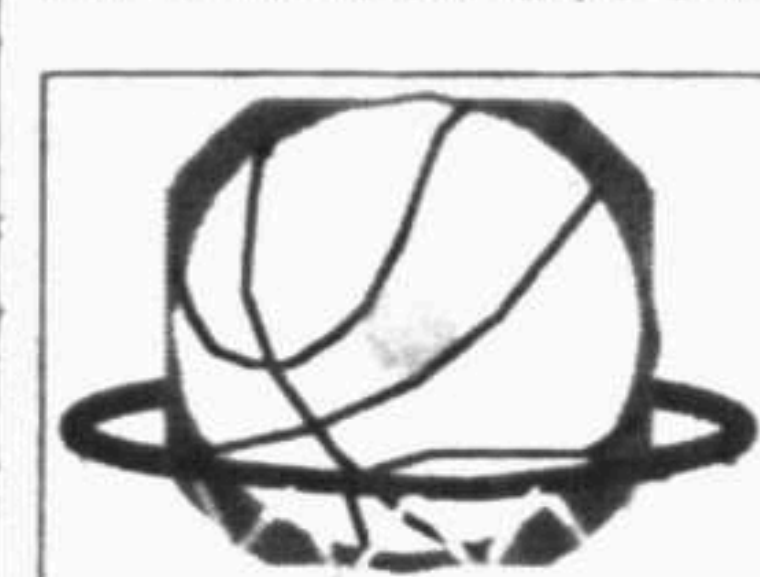
Please see JACKS/2C

WJCAC Basketball Today

MEN

Midland College vs. Clarendon College

When: 6 p.m. Monday.
Where: Chaparral Center.
Records: Midland College is 21-3 overall, 7-3 in Western Junior College Athletic Conference. Clarendon is 10-10 overall, 2-8 in the WJCAC.



Coaches: Midland College — Pat Rafferty. Clarendon College — Joe Mondragon.
Last action: Midland College beat Howard 77-55 last Thursday. Clarendon lost to New Mexico Military 85-80.
Notes, quotes: After coming off two emotional wins last week, the biggest concern for Rafferty and his Chaparrals is guarding against a let-down against the Bulldogs. "My biggest thought is we can't take them lightly. They've beaten Frank Phillips and they're not going to fear us," Rafferty said. The last time these two teams met MC came away with an 82-66 win. "Coach Mondragon had them practicing after the game, so that tells me that they felt they should've played a lot tougher," Rafferty said. "It's important that we don't take them lightly because anything can happen. We can't afford to get comfortable. We have to do a better job of defending off the dribble and we need to play better post defense than we did Thursday. And we need to rebound." Every game from here on out becomes extremely crucial if the Chaps want to win the conference title. "It's important that we don't get complacent and don't get satisfied. We have two important games coming up and if we don't take care of business on Monday, then everything we've been

working for will be thrown away."
Next Game: Chaps head to Frank Phillips College on Thursday.

STATISTICS

Midland College Men									
Player	G	FG	FTA	FTM	T	AVG			
Harold Arceneaux	21	159	86	62	362	17.2			
DeJuan Daniel	24	105	97	63	280	11.6			
Alu Williams	21	84	71	47	216	10.3			
Edward Kirk	23	69	88	65	212	9.2			
Kerth Leslie	22	68	40	24	178	8.1			
James Ware	24	55	50	37	175	7.3			
Jevon Banks	23	38	51	36	128	5.6			
Doug Wade	24	39	40	29	112	4.6			
Walter Newsome	21	36	37	20	95	4.5			
Calvin Williams	24	35	15	9	97	4.0			
Brandon Burney	22	22	28	23	77	3.5			
Lance Robinson	10	7	14	13	30	3.0			
Aaron Hennig	2	1	0	0	2	2.0			
Dennis Ordning	15	12	6	12	26	1.7			
Leander Johnson	6	2	4	3	7	1.2			
Randall Williams	7	4	0	0	8	1.1			
Totals	24	725	627	433	2,002	83.4			

3-Point Goals (115): Ware 28, Leslie 19, C. Williams 19, Banks 16, Burney 10, Daniel 7, Kirk 6, Wade 5, Robinson 3, Arceneaux 2, A. Williams

x=No longer with team.

3-Point Field Goals (120): Bowman 39, Finley 29, Davis 25, Kane 9, Alderman 9, Holiday 5, Mitchell 3, Turnbough 1.

WOMEN

Midland College vs. Clarendon

When: 8 p.m. Monday.
Where: Chaparral Center.
Records: Midland College is 19-7 overall, 8-2 in WJCAC. Clarendon is 16-4 overall and 7-3 in conference.
Coaches: Midland College — Ron Jones. Clarendon College — Joel Zehr.
Last action: Midland College lost 71-56 to No. 4 Howard on Thursday. Clarendon defeated Western

Texas 76-57.
Notes, quotes: Coming off a tough loss at Howard last Thursday night, the Lady Chaparrals now face the challenge of erasing what has happened in the past and focus on the future. "That's been an important game for sometime and it's something that we have to put behind us," said coach Jones. "We just have to get better and get ready for regionals." Now the challenge comes from a good Clarendon team tonight. The Lady Bulldogs have been a surprise in the conference considering they were picked to finish in the bottom half of the standings. "They've only lost four games on the year, they have a couple of skilled offensive players, as deep as we are but a very talented team," Jones said. "They were the Division 2 national runner up last year, so they're used to winning. They play good defense, they play hard the entire game and that gives them chance to win."
Next Game: Lady Chaps travel to Frank Phillips College on Thursday.

STATISTICS

Midland College Women									
Player	G	FG	FTA	FTM	T	AVG			
Janece Thomas	26	131	73	32	294	11.3			
Amie Kane	26	102	63	44	257	9.9			
Brooke Bowman	26	74	47	40	227	8.7			
Tagita Hunter	26	65	63	30	220	8.5			
Shelley Alderman	26	55	38	20	97	7.5			
Jill Davis	26	59	79	44	187	7.2			
Candy Mitchell	23	53	80	50	159	6.9			
Jody Finley	26	64	42	28	185	7.1			
Enca Levy	13	32	56	24	87	6.7			
Autumn Johnson	25	60	66	31	155	6.2			
Marnie Nduye	26	56	36	22	134	5.2			
Fatimah Holiday	22	30	45	27	92	4.2			
Holly Turnbough	26	22	25	16	61	2.3			
x-Betsy Mouras	6	1	0	0	2	0.3			
Totals	26	815	713	410	2,160	83.1			

x=No longer with team.

3-Point Field Goals (120): Bowman 39, Finley 29, Davis 25, Kane 9, Alderman 9, Holiday 5, Mitchell 3, Turnbough 1.

Harry Caray hospitalized in critical condition after Valentine's Day collapse

RANCHO MIRAGE, Calif. (AP) — Harry Caray — the beloved Chicago Cubs broadcaster known for his exuberant "Holy cow!" — collapsed at a nightclub while having a Valentine's Day dinner with his wife.

Caray, 78, was listed in critical but stable condition Sunday at Eisenhower Medical Center. Hospital spokesman Jim Ellis said Caray's wife, Dutchie, asked that no further details be released.

Caray's stepdaughter, Tunie Wells, said doctors said he definitely did not have a stroke.

Dutchie Caray told WGN radio, the Cubs' flagship station, that her husband collapsed Saturday night after he leaned on a table that gave way. Wells told Chicago radio station WMAQ that Caray put his hand on the table when he stood to acknowledge the crowd after someone pointed out he was in the restaurant.

"He simply put his hand on the table, probably just for balance... and the table was not secured, and it came up and knocked him," she said.

"I do not believe that he suffered a heart attack and fell. I believe he fell and if his heartbeat stopped it was because of the trauma to the head."

Caray's son-in-law, Coley Newell, told The Associated Press by telephone from his home in Mundelein, Ill., that Caray was still unconscious but was breathing on his own.

"The feeling amongst the family is that there's no grave concern yet," because he is stable, Newell said. He said family members are hopeful Caray will survive. "Anybody that knows Harry knows how tough he is."

Newell said a neurosurgeon would be attending to Caray.

Caray and his wife have a home in neighboring Palm Springs during the offseason.

A report of Caray's collapse was first confirmed by nightclub general manager Peter Marino and Ron Marino, a former scout for the Kansas City Royals who knows Caray.

"Everybody was stunned," Marino said. "It took awhile for the paramedics to get there. They worked on him for a long time, but there were no signs of life."

Paramedics said they took a man in full cardiac arrest from the Basin Street West nightclub to Eisenhower Medical Center at about 10:10 p.m. However, hospital officials would not confirm Caray was that person.

"We had about seven ambulances come in here about the



AP Laserphoto

Chicago Cubs broadcaster Harry Caray calls a play last year.

same time, and four were cardiac arrest cases," Ellis said.

Cubs general manager Ed Lynch told WGN radio the team is going to sign a big card and send it to the Caray at the hospital.

"Harry's got the knack of being like John Q. Public, the fan, up there in the booth calling the game like any fan would," Lynch said. "He doesn't call the game, he talks to the people watching the game."

The Cubs shared the worst record in the National League last season, and Lynch recalled how outspoken Caray was about the team.

"Harry will come up to me and say, 'When are you going to get some ballplayers?' and all I can do is laugh," Lynch said.

Caray had a stroke in 1987 and cut back his broadcasting last year. After the stroke, and especially in recent years, he has made an increasing number of on-air mistakes — misidentifying players and mispronouncing words.

Nevertheless, fans love him, and he returns the favor.

After every Cubs victory he hollered "Cubs win! Cubs win!" During every seventh-inning stretch at Wrigley Field he led fans in singing "Take Me Out to the Ballgame."

Caray has been a broadcaster for 53 years and is in the Hall of Fame. Before joining the Cubs, he was with the St. Louis Cardinals, Oakland A's and Chicago White Sox.

He has reduced his work for WGN-TV in recent years. Beginning in 1997, he stopped going on road trips with the Cubs, saying: "Road trips are a grind for ballplayers, and they can be pretty tough on announcers, too."

For 1998, the Cubs broadcast team added his grandson, Chip Caray. Caray's son, Skip, is a broadcaster for the Atlanta Braves.

"As friends and fans of Harry Caray's we are obviously concerned for his well-being and hope for the best," WGN-TV general manager Peter Walker said.

Tough finish for defending race, series champ

By Joe Macenka

AP Sports Writer

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — The 1998 Daytona 500 wasn't kind to Jeff Gordon and Mark Martin, two of the most successful drivers in the 1997 event.

Gordon, bidding for his second consecutive 500 victory, led twice for 56 laps Sunday and was in the lead pack battling for the victory when he slowed suddenly with two laps remaining.

Battling what was later diagnosed as a dropped cylinder, Gordon fell almost to the back of the lead lap and wound up 16th in the 43-car field.

"I had some good runs on some guys there a couple of times," he said. "They slammed the door on me. I was just trying to get the thing back in one piece, and luckily, we did."

Martin, who led the most laps in last year's race before fading to a seventh-place finish, didn't lead at all this time. He had to go to the garage early with a gear problem and wound up 38th, 13 laps off Dale Earnhardt's winning pace at Daytona International Speedway.

"There's not any reason or explanation. Bad luck," Martin said. "It's a disappointing way for things to turn out."

POLE WOES: Once again, the

Daytona 500 Notebook

front was the wrong spot from which to start the race.

Pole-sitter Bobby Labonte led the first 14 laps and then from laps 37-44. The best he could do the rest of the way was second, which was where he finished.

No driver has won the Daytona 500 from the pole since Bill Elliott in 1987.

SCAVENGERS: Never let it be said that NASCAR's fans don't have any initiative.

Right after the race ended, Earnhardt drove onto the infield grass along the front stretch and created the numeral "3" — his car number — by spinning a pair of half-doughnuts in his Chevrolet Monte Carlo.

Within minutes, fans descended on the area and began tearing up the doughnuts. Some even used their beer coolers to haul off the souvenir turf.

Earnhardt, sitting up in the press box high above the start-finish line as he conducted his post-race interview, looked down at the industrious fans and waved.

"That's pretty cool, huh?" he said.

CALM DOWN: Rough driving was the main topic discussed in the mandatory drivers' meeting held

by NASCAR officials Sunday morning. With rain predicted to hamper the race, NASCAR race director David Hoots appealed to the drivers to try to prevent wrecks and the delays they produce. The drivers had to run at least 101 laps — one lap more than half of the scheduled 200 — to make the event official.

"You've got to use good judgment to be there at the end. You've got to drive farther than the end of your hood," Hoots said. "We haven't done a very good job of that in practice this week."

The first of the race's three caution flags didn't fly until lap 126, and it never did rain.

CHAMPIONS' DEMISE: Sunday's top 10 finishers included just two former Daytona 500 winners.

Ernie Irvan, the 1991 champion, was sixth, and Elliott, who won the race in 1985 and 1987, was 10th. In addition to Irvan, Elliott and Gordon, there were five other former champions in the field.

Geoff Bodine (1986) was 31st, Darrell Waltrip (1989) was 33rd, Darrell Cope (1990) was 37th, Dale Jarrett (1993, 1996) was 34th and Sterling Marlin (1994, 1995) was 22nd.

DARRELL'S TRIUMPH: Waltrip, who started last, was never competitive. He fell behind immediately, was about 100 yards

behind the rest of the field after one circuit and eventually became the first driver to get lapped.

From then on, Waltrip tried to find solace in any possible small victory. Just past the midway point of the race, he experienced one such triumph and got on the radio to share it with his crew.

"Holy cow!" Waltrip yelled. "I just passed somebody! Yee haw!"

STREAKS: Earnhardt's first victory in 20 Daytona 500s extended the lengthy droughts of two other drivers. Terry Labonte is winless in 20 Daytona 500s and Rusty Wallace is 0-for-16.

VARIETY: Earnhardt became the 10th different winner in the last 12 Daytona 500s, with Marlin and Jarrett the lone repeaters.

TOUGH T-BIRD: Chad Little, driving one of only three Thunderbirds in the field, worked his way as high as fourth just before the halfway point of the race before finishing seventh.

The other two Thunderbird drivers, Robert Pressley and Billy Standridge, finished 32nd and 35th, respectively. Ford this year introduced the Taurus as its official Winston Cup car, but NASCAR rules permit teams to keep using the Thunderbird through the end of the 1999 season.

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The United States' record six-game winning streak ended Sunday in a 1-0 loss to Mexico.

The Reporter-Telegram with Luis Hernandez scoring on a header in the first half of the CONCACAF Gold Cup championship game.

The loss before a lively, heavily pro-Mexico crowd of 91,255 at the Los Angeles Coliseum also stopped a record-tying nine-game unbeaten streak by the Americans.

The U.S. team reached the championship game by beating Brazil for the first time ever, a 1-0 victory in the semifinal.

Mexico, which played the Amer-

icans to ties in two World Cup qualifying matches last year, won the Gold Cup for the third time. The Mexicans had humbled the U.S. team 4-0 in the Gold Cup final in Mexico City in 1993.

With some three-fourths of the fans in the sellout crowd cheering the Mexicans on, their inspired defenders didn't allow the Americans many scoring chances.

Preki Radosavljevic, who came off the bench in the second half to score the deciding goals in the United States' 2-1 victory over Costa Rica in the second round and the upset of Brazil in the semifinals, missed a chance to do it again. Shortly after entering the game after halftime, Radosavljevic had an open shot from 15 feet after a scramble in front of Mexi-

co's goal, but he missed by inches outside the right post.

The first half was a story of two headers: Hernandez made one and the United States' Eddie Pope barely missed one.

Hernandez, who has moved up from the midfield to forward, headed in a cross by Salvador Carrmona in the 43rd minute. Carrmona's pass from near the goal line to the right of the net curled left and away from goalkeeper Kasey Keller, and Hernandez struck the ball solidly to beat Keller to the goalkeeper's right.

That Mexican attack began when Ramon Ramirez stole the ball from defender Alexi Lalas, who was some 10 yards in front of the box and trying to clear the ball.

He knew the roof was going to fall in on somebody.

The feared or anticipated brawl didn't materialize, but the roof still fell in on the Outlaws.

After the second scoreless first period in two nights, Ryan Equale converted a pass from Don Margettie into a shorthanded breakaway goal at 4:06 of the second period. A pass from Rick Girihny found Sami Laine on a breakaway faked Al Rooney into a knot for the score at 4:40. The goal matched his number 44.

Equale scored his seventh goal of the season, on a snap shot in front of the net after a Laine and Tom MacDonald set up at 9:12 of the third period.

Still, with the San Angelo line of Carl Boudreau (the leagues' leading scorer), Ross Harris and Jean Blouin the highest scoring trio in the league, the Jacks were far from home.

The goal of the game came 15:15 into the third period when Dan Lavergne beat the defense on a red line turnover and soloed in for what amounted to a penalty shot. His stick broken, Daniel Chaput, 6-foot, 190-pound defenseman, in futile pursuit, had both arms wrapped around Lavergne in a classic football tackle. Lavergne scored anyway.

After that, the only question was whether Pye could get the shutout and the Outlaws' pressure in the final moments kept the tension high.

"Going into the game, I really felt nervous. I hadn't played in a

U.S. ends streak with 1-0 loss to Mexico

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LOCAL SPORTS CORRECTION

Correction

In Sunday's article on the Region I swimming championships, a local second place finisher was inadvertently left out of the report. Midland High junior Kristin Carson finished second in

the girls 500-yard freestyle with a time of 5:22.06.

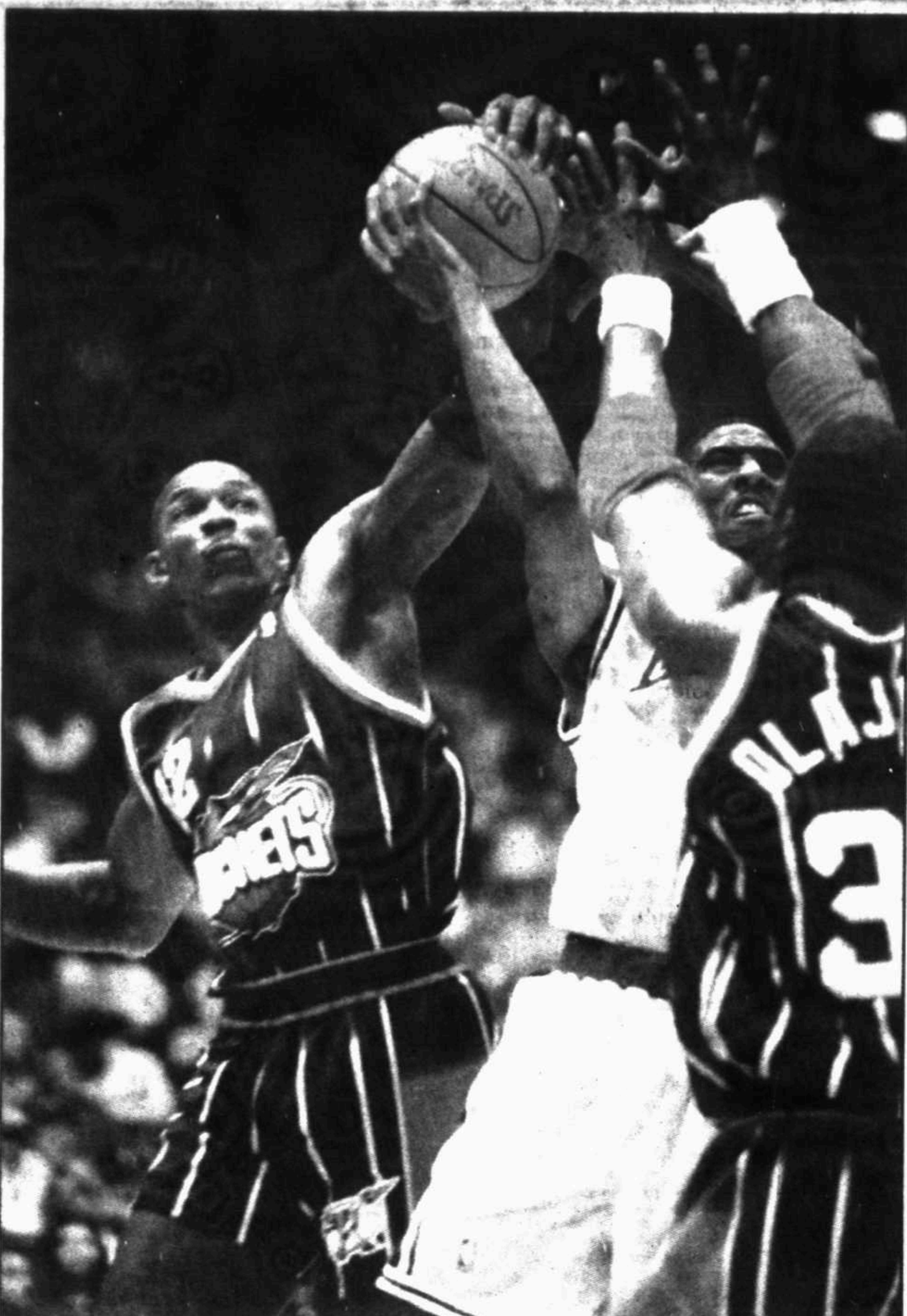
The Reporter-Telegram regrets the error.

LANGE: Lady Dawgs head back to playoffs

(From 1C)

"I didn't really know if I was going to be a starter," said Lange in a thought which might seem preposterous now. "I thought I was going to have to fight for my position. I was a little behind everybody (having come off of volleyball season)."

Lange caught up in a hurry, and it's a good thing for the Bulldogs. Point guard Tarhonda Belcher, a senior who was expected to be the team's floor leader and Midland High's leading returning scorer from last season, tore an ACL in her knee in a preseason practice and has been limited to cameo appearances in only a few games this season.



Los Angeles Lakers' Eddie Jones has the ball taken away by Houston Rockets' Clyde Drexler (42) and teammate Hakeem Olajuwon Sunday at the Forum in Inglewood, Calif.

Barkley admits to drinking problem, hits winning shot

Associated Press

INGLEWOOD, Calif. (AP) — Charles Barkley hit a tiebreaking 20-foot jumper with 3.6 seconds remaining, as the Houston Rockets avoided a four-game season sweep by the Los Angeles Lakers with a 90-88 victory on Sunday.

Barkley, who admitted to a drinking problem on NBC's pregame show, led Houston with 26 points. Hakeem Olajuwon added 13 points and 11 rebounds for the Rockets, who won for the fourth time in their last six visits to the Forum and became the first Midwest Division team to beat the Lakers in 18 games this season.

Shaquille O'Neal, Rick Fox and Kobe Bryant each scored 18 points for the Lakers, who fell three games behind division rival Seattle in the race for the NBA's best record.

Lakers forward Robert Horry left the game with 9:55 left in the third quarter. He aggravated an earlier injury that has been diagnosed as a varicocele — a dilated vein in the groin area that causes pain and discomfort. Horry will see a urologist on Monday for further evaluation.

Rockets leading scorer Clyde Drexler, who missed his first nine shots from the field and finished 2-for-16, put the Rockets ahead 84-82 when he drove the left baseline for a layup and converted the three-point play with three minutes left.

O'Neal tied it at 88 when he lost Olajuwon under the basket

and slammed it home with 25.8 seconds to play. Barkley, who has come off the Rockets' bench in all four games since the All-Star break, then hit his game-winner over Elden Campbell from the left of the key.

Nick Van Exel, who missed all nine of his field goal attempts, had the ball in his hands after an inbound pass from Eddie Jones. But his 18-footer from straight away missed and Bryant's tip-in try also failed at the buzzer.

Matt Bullard, who was held out of Houston's starting lineup because of a viral infection, made a pair of 3-pointers and a 15-foot jumper in a 2:15 span to turn a two-point deficit into a 68-62 lead with 1:47 left in the third quarter.

Houston led 46-45 at halftime despite 0-for-8 shooting by Drexler and 37-percent shooting by the team. Barkley scored 16 points in the half, including 10 in a 12-2 run that turned Houston's six-point deficit into a 40-36 lead with 4:33 left in the second quarter.

Heat 116, Raptors 95
TORONTO — Alonzo Mourning scored 31 points and Miami rolled over the Raptors, who dressed an NBA minimum eight players for the game.

The Raptors were without Gary Trent, Alvin Williams and Kenny Anderson, all acquired last Friday in a trade with Portland. Anderson has not yet reported to his new team while Trent and Williams didn't complete their physical

NBA Roundup

exams by game time.

Voshon Lenard scored 13 of his 25 points in the third quarter when the Heat pulled away.

John Wallace led Toronto with 27 points while Doug Christie and rookie Tracy McGrady added 17 points apiece.

Timberwolves 105, Mavericks 99, OT

MINNEAPOLIS — Stephen Marbury scored nine of his 23 points in overtime as Minnesota outlasted Dallas.

Reserves Sam Mitchell and Terry Porter led a charge that saw Minnesota's bench players outscore Dallas' 48-23. Mitchell had a season-high 25 points and nine rebounds, while Porter had 17 points, eight rebounds and nine assists.

Michael Finley scored 31 points to lead the Mavericks, who fell to 3-23 on the road after snapping a 22-game road losing streak Friday night at Indiana.

Bulls 99, Pistons 90

CHICAGO — Toni Kukoc, a surprise starter after Dennis Rodman missed practice, scored 22 points and Chicago withstood the late 3-point shooting of Lindsey Hunter.

Hunter had five 3-pointers and 19 points in the fourth quarter, helping Detroit close to 74-70 and 95-90 before the Pistons lost for the 18th time in their last 19 games against the Bulls.

Hunter finished 7-for-19 on 3s and with 31 points. Brian Williams had 21 before fouling

out with 3:42 left.

Michael Jordan added 21 points and had 12 rebounds while Scottie Pippen had 20 points for the Bulls.

Golden State 101, Boston 87
OAKLAND, Calif. — Donyell Marshall scored a season-high 30 points and grabbed 13 rebounds as the Golden State Warriors ended their 11-game home losing streak with a 101-87 win over the Boston Celtics on Sunday night.

Golden State, winning for just the second time in 23 games, avoided tying its worst home losing streak set in 1965 when the team was based in Philadelphia. The Warriors' previous win at home came Dec. 23 over Denver.

Marshall went 13-for-19 from the field and had five assists. Joe Smith scored 18 points with 10 rebounds for the Warriors. Antoine Walker's 26 points and 12 rebounds led Boston, which was held to 37 percent from the field.

Kings 88, Wizards 86

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Mitch Richmond's tiebreaking jumper with 91 seconds left was the last basket of the game as the Sacramento Kings beat the Washington Wizards 88-86 on Sunday night.

Richmond broke an 86-86 tie when he scored over Rod Strickland. The Wizards, playing without injured forwards Chris Webber and Juwan Howard, missed several opportunities to tie it or win it in the closing minute.

Huston rewrites record books at Hawaiian Open

Associated Press

HONOLULU — In rewriting one of the oldest records on the PGA Tour and giving the final Hawaiian Open an appropriate farewell, John Huston wasn't thinking about the mark.

Huston put his stamp on the Tour on Sunday with a birdie on the 72nd hole to close out the 33-year-old tournament with a 28-under-par 260.

That broke the Tour's 27-under mark set shared by Ben Hogan and Mike Souchak and easily breezed past the 23-under record for the tournament.

The Tour record for total score for a 72-hole event, 257, wasn't quite within Huston's reach.

"It's been a fantastic week," Huston said. "I kept in control and gave myself a chance for birdies."

"It's a good feeling. It's been a long time (last victory came in 1994) so it's a great feeling to win. And to finish the way I did capped off a great week."

In placing an exclamation point on the last Hawaiian Open, which will be replaced on the Tour calendar by the Sony Classic in Hawaii in 1999, Huston rolled in a three-foot putt on the 72nd hole to claim the mark.

With a huge smile on his face, Huston raised his arms after the putt dropped.

Tom Watson shot a 66 to finish second at 21-under 267 with Trevor Dodds (66) was third at 268.

Tied for fourth at 269 were Mike Reid, Brett Quigley and Greg Kraft with R.W. Eaks, who had the day's best round at 65. Steve Stricker, Olin Browne and Frank Lickliter were another stroke behind.

The 271 group included Peter Jacobsen, Larry Mize, Steve Jones, Duffy Waldorf and Brandel Chamblee.

While the record was nice, the win also gave Huston a two-year exemption. Coming into 1998, he had to use his one-time Top 50 money winner list exemption to remain on the Tour.

"The record might be broken next week," Huston said. "I didn't want it to affect the way I played." But, to that, Watson said, "If you look at it (27-under), it's almost a birdie every other hole. That's playing great golf."

A birdie at the first hole put Huston five strokes ahead of the field. By the turn at the 7,012-yard Waialae Country Club course, Huston was 25-under.

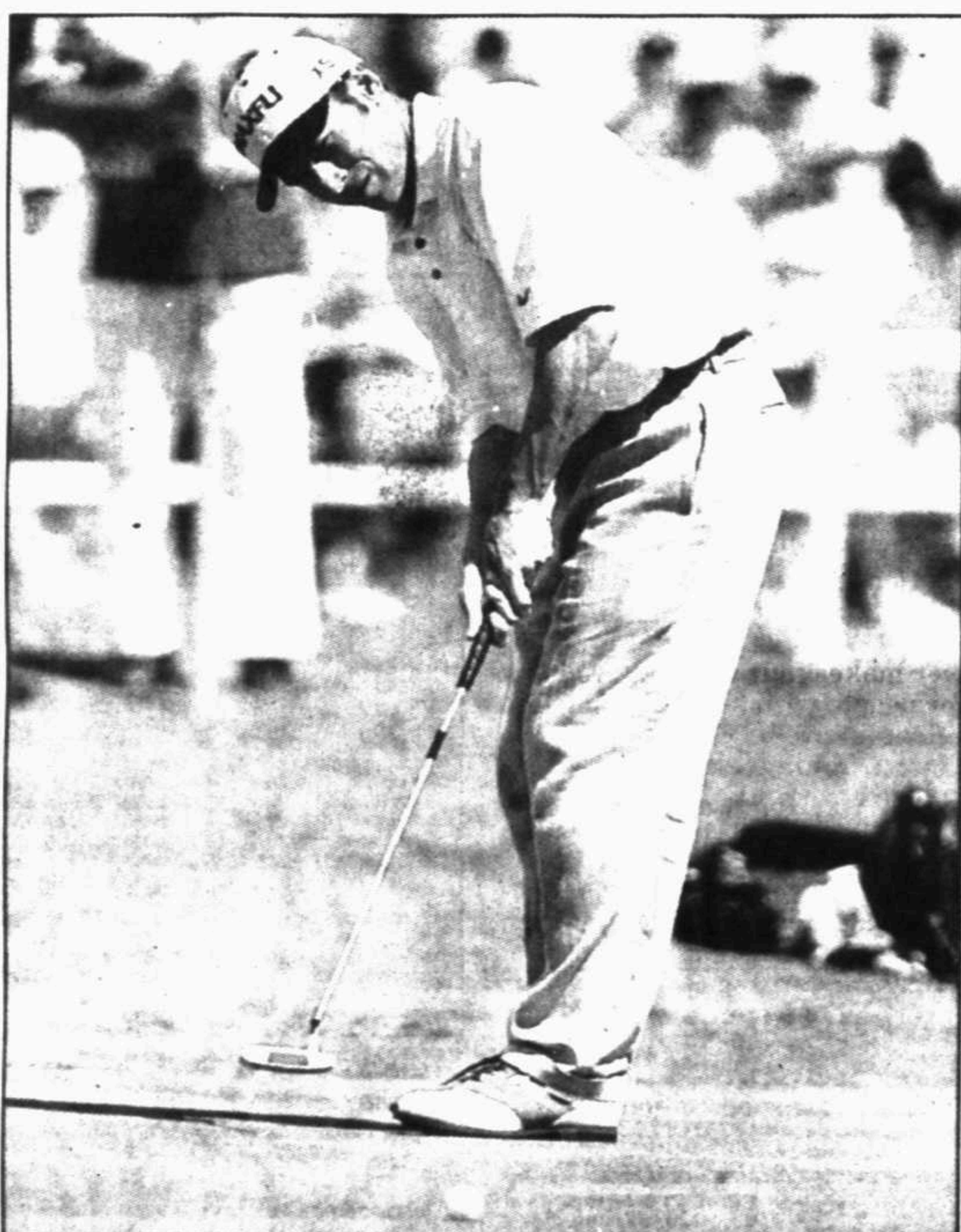
From that point, Huston's only opponent was the record book. The tournament record was a given, so the focus switched to the all-time PGA Tour record.

He stumbled at the 505-yard 13th, but said, "After the bogey (only his third in four days), I still felt pretty much in control. I just kept trying to hit the fairways so I didn't get too concerned."

While most past winners relied on lowering their scores on the course's four par-5s, Huston picked up only eight strokes on the long holes. Instead, he birdied the 411-yard 14th hole all four days and the 427-yard eighth three times.

He also recorded seven birdies on the 12 par-3s.

The \$324,000 winner's check raised Huston's 1998 winnings to almost \$445,000. In four tourna-



John Huston watches his putt on the 17th green Sunday at the Waialae Country Club in Honolulu. Huston, who won with a 28-under-par 260, set a PGA Tour record for most strokes under par.

Golf Roundup

ments, he has won once and finished in ties for eighth and 10th, in addition to missing one cut.

The Sony Classic in Hawaii will be in the same early year position in 1999 and will follow the Mercedes Championships, which will be held at Kapalua's Plantation Course on the island of Maui.

Albus gets back to winner's circle at GTE Classic

LUTZ, Fla. — Two injury-filled seasons left Jim Albus wondering if he would ever see the winner's circle again. With a three-foot par putt on the 18th hole Sunday at the GTE Classic, Albus was back.

A final round 70 gave Albus a three-day total of 6-under par 207 and a one-shot victory in the Senior PGA Tour event over Jose Maria Canizares, Kermit Zarley and Simon Hobday.

"You wonder what's going to happen and you wonder about your golf condition," Albus said. "You can't help but question yourself. It makes this a little more special."

Second round leader Brian Barnes, who ended tied for ninth at 3-under, fell from contention with a final-round 75 that included three birdies, five bogeys and one double bogey.

Barnes' back-nine included three bogeys, a double bogey and two birdies.

Larry Nelson, Hugh Baiocchi, Vicente Fernandez and Raymond Floyd tied for fifth two shots back.

A fractured ankle had sidelined Albus from May until early July last year. He also missed two months following neck surgery in 1996.

The GTE Classic was his first tournament victory since the SBC Presents the Dominion Seniors three years ago. Albus, who also won the GTE in 1993, joined Bob Charles as the event's only multiple winners. It was his sixth career

senior title.

The \$165,000 winner's check pushed Albus past the \$4 million mark with \$4,049,318 in Senior Tour career earnings.

Facing windy conditions, Albus made par on the final four holes despite hitting two bunkers.

"The course played hard those last four holes," Albus said. "Most of the guys backed up a little bit and I was fortunate to squeeze some of mine in."

Canizares, who shot 71 in the final round, appeared poised to capture his first Senior title with a one-shot advantage with three holes left. He bogeyed 16 and double-bogeyed 17 to fall just short.

Defending champion David Graham wound up tied for 12th at 2-under, 211.

Arnold Palmer had a final round 76 and finished at 13-over, 226.

Other notables included Jim Colbert (212), Gary Player (213), Dave Stockton (213), Bob Charles (214), Lee Trevino (216), Gil Morgan (217) and Chi Chi Rodriguez (222).

Trevino fired Sunday's low score, a 6-under 65.

Eggeling wins LPGA tournament on first playoff hole

GLENDAL, Calif. — New clubs and an attitude adjustment have meant more enjoyment on the golf course for Dale Eggeling.

They've also meant success.

The 22-year LPGA veteran shot a 3-under-par 69 Sunday, then made a 15-foot birdie putt on the first hole of a sudden-death playoff with Hiromi Kobayashi of Japan to win the rain-shortened Los Angeles Women's Championship.

Kobayashi, who lost the lead by bogeying four holes on the back side, forced the playoff by making a 15-foot birdie putt on the par-5 18th hole to give her a second-round score of 74 and a 36-hole total of 141. The pair played the 18th again, and Kobayashi hit her third shot into a greenside bunker.

Jelani McCoy quits UCLA team

LOS ANGELES (AP) — UCLA center Jelani McCoy, the school's career leader in blocked shots, quit the team Sunday, citing "intense media scrutiny" in the past several months.

McCoy, a junior, was suspended for violation of athletic department policies and team rules in late September and reinstated to playing status in late December.

School officials never specified what those violations were. News reports indicated that he was suspended for using marijuana.

"McCoy stated that the intensive media scrutiny and pressure that he has endured for many months has exacted a toll on himself and his family which was proving dis-

ruptive to his ability to concentrate on playing basketball," a UCLA statement said.

McCoy played in 15 games this season, averaging 9.9 points and 7.1 rebounds off the bench for the No. 9 Bruins. He had four points and three rebounds in 13 minutes during UCLA's 87-84 victory over California on Saturday.

"It's getting old, I'll say that," McCoy said after the game. "It's getting real old."

McCoy will remain at UCLA as a full-time student for the rest of the academic year. He will not make any other comment about his resignation, the statement said.

McCoy's departure depletes an

More Sports/8C

already thin UCLA bench, making an NCAA tournament run, even more difficult for the Bruins (19-5, 9-4 Pacific-10 Conference).

McCoy averaged 10.9 points and 6.5 rebounds while blocking 61 shots in helping UCLA win a third straight Pac-10 championship last season. The Bruins went 24-8 and reached came within one win of reaching the Final Four.

As a freshman two years ago, McCoy averaged 10.2 points and 6.9 rebounds and blocked a school-record 102 shots.

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SAN JOSE, Calif. — In his dramatic falling out of the confident and Agassi easily Pete Sampras Open final Sunday. Despite Sampras' power and play, fourth Sybase in 1990, '93 and '94. When Sampras match point, raised his head, blew a kiss to Brooke Shields, the crowd gave ovation.

"Today, look and seeing Pete Agassi said, 'I really clean and making the Sampras, the time defense appeared sluggish. He seemed to match."

"He was just game," Sampras bit off."

Agassi went u

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Andre Agassi upsets Pete Sampras in Sybase Final

Associated Press

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Continuing his dramatic comeback after falling out of the top 100 last year, a confident and hard-hitting Andre Agassi easily upset No. 1-ranked Pete Sampras 6-2, 6-4 in the Sybase Open final Sunday afternoon.

Despite Sampras' strong serves, Agassi controlled the match with power and placement to win his fourth Sybase title. He also won it in 1990, '93 and '95.

When Sampras hit long for match point, a jubilant Agassi raised his hands in victory and blew a kiss to the fans, as wife Brooke Shields cheered wildly and the crowd gave him a standing ovation.

"Today, looking across the net and seeing Pete, it felt great," Agassi said. "I was hitting the ball really clean and feeling confident and making the big points."

Sampras, the top seed and two-time defending champion, appeared sluggish despite 17 aces. He seemed stunned after the match.

"He was just on top of his game," Sampras said. "I was a little bit off."

Agassi went up 2-1 in the first set,

with a cross-court backhand for break point. He broke serve again to go up 4-1, and kept command the rest of the way on the fast surface at the San Jose Arena.

Plagued by broken strings, Sampras used five rackets during the match. Down 5-2 in the first set, he continued to rally with broken strings, then playfully pretended he was about to throw his racket into the crowd when he lost the point. Even Agassi laughed.

The two men have not played each other since the November 1996 ATP World Championship in Hanover, Germany, which Sampras won. The last time Agassi beat Sampras was in 1995 at Montreal.

Two years ago at the Sybase, the results were the opposite with Sampras easily defeating Agassi 6-2, 6-3. Overall, Sampras leads the series between the two, 12-9.

Sunday's victory was a sign that Agassi's much-touted comeback was real.

Agassi ended 1996 ranked No. 8, but his game fell off dramatically last year, with his ranking plummeting to as low as No. 141 in November.

This year, a revitalized Agassi

has been on a steady climb, with more final and semifinal appearances than all of last year. Currently, he is ranked No. 71.

He reached the semifinals in Auckland, then this week defeated French Open champion Gustavo Kuerten and No. 2 seed Michael Chang. It was his first appearance in a final since Aug. 11, 1996 in Cincinnati.

Agassi, a wild card entry in the Sybase, was asked if he felt he could return to the No. 1 ranking, which he last held in 1995.

"Is Pete listening?" he joked. "Yeah, I think I can."

Sampras had won 14 consecutive Sybase matches before Sunday's loss.

Finally, Pierce wins in France PARIS — Mary Pierce won for the first time in her adopted country, beating Belgium's Dominique Van Roost 6-3, 7-5 Sunday to win the \$480,000 Paris Open and shore up her shaky relationship with French fans.

"It's great, and a big relief to have won in France," Pierce said. "It's my first title of 1998 and it's a bonus that it was here. The next stage is to win Roland Garros. That's my career dream."

Tennis Roundup

Pierce — a native of Canada, citizen of France and resident of Florida — first represented France almost eight years ago. In 1996, she was cheered off the court in Paris after a first-round defeat she blamed on injury.

On Sunday, she was cheered. But her game unraveled in the second set. She won on her fourth match point after dropping three successive serves from 4-1.

Pierce, the No. 3 seed, won for the ninth time in her career, earning a first prize of \$79,000.

She was lifted by the crowd and helped by a weary Van Roost, the No. 6 seed who also lost serve in the ninth and 11th games. Van Roost held serve only three times all match.

"I played twice today — against Mary and the crowd," she said. "The French public is very chauvinistic."

Van Roost was playing her third final of the year after winning in New Zealand and losing in Hobart, Australia.

Corretja takes Dubai Open title DUBAI, United Arab Emirates

— Alex Corretja claimed his first career hard court title Sunday, defeating fellow Spaniard Felix Mantilla 7-6, 6-1 in the final of the Dubai Open.

Corretja and Mantilla, best friends and practice partners, were closely matched in the first set, with several of baseline rallies extending to 20 strokes or more.

"This is the most important win in my career. This is hardcourt. This is special," Corretja said.

Mantilla seemed to have the edge early, dropping just four points in his first four service games. But Corretja took control in the tiebreaker with a 7-0 sweep.

Corretja, who won \$142,000, broke in the second set to lead 2-0. Although Mantilla pulled back the break in the next game, he was broken again for 3-1 and never had a problem.

Corretja's best previous hard-court match came in the 1996 U.S. Open, when he held a match point against Pete Sampras.

Krajicek wins St. Petersburg Open

ST. PETERSBURG, Russia — In a match between two of the hardest servers in tennis, Richard

Krajicek regrouped late in the first set and beat Marc Rosset 6-4, 7-6 (7-5) Sunday to capture the St. Petersburg Open.

Krajicek, the No. 1 seed from the Netherlands, said he was troubled by Rosset's big serves early on.

"Then out of the blue the match changed," he said. "In the first half I thought I had no chance. But in the second half he made lots of mistakes and made it pretty easy."

Rosset, the No. 4 seed from Switzerland, had no explanation for his change in play.

"It's strange," he said. "I was leading 4-2 (in the first set) and everything seemed to be OK in the game. I cannot really tell you."

Rosset's confidence ebbed as the match wore on. His serve began to fail, his number of faults increasing.

The match featured two of the taller players in the game, with Rosset at 6-foot-7 and Krajicek at 6-5.

Krajicek stayed mostly with his traditional serve and volley while Rosset stuck to the back of the court.

Healthy Living



By improving circulation, massage therapy helps the body heal itself. Registered Massage Therapist Bill Lord says massage therapy can help with many types of chronic pain including sinus headaches, carpal tunnel syndrome, back and neck pain.

Therapeutic massage helps body fight pain

Almost everybody knows therapeutic massage can relieve stress and bring relaxation. Fewer people are aware of massage's ability to improve vascular and lymphatic circulation, making it easier for the body to rid itself of toxins and wastes. Poor circulation and tight muscles often contribute to chronic pain and a surprising range of other conditions, says Registered Massage Therapist Bill Lord.

Taut muscles can restrict circulation and greatly reduce the flow of fluids through the body. This can bring on painful muscle spasms which feel like knots and are referred to as trigger points. These are areas of muscle injury which can be responsible for stress and tension, restricted movement, headaches and chronic back, hip, foot and shoulder pain, says Lord.

Tight muscles in the neck, face and shoulders can especially contribute to sinus problems. Massage can help relieve sinus blockages and their resultant headaches.

While there are benefits to a single therapeutic massage session, "We often recommend massage on a regular basis," says Lord. The first session can free the body of accumulated toxins and allows the therapist to determine what the client's areas of need are. From there, he can recommend a regimen suited to the individual.

Its great benefit to muscles makes therapeutic massage an important first step in getting fit. "Before starting a new exercise program it is a good idea to first have two or three good massages," Lord suggests. This will gently stretch tight muscles, treat tender areas within the muscles and increase energy. It will also allow the body to relax before strenuous exercise begins. Muscles benefit from exercise much more when they are loose and relaxed, often bringing faster results, which can increase a person's desire to continue to exercise.

Massage therapy also helps those undergoing rehabilitation, again by stimulating circulation and helping the body repair itself.

Carpal tunnel syndrome is another painful condition that usually responds to massage therapy. It arises from inflammation of the tendons which pass through the carpal tunnel at the wrist. This causes swelling and pressure within the tunnel, resulting in severe pain. Therapeutic massage of the arm, wrist and hand can reduce stress within the tunnel. This can decrease the swelling and painful pressure in that area.

"The main benefit of therapeutic massage is really to help the body do its own healing, by promoting circulation," says Lord. That is one reason it has such a wide range of benefits.

Lord offers on-site chair massage, a service which is perfect for those who can't get out much. It is also great for corporate clients who want to help workers reduce stress during a particularly difficult time such as a move, a major computer system upgrade, etc. Discount rates are available for companies who want to schedule a "day of massage" for their employees.

Bill Lord is a Registered Massage Therapist. His office is at ClayDesta Plaza, Suite 2575. Call 694-1840 for more information or an appointment.

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Sera-Tec plasma donor helps himself and others

Richard Hill uses the money he receives from twice-a-week plasma donations at Sera-Tec "to help make ends meet." Hill, who, along with his wife, began donating shortly after Sera-Tec's Midland facility opened in September, also likes the fact that his plasma donations help others. They go to pharmaceutical giant Bayer for use in health care products and testing.

"Anyone who has donated for a family member or friend understands the need," Hill says, adding that he has previously donated whole blood for such a situation.

The Hills, who can each earn up to \$140 per month from Sera-Tec donations, put the money into their household's general fund. Sera-Tec's Ramona Redden says many people use the money they earn to save for a vacation, Christmas, a computer or other special purchases.

Among the reasons the Hills donate regularly at Sera-Tec is the cleanliness of the facility and the friendly professionalism of the staff. They especially appreciate the staff's skill at the actual drawing of blood. "I always look away when they begin drawing," Hill admits, adding that they almost never have to try more than once to find a vein. Ms. Redden attributes her staff's expertise to the fact that drawing blood is all they do. "We process about 100 clients a day here, 200 a day in our Odessa facility." That gives them plenty of opportunity to hone their skills, making this a practically painless way to earn extra money.

It's also a way to help others. Bayer makes four types of products from plasma: coagulation products for people with blood clotting disorders such as hemophilia; immune globulin products for individuals with suppressed immune systems; plasma volume expanders, which are used to treat victims of trauma, burns or shock; and an enzyme inhibitor that helps slow down lung deterioration in patients with a certain type of emphysema.

Sometimes the payback for donating can be more direct. Ms. Redden relates that one donor was saving his earnings to buy a computer. Three months after starting, he was seriously burned in an industrial accident. He used his accumulated donation earnings to support his family during the waiting period for worker's compensation to begin. Also, during his burn center treatment, he was given some of the types of products his own plasma had been used for.

After his recovery, Ms. Redden says he returned to donating, finally getting his computer a few months ago.

The Hills also appreciate the fact that donating helps them monitor their own health. On their first visit, prospective donors are given a complete physical and fill out a medical history questionnaire. At each visit thereafter they are tested for certain blood-transmitted diseases. Ms. Redden says Sera-Tec has just added a new test that catches Hepatitis C within two weeks of exposure, instead of the previous

six to eight weeks.

To find out how you can join the Hills in helping your community and yourself, stop by or call the Sera-Tec Plasma Center.

Sera-Tec Plasma Center is located in Northland Shopping Center at A and Scharbauer. Hours are 9-6 Tuesday and Thursday, 9-4 Wednesday and Friday, 9-4 Saturday, closed Sunday and Monday. The phone number is 570-6093. Sera-Tec also has a facility at 1413 E. 8th in Odessa.



Plasma donor Richard Hill gets paid for donating at Sera-Tec Plasma Center. He also receives regular blood testing.

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PEOPLE

Sharon Stone exchanges vows with newspaper editor on Valentine's Day



Actress Sharon Stone, 39, and San Francisco Examiner executive editor Phil Bronstein, 47, pose after their wedding ceremony, at her home, in Beverly Hills, Calif., Saturday.

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. — Sharon Stone made it easy to remember her anniversary by getting married on Valentine's Day.

The 39-year-old actress, who stars in the new Barry Levinson thriller, "Sphere," exchanged vows Saturday night with San Francisco newspaper editor Phil Bronstein, her publicist said Sunday.

The Valentine party at her home hadn't been announced previously, and no details of the ceremony were made public in the brief news release by Cindi Berger of the PMK agency.

Stone starred with Michael Douglas in the 1992 box office hit "Basic Instinct." Bronstein, 47, is executive editor of the San Francisco Examiner.

She was co-producer and starred in the Western "The Quick and the Dead" in 1995 and in "Casino" with Robert De Niro the same year.

drive 10 hours to camp out in front of the singing trio's home.

"Four of five cars will just sit there," Taylor says. "Having fans like that is what keeps you able to do it, having fans that will stay up all night to get tickets for a concert."



Taylor Hanson, center in this May 1997 file photo with brothers Isaac, left, and Zac, right, says in the Feb. 21, 1998 issue of TV Guide that devotees sometimes drive 10 hours to camp out in front of the singing trio's home. Hanson skyrocketed to the top of the teen idol scene last year with their upbeat, chart-topping "MMMBop."

Brothers Zac, 12, Taylor, 14, and Isaac, 17, skyrocketed from Tulsa's obscurity to the top of the teen idol scene last year with their upbeat, chart-topping "MMMBop."

During a recent trip to Indonesia, a crush of fans tore at the Hansons' clothes and hair. But the brothers took it all in stride.

"It's a humbling experience because you don't witness that often. So it's like, 'Whoa! Why is this happening?'" says Isaac.

But there's still one group of admirers the Hansons don't want to attract en masse. The trio recently rejected a proposal to do a special with toddler-magnet Barney.

NEW YORK — Paula Cole looks white, but she doesn't feel like it.

"I grew up in one of the whitest cultures you could pick, but that's not where my soul is. In my soul I feel I am more African than I am a white Yankee," says the Rockport, Mass., native. "I'm just drawn to black culture, black music, black art."

The 29-year-old singer-songwriter even keeps a sculpture of a big-breasted African matriarch above the bed she shares with her boyfriend, Nigerian musician and filmmaker Seyi Sonuga.

Cole may have a few more things to put on her mantle after Feb. 25, when the Grammy Award winners are announced. She was nominated last month for seven Grammys, including for best new artist, song of the year and album of the year.

Compiled from Reporter-Telegram wire reports.

TODAY'S TV SCHEDULE

MONDAY EVENING				February 16, 1998				For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings					
Broadcast	C	6:00	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
3 KMD	23	News 177	Wheel of Fortune	America's Funniest Home Videos 9535 (TV-G)	20/20 2055	The Practice (Part 2 of 2) 5719 (TV-14)	Earth: Final Conflict 16500 (TV-PG)	Home Improvement	Mad About You	News 18552	Cheers 27500	Nightline 1245	Kenan! 1 Wayans
5 KPEJ	24	The Simpsons	Home Improvement	Malcolm Place 90516 (TV-14-LV)	Ally McBeal: Cro-Magnon 37844 (TV-14-DLS)	Speed Skating	News 7518041	Late Show With David Letterman (11:35)	Late Show With David Letterman (11:35)	News 7518041	Late Show With David Letterman (11:35)	Late Show With David Letterman (11:35)	Late Show With David Letterman (11:35)
7 KOSA	7	News 5551	Grace Under Fire	XVIII Winter Olympics: Cross-Country Skiing, Figure Skating, Freestyle Skiing, Ski Jumping	A Few Good Men (R, 10) (PG-13) (Tom Cruise, Jack Nicholson) 41358	News 8724897	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno (10:35)	Late Night (10:35)	Late Night (10:35)	News 8724897	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno (10:35)	Late Night (10:35)	Late Night (10:35)
8 KWES	9	News 4887	Seinfeld 2239	Seinfeld 2239	Seinfeld 2239	Seinfeld 2239	Seinfeld 2239	Seinfeld 2239	Seinfeld 2239	Seinfeld 2239	Seinfeld 2239	Seinfeld 2239	Seinfeld 2239
12 KMLM	42	D. Burke	J. Hage	The Light of the Southwest 11508	The American Experience: The Kennedy (Part 1 of 2) 35855	News 8724897	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno (10:35)	Late Night (10:35)	Late Night (10:35)	News 8724897	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno (10:35)	Late Night (10:35)	Late Night (10:35)
13 KOCV	36	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer 511097	Antiques Roadshow 449719 (TV-G)	The American Experience: The Kennedy (Part 1 of 2) 35855	The American Experience: The Kennedy (Part 1 of 2) 35855	News 8724897	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno (10:35)	Late Night (10:35)	Late Night (10:35)	News 8724897	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno (10:35)	Late Night (10:35)	Late Night (10:35)
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8 CNBC	8	News 177	Wheel of Fortune	America's Funniest Home Videos 9535 (TV-G)	20/20 2055	The Practice (Part 2 of 2) 5719 (TV-14)	Earth: Final Conflict 16500 (TV-PG)	Home Improvement	Mad About You	News 18552	Cheers 27500	Nightline 1245	Kenan! 1 Wayans
10 WGN	10	Family Matters Coach 584177	7th Heaven 73516 (TV-G)	Three Blind Mice 742264 (TV-PG-V)	Three Blind Mice 742264 (TV-PG-V)	Three Blind Mice 742264 (TV-PG-V)	Three Blind Mice 742264 (TV-PG-V)	Three Blind Mice 742264 (TV-PG-V)	Three Blind Mice 742264 (TV-PG-V)	Three Blind Mice 742264 (TV-PG-V)	Three Blind Mice 742264 (TV-PG-V)	Three Blind Mice 742264 (TV-PG-V)	Three Blind Mice 742264 (TV-PG-V)
11 WTBS	11	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith
14 FAM	14	The Waltons: The Women	The Waltons: The Women	The Waltons: The Women	The Waltons: The Women	The Waltons: The Women	The Waltons: The Women	The Waltons: The Women	The Waltons: The Women	The Waltons: The Women	The Waltons: The Women	The Waltons: The Women	The Waltons: The Women
24 BRAV	24	Ray Charles	Ray Charles	Ray Charles	Ray Charles	Ray Charles	Ray Charles	Ray Charles	Ray Charles	Ray Charles	Ray Charles	Ray Charles	Ray Charles
26 BET	26	Planet Groove 280871	Planet Groove 280871	Planet Groove 280871	Planet Groove 280871	Planet Groove 280871	Planet Groove 280871	Planet Groove 280871	Planet Groove 280871	Planet Groove 280871	Planet Groove 280871	Planet Groove 280871	Planet Groove 280871
27 DISN	27	Disney's Magical World	Disney's Magical World	Disney's Magical World	Disney's Magical World	Disney's Magical World	Disney's Magical World	Disney's Magical World	Disney's Magical World	Disney's Magical World	Disney's Magical World	Disney's Magical World	Disney's Magical World
28 CNN	28	Moneyline	Crossfire	The World Today	The World Today	The World Today	The World Today	The World Today	The World Today	The World Today	The World Today	The World Today	The World Today
29 ESPN	29	SportsCenter (5-30)	SportsCenter (5-30)	SportsCenter (5-30)	SportsCenter (5-30)	SportsCenter (5-30)	SportsCenter (5-30)	SportsCenter (5-30)	SportsCenter (5-30)	SportsCenter (5-30)	SportsCenter (5-30)	SportsCenter (5-30)	SportsCenter (5-30)
30 USA	30	Dog Tales 87061	Dog Tales 87061	Dog Tales 87061	Dog Tales 87061	Dog Tales 87061	Dog Tales 87061	Dog Tales 87061	Dog Tales 87061	Dog Tales 87061	Dog Tales 87061	Dog Tales 87061	Dog Tales 87061
31 FX	31	Miami Vice 850948	Miami Vice 850948	Miami Vice 850948	Miami Vice 850948	Miami Vice 850948	Miami Vice 850948	Miami Vice 850948	Miami Vice 850948	Miami Vice 850948	Miami Vice 850948	Miami Vice 850948	Miami Vice 850948
32 A&E	32	Law & Order 221887 (TV-PG)	Law & Order 221887 (TV-PG)	Law & Order 221887 (TV-PG)	Law & Order 221887 (TV-PG)	Law & Order 221887 (TV-PG)	Law & Order 221887 (TV-PG)	Law & Order 221887 (TV-PG)	Law & Order 221887 (TV-PG)	Law & Order 221887 (TV-PG)	Law & Order 221887 (TV-PG)	Law & Order 221887 (TV-PG)	Law & Order 221887 (TV-PG)
33 TLC	33	Vita's Home Again	Vita's Home Again	Vita's Home Again	Vita's Home Again	Vita's Home Again	Vita's Home Again	Vita's Home Again	Vita's Home Again	Vita's Home Again	Vita's Home Again	Vita's Home Again	Vita's Home Again
34 NICK	34	Doug 814874	Doug 814874	Doug 814874	Doug 814874	Doug 814874	Doug 814874	Doug 814874	Doug 814874	Doug 814874	Doug 814874	Doug 814874	Doug 814874
35 LIFE	35	Intimate Portrait	Intimate Portrait	Intimate Portrait	Intimate Portrait	Intimate Portrait	Intimate Portrait	Intimate Portrait	Intimate Portrait	Intimate Portrait	Intimate Portrait	Intimate Portrait	Intimate Portrait
36 OUTDR	36	Great Outdoors	Great Outdoors	Great Outdoors	Great Outdoors	Great Outdoors	Great Outdoors	Great Outdoors	Great Outdoors	Great Outdoors	Great Outdoors	Great Outdoors	Great Outdoors
42 UNI	42	Emerald 26294 (TV-PG)	Emerald 26294 (TV-PG)	Emerald 26294 (TV-PG)	Emerald 26294 (TV-PG)	Emerald 26294 (TV-PG)	Emerald 26294 (TV-PG)	Emerald 26294 (TV-PG)	Emerald 26294 (TV-PG)	Emerald 26294 (TV-PG)	Emerald 26294 (TV-PG)	Emerald 26294 (TV-PG)	Emerald 26294 (TV-PG)
43 FSN	43	The Last Word	The Last Word	The Last Word	The Last Word	The Last Word	The Last Word	The Last Word	The Last Word	The Last Word	The Last Word	The Last Word	The Last Word
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DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Edited by Trude Michel Jaffe

ACROSS 1 Shed feathers 5 Sour 10 Tent 14 Essayist Lamb 15 Saree wearer 16 To the sheltered side 17 Foreteller 18 Expunge 19 — and file 20 Lodging, of a sort 22 Exposed to capture in chess 24 — fashion: quickly 26 George of baseball 29 Family member 30 Main artery 34 Part of the Indian Ocean 36 Urbana's state 38 Eureka! 39 Type of roast 41 Even, to Donne 42 US money 43 High-energy photon 46 Fla. city 48 Photographer Adams 49 Part of SPCA 51 "... the way — it" 52 Canape topping 55 Courteous reply 58 Passage between buildings 62 Silkworm 63 Firma or cotta lead-in 65 Tony Musante series 66 — spumante 67 Concluded 68 Knievel 69 Symbol of slowness 70 One of fifty 71 Beach sight, in England	DOWN 1 Interlace 2 Bread spread 3 Tall tales 4 La Brea — 5 Betel palm 6 Signs of omission 7 Bambi's aunt 8 Look like 9 Geoffrey of fashion 10 Keep going 11 Jai — 12 — singles, in tennis 13 Small dog, for short 21 Among other things: Lat 23 Mournful 25 Three, in old Roma 26 Sonia of "Moon Over Parador" 27 Actress Ada 28 Dutch cheeses 31 Aaron Copland score 32 Leans	33 Talent, for one 35 Broadcast 37 "— Syphides" 40 Bargain — 44 Disney's "The Little —" 45 — hoo 47 Like a kilt 50 Red wine 53 Goose liver spreads 54 Muslim decree 55 12-months 56 Scots Gaelic 57 Location 59 Used a loom 60 So be it 61 Eastern university 64 Dept. of Agriculture inits.
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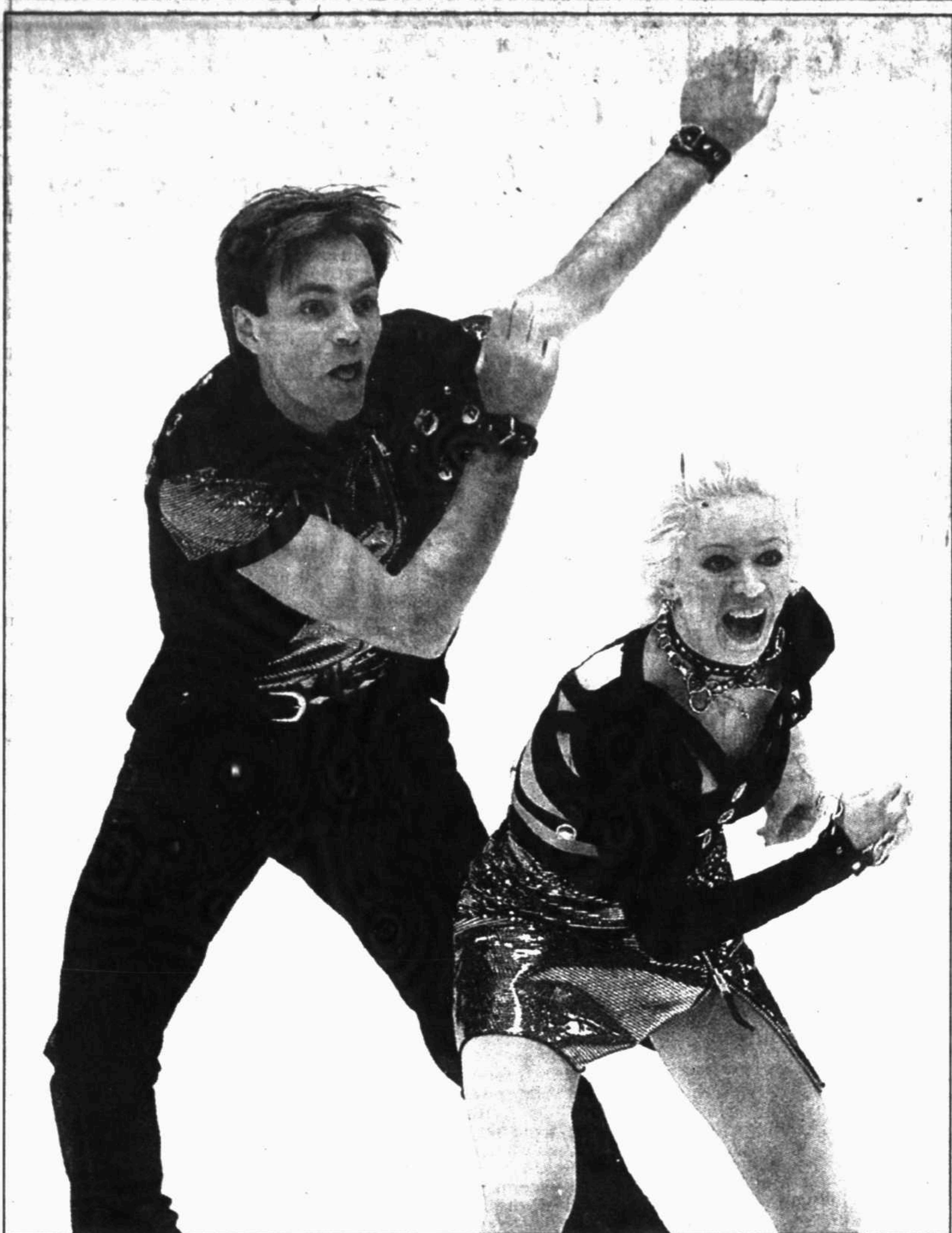
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2/16/98

By Geraldine S. Harris
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2/16/98



Russia's Pasha Grishuk and Evgeny Platov perform their routine during the ice dancing original dance competition at the XVIII Winter Olympics in Nagano, Japan, on Sunday. The Russian couple shaked, rattled and rolled to Elvis Presley's "Jailhouse Rock" to stay in first place.

Ice dancers rock around rink in original routines

By Nancy Armour
AP Sports Writer

NAGANO, Japan — Rockin' and rollin', twistin' and turnin', jukin' and jivin', with more leather than a biker convention and skirts so short they'd make a mother shudder.

Forget the nasty things you've heard about boring old ice dancing. It surely came to life Sunday night — and it had nothing to do with a judging controversy.

Jive was the rhythm of choice for the Olympic original dance, and to live things up, the International Skating Union did something radical — it allowed vocals. So instead of waltzes and tangos that have the effect of sleeping pills, the 24 couples rocked around the rink to Jerry Lee Lewis, Little Richard and Elvis.

"A lot of times people don't understand the meaning of the dance you're doing. But if you put rock 'n' roll out there, everyone knows what it is," said American Elizabeth Punsalan, in seventh place with husband Jerod Swallow. "You can't help but just start moving to it."

The leaders did plenty of shimmying and shaking, but no moving — at least not in the standings. Russians Pasha Grishuk and Yevgeny Platov, who have a 21-event winning streak going, stayed in first place with a fiery routine to "Jailhouse Rock" that would have made Presley proud.

Their usual challengers, Anjelika Krylova and Oleg Ovsyannikov, were second, despite a 6.0 for

artistry from the Russian judge, Marina Anissina and Gwendal Peizerat of France were third.

Americans Jessica Joseph and Charles Butler moved up one spot to 20th with a spirited routine to "Great Balls of Fire."

The original dance is worth 30 percent. The free dance, worth 50 percent, is Monday.

While the ice dancers were swingin' and swayin', the crowd was surprisingly quiet. Only a few routines excited the audience enough to clap along — and it couldn't have been because they didn't know the words.

"Great Balls of Fire," for example, was played five times; music from the musical "Grease" was popular, too.

"I think it was a very entertaining night," Swallow said. "One thing the rock 'n' roll let us do was come up with unique movements you can't do in the free dance."

That's for sure. Diane Gerencser of Italy grabbed her chest at the start of her skate to "You're The One That I Want" from "Grease." Platov opened by unzipping the bottom of Grishuk's silver lame skirt.

"The words say, 'Let's rock, everybody,'" so it is great for the audience," Grishuk said.

With that one risqué move, Grishuk and Platov were off, writhing and wiggling across the ice. Their footwork was inventive and intricate, and they had some of the sharpest flips of the night.

Their only miscue was Grishuk's outfit: a black dominatrix-looking bustier, accented by a dog collar

with huge silver rings and chains, and purple skates.

The judges must have liked it, though, awarding Grishuk and Platov eight 5.9s. They were first with five judges.

Of course, ice dancing wouldn't be ice dancing without someone crabbing about the judging, and Sunday night was no exception.

Krylova and Ovsyannikov, skating last, were in perfect unison throughout their entire routine to "Five Months." They had some moves that looked more like a game of hide-and-seek than a dance routine. With Krylova skating in front, Ovsyannikov was blocked out and they looked like one person.

But even with the 6.0, they were first with only four judges. Keeping with the spirited theme of the night, the couple stormed out after getting their marks and refused to speak to reporters.

Natalia Dubova, coach of Shae-Lynn Bourne and Victor Kraatz, wasn't so tight-lipped. Performing their "Greased Lightning" routine for the first time, the Canadians thought they deserved better than fourth place.

"I feel they won the competition tonight. They were the best," said Dubova, who accused the judges of conspiring to keep the two-time bronze world medalists off the podium after the compulsory dances.

"It's definitely blocked," she claimed. "We cannot do anything about it. It's upsetting and it's impossible."

IOC head criticizes '60 Minutes'

By Larry Siddons
AP Sports Writer

NAGANO, Japan — Since the Olympics are being televised by CBS, International Olympic Committee chief Juan Antonio Samaranch thought he could look forward to a friendly interview when "60 Minutes" came calling.

Instead, in a rare conflict between the IOC and its single biggest source of revenue, Samaranch said he was blindsided when reporter Bob Simon asked him about his role in the fascist regime of Spanish dictator Francisco Franco and some touchy Olympic questions.

"I was really disappointed because I feel like I was in an ambush," said Samaranch, who claimed that because he lives in Spain, he had never heard of the award-winning news program before last month.

"I have never seen '60 Minutes.' Never. I am familiar with CNN International. But CBS, it's domestic," he said during an interview Sunday.

Samaranch asked Michael Jordan, chairman of CBS parent

Westinghouse Corp., for a chance to redo the interview in Spanish when the two met Friday, explaining that he considers English his fourth language, behind Spanish, Catalan and French.

"I explained to him what happened," Samaranch said. "His reaction was saying that he was very sorry that that happened, but that he has to respect the work of his journalists, that that has been his policy all his life."

As of Sunday, CBS had not agreed to redo the interview.

The segment was originally set to run Sunday, but was pushed back to Feb. 22 — the last day of the games.

Samaranch said he did not ask for a postponement, and CBS said there was "absolutely no connection whatsoever" between the meeting and the delay, although it gave no reason for the change.

CBS paid \$375 million for the U.S. television rights to the Nagano Olympics, more than a third of the games' nearly \$1 billion budget.

The network is televising a record 128 hours from Japan, much of it in prime time.

Though two letters from pro-

ducer Michael Gavshan to IOC officials requesting the interview make no mention of "60 Minutes," the committee was told at least twice in telephone conversations that it was specifically for the program, according to CBS news spokeswoman Sandy Genelius.

Samaranch said he met Simon on Jan. 29, a day after he arrived in Nagano.

He said the newsman began the interview by chatting about Spain and bullfighters.

"But in a moment, he began to ask tough questions," he said. "He began attacking some IOC members. ... I defended them. And then he started to speak of 50 years ago, 40 years ago."

What upset Samaranch were questions about his role in the fascist regime of the Spanish dictator Francisco Franco, revealed in a 1992 book, "Lords of the Rings."

"I said I was with Franco. Also, 40 million Spaniards," he said, noting the international diplomatic posts and honors that have been accorded him since Franco's government fell. "I am very proud of my past and my present, and what I did for my country."

Canada meets USA for women's hockey gold

By Hal Bock
AP Sports Writer

NAGANO, Japan — For women's hockey, first came the message games and now come the medal games.

There are no secrets left among the final four in the first-ever Olympic women's tournament where Canada and the United States, who delight in beating each other up, play for the gold medal on Tuesday after Finland faces China for the bronze.

And just in case somebody somehow missed something, the four teams had one last chance to scout each other face-to-face on Saturday, an unusual dress rehearsal for the real thing.

Finland defeated China 6-1 and then the Americans scored six goals in the last 13 minutes to wipe out a 4-1 deficit and beat Canada 7-4. In a consolation game, Sweden won for the first time in the tournament, shutting out Japan 5-0.

The women's Finland-China bronze medal game will be shown by CBS starting at 1:05 a.m. EST Tuesday, followed by the gold medal game between Canada and the United States at 7 a.m. EST.

On Monday, the network offers all-day coverage from Nagano starting at 1 p.m. with a men's hockey doubleheader followed by the women's 20-kilometer cross-country skiing relay. In the evening, the network has the ice dancing freestyle program, the women's 1,500-meter speedskating, freestyle skiing aerial and the 120-meter team ski jumping and

more women's cross-country relay skiing.

With nothing much at stake except their psyches, the Americans and Canadians beat each other up Saturday night. There were 20 penalties called for such unladylike behavior as slashing, high-sticking and roughing. Victoria Movsessian took a double minor for a stick to the throat and Angela Ruggiero had a 10-minute misconduct tagged on to one of her penalties.

"If a team or two teams take that many penalties, somebody's losing their composure," Canadian coach Shannon Miller said. "There's an intense dislike, an intense rivalry."

"These teams push the envelope," U.S. coach Ben Smith said. "They play by the rules. If they don't, the (referee's) arm should go up."

And it frequently did. Seven of the 11 goals came on power plays. So what did the rugged warmup prove?

"Right now, I strongly believe we are a better team," American A.J. Mleckzo said. "I think that we play as a team better."

U.S. captain Cammy Granato, who scored two goals, thought the Americans' message had been delivered. "We have so much confidence in ourselves," she said. "I think they're intimidated by our confidence."

And the tough stuff?

"That's the way we play," Granato said, "and obviously it's the way they play."

Eldredge seems to be headed for pros

By Barry Wilner
AP Sports Writer

NAGANO, Japan — The medal was lost, the night was over, and Todd Eldredge was hungry.

So he went in search of a "Grand Slam Breakfast" — bacon, eggs, toast, the works.

He found a Denny's, but not a Grand Slam, so he settled for a plate of spaghetti.

That was least of his problems Saturday night.

With everything hanging on the 4 1/2-minute Olympic free skate, Eldredge put on his worst performance since reviving his career five years ago. He was third when the night began, a favorite for a medal. He finished fourth.

But by Sunday morning the pain that was plainly visible the night before was gone, and Eldredge was back to his old self: chatty and friendly and watching Tara Lipinski, the U.S. women's medal hopeful, going through the paces at practice.

Eldredge won't say it definitively, but he probably has skated his last Olympic performance.

The five-time U.S. champion said he was "90 percent positive" he would turn professional after the world championships in Minneapolis in early April.

"Then I'll head off into the real world," the 26-year-old said with a smile.

But Eldredge, whose Olympic heartbreaks will become part of U.S. skating lore, did not rule out Salt Lake City in 2002 if certain changes are made by the International Skating Union.

"I don't discount anything," he said. "But as far as for right now, there are no decisions to make — unless they open the rules... letting the pros back in like the last time in '94. But I don't see that happening."

Also in question is whether silver medalist Elvis Stojko will try for another Olympics, if nothing else to torment the judges who aren't always crazy about his programs.

The 25-year-old Canadian, who finished behind Russian Ilya

Kulik, has hedged about turning pro, saying he still has some things he'd like to try in the eligible ranks. He'll have to wait until his torn groin injury heals before attempting anything.

Kulik, the only skater of the top four likely to remain eligible, could ask Eldredge and Stojko about the uncertainties of the sport. The two preeminent skaters of the last four years could tell him plenty.

"It's been an interesting year, a tough year, but I made it here and I'll go on to worlds and see what we can do there," said Eldredge, who still finished six places better than he did in 1992, when a back injury ruined his chances.

The long climb back from troubled times in 1993 and 1994, when he considered quitting, was supposed to culminate in a place on the podium, preferably the top spot.

But Eldredge never got into a flow. He was off-stride from the first jump and a medal slipped away when Frenchman Philippe Candeloro swashbuckled his way to second in the free skate and third overall.

"For me, obviously the performance I wanted to put out was not the performance I put out," Eldredge said. "I wish I skated even a decent program for myself. I would have been a little more satisfied. But it was one of those things when it wasn't my day."

Perhaps his day will come at the world championships, as it did in 1996, when Eldredge turned in two flawless programs, including the best free skate of his life, to win the title.

The injured Stojko isn't likely to compete for another world title, although Dr. Salim Al-Eazaz, the German team doctor who is treating Stojko's groin injury, said he believes it is not a complete tear. More tests will be done when he returns home.

The three-time world champion fell victim to the "Canadian curse," which afflicts world champions who go to the Olympics. They leave without a gold medal. Brian Orser fell short in 1988, Kurt

Saturday's game was the 14th between the two teams since last October. Each has won seven. Canada also has swept all four meetings in the world championships since 1990. The most recent was a 4-3 Canadian victory in overtime last April — one of eight one-goal games the two rivals have played.

"We're not really friends," Mleckzo said. "I know we respect them and they respect us. When this is over, I doubt very much that we will become friends. There is a lot of smack talking."

"There are some people on the team that were friends with some of the Canadian players before our tour started this year, and maybe they will go back to being friends. But I don't think any new friendships will come out of this rivalry."

Smith respects the Canadians.

"Team Canada has all the ingredients a coach looks for in a championship team," he said. "They are strong in goal, experienced on defense, have skill and speed up front and are a well-coached unit. The Canadians are not at the top of their game by accident. They have worked hard to get there."

Mleckzo said the Americans had one more incentive in the final game.

"To be known as one of the first women's hockey players in the Olympics is part of history," she said. "And to be known as winning the gold medal in the first women's ice hockey at the Olympics, that's something I know that drives us as a team."

More Sports/1D

Browning in 1992 and '94.

That wouldn't be enough to keep Stojko around, but his desire to stretch the parameters of figure skating might.

The 20-year-old baby-faced Kulik should dominate men's figure skating until the next games.

Kulik matched the 1994 achievement of Alexei Urmanov with his memorable performance, a free skate featuring a quad and eight triples that was a technical wonder. The ease with which he won the gold was remarkable.

Candeloro won't decide officially until March 10, but he indicated he won't compete for the world title. Instead, he'll hang up his Three Musketeers outfit — at least competitively. Nobody doubts Candeloro will be a huge star on the professional tours, where he's sure to stop many a show with "D'Artagnan," destined to become a classic.

Regardless of who is in Minneapolis, the men's skating scene heading toward the next Olympics will undergo significant changes:

— Personalities. Look for Kulik, 17-year-old countryman Alexei Yagudin, plus Russia's Yevgeny Plushchenko and Alexander Abt, Americans Michael Weiss and Tim Goebel, China's Guo Zhengxin and perhaps France's Thierry Cerez.

— Requirements. The quad almost certainly will become part of the short program next year, and surely before 2002. The boundaries of the competition are ever-expanding, and by the time Salt Lake City's games arrive, gold medal contenders figure to be doing quad combos and triple-triples by rote.

— Popularity. As the men move further ahead in technical ability and perform artistic masterpieces like "D'Artagnan," they also might approach the interest level the women enjoy.

Bad weather, bad ratings continue for CBS

NEW YORK (AP) — Even figure skating can't rescue CBS' ratings.

Saturday night's coverage, featuring the men's long program, got a 15.3 rating/28 share. That was 40.9 percent lower than the 25.9/43 from Lillehammer and 15.5 percent lower than the 18.1/31 from Albertville.

After nine nights of coverage, CBS is averaging a 16.4, 34.9 percent behind the 25.2 from Lillehammer and 11.8 percent below the 18.7 from Albertville.

The late-show, featuring live coverage of the Finland-Russia hockey game, got a 2.7 rating. The first hour of the game got a 3.7 rating, 48.6 percent lower than the

one-hour show from Lillehammer. Through Saturday, CBS' late show is averaging a 3.0/12, 38 percent lower than the 4.8/19 in 1994.

A rating point for CBS represents 980,000 households, or 1 percent of the nation's estimated 98 million TV homes. Share is the percentage of in-use televisions tuned to a given show.

CURL: Americans started out as longshots

(From 1C)

lacks the sports facilities of Scandinavian rivals Norway and Sweden. Even its curling team often must take a ferry to Sweden to train.

Led by team captain Tim Somerville, the American men rallied by winning three consecutive matches, two in tiebreakers, before losing to Canada 7-1 in the semifinals.

Just as they did in falling behind Canada 4-0 after only three ends, the Americans trailed almost from the start against Norway, which led 6-0 after five. Most matches last 10 ends, or innings, but the Americans conceded after nine.

"In the last two games we did not play well at all," Somerville said. "We had too many ups and downs,

and that's why we ended up in fourth place."

Norway captain Eigil Ramsfjell said the bronze medal helped ease the frustration of the close loss to Switzerland.

"I am happy about the medal but also a little bit sentimental about finishing," said Ramsfjell, a three-time individual world champion who is retiring from competition.

Canada opened a 2-0 lead after the first end against the United States on Saturday, then increased it to 3-0 when Somerville missed knocking out two Canadian stones with the final throw of the second end. The United States wasted a chance to get back into the game as Somerville missed a tap-out on the final shot of the sixth end, allowing the Canadians to score twice more.

"The first three ends we played really, really well," said Canadian skip Mike Harris, who shot nearly flawlessly. "The second end was a bit of a surprise with them missing the open hit, but other than that, we were all over them the whole game. I think it was more us playing well rather than them playing poorly."

It was Somerville's perfectly placed game-winning tap on the final shot that gave the Americans the 5-4 tiebreaker victory earlier Saturday over the Japanese, who were so anguished at losing they cried on the ice.

The United States was a longshot just to get into medal competition after placing no higher than fourth in any world championship since 1993.

Batt

By Bob Baum
AP Sports Writer

HAKUBA, Japan — "The Terminator" returns with his horrible crash and burn, like the action movie umphant.

Hermann Maier, bruised and strained, careered down the gold medal super-G, a race this season.

"I never expected," said Maier, "I'm so happy doctors and my Maier didn't normally overp one who wate from the fog at and sail down t (Sunday night agree.

"I was not re tor today," he overjoyed to w days after a t downhill."

Maier, whose men's downhill out of the combi no-loss of his t siveness in a r minutes by fog crash had taug foolish risks.

"Today I ski fully and it was said.

The Austrian "Monster" and by fans in his h 1 minute, 34.82 a half-second f est competition.

"He skied lik fellow Austrian er. "He really performance al everything."

Fellow Austr and Didier Cu shared the silv No bronze was a third time an O

Seizi

By Rob Gloster
AP Sports Writer

HAKUBA, Japan — Cautious P history by 17-h ond. Instead, Seizinger beca hiller to repeat pion.

Seizinger, w win at the 1 Games, finish seconds Mond EST) to becom win two Olymp

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Street, tryin first U.S. Alpin Olympic med 1:29.54. Norma racer, the 1994 the downhill sa the icy course.

"I just didn' thing. I don't again," said St ing her second Olympics.

"I tried my there on the p

Medal

By Paul Newb
AP Sports Writer

NAGANO, Japan — No medals.

Speedskating produced more Winter Olympic experiencing drought in Na races remaining can finish

Rodriguez's su the women's 3, And she's a fo from Florida, f

"We know v many medal c team — yet," s ers, the U.S. al

"Make sure YET. This team is yo

Though it's b the Americans' speedskating n so far in Nag unexpected. Af Bonnie Blair c build hopes ar back home cou the circumstan

Speedskating minuscule alt except for two years, is one o must produce f face the conse dozens of re around Casey KC Boutiette at Sunday, they h question with o

"I'm doing t that's all we c cans," said Bou blonde with th hasn't placed h Nagano. "For

Battered Maier wins super-G gold

By Bob Baum
AP Sports Writer

HAKUBA, Japan — "The Herminator" returned to the scene of his horrible crash three days earlier and, like the hero of any good action movie, emerged triumphant.

Hermann Maier, his body bruised and his right knee strained, careened down the hill to win the gold medal in the men's super-G, a race he has yet to lose this season.

"I never expected this today," he said. "I'm so happy and I thank my doctors and my trainers."

Maier didn't think he was his normally overpowering self. Anyone who watched him emerge from the fog at the top of the hill and sail down the course Monday (Sunday night EST) would disagree.

"I was not really the 'Herminator' today," he insisted, "but I am overjoyed to win this gold a few days after a terrific spill in the downhill."

Maier, whose injuries in the men's downhill Friday kept him out of the combined event, showed no loss of his trademark aggressiveness in a race delayed for 45 minutes by fog. But he said his crash had taught him not to take foolish risks.

"Today I skied a little bit carefully and it was the right way," he said.

The Austrian known as "Das Monster" and the "Herminator" by fans in his home country won in 1 minute, 34.82 seconds, more than a half-second faster than his nearest competitor.

"He skied like a master," said fellow Austrian Andreas Schifferer. "He really is amazing for his performance after he crashed and everything."

Fellow Austrian Hans Knauss and Didier Cuche of Switzerland shared the silver medal at 1:35.43. No bronze was awarded. It was the third time an Olympic Alpine race

had ended with a tie for a silver.

In 1964 at Innsbruck, Jean Saubert of the United States and Christine Goetschel of France tied for the silver in the giant slalom in 1:53.11.

In 1992 at Albertville, also in the GS, Diann Roffe of the United States and Anita Wachter of Austria tied for the silver in 2:13.71.

Cuche, starting far back in the No. 17 spot, thrust his hands into the air in elation at his best finish ever in a super-G. He had never been better than seventh in the four races this season. Alessandro Fattori of Italy, even farther back with a No. 24 start out of 46 racers, was fourth, 18 seconds behind the silver medalists.

Kjetil Andre Aamodt of Norway, the gold medalist in the super-G in 1992 and bronze medalist in 1994, was fifth, missing a medal by .24 seconds.

Daron Rahlves of Truckee, Calif., was the top American, finishing eighth, 1.14 seconds behind Maier.

"I just let it all hang out and gave it my best shot today," he said. "I had a fun ride."

Tommy Moe of Jackson, Wyo., who won a silver medal in the super-G and a gold in the downhill four years ago, was ninth, .01 second behind Rahlves. Kyle Rasmussen of Angels Camp, Calif., was 13th, 1.70 seconds slower than the winner. Chad Fleisher of Vail, Colo., was 34th in 1:40.19.

The race, already postponed twice over the weekend by rain and fog, was the first of an unprecedented Olympic Alpine tripleheader as organizers attempted to get the weather-plagued competition back on schedule.

Far from outwardly tense in his first race after his terrible crash, Maier joked with competitors at the top of the hill as the racers waited out the fog. But inside, he said later, he was concerned.

"After a big crash, it's hard for the brain, hard to concentrate," he said. "I needed the first gates to



Didier Cuche, of Switzerland, celebrates after taking the silver medal in the Men's Super-G event at the Winter Olympics in Hakuba. Cuche and Hans Knauss, of Austria, each finished in 1:35.43 and shared the silver medal.

get in my rhythm."

His race was typical for him, his skis often sailing off the slope in sheer speed as he skied to the brink of losing control.

Before his crash, Maier was the prohibitive favorite in the super-G as well as the downhill and the yet-to-be-run giant slalom.

He had won all four super-G races in this, his first full World Cup season.

While others marveled at his comeback, the crash seemed hardly to phase Maier. He was flippant when asked about the experience of sailing off the course sideways, then careening through two safety fences and head-over-heels down a cliff.

"Not Lufthansa, but OK," he said.

The delays gave Maier's aching body a few days of much-needed rest.

Maier didn't have to ski the same treacherous turn where he crashed. The super-G, shorter than the downhill, started below

the place where Maier and so many others failed to stay on the course in Friday's race.

The super-G, or super giant slalom, was added to the Olympic schedule in 1988, combining the speed of the downhill with the maneuvering challenges of the giant slalom.

The women's downhill and women's combined downhill were scheduled later in the day as Olympic organizers took advantage of a small window in the weather to try to get the storm-plagued Alpine competition back on schedule.

Only a few hundred people gathered to watch the race, one of the smallest crowds ever for an Olympic Alpine event. The grandstands at the finish line were virtually empty as Japanese spectators, burned so many times by the perpetual postponements, stayed away.

But the big poster of the skiing pink pig, wishing good luck to Maier, was still there.

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Seizinger repeats in downhill, Street sixth

By Rob Gloster
AP Sports Writer

HAKUBA, Japan — An unusually cautious Picabo Street missed history by 17-hundredths of a second. Instead, Germany's Katja Seizinger became the first downhiller to repeat as Olympic champion.

Seizinger, who edged Street to win at the 1994 Lillehammer Games, finished in 1 minute, 28.89 seconds Monday (Sunday night EST) to become the first person to win two Olympic downhills.

Pernilla Wiberg of Sweden won her third Olympic medal by placing second in 1:29.18, pumping her fists in the air at the finish area after seeing her time. France's Florence Masnada, who has said she will retire after this season, was third in 1:29.37.

Street, trying to become the first U.S. Alpine skier to win three Olympic medals, was sixth in 1:29.54. Normally an aggressive racer, the 1994 silver medalist in the downhill said she held back on the icy course.

"I just didn't want to risk anything. I don't need to go down again," said Street, who was seeking her second gold medal of these Olympics.

"I tried my hardest to get up there on the podium, but it's not

worth risking my health at this point to maybe either get down here and win a medal or hit the fence. I've hit the fence too many times."

Street is coming back from left knee surgery and began these Olympics still feeling "fuzzy" after tumbling off the course during a race in Are, Sweden, in late January.

That didn't prevent her from skiing to the gold medal in the super-G last week, but it was on her mind during a downhill run under rare sunshine.

Street, who was hoping to become the first American to win two Alpine gold medals in an Olympics since Andrea Mead Lawrence in 1952, said she had trouble controlling her skis in the race.

"The problem was it rained really hard for the last couple of days and they just kept slipping, slipping," she said. "So it was really hard and grippy."

"Seizinger has a lot of experience and she was hungry. She was mean today," Street added. "I knew that I was really going to have to have one in order to beat her."

There was light fog until just before race time along upper parts of the course, but the finish area was bathed in sunshine — the first

Women's Downhill

day the sun has peeked through since Street won her super-G gold medal last Wednesday (Tuesday night EST).

The race was part of an Alpine tripleheader. Days of bad weather pushed back the schedule so much that organizers had to schedule three races in one day.

Hermann Maier, still bruised three days after a horrifying crash in the downhill, won gold in the men's super-G that ended just 20 minutes before the start of the women's downhill. The downhill portion of the women's combined event was set for later in the day.

In the 14 women's downhills that have been run at the Olympics, 13 have been won by skiers from Germany, Austria or Switzerland. The only outsider to win was Kerrin Lee Gartner of Canada at the 1992 Albertville Games.

Seizinger, an economics student who learned to ski during vacations with her family in France, was sixth in the super-G last week and said she thought she had come up short again.

"It was very slippery and bumpy. When I came to the finish line, I didn't expect or hope that it would be enough," she said. "It's quite a different feeling from Lille-

hammer because it was unexpected."

It was remarkable that Wiberg, a gold medalist in the 1992 Olympic giant slalom and the winner of the 1994 Olympic combined event, was even able to ski in the race. It has been an awful season for her, with injuries to both knees and broken ribs in January.

Wiberg, along with Seizinger the favorites in the combined event, became the first Swede to win a downhill medal.

Masnada was the bronze medalist in the combined event at the 1992 Albertville Olympics.

Street said her recent injuries and the resultant lack of training prevented her from going all-out on the downhill.

"I'm not looking for excuses at all. I'm not that kind of person," she said. "I just literally didn't ski as aggressively as I could have today because I didn't trust myself that well. And that's real. I have to live with that. And I can grow from this."

Jonna Mendes of South Lake Tahoe, Calif., finished 17th in 1:30.89. Kate Monahan of Aspen, Colo., tied for 26th in 1:32.22 and Kirsten Clark of Raymond, Maine, was 28th in 1:32.25.

Medal-less Americans running out of time at M-Wave

By Paul Newberry
AP Sports Writer

NAGANO, Japan — Six races. No medals.

Speedskating, the sport that's produced more U.S. medals at the Winter Olympics than any other, is experiencing an M-Wave-sized drought in Nagano. With four races remaining, the best American finish was Jennifer Rodriguez's surprising fourth in the women's 3,000 meters.

And she's a former in-line skater from Florida, far crying out loud.

"We know we don't have too many medal contenders on this team — yet," said Gerard Kemkers, the U.S. all-around coach.

"Make sure that's a big, bold YET. This team is going to grow. This team is young."

Though it's been 14 years since the Americans were shut out of the speedskating medals, the shutout so far in Nagano wasn't totally unexpected. After all, there was no Bonnie Blair or Dan Jansen to build hopes around. But the folks back home couldn't care less about the circumstances.

Speedskating, which attracts minuscule attention in America except for two weeks every four years, is one of those sports that must produce Olympic medals or face the consequences. So when dozens of reporters crowded around Casey FitzRandolph and KC Boutiette after the men's 1,000 Sunday, they hurled question after question with one basic theme:

"What's wrong with you guys?"

"I'm doing the best I can and that's all we can ask as Americans," said Boutiette, the platinum blonde with the pierced tongue who hasn't placed higher than fifth at Nagano. "For the amount of



U.S. skater Casey FitzRandolph of Verona, Wisc. is shown during the 1,000 meter men's speed skating competition at the Winter Olympics in Nagano on Sunday. FitzRandolph placed seventh in the race.

skaters we have in the U.S., I think we're going pretty damn well."

Most of the top American skaters are 23 and under. The party line goes something like this: These Olympics are merely a chance to experience the lime-light and get used to the intense pressure, then build on those lessons over the next four years.

"This is almost like a prep program for us before we get to Salt Lake," Boutiette said, looking ahead to what it might be like to skate with the home-country advantage.

"They're going to be yelling, 'U.S.A! U.S.A!' That kind of stuff

gets you going. I think I need that kind of pressure to come down on me before I perform well."

But this is still 1998, which means the Americans have to answer for their current predicament. They have plenty of excuses for the medal-less performance, mostly centering on the clap skate.

"I don't want the public back in America to think we failed as a team, because we didn't," said FitzRandolph, whose best finish in three Olympic races is sixth. "We just kind of got caught with our hands tied."

FitzRandolph, one of the world's top sprinters in the pre-clap-skate

era, plunged in the World Cup rankings this season with that clicking noise beneath his feet. Other Americans, including Boutiette and Kirstin Holm, also have complained about having to make the adjustment in an Olympic year.

The rest of the world snickers at the Americans, accusing them of being whiners who failed to adapt in a rapidly changing world.

"I'm not asking for sympathy," FitzRandolph said. "I just want people to see the big picture. To finish fourth, fifth or sixth isn't a failure, especially under these circumstances."

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1990 CAJUN 1950 Epirit. Johnson GT200, hydraulic jack plate, hydraulic steering, inboard battery charger, new Johnson trolling motor, Bimini top, tandem trailer. \$12,500. 682-0375 or 686-8958 after 5.

Introducing The All-New 98 "B" Series Trucks...

...THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS FRIENDLY COMPETITION WITH

\$1000 CUSTOMER CASH OR 2.4% APR

Jack Sherman Mazda

RETOOLED • REFINED • REBORN

694-9601 • 4100 W. WALL • 520-0156

Internet address: <http://www.jacksherman.com> • E-mail Address: sherman@jacksherman.com

\$AVING\$

94 PONTIAC SUNBIRD
2-Door Coupe, Great School Car, Alloy Wheels, Real SPORTY

\$5,950

95 PONTIAC GRAND AM
stk #92041A, Automatic, Power Steering & Brakes, Stereo

\$7,950

97 FORD THUNDERBIRD
stk#92306A, Only 10k Miles, Power Seats, Windows & Locks, Tilt/Cruise, Super Nice car, Beautiful Green, MUST SEE!

\$13,950

94 CHEVY EXT. CAB
Indigo Blue, Silverado, Power Windows, Power Locks, Tilt/Cruise, Cassette.

\$14,950

97 DODGE R-1500 PU
stk#92305, Tilt/Cruise, Lots of Chrome, Only 7,400 Miles, Super Nice

\$15,950

95 CHEVY EXT. CAB Z71
Red, Power Windows, Power Locks, Tilt/Cruise/Cassette

\$17,950

93 CHEVY SUBURBAN
Conversion Package, Custom Paint, 4 Captain's Chairs, Leather, Low Miles, Very Nice!

\$18,950

97 CHEVY EXT. CAB
White, Power Seats & locks, CD Player, Tilt/Cruise, Bucket Seats, Low Miles

\$19,950

IF YOU DON'T CHECK WITH VILLAGE BEFORE YOU BUY... YOU'RE PROBABLY PAYING TOO MUCH!!!

VILLAGE
LINCOLN • MERCURY • DODGE • HYUNDAI
DISCOUNT CENTER
(915) 570-4183
2613 W. WALL • MIDLAND, TEXAS

260 Boats & Motors

1994 CHAMPION 204 Dual console, composite hull, 200 EFI Mercury, tandem trailer, loaded, garaged, immaculate. \$19,000. 694-6540.

HOUSEBOAT. Buoyed on lake. Amistad at Rough Canyon, 44' twin engines, 6.5KW generator, full bath/shower, sleeps 6. \$22,000. 337-2360 or 550-8666.

1986 18' Glass-Stream boat with newly rebuilt trailer. V-6 motor. For sale or trade for newer jet ski. 697-0323.

1996 CAJUN FISH & Ski boat, 17 foot with 115 horse motor, blue & silver, like new, \$12,500. Call after 5pm 687-5934.

STRATOS 1995 285 Dual console, 175 Johnson Fast Track, trolling motor, tandem trailer, cover. \$17,500 o. b. o. 686-8103.

17 FOOT, Tri Hull, inboard-outboard, good shape. \$2,150. 684-9018 mornings.

290 Parts & Accessories

FORD REMANUFACTURED 6.9 & 7.3 engines with warranty. Will deliver. \$2,650 each. (713) 513-7855.

ONE 454, 4 bolt main, minus heads. \$300. One Dart intake. \$120. Dual point distributor. \$35. Other miscellaneous parts. 699-4239.

CAMARO RIMS. \$250 or best offer. Call 620-0059 after 12:00 for more information.

305 Job Services

POSTAL JOBS \$18.35/hr, including benefits. No experience. For application and exam info. Call FDS, Inc. 1-800-813-3585, Ext 7606. 8 am-9 pm, 7 days.

US GOVERNMENT Jobs. Hiring Now! Entry level to advanced positions available! Paid training, benefits \$11-\$33/Hour. Call free. 1-888-473-6623, Ext 3200.

WILDLIFE JOBS \$21.60/Hour, including benefits. Game Wardens, Security, Maintenance, Park Rangers. No experience needed. For application and exam information call FDS, Inc. 1-800-813-3585, Ext 7607. 8 am-9 pm, 7 days.

Let Classified Work for You!
Call 682-6222 or Fax us anytime at 682-6999

***BUILDING MAINTENANCE ENGINEER HELPER**
Drug Testing mandatory
Apply: Room 106
Wilco Building
415 W Wall Street
Between 7 am-9 am
Monday-Friday

DOMINO'S PIZZA
Highest Starting Pay
Of Any National Pizza
Chain In Midland!!
Immediate openings for 30
delivery drivers, full part time.
Get \$5.35 to \$5.60 per hour, plus
65¢-\$1.00 cash per delivery,
plus tips! Our drivers avg. \$9-
\$14/hour EOE.

***GENERAL**
A NEW START!
Starting Immediately
2 Entry level opportunities
with better than average
starting pay. Day work - no
nights or weekends. Need
some sales ability.
Telemarketing experience
preferred. These are
permanent positions with a
future. Apply in person only
to:
2807 Earhart at
Midland International Airport

***GENERAL**
TONS OF WORK!
Local import company
needs help in various areas.
Call today for an appointment! Ask for Doug,
570-4198.

***Pride Refining, Inc.**
an employee-oriented
company based in
Arlene, Texas, seeks
Truck Drivers
for our facility in Midland.
Applicants considered for
this full time position must
have a high school diploma
or equivalent, 25 years of
age or older, possess a
Class A CDL with HazMat
and tanker endorsement,
minimum of 2 years
experience, be DOT
physically qualified and meet
all field technician
qualifications.
Applicants need to apply at
1801 West Texas

***SALES ASSOCIATES WANTED:**
Looking for courteous,
self-motivated, reliable
employees. Employees
must have transportation
and pass drug test.

***FRIENDS CONVENIENCE STORES**
If you want:
✓ Good starting pay
✓ Excellent opportunities for advancement
Go by any Friends Store
and ask for an application

CARE GIVER: hiring
immediately! Weekend live in
Care Provider Saturday 8 am-
Monday 8 am. Must be caring,
responsible and dependable for
elderly couple in Midland.
Background check upon hire
and references required. Call
Carrie at Interim Health Care,
550-7593.

HAIR STYLIST: Nail Tech.
Ambiance Hair & Nail Studio
now leasing. Great
atmosphere! Call Susanna at
520-8022.

ALARM SYSTEMS MONITOR
Seeking one full time employee
to work evenings Tuesday
through Saturday. Non smoking
environment. Clean police
record. \$7 per hour, will train.
Apply Monday - Friday 9-4 at:
1011 W. Washington
Midland

APARTMENT MAINTENANCE:
experience required. Interviews
2:30-3:30 pm, Monday through
Saturday at 2301 S. Cottonfield
Road, Leisure Estates Office,
or call Chris, 697-8784 to make
appointment for another time.

La Bodega
Now hiring
Experienced Assistant Manager
Apply in person
2700 N. Big Spring

BANK TELLER: Part time/
Odds Cash - handling
experience and excellent
customer service attitude a
must! Please fax resume to
Karen at (512) 420-0179.

HELLOISE Classified Hints!
HELLOISE HINT: Have a talent
for cooking? You can turn it
into a career. There are many
jobs in the food-service
industry. You can become a
chef by training at one of the
many fine culinary institutes in
the country. For example, the
Culinary Institute of America in
Hyde Park, N.Y., is considered
the top training spot for
American chefs. You can also
get hands-on experience and
train in a restaurant. E-mail
HELLOISE

INSURTERS NEEDED: \$6.00
Per Hour, Wednesday only, 3
pm-9 pm. Call BJ Elliott, 687-
8895 for more information.

LOSS CONTROL: Agent
needed for retail company. Part
time hours. Apply in person,
340 N. Midland Drive.

Would You Like To Own A Business?
*** BUT ***
You don't have the initial capital
You can't come up with the right idea
You don't want to gamble with your money
Or some other reason
*** WELL ***

Schwab's has an alternative for you! We have company
owned and operated products. A proven route sales
system. We give our employees an opportunity to work
independently and build their own customer base and earn
commission off their sales.

Schwab's Sales Enterprises, Inc., listed by Forbes as one
of the largest 100 Privately held corporations, is seeking
Route Managers in the Midland/Odessa area.

We have a group benefit package; paid vacation, profit
sharing and much more!

If you have the desire to be an Entrepreneur and are
motivated by Success, call us for a confidential interview
at:
1-800-3-EMPLOY
or fax resume to 1-507-537-8545

THE #1 NATURAL GAS IRRIGATION ENGINE COMPANY
in the United States has an opening for:
ENGINE TECHNICIAN

Duties include small repairs, maintenance
and installation. Requirements: excellent
driving record, self-starter, motivated, clean-
cut and bilingual a plus.
Relocation to San Joaquin Valley, California
necessary. Excellent Salary, Benefits and
Moving Allowance.
Applications & Interviews
MONDAY ONLY
Call Lisa for an Appointment
563-0217

***PINOCCHIO'S PIZZA**
Now Interviewing for Manager Trainee
Pinocchio's Pizza opened its first store in Lubbock in 1978.
We presently rank the 71st largest pizza store in America
out of 5,000! Order per store sales are in the top 10 chains
in the USA. We have been successful because we recruit
successful Managers. If you would like to become part of
our organization, please send your resume to our corporate
office.
2574 74th Street, Suite 205
Lubbock, Texas 79423
or fax to (806) 745-2995
Our compensation package is
commensurate with your experience.

310 General Help Wanted
BLIND BOX REPLIES
When replying to a blind box
number listed in an
advertisement, address your
reply to: (this is an example)
BOX Z-01
c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram
P.O. Box 1650
Midland, TX 79702

310 General Help Wanted
DINING SERVICES: Manor
Park, Inc. is now accepting
applications for the following
positions: full-time Janitor
and part-time Dietary
Assistant. Must have
experience in restaurant/
healthcare environment. Must
be able to read, write and
understand all written and oral
instructions. Applications can
be completed at Manor Park,
Inc., 2208 N. Loop 250 W.
Midland, TX 79707. No phone
calls please. EOE M/F.

DRIVERS - KEY TRUCKING
Service Co. (Div. of Yale Key)
Looking for Truck Driver with
CDL. Licensed with less than 3
tickets in 5 years. Will have to
pass DOT physical and drug
test. Must be 21 years old. Will
take applications at the Stanton
and Lamesa offices or call 1-
800-522-0474 or 756-2975.
Benefits include: Health
Insurance, uniforms furnished,
profit sharing plan. 1 week
vacation, after 1 year
employment. 2 week vacation
after 2 years employment. Will
train qualified applicant with oil
field experience.

FARM SUPPLY: Store
Employee, Glasscock County
Co-Op, St. Lawrence, Texas
needs honest, dependable
person to work with public. 397-
2487.

FOR RESUMES: that get
results call 699-1919.
Professional, quick service,
affordable. Evening & weekend
appointments available.

FULL TIME Billboard Leasing
Agent. Must be self motivated
and detail oriented. Company
benefits include: car
allowance, health insurance,
401K and paid holidays. Send
resume to: Martin Outdoor,
1011 S. Garfield, Midland, TX
79701 EOE M/F.

FURNITURE MOVERS: with
experience. Heavy lifting and
Class C drivers license
required. Leave name/number
(915)553-1464.

***WELDER TRAINEES**
Training in Oxy/gas,
shielded arc, hard facing &
GMA/GTA. Full pay and
benefits while training. Ages
17-34, high school diploma
grades willing to relocate.
Call:
1-800-292-5547

GUARANTEED!
No Layoffs - No Cut Backs
Midland/Odessa warehouse
distribution has all the work you
can handle. Immediate starts in
sales & marketing, distribution,
management training, and
inventory. No experience
necessary. Call Murray at 570-
4199.

WRANGLER COUPLE: Private
Hill Country Guest Ranch in
need of experienced horse
person. Responsible for 13
head, trails, barn, tack,
trails and other ranch duties.
Full time. Could be possibly use
couple. Non smoking. Call
couple 9 am-4 pm, 830-640-
3241.

WANTED: Experienced Mixer
Drivers. CDL, Health Card,
Drug & Alcohol screen
required. Inquire at Troy Vines
Inc., 2817 Rankin Hwy.

GROUNDKEEPER: needed.
Large apartment community.
Pool certificate required and
some knowledge of sprinkler
system. Energetic and
enthusiastic. Drug testing and
criminal history check required.
Call 688-9865 for appointment.

HEAD OF MAINTENANCE:
previous experience helpful.
Must be HVAC certified, have
own tools and pickup, pass
drug screen and previous
background check. No phone
calls please. Apply in person
only at 1902 N. Midland Dr.
from 9am to 5pm.

CNA's
New healthcare Administrators
Glyndon Ruth Kimbrough at
Manor Park, Inc. is accepting
applications for CNA's for the
following shifts: 8 am-2 pm
and 2-10 pm in the nursing
home unit. The right
candidate(s) must be Texas
certified, dedicated to and
enjoy caring for the elderly.
Excellent working
environment and benefits.
Applications can be
completed at 2208 N. Loop
250 West, Midland, Texas
79707 and returned to the
attention of Donna Parker,
EOE M/F.

Nursefinders
For Staff Relief:
RNs up to \$37.50
LVNs up to \$30.00
ICU, ER, Tlemetry
Referral Bonus, Daily Pay.
We provide Workers
Comp., and Liability
Insurance.
Sign On Bonus
\$2001
570-8082

CARE GIVER: hiring
immediately! Weekend live in
Care Provider. Saturday 8 am-
Monday 8 am. Must be caring,
responsible and dependable for
elderly couple in Midland.
Background check upon hire
and references required. Call
Carrie at Interim Health Care,
550-7593.

DENTAL ASSISTANT: needed
for restorative and cosmetic
practice. Enthusiastic, caring
attitude required. Send resume
to P.O. Box 8307, Midland, TX
79708.

DENTAL ASSISTANT: Chairside
experience preferred for all
aspects of a family dental
office. Fun energetic and hard
working. 4 day workweek. Send
resumes to Box PJ-3013, c/o
Midland Reporter-Telegram,
P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX
79702.

NEED FULL TIME, Billing clerk/
Receptionist with medical
manager experience for busy
medical office. Excellent
benefits. Please fax/mail
resume. 685-1700, 2114 W.
Tennessee, Midland, 79701.

RN & LVN: Midland Dialysis
is accepting applications. Good
benefits and salary. If
interested contact Barbara
Vaughn at 687-1201 or apply
731 W. Wadley, Building K.

SPECIMEN PROCESSOR: full
time MA/Phlebotomy in
Midland/Odessa area, for
laboratory. Computer and
Phlebotomy required. Fax
resume attention Dianne 1-
888-223-8752.

WEEKEND RN and other
departments needed. Please
call Terrace Gardens 694-8831.

PLANT CHEMIST
Large industrial
manufacturer is seeking an
entry level Chemist for their
cement plant located in
Meyersdale, TX. Requires a
B.S. in Chemistry. Excellent
benefits including Group
Medical and Life Insurance,
Vacations, Retirement, and
other fringe benefits. Please
send resume to, or
contact, Judy Hill, Lone
Star Industries, Inc., P.O.
Box 1639, Sweetwater, TX
79556, Telephone (915)
288-4221. Lone Star
Industries is an Equal
Opportunity Employer.

***Experienced CAD Draftsman**
Experienced CAD Draftsman
for an established
environmental consulting
firm. Oil and gas,
environmental and safety
experience preferred but not
required. Candidate will
receive additional on the job
training as a field technician.
Salary DOE, paid medical,
insurance and other benefits.
Please send resume to Gary
Miller, Highlander
Environmental Corp., 1910
N. Big Spring, Midland,
TX 79705. Interviews by
appointment only, job history
and references required.

APARTMENT LEASING: Agent
114 Units. Sales skills.
Computer experience. To:
\$8.00/Hour + Bonus. Fax 689-
8125.

ELECTRICAL ENGINEER: 3-5
years experience, must have
analog & digital circuit design
experience. Fax resumes to
915-684-5209, Bennett &
Associates.

FLORAL DESIGNER: to run
and operate new floral store.
Salesperson also needed.
Experience required. Apply in
person, 3205 W. Outfront.

PARALEGAL: Law firm seeks a
paralegal with litigation
experience. College Degree or
completion of a certified
paralegal program required.
Salary commensurate with
experience. Please send your
resume to: Box P. 08075, c/o
Midland Reporter-Telegram,
P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX
79702.

THERAPISTS: P. T., O. T., S.
L. P., and R. T. needed in area
nursing homes. \$35 per hour.
(806)792-9316.

Global Personnel Network:
Temp & Perm positions. Locally
and around the globe! 686-8360.

JOBS AVAILABLE:
Select Staff
915-687-1545

LEGAL SECRETARY: Midland
law firm seeks experienced
Secretary to assist attorney in
commercial oil & gas, and
corporate practice. Must be
proficient in Windows 95 &
Word Perfect, with ability to
manipulate advanced functions
in word processing software.
Legal/secretarial experience is
highly preferred. Send resume
including list of computer
software expertise & salary
history to: Box S-1054, c/o
Midland Reporter-Telegram,
P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX
79702.

SECRETARY: Computer
experience a must. Invoicing,
sales tax, 2-way radio and
telephone skills. Oil field
background very helpful. 5
years experience required.
401K, Uniforms, and
Insurance. K.D.M. Hot Oil
Service, 915-683-0831.

***Mobil Exploration & Producing U.S., Inc. has the following opening in our Midland Office.**
GEOLOGIST/ SR. GEOLOGIST

This position provides geologic input and contribution for a
reservoir management process team. Specific
responsibilities include developing and updating geologic
3D models for integration into reservoir surveillance and
simulation efforts to enhance asset management and
depletion planning.

Must have masters degree in geology and 4-5 years of
experience in the oil industry.

Should have a strong background in the fundamentals of
geology specifically carbonate reservoir stratigraphy and
sedimentology. Requires capabilities to integrate multiple
discipline datasets including seismic, well log, core
descriptions and biostratigraphy into a coherent
stratigraphic framework and flow model. Experience with
Landmark applications and development of 3D reservoir
models desired. Seismic interpretation experience in 2
and 3D desired, but not essential.

Must have ability to excel in a multi-disciplinary team
environment.

This is an immediate vacancy, and offers excellent salary
and benefits. To find out how to join the Mobil team, by
sending or faxing your resume to:

Mobil E&P U.S. INC.
ATTN: GEOLOGIST VACANCY
P.O. Box 633
MIDLAND, TX 79702
Fax: 915/688-1550

Mobil The energy
to make a difference.
Mobil is an Equal Opportunity Employer

WEST TEXAS OPPORTUNITIES, INC.
CHILD CARE MANAGEMENT SERVICES
IS TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR:
CLIENT SERVICES CLERK/ MONITORING TECH

Types 45 words per minute; telephone reception experience;
high school diploma or GED; knowledge of record-keeping
and computer entry; 2 years clerical experience. Will be
responsible for general clerical work for client services
department, including monitoring client services and files,
phone work for client services department, phone reception,
inventory data entry and filing.

For application, please contact Mary at
(915)366-3788 or pick up an application at:
2525 N. Grandview, Suite 600
Odessa, TX.

Applications due February 19, 1998 by 5:00 pm.
WTO, Inc. - CCMS is an equal opportunity employer.
WTO, Inc. is a drug free workplace. Drug testing is provided.

***SUBSTANCE ABUSE Licensed Counselor (LCDC, ADC), Counselor Trainee or Substantial Substance Abuse Education Background** will be considered for employment in Midland office. Primary youth/adult prevention program that includes screening and referral services funded in part by TCADA. Continuing Education opportunities included in employment with Council. Please mail or deliver resume and salary requirements to the attention of:

Vella Connolly, Director, Permian Basin Regional Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, 1101 N. Whitaker, Odessa, TX 79763. (resumes will be kept confidential) May fax to (915)580-5134.

312 Professional Help Wanted
SURVEYING: Now hiring
RPLS Party Chetel Instrument
Operators/ Technicians. Will
train. Fax resume to 915-520-
9212 or Mail to: P.O. Box 3848,
Midland, Texas 79702.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT
Position. Law firm seeks a
Technical Support person.
Experience in supporting
Windows/95, WordPerfect or
Microsoft Word needed.
Responsibilities will include
supporting users on all PC
applications and network
support. Will also be trained as
a back-up to the Network
Administrator. Please send
your resume and salary
requirements to Box T-1053,
c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram,
P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX
79702.

NEW YEAR/NEW CAREER
*Secretarial
*Word Processing
*Oil & Gas
*Never a fee
TEMPORARY RESOURCES
684-0527

CLERICAL OPENINGS: at
least 6 months experience. Call
OLSTEN today, 686-6607.

FRONT COUNTER
Help needed. Duties include:
greeting customers, taking
payments, light sales and
collections. Salary depends on
experience.
Call for an appointment
694-9639.

FULL CHARGE File Room
Clerk. Fast paced company
seeks full-time, full-charge file
room clerk to assist the land
and production department set
up new files for new
acquisitions as well as general
file maintenance. Salary DOE.
Send or fax resume to: Autry
C. Stephens, 110 N.
Marientfield, Suite 200, 79701.
FAX 687-2521, office 687-
1575.

SALES POSITION: inside sales
at busy office supply store.
Apply in person, at 315 N.
Colorado.

SALES: We're expanding!
Our approach to helping people
shape their financial destinies is
so popular that we need help.
If you have a strong sales
background and lots of energy,
let's talk. We are IOF Foresters,
one of the world's largest, most
respected fraternal benefit
societies with over a million
members and three billion
dollars in assets. We offer an
outstanding opportunity to the
right individual, including
commissions and bonuses,
trips, comprehensive benefits,
training allowance, training and
education and management
career path potential. Don't
miss this unusual chance to join
a team of top professionals! For
a confidential interview,
contact: John Lee Qualls at
915-570-7588 or fax your
resume to (915)570-7583
before February 18th. #95-832

SALES: Excellent Opportunity!
Sports minded sales agents. If
you are aggressive and not
afraid of a little hard work, your
average can be \$1,000 + per
week. Good car, good
appearance required. Hurry!
Filling positions immediately.
Call Quality Exteriors, 1-800-
687-5759.

318 Management Help Wanted

***Mobil Exploration & Producing U.S., Inc. has the following opening in our Midland Office.**
RESERVOIR ENGINEER/ SR. RESERVOIR ENGINEER

Provide reservoir engineering support to the CO2 and gas
business unit. Apply advanced reservoir engineering and
management principles/ techniques to ensure the most
efficient waterflood, CO2 and gas depletion operations in
order to maximize project profitability.

Minimum of five (5) years of reservoir engineering
functional experience required including reservoir
description and characterization, economic and risk
analysis, project development, reservoir surveillance and
property evaluation. The ability to provide technical
mentoring to technician, engineers, and geoscientist is
required.

Must have ability to excel in a multi-disciplinary team
environment.

This is an immediate vacancy, and offers excellent salary
and benefits. To find out how to join the Mobil team, by
sending or faxing your resume to:

Mobil E&P U.S. INC.
ATTN: RESERVOIR ENGINEER VACANCY
P.O. Box 633
MIDLAND, TX 79702
Fax: 915/688-1550

Mobil The energy
to make a difference.
Mobil is an Equal Opportunity Employer

SPIRIT ENERGY 76
RESERVOIR ENGINEER - MIDLAND, TX

At SPIRIT ENERGY 76, we are looking forward to
excellence. If you share this view, and you have the
skills and experience to succeed, we'd like to hear from
you. In this position, which is located in MIDLAND,
Texas, you will monitor secondary and tertiary flood per-
formance, generate drilling and workover recommendations,
and produce economic and reserve evaluations. A BS in Petroleum Engineering is required as well as a
minimum of 5 years experience in Reservoir or
Operations Engineering. Permian Basin experience is a
prerequisite.

SPIRIT ENERGY 76 provides highly competitive com-
pensation and a comprehensive benefits package.
Please submit your resume to: SPIRIT ENERGY 76,
Attn: Gordon Sheppard, P.O. Box 4551,
Houston, TX 77210-4551 or FAX your resume to
(281) 287-7338. Phone calls will not be accepted.

An Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

WEST TEXAS OPPORTUNITIES, INC.
CHILD CARE MANAGEMENT SERVICES
IS TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR:
FULL TIME CLIENT SERVICE WORKER I

Minimum Requirements: (Graduation from an accredited high
school, plus three years of full time experience as a
Community Service Aide, or such related work as a social or
financial service aide, manpower aide, community worker,
community organizer or outreach person, or experience with
the Texas Workforce Commission. Fifteen semester hours
from an accredited college may be substituted for each year
of the required experience. Or, eighteen months of in-service
experience in the Social Services technician career ladder).

For application, please contact Mary at
(915)366-3788 or pick up an application at:
2525 N. Grandview, Suite 600
Odessa, TX.

Applications due February 19, 1998 by 5:00 pm.
WTO, Inc. - CCMS is an equal opportunity employer.
WTO, Inc. is a drug free workplace. Drug testing is provided.

319 Oil Industry Help Wanted
319 Oil Industry Help Wanted

NEARBURG PRODUCING COMPANY
Oil and Gas Production Landman
Aggressive, Midland-based, independent oil and gas
company seeks oil and gas production landman.
Candidate should have experience in road and pipeline
right-of-ways, easement acquisition, seismic and well
permitting, and damage settlement. A minimum of 5 +
years of oil and gas landman experience required.

Mail resume in confidence to:
Nearburg Producing Company
Attention: Land Department
3300 North "A" Street, Bldg. 2, Suite 120
Midland, Texas 79705

319 Oil Industry Help Wanted
320 Skilled Trades

COMPRESSOR MECHANICS:
Experienced only, needed for
Monahans area. Knowledge of
Cat and Waukesha engines
required. Experience with Ariel
Worthington and Joy
compressors a plus. Apply at
Hanover Compressor Corp.,
3201 E. Loop 250 N., Midland,
TX 79705. 915/682-0301.

EXPLORATION GEOLOGIST:
with 10 plus years West Texas
experience to work for BTA Oil
Producers. Good salary and
benefit package. Send replies to:
BTA 104 S. Pecos, Midland
79701.

Local Offshore Service Company
has openings for:
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KEY To Abbreviations

Bd. Bdrm.
Bath
Kit Kitchen
Dbl Double
A/C Air conditioning
Mst. Bdrm. Master Bdrm.
Gar. Garage
Bldg. Building
Cond. Condition
N-QA Non-Qualifying
Assumable
QA Qualifying
Ac. Acre
3/2/2 Bdrm./Ba./Gar

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