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Sports

The 'other two' MHS starters

There is no escaping the Big Three of Tatum, Christian and Johnston. They are the engine that drives this club. But there are the "Other Two" — seniors Brent Winter and Jesse Nicholson. "Either one of them would be stars on just about any team in our district," MHS basketball coach Jack Stephenson said. 1C

302

countdown to 2000

Today: In 1930, Customs inspectors and Mexican rum smugglers exchange shots near El Paso. One inspector injured.



Midland Reporter-Telegram

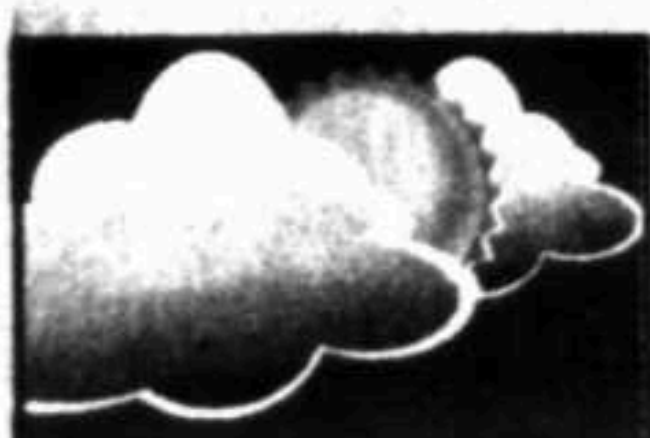
Daily 50¢, Sunday \$1.50

THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 1999

Vol. 71, No. 362

A.M. BRIEFING

TODAY
Partly cloudy
with a high
near 80.
Weather on 4A



AP Photo

Lewinsky speaks

WASHINGTON — Disclosing an abortion and thoughts of suicide, Monica Lewinsky gave the world an unabashed account of her life Wednesday and unleashed her long-pent-up loathing for Kenneth Starr's investigation. And she said she now regards President Clinton "to be a much bigger liar than I ever thought."

Story page 8B

Oil bill passes

AUSTIN — The House Ways and Means Committee on Wednesday night approved a \$45 million temporary tax break for struggling oil producers, voting down a competing proposal to modify and extend the exemption for two years. The panel sent the bill to the full House, where a close vote was expected, said committee chairman Rep. Rене Oliveira, D-Brownsville.

Story page 3B

Springfield dies

LONDON — Singer Dusty Springfield, whose husky-voiced white soul could simultaneously "chill the spine and warm the heart," has died after a long battle with breast cancer. She was 59. Springfield, who recorded such 1960s hits as "Son of a Preacher Man" and "Wishin' and Hopin'," died Tuesday night at her home in Henley-on-Thames, west of London.

Story page 2A

Ed Todd:

Remembering good old days opens up happy memories.

Page 2B



INSIDE TODAY

Bridge	6B
Business & Oil	5C
Classified	3D
Comics	6B
Crossword	7B
Deaths	2B
Lifestyle	1D
Local	1B
Movies	5B
Opinion	6A
Sports	1C
TV Schedule	7B
Weather	4A



Retail softens local economic blows

By Mella McEwen
Staff Writer

As energy prices have slumped, shrinking the city's tax base and prompting oil-company layoffs, Midland's retail industry has served as a buffer for the local economy.

"Retail has been strong in keeping our economy stable with low oil prices," said Dennis Clayton, director of economic development for the Midland Chamber of Commerce. He said that in February the city received more in sales tax rebates than the previous year for sales made in December, breaking a four-month decline in sales tax rebates. "It's a form of economic diversification."

Clayton observed that Mayor Bobby Burns and members of the City Council have tried to develop Midland as a regional retail center, encouraging retail development along Loop 250.

"For the last four or five years we've been working hard on capitalizing on the idea of Midland as a regional center and retail is a key part of that," Burns said. "It's extremely important to Midland

and to the region. I grew up around Midland and I always looked forward to opportunities to go to the big city. There are a lot of people in Lamesa, Big Spring, Andrews and Monahans, who look to us for opportunities."

Retail, according to Don Lewis, manager of the JCPenney's store at Midland Park Mall, is also a cornerstone of the nation's economy.

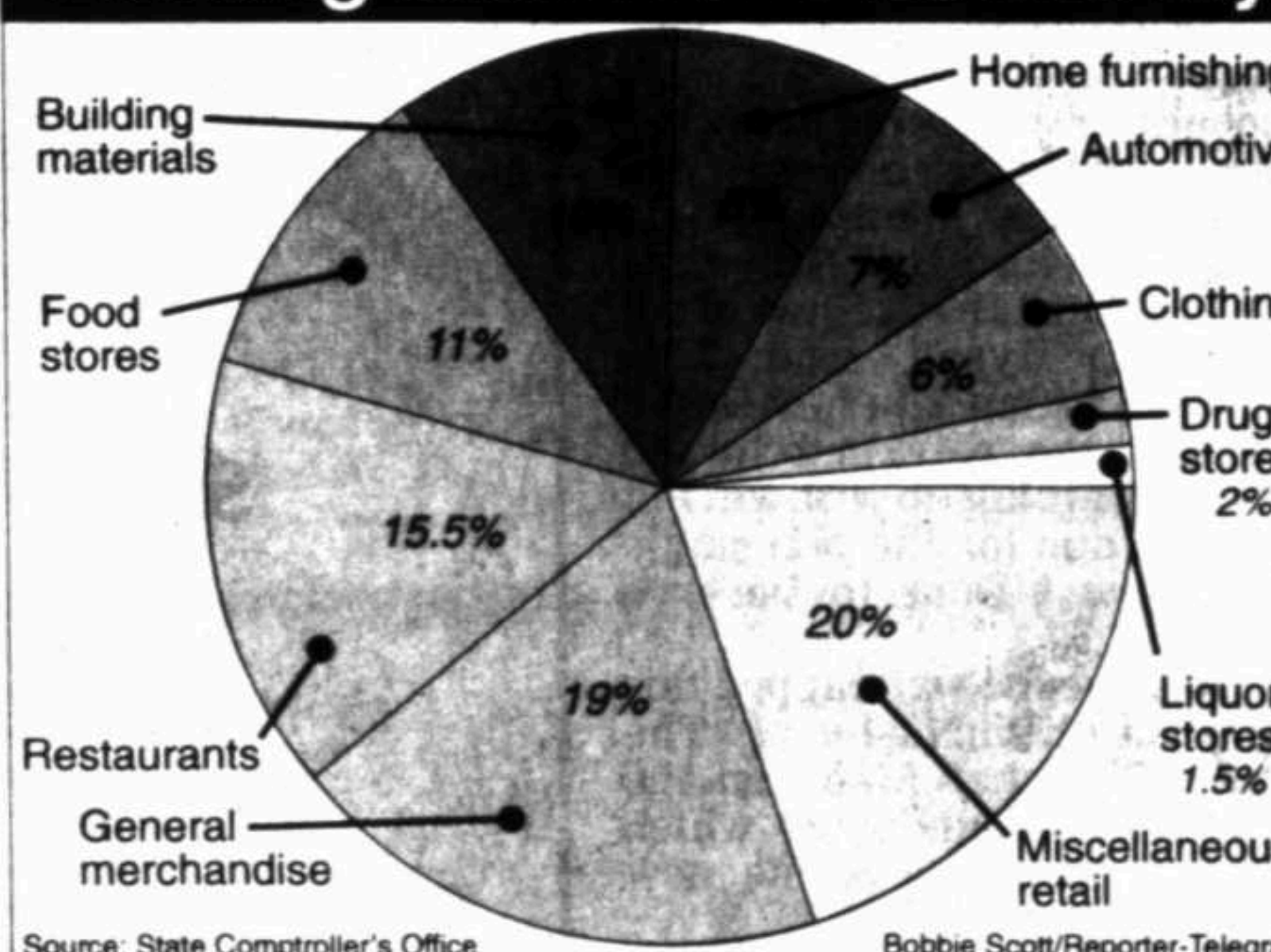
"Without retailing to bring a broad assortment of goods to consumers, where would you be?" asked Lewis, who has been with Penney's 36 years and at the Midland store two years. "Without retailers, you'd be down to 1900 when you ordered something from a catalog and waited for the mule train to carry it in."

Both Burns and Clayton agree that the mall has been cornerstone of the city's growth as a regional retail center and of the retail growth along Loop 250.

"Anytime people come into the city, one of the first places they go is the mall," Burns said. "People go there to buy tennis shoes, to eat, to walk, to see peo-

Please see MALL/4A

Fueling Midland's Economy



Junior League 50th Anniversary

Junior League celebrates golden anniversary with gifts to others

By Gary Shanks
Staff Writer

For the golden anniversary of the organization, members of the Junior League of Midland decided to cap 50 years of service by giving gold to others.

After extensive review, four community service projects were selected for funding by the Junior League as part of this anniversary year's gifts to the people of Midland, league officials said at a Wednesday celebration.

"We're celebrating by giving a total of \$125,000 divided into four gifts," said Vicki Jay, Junior League of Midland president.

"We decided the best thing to do was to ask the community what their needs were," Mrs. Jay said.

The Junior League has a long history of giving to the Midland community, but its 200 active members and 400 additional dues-paying members have been working extra hard in the last few years to make this \$125,000 gift.

The four recipients include: ■ Cityscape construction at the Freda Turner Durham Children's Museum for a cost of \$60,000.

The cityscape is an interactive learning environment built on the concept of

Please see GIFTS/4A



Brian Adamcik/Reporter-Telegram

Junior League member Anna Beth Farr looks at photographs of past Junior League members exhibited at the organization's headquarters on Dengar Avenue.

City to fill 6 jobs despite hiring freeze

By Rick López
Staff Writer

City managers have approved filling six job openings, though the city has been on a hiring freeze since January.

The city is seeking to employ a full-time lab technician, heavy duty equipment mechanic, municipal court cashier, police records clerk, animal control officer, and half-time kennel worker.

Combined salaries for these positions is at least \$115,000, according to information posted on the city's job bulletin.

These openings were approved within the last month, when the city planned and executed a hiring freeze in response to low oil prices, City Manager Mike McGregor said. They were approved between Feb. 10 and Feb. 25, officials said.

"One of three administrators in the city manager's office must approve all job openings that arise during the freeze," McGregor said. They also interview the candidates, no matter what job they're seeking, he said.

The freeze could remove up to 30 non-critical positions over the next year and offset anticipated revenue losses, he said. It does not include public safety positions, like firefighters and police.

But that doesn't mean the city is prohibited from filling jobs again. Personnel Director David Hunter explained.

"It's not a freeze. It's a policy of reviewing all jobs," Hunter said.

With the unavoidable staff shuffles provoked by retirements, deaths and promotions, it's only natural to fill posts sev-

Please see FREEZE/4A

Odessa man killed in I-20 wreck

By Richard Acosta
Staff Writer

An Odessa man died Wednesday from injuries he received in a two-vehicle accident on the north Interstate Highway 20 service road near the 128 mile marker, between Midland and Odessa.

Horrice R. Clark, 76, of Odessa was westbound in a sport utility vehicle on the north I-20 service road.

Midlander Odos A. Capp III, 31, was eastbound on the service road in a pickup.

Department of Public Safety officials said Clark's vehicle crossed over the center lane of the two-lane road in front of Capp's pickup.

The pickup struck Clark's vehicle on the passenger side, pushing it 50 feet off the road and into the ditch between I-20 and the service road.

The pickup came to rest upside down in the ditch, near the area where it initially hit Clark's vehicle, according to reports.

Please see WRECK/4A

Fannin Elementary unveils updated buildings; Bowie to host ceremony

By Daniel Arp
Staff Writer

Freshly renovated and bedecked in purple, green and white balloons, Fannin Elementary celebrated its unveiling at a ceremony Wednesday. Bowie Elementary will similarly host an unveiling today.

Both schools have had the open walkway areas completely enclosed, and old surfaces have been removed from load-bearing walls. Plumbing, heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems have also been modernized. The result is that only the main structural components of the old buildings remain intact in the virtually new buildings.

At Fannin, construction was phased in so that students did not have to attend school at another campus. Some fifth-graders went to class at

Fannin Terrace Baptist Church across the street, but they moved back into the new building in January.

The finishing touches — installation of baseboards and blackboards — were still being done in the weeks leading up to Wednesday's ceremony.

A throng of students, parents, teachers and staff packed into the Fannin gymnasium to hear reflections on what a sign behind the podium advertised as the theme of the event: "Children ... our past — our present — our future."

Superintendent Joseph P. Baressi Jr. and the board of trustees of Midland Independent School District were in attendance.

"This school has a very special place in my

Please see SCHOOLS/4A



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

The Fannin '99 Singers perform a song that the children wrote about the reasons they like their school. It is sung to the tune of "Deep in the Heart of Texas."

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Singer Dusty Springfield dies after battle with breast cancer

LONDON (AP) — Singer Dusty Springfield, whose husky-voiced white soul could simultaneously "chill the spine and warm the heart," has died after a long battle with breast cancer. She was 59.

Springfield, who recorded such 1960s hits as "Son of a Preacher Man" and "Wishin' and Hopin'," died Tuesday night at her home in Henley-on-Thames, west of London.

Mike Gill, who worked with the singer for nearly 32 years and is compiling a four-CD tribute for release later this year, called hers "an intimate voice with wonderful paths."

The box set was put together "with Dusty's full knowledge and her blessing when she knew she was dying. She said, 'Tell Mike to get things organized. I want to go out with a bit of style,'" he said.

Singer Elton John, on tour in the United States, called Springfield "as good a singer as Aretha Franklin in her own way, and completely timeless."

The Encyclopedia of Popular Music paid tribute to her inviting voice, saying she could "chill the spine and warm the heart."

Springfield's finest album is considered 1969's "Dusty in Memphis," which she made in Tennessee.

Though she started out in several groups, her first solo success came in 1964 with the jaunty "I Only Want to Be With You." Other hits included "I Just Don't Know What to Do With Myself" and "You Don't Have to Say You Love Me."

In 1988, she returned to the charts by teaming up with the Pet Shop Boys duo for the pop single "What Have I Done to Deserve This?"

Her resurgence was capped this decade with the inclusion of "The Son of a Preacher Man" on the "Pulp Fiction" soundtrack, which introduced her to a whole new audience.

Springfield's breast cancer was diagnosed in 1994 shortly after she recorded her most recent album, "A Very Fine Love."

She underwent extensive chemotherapy until 1995, when she was diagnosed as being clear of the disease. But the cancer returned the following year.

After the first diagnosis, she

told The Mail on Sunday in January, "I shed about three tears in the hallway and then said, 'Let's have lunch.'"

"It was only when I came home one night and saw my cat lying asleep that I thought, 'Who's going to look after you?' It was as if somebody had run a train through me. I wept and wept and wept because then I realized: It is you. It's you. Yes, it might kill you."

Dusty Springfield was born Mary Isabel Catherine Bernadette O'Brien in north London on April 16, 1939.

She became known for her glitzy gowns, peroxide-blonde beehive hairdo and dark, smudgy eye make-up, an effect achieved by leaving on the same cake-on-mascara for three weeks at a time. But she once said she never shook off the feeling of being an "awful fat, ugly middle-class kid."

She told The Mail on Sunday that

her personal and musical epiphany came at the age of 16 when she looked at her reflection in the mirror and said: "Be miserable or become someone else."

And she did. Professing herself "bored with Britain," Springfield moved to Los Angeles in 1972, where she lived for 15 years, embarking on

drinking and drug binges and suffering from depression. She later disclosed she had attempted suicide in California.

Springfield's death came 11 days before she was to be inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame at a ceremony in New York, along with Paul McCartney and Bruce Springsteen.

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Uganda rebels

KAMPALA, Uganda troops those responsible for the deaths of 100 Ugandans and tourists, Ugandans promised Wednesday that they would not let the rebels win. "If we don't, we shall kill them," Yoweri Museveni said.

Ugandan soldiers set out on foot in a joint manhunt who used machine guns, for New Zealand U.S. and British troops joined the invasion.

The two dead identified as and his wife, Haubner's son said they were to Africa. The statement said shocked by this trying to cope with the situation.

The American more than a dozen rebels kidnapped their fight to undo Tutsi-led government.

The Hutu fight in 1994 after 500,000 minority civilians were massacred by government forces. They have been cross-border raiding eastern Congo, vehicles and kidnapping passengers.

The rebels in the United States, but for providing aid led government notes left on the rebels said: British, we don't land. You support a Ugandan soldiers tracked base in Congo's Park on Tuesday them before the.

The tourists' campgrounds on di National Park point for visitors the 320 mountains remain along the rain's slopes.

Museveni said have known an able. There were reports of a nearby village attack on the town.

The park authorities have foreseen to asked for support therefore regret.

Asked if officials for the slaughter, Museveni said warden is already one who was directly.

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Ugandan president promises rebels will be hunted down

KAMPALA, Uganda (AP) — Ugandan troops will hunt down those responsible for killing two Americans and six other foreign tourists, Uganda's president promised Wednesday, acknowledging that park rangers failed to alert soldiers to a possible attack by Rwandan rebels.

"If we don't catch them (alive), we shall kill them," President Yoweri Museveni said as he apologized to the victims' families.

Ugandan and Rwandan soldiers set out on foot patrols Wednesday in a joint manhunt for the rebels, who used machetes to kill two Americans, four Britons and two New Zealanders. FBI and other U.S. and British officials also joined the investigation.

The two dead Americans were identified as Rob Haubner, 48, and his wife, Susan Miller, 42. Haubner's company, Intel Corp., said they were on their third trip to Africa. The family issued a statement saying: "We are shocked by this news and we are trying to cope with this devastating situation as best we can."

The Americans were among more than a dozen foreigners the rebels kidnapped late Sunday in their fight to undermine Rwanda's Tutsi-led government.

The Hutu fighters fled Rwanda in 1994 after killing more than 500,000 minority Tutsis and politically moderate Hutus in a government-orchestrated genocide. They have been carrying out cross-border raids from bases in eastern Congo, often ambushing vehicles and kidnapping or killing passengers.

The rebels are angry at the United States, Britain and Uganda for providing aid to the new Tutsi-led government in Rwanda. In notes left on the tourists' bodies, the rebels said: "Americans and British, we don't want you on our land. You support our enemy."

A Ugandan commander said soldiers tracked the rebels to a base in Congo's Virunga National Park on Tuesday, killing some of them before they scattered.

The tourists were abducted at campgrounds on the edge of Bwindi National Park, the starting point for visitors hoping to glimpse the 320 mountain gorillas that remain along the border mountain's slopes.

Museveni said rangers should have known an attack was possible. There were unconfirmed reports of a separate raid on a nearby village hours before the attack on the tourists.

"The park authorities should have foreseen this problem and asked for support," he said. "We therefore regret this mistake."

Asked if officials responsible for the slaughter would be punished, Museveni said: "The game warden is already dead. That's the one who was directly responsible."

Warden Paul Wagaba was among several Ugandans killed in the initial camp raids late Sunday.

The Express newspaper of London also reported Wednesday that the rebels sent letters to Ugandan officials "two weeks ago warning that Britons and Americans would be targeted, but the threats were not passed on to British tour operators or diplomats."

Museveni also welcomed outside help in tracking down the killers, who are hiding in a jungle so dense it's called the Impenetrable Forest.

White House spokesman David Leavy said the FBI and Justice Department had investigative teams in Uganda trying to find the killers. He said the United States did not receive "a specific warning or specific threat assessment" on this matter.

"We're going to be working with the Ugandan government, with the government of Congo," Leavy said. "We will work tirelessly to bring those who perpetrated this crime to justice."

Prime Minister Tony Blair told the House of Commons that Britain would "do all in our power" to find the killers.

Several of the tourists' bodies were flown out of Uganda on Wednesday, but no details on their destinations were available.

Danja Walther, 23, a flight attendant from Switzerland who narrowly missed being aboard the doomed Swissair jet that crashed last year in Halifax, Nova Scotia, was one of six survivors. Uganda was supposed to be her vacation to recover from having lost friends aboard the jumbo jet.

She told journalists in Kampala on Wednesday that the rebels told her and the other hostages to take off their shoes and forced them to walk through the jungle barefoot.

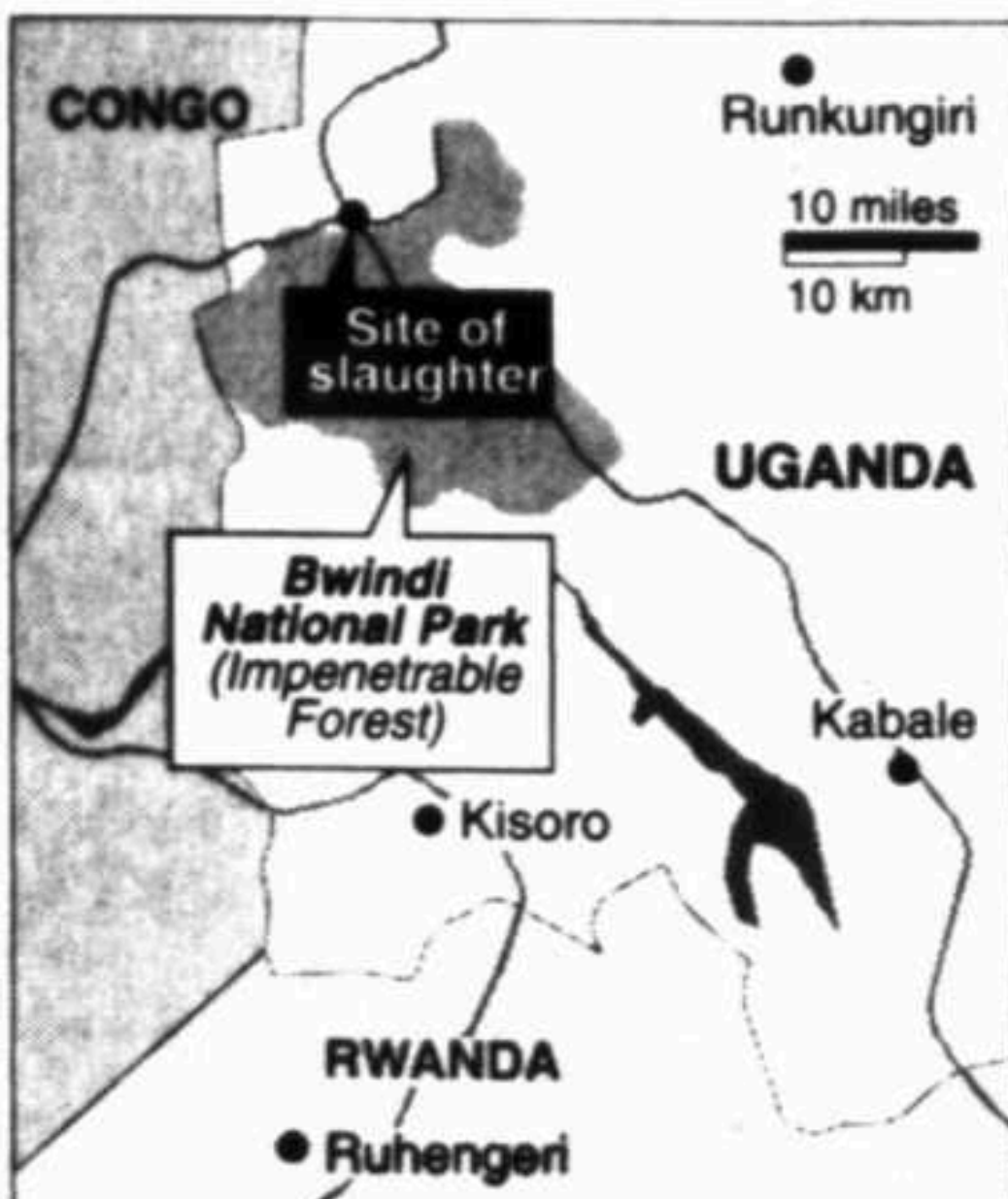
"I was thinking I was going to be killed and I was thinking, I'd rather die with my friend," she said, breaking into sobs. "I never believed people could kill people. I was thinking this was a movie. I was only praying I would get out of the situation."

The parents of one of the four British victims, Mark Lindgren, 23, said he graduated from university last year and was two weeks into a three-month tour of Africa. "Mark was kindhearted, generous, bright and loved life," said his father, John Lindgren.

Britain's Foreign Office identified the other British victims as Steven Roberts, Martin Friend and Joanne Cotton.

Two New Zealanders among the dead were identified as Rhonda Avis, 27, and Michelle Strathern, 26. Mrs. Avis' husband, Mark, escaped the attack, the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs said.

The Rwandan rebels have abducted tourists before, but on the



other side of the border in Congo. Two Swedish tourists and a New Zealander have been missing since August.

Hussein Kivumbi, who manages one of the raided camps, was packing up Wednesday. "There will be no tourists coming for time being, so we're closing down," he said.

U.S., China resume negotiations on China's effort to enter WTO

BEIJING (AP) — Top U.S. and Chinese trade negotiators met Wednesday to try to spur China's fitful, 13-year-long effort to join the World Trade Organization.

U.S. Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky held a more than hourlong meeting with Chinese Foreign Trade Minister Shi Guangsheng Wednesday afternoon, and their aides continued discussions late into the night, a U.S. trade official said.

The negotiators went over many of the same demands Washington has raised in previous rounds — lower tariffs and better access to agriculture, telecommunications, financial services and insurance markets, said the U.S. official who spoke on condition of anonymity.

A scheduled trip to Washington next month by Chinese Premier Zhu Rongji, a pragmatic economic reformer, has given both sides

new political impetus to reach an agreement.

Before beginning her meetings, Barshefsky sought to dampen speculation she would present a new, compromise package to get Beijing into the WTO.

"I'm not here to bring proposals. I'm here to listen to what the Chinese have to say," Barshefsky said as she left her hotel to prepare for talks later Wednesday with China's foreign trade minister, Shi Guangsheng.

Barshefsky and her aides were scheduled to hold more negotiations today.

Joining the WTO, the body that sets trade rules, would give China low-tariff access to export markets and shield it from unilateral trade sanctions.

China wants to be admitted as a developing country under conditions that would allow it to retain

some trade barriers to protect its industries.

China is worried that opening its markets more could undermine key industries and throw even more people out of work when debt-ridden state factories already are laying off millions of workers.

China began 13 years ago trying to gain entrance to the predecessor of the World Trade Organization. The United States and other WTO members have urged Beijing to move faster in cutting tariffs and opening markets to more foreign competition.

The growing U.S. trade deficit with China reached nearly \$57 billion last year, second only to the gap with Japan. Opening markets further could help boost China's imports of foreign products, U.S. officials contend.

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Mexican prison shootout leaves 1 dead, 5 injured

MEXICO CITY (AP) — An inmate opened fire Wednesday on fellow prisoners at a penitentiary in the northern state of Sinaloa, killing one 33-year-old inmate and injuring five others.

The shooting apparently occurred as part of a dispute among inmates at the facility in the state capital of Culiacan, 640 miles (1025 kms) northwest of Mexico City, local media reported.

It was unclear how the inmate obtained the gun, but the Television Azteca network cited the incident as "one more proof that guns freely circulate in Mexican prisons."

The injured prisoners were taken to a local hospital for treatment, where one was reported in serious condition.

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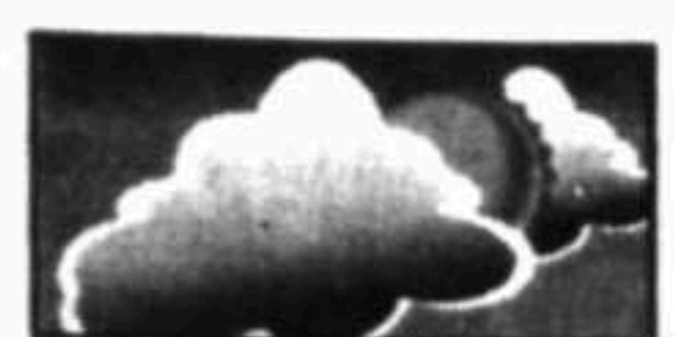
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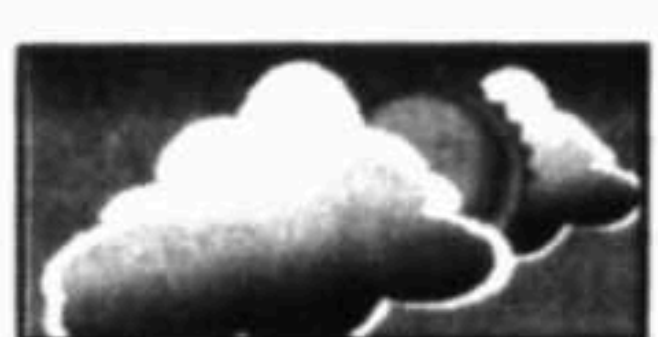
WEATHER

Midland forecast

3-day forecast



Today
Partly cloudy
High 80
Low 45



Friday
Partly cloudy
High 78
Low 46



Saturday
Partly cloudy
High 76
Low 44

Today's forecast calls for partly cloudy skies and breezy with a high near 80 and gusty southwest to west winds at 15-25 mph.

Tonight's forecast calls for fair skies with a low in the mid-40s. Friday's forecast calls for partly cloudy skies with a high in the upper 70s.

After an overnight low of 32, Wednesday's high reached 66, compared to the record high for that date of 89 set in 1974. The record low of 15 was set in 1971.

Yesterday's precipitation

Rainfall Wednesday .00 in.
Rainfall Tuesday .00 in.
Total for month .00 in.
Total for year .03 in.
Normal total yr to date 1.04 in.

Yesterday's temperatures

High .66
Low .32
Normal high .67
Normal low .36

Pollen count

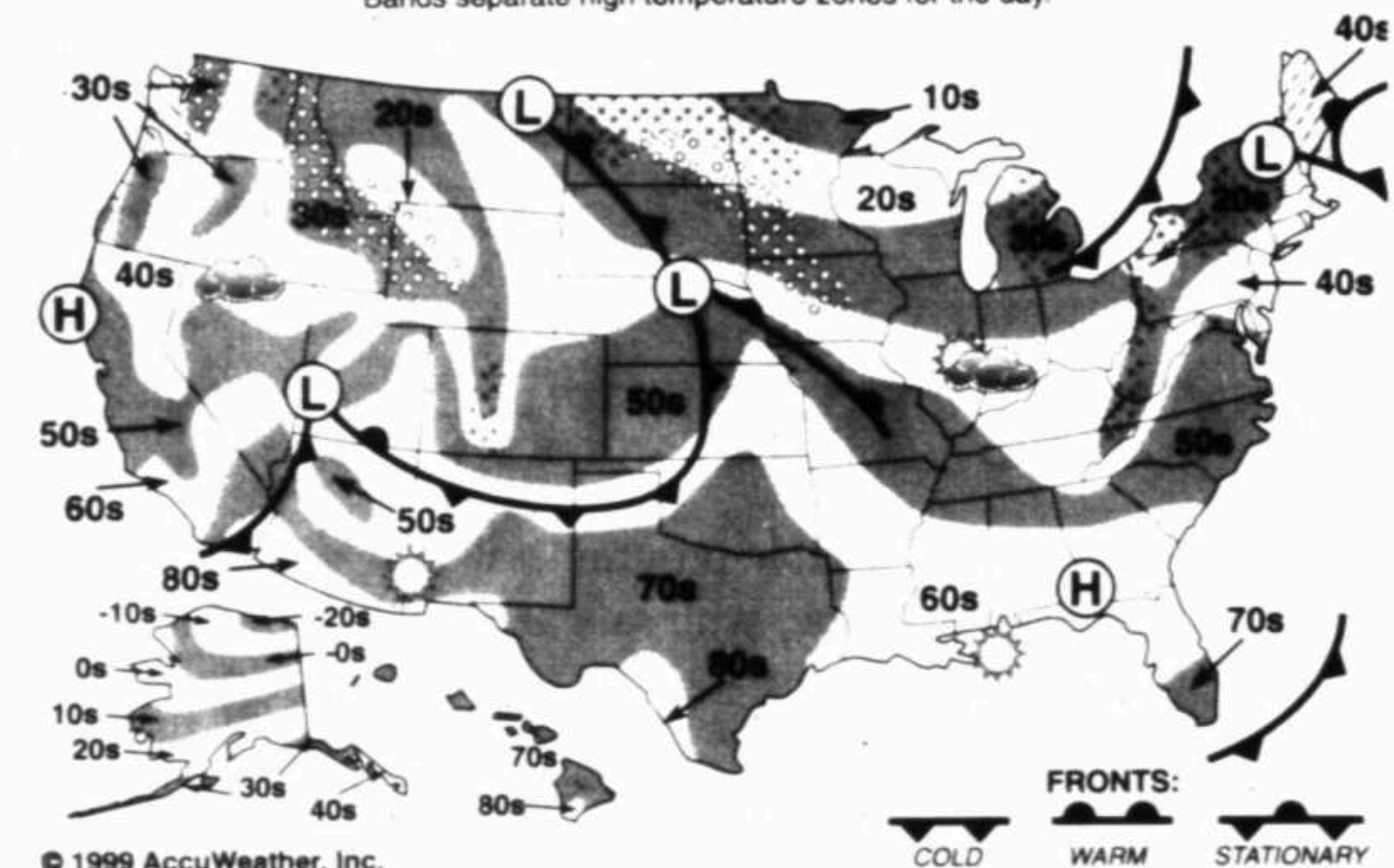
Trees: Moderate Weeds: Absent
Grass: Absent Molds: Low
Dust: Moderate
Courtesy: John D. Bray, MD.

Sunrise ... 7:12 a.m.
Sunset ... 6:49 p.m.

National forecast

The AccuWeather® forecast for noon, Thursday, Mar. 4.

Bands separate high temperature zones for the day.



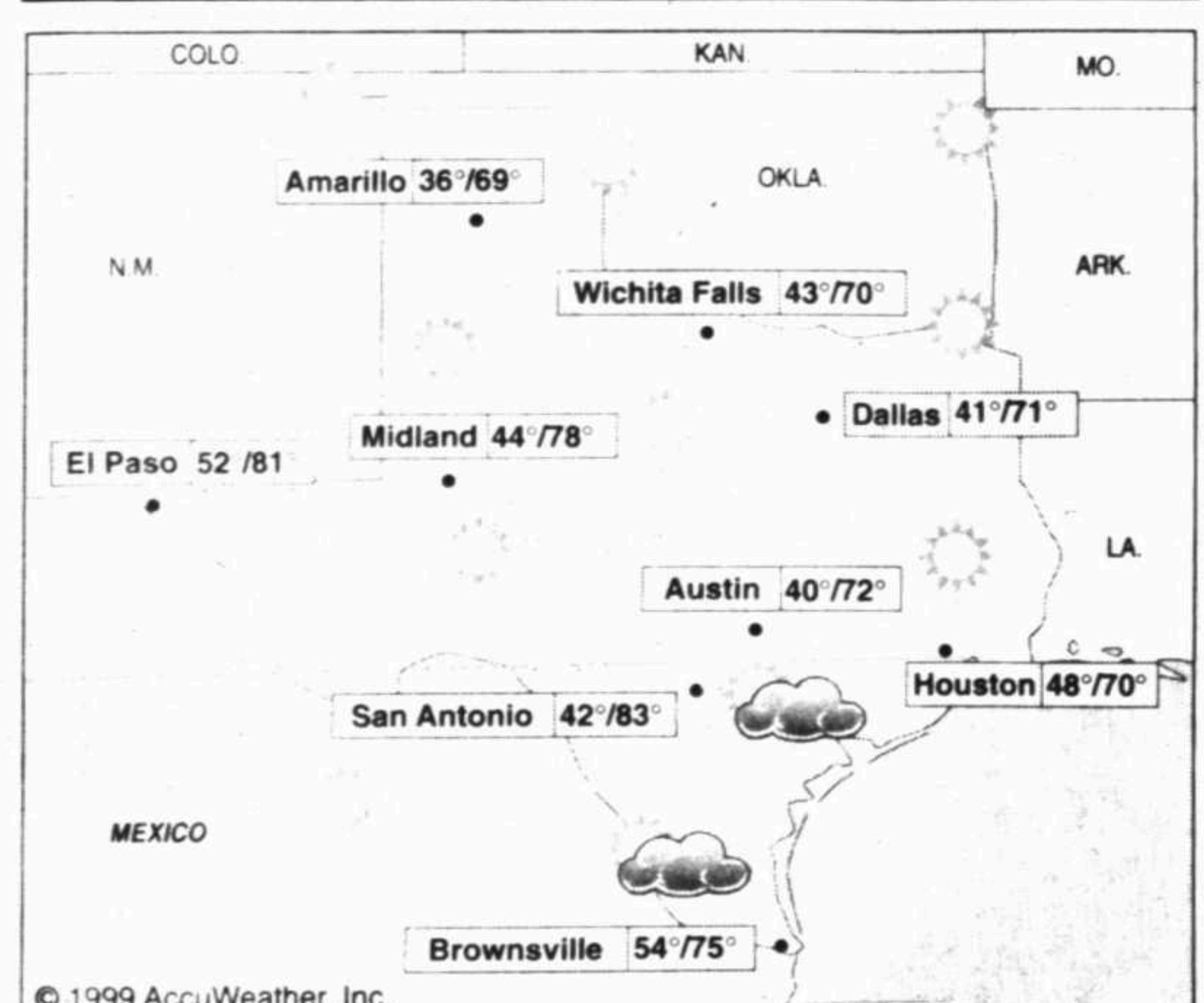
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Via Associated Press

United States temperatures

Temperatures indicate previous day's high and overnight low to 7:00 p.m. EST.

City	High	Low	Prc	Otk
Albany N.Y.	53	23	06	sn
Albuquerque	67	36	01	sn
Anchorage	20	19	01	cl
Asheville	51	49	33	cl
Atlanta	52	51	29	cl
Atlanta City	56	29	01	cl
Baltimore	64	34	03	dr
Bilings	57	28	01	cl
Birmingham	47	43	13	sn
Bismarck	34	13	01	cl
Boise	50	39	02	cl
Boston	52	30	01	cl
Buffalo	43	30	01	cl
Burlington Vt.	44	20	01	cl
Casper	58	16	01	cl
Charleston S.C.	71	48	53	cl
Charlotte N.C.	49	43	32	cl
Charlotte N.C.	59	49	28	cl
Chattanooga	60	17	01	cl
Chicago	33	28	01	cl
Cincinnati	36	35	20	cl
Cleveland	39	35	69	sn
Columbia S.C.	51	01	01	cl
Columbus Ohio	40	40	42	cl
Concord N.H.	47	23	01	cl
Dayton	35	35	13	cl
Denver	67	15	01	cl
Des Moines	37	20	01	cl
Detroit	35	33	24	cl
Duluth	26	10	01	cl
Evansville	37	35	06	cl
Fairbanks	-4	-28	01	cl
Fargo	25	11	01	cl
Flagstaff	56	51	01	cl
Grand Rapids	35	31	12	cl
Great Falls	48	31	01	cl
Greensboro N.C.	66	48	22	cl
Hartford Conn.	55	23	13	cl
Helen	45	30	01	cl
Honolulu	82	68	01	cl
Indianapolis	36	35	12	cl
Jackson Miss.	53	45	59	cl
Jacksonville	71	50	01	cl
Janaus	42	27	01	cl
Kansas City	43	23	01	cl
Las Vegas	80	61	01	cl
Little Rock	54	37	01	cl
Los Angeles	65	50	01	cl
Louisville	38	37	31	cl
Memphis	49	37	13	cl
Miami Beach	78	63	05	cl
Minneapolis	35	25	01	cl
Mpls-St Paul	32	17	01	cl
Nashville	44	34	10	cl
North Platte	51	13	01	cl
New Orleans	62	52	31	cl
New York City	55	37	05	cl
Norfolk Va.	74	45	01	cl
Omaha	54	33	01	cl
Oklahoma City	54	33	01	cl
Orlando	74	55	01	cl
Philadelphia	61	35	01	cl
Phoenix	85	54	01	cl
Pittsburgh	49	37	24	sn
Portland Ore.	39	24	01	cl
Portland Maine	39	24	01	cl
Rapid City	45	15	01	cl
Richmond	51	25	01	cl
Rio Grande	72	49	10	cl
Sacramento	60	50	11	cl
St. Louis	41	30	01	cl
Salt Lake City	63	40	01	cl
San Diego	64	54	01	cl
San Francisco	56	48	09	cl
San Juan P.R.	84	70	01	cl
Santa Fe	63	28	01	cl
Sioux Falls	34	14	01	cl
Spokane	41	34	03	cl
Syracuse	53	25	01	cl
Tampa-St Ptsbg	72	60	01	cl
Tokyo	46	24	01	cl
Tucson	83	47	01	cl
Tulsa	52	29	01	cl
Washington D.C.	69	43	03	cl

State forecast



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Via Associated Press

Texas temperatures

Highest temperature last 12 hours, lowest past 18 hours and precipitation for 24 hours at 6 p.m.

City	High	Low	Pcp
Abilene	72	35	00
Amarillo	55	26	00
Arlington	76	41	00
Austin Bergstrom	86	46	00
Beaumont	74	54	00
Brownsville	82	45	00
Burnet	82	45	00
Corpus Christi	98	58	00
Dalhousie	88	58	00
Del Rio	88	58	00
Denton	75	33	00
DFW Airport	76	39	00
El Paso	76	47	00
Galveston	73	56	00
Haltom City	73	56	00
Houston Intercontinental	81	49	00
Huntsville	82	46	00
Laredo	96	61	00
Longview	76	43	0.53
Lubbock	64	30	00
Marfa	72	39	00
Navajo Corpus	82	46	00
New Braunfels	91	46	00
Palacios	75	55	00
Paris	70	37	00
Rockport	88	56	00
San Angelo	79	35	00
San Antonio	91	50	00
Shreveport, La.	75	43	0.82
Terrell	75	43	00
Texarkana, Ar.	72	39	00
Tyler	77	42	00
Victoria	88	52	00
Waco	81	41	00
Wichita Falls	68	33	00
Wink	76	33	00

MALL: Retail softens blows to local economy

(From 1A)

The 19-year-old shopping center is undergoing some changes as its owner-developer, Simon Property Group, launches a national branding campaign to publicize the Simon name.

Shoppers entering Midland Park Mall will notice new signage and other changes emphasizing the Simon name, though the name of the mall will not change. Shoppers will also notice that the Community Booth is now the MallPerks Marketplace, signing customers up for the MallPerks shopping incentive program and the VIP Visa credit card.

"We are upgrading our signage at all our malls to include the Simon name and provide consistency," said Tracy Coulson, regional marketing director for Indianapolis-based Simon. "We're

trying to establish our name and that there are certain things a shopper can expect from Simon properties. The health care industry did this when corporations would buy local clinics, they'd retain the local name but note that there was a corporation behind it."

The campaign is being welcomed by mall retailers. "I think any type of promotion and getting the name out there, anything that creates excitement, is good," said Brenda White, who has been manager of Beall's since just before Thanksgiving.

She said the store participates in all mall promotions, in addition to its own promotions, like having living mannequins in its windows, to stay competitive.

The store has also been adding some new lines to better accommodate customers, said Ms. White, who comes to Midland from South Texas. The store has

added a Junior-Plus Shop and a Young Man's Shop.

"We found a lost customer was the young plus," she said. "Not everyone is a size 6. We have a young line for girls who wear size 16 so they can still dress their age. And we've added a Young Man's Shop that carries OP, Polo, T-shirts and athletic wear."

Lewis doubts that shoppers will care who owns the property, but he thinks that the branding campaign "will make people more at ease, knowing the mall is operated by a U.S. firm, not an offshore interest. ... Simon has high standards for cleanliness, quality and safety. I'm not sure customers will care who owns the mall; the tenants may care more."

Shoppers will be able to use their MallPerks rewards at any Simon property throughout the nation and can send gift certificates purchased at one property, for exam-

ple Midland Park Mall, to friends or relatives who can use them at another property elsewhere in the nation, Ms. Coulson said.

Nancy Bowlin, marketing manager of Midland Park Mall, said that the center will kick off the campaign Saturday by having mall staff and Texas Scholars volunteers, greeting shoppers and passing out copies of Simon's new publication, "S," a free magazine that includes editorial content from Time Warner magazines, including "Time," "In Style" and "Sports Illustrated." The publication will also contain mall-specific information about important events, promotions and special offerings.

Young shoppers will receive free balloons and "Harlin Rhoades the Balloon Man" will be near the Sears Court from 4 to 6 p.m. making balloon animals.

At least two killed in storms in Northwest, South

The Associated Press

Powerful winds and large waves whipped the Pacific Northwest coast on Wednesday, knocking out power to tens of thousands and interrupting ferry service across Washington state's Puget Sound.

In the South, tornadoes and strong storms tore across several states.

A 36-year-old man was killed in Washington when a tree fell on the car he was driving. In Alabama, a 23-year-old man was killed when a tree slammed into his trailer home in Milbrook.

"All of a sudden you just heard a big boom," said Stephanie Clecker, 17, who lives nearby the trailer home. "Glass started flying everywhere."

Washington Gov. Gary Locke declared a state of emergency in five counties in the western part of the state.

At the peak of the wind storm, gusts reached as high as 68 mph in Snohomish, northeast of Seattle, the weather service said, while 35-foot seas and sustained 60 mph winds were reported off the coast.

More than 200,000 people were without electricity early Wednesday as falling tree limbs felled power lines, but most had power restored by noon.

Passenger ferry service in the Puget Sound area was canceled Wednesday morning, affecting about 45,000 people, state ferry spokeswoman Susan Harris-Huether said.

The storm also closed the Evergreen Point

'All of a sudden you just heard a big boom. Glass started flying everywhere.'

— Stephanie Clecker of Alabama

Floating Bridge across Seattle's Lake Washington, bringing morning commuter traffic to a near-standstill. There was damage to the draw span of the bridge and crews said it could not be repaired until at least Friday morning.

An estimated 100,000 cars use the Evergreen Point bridge each day, which connects Seattle to the eastern suburbs — including Redmond where Microsoft headquarters is located. The damage leaves the Interstate 90 floating bridge, three miles to the south, as the only cross-lake span.

On the Washington coast, heavy seas combined with high tides to flood the town of Raymond's downtown area with up to 2 feet of water. Two apartment complexes were evacuated, and nearly 40 people sought shelter at a Red Cross facility. Downtown was reopened late Wednesday.

Tornadoes touched down in Florida and Texas late Tuesday and early Wednesday, damaging dozens of homes and causing minor injuries.

In Virginia, a thunderstorm packing strong winds ripped through a construction site south of Richmond on Wednesday, injuring 16 people,

authorities said.

Search dogs were brought in to help officials account for everyone at Chaparral Virginia Steel Recycling construction site, said Janet Clements, spokeswoman for the state Department of Emergency Services.

Ten people injured at the construction site were taken to a Petersburg hospital with neck and back injuries and cuts. They were in stable condition.

Six of the injured were treated at the scene.

Two emergency workers en route to the construction site were injured in an automobile accident.

One was in stable condition and another was critical.

In North Carolina, winds topped 60 mph knocked down trees and power lines as a cold front swept through the state and dumped up to 7 inches of snow in the mountains and spawning thunderstorms and hail. Power outages left more than 100,000 North Carolina utility customers in the dark for a time.

In east Texas, several Tuesday night twisters nearly demolished six homes and damaged as many as 25 others. Several people suffered minor injuries.

A tornado in the Florida Panhandle damaged about 55 homes, with 20 sustaining major damage.

Twisters damage homes in East Texas; two remain hospitalized/3B

SCHOOLS: Fannin, Bowie celebrate latest renovations

(From 1A)

Principal Rob Van Stavern.

Each classroom wrote a message about the school that was attached to each of the birds. The birds have been trained to fly to a specific location where the messages will later be retrieved for the students.

Baressi and board members plan to be in attendance at today's Bowie unveiling as well. The official ceremony at Bowie will begin at 5:30 p.m., though school tours and an open house will take place beforehand.

First lady of Texas Laura Bush, who attended Bowie the year it

opened, sent a congratulatory note to the school.

"I am glad to hear my 'alma mater' has a new look," she wrote. "The renovation preserves and expands a beautiful part of Texas history — and proud part of my history as well."

Mrs. Bush also sent Fannin a congratulatory letter, which was read out loud at Wednesday's unveiling.

Both renovations represent two more check marks on a \$39.5 million list of 13 elementary schools that the district plans to modernize.

Other completed schools include Travis, Crockett and Pease.

Schools currently being renovated or slated for renovation include Burnet, Milam, Long, Bonham, Jones, Henderson, Rusk and Emerson. A stage will also be added to the gymnasium at South Elementary.

Other completed schools include

Travis, Crockett and Pease. Schools currently being renovated or slated for renovation include Burnet, Milam, Long, Bonham, Jones, Henderson, Rusk and Emerson. A stage will also be added to the gymnasium at South Elementary.

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Slaughters in Uganda latest in 'adventure tourism' gone awry

By William Kole
Associated Press

NAIROBI, Kenya — Bungee jumping off bridges over the Rio Grande. Deep-sea diving to the watery grave of the Titanic. White water rafting through the churning cascades of East Africa's White Nile.

By definition, adventure tourists take plenty of risks. But the foreign tourists who traveled to the Ugandan rainforest to view rare mountain gorillas surely did not expect that those risks would include being butchered by marauding Rwandan rebels.

In the wake of the slaughter of two Americans, four Britons and two New Zealanders, it is clear the area is dangerous. Government officials knew it. Environmental groups working to protect the gorillas knew it.

But did the tour operators know it? And if they did, did they pass the information on to their clients?

Mark Ross, the American guide who escaped the rebels and gave the first grisly account Tuesday of the other tourists' fate, was asked at a news conference if his clients were aware of the dangers.

"No," he said. But asked later if he knew the risks, he said: "Yes."

"As the opportunities for travel to obscure and potentially dangerous parts of the world increase, travel agents and individuals themselves have got to exercise discretion and responsibility," said Menzies Campbell, a British member of Parliament.

Rebels in Central Africa use the majority of the region's national parks as cover for their bases. They are remote, unpopulated,



AP Photo
An unidentified Australian survivor from the tourist killing in Uganda rests inside the compound of the British High Commission in Kampala, Uganda Wednesday. Eight tourists, four British, two Americans and two New Zealanders were killed, allegedly by Rwandan Hutu militia, in a gorilla park in Uganda.

and offer plenty of food in the way of wild game.

The rebels sent letters to Ugandan officials two weeks ago warning that Britons and Americans would be targeted, but the threats were not passed on to British tour operators or diplomats. The Express newspaper of London reported Wednesday.

Uganda's president, Yoweri Museveni, blamed park rangers Wednesday for failing to alert the military to a security problem.

However, it was a well-known problem. For more than two years, Hutu rebels based in Congo

— from the same militia that carried out the 1994 genocide of more than 500,000 Tutsis and politically moderate Hutus in Rwanda — have been waging cross-border raids into Uganda. They are angry at Uganda for its support of Rwanda's Tutsi-led government, and at the United States and Britain for their increasingly close ties with Rwanda.

Previous warnings made clear there has been rebel activity in this area and the situation was very changeable, Baroness Symons, a minister in Britain's Foreign Office, said Wednesday.

In August, Hutu rebels kidnapped four foreign tourists just across the Ugandan border in Congo while they were on a trek to observe gorillas. A Canadian tourist was later released, but the others — two Swedes and one New Zealander — have not been heard from since.

As the grim process of identifying the bodies of the slain tourists wrapped up Wednesday, the warnings started — travel advisories from foreign governments urging their citizens to avoid the troubled region.

The Clinton administration issued a warning "which strongly urges American citizens to postpone their visits to Uganda's gorilla parks because of the current security situation," White House spokesman David Leavy said.

Still, adventure tourism remains a specialty: For Americans, the top international destinations remain London, Paris, Rome, and Cancun, Mexico, according to a January survey of the American Society of Travel Agents and Fodor's.

Gorilla watching, while in itself a tranquil matter of sitting quietly in tall grass, also takes stamina. Just to get to gorilla habitats takes hours of driving on badly rutted roads, followed by long hikes on steep, rugged slopes through mosquito-infested jungle. Travelers sleep outdoors, in campsites.

Acacia Expeditions, a British-based tour group, said Wednesday it was canceling all Uganda tours "for the foreseeable future" after four of its clients were among those kidnapped and released.

Acacia's brochure describing

its 28-day, \$1,430 "Gorillas, Game Parks and Chimps" tour stresses the expertise of its guides and ensures "a safe and highly enjoyable trip."

It doesn't mention possible kidnapping or insurrections, but tour organizer Sue Ockwell said Acacia relied on a British Foreign Office report stating: "The rebels are periodically active. While the situation is currently peaceful, it can change rapidly."

"Safety is paramount. All tour operators want to have their clients come back again. Common sense dictates you don't want to

have the blood of your clients on your hands," she said in an interview.

"It's unthinkable that we would compromise on safety," she said, but added: "These aren't package holidays where you sit on the beach. You can run into floods, earthquakes, tribal insurrections. We have to be ready for anything."

"People do tend to go on holiday and switch their brains off," she said. "I do it myself. But you must be alert and watch what's going on."

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Kurdish rebels warn of war escalation

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — Kurdish rebels will escalate the war for autonomy in southeastern Turkey despite the loss of their leader, a spokeswoman for the rebels' political wing said Wednesday.

Turkey hoped that the Feb. 15 capture of Abdullah Ocalan, founder and leader of the Kurdistan Workers Party, or PKK, would deal a final blow to his rebels. But fighting has continued in the southeast and the Germany-based Kurdish agency DEM said the rebels had killed 29 soldiers since clashes over the past 10 days.

"Since it is clear that Turkey does not want a political dialogue, war will escalate. There is clearly no other way," said rebel spokeswoman Mizgin Sen by telephone from Brussels, Belgium.

The military refused to confirm the report that 29 soldiers had been killed. Earlier, it announced that clashes in the same area had killed 16 rebels.

Close to 37,000 people have died since the PKK launched its insurgency in 1984.

Since Ocalan's capture, there has been considerable speculation over his replacement as head of the PKK. Sen denied a report by the newspaper Milliyet that Cemil Bayik, a senior PKK commander, had replaced Ocalan.

Ocalan is charged with treason and could face the death penalty. No trial date has been set.

In a hearing Wednesday, prosecutors pushed for a death sentence for Ocalan's former second-in-command, Semdin Sakik. He was

captured last year and is charged with separatism.

Sakik added to the list of atrocities attributed to Ocalan, by accusing him of ordering the killing of 33 unarmed soldiers in 1993.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit announced he would visit the southeastern city of Diyarbakir on Sunday, in the first high-profile visit to the Kurdish-dominated region since Ocalan's capture.

The trip to the city of 1 million people, located 575 miles southeast of the capital, Ankara, is a follow-up to a package of measures proposed by Ecevit to improve the region's economy.

Ocalan's arrest has also heightened tension between rivals Greece and Turkey, prompting fears of war between the NATO allies.

Ocalan hid in the Greek Embassy in Nairobi, Kenya, before he was nabbed by Turkish forces there.

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Bush revelation was anticipated, most refreshing

Gov. George W. Bush's revelation that he has formed a presidential exploratory committee to help him raise money for a possible run for the presidency in 2000 was a carefully calculated move.

Bush is a careful politician as he proved during his first term as Texas governor. In fact, he performed so well that he was overwhelmingly re-elected to a second term, which got under way in January. Bush doesn't shoot from the hip, he doesn't take unnecessary risks. All his moves are cautious and well thought out.

That said, announcement of the exploratory committee is a welcome development. Bush has been an extremely popular governor, but even an extremely popular governor can be far less than effective at the sometimes difficult task of governing. Yet Bush has excelled at governing, too, a fact underscored by the major legislative accomplishments since he has been in office. It has become obvious that Bush is no slouch at either politics or governing.

So it stands to reason that the parade of elected officials that has been witnessed in Austin in recent weeks would occur. They — like those in the general population — have basically the same interests at heart: The best possible leadership for this nation, and in that regard they have been figuratively "bending" Bush's ear, telling him to seek the GOP nomination for president in 2000.

Well, people have been talking about Bush following in the footsteps of his father, former President George H.W. Bush, almost since before he was elected as governor. But as we pointed out earlier, politically Bush is a most cautious man. At first he would only say that he was interested, but that his first duty was to Texas and Texans. Now he has formed an exploratory committee to help raise money for a presidential race in the event the support is there. We think it will be, but that is for him to decide at the time he believes is right.

He couldn't even be enticed into throwing brickbats at the current occupant of the White House. Bush would only say he will "let historians judge President Clinton. ... I intend to conduct myself in office the way I have here in the state of Texas, to bring dignity and honor to the office."

Now that would be refreshing!

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Thursday, March 4, the 63rd day of 1999. There are 302 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 4, 1789, the Constitution of the United States went into effect as the first federal Congress met in New York. Lawmakers then adjourned for lack of a quorum.

On this date:

In 1791, Vermont became the 14th state.

In 1829, an unruly crowd mobbed the White House during the inaugural reception for President Jackson.

In 1837, the Illinois state legislature granted a city charter to Chicago.

In 1861, Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated president.

In 1902, the American Automobile Association was founded in Chicago.

In 1925, President Calvin Coolidge's inauguration was broadcast live on 21 radio stations coast-to-coast.

In 1933, Franklin D. Roosevelt was inaugurated president, pledging to lead the country out of the Great Depression.

In 1933, the start of President Roosevelt's first administration brought with it the first woman to serve in the Cabinet: Labor Secretary Frances Perkins.

In 1952, Ronald Reagan and Nancy Davis were married in San Fernando Valley, Calif.

In 1971, Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau married Margaret Sinclair in North Vancouver, B.C. They later divorced.

Ten years ago: Time Inc. and Warner Communications Inc. announced plans to merge into the world's largest media and entertainment conglomerate. Eastern Airlines machinists went on strike and were joined by pilots and flight attendants.

SPEAKING OUT

Air pollution plays role in drought in Southwest

By Alec Knight

During the past few years, much of the southwestern U.S. has experienced a large increase in air pollution, a disruption of normal summer rains, and massive crop and grazing failures. The causes of these problems may be diverse, but a major factor is air pollution originating outside U.S. borders.

Studies of air pollution in the Southwest have overlooked central and western sources in northern Mexico. Also, there has been a general lack of knowledge regarding the relationship between air pollution and the disruption of normal rain cloud formation. The problem often has been presented as one of aesthetics, but implications go far beyond spoiled vistas. If the situation is not corrected, results will be catastrophic for agriculture, the economy, wildlife and human health.

The source of the bulk of the pollution is "carbo-electrica" or "carbon" plants strung across northern Mexico. Numerous coal-fired electric generating plants have been opened during the past few years to provide cheap electric power for rapid industrialization of northern Mexico. For example, two plants are located at Piedras Negras, Coahuila; two at Palau, Coahuila; two at Samalayuca, Chihuahua (in addition to a new natural gas plant), others in Sonora, and additional electric generating plants are under construction or in the planning stage across northern Mexico. Each plant burns approximately one million tons of low grade coal per year. Reputable witnesses have reported that these plants utilize just about anything else that will burn, including used tires!

Prevailing winds carry the raw emissions from these plants across thousands of square miles of the southwestern U.S. This vast pollution cloud is visible as gray haze or broad white clouds during the

daytime, and dark smog at sunset and sunrise. Coincidentally, strange new weather phenomena have developed. Cumulus clouds almost never build to spectacular heights, as they used to every summer day.

Until recently, normal monsoon thunderstorms, carrying Pacific moisture, meandered across the southwestern deserts, mountains, and plains dumping huge volumes of life-giving rain. Now, when monsoon moisture moves in from the Pacific, clouds begin to build, but tend to spread out and dissipate in the low-elevation pollution, yielding perhaps a few drops of rain. Particulates that cause the visible pollution haze act as nuclei for moisture droplets; that is, moisture aggregates around each particle. In essence, the pollution acts as a giant sponge, soaking up monsoon moisture and forming haze or broad, low-elevation clouds rather than allowing it to rise, as normal, on thermals until ice crystals form natural nuclei at high elevation. This "sponge effect" is one of two concepts crucial to understanding the disruption of precipitation in the southwest.

The other is the "recycle effect." Monsoon rains are additive, a self-perpetuating phenomenon. As the early summer rains moisten soils and vegetation subsequently greens, evaporation and transpiration (moisture from previous rains) contribute to the daily buildup of new thunderstorms. With carbo-electrica emissions in the air, the cycle doesn't begin. The only appreciable rain the region now receives comes as a few strong blasts of Gulf moisture. The huge summer Pacific monsoon thunderstorms are gone.

Recently, scientific evidence for this scenario has come to light. For example, the proportion of reversed polarity lightning strikes has increased as the number of thunderstorms has decreased, as reported in the Oct. 2, 1998 issue of "Science" (Vol.

282, pp. 77-79).

Although the authors suggest these abnormal storms were due to a temporary condition of smoke from forest fires in Mexico, the much more ominous, long-term source of smoke from carbo-electrica plants was overlooked. Perhaps more to the point, a study published in the November 1998 Bulletin of the American Meteorological Association (Vol. 79, pp. 2457-2476) provides evidence from satellite analysis of cloud composition that air pollution inhibits the formation of rain clouds and significantly reduces precipitation.

One of the authors, Daniel Rosenfeld, recently was quoted as saying, "The connection between air pollution and rain is a very important phenomenon, which has not yet received much attention." Dr. Rosenfeld, Head of the Laboratory of Rain and Cloud Physics, Institute of Earth Sciences of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, states, "Looking at some satellite data, I found severe inhibition of precipitation processes over several areas of Mexico."

Those who have vested interests in cheap electricity may call for "study" of the carbo-electrica-precipitation connection. In the meantime, farmers and ranchers will lose their lands and livelihoods as crops and grazing lands fail; the regional economy will suffer; the ecosystems of the region will collapse; and human health will decline as respiratory problems, cancer, and mortality increase from the enormous load of toxins in the air.

Now is not the time for endless study.

Common sense dictates that if millions of tons of toxic, acidic waste are released into the atmosphere over the Southwest, the region, and ultimately the earth, will suffer vast and irreparable damage.

Alec Knight of Alpine is a biologist at Sul Ross State University.



CAL THOMAS

Proving myself to President Clinton

I am not on welfare, nor do I receive any other direct payments from government. The bargain I have with government is that I send them up to half my income and in return they promise not to put me in jail. God asks for only 10 percent. The total government take is 50 percent. Wouldn't more get done if the numbers were reversed?

Last week, something as rare as a solar eclipse happened. The state of Virginia sent me a check for \$237.50. It was a reimbursement under the Personal Property Tax Relief Act for the outrageous and perpetual tax I am forced to pay on my automobile. Gov. Jim Gilmore is delivering on a promise that delivered him to Richmond. He is reducing for some, eliminating for others, the car tax. I knew it was supposed to be coming, but it was still a shock to see government giving my money back.

President Clinton doesn't believe we can be trusted with our own money, which is why he opposes tax cuts. He says if government gave some of it back we might not spend it wisely, as if the wisdom of government is better than the wisdom of people who earn the money.

I got to thinking: here is a chance for me to prove to President Clinton that I can handle my rebated tax dollars in a way that might even please him. Perhaps I can demonstrate he can trust me to act responsibly if he and Congress allow me to keep more of my money rather than sending it off in growing amounts to "compassionate" and "wise" government authorities.

I can always spend the \$237.50 on myself, thus proving to the president that I lack compassion. Suppose that I donate the rebate to a charity that might be a favorite of liberals? Perhaps I'll give it to my local rape crisis center in honor of Juanita Broadrick. No, too political.

How about a gift to the National Organization for Women and its campaign to eliminate sexual harass-

ment in the workplace. I could honor Paula Jones for all that she has endured. Or Kathleen Willey. Or Jennifer Flowers. The gift could be in the name of all the "Jane Does" who might yet step forward and tell their fearful stories.

I could also invest the money. Even in the volatile stock market, I will probably make a profit, which eventually will be taxed. But by investing it in American companies, I will be contributing to the economy, producing jobs for workers and more tax revenue for government.

The idea that I can't be trusted with my money is offensive. I don't father children out of wedlock or take drugs. I stay married. My kids turned out OK. And I work every day, expecting no one to pay me unless I earn it. I'm not entitled to anything, except freedom and the opportunity to be all that I can be. I save my own money for retirement, not relying on Social Security, and have a medical savings account to take care of health needs. Americans used to be rewarded for right decisions and right behavior. Now they are penalized, and those who make wrong decisions and engage in bad behavior are subsidized with the money those who make right decisions earn. You want to talk fairness?

In her book "The Greedy Hand," Amity Shales reminds us of the criminal tax code and how it subtly, but effectively, robs us not only of present enjoyment but our future. She writes: "It is not that Americans don't want to pay taxes; they do. It is that they feel that taxes have moved out of proportion to what is fair or appropriate. Even if we approve of certain government-spending projects, we sense that the whole affair has moved out of control. We all say we wanted a smaller government, yet each year Americans are compelled to hand over to our treasury \$1.48 trillion, or a sum of money equal to the size of the economy of Great Britain. Nobody who is working today signed on for this."

Indeed. That's why I'm putting my \$237.50 in my mutual fund. With luck, it might grow faster than government's ability to spend it.

Cal Thomas' column is distributed by Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

Doonesbury



GEORGE WILL

Buchanan's political brew will end Era of No Feelings

WASHINGTON — "Poets," noted G.K. Chesterton, "have been mysteriously silent on the subject of cheese." His point was that this was not mysterious: Cheese is not the sort of subject that summons poetic thoughts.

Presidents have hitherto been mysteriously silent about child safety seats. However, last Saturday President Clinton's radio address concerned an improved fastening mechanism for child safety seats in automobiles. This was the third time this president has used a Saturday address to talk about such seats. He also has talked on a Saturday about what the federal government is doing to make nation's fruit juices safer.

It is strange that the nation no longer finds it strange or annoying that presidents try to intrude upon its Saturdays. But this may explain why the nation is neither annoyed nor bemused by the fact that a president, who has a finite ability to seize the nation's attention, tries to spend some of that ability on subjects that seem subpresidential. The nation's attention is not seized.

The modern politician's repose is perpetual motion, there being no expectation of momentous thoughts during rapid movement. As the skies over Iowa and New Hampshire darken with presidential candidates, the nation seems to be experiencing a recurrence of the Era of Good Feelings of 1817-25. Call today the Era of No Feelings.

A Boston newspaper announced an "era of good feelings" in 1817 when President Monroe, who seized upon the phrase as a slogan, was beginning the first of two terms. The Federalist Party was expiring and consensus supposedly prevailed.

Today's Era of No Feelings reflects more than the anesthetizing effects of 6.1 percent economic growth (the 1998 fourth quarter figure). Rather, it reflects the reduction of one party to nostalgia, the navigational instrument for the bewildered. Republican nostalgia takes the form of wanting to repeat Ronald Reagan's across-the-board tax-cutting without the conditions that gave his program political potency.

The primary reason for Reagan's tax cuts was economic stimulation. But how much stimulating does the economy need at 6.1 percent growth?

The 18 years since Reagan's inauguration have witnessed wealth creation in America without precedent in history anywhere. Americans, especially the majority who are tethered to the stock market, feel wealthier, because they are.

One Republican presidential aspirant, Pat Buchanan, is ready to curdle the milk of consensus. He is returning to the fray for a third try, his reputation for pugnacity preceding him like Patton's marauding armor. In a year of mostly contrived Republican umbrage about the country's condition, Buchanan brings the real thing.

A country conditioned by Bill Clinton's disdain for sincerity may savor, without supporting, Buchanan's challenge to the observation that the similarity of American politics and professional wrestling is in the absence of honest emotion. Buchanan believes America is losing control of its destiny through promiscuous interventionism abroad (the Balkans, Haiti) and by allowing the gales of globalization, including cheap imports from a depressed Asia, to sweep unimpeded across America's economy.

Buchanan, a serious student of American history, knows that two prongs of his ideological pitchfork have distinguished Republican pedigrees. The GOP was proudly protectionist in its post-Civil War salad days. And skepticism about commitments abroad can be as Republican as the senator who was Mr. Republican in Buchanan's formative years — Robert Taft.

Spiced with a demand for restrictions on immigration, Buchanan's political brew — call it muscular nostalgia — will end the Era of No Feelings in presidential politics. His opening salvo — trade policy toward China is "close to the line of treason" — indicates that hard feelings have found their voice.

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

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WASHINGTON — Schools must for nursing care for students throughout the Supreme Court day in a decision on educational bankruptcy.

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Supreme Court ruling: Schools must finance care for disabled students

WASHINGTON (AP) — Public schools must finance one-on-one nursing care for some disabled students throughout the school day, the Supreme Court ruled Wednesday in a decision that may strain educational budgets across the nation.

Voting 7-2 in the case of an Iowa teen-ager, the court said public financing is required under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act because the federal law's exemption for "medical services" applies only when a doctor's help is needed.

The decision's immediate impact is certain: Iowa's Cedar Rapids Community School District must pay tens of thousands of dollars a year to provide nursing care for Garret Frey, a quadriplegic on a ventilator who is thriving as a high school sophomore.

The ruling's broader impact is cloudier.

The court's two dissenters said the decision "blindsides unwary states with fiscal obligations they could not have anticipated." But Justice John Paul Stevens wrote for the court that Congress wanted to "help guarantee that students like Garret are integrated into the public schools."

Contacted at his Cedar Rapids school and told about his victory, Garret said: "It's going to help a lot of other kids, not just me and other kids in Iowa. It's going to help all over."

The National School Boards Association was less enthusiastic.



Garret Frey jokes with classmate Andrew Kuennen, left, and Amy Miller, behind, in this Feb. 4 file photo. The Supreme Court said Wednesday that federal law requires public school districts to pay for one-on-one nursing services for some disabled students throughout the school day.

"At the current time, the public educational system in this country is not adequately funded to provide full medical services for approximately 17,000 students with severe disabilities," said Anne L. Bryant, the group's executive director.

"We want Garret in school —

he's an excellent student," she said. "But schools can't do it alone. The federal government needs to pay its share of a less-than-ade-

quately funded special education service."

The federal government now pays about 12 percent of the nation's special education costs.

The Clinton administration had sided with Garret, 16. State and local school boards should look to Medicaid as well as Department of Education state grants to help "work for the types of services at issue," said Judith Heumann, assistant secretary of education for special education and rehabilitative services.

The federal law, first approved in 1975, provides that all children with disabilities receive a "free appropriate public education." Under it, public schools are required to provide various "special education and related services," but an exception is made for medical treatment.

Justice Stevens described Garret as a "friendly, creative and intelligent young man" who was paralyzed from the neck down in a motorcycle accident when he was 4.

His daily health care includes urinary catheterization, suctioning of his tracheotomy, providing food and drink, repositioning in his wheelchair, monitoring his blood pressure and responding to the alarms on his ventilator.

Cedar Rapids school officials

said the special help Garret requires so he can attend high school is so involved and expensive that it should be considered medical treatment. The nation's highest court disagreed.

The court acknowledged that the school district "may have legitimate financial concerns" in providing continuous, one-on-one nursing care, but said the court's only role is to interpret what the federal law requires.

"Congress intended to open the door of public education to all qualified children and required participating states to educate handicapped children with non-handicapped children whenever possible," Stevens wrote.

Joining him were Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist and Justices Sandra Day O'Connor, Antonin Scalia, David H. Souter, Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Stephen G. Brey-

er. Justices Anthony M. Kennedy and Clarence Thomas dissented.

Through most of his schooling, Garret has been assisted by a licensed practical nurse, paid through an insurance policy and money from the \$1.3 million settlement with the motorcycle company involved in the accident that paralyzed him.

The decision could subject the school district to more than \$285,000 in legal fees and nursing costs, although there's little agreement between the school district and Garret's mother, Charlene Frey, over the costs involved.

The school district has estimated annual costs at between \$30,000 and \$40,000 in addition to the \$10,000 to \$12,000 now spent to provide Garret with a teacher associ-

GOP begins sales job for tax cut

WASHINGTON (AP) — Dismissed at apparent public indifference to their signature issue, House Republicans embarked Wednesday on a campaign intended to convince people that they want and deserve lower taxes.

Public opinion polls in recent months have consistently ranked tax cuts low among priorities Americans have for Congress in these boom economic times, far below such issues as ensuring that Social Security remains solvent.

But House Majority Leader Dick Armey told a Capitol Hill rally that because Republicans have agreed with President Clinton to set aside 62 percent of projected budget surpluses to fix Social Security, the real debate is over whether to use the rest to cut taxes or increase

government spending.

"When the choice is seen that way, the American people overwhelmingly come out on the side of cutting taxes," said Armey, R-Texas. "What we want to do is heighten people's awareness."

The campaign will involve dozens of town hall meetings around the country, newspaper opinion pieces and broadcast advertising. Twenty outside groups ranging from the Chamber of Commerce to the Christian Coalition will assist the effort, holding rallies and forums and promoting lower taxes on radio.

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Hillary Clinton sounds like she is ready to be drafted for Senate run

NEW YORK (AP) — Hillary Rodham Clinton greeted clamor for her Senate candidacy with an impossible-to-read smile. But the first lady's talk of civic duty and debts to feminist forebears made her sound like a woman ready to be drafted.

"I begin to think about the future in political terms because I've always believed that we are at our best as a nation when everybody understands their obligation as a citizen," Mrs. Clinton said Wednesday, the first day of a two-day New York visit.

The tour bore the hallmarks of a campaign swing: cheering crowds, sweeping speeches to would-be constituents, a private dinner with could-be campaign financiers.

But, to the disappointment of an oversold Democratic National Committee fund-raising luncheon — and dozens of reporters from as far away as Denmark — Mrs. Clinton made no announcement.

Associates said her decision on whether to seek New York's open Senate seat in 2000 is still months away.

As long as the mystique lingers, Mrs. Clinton could be a powerful money magnet for Democratic fund-raisers, as evidenced by Wednesday's unprecedented waiting list of 300 for the \$500,000 DNC luncheon.

One donor, Didi Barrett, wants the first lady to become her state's new senator, but said New Yorkers will get impatient if summer comes and Mrs. Clinton is still playing guessing games.

"It's not fair to whoever else ends up running," said Barrett, 48, head of a girls' club organization.

New York's Chuck Schumer, who took a Republican Senate seat for the Democrats last year after beating incumbent Alfonse D'Amato with Mrs. Clinton's help, advised: "Take a little time, think this one through and then, if you decide you will be a candidate, we will support you and we will be resolute."

While the luncheon crowd erupted in applause, Mrs. Clinton stood behind Schumer with her hands clasped, her gaze downcast, her mouth closed in a smile.

A new statewide poll suggested she could face a real battle for the job.

Where weeks ago she enjoyed an 11-point lead over New York GOP Mayor Rudolph Giuliani in the Marist Institute Poll's hypothetical matchup, her lead shrank to a statistically insignificant 4 points in the latest survey, released Wednesday.

"Boo! Go back to Arkansas!" Gary Percivalle shouted as Mrs. Clinton emerged from a morning education speech at Intermediate School 25 in the borough of Queens.

"Being that she's married to such a degenerate, by putting up with him it only proves her ignorance," he said. The 46-year-old sales distributor from Whitestone called her flirtation with candidacy an



AP Photo
First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, center, views art created by seventh-graders Benjamin Hanson, left, and Jennifer Chong at Intermediate School 25 in the Queens section of New York Wednesday. Mrs. Clinton made no reference to her possible Senate candidacy during her first trip to New York since announcing she was considering a run for office.

ego-driven "scam."

On Wednesday night, she was sitting down to a private dinner with Roger Altman, a former Treasury Department official considered key to financing any Clinton campaign, and his Wall Street friends.

For the first time since prominent Democrats began to woo Mrs. Clinton for the race, she stepped from behind her spokeswoman's "no comments," publicly engaged the courtship and appeared to enjoy it.

"It is just an amazing sight to behold," Mrs. Clinton marveled as she faced 900 adoring Democrats, 24 television cameras and the clattering shutters behind at least as many zoom lenses.

"I was told that there were some who thought that, ah, I might have an announcement to make," she said, with a playfully dramatic pause.

The crowd went "Ooooh."

"But I don't," she finished.

The crowd went "Aaaaah."

New York Democratic Rep. Gary Ackerman, one of many whom Mrs. Clinton has consulted about a race, said she is serious but also "kind of astounded and gratified by the kind of encouragement she's getting."

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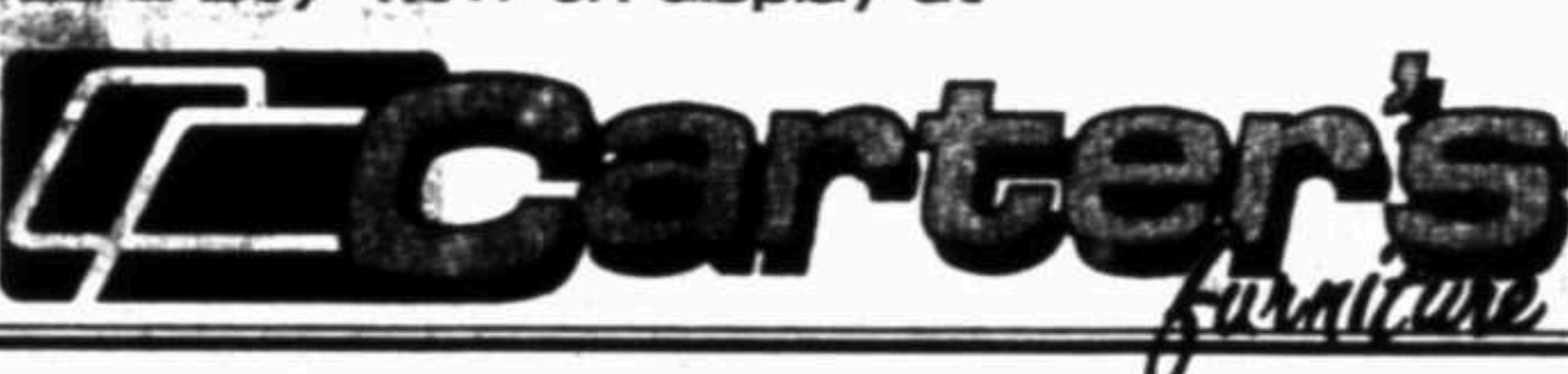
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Study: Pill beats patch for smokers trying to kick habit

Associated Press

In the first head-to-head comparison, the anti-smoking drug Zyban proved twice as good as the nicotine patch in helping people kick the habit, and both together were even more effective.

Used together, they helped more than 35 percent of smokers stay off cigarettes for a year.

The patch had disappointing results, working no better than a dummy pill or patch. But the researchers themselves disagreed over whether the findings were a fluke, since other studies have shown the patch works.

The study, led by Dr. Douglas Jorenby of the University of Wisconsin Medical School's Center for Tobacco Research and Intervention, was reported in today's New England Journal of Medicine.

Using both methods at the same time was especially effective in helping people prevent weight gain during the first seven weeks. Those using both the patch and Zyban put on about 2.4 pounds, compared with 3.6 for either method alone and 4.6 on placebos, or dummy treatments.

"A lot of people say the fear of gaining weight stops them from even trying to quit smoking or can sabotage them early in the process," Jorenby said.

About 46 million Americans smoke, and it will eventually kill half of them, at a rate of about 400,000 a year. Three-quarters of smokers want to quit, but at most 5 percent manage to do so on their own.

Zyban is the brand name for the antidepressant bupropion. Since Zyban was approved in 1997 as the first non-nicotine product to help smokers quit, doctors have written 4 million prescriptions for it, according to Glaxo Wellcome Inc., the manufacturer.

"The very high success rate with bupropion is extremely encouraging," said Dr. Alan Leshner, director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse. Adding behavioral treatment to the mix should bring even more success, he said.

Glaxo Wellcome paid for the study. Jorenby has organized presentations for Glaxo Wellcome.

It took a habit of at least 15 cigarettes a day to qualify for the study. Smokers who were depressed were turned down. All 893 participants got patches to stick on and pills to take, but some of the patches and pills were dummies.

After four weeks, the patch had significantly better results than the placebo. Bupropion alone was more effective than the patch, and both treatments were better yet.

After a year, more than 35 percent of the people getting both treatments were still not smoking, compared with about 30 percent of those on bupropion alone. But only 16.4 percent of those on the patch were smoke-free, compared with 15.6 percent of those who used placebo patches and pills.

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BASIN BRIEFING

Taxpayer help

Two sessions are planned to help local taxpayers:
■ The Internal Revenue Service will hold a free "Problem Solving Day" 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday at the IRS office, 1004 Big Spring St., Suite 200. The event is designed to help taxpayers cut through red tape by getting one-on-one, face-to-face help from IRS experts. Those interested in attending are encouraged to schedule an appointment by calling 688-2874 but walk-ins are welcome and will be served on a first-come, first-serve basis. Approximately 37 attended last year's event.

Road construction

Because of road construction, traffic on West Industrial Avenue will be one-way eastbound from Midkiff Road to Cotton Flat Road, effective immediately. Westbound traffic should detour to Midkiff via Front Street and Bankhead Highway, then turn left on West Industrial, said Tina Sanders-Jauz, spokeswoman for the city. The existing detours on South Garfield Street and West Industrial Avenue west of Midkiff are scheduled to be removed by Monday, she said.

Voter's forum

The Midland League of Women Voters' forum on "Youth, Crime and Consequences," set for 7 p.m. today, has been rescheduled because of the "Vision for the 21st Century" meeting. The league's forum will be rescheduled for September, a spokeswoman said. "Vision for the 21st Century" is set for 6:30 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church.

Today's agenda

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

Flatlanders Toastmasters Club, Chevron Building, 15 Smith Road, 11:30 a.m., 687-7286.

LOOPS, 7 p.m., First Baptist Church, 550-LOOP.

Hearts Alive, 7 p.m., medical staff room at Memorial Hospital, 684-3745.

Project ADAM, (Alternatives to Domestic Assault for Men), 570-0467.

Permian Toastmasters, noon, Permian Basin Graduate Center, 684-0044.

Novice duplicate bridge, Allison Bridge Center, 7 p.m., 682-4461. East Side Lions, 8 p.m., Los Enriquez, 1401B N. Lamesa Road.

Optimist Club of Midland, noon, Best Western Sidewalk Cafe. Bereavement Support group, 7 p.m., Hospice of Odessa, Texas Commerce Bank, fourth floor, 332-1431, 332-0991.

Pilot Club of Midland, noon, Ramada Inn, 687-3109.

Hogan Park Women's Golf Association, Hogan Park Golf Course.

Westside Lions Club, noon, Westside Lions Den.

Rotary Club of Midland, 11:55 a.m., Chamber of Commerce, 109 N. Main.

Committee for Meals on Wheels, 9 a.m., Midland Senior Center.

Tall City Lions Club, 7 p.m., 305 S. Stonewall St.

Non-smoking game, 7 p.m., Allison Bridge Center, 682-8596.

Social Order of the Beauceant, 7:30 p.m., Masonic Temple.

Midland Council for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children, 1 p.m., 3919 Roosevelt Dr., 694-1327.

Alzheimer's Association support group, 7 p.m., Westwood Medical Center dining room, 570-9191.

West Texas Aerobatic Club, Chapter 71, 7:30 p.m., Memphis Aero Lounge, 694-9877, 684-8015.

Parents Anonymous, 7 p.m., for location and other information, 570-1084.

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) No. Tx139, 7 p.m., 1007 Austin St., 694-8643.

Golden Park Retirement Center, senior citizen Bingo, 3 p.m., 3100 W. Kansas Ave.

Flatlanders Ski Club, 7 p.m., Market Grill and Bar, Odessa.

Midland Apple Users group, 7:30 p.m., 683-6289 or 683-3516, open.

Post traumatic stress disorder support group for women, 6 p.m., Community National Bank, 601 E. Florida Ave., 570-9412.

Suburban Lions Club, 7 p.m., 2550 Flint Ave.

Midland Archaeology Society, 7:30 p.m., Sibling Learning Center, 1300 E. Wadley St., 682-9384.

United Way appoints new director

By Mella McEwen
Staff Writer

Cynthia Yocham Benson, the former finance director of United Way of Midland, has been appointed the agency's executive director.

She is succeeding Carl Zapora, who now works with United Way of America in Chicago. Mrs. Benson has served as interim executive director



Benson

since Zapora's departure.

"I'm very excited to be part of an organization with such great volunteer leadership," said Mrs. Benson, who was chosen over 34 other applicants. "I'm a little overwhelmed and honored that they chose me and will do my best to live up to their expectations."

She said her two priorities will be to build relationships with the member agencies and community partners and to invest in the community.

Citing her background in the non-profit sector — she served as assistant director of the Permian Basin Center for Battered Women and Their Children for four years before joining United Way — she

said she will bring the perspective of a member agency to her new position.

"I believe it will give me a good, rounded perspective," she said.

She believes the agency already has a great, solid foundation that she will use to build upon, emphasizing what she said are the keys to the agency's success — the Gems of the Community and the Loaned Executive programs.

Born and raised in several West Texas communities — Andrews, Crane, Rankin, Monahans and Midland — she graduated from high school in Kilgore and attended Angelo State University. She received a bachelor's degree in business administration, accountancy and

information systems from the University of Texas at the Permian Basin. She and her husband, Jim, have lived in Midland since 1978. They have two children, Tiffany, an Abilene Christian University student and Brandon, a Midland College student.

She is a charter member of and has been a volunteer board member of the Permian Basin chapter, National Society of Fundraising Executives, and Midland Fair Havens. She is also serving on the steering committee for "Vision For the 21st Century," a community strategic planning committee and is an active member of Golf Course Road Church of Christ.

— Child injured —

12-year-old girl struck by motor vehicle

By Richard Acosta
Staff Writer

A 12-year-old girl was taken to Memorial Hospital and Medical Center Wednesday afternoon after she was hit by a car at the intersection of Delano Avenue and Midkiff Road. Her condition is not being released.

Jenny Brown walked out into oncoming traffic and was hit by a vehicle driven by a 27-year-old Midland man, police said.

The accident took place around 4:58 p.m. in the southbound lane of Midkiff Road.

Police said that Jenny was standing on the southwest corner of Delano Avenue and Midkiff Road and stepped out in front of southbound traffic.

She was struck by the front right side of the vehicle, according to reports. The impact was hard enough to knock pieces off the front headlight area of the car and dent the bumper and the hood. After the initial impact, Jenny was knocked up on top of the car's hood and hit the windshield, police said.

The driver told police that the girl just walked out in front of his car.

The car stopped approximately 129 feet from the area where the driver hit the brakes until where the car actually stopped, police said. Skid marks along Midkiff Road show the path the car took while trying to stop.

Citations have not been issued in the accident and the case is still under investigation.



Midland police officers Roy Saunders, left, and Ray Miller work at the scene of an accident in which 12-year-old Jenny Brown was hit by a car. Police said she stepped into oncoming traffic at the corner of Delano Avenue and Midkiff Road.

March of Dimes kicks off WalkAmerica for birth defects foundation

By Ed Todd
Staff Writer

Twelve pre-kindergarten children, bashful and darling, sang a popular tune that epitomized the message of the March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation.

"Baby, I love you. Baby, I love you. Baby, I love you. Uh-huh!"

The children, up front and center, at noon Wednesday helped kick off the March of Dimes' WalkAmerica. The five-mile walk is to begin 8:30 a.m. May 15 at ClayDesta Plaza.

The Odessa event is to be 8:30 a.m. Saturday, May 1, at Comanche Trail Park.

"We promote well babies here, too," said Pattie Stewart, director of St. Luke's United Methodist Church's Child Development Program, which is attended by the 4- and 5-year-old children who sang: Morgan Neale, Jake Newsom, Samantha Stewart, Daniel Priebe, Adriana Niblett, Briana Lutz, Ashley Osborne, Jessica Sacone, Shelby Ragan, Aaron MacLeod, Elizabeth Stowers and Christopher Stone.

"The walk not only raises money, but it expresses an attitude and a dedication ... to the future of our children,"

said Midland County Judge Bill Morrow, who is the 1999 WalkAmerica chairman for Midland.

The March of Dimes is dedicated to ensuring that children have a "healthy childhood, normal birth, good weight at birth," Morrow told the gathering at the Holiday Inn. "All of those things the March of Dimes emphasizes."

The March of Dimes was established in 1938 as the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis by President Franklin Roosevelt to combat epidemic poliomyelitis, polio, which was crippling and killing youths across the nation.

Following development of the Salk and Sabin vaccines to combat polio, the agency began focusing its research on preventing birth defects and reducing infant mortality.

Morrow, who contracted polio at age 18 in 1954 in Fort Worth, eagerly accepted the March of Dimes' WalkAmerica campaign in Midland, noted Doreen Richardson, director of the Permian Basin Division of the March of Dimes.

"I was happy to survive," Morrow said. "Most didn't."

In his enthusiasm for a successful Midland WalkAmerica campaign, Morrow cited three elements to ensure vic-

tory:

■ Purpose: "You have the most wonderful purpose," children today and in future generations.

■ Attitude: "Smiling and happy to be here."

■ Dedication: "It doesn't do any good to talk about it unless you follow through."

In drumming up support among the WalkAmerica Midland team captains, Morrow said, "Let's have fun, and let's win this battle" against birth defects.

Goal of the Midland walk, which normally attracts about 1,000 walkers, is \$125,000.

The national goal is \$85 million, Ms. Richardson said. Each year, about 20,000 teams in 1,500 communities participate.

"We are going to have lots of fun raising funds, and we are going to save babies together," Ms. Richardson said. "You (team captains) really are lifesavers."

"I think we can double the size of the walk," said Morrow, who suggested "little friendly" measures to get more people and more money involved in the cause.

"I'm thinking about washing the

Please see WALK/2B

Texas man pleads guilty to swindling Williams Energy

By Rick López
Staff Writer

A Central Texas man pleaded guilty Wednesday to swindling his former employer, Clayton Williams Energy Inc., out of \$500,000.

Julius Robert Johnson, 55, of Bryan, was charged by the Austin U.S. Attorney's Office with conspiracy to commit mail fraud, an offense punishable by up to five years in prison.

His plea was entered before U.S. Magistrate Judge L. Stuart Platt in Midland. The judge allowed him to be released from detention on a \$10,000 bond.

According to court documents, Johnson executed three schemes against Midland-based Williams Energy that involved:

■ getting kickbacks for selling a defective drilling lubricant to Williams Energy.

■ taking kickbacks from a company that sells drill bits, and

■ renting his "skimmer" to Williams Energy at an inflated price.

Williams, a former gubernatorial candidate, thanked the U.S. Attorney's Office and FBI for their efforts in the investigation, which slowly unfolded within the last two years.

The U.S. Attorney's Office "has shown a commitment to eliminating crime in the oil field," Williams said. "Prosecution of such cases as this will go a long way in helping eliminate the crime in our industry."

Court records indicate that Johnson was represented by Charles McNabb, who could not be reached Wednesday afternoon.

Scheme one

Since last November, federal authorities have been investigating Johnson, whose name was mentioned during a sentencing for John Castleberry, a 70-year-

Please see OIL/2B

The five mile walk is to begin 8:30 a.m. May 15 at ClayDesta Plaza.



The March of Dimes campaign kicked off Wednesday with a luncheon at Holiday Inn. Doreen Richardson is the division director, Midland Independent School District Superintendent Joseph Baressi Jr., left, is honorary chairman, and County Judge Bill Morrow is walk chairman.

Ed Todd

Remembering good old days opens up happy memories

There are lingering memories that would do well to fade away but won't.

And there are vivid memories of the good old days, which seem to trail each generation by decades or by a century or so. Sometimes, though, those days are elsewhere, on the other side of the river, more than in another time.

But, it has been my disillusionment that, to cite a bromide, "Wherever you go, there you are." Peace is within.

Therein dwells the good old days.

Here, for example, is a case in the adventures of Ed Todd:

Where there is now pastureland, filled in old cisterns and outhouse holes in midnight-dark blackland, stray fireplace bricks and occasional bois d'arc posts, there once was the old home place at Pacio near Sulphur River between Delta and Lamar counties.

There, in my vision, still exists the old post-oak house,

the weathered smokehouse, the barns, the chicken coop, the garage for the old two-row red Farmall tractor, the old black pickup, the Chevrolet coupe, and the John Deere-green 1930s Chevrolet sedan.

Asa Williams, my cotton-farming granddaddy who always yearned for the old steam-locomotive railroad days when he was a fireman, and I got buckets of green paint from a store over at Lake Creek, shook them up, and brushed the paint on the old car. I don't know why we had picked green. It was there and available, I suppose. It looked good on the shelf. But the green didn't transfer too splendidly onto the old Chevrolet. It was a 1938 or 1939 model.

There is a bundle of memories.

And there are many from the old north room where grandmother, Althea, used to play the old upright piano. Just in front of the piano and its three-legged swivel stool was my grandparents' old hand-wound upright Edison phonograph and its enchanting quarter-inch-thick, coal-black disc records.

Therein, for this lad, really dwelt the good old days early into the 20th century from World War I to well into the 1920s when the fox trot was the cut-a-rug craze. There were many an old song that I played over and

over and imagined the adventures.

They were, and still are, so uplifting. I can hear them so clearly this very instant.

Remember when? "Just Like Washington Crossed the Delaware, General Pershing Will Cross the Rhine."

It was such a lively tune.

And there was the one about the American Yankee and his tobacco, which so helpfully helped the doughboys

"Over There" to win the great war to end all wars.

There was the song about a fellow named Johnny who really knew how to woo. The lyrics said that he wasn't much to look at but, oh, my, when he's alone with his best gal, Oh, Oh, "Oh, Johnny! How you can love!"

I remember, too, those old records that preached sermon after sermon and readily moralized.

In that old north room, alone with the old Edison, I could victoriously fight a war over there, smoke tobacco in the trenches and haylofts, savor the camaraderie, come back home to a gal yearning for an "Oh, Johnny" by a different name, have a fling or so, and then get all saved and purified and ready for the Lord all thanks to the preachings on the phonograph back home.

Ed Todd is a writer for The Midland Reporter-Telegram.

POLICE REPORTS

Crime of the week

The disappearance of Daytina Blair Hulslander, which has baffled Midland County authorities since April, will be featured in Crime Stopper's Crime of the Week.

Ms. Hulslander, 27, has missed her three sons' birthdays since her disappearance, but isn't presumed dead, Crime Stoppers spokesman Jim Crouse said.

Not many developments have been made in the case, he said.

"Sheriff's deputies have put a lot of hours into looking for her, but come back empty-handed," Crouse said.

In January, 35 officers with the Midland-headquartered Sheriffs of Texas Agreed Response (STAR) searched an area in northeast Midland County for Ms. Hulslander. But the day-long search was fruitless, Crouse said.

Within the last couple of months, Ector County authorities found two sets of human remains near Goldsmith, but they both turned out to be men.

Though authorities manning the Crime Stoppers hotline have been eager for a tip on the case, they haven't received a single one, Crouse said.

Ms. Hulslander is white, 5-feet, 8-inches and about 150 pounds. She has blonde hair, hazel eyes and wears eyeglasses. She also has a Harley Davidson tattoo on her chest and another on her upper leg. She was last seen wearing blue jeans and red boots.

Anyone with information on this woman or the investigation should contact Crime Stoppers at 694-TIPS or 1-800-7-LOCK-UP. Caller ID is not used and callers can remain anonymous.

Midland Police Department Monday

Burglary: A burglary was reported at 3600 Andrews Highway. It was reported at 4 p.m.

Criminal mischief: Criminal mischief was reported at 1303 S. Marshall St. It was reported at 10 p.m.

Tuesday

Burglary: A burglary was reported at 3325 W. Wadley Ave. It was reported at 9 a.m.

Criminal mischief: Criminal mischief was reported at 3500 W. Wadley Ave. It was reported at 7:40 a.m.

Theft: A theft was reported at 1002 Andrews Highway. It was reported at 8:39 p.m.

Midland County Sheriff's Office Tuesday

Burglary: A burglary was reported at 3001 S. County road 1213. It was reported at 6:31 p.m.

Theft: A yellow gray primer 1987 Chevy Celebrity was taken at 3203 W. County Road 113. It was reported at 9:30 p.m.

Theft: Two rims were taken at 3417 N. Midland Drive. It was reported at 9:35 p.m.

Wednesday

Theft: A theft was reported at 1418 W. County Road 116. It was reported at 10:12 a.m.

Criminal mischief: Criminal mischief was reported at 2510 W. County Road 112. It was reported at 11:50 a.m.

Anyone having information concerning any of these reports should contact the Midland Police Department at 685-7108 or Crime Stoppers at 694-TIPS.

OBITUARIES



Gregorio Galvan

Gregorio Garcia Galvan, 74, of Odessa died peacefully at his home Tuesday, March 2, 1999. He was born December 8, 1924, in San Benito, Texas. He married Dominga Aguilar January 17, 1946, in Harlingen, Texas, and they moved to Odessa in 1957. He was a hard worker, and loved to work. He was the former owner of G. G. Galvan & Sons. He enjoyed life and loved fishing, horse racing, chickens, and his goats.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Dominga, on April 11, 1995, daughter, Petra Galvan on December 8, 1993.

He is survived by his children, whom he loved, including five sons, Gregorio Galvan Jr. of Midland, Isidro Galvan, Antonio (Tony) Galvan, Domingo Galvan, and Danny Galvan, all of Odessa; three daughters, Vicenta (Vicky) Villarreal, Paula Rivera, and Diana Saucedo, all of Odessa; 21 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren. He is also survived by a brother and two sisters, Juan Galvan of Odessa, Trine Angiano of Harlingen, and Maria Langley of California.

A prayer service will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 4, 1999, in the chapel of Frank W. Wilson Funeral Directors with the Rev.

Craig DeArmond officiating. Mass will be celebrated at 2 p.m. Friday, March 5, 1999, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church with the Rev. Gilbert Rodriguez as celebrant. Interment will be at Ector County/Rosehill Cemetery. Arrangements by Frank W. Wilson Funeral Directors.

Flora Madrid

Services for Flora Lujan Madrid, 83, will be 10 a.m. Friday, March 5 in the St. Joseph Catholic Church in Stanton with Rev. Frank Chavez officiating. Interment will be in St. Joseph Cemetery under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton.

Rosary will be recited at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 4, in St. Joseph Catholic Church, where she was a lifetime member.

She died Tuesday, March 2, 1999, in Big Spring.

She was born March 14, 1915, in Fort Stockton to Manuela Baeza and Gabino Lujan. She was married to Francisco Madrid on October 12, 1934, in Mexico. The young couple survived many hardships in the West Texas area. In 1951, they bought a farm in the Stanton/Midland area where they raised and educated their twelve children. She then moved to Midland in 1985.

Her beloved husband, Frank, preceded her in death on September 25, 1972. She was also preceded in death by a son, Juan Carlos Madrid on January 20, 1993; a daughter, Olivia Madrid; and two sisters, Sarah Navarro and Elisa Lujan.

Flora Madrid was a hard-working, surviving pioneer lady of her time. She will best be remembered as a great cook, a loving and caring mother and grandmother.

Surviving loved ones include six sons, Richard Madrid of Midland, Ben Madrid of Pecos, Frank Madrid of Austin, Leopoldo Madrid of Denton, Armando Madrid and Raul Madrid, both of Midland; four daughters, Eva Johnson of San Antonio, Gloria Martinez of Austin, Rosa Arista of Big Spring and Lupe Madrid of Midland; three brothers, Manuel

Obituary & Death Notice policy

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

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

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

Lujan and Alvaro Lujan, both of Odessa and Simon Lujan of Presidio; eight sisters, Elvira Calderon, Victorina Acosta and Maria Hernandez, all of Odessa, Rosa Levario of California, Isidra Pedraza of Midland, Graciela Brito of California, Anita Carro of Ojinaga, Mexico and Aurelia Carro of Chihuahua, Mexico; 28 grandchildren; 28 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers will be her grandsons, Richard Madrid Jr., Mark Johnson, Ben Madrid Jr., Steven Martinez, Chris Madrid, Tom Arista III and Brian Madrid.

Ushers will be her grandsons, James Madrid, Ivan Madrid and David Johnson.

Memorials may be made to St. Joseph Catholic Church, P. O. Box 846, Stanton, Texas 79782.

Nancy Shephard

Nancy Shephard passed away on March 3, 1999, maintaining to the end the dignity and courage that was her trademark.

Nancy was born in Utica, Kansas, on September 29, 1922. She graduated from The Asbury School of Nursing in Safina, Kansas. A dedicated professional, she worked in the field of nursing in the Kansas City, Missouri, area for over 40 years.

In May 1996, Nancy and her husband moved to Midland from Overland Park, Kansas. She worked for the Visiting Nurse

Association of the Permian Basin.

Affectionately called "Nana" by the many who knew and loved her, she always looked for the good in everyone she met. Nancy was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother whose absence will leave a void in many lives.

Nancy is survived by her husband, Joseph A. Shephard Sr.; son, Samuel E. Hurt; granddaughter, Rayna R. Hurt; and great-grandson, Crayton Hurt.

Interment will be at a later date in White Rock, Kansas. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial contributions be directed to Hospice of Midland or the American Cancer Society. Arrangements are under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

Claude Fuller

In loving memory of our father, Claude "Raymond" Fuller, Raymond went to our Lord's care on Tuesday, March 2, 1999.

He is survived by his wife, Hazel Wynell Fuller; son, Larry; daughter, Paula; daughter, Debbie; and son, Randy. Also surviving are his two brothers, C.A. Fuller and Edwin F. Fuller; and two sisters, Carolyn Houston and Eddie Jean Cockran; 10 surviving grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

The funeral is planned for Friday, March 5, in Spur, Texas. Campbell Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Good-bye Daddy -- We love you.

OIL: Man got rich off lubricant kickbacks, swindling schemes

(from 1B)

old Bryan man who pleaded guilty to fraud conspiracy.

Castleberry admitted to bribing Johnson into switching a name-brand drilling lubricant that Williams Energy was using for its explorations for an inexpensive, lower-quality product he was selling.

Castleberry said he gave Johnson a \$150 kickback for each barrel he purchased for the company's operations. Authorities estimate that between Oct. 30, 1996, and December 30, 1997, Johnson and Castleberry swindled the company out of \$153,000 in connection with that scheme.

Castleberry was undercutting the cost of the previous product. Experienced drillers did not like the lubricant he sold, officials said.

Several local drilling supervisors who conducted tests with both products have testified that the lubricant that Castleberry was selling could only withstand two hours of intense drilling, while the name-brand lubricant could withstand five hours.

Other schemes

Officials also charged Johnson with taking 10- to 20-percent kickbacks for buying rebuilt drill bits from United Bits International and Hicks Tool Co. in Midland.

The scam was carried out between March 26, 1996, and Nov. 21, 1997, according to a criminal charge filed against Johnson. Records show that Johnson spent more than \$400,000 buying drill bits from these companies.

Authorities also contend that between March 1995 and February

Several local drilling supervisors who conducted tests with both products have testified that the lubricant Castleberry was selling could only withstand two hours of intense drilling, while the name-brand lubricant could withstand five hours.

1998, Johnson cheated the company by renting the company, at an inflated price, a skimmer he secretly owned. A skimmer takes the oil off the water inside a drilling pit.

To conceal the ownership of the skimmer, Johnson claimed the tool was leased by a company named Lion Resources in Corpus Christi and had the rental checks mailed to them, officials said.

Johnson gave a percentage of the check to Lion Resources and a kickback to another William Energy employee, officials said. Lion Resources retained at least \$21,000 of these payments, authorities said.

Court records don't indicate if two other conspirators have been charged. Johnson charged the company \$82,900 for skimmer leases, according to the charge.

OBITUARIES

Adolf Kubicek

VERNON — Adolf William Kubicek, 80, of Vernon, father of Midlander Mary A. Dubinski, died Thursday, Feb. 25 at his residence.

Services were Monday, March 1, at Holy Family Catholic Church in Vernon with the Rev. Oren Key officiating. Burial followed at Eastview Cemetery under the direction of Sullivan Funeral Home in Vernon.

He was born Feb. 9, 1919, in Hallettsville.

He farmed in Wilbarger County most of his life. He was a member of Holy Family Catholic Church.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Ethel Margaret (Zander) Kubicek on March 2, 1993; and a grandson in 1992.

Other survivors include a son, Adolf Kubicek Jr. of Vernon; another daughter, Evelyn Garrett of Albuquerque, N.M.; three sisters, Julie Halenack of Vernon; Georgia Rekieta of Paducah and Josephine Bujosek of Farwell; and five grandchildren.

WALK: Campaign is important to babies, pregnant women

(from 1B)

mayor's car," Morrow said of Midland Mayor Bobby Burns.

Morrow expressed thanks to the Midland WalkAmerica team captains "for your dedication ... and your love for these children."

John Sutey, who is Conoco Inc.'s Midland WalkAmerica captain, said that "We live in a community, and we need to be giving back to the community."

A successful campaign, Sutey

Sulema Dutchover

ODESSA — Sulema Garza Dutchover, 71, died Wednesday, March 3, at an Odessa nursing home.

Services are to be 10 a.m. Friday, March 5, at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Odessa with the Rev. Gilbert Rodriguez officiating. Burial is to follow at Rosehill Cemetery under the direction of Martinez Funeral Home in Odessa. Rosary is to be recited 8 p.m. Thursday, March 4, at the funeral home. Visitation is to be 9 a.m.-10 p.m. today, and 9 a.m.-9:45 a.m. Friday at the funeral home.

She was born Sept. 6, 1927, in Nixon.

She lived in Odessa for 52 years. She was a housewife.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Frank Dutchover.

Survivors include two sons, Johnny G. Dutchover of Midland and Frank G. Dutchover of Odessa; seven daughters, Bertha Newman of Midland, Idann Dutchover, Blanca Nunez and Margaret Salazar, all of Odessa, Joann Barrera of Brownwood,

Francis Alvarez of Dallas, and Ninfia Castillo of Del Rio; six brothers, Domingo Garza, Juan Garza Jr., Santos Garza and Salvador Garza, all of Odessa, Victor Garza of Big Spring, and Thomas Garza of Fort Worth; a sister, Inez Mendez of Lubbock; 23 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Mary Harrington

BIG SPRING — Mary Eugenia Harrington, 85, formerly of Big Spring, died Monday, March 1, at a Nacogdoches nursing home.

Services are to be 2 p.m. Saturday, March 6, at First Presbyterian Church in Big Spring with the Rev. Dr. Flynn Long officiating. Burial is to follow at Mount Olive Cemetery under the direction of Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Visitation is to be 5-7 p.m. Friday, March 5, at the funeral home.

She was born May 26, 1913, in Big Spring.

She was a PBX operator at Corden Oil Refinery and also worked for Schermerhorn Oil Co. She was registrar for Big Spring High School for 28 years, retiring in 1978.

She was a volunteer at Big Spring State Hospital and was a member of First Presbyterian Church, where she had served as deacon and elder.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Hugh Dubberly; and a sister, Janie B. Dubberly in 1937.

Survivors include her husband, Matthew H. Harrington of Big Spring; a daughter, Jane Gregory; two grandchildren; a niece and a cousin.

Memorials may be made to First Presbyterian Church, P. O. Box 2222, Big Spring, Texas 79720 or the charity of your choice.

Robert Walker

Midlander Robert C. Walker died Wednesday, March 3, at a local hospital.

Services are pending with Ellis Funeral Home.

Barnes Cauble

Midlander Barnes Cauble, 85, died Wednesday, March 3.

Services are pending with Ellis Funeral Home.

House panel passes oil severance tax break to help oil producers survive recent oil price problems

AUSTIN (AP) — The House Ways and Means Committee on Wednesday night approved a \$45 million temporary tax break for struggling oil producers, voting down a competing proposal to modify and extend the exemption for two years.

The panel sent the bill to the full House, where a close vote was

expected, said committee chairman Rep. Rene Oliveira, D-Brownsville.

"I don't think this is going to be a slam dunk," he said.

The bill — declared an emergency by Gov. George W. Bush — would temporarily exempt small oil producing wells from the state's severance tax when the

price for crude oil falls below \$15 per barrel. Natural gas producers would be exempt when prices fall below \$1.80 per thousand cubic feet.

The Senate passed an identical bill last month.

The measure passed unanimously in the House committee with one member, Rep. Yvonne

Davis, D-Dallas, abstaining. "This does not fix the problem," she said.

The current severance tax on oil is 4.6 percent of the value at the wellhead and 7.5 percent on natural gas. The exemption — for wells producing 15 barrels or less per day — is expected to cover about 80 percent of the wells in Texas.

If approved, the exemption would apply retroactively from Feb. 1 until the end of the current budget year, Aug. 31.

The bill stalled in committee last week when Oliveira said it didn't have the support of the two-thirds of House members necessary to go into effect immediately.

Oil producers have said they

need the measure because of slumping oil prices. Many claim it costs them more money to pump fuel than they earn from the small wells.

The severance-tax exemption bill is SB290.

Grand jury indicts off-duty Border Patrol agents for fight at bar

LAREDO (AP) — Two Border Patrol agents have been indicted on assault charges stemming from a fight that occurred after they left a country and western bar while off duty.

A Webb County grand jury on Tuesday indicted agents Jose A. Erives, 27, and Duke Conchola, 28, who could face up to 20 years in prison.

No disciplinary action will be taken against the agents unless they are convicted, said Border Patrol spokesman Mike Herrera, who confirmed the pair was involved in a fight.

But, Herrera said, the agents said Ward Cox, 28, initiated the

Jan. 10 altercation.

Cox, a Laredo firefighter, spent four days in the hospital and underwent surgery twice, his jaw broken in several places as a result of the incident. His girlfriend, Erika Hay, was beaten and bruised but not seriously injured.

According to one account, when Cox and Ms. Hay were driving away from the nightclub, whoever was at the wheel gunned the engine, hurling a spray of gravel that cracked the windshield of another car, the Laredo Morning Times reported.

As many as four off-duty Border Patrol agents and another man, not identified by prosecutors, piled

into three cars and followed the couple to an intersection where they cornered the pair before attacking them, Webb County prosecutor Oscar J. Hale said.

Neither Erives nor Conchola was injured.

The investigation, which at various times has involved the Laredo Police Department, a Texas Ranger and the Department of Justice, originally centered on four agents. Hale did not rule out the possibility that the other two agents could be charged later.

Laredo attorney David Almaraz, who is representing Erives, said, "The thrust of the defense is going

to be that if anything happened out there, it was certainly not started by my client."

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Bush back in Capitol; committee setting to work on exploration

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. George W. Bush started his first full day as a presidential campaign explorer tending to state business and having breakfast with legislative leaders, aides said Wednesday.

Meanwhile, his fast-jelling exploratory committee was getting down to the nitty gritty — telephones.

"We're setting up phones and fax numbers," said Mindy Tucker, who has been spokeswoman for Bush's Texas political operation.

"We'll soon have a phone recording at the state committee that guides people to the correct phone number and staff person (at the presidential committee)," she said.

Ms. Tucker said the volume of phone calls to the Gov. Bush Committee began picking up almost immediately after Tuesday's

Campaign 2000

announcement that the Republican is forming an exploratory committee to officially assess a White House race.

Such committees allow potential presidential candidates to raise and spend money without formally declaring their candidacy. The committee is subject to federal laws limiting contributions to \$1,000 per person.

Bush reportedly hopes to quick-

ly raise about \$25 million, although the governor has refused so far to reveal a goal.

"I think it's going to take a while to crank up our organization," Bush said, noting that Texas campaign finance laws put no limits on the size of contributions.

"Unlike state politics, it's \$1,000 at a time — and that's a lot of \$1,000s to be competitive," he said.

"But I've got a great group of friends that have agreed to step up and help. ... Obviously, I wouldn't feel comfortable moving forward if my friends weren't enthusiastically for the prospect."

Bush on Sunday is expected to announce that fund-raising efforts will be headed by Donald Evans of Midland, a longtime friend and one of nine people to whom Bush awarded prestigious appointments to the University of Texas Board of

Regents. Evans served as finance chairman of Bush's gubernatorial campaign.

If he runs, Bush has until December to decide whether to accept federal matching funds for the GOP primary. Taking the federal money means adhering to spending levels in each state and a cap for the entire nominating process.

The governor said it is too early to say whether he will take those funds.

Bush has pledged to remain in Texas and stay on the job until the Legislature concludes its current every-other-year session. Lawmakers must adjourn by May 31.

Bush is pushing lawmakers to approve a \$2 billion property tax cut, reductions in small business taxes, some consumer tax cuts and to end social promotion of Texas

schoolchildren. He designated a \$45 million tax break for small oil producers an emergency, allowing for expedited legislative consideration.

The Republican-controlled Senate has given quick approval to the oil tax break, the business tax cut and a social promotion ban. But the bills are moving much more slowly in the House, where Democrats hold a 78-72 majority.

Karen Hughes, the governor's press secretary, said Bush remains determined to see his agenda approved by lawmakers.

"It's typical of the give-and-take of the legislative process," she said. "The same thing happened in previous years. Typically, the major legislative items come together toward the end of April or May."

Bush breakfasted Wednesday

morning with House Speaker Pete Laney, D-Hale Center, and Republican Lt. Gov. Rick Perry, as he does weekly, Ms. Hughes said.

The Texas governor also got a preview of life in the national political arena as GOP candidate Pat Buchanan offered Wednesday morning's "Today" show television audience his assessment of the Texas governor.

"I think he'll be a very strong candidate if he gets into the race. But he is a one-term governor," Buchanan said. "He has not laid out his agenda. I think we ought to give him a chance to."

Bush last week said he will withhold his opinion about rivals until he decides to enter the race. "I'm not going to opine about other candidates until I decide to run," he said.

Twisters damage dozens of homes in East Texas; two remain hospitalized

HOLLY SPRINGS, Texas (AP) — Two people suffering abrasions and cuts remained hospitalized Wednesday after tornadoes destroyed or damaged dozens of homes in East Texas.

A cold front Tuesday night spawned several twisters that nearly demolished six homes and damaged as many as 25 others in small Jasper County communities, including Holly Springs, about five miles southeast of Jasper.

Fallen trees blocked U.S. Highway 190 in Jasper County for about three hours and four people were taken to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

Hospital spokeswoman Karen McLane said two of the four remained hospitalized but that

none of the injuries was life-threatening.

"It was so scary," said resident Alissa Scott. "It was loud. I've never heard anything that loud before."

Jimmy Broyles, another resident, surveyed one home that had been ripped apart by high winds and said the damage was bad. "But it can all be replaced," he said.

About 1,000 homes in the region were without power after the storms. Most had power restored Wednesday, said Jay Anthony, a Jasper-Newton Electric Cooperative spokesman.

"We also had about 10 broken poles that had to be replaced," Anthony said.

At least seven tornadoes were reported in the East Texas region late Tuesday. Holly Springs, which suffered the most damage, is about 110 miles northeast of Houston.

One tornado touched down near Kirbyville. Missionary Baptist Church and another twister struck near Highway 190 and Farm-to-Market Road 1408 at Holly Springs.

Near Nacogdoches, a tornado damaged barns and other buildings, including along Highway 95 north of Martinsville. Power lines and trees were damaged at Gribbsby in Shelby County and the roofs of several homes were damaged near Camp Worth in northwestern San Augustine County.

Shock jock apologizes for dragging death comment

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Washington-area shock jock who lost his job last week for making a racially insensitive reference to the Texas dragging death of James Byrd, Jr. apologized Wednesday "to anyone and everyone who was hurt" by it.

"It was a pathetic attempt at morbid racial humor," said Doug "The Greaseman" Tracht, who was fired from his morning drive job at WARW Radio on Feb. 25.

After playing a portion of a song by Grammy-award winning recording artist Lauryn Hill, Tracht had said, "No wonder people drag them behind trucks."

The statement led station management to suspend him and sparked national outrage among black leaders and broadcasters. After protests and a deluge of phone calls WARW Radio fired Tracht.

"My sorrow is for anyone and everyone who was hurt by my statement," said Tracht, adding that "mere apologies are not enough." He spoke at a news conference organized by former boxing promoter Rock Newman.

This was not the first time that Tracht had run

afoul of the black community. In 1986, in a reference to the Martin Luther King holiday, he said, "Kill four more and we can take the week off."

Tracht apologized to the Byrd family, the national African-American community, Hill, his fans and listeners, his co-workers and his wife, who said his latest gaffe also prompted her to consider taking an afternoon flight to the West Coast never to return.

Local radio talk show host Joe Madison is trying to arrange for Tracht to visit the Byrd family in Jasper, Texas. "I would like to fly out there and talk to them personally and let them know how sorry I am," said Tracht. "Whatever I can do physically, emotionally for the Byrd family I will do."

Tracht says that his public apology was not designed to help him get a new job or an offer to return to WARW. "I'm here to reclaim my reputation back," said Tracht.

But Les Brown, a motivational speaker and talk show host on WMMJ Radio in Washington said, "I don't believe that there is any place in radio for people like 'Greaseman' and others who are encouraging racism."

Reputed Mexican Mafia members found guilty in federal racketeering trial after six weeks

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Ten reputed Mexican Mafia members accused of plotting robberies, drug deals and 15 murders were pronounced guilty Wednesday of racketeering charges.

Sobs broke out in the crowded courtroom as U.S. District Judge Ed Prado read the verdicts. But, as was the case throughout six weeks of testimony by more than 150 witnesses, the defendants showed little emotion.

"I feel good for the people of San Antonio," said Assistant U.S. Attorney Bill Baumann. "This gang preys on people who can't protect themselves, who can't help themselves."

Defendant Robert "Beaver"

Perez, 40, was accused of being a mafia general and the nine others on trial were alleged to be high-ranking officers or soldiers.

Each defendant was convicted of racketeering and conspiracy to commit racketeering and could face up to life in prison on either charge. A sentencing date has not been set.

Defense lawyers said they would appeal.

Six other reputed gang members pleaded guilty to both federal charges before the trial.

Prosecutors claimed the gang — also known as the Texas Mexican Mafia or Mexikanemi or La Eme — was created by Hispanic inmates in the state prison system

in the mid-1980s to protect themselves from predatory inmates.

The city of San Antonio, particularly the predominantly Hispanic west side, became the capital for the gang outside of prison walls.

Besides attacking people who weren't in the gang, Mexican Mafia members often turned on each other for disloyalty or for breaking a code of silence, Baumann said.

"They have a hard time not bragging about their hits," Baumann said in opening statements in January.

The defendants were accused of taking part in 15 murders from 1994 to 1997, including the grisly shotgun slayings of five people

inside a San Antonio house during a robbery in August 1997.

One of those killed in the house was Christopher Tobias, 18, a high school student whose family said he was in the wrong place at the wrong time.

"We're thankful that justice was served," his father, Roger Tobias, said after the verdicts. He wore a large button displaying a color photograph of his smiling son.

"Our son Christopher is gone, but he will never be forgotten," Tobias said. His wife, Rebecca Tobias, added: "We got 'em Chris. Now we can rest in peace."

Each defense attorney tried to distance his or her client from the rest of the gang. The lawyers

attacked the credibility of several key prosecution witnesses who had been in the Mexican Mafia but testified for the government.

Defense lawyer Ed Camara, who represented Michael Perez, said there was no evidence his client was ever in the Mexican Mafia.

Michael Perez was the nephew of alleged gang general Robert Perez and was indicted because of his family ties and because he wouldn't help the government, his attorney said.

"It was a sham, a mockery," Camara said. "They didn't prove that Michael Perez had anything to do with it."

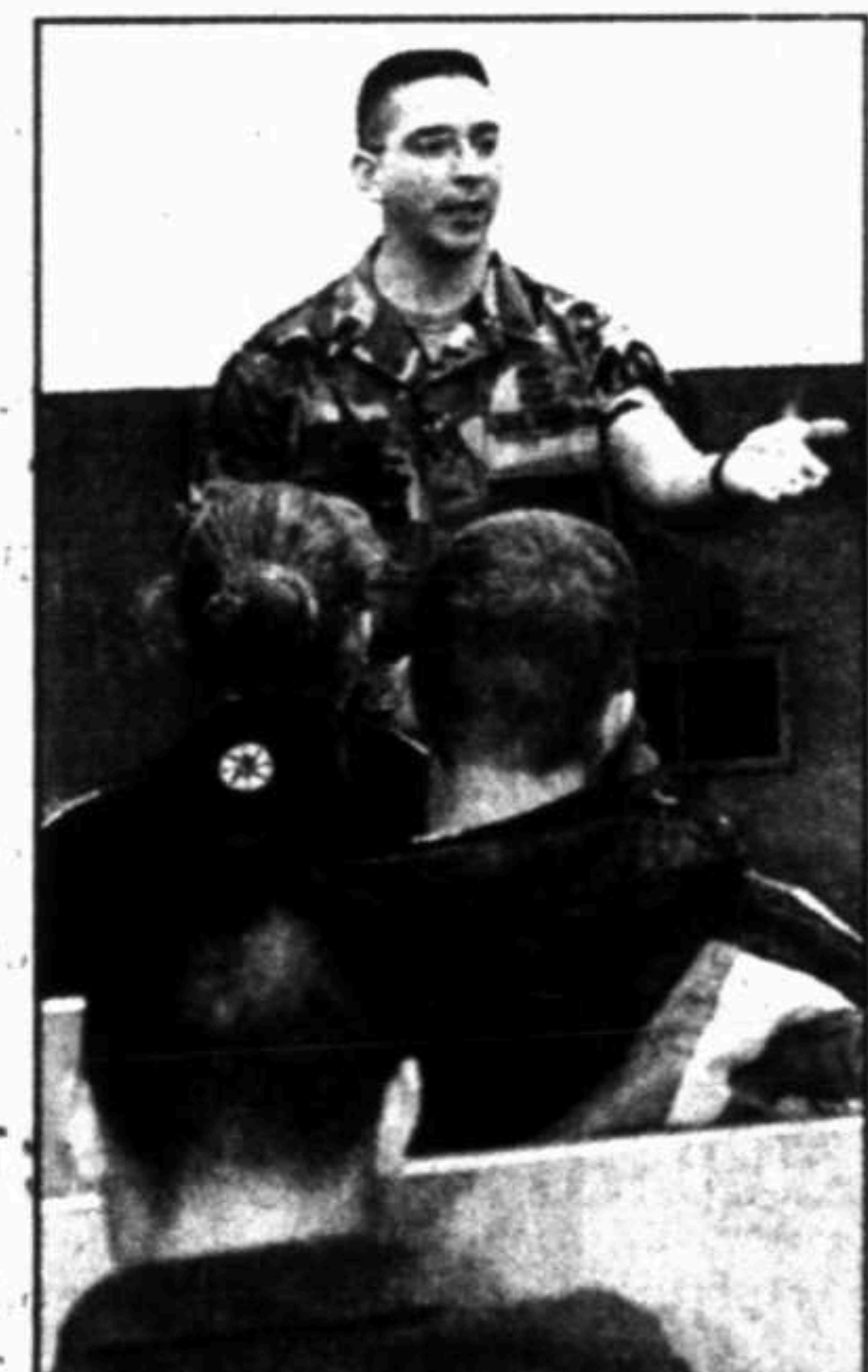
Jurors reached their decisions

Tuesday after nearly five days of deliberations. The judge sealed the verdicts until Wednesday.

Heavily armed federal marshals and state troopers surrounded the courthouse for the reading of the verdicts. Police helicopters circled over the downtown building as the defendants were brought into court.

Afterward, the convicts were taken away to various jails. Some of the men were already serving sentences for other charges.

FBI agent Mike Appleby, a lead investigator in the case, said the convictions may make a dent in the Mexican Mafia operation for now but won't stop the violence forever.



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram
Midland U.S. Army recruiter, Staff Sgt. Mario Rodriguez, talks to local high school seniors Wednesday. They were on a specially equipped 18-wheeler, parked at Lee High School, that travels the country to attract potential recruits.

Army 'cinema van' stops in Midland as part of nation-wide recruiting campaign in high schools

By Daniel Arp
Staff Writer

A shrinking Army that insists it is increasing in efficiency while decreasing in size was out recruiting in the Tall City this week — one of the friendlier corners of support for the armed forces, recruiters say.

Recruiters drove into town in an 18-wheeler equipped with pew-style seating and a cluster of slide projectors to educate local high school seniors about government — and about joining the Army.

There are only seven such "cinema vans" in the United States, and recruiters like Sgt. Shawn L. Davis, based in Fort Knox, Ky., spend nine months out of the year driving to communities across America.

"When school's out, we're out," said Davis, whose truck has already hit the major cities in Texas. After Midland, he will be moving on to Abilene.

"In my experience, you get a bet-

ter response from a town like Midland than you do in the large cities," he said.

Nationally, numbers of active-duty troops in the U.S. Army have declined by hundreds of thousands since the years of the Gulf War.

Local recruiters say that in Midland, recruiting numbers have sagged in recent years but are actually increasing in recent months. Some attribute this to the economy.

"Midland is always directly affected by what is happening in the oil industry," said Sgt. Mario Rodriguez, a U.S. Army field recruiter in Midland. "When the

economy is not doing well, people start looking for other ways to make a living. We actually do better."

The van was at Lee High School all day Wednesday after being at Midland High School and Lamesa High School the previous two days.

After a slide presentation about how the U.S. government works, Rodriguez gave a recruiting lecture and answered questions from interested high school seniors.

"The Army is obviously getting smaller," Rodriguez said in his lecture. "The way we continue that tradition is by becoming a smarter Army."

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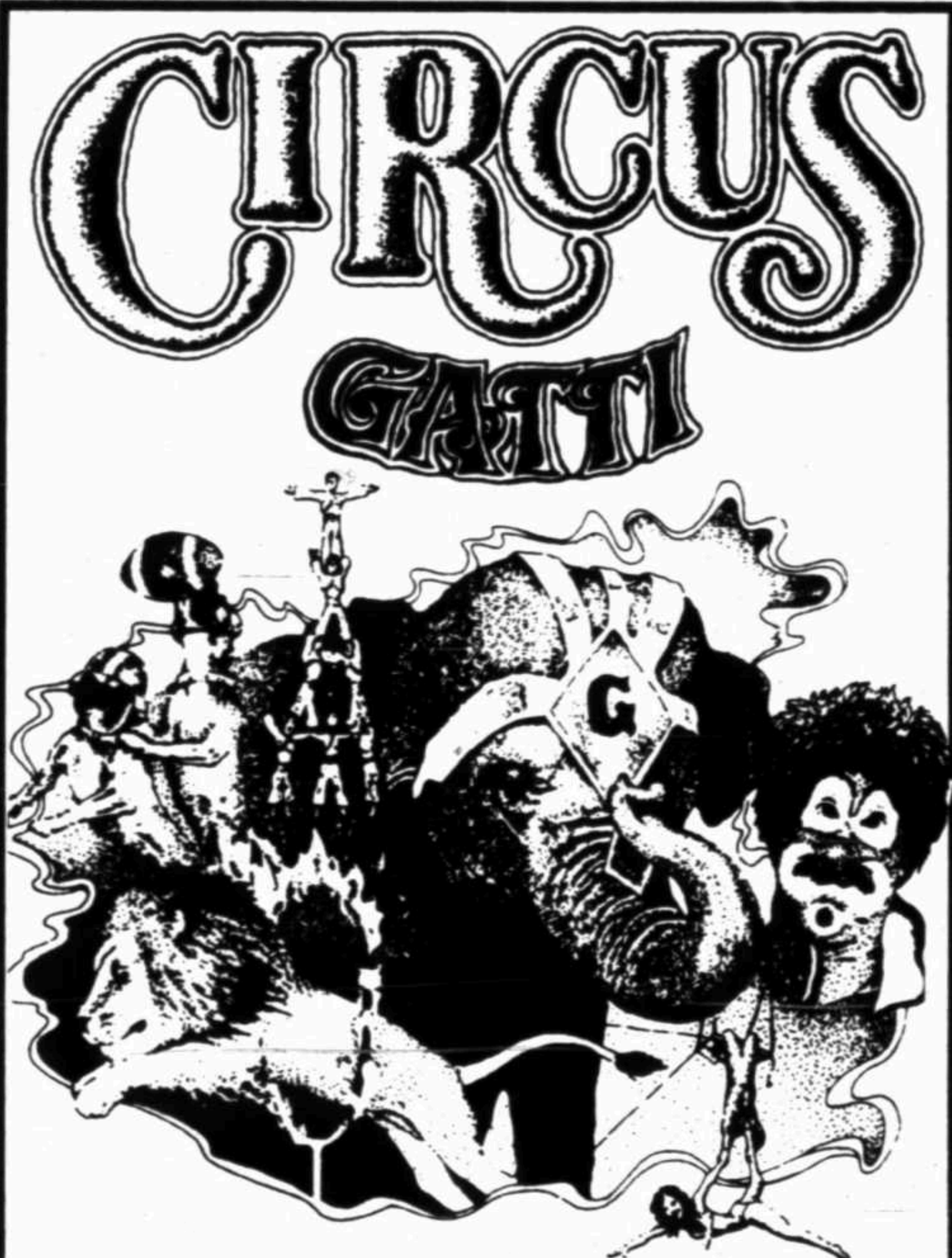
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1999-2000: The Season of a Century

Ronnie Kole Trio...New Orleans jazz ...Thursday, October 14, 1999

Rheumatic fever changed Ronnie Kole's life. He was unable to play sports as a child so his parents gave him a piano. Kole was a working musician by age 14. In the early 1950s, he met jazz legend Al Hirt who encourage Kole to go on the road with his band. Later, Kole decided to put down roots in his adopted hometown of New Orleans. Since then, his roots have stretched around the world as he has shared his love of jazz in more than a dozen countries, performed before five presidents, and the Pope.

Ahan Trio...classical, tangos and modern music...Wednesday, December 1, 1999

Twins Maria (cello) and Lucia (piano) join younger sister Angella (Violin) in a concert ranging from the classical masters Beethoven and Tchaikovsky to the tangos of Argentine Piazzolla and the largely unknown trios of young Leonard Bernstein. These Korean-born sisters have been playing together since childhood, each developing a distinctive individual style while becoming a mature and prestigious, internationally-known trio. They share their passion for music in special performances for children and teens.

Joe Burgstaller and the Mendez Project...trumpet virtuoso and local band students...Monday, January 10, 2000

Joe Burgstaller fell in love with his trumpet after being enchanted by the virtuosity of the late Mexican trumpeter Rafael Mendez. Mendez was famous for his detached staccato notes, double-tonguing, and circular breathing techniques. Burgstaller now teaches those same techniques in one-day master classes to band students, inviting them to perform with him at the evening concert.



Top left: **Ronnie Kole**

Above: **Ahan Trio**

Left: **Joe Burgstaller**

The Cassidys...Celtic folk music and step dancing...Friday, February 4, 2000

The Cassidy brothers and sisters played Celtic music while they were growing up in County Donegal, Ireland where their father was choirmaster. Each child played several instruments and sang in both Gaelic and English. The Cassidys have represented Ireland in numerous festivals, and toured in the United States seven times. Concerts combine the richness of ancient history with the lyric tunes of popular Celtic folk music.

Jay Ungar & Molly Mason...fiddle and guitar fun....Friday, April 7, 2000

These popular musicians make folk music come alive by evoking images and emotions of past and present American culture. They have appeared on several public broadcasting programs, including Garrison Keillor's A Prairie Home Companion. When Ungar & Mason get together, the audience has fun.

Right: **The Cassidys**

Below: **Jay Ungar & Molly Mason**



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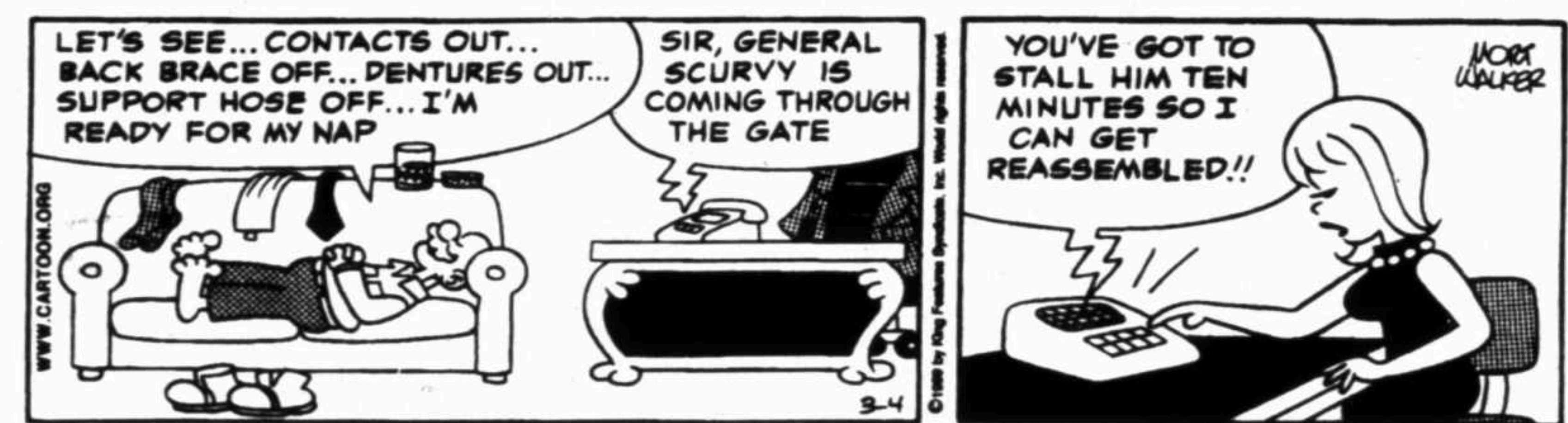
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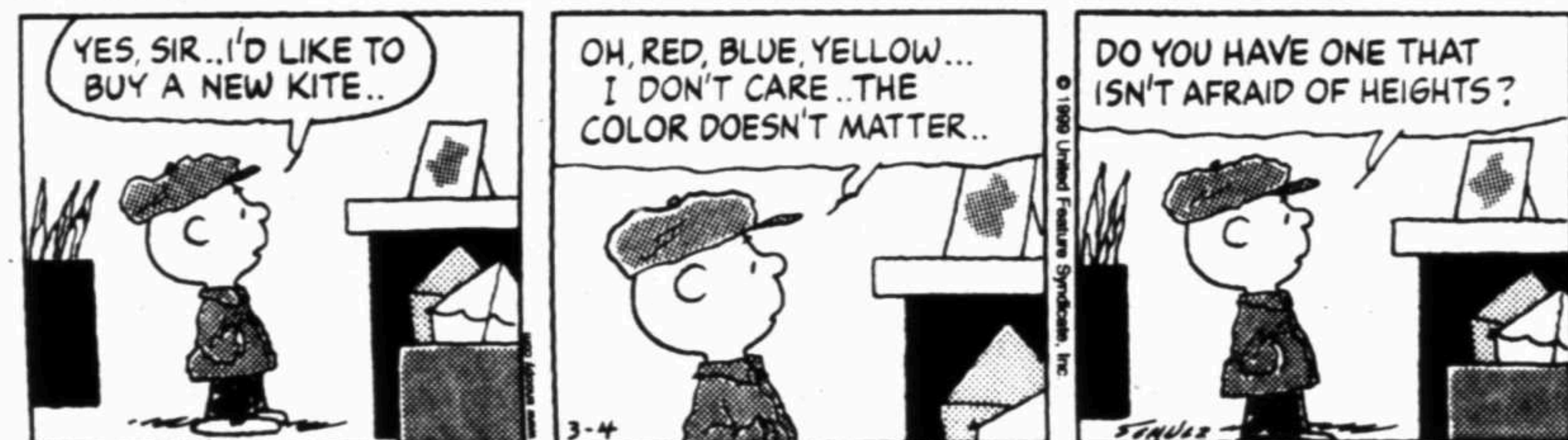
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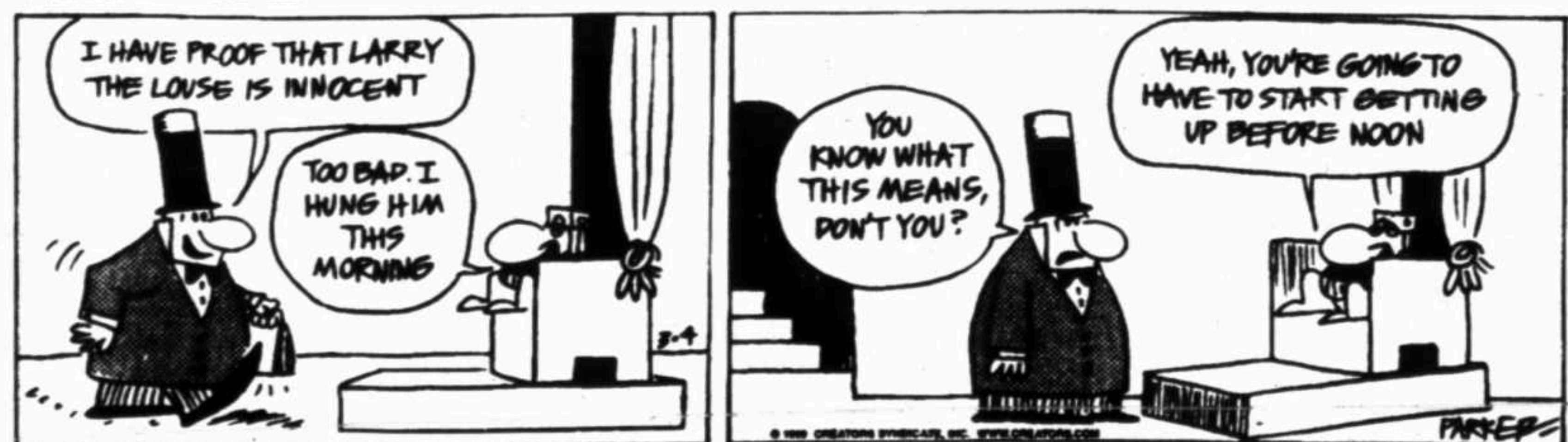
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JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Mar. 4, 1999:

You are unusually effective within partnerships and can get what you want while making others happy. Use your excellent communication skills to dissolve any obstacles to progress. You gain because of your excellent people skills and innate talent. Don't fight a career change; go with the flow. Adaptability is instrumental to your success. Expect a banner year financially. If you are single, romance becomes a more important part of your life. You need and want that close connection. If attached, your relationship blossoms because of your willingness, gentleness and openness. L-BRA reads you loud and clear.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

***** Others present different viewpoints. Rather than dismissing them, try to see them. Your perspective changes if you listen to another. Overindulgence marks interactions. There is a buoyant feeling between you and a partner. Tonight: Roll with the unexpected.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

***** Buckle down to work; don't let others distract you. Discipline yourself, as well. Get into the work ethic. Sometimes you don't see the big picture, especially when you are focused. A partner draws you in, especially over an emotional and/or financial matter. Tonight: Surprises simply happen.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

***** Others prove exciting and challenging, simultaneously. Don't get locked into a struggle of wills. Smile at how everyone is different. Unexpected news from a distance takes you in an interesting direction. Enjoy discussions. Make important

decisions. Tonight: Have a good time.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

***** Pace yourself. You simply might not be in the mood for work. Could a change help you enjoy your day-to-day life more? A home office, new computer or different schedule? Indulge yourself and don't hold on to rigid constraints. Tonight: Put your feet up and relax.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

***** Allow others to be rebellious; don't put your foot down. Creativity dominates as others seek you out. Open communication triggers new beginnings. Know what you want and where you are heading. Enjoy the unpredictable and/or going overboard. Tonight: Start the weekend early.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

***** Make a statement. Follow through on what you know to be right. Indulging another has its benefits, though you might want to establish limits for your own well-being. Reorganize your thinking. Work gives you freedom and energy. Tonight: Make that expenditure.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

***** Others seek you. You could change your point of view dramatically because of what you hear. A child or loved one delights you with his spontaneity. Express your deeper feelings; allow more bonding to occur. Clearly, others want to be around you. Tonight: Shop and/or socialize.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

***** Postpone a decision until additional information is revealed. A family member could surprise you with news. Not understanding the whole story limits your present options. Allow extra time for a money matter to develop; more data will become available. An associate means well. To-

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

night: Do your own thing.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

***** Pace yourself. Your sense of direction keeps you on target, though you could take many twists and turns. Trust your judgment. Schedule a must meeting; touch base with others. Networking brings surprising results. You can deal with what comes up. Laughter and goodwill mark decisions. Tonight: Browse a software outlet.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

***** Make decisions. Head in a new career direction. Your ability to see and make a needed adjustment empowers you. All eyes turn to you, professionally and emotionally. Security marks your domestic life, though you could go overboard. Tonight: Meet friends for a late dinner.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

***** Your lightness and unpredictability draw others. You don't always have to have the right answer. Listen to feedback, take a risk. Your ability to take an overview and adjust priorities puts you in the winner's circle. Knowing what you want makes a big difference. Tonight: Escape work ASAP.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

***** Ask questions; make inquiries. A partner sees you a lot differently than you think. Surprising insights come, once you relax. Sometimes it is important to take in another point of view. Bosses work with you. You finally have the flexibility you want. Tonight: Talk turkey!

BORN TODAY

Comedienne Catherine O'Hara (1954), actress Kay Lenz (1953), basketball player Kevin Johnson (1966)

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

A TALE OF TWO KNAVES

North-South vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH		EAST	
♠ 872	♥ KQ943	♠ A79	♥ 72
♦ J53	♣ J3	♦ 2	♣ Q1098752
WEST	SOUTH		
♠ 10654	♠ KQ3		
♥ A86	♥ J105		
♦ K109874	♦ A96		
♣ Void	♣ A K64		

The bidding:
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
Pass Pass 3♣ Dbl
3♥ Pass 3NT
Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ten of ♠

When dummy came down, declarer appeared to be at least one trick short of the contract. South's solution was to give away another, thereby gaining two tricks in return!

With no ruffing value, South wisely decided that three no trump might offer better play than four hearts. This analysis proved accurate, especially when declarer demonstrated some excellent card reading.

West led the ten of diamonds, and the auction, combined with East's contribution of the deuce, marked West for a six-card diamond suit and, since West did not lead partner's suit, a void in clubs. Declarer won in hand with the queen and started on hearts. West wisely held up the ace to the third round. Since another diamond would present declarer with an entry to dummy via the jack, West was forced to shift to a spade. East rose with the ace and, after a few moments' thought, declarer jettisoned the king!

East exited with the jack of spades.

Declarer won with the queen and got off lead with a spade, and it made no difference which defender won the trick. That player would have to rescuscitate dummy!

If West won, the defender could cash another spade to complete the defensive book, but would then have to lead a diamond providing declarer with an entry to the table. South would then claim the remaining tricks for a total of nine. If East won the spade, the defender would have to return a club, establishing the table's jack as an entry. In this variation South would emerge with an over-trick!

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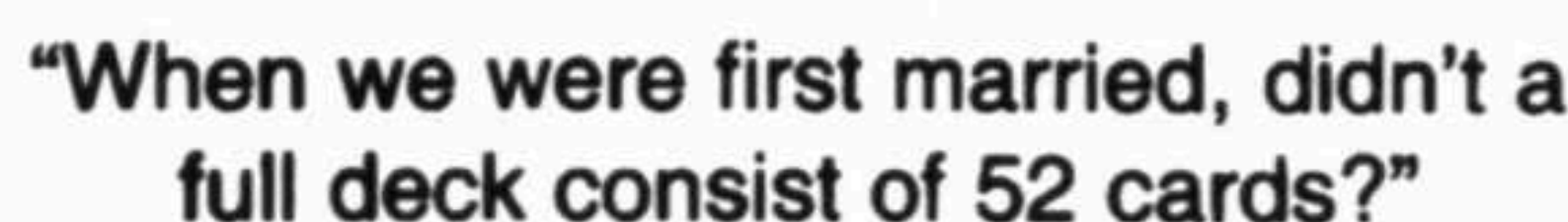
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11 WTBS	11	11
14 FAM	14	14
20 DISC	20	20
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28 CNN	28	28
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45 MAX	45	45
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47 TMC	47	47
48 HBO 3	48	48
49 MAX 2	49	49

ZITS

*GUESS HOW MANY TOMATOES IT TAKES
TO MAKE ONE CAN OF JUICE.*

By Rockwell Taylor
© 1999 Los Angeles Times Syndicate

Monica saves sharpest words for treatment by Starr investigation

WASHINGTON (AP) — Dismissing an abortion and thoughts of suicide, Monica Lewinsky gave the world an unabashed account of her life Wednesday and unleashed her long-pent-up loathing for Kenneth Starr's investigation. And she said she now regards President Clinton "to be a much bigger liar than I ever thought."

In a television interview and a separate book, the 25-year-old former White House intern spoke openly of sexual encounters with the president and several other men.

But she saved some of her sharpest words for the prosecutor who transformed her affair with Clinton into an impeachment crisis while providing her immunity from criminal charges.

Ms. Lewinsky said in her book, "Monica's Story," that Starr's office "was sick" for asking so many detailed questions about her sexual encounters with the president and also engaged in "dubious tactics" by trying to coerce her cooperation during a first confrontation in January 1998.

She said in her book that first meeting made her so distraught that she considered hurling herself from the 10th floor window of the hotel room where prosecutors interviewed her, and later weighed fleeing the country with her mother.

Even now with a promise from prosecutors that she won't be charged, she is "afraid of doing something to lose my immunity," she told Barbara Walters on ABC in a long-anticipated show aired Wednesday night.

Showing Americans a far different personality than the stern witness forced to testify before a grand jury and by videotape at the impeachment trial, Ms. Lewinsky was animated and smiled frequently during the TV interview.

Once, while recounting the pain the crisis has caused her family, she broke down crying. "People have no idea about what this has done. ... It was so destructive," she said, tears streaming.

Ms. Lewinsky's book, written by



In the thirteen months since news of her relationship with the president of the United States made headlines around the world, Monica S. Lewinsky has never spoken publicly. For the first time, in an extensive Barbara Walters exclusive interview, she breaks her silence.

Princess Diana biographer Andrew Morton with the former intern's cooperation, criticized Starr for obtaining a copy of her false affidavit denying an affair with Clinton before it was filed in court.

The book accuses the prosecutor of colluding with Paula Jones in obtaining the affidavit. Documents obtained by The Associated Press show Starr recently told Congress that he had gotten an early copy from a lawyer for Linda Tripp and not from Mrs. Jones' camp.

Mrs. Jones' lawyers had been given a copy of the affidavit four days before the Starr episode. Asked Wednesday about the affidavit, Mrs. Tripp's spokesman, Philip Coughter, said his client "has no comment on the matter at this time."

The Justice Department is investigating whether Starr's prosecutors improperly discussed a possible immunity agreement with Ms. Lewinsky without her attorney present and failed to disclose contacts with Mrs. Jones' lawyers to the department before it gave Starr permission to investigate.

"Understandably, Starr's tactics

have been a matter for grave public concern," Ms. Lewinsky's book said. "The whole exchange about immunity was a waste of time except insofar as it exposed the dubious methods employed by Starr's investigators."

Her book spared no words for Starr's prosecutors, deriding one as a "revolting specimen of humanity" and another as a "pit-bull terrier."

Deputy Independent Counsel Jackie Bennett said Wednesday he could not comment on the book because his office hadn't seen it.

But in the document sent to Congress two months ago, Starr disputed claims his office had mistreated Ms. Lewinsky, saying that while she was "understandably upset and distraught" by her first encounter with prosecutors, it was due to the "gravity of the situation."

Ms. Lewinsky also discloses in the book that she and her mother briefly considered "fleeing across the border to Canada" to escape Starr's investigation "but that idea was discarded as soon as it was mentioned, because they believed that the FBI would have every airport and border post

staked out."

Mrs. Tripp, the friend who betrayed Ms. Lewinsky by secretly taping her talking about the Clinton affair and then taking the tapes to Starr, came in for her own sharp criticism.

"When she poured out her story to Tripp, Monica thought she was confiding in a friend. Instead, she was gently being lured into a trap, the unwitting bait with which to catch a president," the book said.

Nor does the president, whom Ms. Lewinsky said she instantly fell in love with when meeting him along a rope line at a 1995 event, escape tough words.

"Now I see him as a selfish man who lies all the time. That makes me very angry and resentful," she said in the book.

In a two-hour interview with Walters, Ms. Lewinsky questioned the sincerity of the president's apology for the entire episode, saying "I think he's sorry he got caught."

Ms. Lewinsky said in the interview — an event that ABC hoped would draw such a huge audience that it raised its ad rates — that she felt like "a piece of trash" the day Clinton was forced to admit their affair on national television and

apologized to the nation — but not to her.

"I felt dirty and I felt used and I was disappointed," Ms. Lewinsky said.

She also acknowledged the falsity of her first affidavit. "I think I knew I was lying but ... I had no idea what all the different elements of perjury were at the time," she said.

In her book, Ms. Lewinsky recounted in the book her feelings the day Starr's impeachment report came out on Capitol Hill. "I really felt raped and physically ill with myself. ... I just felt that the world looked at me as a whore," she said.

"I was just a pawn used to get the president," she added.

As for the stained dress that became key evidence in the case against Clinton, Ms. Lewinsky insisted she kept it, not as a trophy or incriminating evidence, but rather to save money on dry cleaning. She said the dress was a joke among her friends.

"We even laughed about it," Lewinsky told Walters. "With one I even joked, gee, maybe he'll pay for the dry cleaning." She said now, however, she would burn the dress if she ever gets it back.

After months of getting Ms. Lewinsky's story from cold grand jury transcripts, Americans got to hear her version in two venues: ABC aired the interview it recorded 11 days ago while her publisher provided the news media its first copies of the book set to go on sale Thursday.

In both, Ms. Lewinsky volunteered detail about intensely personal matters in her life.

She acknowledged she had an abortion after becoming pregnant during a three-month affair with a fellow Pentagon worker. The abortion occurred in the latter part of 1996, while she was still seeing Clinton in secret meetings at the White House.

She also detailed another affair she had with a married man in Oregon while still in college, disclosing that when the romance was ending she had a "fling" with his younger brother to spite him.

The details may be too much for a public already weary of the story. Nine out of 10 people said in a Gallup Poll taken Friday through Sunday that they would not be interested in reading her book. And almost two-thirds said they were not interested in watching her TV interview.

Arizona prepares to execute 2nd German citizen

FLORENCE, Ariz. (AP) — A German whose brother was put to death last week for a murder awaited his own execution in the gas chamber Wednesday for the same crime, despite pleas for mercy from the German government.

Walter LaGrand, 37, was scheduled to die for stabbing a bank manager to death during a botched robbery in 1982.

Gov. Jane Hull rejected appeals Tuesday from German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder and Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer to stop the execution. Germany also asked the International Court of Justice in The Hague, Netherlands, to intervene on LaGrand's behalf.

The world court has no enforcement powers, but in a special, half-hour hearing just hours before LaGrand's scheduled execution, Judge Christopher Weeramantry of Sri Lanka urged the U.S. government to use "all the measures at its disposal" to prevent the execution.

The court also said the United States should pay unspecified damages for the execution of LaGrand's brother, Karl. The American judge, Stephen

Schwabel, concurred with the ruling but said Germany should not have filed its case so late.

German officials refused to comment after the hearing. U.S. officials said only that they would pass the ruling on to Washington.

Karl LaGrand, 35, was the first German citizen executed in the United States since World War II. Like his brother, Karl requested the gas chamber in hopes that the Supreme Court would find the method cruel and unusual punishment, and therefore unconstitutional.

A federal appeals court ruled as he had hoped and blocked Karl's execution, but the Supreme Court lifted the stay. Karl then accepted the state's last-minute offer of lethal injection.

Walter rejected such an offer, saying he preferred a more painful execution in the gas chamber to protest the death penalty and his brother's execution.

The last time Arizona executed an inmate in the gas chamber, in 1992, his death took 11 minutes and was considered so gruesome that the law was changed to require lethal injection. Killers sentenced to death before 1992, like the LaGrands, are given a choice.

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SPORTS BRIEFING

TV Sports

COLLEGE BASKETBALL — Men, Atlantic 10 Conference Tournament, quarterfinal, 11 a.m., ESPN.

Big East Conference Tournament, quarterfinal, 1 p.m., ESPN2.

Big Ten Conference Tournament, first round, 1 p.m., ESPN2.

Big Ten Conference Tournament, first round, 3 p.m., ESPN.

Atlantic Coast Conference Tournament, first round, 6 p.m., ESPN.

Big East Conference Tournament, quarterfinal, 6 p.m., ESPN2.

Big East Conference Tournament, quarterfinal, 8 p.m., ESPN.

Atlantic 10 Conference Tournament, quarterfinal, 8 p.m., ESPN2.

Stanford at Oregon, 9:30 p.m., FSN.

Western Athletic Conference Tournament, 11 p.m., ESPN.

GOLF — PGA Doral Open, first round, 3 p.m., USA.

Texas Scores

COLLEGE BASKETBALL — Men, Conference-USA Tournament, North Carolina-Charlotte 75, Houston 51.

Women, Big 12 Tournament: No. 9 Texas Tech 74, Kansas State 55.

Nebraska 60, Texas 55.

WAC Tournament: SMU 75, BYU 60.

New Mexico 74, TCU 62.

Rice 74, Utah 57.

JUCO BASKETBALL — Women, Region V Tournament, Midland College 84, Ranger College 61.

Sports Today

JUCO BASKETBALL — Midland College men and women at Region V Tournament, Mabey Complex, Abilene. See schedule, Page 4C.

JUCO SOFTBALL — Midland College at University of Texas Permian Basin, doubleheader, 3 p.m., Odessa.

PREP BASEBALL — Tournament of Champions, Christensen Stadium: Midland High vs. El Paso Franklin, 10 a.m.

Odessa Permian vs. Lubbock Monterey, 12:30 p.m.

Midland Lee vs. El Paso Coronado, 3 p.m.

Amarillo Tascosa vs. El Paso Eastwood, 5:30 p.m.

Midland High-Franklin winner vs. Permian-Monterey winner, 8 p.m.

SWIMMING — Texas Age Group Swimming, Short Course Championship, 5 p.m., Mabey Memorial Aquatic Center.

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Lady Chaps blast Ranger in 2nd half

■ No. 4 Midland College women come alive after halftime advance to semifinals of Region V Tournament.

By Oscar LeRoy
Sports Writer

ABILENE — Wednesday's Region V first round play-off game was a showcase of the best and worst of the No. 4 Midland College Lady Chaparrals.

Luckily for MC, the best prevailed in an 84-61 win over Ranger College at Hardin-Simmons' Mabey Complex. Much of the Lady Chaps' margin of victory came courtesy of 14-0 run to start the second half. MC only held

a 36-32 advantage at the break.

The first half wasn't very pretty as the Lady Chaps (29-2) shot just 30 percent (10-of-33) from the field and a paltry 5-of-15 from the free-throw line. Midland College's fifth-year coach Ron Jones called the first 20 minutes of play some of the worst his team has played all year.

"I told them, 'that is a poor of a half as we've played this year'," Jones said. "I know what happened. We beat them by 40 earlier this year and they (Lady Chaps) thought they could just walk out and take over the game, and you don't do that unless you play defense. And we didn't play very much defense in the first half."

"We just didn't come out ready to play," said sopho-

■ Chaparral men play today/4C

more MC post Autumn Johnson, who led the Lady Chaps with 12 points. "I don't think we had our mind in the right place. It was kind of hard in a way because we didn't know what to expect after they played teams like Grayson and McLennan. When we played them, it was at the start of the season."

The Lady Rangers (13-14) even took a 20-17 lead with more than 10 minutes to go in the first half on a 3-point shot by Jennifer Guajardo, who was red hot from beyond the arc with four treys on the evening on the way to a

Please see REGION/4C

REGION I-5A BOYS' TOURNAMENT

MHS' Other Two

Dawgs' Winter, Nicholson fill their roles well

By Terry Williamson
Sports Editor

When talking about Midland High basketball, there is no escaping the Big Three of Charles Tatum, Jay Christian and Blake Johnston. They are the engine that drives this club. But there is the "Other Two."

Seniors Brent Winter and Jesse Nicholson are the other two starters for the Bulldogs and they often toil in a maze of obscurity, or at least, in the shadow of the Big Three. "There is no doubt that we have three great players who have done some amazing things," said MHS basketball coach Jack Stephenson, "but I don't think people see the things that Brent and Jesse do for our team."

"Either one of them would be stars on just about any team in our district. They give us what we need and they are overlooked sometimes because of it."

Winter, a 6-4 forward/post, is averaging 6.6 points per game while Nicholson is averaging at a 3.9 per game clip. Winter, especially, has stepped up his scoring pace, hitting a career high 16 points recently in a warmup game with El Paso Parkland. He hasn't scored less than seven points in his last five outings. Nicholson is coming off a nine-point effort against El Paso Bel Air.

Still, neither player is called on to carry a huge scoring punch. And they Please see MHS/2C



Brent Winter, left, and Jesse Nicholson may not get as much attention as the other starters for the Midland High basketball team, but they contribute to the Bulldogs' winning nonetheless.

COM gets ready for huge meet

By Lee Passmore
Sports Writer

In what may be the biggest sports weekend in Midland in recent memory, the biggest event will have an early start today and still be going after most of the outsiders have cleared out of town.

■ TAGS
Swim Meet

For the next four days, Midland will host the best young swimmers in the state at the Texas Age Group Swimming Short Course Championships at Mabey Memorial Aquatic Center. The first timed finals begin today at 5 p.m. and the meet continues through Sunday, when finals begin at 4:30 p.m.

It's anticipated that about 1,000 competitors in age groups ranging from 10 and under up to 18 years will come from all over Texas over the next four days, many with hopes of qualifying for the Junior National meet in Seattle later this month. While this event might seem like a prelude for a handful of the more talented swimmers in the field, it will nonetheless be big.

In fact, City of Midland swim team director Brad Swendig anticipates that the event will be at least as big as the Junior Nationals held at Mabey four years ago.

"There will be about the same number of kids (as in nationals) but more people here because there will be more kids traveling with their families," said Swendig. "It's the largest meet held in Texas west of Austin probably."

It's not just the extra swimmers coming which make this meet so big, and Mabey appears perfectly capable of handling the number of swimmers alone. What will make this meet particularly crowded are the spectators, for whom COM has been making accommodations.

Within the last few weeks, workers were still installing extra bleachers for

Please see TAGS/2C

MHS, Lee host Tourney of Champions



By Lee Passmore
Sports Writer

They already have seven games apiece under their belts so far this season, but the Midland High and Midland Lee baseball teams are both going to find out a lot more about themselves over the next three days at the Tournament of Champions.

The Bulldogs and Rebels will participate in an eight-team field which will be conducted largely at Christensen Stadium today through Saturday. Midland High will open the tournament against El Paso Franklin this morning at 10 a.m. while Lee will face El Paso Coronado at 3 p.m., both games scheduled for Christensen.

In other games, Odessa Permian will face perennial powerhouse Lubbock Monterey at 12:30 p.m. and Amarillo Tascosa will play El Paso Eastwood at 5:30 p.m. Tonight's finale will be at 8 p.m. when the winners of the MHS-Franklin and Permian-Monterey games face off.

Please see BASEBALL/8C



Josh Ramos, left, has an 8-0 career record as a pitcher for the Midland Lee baseball team, while Ryan Klatt, right, provides one of the biggest bats in the Rebels' offensive lineup.

Barnes claims Big 12 honors in his 1st year

By Jim Vertuno
Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN — Rick Barnes, who took a Texas team in disarray and shaped it into the conference champion, is The Associated Press Big 12 coach of the year.

A panel of media observers made Barnes an overwhelming choice, giving him 23 votes to one for Nebraska's Danny Nee.

"Obviously, whatever award has come my way has been because of the players," said Barnes, who came to Texas from Clemson.

"They didn't waver."

The task this season never was considered easy for Barnes. A player revolt had prompted the resignation of his predecessor, fan-popular Tom Penders, who was the

winningest coach in Texas history.

Two of his players transferred, leaving him only 10 scholarship players and no point guard when practice started.

But Barnes, whose more deliberate style contrasted sharply with the sometimes helter-skelter atmosphere of Penders' teams, preached patience and asked his players to believe in him and themselves.

A 2-7 start with losses to Houston, South Florida and San Diego gave Texas fans little confidence. But the conference schedule hadn't started yet, and the Longhorns said they

Please see BARNES/3C



Texas Tech's Andy Ellis, from Lamesa, dunks the ball Wednesday at Kemper Arena in Kansas City, Mo. The Big 12 tournament starts Thursday.

Big 12 tourney is up for grabs

By Doug Tucker
AP Sports Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — If momentum counts for much, Colorado and Oklahoma State could be the teams to beat in the Big 12 tournament.

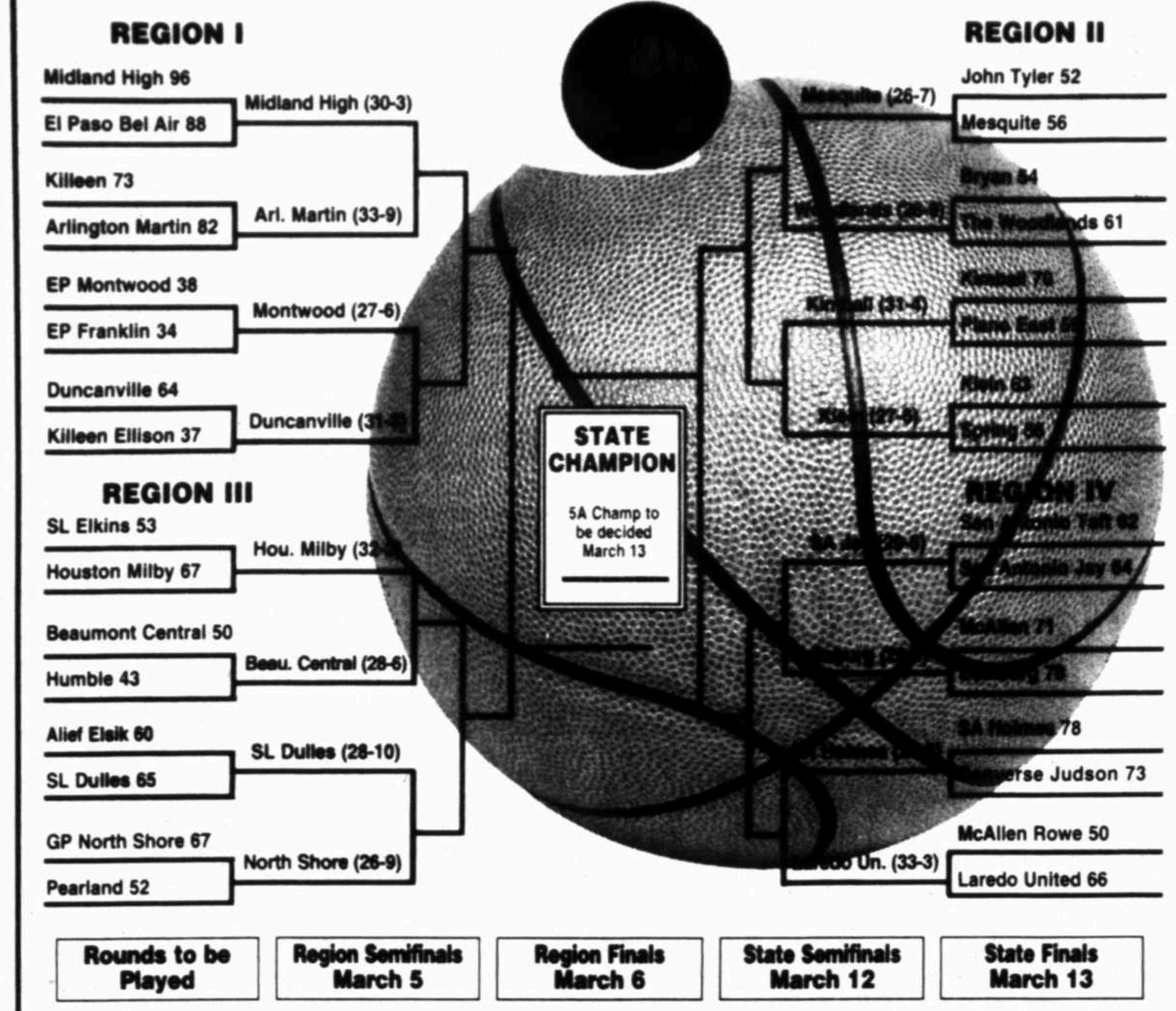
But as wide open as this four-day event appears to be, coming on the heels of a topsy-turvy conference season where back-to-back wins or losses constituted a long streak, momentum may be worth nothing more than anybody's last jump shot.

"I think when you go into the postseason you get rejuvenated," said Oklahoma coach Kelvin Sampson. "Too much emphasis is put on matchups and how you're playing."

Nevertheless, Oklahoma State (19-9, 10-6), which meets 12th-seeded Baylor (6-23, 0-16) at 2:30 Thursday afternoon, may be playing better than it has all year. And eighth-seeded Colorado (16-13, 7-9) will take a four-game

Please see TOURNEY/3C

CLASS 5A BASKETBALL PLAYOFFS



MHS: Bulldogs' other two starters do their jobs well with little fanfare

(From 1C)

both understand the role they play. Winter pretty well knew he was going to be in the starting lineup coming into the season, but he never worried about being the replacement of a state championship starter like Kirby Lemons or Ross Nobles. And he knew he wouldn't be in the scoring mode like the Big Three.

"I'm a different player than them," Winter says. "I set picks, scrap for balls and block out on rebounds. I do all the dirty work. My job is to be as physical as I can. I'm not quick enough to dribble between my legs like Blake and Charles. I can't do those kind of things."

Stephenson said of Winter, "He may not even get the rebound, but he does such a good job blocking out that someone on the team does get the rebound. You have to have that."

Nicholson, a 5-10 guard, is counted on for pressure defense and is second behind Johnston in steals, averaging 3.7 thefts per game. "I feel that when our defense gets started, anything can happen," Nicholson said. "My job is to create problems on defense."

"Jesse has great quickness and quick hands," Stephenson said. "He creates a lot of turnovers, and when you get turnovers, you have a chance to make something happen on the other end of the floor. In 28 games, Jesse had 117 positive points and 30 negative in our scoring system and that was the best ratio on our team."

Nicholson also didn't worry about climbing into the role of a starter this year. In fact, he looked forward to it.

REGION I PLAYOFFS 'Shootout at Chap Center'

Region I-5A Basketball Tournament
(All Games at Chaparral Center)

Friday's Semifinals at 6 p.m.
Midland High (30-3) vs. Arlington Martin (23-9)
at 7:30 p.m.
El Paso Montwood (27-6) vs. Duncanville (30-3)

Saturday's Final at 1 p.m.
Semifinal winners

"The gave me a chance to prove myself as a starter on this team," Nicholson said. "There really wasn't much pressure on me because I always figured I was the best man for the job."

Nicholson admitted that he had a bad outing in a warmup game

against Seminole, but he shook that off.

"The idea is to get everyone on the team pumped to play," Nicholson said. "If the starters can't do the job, then the sixth man or the bench has to come in and do the job. That's all we really care about, getting the job done. It really doesn't matter who does it."

Since neither started a year ago when Midland High won its state championship, this year means even more to them.

"It would be much more special to win the championship this year," Winter said. "It would also make my finger a little heavier with another ring."

"Every team ends the season with a loss, but one team. That team is going to be us. Ever since this summer, we have been working our tails off to get to where we are now."

Nicholson said, "We have another chance to prove it all again. That's what everyone on the team wants. It doesn't mean anything unless you prove your spot at No. 1 or No. 2."

Winter is especially looking forward to returning to Chaparral Center for the Region I-5A tournament this weekend.

"We're back in the friendly confines (Chaparral Center) and with our fans," Winter said. "Playing on this team is like playing at a college. We have great crowds and they really get behind us. They really help and we will need all the help we can get. I love to play at home."

And when No. 2 MHS meets Arlington Martin at 6 p.m. Friday at the Chap, the house should be rocking.

TAGS: 1,000 swimmers invade city

(From 1C)

the meet. Last fall, a wall on the south side of the complex was knocked out to make extra room just for TAGS, an indication of how big the meet will be.

Space has been a concern for Swendig and he's still not sure if the reconfigured Mabey can comfortably handle all the visitors.

"We're going to be really stressed for space," Swendig said. "We've been working on this for over a year. For most of us this has been all we've been working on lately."

Landing the meet in Midland is a coup for local businesses, particularly in these days of dropping oil prices. Restaurants along Wadley Avenue should enjoy a particularly big windfall when you throw in the boys Region I-5A basketball tournament at Chaparral Center and the high school baseball Tournament of Champions at Christensen Stadium.

But those latter two events are mere drops in the bucket compared to TAGS, whose participants will occupy town for four days. Some businesses might even have a repeat of what happened to a sandwich shop near Mabey four years ago during Junior Nationals, when it actually ran out of bread. Spectators might not even want to leave the complex if they have to enjoy local dining, since several restaurants will have stands set up inside Mabey during designated times.

"The (businesses) I talked to have a pretty good understanding of what's going to happen, but I don't know if they can fully comprehend what's in store," said Swendig.

As for the swimming, the competition should be as strong as any which has ever been held in West

Texas. Many of the competitors who haven't already made the cut for Junior Nationals will be shooting to make it in what will likely be their last attempts of the season.

The competition should be most intense in the 15-18 category among swimmers who have been to several TAGS and even national meets.

"Out of those you're talking maybe 30-40 kids who have a legitimate chance to make it (to nationals) and out of those maybe 25 will," said Swendig.

It's likely that at least a few meet records will be broken over the next four days. Naturally, several teams from the state's larger metro areas will be well represented, as some teams will have over 40 competitors at the meet.

The city which might have its name mentioned most often at the medals podium is Houston, which can boast of more than one solid team. Between them, the Woodlands Swim Team and Houston Elite Aquatics are scheduled to bring 127 swimmers and 553 event entries to town.

"Out of the top five (teams) there'll probably be about two or three from Houston," said Swendig. "They've got some strong programs down there and their participation in the summer leagues is just tremendous."

The Woodlands would appear to be a cinch for a high finish based on numbers alone. Their high school boys team won the state meet last weekend with 225 points, more than double that of runner up

Clear Lake. Dan Westcott broke his own state record at the state meet with a time of 48.68 seconds in the 100 backstroke, well under the junior national cut and won't be swimming that event at TAGS.

But Swendig still thinks there's plenty more Westcotts lurking in the Woodlands program.

"The Woodlands summer league has about 20,000 kids within a five-mile radius of their pool," Swendig said.

Yet, the focus on age group swimming in Texas this weekend will fall entirely on Midland. This will be only the third time a TAGS meet has been held in West Texas.

The first time was in 1972, when the then new Mabey complex — which only had one pool at the time — played host. The last time was in 1979 when UT Permian Basin hosted the meet. That was so long ago that UTPB couldn't host the meet now — it no longer has the pool.

Swendig is hoping that this meet will prove that Midland shouldn't remain so isolated from the Texas swimming community.

"It's sure my intention that we would bring it back here in the future," Swendig said. "The last time we had it here was 1972 and we're not going to wait that long again."

While the competition begins today, the opening ceremonies are scheduled for Friday morning at 9 a.m. Finals for events on both Friday and Saturday are scheduled for 6:30 p.m.

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Hanebutt sparks Lady Raiders

Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Texas Tech's Rene Hanebutt figured she was slumping from long range. Too bad for Kansas State that Hanebutt picked Wednesday's Big 12 tournament quarterfinal to wake up.

"It was really a disappointment that I went 4-for-17 (from 3-point range) the other night against Texas," Hanebutt said, referring to the No. 9 Lady Raiders' 20-point victory over Texas Saturday to finish the conference season.

"I shot well enough today to help the post and then open up the floor," she said.

Hanebutt's 26 points, 21 coming on 7-of-13 3-point shooting, helped top-seeded Tech roll over Kansas State 74-55 in the quarterfinals of the Big 12 tournament. The Lady Raiders had a first-round bye.

Five of Hanebutt's long-range shots came in the first half as Texas Tech (26-3) built a 38-30 lead. Her hot hand from outside forced Kansas State (15-13) to abandon its zone defense, allowing Tech's Angie Brazier and Keitha Dickerson to get loose under the basket.

Dickerson finished with 13 points and Brazier had 11. Texas Tech led by as many as 26 points in the second half as the Wildcats struggled to find rhythm on offense.

"We just did not start the game making the mental decisions we needed to in the zone," Kansas State coach Deb Patterson said. "A huge priority going in was to extend and defend Rene. We just didn't do that."

Nebraska 60, Texas 55

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Nicole Kubik scored 28 points and had 11 rebounds to lead Nebraska past Texas in the quarterfinals of the Big 12 women's tournament.

Texas' Edwina Brown converted a three-point play with 22 seconds left to cut the Cornhuskers' lead to 57-55, but Kubik drove the length of the court for a layup with 19 seconds left.

Brown led the Longhorns (16-11) with 23 points, 19 in the second half.

No. 25 Kansas 59, Oklahoma State 53

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Jaclyn Johnson scored 15 points and Brooke Reeves added 14 as No. 25 Kansas held off Oklahoma State in the quarterfinals of the Big 12 women's tournament.

Oklahoma State (13-15) led 24-20 at the half and was up 49-48 with 5:33 left, but then didn't score for the next 5:02 as the Jayhawks took a 55-49 lead.

The Cowgirls went 0-for-4 from the field and turned the ball over five times in the final 5 1/2 minutes, finishing the game with 19 turnovers. They shot 38 percent from the field for the night, marking the 21st time this year that Kansas has held an opponent under 40 percent.

WAC TOURNAMENT

Rice 74, Utah 57

LAS VEGAS — Jennifer Hamilton scored 18 points and pulled down seven rebounds to lead Rice to a victory over Utah in the quarterfinals of the WAC women's basketball tournament.

The Owls (18-10) built a 10-point halftime lead at 35-25 and then went on to a 16-7 run to open the second half to gain their biggest lead of the game at 51-32 with 13:23 left to play.

New Mexico 74, Texas Christian 62

LAS VEGAS — Miranda Sanchez scored 31 points to lead New Mexico to a victory over Texas Christian in the quarterfinals of the WAC women's basketball tournament.

Sanchez hit 4-of-6 3-point shots and 7-of-8 free throws to lead the Lobos (22-5). Sanchez also finished with a team-high 10 rebounds.

The Lobos got nine points and four rebounds each from Susan Bocock and Katie Kern.

Charlotte ousts UH from C-USA tourney

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — Kelvin Price scored 19 points and Galen Young had 15 points and 12 rebounds to lead North Carolina Charlotte to a 75-51 win over Houston in the first round of the Conference USA tournament Wednesday.

The fifth-seeded 49ers (19-10) advance to play fourth-seeded Southern Mississippi in Thursday's quarterfinals.

The loss ended the season for

Houston, which finished the season 10-17 under first-year coach Clyde Drexler.

North Carolina Charlotte led from the opening moments and had a 31-26 lead at halftime, despite shooting just 31 percent from the field. The 49ers built their first lead by outbounding Houston 27-17 and grabbing 13 offensive boards.

North Carolina Charlotte took good care of the ball the entire

game, turning it over only 10 times while forcing 20 Houston turnovers.

Diego Guevara scored 10 of his 12 points after the break to spark the 49ers. He opened the second half with a 3-pointer and a jumper to stretch North Carolina Charlotte's lead to 36-26.

With 17:20 to play, Guevara hit another 3-pointer to start a 9-0 run that put the 49ers comfortably in front 47-32.

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Men's Bo

NC CHARLO

Houston (10-17)

0-0-0, Younger 7-16

13-0-0, J. Hernandez

11-1-0, J. Spence

0-2-0-0, Moore 0-0

2-6-0-0, Austin 1-1

0-0-2, Moore 1-1

58-3-51

North Carolina

10-10, Young 5-16

0-0-7, Price 7-14

4-4-12, J. Thomas

3-4-4-0, M. Thomas

1-0-0-2, Toliver 4-4

0-1-0-0, Whitehead

Totals 26-64 18-25 75

Halftime—UNC 27

Houston 26-3-Point

6-15 (Younger 1-4, G

17-0-0, Batts 0-1, Har

10-2-8, Jones 1-2-0-2

0-0-0, Bright 2-6-0-0

0-0, Totals 18-62 4-7

IOWA ST. (21-6)

5, Huelman 3-4-0-7

8, Free 3-8-13-18

10, Haugen 0-1-2-2

0-0-12, Totals 16-41

Halftime—Missouri 27

Point goals—Missouri

Monroe 1-2, Jones

Akpan 0-1, Fran

0-5, Iowa St. 4-15

1-2, Taylor 1-4

0-1, Free 0-4

Akpan 0-1, Rebounds

Barklin 8, Iowa St.

Wells, Taylor 8

NEBRASKA 60, T

NEBRASKA (21-10)

4-2, Kubik 10-24 7-10

0-0-0, Schwartz 5-0-8

2-2-2, Went 0-0-0

2-2-4, Gilmore 2-5-0

1-3-0-0, Totals 19-81

TEXAS (16-11)

Brown 8-15 7-23, Joh

Wallace 0-0-0-0, Woc

Gardner 1-4-0-0-0, Tot

55

Halftime—Nebraska 2

3-Point goals—Nebr

4, Schwartz 0-1, Whit

4-16 (Lumma 2-9, Hill

out—Kane, Rebounds

(Kubik 11), Texas 40

Assists—Nebraska 4

Texas 7 (Brown 4)

Nebraska 19, Missou

74

Halftime—Texas Tech

Str 30, 3-Point goals—K

(Forsen 1-1, Perry 1-2

5), Texas Tech 8-18

Lake 1-3, Schumacher 0-1

Fouled out—None

Kane, St. 37 (Forsen

Tech 33 (Brazier 9), As

St. 13 (Huffman, Perry)

Schumacher 5, Total fo

Elkison 0-0-0-0, Totals

25-34-75

Halftime—SMU 33, E

Karnedy 6-13 5-17, Bri

4-9, Blair 5-12 1-2, Joh

0-2, Farrell 0-0-0-0, Cal

E, Woods 3-6-2-11, The

0-2, Aquino 0-0-0-0, R

8, Gilmore 0-0-1-2-1

25-34-75

Halftime—SMU 33, E

Point goals—BYU 5-21

Covington 2-4, Griffith 1-5

3-4, S. Jensen 0-2, Ad

6-14 (Woods 3-5, Blair 2

Calvert 0-3), Fouled

Rebounds—BYU 32

SMU 47 (Karnedy 11), A

3 (S. Jensen 4), SMU 12

0-0-12, Koy 0-1-2-2, To

23-74

UTAH (21-6)

Anderson 0-0-0-0, O

0, Rose 2-6-0-0-4, Furt

Ewart 1-2 1-2-3, McColl

Gibbons 1-6-3-4-5, Sod

Herbert 0-0-0-0, Back

Totals 18-39 17-25 57

Halftime—Rice 35, Ut

Rice—Rice 6-18 (Brow

2-4, Brumfield 0-3, Wil

0-2), Utah 4-8 (Sodje 4-4

3-4, Furrer 0-1), Fouled

Rebounds—Rice 29 (Jor

7), Utah 31 (McColl 9), A

13 (Wilson 4), Utah 15

0-0-12, Koy 0-1-2-2, To

23-74

No. 17 SANTA BAR

NEVADA (9-19): Brya

Nevada 5-9 2-2-14, Mey

Clark 3-7 0-0-7, Golom

Boyette 0-0 0-0-0, Hee

Estrada 2-5 0-0-4, Tom

0-0, Langdon 1-1 1-2

0-5, Totals 23-58

UC SANTA BARBA

Rohr 7-15 0-0-1

College Basketball Results

NBA Results

TOURNEY: Colorado, OSU have momentum

(From 1C)

winning streak into its first round match at noon Thursday against ninth-seeded Iowa State (15-14, 6-10).

"We're playing real well right now," said Oklahoma State coach Eddie Sutton, whose Cowboys have won three of their last four. "Overall, I think we're playing our best ball of the season."

In the night matches on Thursday, No. 7 seed Kansas State (18-11, 7-9) plays No. 10 Texas A&M (12-14, 5-11) and No. 11 Texas Tech (13-16, 5-11), goes against Nebraska (18-11, 10-6), and Big 12 player-of-the-year Venson Hamilton.

Baylor is the only Big 12 team ever to go winless through the conference season. But that gives little comfort to Sutton, who beat the Bears 76-63 and 75-47 already this year and knows how hard it is to beat anybody three straight.

"They will be a very fired-up basketball team," Sutton said. "When you start losing, it is tough to get out of the downward spiral. It's like an avalanche. I think they'll come in and try to prove they are a better team than they've shown."

Baylor coach Harry Miller has insisted all year that his team is not about to quit.

"Our mood is very good, upbeat," said Miller. "We look at this as a fresh start. I do think we can be competitive and I do think we have a chance to win."

"If we play our hardest, we can come close and win," said Baylor forward Jamie Kendrick.

Colorado and Iowa State split their two-game series, with each winning at home. But for momentum, it might be had to beat the Cyclones behind 52 victory

Kansas in the regular season finale on Sunday.

"It was a good win for us. Our players worked hard to get rewarded," said Iowa State coach Larry Eustachy. "We have probably our toughest challenge of the year, and also our best opportunity against Colorado."

Colorado senior Kenny Price is not one to put much stock in momentum.

"Everybody starts fresh now," he said. "What happened in the games before will have nothing to do with what happens here this week."

In the second round on Friday, the winner of game No. 1 will meet regular season champion Texas (18-11, 13-3) at noon, followed by the winner of game No. 2 against fourth-seeded Oklahoma (20-9, 11-5). At 6 p.m., the game No. 3 winner goes against second-seeded Missouri (20-7, 11-5). At No. 22 the Big 12's only ranked team. In the final game Friday, it will be third-seeded Kansas (19-8, 11-5) against the winner of game four.

The past two years in this tournament, everyone was fighting for the right to fall victim to Kansas in the championship game. But there's no way to predict a winner now.

"In basketball today there are fewer and fewer actual upsets," said Missouri coach Norm Stewart, whose team has won two in a row, including a 54-47 victory over Texas in the regular-season finale. "Parity makes things possible. That's why there's such interest."

"The tournament is wide open," Barnes said. "You can just look at the way the league played out the last two and a half weeks. Any team can believe that they can win."

BARNES: New coach leads Longhorns to Big 12 crown

(From 1C)

new they were getting better.

"(Barnes) didn't like people assuming we wouldn't get it done this year," said first-team all-Big 12 forward Game Munroe, who was one of the players who had complained about Penders and considered transferring.

Said Barnes: "When I started this job, I knew we had to take care of the team first. The players had really been caught in some crossfire. I told them there's nothing I can do about what happened a year ago and just asked them to be patient."

Munroe had his own problems on the court. Barnes suspended him for one game after throwing punches in a loss to Kansas and threatened to suspend him for the rest of the season if he did it again.

Barnes got Munroe to agree to anger counseling and the problem subsided.

"As much credit I give a human being for my success as of right now, I will give (Barnes) that credit," Munroe said.

Texas (18-11, 13-3) started 5-0 in the conference. The loss at Kansas preceded another five-game win streak that put the Longhorns in control of the league race.

Texas clinched the regular-season title and the No. 1 seed in the conference tournament with a 62-52 win at Baylor on Feb. 24.

A look at the stat sheet makes Texas' first season under Barnes even more impressive. Going into a season-ending 54-47 loss at home to Missouri, Texas ranked in the bottom half of the league in almost every major team statistical category. Only in rebounding margin was Texas (2nd) near the best in the league.

Texas not only shook up the league standings with its first conference title, Barnes ranked a few of the other Big 12 coaches by publicly advocating alternating the site for the conference tournament, which is played annually in Kansas City.

Rotating the tournament is the best way to boost the Big 12's exposure and reputation as a top conference, Barnes said.

"I want our conference to be a great conference," Barnes said. "Our challenge is to get as many people watching us as we can."

The same panel made Venson Hamilton, Nebraska's 6-10 senior center, the AP Big 12 player of the year. Clifton Cook, Texas A&M's junior college point guard, was named Big 12 newcomer of the year while freshman of the year was awarded to Kansas point guard Jeff Boschee.

Men's Boxes

NC Charlotte 75, Houston 51

Houston (10-17): Stringfellow 3-7, 0-0, Young 7-16 3-4 18, Garvin 5-10 13, Fernandez 22-0 0-0, Cline 1-4 0-0 3, Spears 0-4 0-0, Botts 0-2 0-0, Moore 0-0 0-0, Hendrick 2-6 0-4, Austin 1-1 0-0 3, Balle 1-2 0-0 2, Moseley 1-0 2-2, Totals 21-38 3-51.

Women's Boxes

No. 21 Iowa St. 63, Missouri 44

Missouri (15-18): Monrose 7-16 13-17, Bonds 1-18 0-0 2, Johnson 1-7 0-0 2, Franklin 1-8 0-0 2, Helm 10-2 6, Jones 1-2 0-3, Johnson 0-0 0-0, Bright 2-6 0-0 2, Harris 0-0 0-0 0, Totals 18-42 1-22 3-51.

Men's Tournaments

By The Associated Press

All-Time CST

At The Bob Carpenter Center

Newark, Del.

First Round

Friday, Feb. 26

Towson 71, Boston University 58

Northwestern 77, New Hampshire 69

Quarterfinals

Saturday, Feb. 27

Maine 76, Hartford 57

Delaware 83, Towson 63

Draxel 64, Northeastern 56

Hofstra 69, Vermont 59

Semifinals

Saturday, Feb. 28

Delaware 80, Maine 73

Draxel 64, Northeastern 56

Hofstra 69, Vermont 59

Championship

Sunday, Feb. 29

Delaware 80, Maine 73

Draxel 64, Northeastern 56

Hofstra 69, Vermont 59

Championship

Sunday, Feb. 29

Delaware 80, Maine 73

Draxel 64, Northeastern 56

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BUSINESS & OIL

Stocks/6C

BUSINESS BRIEFING

OIL PRICES
POSTED
Wednesday \$10.25
Previous \$9.75

FUTURES
Wednesday \$12.93
Previous \$12.51

NATURAL GAS
Wednesday \$ 1.723

Crude prices jump

Energy futures moved sharply higher Wednesday on the New York Mercantile Exchange, bolstered by unexpectedly sharp declines last week in U.S. crude inventories.

On other markets, coffee and cocoa futures posted sharp declines.

Crude prices jumped 3.2 percent after industry group the American Petroleum Institute reported late Tuesday that inventories plunged 5.903 million barrels last week to 326,751 million barrels, confounding expectations for an increase and erasing what had been a year-over-year surplus in supplies. Inventories now are 1.01 million barrels below levels at the same time last year.

The report, and a similar one from the U.S. Energy Department, provided sudden support to a market that had seen prices hovering at 12-year lows for months. Prices at this time last year were 19 percent higher, but on their way down following a worsening global economic crisis and continued world overproduction.

Crude prices were further supported Wednesday amid continued concern about Iraq's ability to pump oil through its pipeline following U.S. air strikes on targets in no-fly zones in the south and north of that country. The sudden decline in U.S. stockpiles now provides some room for upward revisions in prices.

Unleaded gasoline futures also rose sharply, helped by news that Tosco Corp. planned to shut its 170,000 barrel-a-day Avon plant in California following a fire last week.

Crude for April delivery rose 42 cents to 12.93 a barrel; April heating oil rose 1.07 cents to 33.55 cents a gallon; April unleaded gasoline rose 1.47 cents to 39.91 cents a gallon; April natural gas rose 2.7 cents to 1.723 for each 1,000 cubic feet.

Dollar rises

NEW YORK — The dollar rose against most major currencies Wednesday, gaining against the yen on falling Japanese interest rates.

The dollar's rise against the euro came as European economic fundamentals remained stagnant, its major stock markets falling Wednesday on negative sentiment.

"It is not surprising to see the dollar strong," said Guillermo Estebanez, a foreign exchange economist at the Bank of America in San Francisco, noting recent reports indicating strength in the U.S. economy.

In late New York trading, the dollar was quoted at 121.77 Japanese yen, up from 120.23 on Tuesday. Also in late trading, the euro was quoted at \$1.0890, down from \$1.0925.

Traders jumped at the opportunity to dump yen and buy dollars during Asian trading when the Bank of Japan flooded the interbank loan market with cash by buying short-term government bonds.

Stocks rally

NEW YORK — A late rally in technology shares saved the stock market from another down day Wednesday, although the picture was mixed at the close.

Two more strong economic reports heightened fears that the Federal Reserve might raise interest rates as a hedge against inflation, pulling the market lower for most of the day.

Blue chips finished on the down side, but tech shares bounced higher in the last hour thanks to some bargain hunters. They pulled some broader indexes slightly higher at the close.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 21.73 at 9,275.88. The technology-heavy Nasdaq composite index ended up 6.17 at 2,265.20, while the Standard & Poor's 500 index gained 2.20 to 1,227.70. The market has been generally weak since last week.

Clinton threatens to veto bank overhaul bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton threatened to veto financial overhaul legislation proposed by Senate Banking Committee Chairman Phil Gramm, saying it fails to fully protect consumers and would hurt community lending laws.

At the same time, Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin on Wednesday expressed the administration's "strong support" for a bipartisan compromise bill in the House.

The Clinton administration supports in principle legislation to lift the Depression-era barriers between banks, securities firms and insurance companies. But the White House has threatened to veto several versions in recent years that took an approach it rejected.

The proposal drafted by Gramm, R-Texas, is more in line with the views of Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan than those of the administration. The bill calls for most new financial activities to be conducted by affiliated companies within bank holding companies.

In a letter to Gramm, Clinton said his proposal would "undermine the effectiveness of the Community Reinvestment Act ..., a law that has helped to build homes, create jobs and restore hope in communities across America."

In addition, Clinton wrote, the bill would "provide inadequate consumer protection." His letter, dated Tuesday and released Wednesday, did not elaborate on that point.

"I will veto the bill if it is presented to me in its current form," the president said.

Gramm, in response, insisted that his proposal would not weaken the community investment law that banks must follow, but would "restore its integrity." The 1977 law requires banks and thrifts to lend to the poor and minorities in their neighborhoods.

Gramm's opposition to the law led him to block financial overhaul legislation in the Senate's waning days last fall. The legislation had earlier squeaked through the

House by one vote.

Under his new proposal, banks would not have to get a satisfactory community-lending rating from the government to set up holding companies to conduct new financial activities.

In the House, Banking Committee Chairman Rep. Jim Leach, R-Iowa, and Rep. John LaFalce of New York, the panel's senior Democrat, on Monday unveiled a bipartisan compromise bill.

Both the House and Senate bills would create huge financial "supermarkets," offering consumers checking accounts, mutual funds, insurance policies and much more. Ralph Nader and other consumer advocates have expressed concern that the legislation, by allowing banks, brokerage firms and insurers to merge and get more deeply into each other's businesses, could bring a dangerous concentration of economic power in fewer hands.



The 1999 Escalade is Cadillac's first sport utility vehicle. It comes standard with Nuance leather upholstery, a Bose Acoustimass sound system, front and rear heated seats and a \$46,525 suggested retail price.

GM unveils its luxury sport utility vehicle

Associated Press

The 1999 Cadillac Escalade finally gives GM's luxury division an entry in the fast-growing luxury sport utility market.

With a \$46,525 tag for starting manufacturer's suggested retail price plus destination charge, the Escalade offers lots of image and interior room and a sense of security and being above it all.

It is basically a re-badged, four-door Chevrolet Tahoe, turned GMC Yukon Denali, turned Cadillac. As you'd expect in a Caddy, the special, soft Nuance leather is generously applied. There's shiny zebrawood, too. And the Bose Acoustimass sound system, with both a single CD player and a six-CD changer, is standard.

Also standard are heated seats front and rear, the General Motors Corp. OnStar navigation system and AutoTrac four-wheel drive.

"Today's affluent household is more likely to own a sport utility than a luxury car," Dave Nottoli, who was Escalade brand manager as the vehicle was launched, said.

Cadillac became painfully aware of the fact in recent years as sales slipped, and affluent customers were lured into other vehicles such as the Lincoln Navigator and Lexus LX 470.

Because of its roots in Chevy/GMC, the Escalade is extremely capable. And because the full-size Escalade is so heavy — weighing more than 5,500 pounds — it does a good job of making riders feel securely isolated from the bumps, holes, muddy ruts and slop they may encounter if they go off-road.

The big Escalade comes with standard running boards to help riders get in and out, so it lost some ground clear-

ance. But what's left, 8.4 inches, is still competitive with most other SUVs.

And, industry analysts note, most folks who spend more than \$45,000 for a vehicle aren't likely to spend a lot of time on rough terrain.

If they do, they can be assured the Escalade is no wimp. It typically travels in two-wheel drive high mode; buttons on the dashboard allow the driver to switch to four-wheel drive high or low. A fourth button, the auto four-wheel drive, converts the drive automatically.

All of those buttons, by the way, indeed all of the Escalade gauges, have the same look, same location as those on the Chevy Tahoe.

The Escalade seems to power its way through just about anything. Unlike some lesser vehicles, especially cars, the Escalade doesn't lose traction and struggle when it hits a large, deep patch of standing water on the road after a downpour. Rather, the tester seemed to part the water, and I continued without a slip or any disturbing feedback in the steering wheel.

The Escalade's 5.7-liter, pushrod, Vortec V-8 engine is the same as in the Tahoe and Yukon Denali. It produces the same 255 horsepower at 4,600 rpm and 330 foot-pounds of torque at 2,800 rpm.

The power, delivered via a standard four-speed automatic transmission, is well-matched to the Escalade. The test vehicle got up to speed quite quickly and smoothly. It impressed with its responsiveness, and it sounded good during hard acceleration.

But it doesn't do well at the gas pump. The city driving estimate from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is just 12 miles a gallon. Highway driving isn't much better: 16 mpg.

Association names former radio station owner Broadcaster of the Year for 1999

By Mella McEwen
Staff Writer

As his almost 50-year broadcasting career approached an end, Bob Hicks worked hard to ensure that a new generation of broadcasters was prepared.

Hicks, former owner and general manager of the Midland radio stations KBAT and KQIP, has been active in raising funds for the Texas Broadcast Education Foundation since its formation in 1978 and has since awarded 64 scholarships to communications majors.

For his support of education, the Texas Association of Broadcast Educators has named Hicks its 1999 Broadcaster of the Year. He will be honored this evening at the association's convention at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. The association is comprised of media professors from 28 Texas universities.

In addition to owning and managing KBAT/KQIP, Hicks has owned and managed KSOX in Raymondville and KPSO in Falfurrias.

Now, working as a broadcast consultant, he has observed the trend toward consolidation in the industry over the last several years.

"It's necessary, it's going on all over the world," he said.

Hicks added that large corporations can operate radio and television stations more efficiently than independent owners.

"If a corporation owns a group of stations, it's more prone to diversify its programming, and in that case it's better for the public," he added. "Before, if you had a country station and it did well, eight or nine other guys would put on country stations. Now, a corporation can have a country station, but also a rock station, oldies station and a news station."

He said that the thing he enjoyed most about his broadcasting career, was the interaction with people.

"You do a lot of public service in radio. That's the most gratifying thing."

His other broadcasting honors include receiving the Pioneer of the Year Award, the highest award of the Texas Association of Broadcasters in 1989. The association also presented Hicks with the Special President's Award in 1996, in recognition of his continued service and dedication to the industry. The Special President's Award is given in special instances for extraordinary leadership, dedication, commitment and service.

He is currently serving as chair of the TAB Building Committee, overseeing construction of the Texas Association of Broadcasters Building, set to open in Austin in a few weeks. He served as president of the Texas Broadcast Education Foundation in 1996 and serves on the foundation's board of directors as treasurer.

THE ECONOMIST

Commission comes up with Texas-size economic growth strategies

By M. Ray Perryman

The Texas Strategic Economic Development Planning Commission recently made public the results of a sweeping effort to come up with a plan for growing the state's economy — no easy task, as you can imagine, because the Lone Star State's business activity is as diverse as its terrain. The level of economic vitality covers the spectrum as well, from high unemployment along much of the border to tight labor markets in the larger cities.

Given this diversity, formulating a plan for economic growth is a daunting job. Coming up with a set of goals for improving the state's business complex (and, hence, the prosperity of its residents) began with a fact-finding mission that stretched from tip to tip and side to side. The Planning Commission talked to people in the know (and me) within a host of industries, communities, and locales.

When all of the data bits were put together, a plan for Texas emerged that is elegant in its simplicity. The goals enumerated in the Plan cover key issues many of us have been talking about for years. The Commission tied together opinions, facts, figures, and perceptions into a workable strategy with a solid foundation.

First off, the Plan advocates making education and workforce development a top priority. For more than two decades, I've been talking about Texas' competitive strength in terms of its younger workforce. While

some areas of the nation are aging rapidly, higher relative fertility rates in Texas are endowing us with an expanding labor pool.

However, this pool of young people represents only the raw material in developing a skilled workforce. Without adequate training and educational opportunities, an expanding populous can become an economic liability rather than a springboard for growth. Currently, we are lagging national levels of educational attainment. Education and training must, therefore, be a top priority.

Another of the Plan's goals is to develop a business climate conducive to growth in value-added industries as well as entrepreneurship. Texas has some intrinsic advantages in this regard such as a central, Sunbelt location; a wealth of natural resources; and a significant population size. We are also a right-to-work state (meaning you can't be forced to join a union as a condition of employment), our infrastructure is better than most, and a number of key inputs — both materials and labor — are cheaper than in other areas.

Without a continuation of proactive moves toward further improvement, however, Texas' competitive advantage is likely to erode over time. Many efforts during recent legislative sessions worked toward enhancing the climate for business — deregulation of trucking, civil justice reform, various economic development tax incentives, and others. Currently, there are proposals for tax relief, incentives of various kinds, and other mechanisms to help Texas stay at the top of the list for companies considering plant expansions or relocations.

The third goal deals with the state's system for moving goods — highways, ports, and so on — which has long

been the envy of many a competitive state. In the Information Age, it is critical to continue to develop infrastructure of the types demanded by the evolving economy.

The Plan also advocates a comprehensive marketing strategy for the Lone Star State. There is no doubt that Texas has a number of strengths to expound upon. An important aspect of maximizing their benefit is to let the right people know what they are.

Finally, it is important to work toward economic growth that encompasses all regions of the state. Even with all of the growth of this decade, some regions of the state are still languishing. Perhaps the most glaring case in point is the border region. While this region has seen expansion in many of its key economic numbers, it is a clear case of growth without prosperity. It makes sense for all of us to see that none are denied the opportunity to obtain education, capital, and other support for economic growth.

In conclusion, I think the strategic planning process is a useful means of taking a hard look at the whys and wherefores of economic growth — past, present, and future. The key, however, is to take a well-crafted plan to the next level: implementation. No matter how strong the supporting statistics, clear the vision, and logical the means, nothing will be accomplished without getting to work and making it happen. This includes legislators, business and community leaders, and every other citizen of Texas. Let's get to it!

Dr. M. Ray Perryman is President and Chief Executive Officer of The Perryman Group and Business Economist-in-Residence at the Edwin L. Cox School of Business at Southern Methodist University.



Perryman

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THE MARKET IN REVIEW

MARKET SUMMARY

NYSE				AMEX				NASDAQ			
MOST ACTIVE (\$1 on stock)				MOST ACTIVE (\$1 on stock)				MOST ACTIVE (\$1 on stock)			
Comp	Vol (00)	Last	Chg	Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg	Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Compaq	272438	33 1/4	+1 1/4	SPDR	7881423	24 1/4	+2 1/4	3Com	811458	24 1/4	-2 1/4
AmOnline	149227	87 1/4	+1 1/4	SP Tech	18078	33 1/4	+1 1/4	Intel	3413501	14 1/4	+1 1/4
AT&T	84339	83 1/4	+1 1/4	Nabors	12323	12 1/4	+1 1/4	NetScout	214228	80 1/4	+2 1/4
Citigroup	75182	57 1/4	-1 1/4	Harsco	12527	39 1/4	+1 1/4	Microsoft	191996	14 1/4	+1 1/4
Lucent	67285	102 1/4	+2 1/4	Heaton	10857	13 1/4	+1 1/4	Cisco	175807	95 1/4	-1 1/4

GAINERS (\$2 on stock)				GAINERS (\$2 on stock)				GAINERS (\$2 on stock)			
Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Beifan	4 1/4	+1 1/4	+22.8	Essex	3 1/4	+1 1/4	+25.0	ScanSoft	21 1/4	+1	+5.9
Shangri	10 1/4	+1 1/4	+17.8	Essex	3 1/4	+1 1/4	+25.0	CompuLink	22 1/4	+1 1/4	+6.8
Genesha	5 1/4	+1 1/4	+18.6	Essex	3 1/4	+1 1/4	+25.0	NikHold	2 1/4	+1 1/4	+33.3
BUSW	8 1/4	+1 1/4	+14.3	Essex	3 1/4	+1 1/4	+25.0	MatSci	4 1/4	+1	+32.0

LOSERS (\$2 on stock)				LOSERS (\$2 on stock)				LOSERS (\$2 on stock)			
Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Pailor	16 1/4	-1 1/4	-8.6	Ufood	2 1/4	-1 1/4	-8.9	ManAsc	9 1/4	-1 1/4	-15.4
Maxim	16 1/4	-1 1/4	-8.6	Ufood	2 1/4	-1 1/4	-8.9	ModTech	9 1/4	-1 1/4	-15.4
Amos	22 1/4	-1 1/4	-5.4	Ufood	2 1/4	-1 1/4	-8.9	GayCom	8 1/4	-1 1/4	-15.4
Amos	22 1/4	-1 1/4	-5.4	Ufood	2 1/4	-1 1/4	-8.9	Clarity	2 1/4	-1 1/4	-33.3

DIARY				DIARY				DIARY			
Name	Vol	High	Low	Name	Vol	High	Low	Name	Vol	High	Low
Advanced	1,322	207	1,521	Advanced	1,322	207	1,521	Advanced	1,322	207	1,521
Declined	1,854	321	2,284	Declined	1,854	321	2,284	Declined	1,854	321	2,284
Unchanged	566	193	1,392	Unchanged	566	193	1,392	Unchanged	566	193	1,392
Total issues	3,742	721	5,197	Total issues	3,742	721	5,197	Total issues	3,742	721	5,197
New Highs	22	2	28	New Highs	22	2	28	New Highs	22	2	28
New Lows	97	10	106	New Lows	97	10	106	New Lows	97	10	106
Volume	889,366,895	Volume	32,334,070	Volume	889,366,895	Volume	32,334,070	Volume	889,366,895	Volume	32,334,070

Here are the 1,675 most active stocks on the New York Stock Exchange, 925 most active on the Nasdaq National Market and 405 most active on the American Stock Exchange. Stocks in bold are up at least \$5 and changed 5 percent or more in price. Underlining for 50 most active on NYSE and Nasdaq and 25 most active on Amex. Tables show name, price and net change, and one to two additional fields rotated through the week, as follows:

Names: Stocks appear alphabetically by the company's full name (not its abbreviation). Names consisting of initials appear at the beginning of each letter list.

Last: Price stock was trading when exchange closed for the day.

Chg: Loss or gain for the day. No change indicated by -.

Vol: The stock's ticker symbol.

How to use: The ticker symbol can help you get information about a company. Two important uses: Most services that provide stock quotes over the phone require the ticker symbol. Second, stock brokers and analysts can recognize stocks more easily with a ticker symbol.

Generally, ticker symbols resemble the company name although some - such as for American Express (AXP) and General Electric (GE) - are more related to what a company does. Tickers on the New York and Amex usually don't exceed three letters. On Nasdaq, they go up to five letters.

The names you see in this paper are abbreviations of the company name supplied by The Associated Press. Companies can help determine what their abbreviation will be. Overall, AP tries to use an abbreviation that will most closely match the full company name.

Stock Footnotes: a - PE greater than 90; b - Loss in last 12 mos; c - New 52-week low during trading day; d - Dividend in last 12 mos; e - New 52-week high during trading day; f - Trading halted on price of stock; g - New 52-week high during trading day; h - Trading halted on price of stock; i - New 52-week high during trading day; j - Trading halted on price of stock; k - New 52-week high during trading day; l - Trading halted on price of stock; m - New 52-week high during trading day; n - Trading halted on price of stock; o - New 52-week high during trading day; p - Trading halted on price of stock; q - New 52-week high during trading day; r - Trading halted on price of stock; s - New 52-week high during trading day; t - Trading halted on price of stock; u - New 52-week high during trading day; v - Trading halted on price of stock; w - New 52-week high during trading day; x - New 52-week high during trading day; y - New 52-week high during trading day; z - New 52-week high during trading day.

Source: The Associated Press. Sales figures are unofficial.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

NYSE				AMEX				NASDAQ			
MOST ACTIVE (\$1 on stock)				MOST ACTIVE (\$1 on stock)				MOST ACTIVE (\$1 on stock)			
Comp	Vol (00)	Last	Chg	Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg	Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Compaq	272438	33 1/4	+1 1/4	SPDR	7881423	24 1/4	+2 1/4	3Com	811458	24 1/4	-2 1/4
AmOnline	149227	87 1/4	+1 1/4	SP Tech	18078	33 1/4	+1 1/4	Intel	3413501	14 1/4	+1 1/4
AT&T	84339	83 1/4	+1 1/4	Nabors	12323	12 1/4	+1 1/4	NetScout	214228	80 1/4	+2 1/4
Citigroup	75182	57 1/4	-1 1/4	Harsco	12527	39 1/4	+1 1/4	Microsoft	191996	14 1/4	+1 1/4
Lucent	67285	102 1/4	+2 1/4	Heaton	10857	13 1/4	+1 1/4	Cisco	175807	95 1/4	-1 1/4

GAINERS (\$2 on stock)				GAINERS (\$2 on stock)				GAINERS (\$2 on stock)			
Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Beifan	4 1/4	+1 1/4	+22.8	Essex	3 1/4	+1 1/4	+25.0	ScanSoft	21 1/4	+1	+5.9
Shangri	10 1/4	+1 1/4	+17.8	Essex	3 1/4	+1 1/4	+25.0	CompuLink	22 1/4	+1 1/4	+6.8
Genesha	5 1/4	+1 1/4	+18.6	Essex	3 1/4	+1 1/4	+25.0	NikHold	2 1/4	+1 1/4	+33.3
BUSW	8 1/4	+1 1/4	+14.3	Essex	3 1/4	+1 1/4	+25.0	MatSci	4 1/4	+1	+32.0

LOSERS (\$2 on stock)				LOSERS (\$2 on stock)				LOSERS (\$2 on stock)			
Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Pailor	16 1/4	-1 1/4	-8.6	Ufood	2 1/4	-1 1/4	-8.9	ManAsc	9 1/4	-1 1/4	-15.4
Maxim	16 1/4	-1 1/4	-8.6	Ufood	2 1/4	-1 1/4	-8.9	ModTech	9 1/4	-1 1/4	-15.4
Amos	22 1/4	-1 1/4	-5.4	Ufood	2 1/4	-1 1/4	-8.9	GayCom	8 1/4	-1 1/4	-15.4
Amos	22 1/4	-1 1/4	-5.4	Ufood	2 1/4	-1 1/4	-8.9	Clarity	2 1/4	-1 1/4	-33.3

DIARY				DIARY				DIARY			
Name	Vol	High	Low	Name	Vol	High	Low	Name	Vol	High	Low
Advanced	1,322	207	1,521	Advanced	1,322	207	1,521	Advanced	1,322	207	1,521
Declined	1,854	321	2,284	Declined	1,854	321	2,284	Declined	1,854	321	2,284
Unchanged	566	193	1,392	Unchanged	566	193	1,392	Unchanged	566	193	1,392
Total issues	3,742	721	5,197	Total issues	3,742	721	5,197	Total issues	3,742	721	5,197
New Highs	22	2	28	New Highs	22	2	28	New Highs	22	2	28
New Lows	97	10	106	New Lows	97	10	106	New Lows	97	10	106
Volume	889,366,895	Volume	32,334,070	Volume	889,366,895	Volume	32,334,070	Volume	889,366,895	Volume	32,334,070

Here are the 1,675 most active stocks on the New York Stock Exchange, 925 most active on the Nasdaq National Market and 405 most active on the American Stock Exchange. Stocks in bold are up at least \$5 and changed 5 percent or more in price. Underlining for 50 most active on NYSE and Nasdaq and 25 most active on Amex. Tables show name, price and net change, and one to two additional fields rotated through the week, as follows:

Names: Stocks appear alphabetically by the company's full name (not its abbreviation). Names consisting of initials appear at the beginning of each letter list.

Last: Price stock was trading when exchange closed for the day.

Chg: Loss or gain for the day. No change indicated by -.

Vol: The stock's ticker symbol.

How to use: The ticker symbol can help you get information about a company. Two important uses: Most services that provide stock quotes over the phone require the ticker symbol. Second, stock brokers and analysts can recognize stocks more easily with a ticker symbol.

Generally, ticker symbols resemble the company name although some - such as for American Express (AXP) and General Electric (GE) - are more related to what a company does. Tickers on the New York and Amex usually don't exceed three letters. On Nasdaq, they go up to five letters.

The names you see in this paper are abbreviations of the company name supplied by The Associated Press. Companies can help determine what their abbreviation will be. Overall, AP tries to use an abbreviation that will most closely match the full company name.

Stock Footnotes: a - PE greater than 90; b - Loss in last 12 mos; c - New 52-week low during trading day; d - Dividend in last 12 mos; e - New 52-week high during trading day; f - Trading halted on price of stock; g - New 52-week high during trading day; h - Trading halted on price of stock; i - New 52-week high during trading day; j - Trading halted on price of stock; k - New 52-week high during trading day; l - Trading halted on price of stock; m - New 52-week high during trading day; n - Trading halted on price of stock; o - New 52-week high during trading day; p - Trading halted on price of stock; q - New 52-week high during trading day; r - Trading halted on price of stock; s - New 52-week high during trading day; t - Trading halted on price of stock; u - New 52-week high during trading day; v - Trading halted on price of stock; w - New 52-week high during trading day; x - New 52-week high during trading day; y - New 52-week high during trading day; z - New 52-week high during trading day.

Source: The Associated Press. Sales figures are unofficial.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

NYSE				AMEX				NASDAQ			
MOST ACTIVE (\$1 on stock)				MOST ACTIVE (\$1 on stock)				MOST ACTIVE (\$1 on stock)			
Comp	Vol (00)	Last	Chg	Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg	Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Compaq	272438	33 1/4	+1 1/4	SPDR	7881423	24 1/4	+2 1/4	3Com	811458	24 1/4	-2 1/4
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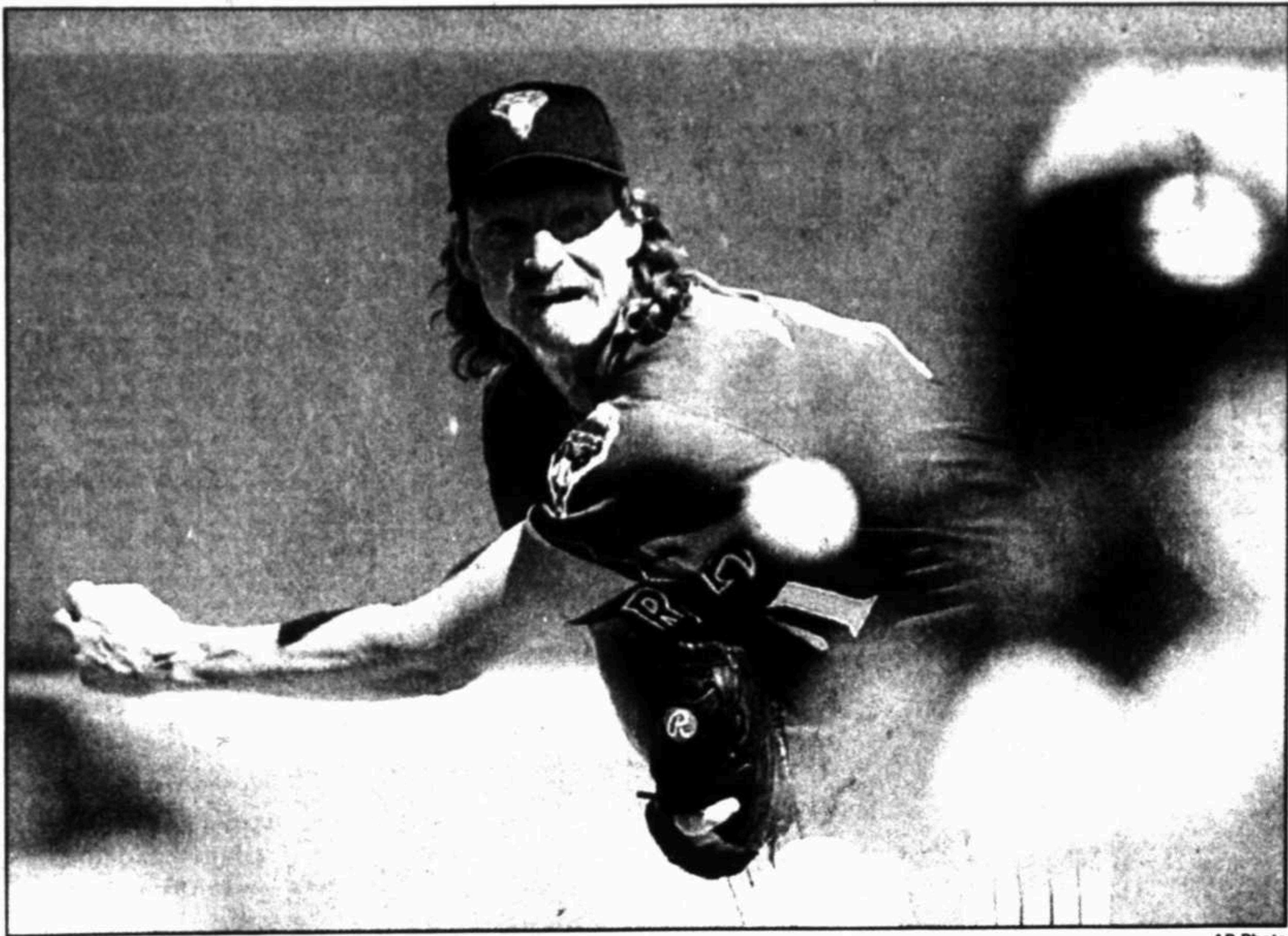
Names: Stocks appear alphabetically by the

AQ NATIONAL MARKET

[illegible]

MUTUAL FUNDS

[illegible]



Arizona pitcher Randy Johnson delivers a pitch to University of Arizona player Kevin Huff in the first inning of an exhibition game Wednesday in Tucson, Ariz. It was Johnson's first game in a Diamondbacks uniform.

After 14 years, Johnson avenges his loss to University of Arizona

Associated Press

TUCSON, Ariz. — Revenge is sweet, Randy Johnson joked, even after 14 years.

The last time Johnson faced the University of Arizona, he walked six and was shelled for six runs on 13 hits in a 7-3 loss.

That was 1985. He was no Big Unit then, just an extremely tall, extremely wild junior at USC.

Johnson took the mound against the Wildcats again on Wednesday, making his Arizona Diamondback debut by methodically striking out four of the six batters he faced in two perfect innings.

"I'm getting back at U of A after all those beatings I used to take at USC," Johnson said.

Two of the college players, 19-year-old Keoni DeRenne and 21-year-old Dennis Anderson, managed to bounce out to shortstop, the biggest groundouts of their lives.

"He was almost like the Eiffel Tower because I'm only 5-foot-7," DeRenne said. "He's immense. It was just awesome, man. Hopefully they got it on videotape because I'd like to show it to my kids someday."

Johnson, who warned last week not to expect anything overwhelming from him in spring training, threw 31 pitches. Five were call strikes, seven were swinging strikes, six were fouls, 11 were balls and two were hit in play.

He threw a couple of breaking balls and change-ups, but mostly four-seam and two-seam fastballs.

"I'm a little disappointed the breaking ball wasn't there but I'm always that way in spring training," Johnson said. "I just went out there to work on my mechanics and my arm strength."

Whiten hurt; Carpenter signs
Mark Whiten, the Cleveland Indians outfielder, will miss at least two weeks of spring training with a stress fracture of his right foot.

Spring Training Roundup

Whiten, expected to open the season as a reserve, complained about pain in the foot and underwent tests Monday, the club announced on Wednesday at Winter Haven, Fla.

Pitcher Chris Carpenter, scheduled to start against the New York Yankees on Thursday, signed a three-year contract with the Toronto Blue Jays.

"It gives me confidence that Toronto has confidence in me and the ability I have," Carpenter said at Dunedin, Fla. The Yankees announced that Orlando "El Duque" Hernandez will start in the game at Tampa.

Relief pitcher Jeff Shaw couldn't wait any longer the birth of his third child and arrived Wednesday at the Los Angeles Dodgers' camp at Vero Beach, Fla.

Shaw had been given permission to report late — after wife Julie delivered, which was supposed to Feb. 15, then Feb. 25.

"Julie's still healthy, the baby's not in danger, that's the most important thing. ... This one's being stubborn," Shaw said. The Shaw have been told they are going to have a son.

Ron Wright's back appears to be all right. Wright, who missed most of last season with a back injury, hit two home runs in a Pittsburgh Pirates intrasquad game at Bradenton, Fla.

The stars at the St. Louis Cardinals' Jupiter, Fla., camp weren't players. "The real heroes were the groundskeepers," manager Tony La Russa said. "They told us a storm was coming between 12:30 and 1 p.m., so we moved everything up an hour."

Although rain cut short two intrasquad games, there was enough time for a 9-8 contest on a field where the wind was blowing out. The game on the field where it was blowing in was 1-0.

Doral losing prestige it once had as unofficial start of PGA

By Doug Ferguson
AP Golf Writer

MIAMI — David Duval is home for the first time since New Year's Day. Mark O'Meara is skiing in Utah and Tiger Woods is filming commercials.

Six of the top seven players in the world are not playing golf this week, a sure sign that the Doral Ryder-Open, which Greg Norman once called the unofficial start of the PGA Tour season, is not what it used to be.

"That's changed," Norman said Wednesday afternoon while waiting out a brief thunderstorm that interrupted the pro-am. "I think you're going to find the entire Florida swing suffer because guys can't do everything. They've got to have a delicate balance in the schedule."

The schedule, of course, was turned upside down by the Match Play Championship last week in California, which offered a \$5 million purse for the top 64 players in the world with a guarantee of \$25,000 for last.

Golf's elite could no longer wait until Doral to start getting their games in shape for the Masters, not with a \$1 million carrot dangling at the end of the stick at La Costa. And not even a \$1 million increase in the purse at Doral could change some players' minds.

Woods played for the fifth straight week at La Costa and was ready for a break. Duval, who normally takes his break after Doral, has been skiing in Idaho when he hasn't been shooting 59. He decided last week it was time to get home to Jacksonville.

Colin Montgomerie, who has started his run to the Masters at Doral three of the past four years, went back to Scotland after his abrupt departure from La Costa and won't return until Bay Hill in two weeks.

"We've got a good field," said tournament director Scott Montgomery. "We're trying to emphasize the players we have, not the ones we don't have."

What Doral has is four of the top 10 players in the world — Justin Leonard, Nick Price, Vijay Singh and

Ernie Els, who only decided to enter Doral after he was bumped out in the first round of Match Play.

That's one way to look at it. On the other hand, Els (No. 4) is the only player in the top seven who was willing to tackle the "Blue Monster" this week. Only six of the top 20 are at Doral, and 10 of the top 30 in the world.

"A lot of PGA Tour events would kill for this field," said PGA commissioner Tim Finchem.

But this isn't just any tour event. Doral for years was the landmark tournament that kicked off the Florida swing and traditionally has been considered the start of the road to Augusta.

A year ago, Doral featured five of the top six in the world ranking and 18 of the top 30. Last year, nine of the top 10 on the money list came to Doral. This year, only three of the top 10 are playing this week — Leonard, John Huston and Gabriel Hjertstedt.

"I still think we've got a very good field here," Price said. "It's just not maybe the great field that we're accustomed to having here. Obviously with the last two weeks, you find a lot of guys tried to play their games into shape, then they just need some time off now."

But timing isn't everything. Doral lost some of its shine when Raymond Floyd added a bevy of fairway bunkers during his redesign of the Blue Course prior to the '97 tournament.

"A lot of guys were disappointed in the changes," Bradley said. "For a tournament that people used to love to come to, I think they were a little more hesitant to come just because of what they had done to the course."

Whether it was the Match Play Championship last week or the changes to the course, Doral's field isn't what it used to be. One of the last players to get in on Tuesday was Brett Quigley, who failed to earn his card in Q-school.

Even Jack Nicklaus, who has not missed Doral since 1970, is having to sit this one out because of hip replacement surgery.

Lions sign Redskins' QB Frerotte

Associated Press

PONTIAC, Mich. — Gus Frerotte, a free-agent quarterback who spent the past five seasons with the Washington Redskins, signed with the Detroit Lions on Wednesday as a backup to starter Charlie Batch.

Terms were not disclosed.

Frerotte, 27, a Pro Bowler for Washington in 1996, was released by the Redskins last month. The Redskins avoided paying him a \$1.25 million roster bonus.

At Washington, where he was a seventh-round draft choice in 1994 from Tulsa, he started 45 games, including one last season when he lost his starting job to Trent Green.

Over his career, the 6-foot-3, 240-pound Frerotte was 744-of-1,422 for 9,769 yards and 48 touchdowns.

"We're delighted to have Gus Frerotte in our program," Lions coach Bobby Ross said Wednesday. "As we approached the offseason, one of our priorities was to sign a backup quarterback who has started and won in the NFL."

Frerotte is expected to be the backup to starter Charlie Batch.

Eagles sign tackle Wheeler to four-year contract

PHILADELPHIA — The Philadelphia Eagles filled a defensive need for the first time in NFL free

agency, signing tackle Mark Wheeler to a four-year contract Wednesday. Terms of the contract were not announced.

NFL Briefs

Officials hope Wheeler, a Texas A&M product, will bolster a defense that allowed an average of 4.6 yards per running play in 1998, ranking 27th in the NFL.

Browns sign defensive back Pope, tackle Brown
CLEVELAND — Veterans Marquez Pope and Lomas Brown signed as free agents with the expansion Cleveland Browns on Wednesday.

Pope, a seven-year NFL veteran who played for San Francisco, the Rams and San Diego, is yet another former 49er to sign with Cleveland. The Browns' front office, led by president Carmen Policy and director of football operations Dwight Clark, has a distinct 49ers flavor.

Pope, 28, got a two-year deal worth nearly \$5 million. He was bothered by injuries for much of 1998. He also played with the Chargers in 1992-93 and with the Los Angeles Rams in 1994 before signing with the 49ers.

"Marquez bolsters our defensive unit with his speed and tenacious approach to the game," Clark said.

BASEBALL: Tourney starts today

(From 1C)

This weekend will be the first local showcase for Midland High and Lee, who are coming off of seasons in contrast to their recent past. The Bulldogs made their first trip to the playoffs in seven seasons last year, sharing the District 4-5A crown with Abilene High. The Rebels, who had made five straight trips to the playoffs, finished at .500 in district and missed the postseason.

In quite different senses, both programs have something to prove this season. Here is how their prospects look prior to their first district meeting March 16 at Lee.

Midland High

In coach Barry Russell's first two seasons at MHS, the Bulldogs had to deal with the stigma of being something of a doormat, but now they actually have a reputation to defend after advancing to the regional quarterfinals last season.

"I don't think we're going to be able to sneak up on people anymore," Russell said. "We're district co-champions and when you have that attached to your moniker, people are going to get up for you."

Through seven games this season, opponents haven't been able to get up enough for the Bulldogs to beat them. Midland High won all five of its games at a tournament in Fort Worth last weekend and swept Fort Stockton in double-header Tuesday night to start the season 7-0.

The Bulldogs figure to be one of the best hitting teams in 4-5A this season, and return a lot of firepower from last season, hitting eight home runs so far this year.

"I think this team has the capability of hitting the ball better than last year's team," Russell said. "We set a school record for home runs last year and I think we can hit more this year."

Of the 27 homers MHS belted last season, 20 of them are returning this season. Junior left fielder Laynce Nix, perhaps one of the best hitters in West Texas, hit 13 out of the park last season, including seven during a remarkable postseason run.

Nix is one of two all-district selections returning to the lineup, along with senior third baseman Aaron Pullin. Along with senior center fielder Michael Glover, they are the only players in the current starting lineup who saw extensive action last year.

Junior Jeff Brock is penciled in at right field. Junior Aaron Hamblin at second base and sophomore Jayson Nix at shortstop will hit first and second respectively. Seniors Jeff Beard at first base and John Schlaffer at catcher round out the starting lineup while sophomore Matt Bose figures to hit cleanup and either be the designated hitter or third baseman depending on who's pitching.

Who is going to do the pitching is still up in the air for the Bulldogs, since last year's top two starters, Joey Schlaffer and Lee Martin, have both graduated. Laynce Nix, a left-hander, is the most experienced returning thrower while right-handers Pullin and Beard both saw action last season.

"It's a concern because they weren't the big go-to guys last year," said Russell of his returning pitchers. "But they did pitch last year. I think they could surprise a lot of folks."

A wild card in the mix could be the talented young right-hander Bose, who in his first varsity start in Fort Worth shut out Wichita Fall Hirschi 6-0, giving up only three hits and striking out 11. Jayson Nix could see significant time out of the bullpen while Jerrel Garibay will fill the role of left-handed reliever.

Depending on how far the MHS boys basketball team advances, the Bulldogs will make some additions to the diamond sometime within the next two weeks. Senior Brent Winter will contend for a spot in the outfield while junior Blake Johnston, a starter last season, could return to second base or a spot in the outfield.

Lee

Every season under ninth-year coach Jesse Benavidez, the Rebels have entered the year expecting to be a playoff contender. That was the case last year, as Lee stormed out of the gate and earned a No. 4 state ranking. But following a shocking loss to Odessa High in their second district game, the Rebels never seemed to recover and finished one game out of a playoff spot.

Just as Midland High might be eager to prove last year's playoff run wasn't a fluke, Lee wants to show that missing the playoffs last season was.

"This is a different group of kids," Benavidez said. "They've all been together a long time and really get along."

"It seems like (the team has

something to prove) every year. People always expect us to make the playoffs."

Last year's failure to reach the postseason hasn't dampened any optimism. Lee seems to be in the opposite situation of MHS in that the Rebels appear to be top-heavy with pitching but not quite as proven with the bats.

"I think our strong point is going to be our pitching," said Benavidez. "All five kids I threw in that tournament (in Lewisville) threw complete games."

The No. 1 pitcher most likely will be senior right-hander Josh Ramos, who already has two wins this year for the 4-3 Rebels. Over the last two years, Ramos is 8-0 as a varsity pitcher.

Senior right-hander Eric Neatherlin, who had some success as a starter in the second half of district last year, is the top contender as the second starter. Two other returning seniors, right-hander Eric Clodfelter and left-hander Nate Brignon, should also contribute.

Another contender for mound time should be junior right-hander Collin Gilliam, who shut out Plano East 10-0 in the final game at Lewisville. Senior right-hander Ryan Klatt might emerge as the team's closer.

It's at the plate, though, where Klatt figures to play the biggest role for the Rebels. A three-year starter who was an all-district selection two years ago, Klatt should be firmly established as the No. 3 hitter and should carry a big offensive load.

"We've got not much speed in the lineup so we're going to have to really hit the ball to score runs," Benavidez said.

Klatt, who started at second base in his first two seasons, will move to shortstop this year. Junior Josh Haney will take over at second and bat second while senior Marc Matthews will play first base and Neatherlin will play third base.

Brignon will play center field and hit leadoff and will be flanked in left by Clodfelter, who will hit cleanup, and in right by seniors Matt Winston, Blake Crume or Joe Lilley. Michael Burlison, who Benavidez says has the best arm of any catcher he's had at Lee, will start behind the plate.

Junior Joe Frazier will be designated hitter most of the time and may fill in at catcher while James Bohannon will play third when Neatherlin pitches.

Sansabelt Slacks \$45

Tan • Brown
Grey • Navy
Black

For years, the unique elastic waistband of Sansabelt® has made these slacks the gentleman's preferred choice. We show the classic style, in easy-care, wrinkle-resistant Dacron® polyester, with plain front and Western pockets.

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			Waist		
			32 33 34 36 38 40 42		
Inseam					
30"			X	X	X
32"	X	X	X	X	X
34"			X	X	X

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Chatham
Glass
Company.

HOME/GARDEN

& Classified

Section D
Midland Reporter-Telegram
Thursday, March 4, 1999

Seeds for Thought/2D
Dear Abby/2D

BURPEE CALENDAR

For gardeners, this is the time of year to plan for the next growing season. What better companion to planning than a colorful Burpee Heritage Calendar? The 1999 version features 12 lush botanical images commissioned by the seed company from 1886 to 1919. While the calendar's colorful images, both vintage and contemporary, draw the eye, the monthly date grid provides some interesting reading. The calendar is available from the Burpee Web site at www.burpee.com or by calling, toll free, (800) 888-1447.



SAFER STREETS

Wide streets in town may be lovely, but they're risky for pedestrians and drivers. That's the finding of Swift and Associates in Colorado, whose review of 20,000 accidents showed a significant causal relationship between injury accidents and street width. The safest street is 24 feet wide, the study found. The finding gave two reasons for *Building Today* magazine to applaud the City of Madison's City Council for voting to reduce street widths there from 32 feet to 28 feet, where there are fewer than five housing units per acre. The trade magazine also notes that reducing subdivision street widths can lower the cost of a new home by 3 percent or 6 percent. "Less storm water runoff will occur and the streets will be much less costly to maintain," with narrower streets, magazine editors wrote. The move, backed by many developers and builders, "provides flexibility in housing options and planning."

Michele Derus,
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Minding the MIDLAND Garden

Starting next Thursday on the Home/Garden page, Midland's Native Plant Society and Sibley Learning Center will offer information on gardening and tending the local landscape on alternate Thursdays. Next week "Awesome Blossoms" features the Midland Native Plant Society's Top 10 Awesome Blossoms to grow in Midland!

SEEDS OF KNOWLEDGE

If you are a beginner gardener and are having trouble identifying plants, don't worry. Follow these simple steps, and you will be a plant pro in no time.

1. Save plant tags from your local garden center.
2. Keep plant catalogs. They provide the Latin names along with the picture.
3. Invest in a good plant and flower guide.
4. Visit a botanical garden.
5. Buy a Latin dictionary.

Cityscapes

PLYWOOD PLACEMATS

You can make your own placemats with cut plywood. Paint it to your liking and add any decoration such as pressed flowers, cut out pictures, etc. You should then varnish the placemat before using it.

Awesome Interiors

Red puts a
passionate punch
into any decor

Hot Stuff

By Sarah Friday
Raleigh News and Observer

Think of red as candy for your home. Like red-hot or cherry-cordial chocolates, a little goes a long way. "It's a rich color. It's bold," says Jennifer Leigh Martin of Printer's Alley in Raleigh. "People are drawn to it." Like candy, red cheers us up. It stimulates our appetite and evokes energy and passion. But there's more to this red-hot color today, designers say. More shades. More variety. And plenty more accent pieces to add some spice to any meat-and-potatoes decor. "Anywhere you use red, the room just comes alive," says designer Susie Jones of Raleigh. She should know. Her entire house shows off shades of red, from front door to back. From the red walls in the foyer, color flows like wine into the dining room with a deep red Bessarabian rug and walls painted as antique red leather. Table skirts, paintings and pillows with red accents complement whites and greens throughout the home. Floral curtains and hand-painted tiles with red flowers help heat up the kitchen. Most people don't realize it, Jones says, but red can be mixed and matched with blue, green, yellow, black, white and other shades of red. And it works as an elegant backdrop for silver and gold. "You really can almost put anything with it," echoes Rod Perry of Perry & Plummer Interior Design in Raleigh. "It gives you a great sense of elegance."

Glass vase with gray lines by Chatham Glass Company.

TRUE RED — think cherry red — shows up primarily in children's rooms and in contemporary homes. The new reds take on browner, more subdued tones with names such as "oxblood," "cinnabar," "cranberry" and "lipstick." About 90 percent of new fabrics and upholstery use some shade of red, says designer Roxanne Serletis of National Art Interiors in Raleigh. So whether you crave the color or just want a taste of it in your home, plenty of options exist. Like red in a big way? Solid sofas or furniture groupings make striking focal points in fabrics such as Lipstick Red chenille and Toulouse Mars Red velvet from Printer's Alley. These cozy materials give a sweeter-like feel to seating and add richness to window treatments or pillows, Martin says.

To keep red from being overwhelming, balance large blocks of solids with softer prints such as English chintzes, florals and paisleys with red backgrounds. In a farmhouse Jones recently decorated, for example, she grouped a deep cranberry sofa with a checked chair and draperies. Other "fun" fabrics such as Lulu Red, with a 1950s flair, add punch to beach houses or children's playrooms. Another way to go for the bold is to

paint the walls red. The larger the room, the brighter the walls can be. Dining rooms work especially well, because red makes us hungry and induces lively conversation. That's why you often see Chinese restaurants decorated in red, Parisi says. Red walls in the library or behind white cabinets in the kitchen also add richness. But steer clear of using red in a sun room — it would make the room feel hot — or in a child's bedroom, where too much color might fire up too much excitement. High-quality paints such as Benjamin Moore, Muralo or Pratt & Lambert give good coverage with just a coat or two if primed with a red primer, says Loyd Sorrell of Sorrell Paint and Wallpaper in Cary. A custom mix with a satin or eggshell finish, which runs about \$28 to \$30 a gallon, helps prevent smudges and wear, he adds. To soften solid red walls, paint only above the chair rail, Parisi advises. Or complement them with woodwork or off-white or neutral moldings and trims, fabrics or accent pieces, Serletis says. Finishes such as marbling or wall glazing can create a fresh look. So can decorative wallpapers such as Dior's new prints and stripes in red from Gamera. Then roll out the red carpet to tie the room together. Orientals, especially, can blend a variety of colors including several shades of red. Artwork with red accents — check out Madonna Phillips' collages at Artspace in Raleigh — can unify a room, as well. From here, homeowners can pull out red accessories and accents like red-hots from a candy jar. Adding a few "movable" accessories helps introduce red to a room, Perry says.

TOSS A RED THROW on the couch or drape prints with red highlights over a table, designers suggest. Fluff up a red pillow or tie a tassel to lamps or draperies. Add red trim or decorative cording to neutral window treatments. Or bring in an area rug with shades of red to complement other colors in the room. On tabletops, use red lamps, vases and shades to brighten a room. Or try a distinctive piece of Chinese red porcelain or local pottery, such as by Ben Owen III of Seagrove. Even stylish tomato soup cans or a tin Coca-Cola sign can do the trick. So whether you want just a little something red in your house or are ready to splurge on the whole box of Valentine-colored treats, go ahead and indulge, Jones urges. "You're going to love it."

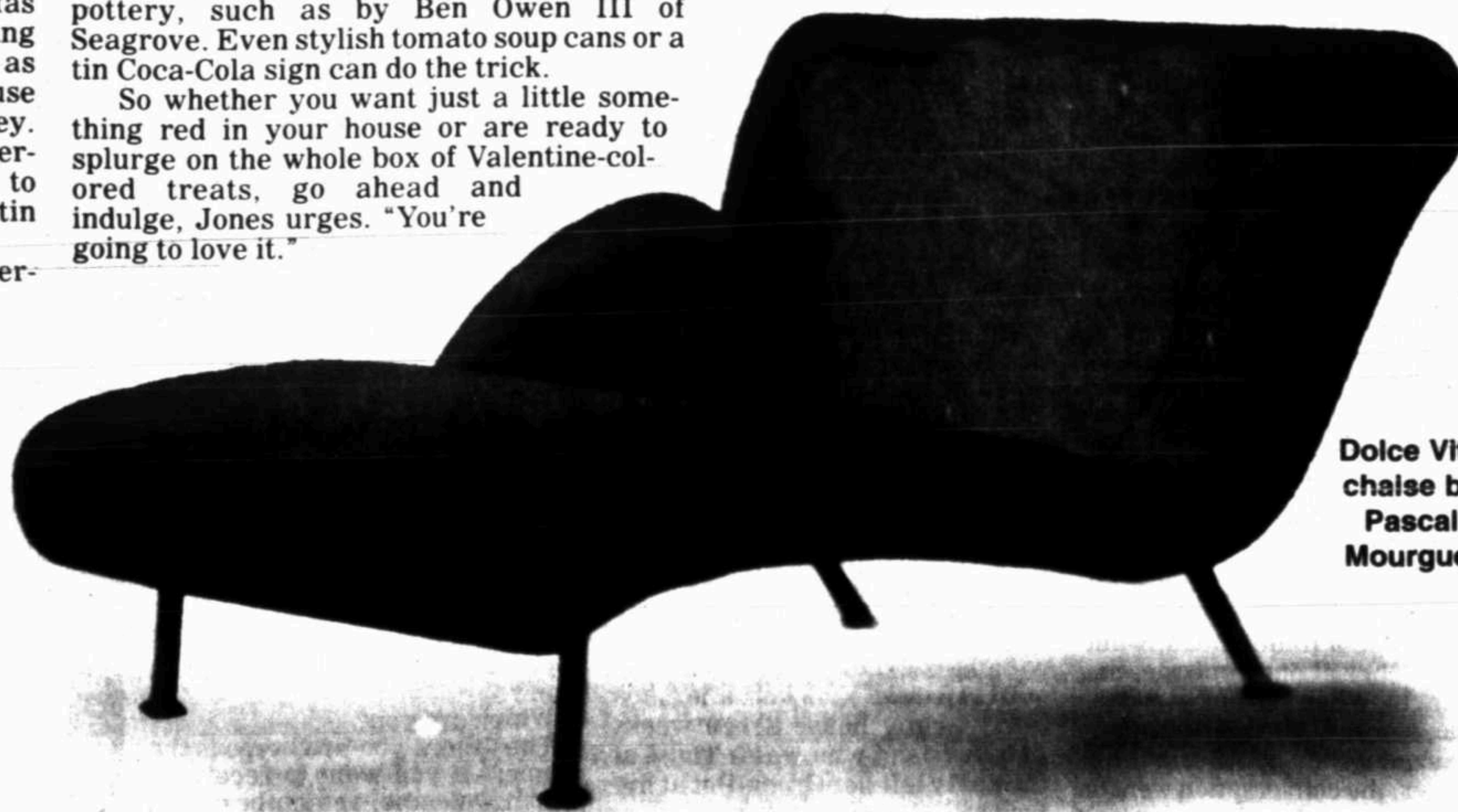
What makes RED hot

- "Red stimulates the eye so much that it stimulates the brain," says Georgia Springer of Meredith College's art department in Raleigh. "It quickens the heart rate and causes you to release adrenaline in your bloodstream."
- The feeling doesn't last, though. It can change as soon as you see a color like blue, which calms us, says Michael Pause of North Carolina State University's School of Design. That's why basketball teams have been known to paint the home team's locker room red, the visitors blue.
- Red makes you look good, too, "because of the way it reflects your skin," says New York designer Mario Buatta.



Betty Boop wall clock with swinging skirt.

Lamp with red shade and heart finial.



Dolce Vita chaise by Pascal Mourgue.

Pets treated like part of family

By Carol Bidwell
N.Y. Times News Service

LOS ANGELES — Your boss was on a rampage today. The phone never stopped ringing. Lunch was a candy bar from the vending machine. And traffic crawled all the way home.

But the minute you open the door, you know there'll be somebody there to give you a big, wet smooch, listen to your problems and offer as much cuddling as you can handle.

And he's got a cold, wet nose and a wagging tail, too. Or maybe a throaty purr and a way of curling around your legs that makes the rest of the world recede for a few hours.

For many of us, beset by life's troubles and travails, our pets are a haven, a refuge, a place of peace and solace.

"It used to be that pets were called pets," said Bill Schoolman, executive director of the American Pet Products Manufacturers Association. "Then they were 'companion animals.' Now, they're part of the family."

Just like our human children, we take their pictures, enroll them in (obedience) schools, dress them in cute outfits. We buy them the best food we can afford, hire doctors to soothe their ailments. And, at the end of life's journey, we buy a cemetery plot and headstone to memorialize them.

To keep these furry, feathered or finned friends happy, Americans shell out at least \$27 billion annually. Is it all worth it? You bet, say pet lovers everywhere.

"Our pets fill our lives with love," said psychotherapist Sherry Gantman of Tarzana. "And they teach us simplicity. It just doesn't take that much to make a pet happy, and you recognize that for yourself as well. They teach us how to love in the very simplest way."

Fully 58.2 million households, or 58.9 percent of U.S. families, include a pet. More than 112 million dogs, cats and other assorted animals fill our lives, according to a 1997 survey of pet owners by the American Veterinary Medical Association.

A NEED FOR FOUR-FOOTED companionship isn't a modern trend; people have owned pets for centuries. The first dogs, besides providing companionship, helped early man track wild game and herd sheep. Early domestic cats were regarded by the Egyptians as gods; later, they were sought-after mouse-catchers on farms and ships.

In today's society, animal experts say, pets may provide a primal connection with nature at a time when people are growing more isolated from each other.

Many people are marrying and having families later, or not at all, and for singles, pets can provide something — somebody — to come home to. For empty-nesters whose children are grown and on their own, pets can offer a chance to nurture again. And for elderly people, pets can provide a reason to get up in the morning, a reason to take a walk, to stay active.

"Pets are taking a much more important role in people's lives than just being the family dog," said Mark Davis, administrator of Veterinary Referral Associates in Gaithersburg, Md., sometimes referred to as the Mayo Clinic of veterinary hospitals. "Pets fill a void."

PET PROJECTS

For some of us, in fact, our pets are our best friends. Or, as auto dealer Ron Costello of Woodland Hills — owner of two dogs, a cat, two tortoises and an iguana — puts it, "Your dog'll never do you wrong."

How could you provide less than the best for such a friend? This widespread affection for pets is a marketing analyst's dream.

It's a \$20 billion a year business for what the U.S. Census Bureau says in 1992 totaled 87,000 pet retail stores.

And the nationwide bill for veterinary care rose from \$4.9 billion in 1991 to more than \$7 billion in 1996, according to the AVMA.

Where there are willing spenders, you will find eager entrepreneurs, and the pet industry has been joined by many. Among them

are purveyors of pet journals, pet greeting cards, pet sitting, pet Web sites, pet day care, pet medical advice, pet breeding and pet naming.

You'll find the most devoted — or fanatical — pet owners at pet shows and entering pet contests such as the Friskies PetCare Co.'s "Friskiest Cat in America" photo contest or Purina Dog Chow's "America's Most Incredible Dog" contest. The rewards: a hefty supply of food for the pet and up to \$10,000 for its owner.

And if you can't find it in a specialty pet store or on the Internet, surely one of the nation's pet super stores, each stocked with more than 10,000 items, will have something to satisfy even the most finicky four-legged friend.

While animals around the house are nothing new, this expansion of the pet retail market is a recent phenomenon.

Phoenix-based PetSmart Inc. started in 1987 as a two-store chain. Twelve years later, it's the No. 1 pet retailer in sales, raking in \$1.3 billion in the first 11 months of 1998 at 532 stores in 45 U.S. states, Canada and England.

San Diego-based Petco, the No. 2 pet retailer, started with one store in 1965 and now has 465 locations in 37 states that did \$188.6 million in sales in 1995.

"People want their companions to be happy," said Petco spokesman Don Cowan. "They pamper them. As a result, a lot of money is being spent on pets."

GOOD ENOUGH FOR FIDO?

Opening day at Three Dog Bakery in Old Pasadena was a testament to man's weakness for his best friend.

Tasty treats are the product of the Kansas City, Mo.-based operation that opened its 16th branch in Pasadena on Jan. 30 at the One West Colorado pedestrian mall. And nearly 4,000 people and 800 dogs came the first day to sample the goodies, said co-owner Mark Bodnar.

"It was shoulder-to-shoulder and haunch-to-haunch," Bodnar joked. "When we opened, Pasadena went to the dogs."

Three Dog Bakery — founded in 1992 by Mark Beckloff, an ex-accountant, and Dan Dye, a former copywriter — specializes in dog treats made from ingredients humans can enjoy, too. Seven years later, the duo has licensed 15 stores across the country, and plans to open another 10 in the next two months, including one March 6 in West Hollywood.

OWNERS ARE encouraged to bring their dogs in so they can pick out their own treats and chow down right in the store. On the menu at each Three Dog Bakery are treats like Boxer Brownies and Bull-dog Bars (\$3 each) and Pup Tarts (\$9 cents). For \$200, an owner can buy his dog a specially made, sugary birthday cake. Within a few months, the bakeries will also offer \$2 servings of pet ice cream with a yogurt base.

And all of it is healthful, of course.

"People are eating healthier," said Beckloff, "and we think it's a way to show their dogs that they care about their health, too."

The Three Dog chefs are working on perfecting cat treats, but... well, cats are more finicky about taste than dogs, Beckloff said.

That's the problem Bob Ditchik is trying to solve at his Pet Greetings firm, based in Westlake Village. The company makes rawhide greeting cards — available for \$2 at many pet stores and veterinarians' offices — that dogs love to chew on, but he hasn't been able to perfect a card that appeals to cats.

"We're working on it, though," he said. "People want to have treats for all their animals. That's why people like our cards. With a regular card, the owner reads it, but the dog gets nothing. With our card, the dog gets to eat it."

An animal lover, Ditchik said his one regret is that constant business travel keeps him from having a dog.

"It's pretty empty when you get home," he said. "There's something about a pet that brings a feeling that somebody's there waiting for you."

Diego, an environmental designer and consultant for architectural projects, noted that red is an arousing, exciting, stimulating color with positive associations of passion, strength, activity and warmth.

Red is the boldest of all the colors in the spectrum and has the greatest emotional impact, wrote Bonnie Rosser Krims in "The Perfect Palette: Fifty Inspired Color Plans for Painting Every Room in Your House" (Warner Books).

Red is a warm color, said Margaret Walch, director of the Color Association of the United States in New York City.

"Because the color red is associated with warmth and comfort, you often see it in the dining and living room," Walch said. "You often see red used in public rooms, because it's also invigorating and stimulating. The architect Frank Lloyd Wright used red rooms in several of his homes."

In the 19th century, red was a very popular color for dining rooms, according to preservation architect Doug Bucher, of John G. Waite Associates in Albany.

"It was also used occasionally in the library in the second half of the

19th century," Bucher said.

In the 19th century, red was popular for public buildings as well, as it reiterated the old notion of being associated with prestige and royalty.

The Assembly Chamber in the New York state Capitol was done in red with red stenciling on the stone walls. The two legislative chambers in state capitals were often in either red, the most popular, or green or blue, also associated with royalty, according to Bucher.

THE COLOR RED also is said to stimulate the appetite, which is why it was so popular for dining rooms and restaurants. However, because red is considered such a stimulus, you may not want it in the kitchen if you are trying to diet, or in the bedroom if you have trouble getting to sleep.

Red rooms fell from favor during the Colonial Revival, Classical and Art Deco period of the early 20th century, Bucher said. It wasn't until World War II, when dark colors became the vogue, that red came back into fashion.

"Although red is a popular room color today, you never found much

of it in American houses, except for in fabrics," he said. "It would be relatively rare to find a room in red, except for in upper-class houses, especially those in Europe. Red pigment was expensive, which put it out of reach for many working-class homes."

"Today, it's become very popular for the dining room, library and living room. Works of art, especially those in gold frames, look good against a red wall. You often see red walls in galleries and museums for this very reason."

Some people simply select red walls for a room in their homes because it's their favorite color.

"I had actually seen red used in a dining room in another house and decided to use it in mine, as it's also my favorite color," said Maria Winans of Latham, N.Y.

"We even used the same shade of red for the inset of our tray ceiling in the dining room. So it wasn't too much red, we used white wainscoting below the chair rail, the cornice and window and door trim."

The window treatments are salmon, gold and green. "It's all very striking," she said, "and we love it."

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aghost to respond to her. Abby, how can I get her to pick up her Crock-Pot at my house? She lives 30 miles away. Is it my responsibility to drive 30 miles to return it? Or should she pick it up?

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SEEDS FOR THOUGHT

Signs of spring emerge

By Deborah A. Bengtson

Spring is on its way, whether we are ready or not. With the unusually warm weather, new shoots and tender buds are beginning to sprout. As a result, many home gardeners' questions are coming into the county extension office. Here are a few:

Q: I have oak trees in my landscape that are scheduled to be pruned. What do I need to know about protecting them from oak wilt fungus?

A: If you live in Midland, make sure that whoever does the pruning treats each cut as it is made with a pruning paint sealer or similar material. Use the sealer as quickly after pruning — within minutes — as possible. All cuts larger than an inch in diameter should be treated. Pruning paint is needed only on oak species in areas that have oak wilt fungus.

The sealer provides a barrier between the tree and the sap-feeding beetle that is attracted to fresh wounds — such as pruning wounds — on a tree. Some of the beetles carry fungal spores from diseased trees to the freshly cut trees, infecting them too by leaving these spores on the fresh wound.

Oak wilt fungus is a devastating oak tree disease that is very similar to the fungus that attacked the American elms. To limit the spread of this disease:

■ Prune during the coldest or hottest times of the year.

■ Use pruning paint sealer within minutes of making a cut.

■ Cover oak firewood with clear polyethylene plastic.

■ Remove diseased red oaks as soon as possible.

■ Treat diseased trees and trench between healthy and diseased trees.

Q: I have several flowering perennials in the garden, some of which need to be divided. How do I know when to divide all of these plants?

A: A useful rule of thumb is based on the best times for planting flowers: Spring blooming perennials are best divided and reset in late summer or fall; fall blooming perennials can be divided in the spring. Plants that bloom in mid-summer can be divided in spring or fall, depending on the hardness of the plant.

Q: I've been having lots of plant failures and poor luck with anything in my yard. I would like to take a soil sample to find out what the problem is.

A: A soil test can give you lots of good information, such as salinity and some micro nutrients, major and pH levels in the soil. When you receive the results of the test, you will also receive fertilizer recommendations, including guidelines for fertilizer use and rates to apply. Go to the county extension office to pick up instructions, forms and soil bags for the Soils Lab at College Station.

Soils lab results don't reveal soil-borne diseases, herbicides, poor soil structure or cultural mistakes, so if you are having plant problems that are not related to nutrients, salts or pH, a soil test won't help.

Generally speaking, soils here are usually low in nitrogen and high in phosphorous and potassium, and pH is nearly always alkaline. When there are persistent

plant failures, a soil test is a good step, but look at other possibilities. Hard compacted soil, shallow soil, poorly designed or inadequate irrigation methods, planting the wrong plant species or at the wrong time of year, or poor planting practices and follow-up care are a few items to be considered.

Q: I'd like to grow a few vegetables and am particularly interested in onions because they have been reported to be high in antioxidants. When and how do I go about getting this vegetable growing?

A: Onions are an excellent choice for the garden. Planting time is critical for this cool-season vegetable. From Valentine's Day to early March is a good time to planting onions in well-prepared soil that has had plenty of organic matter and some nitrogen added to it. Use small, pencil-sized transplants rather than seed or bulbs. Varieties such as 1015Y, Yellow Granex, White Granex or Red Granex are good for this area. Transplants can be planted 2 inches apart and then thinned to 3 to 4 inches for mature bulbing onions. The thinnings can be pulled as needed and used for green onions.

One of the secrets to growing onions is to provide plenty of moisture and nitrogen to these young plants. Once the soil temperatures get warm, in April or May, add a layer of mulch to keep the soil cooler and conserve moisture.

Day length signals the plant to begin developing a bulb, which takes place in late spring and early summer. Whatever size the plant is at that point will determine how large the bulbs will get.

Between planting and harvest, try to grow a large leafy plant so you'll get large, juicy bulbs. This can be done by providing plenty of water and nitrogen.

Q: I love daffodils, jonquils and narcissus, but I don't want to be replanting every year. What can I plant that will come back?

A: A lovely jonquil that will have your beds bursting with the bulbs in a few years is 'Campenelle'. This wonderful, solid yellow jonquil has a slightly nodding head and multiple flower stems from each clump. It will come back dependably each year and multiply. Other reliable bloomers and multipliers are *Narcissus jonquilla* and 'Golden Scepter'. These have great drought and heat tolerance, and provide fragrant beauty in February.

'Ice Follies' is a dependable daffodil with a frilly, whitish cup and yellow petals.

This is an observation reported by several Permian Basin Master Gardeners concerning Rosemary, *Rosmarinus officinalis*: In a summer survey conducted with about 60 Master Gardeners, Rosemary was one of the plants that weathered the 1998 summer best. In fact, most reports indicated that it seemed to thrive in the heat. More recent observations by Master Gardeners indicated that the upright Rosemary survived the winter (the cold temperature of December), but in many cases their prostrate Rosemary didn't.

Useful information to know!

For answers to these and any other horticulture questions, or information on planned educational horticultural programs, call 498-4071.

Deborah A. Bengtson is the extension horticulture agent for the Texas Agricultural Extension Service in Midland and Ector Counties.

It takes sole to pound pavement

N.Y. Times News Service

NEW YORK — Our we all foot fetishists? Under normal circumstances that notion would never fly. But during Fashion Week, which means: Nothing's normal. And the mad dashes from runway to showroom and back have made feet an overpowering obsession.

How on earth does InStyle magazine editor Hal Rubenstein make it through a day wearing cowboy boots? And what were those fashion groupies, who turned out for the shows with bare legs and open-toed sandals, thinking? And where did a Dallas newspaper editor get the chutzpah to sit in the front row wearing a pair of trail-running shoes by Adidas?

More importantly, where can we find (and afford) a pair of those ultramodern, molded-sole shoes that the chicest of the chic gathered here are wearing?

Hoofting up and down Fifth Avenue and scavenging all over SoHo, the best of the choices appear to be these: Barney's New York sells a house-brand version for \$195 that's high on the quality end, but a bit staid when it comes to style; Banana Republic has a \$124 loafer version that looks versatile enough to go from day to evening; and Kenneth Cole has a shoe he calls "Sneak Around" selling for \$180 that can be described only as "sporty."

So, there you have it.

DEAR ABBY: Please help! My husband and I are having a relationship-threatening argument over child-rearing practices. As a child development specialist, I choose to err on the side of caution with my young son. I insist on seat belts, don't allow him to watch violent or scary movies, and never leave him unsupervised. I keep my doors locked, and teach him about stranger-danger and other safety issues.

My husband and his family feel that I'm raising him to be a wimp because I don't allow him to swim off a boat in areas known to have a lot of sharks. They don't worry about things like that. I am well aware of the unlikelyhood of a shark attack on a human, but feel that it is an unnecessary risk. The beach is just fine for us.

What bothers me most, Abby, is that my husband sides with his family, putting down my beliefs and criticizing my son. Please

comment. — CAUTIOUS IN DAY-TONA BEACH, FLA.

DEAR CAUTIOUS: If your husband is siding with his family against you to the extent you feel it's threatening to your marriage, your differences extend further than the area of child-rearing. I urge you to consider marriage counseling before those differences erode your marriage beyond repair.

You don't say how old your son is, but a mother's first priority should always be the safety of her child. Compromise with your husband on other issues, but don't back down when it concerns the safety of your son.

DEAR ABBY: I had dinner with a prospective girlfriend at her invitation at her house. We had just finished dinner when her phone rang. It was a male friend, wanting to tell her about some meeting he went to. When she answered the phone, she said she had company and asked if they could talk later. However, the conversation went on and on. I was in the other room and put on my coat to leave. At that point, she told her friend she had company who was leaving, and had to hang up. She said her friend apologized and said he hadn't

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I asked her why, when he kept on talking and talking, she couldn't have said again that she had company and would talk later. She replied, "I didn't want to be rude to him." I told her that she was rude to me, and the extended conversation was a big turn-off. It soured our budding relationship.

Who was out of line, Abby? — BOB IN LONG BEACH

DEAR BOB: The caller. It was rude to keep your friend on the line when he knew she had company. The fact that the woman allowed the conversation to drag on could indicate a lack of concern for your feelings — or simply a lack of assertiveness on her part.

They were both rude, and it's regrettable that a budding relationship died from the frostbite that followed.

DEAR ABBY: I had a potluck party at my house seven weeks ago. A friend who was a guest at the party left her Crock-Pot at my house.

I have been waiting for her to call me to arrange a time for her to pick it up. She hasn't called. After the new year, she remarked, "So how long are you going to hold

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DEAR ABBY

Parents' clashing about rules could escalate

By Abigail Van Buren

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090 Public Notices
100 New Arrivals
105 Happy Ads
110 Valentines
116 Lodge Notices
115 Announcements
130 Personals
140 Card of Thanks
150 Lost and Found
155 Lottery Inform.
160 Loans Wanted
161 Deeds of Trust
162 Mortg. Wanted
163 Money To Loan
165 Invest. Opps.
170 Schools/Instruc.

TRANSPORTATION

200 Autos Domestic
205 Classic Cars
210 Autos Foreign
215 Sport/Utility Veh.
220 Trucks and Vans
225 4x4 Vehicles
230 Commercial Veh.
235 Cars, Trucks, Vans
240 Under \$3,000
245 Motorcycles
250 Trailers
255 Rec. Vehicles
260 Veh. Rent/Lease
265 Boats and Motors
270 Airplanes
280 Auto Services
290 Parts/Access.

EMPLOYMENT

305 Job Services
310 General Help
311 Medical Help
312 Professional Help
314 Clerical Help
316 Sales Help
318 Management
320 Skilled Trade
330 Sit. Wanted
335 AdultCare Needed
336 AdultCare Prov.
340 ChildCare Needed
341 ChildCare Prov.
350 Bus. Opps.

RENTALS

430 Household Goods
440 Firewood
450 Sporting Goods
460 Antiques and Art
470 Music Instrum.
475 Crafts & Supplies
480 Camera/Supplies
485 Electronics
490 Computer/Access.
495 FOR FREE
500 Pets and Supplies
505 Livestock/Poultry
510 Office Supplies
520 Store/Cafe Equip.
525 Bus. Shop Equip.
530 A/C - Heating
540 Bldg. Materials
550 Portable Bldgs.
560 Machinery / Tools
570 Oilfield Supplies
580 Farm Equipment

MISC. SALES

400 Auctions
402 Garage Sale Svcs.
404 79706 Zip code
405 79701 Zip code
406 79703 Zip code
407 79705 Zip code
408 79707 Zip code
409 Area Garage Sales
410 Misc. Sales
413 Jewelry
415 Misc. Wanted
420 Things To Eat
425 Trade/Swap

REAL ESTATE

700 Mfrg. Homes
701 Real Estate
710 Open Houses
720 Homes For Sale
730 Suburban Prop.
735 R. E. Wanted
740 Out of Area Prop.
750 Lots and Acreage
760 Farms/ Ranches
770 Resort Property
780 Business Prop.
785 Warehouse/Stor.
790 Investment Prop.

Who's Who For Service

A great way for you to advertise your service "every day" for as little as \$46.16 per month!

ERRORS AND ADJUSTMENTS

Please check your ad the first day it appears to be sure that all of the information is correct. This will ensure that your ad is exactly what you want readers to see. Call us the first day if you find an error at 682-6222. To report an error in Saturday's edition call Saturday morning between 8:00 am and 10:00 am. Errors in Sunday's edition should be reported on Monday morning after 8:00 am. We must limit our financial responsibility, if any, to the charge for the word or space, and cannot be held responsible for incorrect ads after the first day of publication.

NOTICES 100

90 Legal Notices
95 Public Notices
100 Midland's New Arrivals
105 Happy Ads
110 Lodge Notices
115 Announcements
130 Personals
140 Card of Thanks
141 In Memoriam
150 Lost & Found
160 Loans Wanted
162 Mortgages Wanted
163 Money To Loan
165 Investment Opport.
170 Schools/Instruc.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Geneva Loving, Deceased, were issued on March 1, 1999, in Cause No. 12,402 pending in the County Court of Howard County, Texas, to: LANNY HAMBY.

The residence of the Independent Executor is in Big Spring, Howard County, Texas, the post office address is:

c/o Lanny Hamby
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 2199
Big Spring, Texas 79720-2199

All persons having claims against this Estate which are currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED the 1st day of March, 1999.

Lanny Hamby
Attorney for the Estate
State Bar No.: 08816000

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that on the 1st day of March, 1999, Letters Testamentary were issued to Phyllis Cowden, as Independent Executrix, in proceedings in the County Court of Midland County, Texas, in Probate, styled "In the Matter of the Estate of Franklin Leathers, Deceased," being No. 12,403 in that Court, and which proceedings are still pending. All persons having claims against the Estate are hereby required to present the same to Phyllis Cowden, Independent Executrix of the Estate of Franklin Leathers, Deceased, at P.O. Box 2858, Midland, Texas 79702, within the time prescribed by law.

DATED this 1st day of March, 1999.

PHYLLIS COWDEN,
Independent Executrix of the Estate of Franklin Leathers, Deceased

THE MIDLAND COUNTY Commissioners Court will hold a public hearing at 9:00 a.m. on March 8, 1999, in the Commissioners Courtroom in the Midland County Courthouse, to consider setting a maximum reasonable and prudent speed of 30 miles per hour for segments of the following county roads: WCR 121 between SH 349 and SCR 1195; SCR 1195 between WCR 120 and WCR 125; SCR 1198 between WCR 120 and WCR 125; WCR 120 between SCR 1200 and SCR 1195 and WCR 121 between SCR 1198 and SCR 1195 (roads in Sandy Acres).

DATED the 18th day of February, 1999.

Lanny Hamby
Attorney for the Estate
State Bar No.: 08816000

100 Midland's New Arrivals

Gerald Yarbrough

105 Happy Ads

Clarence Tarr

110 Lodge Notices

Willie Taylor

Legal Notices

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NEW 99 Dodge Avengers



**\$1000
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OR
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NEW 98 Grand Marquis



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NEW 99 Dodge Durango

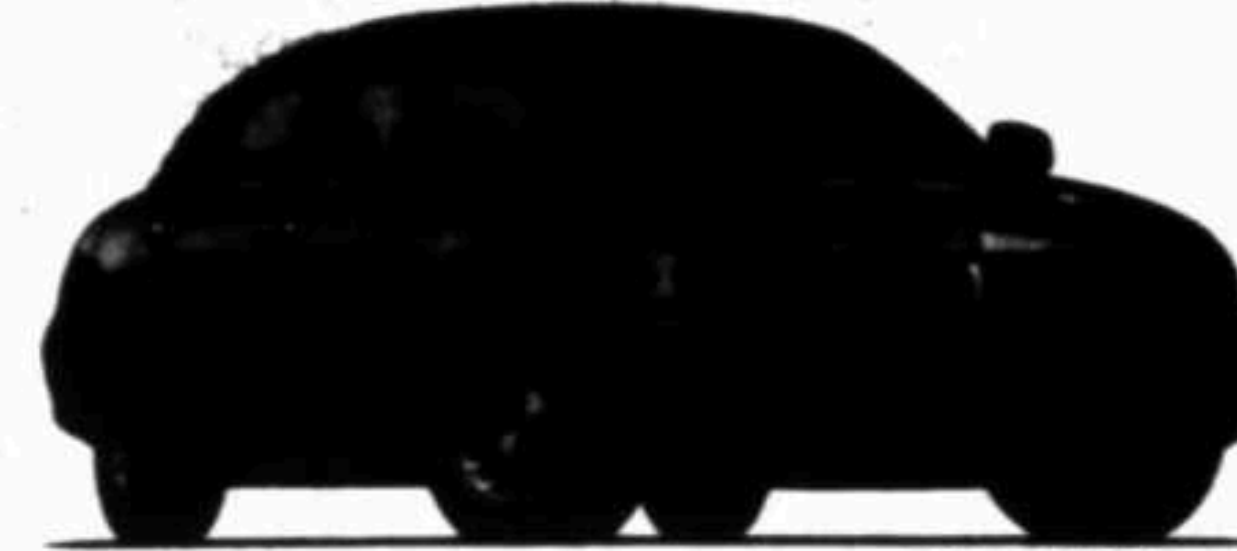


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NEW '99 4-Door Mercury Villager is Here!

If you don't check with Village BEFORE you buy, you're probably paying too much.

99 Lincoln Town Cars



SAVE*

\$8,000

*Any 99 Lincoln Town Car In Stock Without Keyless Entry. *17 to Choose From!

96 DODGE VIPER



WAS \$52,000

NOW \$49,000 Firm!

PRE-OWNED PROGRAM & USED VEHICLES

97 Dodge Neon Air, Automatic, AM/FM Stereo, stk. #93124 \$8,999	97 Plymouth Breeze Air, Pwr. Steering, & Brakes, Factory Warranty! Stk. #92654 \$10,999	96 Ford Taurus Air, Automatic, Power Options, Cruise, Tilt, Stk. #93086B \$9,999	97 Pontiac Grand Am 4-Door, Air, Power Steering, Power Brakes, Stk. #92913 \$10,999	98 Hyundai Sonata Power Windows & Locks, Tilt/Cruise, Low Miles, Stk. #93014 \$9,999	98 Lincoln Town Car Leather, Full Power & Options, Stk. #93099 \$25,995	98 Chrysler Sebring Convertible, Air, Auto, P/Steering & Brakes, Stk. #93143 \$18,999
98 Hyundai Elantra 4-Door, AM/FM Cassette, Auto Stk. #92555 \$9,999	96 Chevy Monte Carlo Air, Pwr. Windows & Locks, Xtra Clean! Stk. #9406A \$12,999	98 Mercury Grand Marquis Air, Auto, Pwr. Steering & Brakes, Cruise, Tilt, Stk. #93051 \$18,999	98 Ford Escort Auto, Air, Pwr. Steering & Brakes, Low Miles, Stk. #93112 \$10,999	98 Lincoln Navigator V-8, Leather, Rear Air, AM/FM Cassette, CD Changer, Stk. #93057 \$37,999	98 Dodge Durango SLT, 4x4, Tilt/Cruise, P/Windows & Locks, Stk. #93063 \$27,999	97 Dodge Ram Pickup Air, Auto, Pwr. Seats, P/Windows, Tilt/Cruise, Stk. #93199A \$12,999
97 Chevy Suburban LT Air, Automatic, Power Steering, Power Brakes, Stk. #93172 \$25,999	98 Pontiac Grand Am Air, Power Steering & Brakes, Stk. #93141 \$11,999	98 Dodge Grand Caravan SE Pwr. Windows & Locks, 4-Door, Rear Air, Stk. #92526 \$19,999	97 Lincoln Town Car Leather, Pwr. Windows & Locks, Tilt, Stk. #92526 \$22,999	94 Lincoln Town Car Power Windows & Locks, AM/FM Stereo, Stk. #92017A \$11,999	BIGGEST SAVINGS ARE AT VILLAGE!!	

Good Credit,
Bad Credit,
No Credit...
WE CAN HELP!

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LINCOLN • MERCURY • DODGE • HYUNDAI

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Big Selection in Stock!



NEW '99 ECLIPSE



\$1750 ON RS MODELS **\$1500 ON GS MODELS**

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1998 TOYOTA CAMRY LE



4 dr., PW, PL, Tilt, Cruise, ABS, Stk. #912818
\$16,495-TTAL

1997 FORD MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE



Only 10k Miles, White w/Tan leather, Mach 400 Sound Sys., w/CD/Cass. Cobra Wheels & Spoiler.
\$21,995-TTAL

1996 CRYSLER SEBRING JXI



Black w/Tan Leather, Factory Warranty. Get a jump start on Summer with Class!
\$16,395-TTAL

Steve Cummings

Brandon Wallace

563-0814

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235 Cars, Trucks & Vans \$3,000 & under

PLYMOUTH 1988 Voyager. Runs good. 170,000 miles. Automatic. \$1,500 or best offer. 684-9692

PONTIAC 1981 Trans Am. 455. Buick engine, runs good, has 7-Tops. 4 wheel disc brakes. \$1,500 as is. 522-2417.

CHEVROLET 1970 CAMARO. 307, new battery. As-is. \$1,200. Please call 684-8705 for more information.

MERCUY 1986 Grand Marquis. Very clean car. For Bob or Evening. 683-7236.

TOYOTA 1986 MR2. Out performs modern sports cars for far less money. Extra wheels and tires. \$2,500. Please call 520-6067.

CHEVROLET 1988 Cheyenne. Pickup. New engine, automatic, 350 engine. \$2,800 or best offer. 520-5597.

NEW TODAY
FORD 1982 Lariat Supercab. Tilt, cruise, camper shell, cassette. \$2,950. Please call 553-3841.

ISUZU 1985 Truck. Runs good. Chevrolet or Isuzu accessories, bucket seats, very unique. \$1,500. Please call 697-1010.

Jessie Vaden
LINCOLN 1988 TOWNCAR. White with brown leather interior. Good condition. \$2,995. Call 570-7888.

NEW TODAY
PROWLER 1993 29'. Air conditioning, awning, jacks, sway bars, queen front, rear bunks. Excellent shape. \$900. After 6 pm-683-3753.

NEW TODAY
KIT COMPANION 1994. Loaded with extras. Used 3 times. \$7,500. 694-7416.

NEW TODAY
ROCKWOOD 1997 Signature. Pop up camper. Refrigerator, a/c, shower, porta-pot, 12' box, many extras. \$6,999. Ken's Pickup Sales, 697-6447.

1989 ALLEGRO motor home, 37', 46K, Ford 460 basement model, bath, queen island bed. Extra nice. Many extras. 915-2201, 915-634-3126.

1998 ALPENITE 36' fifth wheel with three slide outs. Immaculate. Warranted. Accessories included. Original cost \$61,900, sell \$37,000. Call 694-7396.

1999 JAMBOREE, Class "C", 25' slide-out, 5,000 miles, Ford Triton V-10. Best in town. \$60,000. Call 682-1704.

1994 32' WINNEBAGO, 454 Chevrolet, generator, 2 rooftop air conditioners, electric jacks, entertainment center, awning, rear queen, basement storage. \$39,900. 697-9445.

VIKING 1995 Pop up camper add on a room, 3 way refrigerator, awning, hot water heater, outside shower. \$3,995. Ken's Pickup Sales 697-6447.

NEW TODAY
1989 HONDA CR80. Very clean bike! Excellent condition. \$725 or best offer. Call 915-447-3172, Pecos.

1971 BMW 600CC Silver, 17,400 miles, runs well. CLASSIC \$2,750. Please call 681-8095.

YAMAHA 1985 Venture Royale. Touring. Bike with trailer. 12,000cc, 37,000 miles. Asking \$4,000. 520-2449.

SUZUKI 1998 Intruder 1400. Fully loaded, lots of chrome. \$8,500. Call 557-2809 days, 694-3967 after 6 pm.

HONDA 1998 Shadow Ace. Deluxe 750. 600 Miles, new drag pipes, drag bars. Leave message: 520-2019.

YAMAHA 1996 V-MAX, 1,200 CC, 145 HP, Shaftdrive, 9K. Excellent condition, very fast. Many extras. Book \$7,995 asking \$7,250. 687-1530.

HARLEY DAVIDSON Dyna. 1997, 8,500 miles, custom paint, lots of chrome, performance pipes, \$18,000. Call 682-4235.

HARLEY DAVIDSON Road King. 1998, 1,300 miles. Perfect condition. Black, Stage 1 fuel injection, performance pipes. \$21,000. 682-1704.

NEW TODAY
1997 CHAMPION Pro Team 202 Elite, 200 EFI Mariner, fully loaded with custom cover, trailer armor. \$23,000. Please call 830-775-0892.

1995 VIP VISION 1930. 190 hp, inboard/outboard, garaged, low hours. \$12,500 or best offer. 687-3023.

1996 BAYLINER 1750 Capri LS. Anniversary edition. Beautiful boat, trailer included. \$6,800. b. o. c. Call 524-5897 for more information.

YAMAHA 1998 XL 1200 Jet ski with dual ski trailer. 3 Seater, 20 hours new. \$6,250. b. o. c. 524-5897.

CHAMPION 1999 New Never used. 181 Dual console, 150 Mariner, trailer armor. \$18,500. b. o. c. 686-8103 or Pager 560-6036.

NEWMAN 17' Walkthru, super clean, lake ready, just completely serviced. New battery, new carburetor. Must See! \$3,500. 689-7010.

1994 SKEETER 2002X Tournament Bass Boat with 200 HP Mercury. \$15,000. 499-9310, Pager anytime.

1978 GLASTON 17 foot, walkthru fish & ski boat with 150 hp Johnson motor. \$2,900. Please call 682-9342.

1995 Kawasaki 750 SS jet ski with trailer, very good condition. \$2,200 or best offer. Please call 915-570-7828.

1978 JET BOAT, 396 engine, very fast, double axle trailer, paint in very good condition. \$3,200 or best offer, 570-7628.

1996 BAYLINER SS2050, V8, 40th Anniversary edition, approximately 50 hours, cover car, trailer, skis, life jackets. Must buy to appreciate. 699-8900.

1983 TIDECAFT 17' Bass Boat. 120 HP, 24 trolling, stainless steel. 12' / 24' trolling, fish finders. Good condition. \$3,800. 520-0341 after 6.

1995 STRATOS 19' dual console, 175 Johnson, trolling motor, depth finder, tandem trailer, cover. Excellent condition. \$14,900. 686-8103/560-6036 pager.

JAYCO Pop up camper. Good condition. Refrigerator, stove, sink. \$1,175. Please call 520-0567 after 6 pm.

250 Recreational Vehicles

SUNDCREST 1985 32' Motor home. 2 roof air conditioner, 7.5 generator. Excellent condition. \$13,000. 683-8888.

1995 19 Ft Chateau Travel Trailer. Air, microwave, tub/shower, awning. Sleeps 4-6. Excellent condition. \$7,500. Call 686-7374.

1997 Sportmaster Travel Trailer. 28 feet, queen bed, sleeps 3, slight hail damage. Used three times! \$11,500. 684-6635.

1986 KOMFORT 5th wheel, 23', sleeps 6, fully self contained, good condition. \$3,900. Call 683-0938.

1997 26 Ft Sportsmaster 5th Wheel Travel Trailer. Used 3 times. \$15,300. Please call 520-2300.

WINNEBAGO 1974 18' Brave. Chrysler 318, completely remodeled. \$3,150 or make offer. Call 699-5245.

COACHMAN 1995 Catalina, lite travel trailer, 25', queen walk around bed, loaded. \$8,995. 697-6447 days, 683-6432 night.

1981 ALLEGRA 29 Ft. 454 Engine, 2 roof air, awning, rear bed, lots more! \$9,450. Call 522-1199, RV Super Center, 4600 W Wall.

NEW TODAY
KIT COMPANION 1994. Loaded with extras. Used 3 times. \$7,500. 694-7416.

PROWLER 1993 29'. Air conditioning, awning, jacks, sway bars, queen front, rear bunks. Excellent shape. \$900. After 6 pm-683-3753.

ROCKWOOD 1997 Signature. Pop up camper. Refrigerator, a/c, shower, porta-pot, 12' box, many extras. \$6,999. Ken's Pickup Sales, 697-6447.

1989 ALLEGRO motor home, 37', 46K, Ford 460 basement model, bath, queen island bed. Extra nice. Many extras. 915-2201, 915-634-3126.

1998 ALPENITE 36' fifth wheel with three slide outs. Immaculate. Warranted. Accessories included. Original cost \$61,900, sell \$37,000. Call 694-7396.

1999 JAMBOREE, Class "C", 25' slide-out, 5,000 miles, Ford Triton V-10. Best in town. \$60,000. Call 682-1704.

1994 32' WINNEBAGO, 454 Chevrolet, generator, 2 rooftop air conditioners, electric jacks, entertainment center, awning, rear queen, basement storage. \$39,900. 697-9445.

VIKING 1995 Pop up camper add on a room, 3 way refrigerator, awning, hot water heater, outside shower. \$3,995. Ken's Pickup Sales 697-6447.

NEW TODAY
1989 HONDA CR80. Very clean bike! Excellent condition. \$725 or best offer. Call 915-447-3172, Pecos.

1971 BMW 600CC Silver, 17,400 miles, runs well. CLASSIC \$2,750. Please call 681-8095.

YAMAHA 1985 Venture Royale. Touring. Bike with trailer. 12,000cc, 37,000 miles. Asking \$4,000. 520-2449.

SUZUKI 1998 Intruder 1400. Fully loaded, lots of chrome. \$8,500. Call 557-2809 days, 694-3967 after 6 pm.

HONDA 1998 Shadow Ace. Deluxe 750. 600 Miles, new drag pipes, drag bars. Leave message: 520-2019.

YAMAHA 1996 V-MAX, 1,200 CC, 145 HP, Shaftdrive, 9K. Excellent condition, very fast. Many extras. Book \$7,995 asking \$7,250. 687-1530.

HARLEY DAVIDSON Dyna. 1997, 8,500 miles, custom paint, lots of chrome, performance pipes, \$18,000. Call 682-4235.

HARLEY DAVIDSON Road King. 1998, 1,300 miles. Perfect condition. Black, Stage 1 fuel injection, performance pipes. \$21,000. 682-1704.

NEW TODAY
1997 CHAMPION Pro Team 202 Elite, 200 EFI Mariner, fully loaded with custom cover, trailer armor. \$23,000. Please call 830-775-0892.

1995 VIP VISION 1930. 190 hp, inboard/outboard, garaged, low hours. \$12,500 or best offer. 687-3023.

1996 BAYLINER 1750 Capri LS. Anniversary edition. Beautiful boat, trailer included. \$6,800. b. o. c. Call 524-5897 for more information.

YAMAHA 1998 XL 1200 Jet ski with dual ski trailer. 3 Seater, 20 hours new. \$6,250. b. o. c. 524-5897.

CHAMPION 1999 New Never used. 181 Dual console, 150 Mariner, trailer armor. \$18,500. b. o. c. 686-8103 or Pager 560-6036.

NEWMAN 17' Walkthru, super clean, lake ready, just completely serviced. New battery, new carburetor. Must See! \$3,500. 689-7010.

1994 SKEETER 2002X Tournament Bass Boat with 200 HP Mercury. \$15,000. 499-9310, Pager anytime.

1978 GLASTON 17 foot, walkthru fish & ski boat with 150 hp Johnson motor. \$2,900. Please call 682-9342.

1995 Kawasaki 750 SS jet ski with trailer, very good condition. \$2,200 or best offer. Please call 915-570-7828.

1978 JET BOAT, 396 engine, very fast, double axle trailer, paint in very good condition. \$3,200 or best offer, 570-7628.

1996 BAYLINER SS2050, V8, 40th Anniversary edition, approximately 50 hours, cover car, trailer, skis, life jackets. Must buy to appreciate. 699-8900.

1983 TIDECAFT 17' Bass Boat. 120 HP, 24 trolling, stainless steel. 12' / 24' trolling, fish finders. Good condition. \$3,800. 520-0341 after 6.

1995 STRATOS 19' dual console, 175 Johnson, trolling motor, depth finder, tandem trailer, cover. Excellent condition. \$14,900. 686-8103/560-6036 pager.

JAYCO Pop up camper. Good condition. Refrigerator, stove, sink. \$1,175. Please call 520-0567 after 6 pm.

260 Boats & Motors

SOLD
MUST SELL: Kawasaki jet skis. One 1997 1100 STX, one 1998 1100 ZXI. Dual trailer, spare tire and life vests. Call xxx-xxxx.

Parts & Accessories
WANTED JEEP Wrangler rear seat 1987-95 model. Gray. Kent 697-6447.

Employment
305 Job Services
310 General Help
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EMPLOYMENT 300

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313 Clerical

NEW TODAY

Do you have...

- top notch customer skills?
- management experience?
- the ability to run a small business
- an interest in retail operations?
- a desire to be in a steady, successful industry?

Retail management opportunities for highly motivated, self starters looking for a change from the highs and lows of the oil business. Send resume to:

Box N-1098 c/o
Midland Reporter-Telegram,
P.O. Box 1650,
Midland, TX 79702.

INSTALL TECHNICIAN

Number 1 natural gas irrigation engine company in US is seeking install technicians-light fabrication and welding in agricultural field. Mechanical knowledge and bilingual are a plus. Company based in Midland with travel to California, Arizona, Washington state and Florida required. Possible relocation. Pay is commensurate with experience.

Call Lisa 8 am to 5 pm for appointment:

915-498-0702

Elmo Weyel

Liana Wheatley

ATTENTION EQUIPMENT OPERATORS

Price Construction is now hiring for Motor Grader Operators, Loader Operators, End Dump Operators and Truck Drivers (CDL License Required). All applicants will be subject to drug screening. These are excellent jobs with an excellent company and great reputation for taking care of their employees. Complete benefit package includes paid vacation, profit sharing, hospitalization. Pick up an application today at the Price Construction Shop Office, Four Miles North of I-20 on the Snyder Highway 350 in Big Spring, Texas. 915-267-1891. Price Construction is an equal opportunity employer.

AUTOMOTIVE GM DEALERSHIP HAS OPENINGS FOR TECHNICIANS

Certified GM Experience Preferred. ASE Cert A Plus WE OFFER

40 Hour Work Week
401K Plan
Paid Vacations
Small Town Resort Environment
Just Minutes To Hunting and Fishing
Excellent Pay Opportunities
Relocation to Dallas- Fort Worth area
Advancement

Contact Eric Rorison At Dewey Chevrolet in Elko, Nevada, (800) 775-3629 or Fax Resume to (775) 368-9558

Carl Whigham

COMMERCIAL PLUMBING Company in Austin, Texas needs Experienced, Licensed Plumbers and Helpers. Benefits/Insurance/ Vacation/ 401K Available. Call 1-800-392-6990.

EXPERIENCED DIESEL mechanic needed. Mack experience preferred but not required. Excellent pay, health and dental insurance. 401K profit sharing. Relocation to Dallas- Fort Worth area required. Call Richard or Ken, 800-274-8225.

EXPERIENCED Electrician and Helpers for Service work and installation of landscape lighting in Dallas. Paid vacation, holidays, 80% Insurance. Call (214)824-3059.

INSTALLER/Service Technician- full time. Must have experience in overhead door repair and installations. Apply in person only American Overhead Door, 2315 Field Street, Odessa, 580-3545.

J. D. Abrams, Inc. Heavy Highway Construction company is hiring for the following positions in the Lubbock area:

Supervisors
Equipment Operators
Concrete Finishers
Laborers, Mechanic
Contact our field office:
J. D. Abrams, Inc.
7818 82nd St.
Wofforth, TX.
806/866-0450
EEC/AA

NEW TODAY

LEAD MAINTENANCE- General experience in property management, ability to oversee all requirements for agency with 12 residential properties. Hands on maintenance required. Additional license a plus. Full benefits package. Vehicle provided. Salary DOE. MARC, 2701 N. "A" St., Midland, TX 79705. Attn: Human Resources. 915-498-8590. EEOC.

LOCAL BUSINESSES for sale

Small and large. Some have low down payments and owner financing. Call for a free confidential interview. Sunbelt Business Brokers, 520-1515.

LaVon Woodcock

LOCAL BUSINESS for sale. Pine/ Hurricane, O/S. Owner financing. 580-5296.

Attention Readers

Occasionally, ads found in this section come from distant points & the Midland Reporter-Telegram cannot always know the merits of the offers. We suggest when you are in doubt that you call the Better Business Bureau before signing any contract or giving out your credit card or bank information.

400 Merchandise

400 Auctions
410 Misc. Sales
413 Jewelry & Furs
415 Misc. Wanted
420 Good Things To Eat
425 Trade/Shop Shop
432 Household Furniture
435 Household Appliances
440 Firewood
450 Sporting Goods
460 Antiques & Arts
465 Collectibles
470 Musical Instruments
475 Crafts & Supplies
480 Cameras/Supplies
485 Electronics
490 Computers/Access.
495 FOR FREE

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413 Jewelry & Furs
415 Misc. Wanted
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425 Trade/Shop Shop
432 Household Furniture
435 Household Appliances
440 Firewood
450 Sporting Goods
460 Antiques & Arts
465 Collectibles
470 Musical Instruments
475 Crafts & Supplies
480 Cameras/Supplies
485 Electronics
490 Computers/Access.
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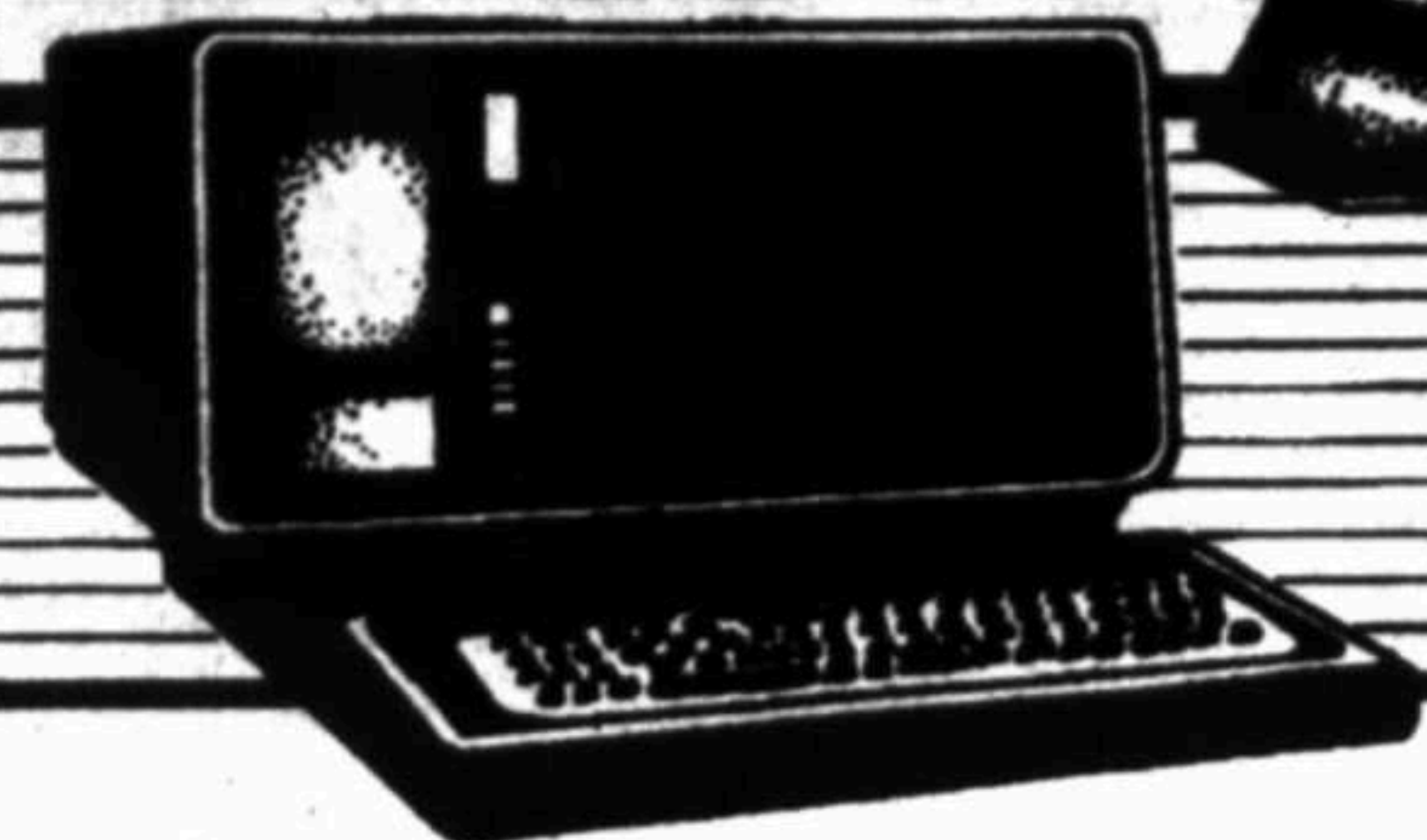
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KEY To Abbreviations Bdrm.....Bedroom Ba.....Bath Kit.....Kitchen Dbl.....Double A/C.....Air conditioning Mt. Bdrm.....Master Bedroom Gar.....Garage Bldg.....Building Cond.....Condition N-QA.....Non-Qualifying Assumable Assumable Assumable 3/22.....Bdrm./Ba./Gar.	REDUCED! 3501 DOUGLAS, 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, updated 96, new a/c, large yard, all brick exterior, concrete fence, \$49,900. 697-6415/ 699-6878. WONDERFUL corner lot, Northgate. 4508 Amistad. By owner \$71,500. Will replace roof, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, large den, breakfast area, formal living, dining, utility, double garage- shop area, fenced, Greathouse, Abel, Lee District 697-0261. HANDY MAN special: House has been partially burned. \$10,000. Please call 686-0594 after 5 pm. BUILD YOUR own. Applications taken now. To qualify: 2 year steady job, earn \$35,000 yearly and over. 570-8211 or 682-7711. 5% down on land is required. Super Seller I 15 words, 7 days, \$1050 Advertise household items (priced under \$350) with this Classified special! Call 682-6222 for details...	720 Homes for Sale SCHARBAUER Townhouses, \$8,500 for efficiency or 2 Bedroom for \$26,500. Monthly dues. Jody Smith 694-9426, Chaparral Realtors IMMACULATE TOWNHOUSE in quiet neighborhood, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 living areas. Berber carpet, ceramic tile, large 2 car garage with additional huge storage room plumbing for additional bedroom and bath. Low maintenance manicured lawn with side and back patios and sprinkler system. 3612 Monclave. 689-4298. NEW TODAY BEAUTIFUL TOWNHOUSE on Elma. 3 Bedroom, 2.5 bath. Completely upgraded decor. Gas conversion. \$74,500. Williams & Assoc. 694-9663. TOWN PLAZA Townhome, 2 bedroom, 1.5 baths, pretty courtyard & pool, 3000 W. Illinois. 689-7150. Fax It! 682-6999	725 Condo Townhouses BY OWNER: Southwest Midland, 4 bedroom, 2 bath, 20 acres, pecan orchard, 2400 sq. ft. \$175,000. 686-0972. HORSEMAN'S DREAM! 3.76 pipe fenced acres, roping arena, 2 barns, 2 wells, 3,000' 4 bedroom, 3 bath. 3604 NCR 1242, 520-4267. BY OWNER: New loan, 5 bedroom, 3 bath, double garage, 5 acres. 3401 West County Road 182. \$115,000. 684-4320. HORSE LOVERS DREAM! 2.2 acres, Midland Dr/ Bluebird. \$49,900. Call Now! Agent 683-1500. ONE ACRE: Two car patio, two storage rooms, water well, septic tank, corner lot. \$6,500 cash. Off of South County Road 135. Call 694-1550. 2.5 ACRE Corner Lot, Saddle Club Ranch Estates. \$35,000. 694-3794.	730 Suburban Property 5 ACRES with water well. 2.5 Miles South of Midland on FM 715. \$1,000 Down, \$225/Month. Call 685-1875. 83' x 150' LOT with sewer, electric and water. 704 E. Florida. \$8,000 negotiable. 683-8888. 1.5 ACRES at Ridge Heights (restricted lots). \$13,500. 682-2217 work, 686-0594 home. Ask for Sylvia. 5 ACRES: Pipe fence on three sides, paved road on two sides. Working well- excellent water, horse stall, 20' X 8' hay storage, pump house. One mile West of 1788. 697-7755. 288 ACRES in Coleman County. 4 Bedroom house, well, air, great hunting. \$180,000. Call 915-696-2920.	750 Lots & Acreage 6,150 ACRE: Glass Mountain Ranch. Pecos County, Texas. 1/2 Undivided acreage in 12,300 acre ranch. Elk, Mule Deer, Mountain Lions, Turkey, Quail, Dove, Etc. 7,750 Acre: Culberson County, Texas Ranch. 31.25% Undivided acres in a 24,800 ranch. Mule Deer, Antelope, Quail, Etc. 600 Acre: Pecos County, Texas. 37.5% Undivided acres of a 1,600 acre farm 3 miles Northeast of Fort Stockton, Texas. Block 1 irrigated Lands Water District. Shallow water. Paved road access. Easily subdivided into 5 & 10 sub acre tracts. Call (972) 931-2332. 288 ACRES in Coleman County. 4 Bedroom house, well, air, great hunting. \$180,000. Call 915-696-2920.	760 Farms & Ranches SWEETWATER LAKE: Three bedroom, three bath, large island kitchen, B-B-Q house, man shop, ladies hobby shop, sprinkler system, open floor plan. Beautiful view of water. After 6 pm, 915-223-1065. 770 Ranch Property Help you move into a new apartment, find your lost ferret, sell your car... WE DO IT ALL! Call Classified today. 682-6222	775 Ranch Property LAKE COLORADO CITY Lake House- 2 Bedrooms, 1 bath. Septic system, lake view. 915/366-9950.	Super Seller II 15 words 7 days \$550 Advertise your household item (priced under \$150) with this Classified special! Call 682-6222 for details... Free Bee 15 words, 4 days, FREE! Advertise your household item (priced under \$50) with this Classified special! Call 682-6222 for details...
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